

Scene 2. Gilbert Belnap's release.

Narrator:

Thru the courtesy of the British government he was escorted to Lewiston, the boundary line of the United States, in company with Daniel Comstock, Calvin Hill, George Heriman and Samuel Wood, July 2, 1839.

With locked arms and uncovered heads, the pale and haggard soldiers now freed from ten months of war, were welcomed by the citizens of the United States for their valiant fight in the cause of liberty. Crowds of Americans shouted hurrahs and fired salutes in their honor.

The following morning they took the first train of horse cars to Niagara Falls. That evening they enjoyed a social affair in the splendid and elegantly furnished halls of the Niagara House. There they were introduced to the pleasure seekers as "sons of liberty and exiles from bondage to freedom." The next day, July 4th, again they were honored by being conveyed to the Farmers Hotel in a coach drawn by four horses. Free entertainment was given them for eight days. July 12, 1839, the soldiers separated and Gilbert secured employment with Mr. Fens Gaston.

EPISODE III

GILBERT BELNAP'S INITIATION INTO THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTERDAY

SAINTS

Places: Kirtland, Ohio and New York.

Time: December 1841 to 1846.

Gilbert Belnap,  
Jeremiah Knight,

Howard Knight Belnap  
Amasa Belnap

Narrator:

Satisfying a desire to see the world he (Gilbert,) after much sight seeing in Ohio, New York and Kentucky, returned to Cleveland, Ohio. There he listened to a long conversation between Abiner Cleveland and Mr. Colesburg regarding the town of Kirtland, Ohio and the construction of the Kirtland Temple. Thereupon he went to Kirtland. His admiration of the ancient architecture of the temple, his observance of the righteous living of the members of the Church of Jesus Christ caused him to diligently investigate the principles of the gospel for two years. Thus his study and comparisons with other religions, he was thoroughly convinced of the divinity of the truths taught by the newly founded Church. Yet he delayed accepting the gospel in reality. A visit to his aged grandparents and brother appeared to make his faith in God and His people so dear that he returned again to Kirtland.

During the winter of 1841 he met with a serious accident that fractured his skull in three places, dislocated his right shoulder and his left ankle. From December 23, 1841 until April 13, 1842 he was confined to his bed suffering intensely. He was indebted to a family named Dixon for their care and kindness while helpless.

In his solitary moments, he reflected much upon his firm convictions of the truthfulness of the gospel and his delay in accepting it.

Curtain

Gilbert, prostrated in bed. Visitation of Jeremiah Knight with blessing. Gilbert there covenanted in the presence of Jeremiah to obey the gospel of his health would be restored.