



21 Jesus Organized His Church

Sunday, November 1, 2020

According to a 2011 Pew Research Center survey, there were 2.19 billion Christians around the world in 2010, more than three times as many as the 600 million recorded in 1910.

Demographics of major traditions within Christianity (Pew Research Center, 2010 data)^[6]

Tradition	Followers	% of the Christian population	% of the world population	Follower dynamics	Dynamics in- and outside Christianity
Catholic Church	1,094,610,000	50.1	15.9	▲ Growing	— Stable
Protestantism	800,640,000	36.7	11.6	▲ Growing	▲ Growing
Orthodoxy	260,380,000	11.9	3.8	▼ Shrinking	▼ Shrinking
Other Christianity	28,430,000	1.3	0.4	▲ Growing	▲ Shrinking
Christianity	2,184,060,000	100	31.7	— Stable	— Stable

LDS

2010s

2016: 15,882,417

2015: 15,634,199

2014: 15,372,337

2013: 15,082,028

2012: 14,782,473

2011: 14,441,346

2010: 14,131,467

2000s

2009: 13,824,854

2008: 13,508,509

2007: 13,193,999

2006: 12,868,606

2005: 12,560,869

2004: 12,275,822

2003: 11,985,254

2002: 11,721,548

2001: 11,394,522

2000: 11,068,861

1940s

1949: 1,078,671

1948: 1,041,970

1947: 1,016,170

1946: 996,505

1945: 979,454

1944: 954,004

1943: 937,050

1942: 917,715

1941: 892,080

1940: 862,664

1830s

1839: 16,460

1838: 17,881

1837: 16,282

1836: 13,293

1835: 8,835

1834: 4,372

1833: 3,140

1832: 2,661

1831: 680

1830: 280

1830: 6—The Church was officially, and legally, established on April 6, 1830.

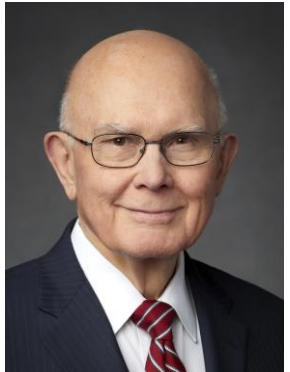
Matthew 10.1–4; 16.19; 17.3–7; 18.18;
Ephesians 2.19–20; 4.11–14



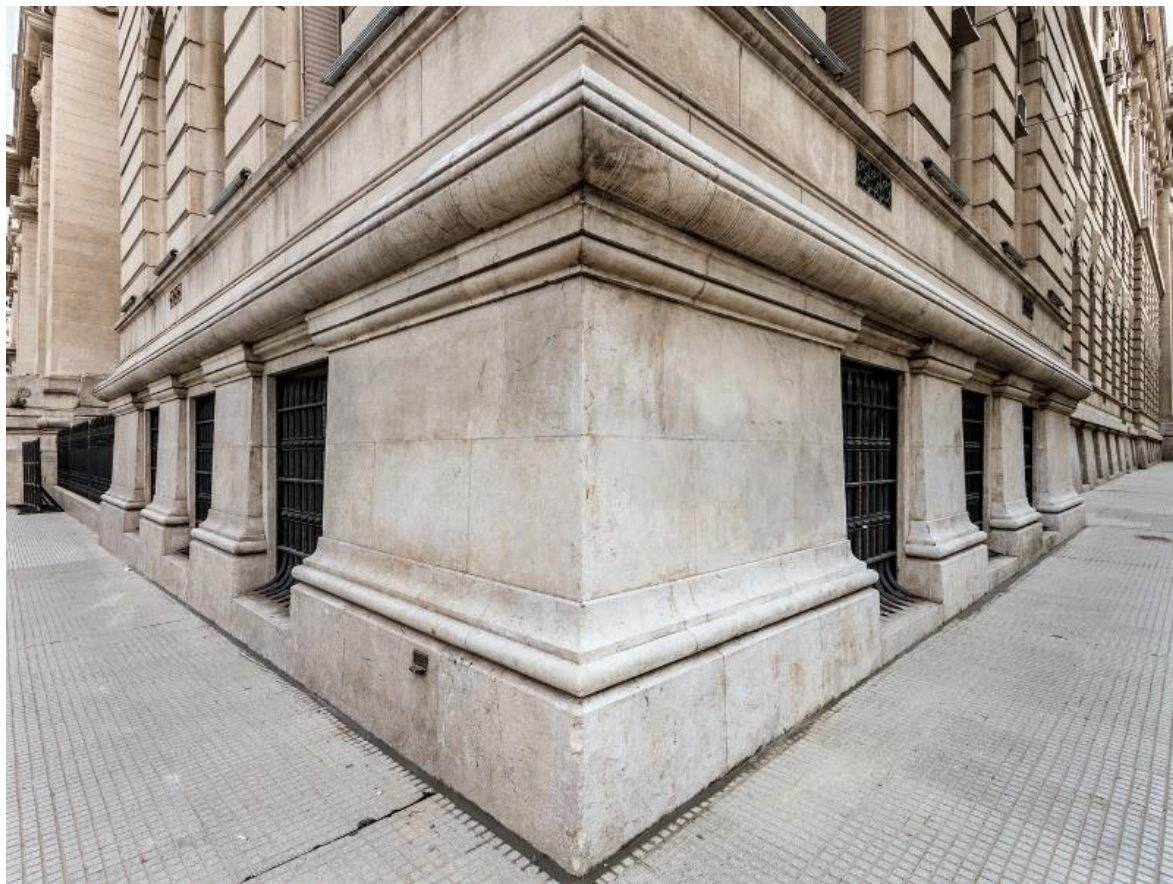
Keys

“Priesthood keys are the authority God has given to priesthood [holders] to direct, control, and govern the use of His priesthood on earth’ [Handbook 2: Administering the Church [2010], 2.1.1]. Every act or ordinance performed in the Church is done under the direct or indirect authorization of one holding the keys for that function. As Elder M. Russell Ballard has explained, ‘Those who have priesthood keys ... literally make it possible for all who serve faithfully under their direction to exercise priesthood authority and have access to priesthood power’

[M. Russell Ballard, “Men and Women in the Work of the Lord,” New Era, Apr. 2014, 4; Liahona, Apr. 2014, 48]” (Elder Oaks, “The Keys and Authority of the Priesthood,” Ensign or Liahona, May 2014, 49).



Ephesians 2.19-20



Base and Meridian

Often overlooked, the Base and Meridian is a small statuette on the southeast corner of Temple Square. On August 3, 1847, this location was fixed as the point from which all city streets were named and numbered.

Salt Lake City's grid system originates from here, making the coordinates 0 East, 0 West, 0 North, and 0 South, according to the system. This location was chosen during the original survey of "the Great Salt Lake" after Brigham Young designated the centralized temple site on July 28, 1847. The grid system is still used today in almost every city and town across Utah.

Make sure to look down as you're walking by — the Base and Meridian is a great place to stop and snap a photo.

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Ephesians 4.11–14



After His Resurrection and Ascension to heaven, Jesus Christ guided the Apostles through the ministration of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 2.1–6, 14–26; 4.1–13, 18–21; Acts 10.9–20, 25–28, 34–35, 44–48; Acts 15.1–20

Acts 10.9-20





The Jerusalem
Conference
Acts 15

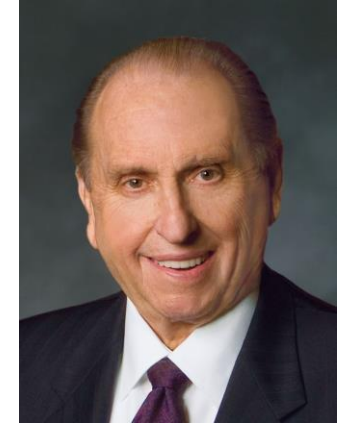


3 Nephi 19.7– 9, 19–20

How would you explain to someone why it is important to know that following His death, Jesus Christ continued to guide His Apostles?

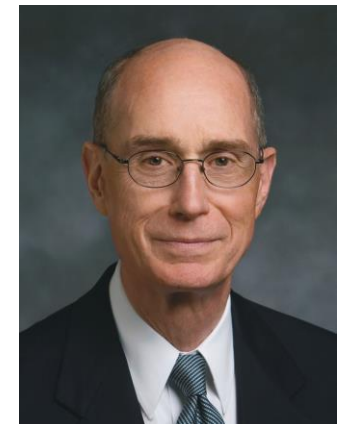
“I testify ... that our Savior Jesus Christ is at the head of this Church, which bears His name. I know that the sweetest experience in all this life is to feel His promptings as He directs us in the furtherance of His work”

(Thomas S. Monson, “Looking Back and Moving Forward,” Ensign or Liahona, May 2008, 88).



“Revelation and inspiration have come to [President Thomas S. Monson] in my presence, which confirms to me that God is honoring [the priesthood keys that the prophet holds]. I am an eyewitness”

(Henry B. Eyring, “The True and Living Church,” Ensign or Liahona, May 2008, 24).





The Power to Decide

D&C 107.78-79