



# THE PRIESTHOOD

## Doctrine and Covenants Section 84

### IMPORTANT GOSPEL PRINCIPLES

- The greater priesthood (the Melchizedek Priesthood) holds the key of the knowledge of God. It includes the authority to perform ordinances that sanctify God's children and prepare them to enter His presence (6-25, 29).
- The lesser priesthood (the Aaronic Priesthood) is a preparatory priesthood. It includes the keys of the gospel of repentance, of baptism by immersion for the remission of sins, and the ministering of angels (18, 26-32).
- The sons of Moses and of Aaron are those who receive the Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthoods and magnify their callings (31-34).
- Those who receive the Melchizedek Priesthood covenant to magnify their calling and receive the Lord and His servants. In return, God promises to sanctify them and give them all that He has. This is called the "oath and covenant" of the priesthood (33-44).
- The Spirit of Christ enlightens everyone. Those who receive its influence are led to the Father. Those who reject it remain in darkness and sin (43-53).
- Church members who treat God's revelations lightly are under condemnation. We can be forgiven when we live the principles in the Book of Mormon and other scriptures (54-61).
- The Church of Jesus Christ was restored to gather Israel and establish Zion (2-4), build temples (3-5), provide the priesthood and ordinances of salvation (6-42), and preach the gospel to all the world (62-102).
- Church members need one another. Those who are strong in the faith should help those who are weak to grow spiritually and temporally (106-112).

### Important Principles Regarding the Priesthood:



"... Without the Holy Priesthood no man can enjoy the effulgent [brilliant] light of God's countenance, nor secure that eternal peace and contentment of soul which is promised to the righteous."  
-John A. Widtsoe



The priesthood contains an oath and a covenant.

The Aaronic Priesthood helps prepare men to receive the Melchizedek Priesthood.

The priesthood is eternal.

The priesthood holds the key of the knowledge of God.

The priesthood must be bestowed by those who are authorized by God.