

Sunday, April 5

Second Day

During the school year they were afflicted with impetigo, a common disease of the skin which is now very easily cured. Because they were not bathed and because their clothing was not clean, it quickly spread across their bodies.

The principal of the school asked that my mother, who was the room mother for our class, visit the home in the hope that she could encourage the type of care that these children so badly needed. "The woman's touch," he said, "may be most helpful here."

Although she responded to the request, she failed in her mission, for she found circumstances in that home were pitiable. Well I remember the invitation to bring these little youngsters home from school with us. And, I remember that they were bathed; medication was applied to their little bodies; they were dressed in our clothing; and in the early evening sent to their own home, the next day to return for the same treatment. Night after night after night I remember my mother scrubbing endlessly with a bottle of disinfectant and then boiling clothing against the possibility that her own family might become infected. But her mother's heart would not turn them away, for these were little children, and they were suffering.

The demands made upon mothers, the weariness, the worry, the endless vigil, all take their toll. But there comes to you a special beauty transcending even that of the blushing bride. Such beauty is alluded to in these lines by an unknown poet entitled simply "Beauty."

"Beauty"

"Two pines were born on a hillside grove.

One protected, grew straight and tall. It bore no time or weather marks. Its figure was slim and virginal.

"The second showed clearly that time had passed,

For it stood where the winds stormed by. Its arms knew the tortuous weight of snow.

Its face knew the sting of the sleet-filled sky.

"The first tree, so youthfully beautiful Was a picture the world could all see. But the artist who climbed to the hillside grove

Always painted the other tree."

This morning I was compulsively drawn to turn and look over my shoulder to see Sister McKay sitting, her face almost framed by the white orchids that had been set there next to her chair. And to the credit of those who sent those flowers I say that they came near to being as lovely as Sister McKay.

The Sphere of Mother

Mothers, teach your children in the home the principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Sustain your husband in his presidency of the home. Draw from the Priesthood Home Teaching program, from the Relief Society, and the other auxiliary agencies of the Church the assistance to bless your family.

Teach your daughters the essentials of homemaking. Teach them to be virtuous. Train your sons for service in the mission field. Teach them to be worthy. Teach them to know that the President of the Church is a prophet of God.

It is easy, mothers, for us to love you, because you see the Lord loves you. Earn, mothers of little children, the witness that Jesus is the Christ, for he lives. The gospel of Jesus Christ is true. In testimony of this, I give you my witness, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President N. Eldon Tanner:

Elder Boyd K. Packer, Assistant to the Twelve, has just spoken to us. Elder Eldred G. Smith, Patriarch to the Church, will now address us.

ELDER ELDRED G. SMITH

Patriarch to the Church

I bear testimony to you, my brothers and sisters, that I, like others who have

talked in this conference, know that this is the kingdom of God, that this is his

Church. I have confidence in this work and in the missionaries who are teaching the gospel, for they are teaching the truth.

A Living, Loving Father

I know that God lives and that he is a Loving Father, and that Jesus Christ is his Son. I know he has patience with me as with all because he is a Loving Father, that he has gone through such experiences previously. Otherwise I would think prayers would be useless if he weren't a Living, Loving Father who could answer them.

His Son, Jesus Christ

I know that Jesus Christ is his Son both in the spirit and on the earth, for Christ himself testified that God was his Father. I know the two both appeared to Joseph Smith, two separate Personages, and the Father said to Joseph, "This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!" (Joseph Smith 2:17), putting in their proper order of organization which has always been since the time Adam was driven out of the Garden of Eden. Unto Adam was said as he left that he should learn obedience by his own experience. By partaking of the fruit he was shut out of the presence of the Father, but all that he should receive from then on should come through his Son Jesus Christ.

Instructions to Us

And so we, as children of Adam, receive our instructions from our Father through his Son Jesus Christ and are here to learn obedience by our own experience. The Lord gives us opportunity here for trials through difficulties. Many of us think we have a most difficult row to hoe; what comes to us seems to be the hardest; but it helps us because we need that training probably. That's what it takes for us to attain perfection, for we must be able to go through all the trials and difficulties in this life which are necessary to attain perfection.

So the Lord, as a Kind, Loving Father, gives us experiences, stumbling blocks to stumble on by which we may be strengthened; problems to overcome by which we may be strengthened; trials

by which we may grow bigger, stronger; so we may attain the perfection he has planned for us through this life in mortality.

Guidance Through Prayer

I would invite all those who are not members of the Church who have a desire to seek God, to seek God through prayer because he will answer their prayers. He is a True and Living God. He will answer their prayers. He may not answer them as you think he may, for our Father has many languages, but he will choose the language which is best for you. It may come to you through experiences. Some may be difficult, yet they will be a lesson to you which will answer your prayers. He may answer your prayer in a way which will make you stronger, help you to progress, and give you the burning in your heart that this is the gospel of Jesus Christ restored in these the latter days.

His Way Best

I testify to you that this knowledge has come to me, not from just one little experience but over a lifetime. I have often said to myself in my younger days, as trials and difficulties came along, "The Lord's way is the best way." As long as conditions are beyond my control, then I leave them up to the Lord. I worry only about those things that are in my control, and those things I try to make better and ask the Lord to help me.

Through those experiences through life with that as my guide and wherein the Lord is my guide, I have learned to know without a doubt that the Father and the Son did appear to Joseph Smith; that these truths which have been referred to by others in this conference were given to the Prophet Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery; that the kingdom of God is now established upon the earth in this the last Dispensation of the Fulness of Times, in the Saturday evening of time, never again to be taken from the earth; and that this is the time of preparation for the ushering in of the millennium when Christ himself will come and reign on the earth.

Sunday, April 5

I bear you my testimony that I know this to be true, I know this is the gospel of Jesus Christ, and do so in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President N. Eldon Tanner:

Eldred G. Smith, patriarch to the Church, has just spoken to us. The congregation and Choir will now join in singing, "High On the Mountain Top," conducted by Jay E. Welch. After the singing Elder Henry D. Taylor,

Assistant to the Twelve, will address us.

The Choir and the congregation joined in singing the hymn, "High On The Mountain Top," conducted by Jay E. Welch.

President N. Eldon Tanner:

Elder Henry D. Taylor, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve, will be our next speaker, and he will be followed by Elder Victor L. Brown of the Presiding Bishopric.

ELDER HENRY D. TAYLOR

Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles

In the year 1842, the Prophet Joseph Smith was invited to submit a statement setting forth the beliefs of the newly organized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In response to that invitation, he directed a communication now known as the "Wentworth Letter." This inspired document contained among other things, thirteen concise, comprehensive declarations of belief, familiarly called, "The Articles of Faith."

The first of these Articles of Faith states: "We believe in God, the Eternal Father, and in His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost."

We Believe in God

Now, if we believe in God with all our hearts and seek to know him as he would have us know him, then he will be an anchor to our lives, giving meaning and purpose to them. The Savior once said, emphasizing this point: "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." (John 17:3.)

What do we know about God, our Heavenly Father?

First. We are actually his children. He is the Father of our spirits. In our prayers, we properly address him as our Father in heaven.

Second. We are created in his image and after his likeness.

Third. He is a glorified, immortal, resurrected being, possessing a body of

flesh, bones, and spirit.

And fourth. We once dwelt in his presence and may return to be again with him, provided we do the things required to achieve and merit this blessed privilege.

To these truths the scriptures have attested, and inspired men have testified.

"Hallowed be Thy Name"

We have been admonished to "Love the Lord thy God, with all thy heart, might, mind, and strength." (See Luke 10:27.) And with this love also goes a deep respect and reverence for him. Jesus recognized this truth when he taught his disciples how to pray. As he addressed the Father in prayer, he said: ". . . Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name." (Matt. 6:9.) When Jesus regarded the name of the Lord as "hallowed," can we do less? Should we in any manner profane that hallowed name?

When the Prophet Moses received the Ten Commandments midst the thunderings and lightnings of Mt. Sinai, the Lord proclaimed: "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." (Deut. 5:11; Exod. 20:7.)

Moses, too, knew by revelation that the name of God is hallowed. And yet, everyday, we hear thoughtless, uncouth, irreverent persons violate this commandment as they blaspheme the name of our Heavenly Father in profane oaths.

In ancient times, the Higher Priesthood was called, "The Holy Priesthood