

The following is a short summary of the orders and rules given to the office Deacons by the revelation of god in Father Joseph Meacham at the time when the Church was set in order in this place.

In relation to the office Deacons their lot is of great importance therefore great responsibility rests upon them. But notwithstanding the greatness of their labor and care, if they walk in the fear of God, and improve their time strength and talents (saith Father Joseph) in building up the Church of Christ upon earth in the temporal line, they will purchase to themselves honor and glory and great boldness in the faith.

We will now proceed to rehearse some of the most important orders and

regulations as established by Father Joseph to be kept sacred by the office Deacons, and firstly As the Deacons had all the joint interest ^{in the Church} in ^{the Church} ~~the Church~~ it is binding on them to see that there is a prudent and saving use made of all things under their care, that there be no damage or loss come thro their neglect

secondly As this lot was established as a barrier or defence between the Church and world, therefore all buying and selling, all trading and dealing with the world of mankind must be done by and thro the agency and order of this lot. If there should be any gifts grants or donations ^{offered to the Church}, it is the duty of the Deacons in all such cases to ask counsel of the spiritual lead, whether it can be accepted as a part of the joint interest or not

thirdly It is binding upon the Deacons to use and improve the joint interest of the Church for the benefit of the ~~members~~ members thereof, by providing all thing necessary for their support comfort and ease ~~convenience~~ according to their ability

It is the duty of the Deacons to ~~provide~~ ^{provide} ~~between the orders~~ ^{between the orders} according to their numbers and needs.

fourthly It is the duty of the Deacons to protect the joint interest of the Church by making all lawful defence in points of law and equity.

fifthly Never to involve the Church in debt to the world. Nor to make large contracts as buying houses and lands without the joint union of the Church. To be upon ⁱⁿ their dealings with all men. Never to take usury or interest of the believers of other orders for money or other articles lent to them. All contracts and dealings of much importance must be done by the office Deacons or Deaconess as the case may be, ^{with other orders of believers}

sixthly As the first lot of Deacons of which we are now speaking as Father Joseph said are called in a special manner to be peacemakers therefore it is of great importance that ^{they} keep a cordial union with all the Elders and Deacons in the Church, that they may have a full understanding of all the temporal concerns of each order in the Church.

seventhly if the Deacons should want the assistance of any of the common members that would take them out of their common occupation it is order for them to apply to the family Deacons and not to the individual members. The Deacons were ~~required~~ ^{required} to keep a strict account of all the out goings and In comings of the Church so that they could see at any time whether they were loosing or gaining ground and be able to give an account to the spiritual lead; for all things ~~not~~ pertaining to the office and office deacons must be kept naked and open to the inspection of the spiritual ~~so far~~ lead so far as they require it.

