Cache County excerpts

As I mentioned earlier, the earthquakes had closed off many of the major canyons with rockslides. The roads were buried or severely damaged, helping protect the Places of Refuge from the foreign troops and other marauders.

I was shown that after the roads and canyons were closed off through earthquakes, the Saints in the more spiritually refined camps received instructions to gather into larger groups in preparation for their next assignments. I specifically saw Cache Valley (Logan) and Sanpete County (Manti) as places where these larger groups congregated, but I was aware of several others. This was a challenging undertaking for the Saints compared to the first round of gathering, when a lot of people arrived at the camps in vehicles or buses. This time it was done on foot along mountainous backroads and trails to avoid facing troublemakers from the valleys.

I was shown the leaders of the camps scouting out possible routes through the mountains to the gathering places. The camps soon hummed with activity as supplies were packed up. I saw people hastily create modern versions of handcarts and wagons by using parts from the now-useless cars and trucks. Once the journey was underway, there were the usual mishaps and setbacks. Sometimes the journey took them several weeks, but it was a great relief to join with the other Saints. The spirit of unity and safety increased as the groups that had consisted of only dozens or hundreds of Saints now swelled to thousands in each camp.

Rowe, Julie. The Time is Now (Kindle Locations 1822-1827). Springcreek Book Company. Kindle Edition.

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Then I saw a great tumult commence all over the United States, which ended in a great deal of blood being shed. And a great many of the people who had heard our Elders preach, and had believed what they heard, but had not had the courage to embrace the Gospel when they heard it, gathered what little effects they could take with them, and came to the people in the Rocky Mountains. Then I saw many thousands of women and children take refuge in the timber, hazel rough, or any place they could conceal themselves from the turmoil that was going on in the States. And when word reached this people of their situation, there were hundreds of Seventies called upon to go and hunt them up and bring them to this people in Utah. Then the Government of the United States patched up their difficulties, and elected a new Congress, which assembled to do business. The crusade continued against the Latter-day Saints. Our enemies attributed all their troubles to the Saints, and the crusaders raised such a howl and sent forth their petitions to Congress, that the first business they did was to order one-hundred-thousand of the best and most able-bodied men that could be obtained to come against us.

When this became known to the Saints, instructions were sent forth for all the inhabitants of this territory to gather into the valleys, as near as possible to the Temples. And the people gathered into Salt Lake, Cache, Utah and Sanpete Valleys, and to Saint George until there was a family to nearly every acre of land, and all the country around was filled with our people. And water broke forth, where before there had been no water, so that all the land could be cultivated. I saw, also, that all the old men who had honored their Priesthood, became spry and young again. I also saw that the greater number of those who had gone into polygamy for the principle thereof, had to go to prison; while those who had embraced it for lust, escaped, as the officers appeared to care nothing about them.

Parrett, Christopher M. . Dreams, Visions and Testimonies of the Last Days, Volume II. (Kindle Locations 3305-3312). LDS-Avow: Another Voice of Warning. Kindle Edition.

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This explosion had not occurred because of aerial strike, but by sabotage of a nuclear weapon stored underground at that place. I believe that many of the nuclear explosions across the country were a result of sabotage rather than a missile attack. A few days after we crossed into Idaho, we left all highways and went cross-country. Idaho had been rocked by several atomic weapons, all at military installations, probably also due to sabotage. We were completely responsive to the voice of the Lord and were led around those areas.

Pontius, John. Visions of Glory: One Man's Astonishing Account of the Last Days (p. 155). Cedar Fort, Inc.. Kindle Edition.

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THE GATHERING OF THE SAINTS TO THE MOUNTAINS

Although the present policy of the Church is to establish its membership in organized groups throughout the world, when the warfare and distress come upon the United States this policy will be reversed and the instructions will be to "Let them, therefore, who are among the Gentiles flee unto Zion." (D&C 133:12. For assurance that this is the proper chronological fulfillment of this passage compare D&C 88:84-92 with D&C 133:8-12. Note that the cry that the "Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him" is to follow the pouring out of God's judgments, yet it marks the time when the Saints will be called to gather to Zion.)

The Lord also spoke of a "gathering together" upon the land of Zion as a "refuge from the storm, and from wrath" and said it would be in a period when the "wrath of God shall be poured out without mixture upon the whole earth." (D&C 115:6.)

Brigham Young told of the future gathering of the Saints to the western United States:

An inland Empire will be established in these valleys of the mountains, which will be a place of refuge for millions of people to gather to, when the great day of the judgments of God comes upon the earth, and the righteous come here for safety. Our people will go East, West, North and South, but the day will come, when they will be glad to come back. We will be shut out from the rest of the world. (Statement made by Brigham Young to Benjamin Kimball Bullock as recorded by the latter's son, Ben H. Bullock. The author has a copy of notarized statements pertaining to the validity of this and other prophecies recorded by Bullock on file.)

On another occasion he described the coming internal wars and taught that those who will not take up the sword against their neighbor must flee to the mountains. It was President Young's teaching, also, that the western mountains were especially prepared by God to serve as a shelter for the Saints:

It will be the same with other denominations of professing Christians, and it will be Christian against Christian, and man against man, and those who will not take up the sword against their neighbors, must flee to Zion.

We are blessed in these mountains; this is the best place on earth for the Latter-day Saints. Search for the history of all nations and every geographical position on the face of the earth, and you cannot find another situation so well adapted for the Saints as are these mountains. Here is the place in which the Lord designed to hide His people... It has been designed, for many generations, to hide up the Saints in the last days, until the indignation of the Almighty be over. His wrath will be poured out upon the nations of the earth. (DN, Vol. 11, No.9, May 1, 1861)

Orson Pratt also taught that although the Saints would previously have been blessed by God and enabled to spread throughout the land, that in the time of the Lord's judgments the place of safety would be in the heart of the American continent:

The hand of the Lord will be over us to sustain us, and we will spread forth. He will multiply us in the land; He will make us a great people, and strengthen our borders, and send forth the missionaries of this people to the four quarters of the earth to publish peace and glad tidings of great joy and proclaim that there is still a place left in the heart of the American continent where there are peace and safety and refuge from the storms, desolations and tribulations coming upon the wicked. (JD, 12:345.)

President J. Golden Kimball, of the First Council of Seventy, prophesied in 1926 of a time to come when many will have a burning desire to return to the West:

I prophesy that before many of you go to the other side you will have a burning desire in your hearts to return to the place where the leaders of the Church have counseled the Saints to settle, and you will give anything in the world to be able to live there. (CR, October, 1926, p. 58.)

The great influx of people into the area will be a source of growth to the Latter-day Saints in the West. Several prophecies deal with this growth, although it cannot be determined if they are indicative of the period during the internal wars or afterward. A prophecy attributed to Brigham Young asserts that

... The day will come when there will be large places of manufacture and storage constructed West of the Jordan River and there will be over three millions of people living there and Jordan River will practically run through the center of Salt Lake City. (Prophecy made by Brigham Young to William B. Armstrong and recorded by Ben H. Bullock. The author has a copy of notarized statements pertaining to the validity of this and other prophecies recorded by Bullock on file.)

Another prophecy, this time concerning the Logan area, was made by Wilford Woodruff: In a discourse delivered on August 22, 1863, in Logan, Utah, he predicted the construction of the Logan Temple. He then spoke of a time which is yet future when the valley in which Logan is situated will be filled with cities and villages, and will be filled with tens of thousands of Latter-day Saints:

Now, my young friends, I wish you to remember these scenes you are witnessing during the visit of President Young and his brethren. . . . The day will come, after your fathers and these prophets and apostles are dead, you will have the privilege of going into the towers of a glorious Temple built unto the name of the Most High (pointing in the direction of the bench), east of us upon the Logan bench; and while you stand in the towers of the Temple and your eyes survey this glorious valley filled with cities and villages, occupied by tens of thousands of Latter-day Saints, you will then call to mind this visitation of President Young and his company. (DN, Vol. 33, p. 678. The unofficial census count for the 1960 Census shows the population for the city of Logan as 17,464 and of the entire Cache Valley as 35,688. The Deseret News and Telegram, May 12, 1960.)

What is expected to happen during this internal war in the United States to those Saints who refuse to gather to safety in the Rocky Mountains? The Prophet Jospeh said in 1839 that there would be Stakes here and there but when wars come, the Saints will have to flee to Zion. He commented that the time is soon coming when no man will have any peace but in Zion and her stakes, and it appears that this is a reference to the stakes located near the center of the Church in the west, as is indicated by the statements cited above. He then told of the Saints who will be followed by mobs from city to city. The above statements seem to indicate that these Saints will not be located in the mountains, but will be the Saints who remained in outlying areas. This is the Prophet's statement:

There will be here and there a Stake [of Zion] for the gathering of the Saints. Some may have cried peace, but the Saints and the world will have little peace from henceforth. Let this not hinder us from going to the Stakes; for God has told us to flee, not dallying, or we shall be scattered, one here, and another there. There your children shall be blessed, and you in the midst of friends where you may be blessed. The Gospel net gathers of every kind.

I prophecy, that that man who tarries after he has an opportunity of going, will be afflicted by the devil. Wars are at hand; we must not delay; but are not required to sacrifice. We ought to have the building up of Zion as our greatest object. When wars come, we shall have to flee to Zion. The cry is to make haste .

. . . The time is soon coming when no man will have any peace but in Zion and her stakes .... These things are at our doors. They will follow the Saints of God from city to city. (HC, 3:390-91)