
Editorial



Scott Kenney

Scott Kenney is a Ph.D. student in American religious history at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. He served a New England mission and completed a master's degree in musicology at the University of Utah while playing five seasons with the Utah Symphony.

Shortly after the camp of Israel had left the wilderness of Sinai, the Lord commanded Moses to select seventy elders to preside over the people. After a month's preparation, the seventy gathered about the tabernacle, where the Spirit of the Lord descended upon them, "and they prophesied."

But there were two other men on whom the Spirit also rested, who were not at the tabernacle, were not of the seventy — and they prophesied as well. When Joshua heard this, he said, "My Lord Moses, forbid them."

"And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? Would God that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit upon them!"¹

In modern Israel the prophetic spirit is renewed among the people — "to every man is given a gift . . . that all may be profited thereby." Latter-day Saints are enjoined to "teach one another the doctrine of the kingdom," with the promise that "my grace shall attend you, that you may be instructed more perfectly . . . in all things that pertain unto the kingdom of God."²

In teaching the things of the kingdom,

young people play an increasingly important role, for it is by the light of their vision that the future of Mormonism gradually emerges. *Sunstone* is a forum for the participation of Latter-day Saint youth in the intellectual and spiritual life of our times. It is for Latter-day Saints who treasure their religious heritage and labor faithfully for its future.

In 1906 Elder B.H. Roberts of the First Council of Seventy declared that the "crying need" of Mormonism is,

"For thoughtful disciples who will not be content with merely repeating some of its truths, but will develop its truths; and enlarge it by that development. Not half - not one-hundredth part - not a thousandth part of that which Joseph Smith revealed to the Church has yet been unfolded, either to the Church or to the world. The work of the expounder has scarcely begun. The Prophet planted the germ-truths of the great dispensation of the fulness of times. The watering and the weeding is going on, and God is giving the increase, and will give it more abundantly in the future as more intelligent discipleship shall obtain. The disciples of 'Morminism', growing discontented with the necessarily primitive methods which have hitherto prevailed in sustaining the doctrine, will yet take profounder and broader views of the great doctrines committed to the Church;

¹Numbers 11:10-29.

²Doctrine and Covenants 46:11, 12.

and, departing from mere repetition, will cast them in new formulas; cooperating in the works of the spirit, until they help to give to the truths received a more forceful expression, and carry it beyond the earlier and cruder stages of its development."³

May *Sunstone* attract the best efforts of young Latter-day Saints who, true to the

faith that their fathers have cherished, will raise the questions, pursue the discussions, and bear the witness worthy of a living faith that is both intellectually vigorous and spiritually discerning. For above all, *Sunstone* is an expression of faith in the commitment, insight and integrity of youth — and the working of God among them.

³*Improvement Era*, Volume 9:712-713.