

iron rod of truth. You are making better progress than you realize. Your struggles are defining character, discipline, and confidence in the promises of your Father in Heaven and the Savior as you consistently obey Their commandments. You are so important. You are so needed. There are so few willing to make the sacrifice you are making to live righteously. You can develop the sensitivity, love, and kindness to gain supreme happiness within the covenant of an eternal marriage. You will bless your children with insight the world can never give them. Your example will set the course for their successful life as the world becomes even more difficult. You are needed to strengthen the growing kingdom of the Lord and to be role models for so many who lack the light of truth you have.

Avoid worldly wickedness. Know that God is in control. In time, Satan will completely fail and be punished for his perverse evil. God has a specific plan for your life. He will reveal parts of that plan to you as you look for it with faith and consistent obedience. His Son has made you free—not from the consequences of your acts, but free to make choices. God’s eternal purpose is for you to be successful in this mortal life. No matter how wicked the world becomes, you can earn that blessing. Seek and be attentive to the personal guidance given to you through the Holy Spirit. Continue to be worthy to receive it. Reach out to others who stumble and are perplexed, not certain of what path to follow.

Your security is in God your Father and His Beloved Son, Jesus Christ. As one of His Apostles authorized to bear witness of Him, I solemnly testify that I know that

the Savior lives, that He is a resurrected, glorified personage of perfect love. He is your hope, your Mediator, your Redeemer. Through obedience, let Him guide you to peace and happiness amid increased evil in the world, in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

#### NOTES

1. “Standing Strong and Immovable,” *Worldwide Leadership Training Meeting*, Jan. 10, 2004, 20.
2. In Conference Report, Oct. 2003, 3, 5; or *Ensign*, Nov. 2003, 4, 7.
3. Doctrine and Covenants 64:32–34.
4. Romans 12:21.
5. Joshua 24:15.
6. Doctrine and Covenants 24:8.
7. Doctrine and Covenants 75:16.
8. Moroni 10:32.
9. Alma 41:10.

#### President Monson

As we conclude the conference, we express appreciation to the Tabernacle Choir, the Relief Society choir from stakes in Salt Lake, the priesthood choir from the Orem and Salt Lake institutes, and their conductors and organists for the beautiful and inspiring music. The music has been wonderful. We also extend thanks to all who have participated in any way in these proceedings.

President Gordon B. Hinckley, our beloved prophet, will be our concluding speaker at this session. Following President Hinckley’s remarks, the choir will sing “Lord, I Would Follow Thee.” The benediction will then be offered by Elder Daryl H. Garn of the Seventy, and the conference will be adjourned for six months.

## President Gordon B. Hinckley

### Resolve to stand a little taller

My brothers and sisters, it’s about over. As we conclude this historic confer-

ence, the words of Rudyard Kipling’s immortal “Recessional” come to mind:

The tumult and the shouting dies;  
The captains and the kings depart.

Still stands thine ancient sacrifice,  
 An humble and a contrite heart.  
 Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
 Lest we forget, lest we forget.  
 ["God of Our Fathers, Known of Old,"  
*Hymns*, no. 80]

As we return to our homes, may we carry with us the spirit of this great convocation. May what we have heard and experienced remain with us as a residual of love and peace, an attitude of repentance, and a resolve to stand a little taller in the radiant sunlight of the gospel.

May our testimonies of the great foundation principles of this work, which have been burnished more brightly, shine forth from our lives and our actions.

May a spirit of love, of peace, of appreciation for one another increase in our homes. May we be prospered in our labors and become more generous in our sharings. May we reach out to those about us in friendship and respect.

May our prayers become expressions of thanks to the Giver of all good and of love for Him who is our Redeemer.

### **Appreciation for Sister Hinckley**

Now, my brothers and sisters, I reluctantly desire a personal indulgence for a moment. Some of you have noticed the absence of Sister Hinckley. For the first time in 46 years, since I became a General Authority, she has not attended general conference. Earlier this year we were in Africa to dedicate the Accra Ghana Temple. On leaving there we flew to Sal, a barren island in the Atlantic, where we met with members of a local branch. We then flew to St. Thomas, an island in the Caribbean. There we met with a few others of our members. We were on our way home when she collapsed with weariness. She's had a difficult time ever since. She's now 92, a little

younger than I am. I guess the clock is winding down, and we do not know how to rewind it.

It is a somber time for me. We've been married for 67 years this month. She is the mother of our five gifted and able children, the grandmother of 25 grandchildren and a growing number of great-grandchildren. We've walked together side by side through all of these years, coequals and companions through storm and sunshine. She has spoken far and wide in testimony of this work, imparting love, encouragement, and faith wherever she's gone. Women have written letters of appreciation from all over the world. We continue to hope and pray for her and express from the depths of our hearts our appreciation for all who have attended her and looked after her and for your great faith and prayers in her behalf. Now, as we go to our homes, I feel to say:

God be with you till we meet again;  
 By his counsels guide, uphold you. . . .  
 When life's perils thick confound you,  
 Put his arms unfailling round you. . . .  
 Keep love's banner floating o'er you;  
 Smite death's threat'ning wave before  
 you.

God be with you till we meet again.  
 ["God Be with You Till We Meet  
 Again," *Hymns*, no. 152]

Every man, woman, and child, boy and girl, should leave this conference a better individual than he or she was when it began two days ago. I leave my blessing and my love with each of you, in the sacred name of Jesus Christ, amen.

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The choir sang "Lord, I Would Follow Thee."

Elder Daryl H. Garn offered the benediction.

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