

### "My Soul delighteth . . ."

Perhaps I can conclude by making reference to something the Nephi said. He said: "My soul delighteth in the scriptures." (2 Ne. 4:15.) Mine does. He said: "My soul delighteth in proving unto my people the truth of the coming of Christ." My soul delights in that also. He said: "My soul delighteth in the covenants of the Lord which he hath made to our fathers; yea, my soul delighteth in his grace, and in his justice, and power, and mercy in the great and eternal plan of deliverance from death." My soul delights in that too. And he said: "My soul delighteth in proving unto my people that save Christ should come all men must perish." (2 Ne. 11:4-6.) I know this to be fact.

I pray the Lord will bless me and make me capable and equal to the task ahead, that he will be patient with me and forgiving of all my sins and shortcomings. I sustain the prophet; I sustain the Brethren. I am humbled with the prospects of working with them. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

---

### President Spencer W. Kimball

Brother M. Russell Ballard will be our next speaker. He is now the active president of the mission in East Canada.

He will be followed by Elder John H. Groberg.

## Elder M. Russell Ballard, Jr.

Of the First Quorum of the Seventy

My dear brethren, I am grateful that Brother Asay has echoed my feelings for me. I am also grateful to know that I'm not the only one whose heart is throbbing up in his throat.

### An early experience

As I contemplated the possibility of bearing my testimony tonight to you, my mind went back to many years ago when I was in the Aaronic Priesthood, and somehow I and one of my companions found ourselves over here by the stairs where we didn't belong, just prior to the beginning of the priesthood meeting. President George Albert Smith, in his kindly way, saw our plight, saw that we really had nowhere to go, and invited us to sit on these stairs by the pulpit. I sat there with my friend and watched the proceedings of that

great priesthood session, never believing that I would ever again get that close to this pulpit.

I remember that I said to my friend when we left the conference, "It sure would be nice to be a General Authority; then you would have one of those big red chairs to sit in."

I would like to say, my brethren, that I have been sitting in a big red chair for just a few minutes, and the greatest desire of my heart is that I will learn through my obedience and my service to become comfortable in that big red chair. I pray that the Lord will bless me that I might properly represent President Kimball, his counselors, the Council of the Twelve, and all my brethren of the General Authorities; that as they send me forth on whatever errand it might be, I might do the will and the bidding of the Lord.

### Gratitude and testimony

I thank my wife, my seven children, my mother and father, for making this calling possible. I pledge my full support and loyalty to my brethren and to the Lord and ask for his peace and blessing to be with me as I grow in my assignment.

I have a great testimony of the gospel, for I know that it is true. I bring the greetings of the Saints in eastern Canada and all the missionaries there to all brethren of the priesthood around

the world. I leave this testimony humbly, and in the worthy name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

---

### President Spencer W. Kimball

Brother M. Russell Ballard has just spoken to us.

Brother John H. Groberg will be our next speaker. He was the president of the Tongan Mission, and since then has been a regional representative.

## Elder John H. Groberg

Of the First Quorum of the Seventy

My dear brethren, on occasions such as this there is much to be felt, but little to be said. I feel it important that I say four things.

First of all, publicly and in the presence of the Lord and his servants, I wish to accept the invitation that President Kimball has extended to spend the rest of my life in the service of the Lord.

Secondly, I want to ask for your help. I recognize that I am weak and I need your help. As I have done some deep soul-searching over the last few days, I have come to the inescapable conclusion that many, if not most, of my so-called "accomplishments" have been much more the result of the efforts of others than they have of my own efforts.

We often hear of the need of our departed dead for us to go to the temple and do temple work for them, that is, we think of their dependence upon us. While I don't have a complete understanding of these things, I want to bear my testimony that I am sure we have at least as great a dependence upon them, if not more so, than they do upon us.

We need to help one another. Our salvation depends upon it.

### Gratitude for family and friends

Thirdly, I would like to express my appreciation for all those who have been so kind and patient with me, to the leaders of the Church who I know have gritted their teeth at times and watched the errors I have made and yet have patiently led me and directed me. I hope and pray that I may be at least as kind and as patient with others, in whatever responsibility I am given, as they have been with me. I express appreciation to my wife and children, my parents, friends, and neighbors—no one could have finer neighbors than we do.

It was mentioned that we should listen to our wives. They have qualities that we don't have. In many cases womanly intuition should be listened to. When we were preparing to come down, my wife said, "Now, were we supposed to get anything in to the paper?"

I said, "No, they said they have all the information they need."