

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM CHANDLER PARKINSON

I am now in the seventy second year of life and have but few more to spend here in mortality, and now while I am in the full vigor of health, both in body and mind, I have concluded to leave my Testimony as to the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ as revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith in these last days of the fullness of times.

I am making the following declarations and bearing this testimony for the benefit of my wives and children and for all who may read the same.

Now my dear wives and children, hearken unto me and lend an ear to my words for I shall speak the truth and testify of it in the fear of God.

I declare unto you that I know that God is our Father, that He lives and rules in the Heavens, that He loves us His children and is watching over us, and that by our obedience to His will and Commandments we shall come back into His presence and dwell with the just throughout eternity.

I solemnly declare unto you that Jesus Christ is the very son of God, that He was born of the Virgin Mary, the only begotten in the flesh and the first born in the spirit, that He gave his life for the sins of the world, that by His atoning blood all mankind is free from the sin of Adam and that by His great sacrifice the Resurrection is brought to pass and all the children of God will be brought to stand before God in their resurrected bodies to be judged for the deeds done in mortal life according to the law and justice and thus God bringeth to pass the salvation and redemption of man. And again I declare unto you that the spirit of God enlighteneth every soul that cometh into the world and everyone is sufficiently instructed to know good from the evil and is given his free agency to choose his life and to whom he will render allegiance -- if it be to do good the reward of eternal life and happiness -- but if it be to do evil the reward of eternal destruction and misery.

This great plan of human redemption God has sought to teach unto His children through all the generations that have passed and now, in this the great and last dispensation of the fullness of times, I do solemnly testify that God has again restored, through the instrumentality of Joseph Smith, the everlasting Gospel with all its gifts, keys, powers and authorities, anointing and healing, with power and authority to bind on earth as it is bound in Heaven and to loose on earth as it shall be loosed in Heaven; that through the Prophet Joseph Smith the Doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, viz. Faith, Repentance and Baptism, the laying on of the Hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost and Resurrection from the dead and that through Him the order and organization of the Priesthood with the First Presidency of the Church, the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, the Presiding Council of Seventies, the Presiding Bishopric, together with the Quorum of the Priesthood, viz. the High Priests, Seventies, Elders, Priests, Teachers and Deacons and with the various Auxiliaries of the Church, have all been revealed for the schooling and education of His children to the end that they may come unto Christ the Lord.

And again I bear record that God revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith the Doctrine of the new and everlasting Covenant of marriage including the plurality of wives, and that in order to attain the highest degree of glory in the Celestial Kingdom of God, unto the fullness of glory, in His presence, we must yield obedience to this law. In harmony with this injunction I married my two wives who have born children to me under this new and everlasting Covenant, by which we are held together for time and all eternity and our children are born heirs to the Celestial Kingdom of God and to which, if they are obedient to the Commandments of God, they may attain and thereby enjoy the presence of their parents and inherit kingdoms and dominions throughout eternity.

May our Father in Heaven grant us power to live true and faithful unto His Church is my most earnest wish and desire for each and every member of my families.

I leave you this, my testimony in all soberness and sincerity through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.