

THE KINGDOM NOT ORGANIZED BY MAN—MAN UTTERLY
UNABLE TO ORGANIZE THE KINGDOM OF GOD ON THE EARTH
WITHOUT REVELATION—THE NEPHITES AND LAMANITES HAD
ALL THINGS IN COMMON—CONSECRATION—THE DANGER OF
PRIDE—THE UNITED ORDER

DISCOURSE BY ELDER ORSON PRATT, DELIVERED AT THE FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL
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Reported by David W. Evans

Forty-four years ago today, the Kingdom of God was organized on this earth, for the last time, never to be broken up, never to be confounded or thrown down, but to continue from that time, henceforth and forever. This kingdom was not organized by man, nor by the wisdom of man, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ, he having guided and directed, by revelation, everything in regard to its organization, and bestowed authority upon his servants to perform the work, and they being only agents or instruments in his hands.

All other Christian denominations for many long centuries, have been organized without revelation. The organizers of these various denominations did not even pretend that God had given them any information from Heaven; they did not even pretend that there was one sentence which had been received in their day from the Lord, in relation to the organization of their institutions. In this respect the Latter-day Saints differ widely from all Christian denominations! It is an essential difference, a peculiar characteristic, and one of the utmost importance. Every person

with a little reflection, can see that without divine information, man is utterly unable to organize the Kingdom of God on the earth. He may organize kingdoms, empires, republics and various kinds of civil government and a great variety of governments in a religious capacity, and when he has organized them they are without foundation and authority. The Lord communicates nothing to them, but they are compelled to ponder over that which had been revealed in former ages, and get all the information they can from what God spake formerly. But how impossible it is for people to learn their duties from what God said formerly to somebody else. We might as well, in the organization of a civil government, say, “the canon of laws is sealed up, we need no legislators or Congressmen.” If the question be asked why we do not need them, the answer is, “Oh, we depend upon the laws which were made by our fathers; they are sufficient for our guide.” Just fancy the people of this great republic being governed by the laws enacted in the first Congress after the revolutionary fathers framed the constitution.