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Date: **April 5, 2018**  
From: **Quorum Members**  
Report: **Quorum of Restoration Apostles**

To the Conference President, Conference Officers, Delegates and Members:

Greetings and peace to you in the name of our Redeemer and Savior Jesus Christ.

This Quorum of Restoration Apostles was officially organized on April 8, 2017, following the General Conference. Since its organization, the quorum has met together on several occasions. Some of the meetings were face-to-face, but most were Internet meetings. Our meetings have been for the purpose of training, discussion of various topics and for planning.

At our initial meeting, Gary Whiting was elected as the Quorum President and Kent Pedersen was elected as Quorum Secretary.

### **Epistles**

In November 2017, the Quorum wrote an epistle to the Saints regarding the testimonies of experiences in Brazil and the report of the translation of the Sealed Portion of the Book of Mormon plates. This was followed by a longer document outlining the reasons behind our counsel in the first letter.

We are aware of recent developments surrounding the events in Brazil associated with the man called Mauricio. None of the new testimony or corrections of previous testimony given by the participants has changed our position on this matter. The Quorum of Apostles reaffirms the position stated in the documents of November 2017 and the Detailed Response.

It is important for the Saints to understand the role of the Apostle's counsel on this matter. Any statement by the Quorum of Apostles, that is not specifically approved by the voice of the General Conference, should be considered as counsel from the Apostles, but not law. The Quorum of Apostles is not authorized to speak on behalf of the General Conference.

The General Conference is organized in a way that only permits the delegates and members in official session to speak for the General Conference. As such, the apostolic statements represent the position of the Quorum of Apostles as we have understood them according to the spirit of wisdom and revelation. There is no provision for any group of members, a branch, the Conference Officers or any priesthood quorum to speak for the General Conference. Only the General Conference (delegates and members in official session acting by legislative action) may speak an official opinion of the Conference.

Even resolutions passed by the General Conference are not binding or obligatory for branches or the saints outside of official assemblies of the General Conference. As participants in the General Conference of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches, it is important for us to recognize the limitations which are built into the structure of the General Conference.

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## Missionary Activity

The members of the Quorum have accepted assignments for missionary work as follows:

Gary Whiting	Western Africa, Israel
Randy Vick	Asia, Russia
Kent Pedersen	Central United States and Canada
Doug Patterson	Western United States and Canada
Hugh Caldwell	Native Americans, Central and South America
Rex Curtis	Eastern and Southern Africa
David Drummond	Eastern United States and Canada
Patrick McKay	Pacific Islands and Europe
Avilio Herrera	Central and South America, Mexico

Since April 2017, the quorum has been active in missionary work around the globe. Many of these specific reports have been mentioned in *The Latter Day Saints' Beacon*. Mission trips by apostles have been undertaken in the following countries:

Belize	Brazil	Guatemala
Honduras	Israel	Malawi
Mozambique	Zimbabwe	

Contacts have been made or followed up in the following countries:

India	Fiji	Liberia
Nigeria	Pakistan	Russia
Sri Lanka	United Kingdom	

Multiple excursions have been undertaken in the United States by the apostles. States visited include the following:

Illinois	Iowa	Kansas
Michigan	Mississippi	Missouri
North Carolina	Tennessee	Wisconsin

Members of the Quorum of Seventy have been involved in missionary activity in still other places around the world and in the United States.

We have been involved with bridge building activities in various locations including the 2017 Book of Mormon Symposium in Independence, Missouri.

We have worked with the Quorum of Seventy to develop a mechanism for planning missionary effort and goals for our assigned regions. This has helped us develop the Missionary Budget for 2018-2019. This budget will be the first one co-developed by the Apostles and the Seventy. The Apostles will oversee the missionary activity of both quorums.

We have been pleased with the willingness of the Seventy to work with us in the transition to Apostolic direction. It is our hope the two bodies of missionaries will be able to work together efficiently and harmoniously for the accomplishment of the great commission given to his church—taking the gospel into all the world.

We ask for the prayers of the Saints to seek the Lord's blessing and direction as we continue to serve the Lord and his people in the Restored Gospel.

This is a day of great spiritual activity in the world. God is setting his hand a second time to recover the house of Israel. The Adversary of righteousness is also at work. The counsel of Nephi in chapters 13-15 are extremely critical for those who desire to walk in the light and avoid the confusion and delusion of false spirits and teaching today. Nephi instructed the Saints to rely solely on the merits of him who is mighty to save (Jesus Christ):

Behold, I say unto you, Nay; for ye have not come thus far, save it were by the word of Christ, with unshaken faith in him, relying wholly upon the merits of him who is mighty to save; Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men. Wherefore, if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life. And now behold, my beloved brethren, this is the way; and there is none other way nor name given under heaven, whereby man can be saved in the kingdom of God (2 Nephi 13:28-31).

Nephi continues his counsel in chapter 14 showing that understanding comes by searching the word of God with diligence and persistence. In verses 5-6 he teaches we are brought into light by asking and knocking as directed by the Holy Ghost. He closes this chapter with these words:

For if ye would hearken unto the spirit which teacheth a man to pray, ye would know that ye must pray: for the evil spirit teacheth not a man to pray, but teacheth him that he must not pray. But behold I say unto you, that ye must pray always, and not faint: that ye must not perform anything unto the Lord, save in the first place ye shall pray unto the Father in the name of Christ, that he will consecrate thy performance unto thee, that thy performance may be for the welfare of thy soul (2 Nephi 14:11-12).

Finally, in chapter 15 Nephi boldly testifies he has faithfully declared the word of Christ to the reader. He says,

And now, my beloved brethren, and also Jew, and all ye ends of the earth, hearken unto these words, and believe in Christ; and if ye believe not in these words, believe in Christ. And if ye shall believe in Christ, ye will believe in these words; for they are the words of Christ, and he hath given them unto me; and they teach all men that they should do good (2 Nephi 15:11-12).

We admonish the Saints, and all people, to treasure up the words of Christ. Give place for the word to grow up in you by nourishing the word through prayer and study, seeking wisdom from God. Be very wary of the forces of the enemy. His ways can be detected by those who walk in the light of Christ and in the light of Christ there is protection and security for the Saints who endure. We are called to walk by faith and not by sight. By faith we know the covenants of the Lord are sure.

Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem; loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion (Isaiah 52:1-2).