
Doctrine and Covenants 96 — A Stake for the Strength of Zion

A revelation given through Joseph Smith at Kirtland, Ohio, on June 4, 1833, on how to organize the Kirtland stake and the care of a property purchased for the Church.

This short revelation, given at Kirtland on June 4, 1833, settles a practical question — how to manage a recently purchased farm (the French farm) for the benefit of the Church — and in doing so it names Kirtland a *stake... for the strength of Zion* and receives John Johnson into the united order.

From the Chapter's Architecture

*Nine verses, a practical settlement with a clear purpose. It opens with the **management of the property** (vv. 1–5): Whitney to take charge, the land divided for those seeking inheritances and to fund bringing forth my word. And it turns to the **reception of John Johnson** (vv. 6–9): a faithful supporter and heir of Joseph received into the order, promised eternal life, set to clear the property's debts. The architecture keeps even an administrative revelation tethered to the gospel's purpose: the property serves the word, and the word serves the hearts of the children of men.*