

Music behind the scenes

Narrator:

Before one witness, Jeremiah Knight, he covenanted with his Heavenly Father that if he would raise him from his bed of affliction he would obey his gospel.

The following day, April 13, 1842, he had received sufficient strength in eight hours to arise from his bed, harness his own horses and drive three miles.

Disregarding the promptings within his own heart and those of his friends, he delayed the fulfillment of his solemn promise with the Lord until Sept. 11, 1842. On that day, in company with William Wilson, before a vast multitude of Saints and sinners, Gilbert Belnap submitted to the ordinance of baptism by immersion into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints. Altho jilted by scorers he strove with the assistance of his divine Creator to keep the commandments of the Lord.

At a conference, October 6, 1842, under the direction of Lyman Wight, he was set apart to fulfill a mission to New York. By permission he tarried sufficiently long to settle up his private business. The following September, he left Kirtland, in company with Luman Heath for New York. With the attendant experiences of a missionary—sleeping out of doors, the annoyances of hunger and inconvenience of travel, the thrill of opposition from daily acquaintances and ministers of other denominations, he, in company with his companions, baptized many honest hearts into the fold of Christ. His labors were confined principally to Stuben, Livingston, Ontario, Genesee, Erie, Chataqua, Cateraugus and Yates counties. Returning to Kirtland, he travelled on foot from Yates County to Kirtland.

PART II  
EPISODE IV

THE CONVERSION OF VINSON AND MARTHA MCBRIDE KNIGHT TO GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

Place: New York.

Time: March 31, 1834.

Vinson Knight, John M. Belnap.

Joseph Smith, Earl R. Belnap

Martha McBride Knight, Flora Belnap

Parley P. Pratt, Gilbert Marriott

Vinson's mother, Tirzah Belnap Ross.

Adaline, Roswell C. Belnap's Baby.

Four children, Almira, Evelyn Barker, Rizpah, Olive Arlene Jenson.

Curtain.

Vinson, resting on buffalo robe in one corner of dining room.

Martha, having just laid down her Bible.

Vinson's mother, Sewing or darning.

The children playing around the room.

Martha-Vinson, dear, I have just been reading in the Bible of Christ's conversation with Peter, when Peter decided that the Savior was the Son of the living God. So many times I have heard my father, Daniel McBride a Campbellite minister, say "There is something lacking. I feel that I have not the authority, as the prophets of old. If only I could say to the people, "Thus sayeth the Lord."

Vinson. Why bother your dear brains about all these fanatical dogmas. You remind me of Joe Smith, who said he found those golden plates in the Hill Cumorah, only a stone's throw from this house. He has been the laughing stock of this town.

Vinson's mother. Those are my sentiments.