



Who receives revelation for the Church?

In August 1830, Hiram Page, one of the Eight Witnesses of the Book of Mormon, claimed to have received two revelations about the future location and organization of Zion using a black seer stone. These revelations contradicted previous revelations given to Joseph Smith, but many members believed them.



Revelation for the Church

When Joseph prayed about Hiram’s revelations, the Lord taught, “No one shall be appointed to receive commandments and revelations in this church excepting my servant [the prophet]” (Doctrine and Covenants 28:2). He declared that “those things which [Hiram] hath written from that stone are not of me and . . . Satan deceiveth him” (Doctrine and Covenants 28:11).

Hiram eventually discarded his revelations, and all members unanimously confirmed that the prophet was the only revelator for Christ’s Church.

Why is it important to know that only the living prophet can receive revelation for the whole Church? How does this protect us from deception?

Look to the Prophet and Apostles

President M. Russell Ballard, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, cautions:

“Keep your eyes riveted on the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. We will not lead you astray. We cannot. . . .

“ . . . If someone tells you that they have received revelation that the First Presidency and the Twelve have not received, run away from them.”¹

NOTE

1. M. Russell Ballard, “When Shall These Things Be?” *Ensign*, Dec. 1996, 57.

