

## The St. George Temple

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November 12, 1975  
5th Session, 10:30 A.M.

We need, all of us, a special outpouring of the Spirit of the Lord, such as has been with us already during this entire session, if we are to comprehend and understand the deep and significant import of the things I desire to say relative to this Holy House. This is the House of the Lord. President Romney said, "It is the Palace of the Great King." It has been built and rebuilt by the tithing and the sacrifice of his people. It is a holy sanctuary set apart from the world in which we are privileged to worship the Lord and receive the higher ordinances of his Kingdom. It has been dedicated and rededicated, which means that we have given it to the Lord as his dwelling place, as his personal abode, as a place where he may come when occasion requires his personal participation in the affairs of his Church in this area.

When we come into this Temple we come as the guests of the Lord. It is his house, not ours. He invites us to come, but the invitation is issued on his terms, not ours. He invites us to come here to worship him, to partake of his Spirit, to perform ordinances, and to receive instruction in the truths of his everlasting gospel. As part of the dedicatory process, we bind ourselves to use this house in the way that he wants it used. I now invite all of you to open your hearts and to hear and to ponder some of the great and eternal verities relative to the House of the Lord.

In this Holy House we leave the world and its worries behind us. We center our faculties on the things of the Spirit, and we open our hearts to receive the mysteries of the Kingdom—those things which eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the stony heart of men, but which the Lord has reserved for them that love and serve him.

In this Holy House we have dramatized before us the great plan of eternal progression. We learn of our status as the offspring of God, of the creation and peopling of the earth, of the fall of man and the need for a Redeemer, of the laws of obedience, sacrifice, and consecration which we must live if we are to return to the presence of Him, whose we are, and there enjoy the fulness of His kingdom.

In this Holy House we are endowed with power from on high. We receive those truths, gain that knowledge and instruction and enter into those covenants which prepare us to pass by the angels and the Gods and gain glory and honor forever in the presence of the Father and the Son.

In this Holy House, we receive that patriarchal order of the priesthood which is named the new and everlasting covenant of marriage, which enables the marriage union to endure forever, thus fulfilling to the full the divine decree, "Thou shalt love thy wife with all thy heart, and shalt cleave unto her and none else." (D&C 42:22.)

In this Holy House we have sealed upon us all the blessings of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. We are promised that in us and in our seed all generations shall be blessed. We are told that we shall have eternal increase, that we shall have a continuation of the seeds forever and ever and that our eternal progeny shall continue as innumerable as the stars, or if ye were to count the sand upon the seashore, ye could not number them.

In this Holy House the promises made to the fathers are planted in our hearts, so that we may rise up and claim our right to the priesthood, together with all of the blessings of the gospel, including the crowning blessing of eternal life in our Father's Kingdom. We learn that the promises made to the fathers were that we, their children, would receive the gospel, the priesthood and eternal marriage so that if we were true and faithful, we shall be blessed with faithful Abraham.

In this Holy House the door of revelation is opened so that the scripture is fulfilled which says,

God shall give unto [thee] knowledge by his Holy Spirit, yea, by the unspeakable gift of the Holy Ghost, that has not been revealed since the world was until now; . . . [and] all thrones and dominions, principalities and powers, shall be revealed and set forth upon all who have endured valiantly for the gospel of Jesus Christ. (D&C 121:26-29.)

In this Holy House we may find fulfillment of these words spoken by the Lord through his prophet:

And inasmuch as my people build a house unto me in the name of the Lord, and do not suffer any unclean thing to come into it, that it be not defiled, my glory shall rest upon it;

Yea, and my presence shall be there, for I will come into it, and all the pure in heart that shall come into it shall see God.

But if it be defiled, I will not come into it, and my glory shall not be there; for I will not come into unholy temples. (D&C 97:15-17.)

In this Holy House we may hear the heavenly voice declare that we have part and lot in the kingdom, that we are sealed up unto eternal life, that our calling and election has been made sure, that we shall sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the Kingdom of God to go no more out.

In this Holy House we also perform those baptisms, endowments and sealings which make available the fulness of the blessings of the gospel to those who have died without a knowledge of the truth, but who would have believed and obeyed had the opportunity been theirs in mortality.

Now, what do we hear in the gospel which we have received? A voice of gladness! A voice of mercy from heaven; and a voice of truth out of the earth; glad tidings for the dead; a voice of gladness for the living and the dead; glad tidings of great joy . . .

Brethren, shall we not go on in so great a cause? Go forward and not backward. Courage, brethren; and on, onto the victory! Let your hearts rejoice, and be exceedingly glad. Let the earth break forth into singing. Let the dead speak forth anthems of eternal praise to the King Immanuel, who hath ordained, before the world was, that which would enable us to redeem them out of their prison; for the prisoners shall go free.

Let the mountains shout for joy, and all ye valleys cry aloud; and all ye seas and dry lands tell the wonders of your Eternal King! And ye rivers, and brooks, and rills, flow down with gladness. Let the woods and all the trees of the field praise the Lord; and ye solid rocks weep for joy! And let the sun, moon, and the morning stars sing together, and let all the sons of God shout for joy! And let the eternal creations declare his name forever and ever! And again I say, how glorious is the voice we hear from heaven, proclaiming in our ears, glory, and salvation, and honor and immortality, and eternal life: kingdoms, principalities, and powers! (D&C 128:19, 22-23.)

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.