
Doctrine and Covenants 16 — The Same Word to a Second Brother

Revelation through Joseph Smith to Peter Whitmer Jr. at Fayette, New York, June 1829 — identical to the revelation given to his brother John (Section 15).

Two brothers asked the same question, and God gave them the same answer — word for word. That fact is itself the lesson of Section 16.

From the Chapter's Architecture

Section 16 is built as a deliberate echo, and its architecture is the architecture of Section 15 laid over a second name. The same two strokes — I know you alone (vv. 1–5) and here is what matters most (v. 6) — fall in the same order. The only variable is the name at the head, Peter for John. That near-total identity is the structural sermon: change the name, and everything the Lord says to one faithful seeker He says to the next. The form teaches that the gospel's central call is not customized down to nothing; it is one call, addressed personally to each.