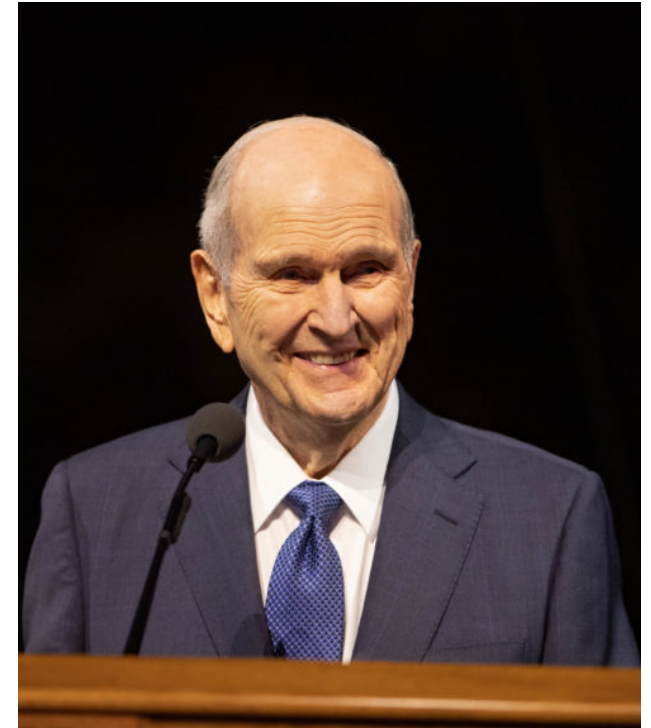


Temple Covenants

June 2024 Zone Conference

The temple is the house of the Lord. **The basis for every temple ordinance and covenant**—the heart of the plan of salvation—**is the Atonement of Jesus Christ**. Every activity, every lesson, all we do in the Church, point to the Lord and His holy house. Our efforts to proclaim the gospel, perfect the Saints, and redeem the dead all lead to the temple. Each holy temple stands as a symbol of our membership in the Church, as a sign of our faith in life after death, and as a sacred step toward eternal glory for us and our families.



Elder Russell M. Nelson
April 2001 GC

The Law of Obedience

The Law of Obedience

Mosiah 12: 20-21 And it came to pass that one of them said unto him: *What meaneth the words which are written*, and which have been taught by our fathers, saying: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings; that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good; that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth;

Mosiah 12:27 Ye have not applied your **hearts to understanding**; therefore, ye have not been wise. Therefore, what teach ye this people?

Verse 28: *And they said: We teach the law of Moses.*

How do we apply our hearts to understanding?

The Law of Obedience

What was the purpose of the Law of Moses?

The Law of Obedience

Mosiah 13:11 - And now I read unto you the remainder of the commandments of God, for I perceive that they are not written in your hearts; I perceive that ye have studied and taught iniquity the most part of your lives.

How do we write the commandments of God in our hearts?

The Law of Obedience

Alma 13:20 Now I need not rehearse the matter; what I have said may suffice. Behold, the scriptures are before you; if ye will wrest them it shall be to your own destruction.

Why does “wresting” the scriptures lead to our destruction?

The Law of Obedience

D&C 82:10 - I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise.

Who is bound by covenants?

The Law of Obedience

- D&C 93:28 - He that keepeth his commandments receiveth truth and light, until he is glorified in truth and knoweth all things.

Why does keeping the commandments lead to truth and light?

The Law of Obedience

- How does obedience draw us nearer to Christ?
- What is the result for us of being nearer to Him?

The Law of Obedience

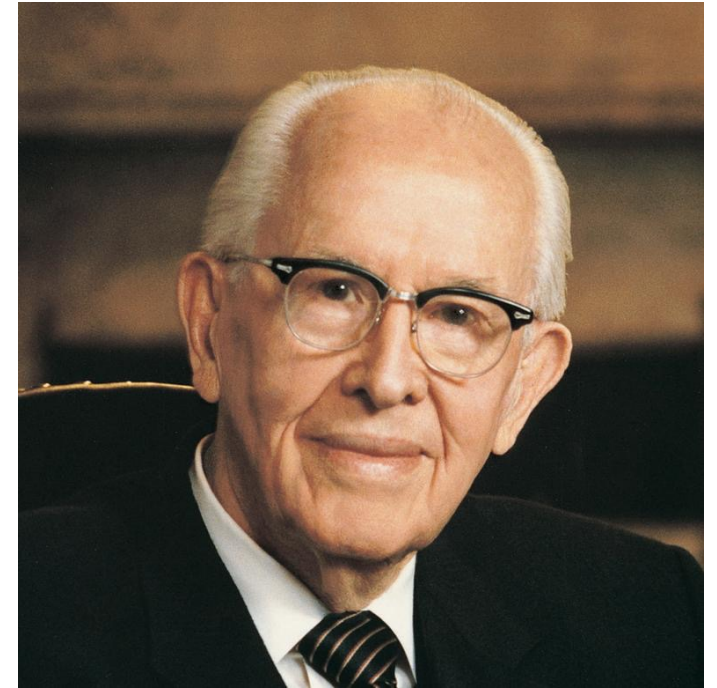
Those who have a broken heart and a contrite spirit are willing to do anything and everything that God asks of them, without resistance or resentment. We cease doing things our way and learn to do them God's way instead. In such a condition of submissiveness, the Atonement can take effect and true repentance can occur. The penitent will then experience the sanctifying power of the Holy Ghost, which will fill them with peace of conscience and the joy of reconciliation with God.



Elder Bruce D. Porter
October 2007 GC

The Law of Obedience

“When obedience ceases to be an irritant and becomes our quest, in that moment God will endow us with power.”



President Ezra Taft Benson
1899 - 1994

What is the power that God endows us with?

The Law of Obedience

Hebrews 5:8 - Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered

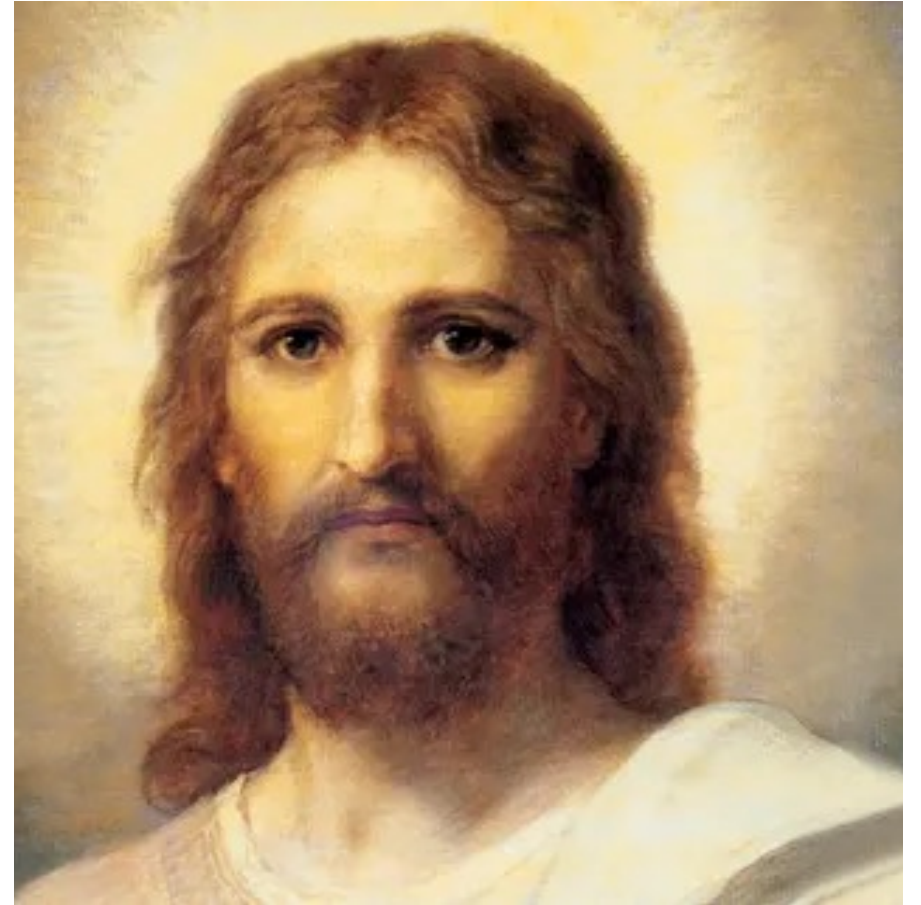
D&C 105:6 - And my people must needs be chastened until they learn obedience, if it must needs be, by the things which they suffer.

What is the connection between suffering and obedience?

The Law of Obedience

Point to Ponder:

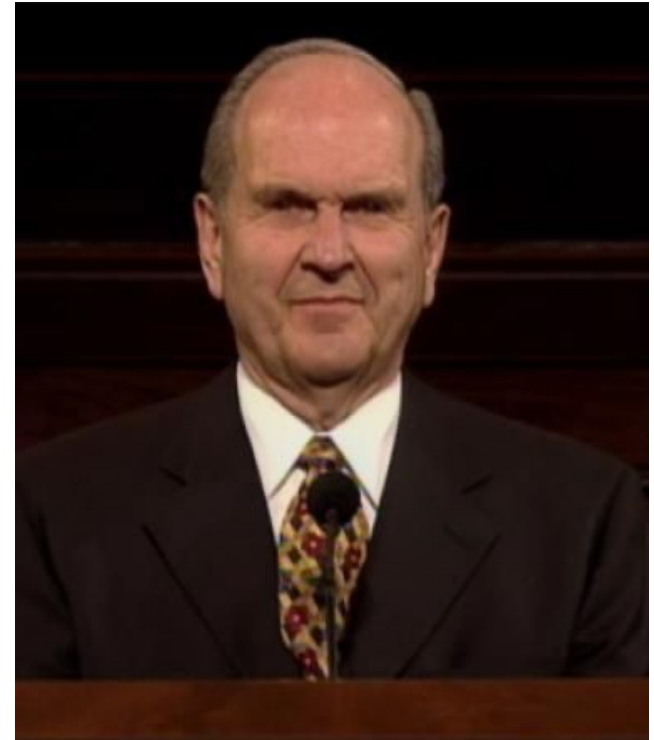
How does the Law of Obedience testify of Jesus Christ?



The Law of Sacrifice

The Laws of Obedience and Sacrifice

Our highest sense of sacrifice is achieved as we make ourselves more sacred or holy. This we do by our obedience to the commandments of God. **Thus, the laws of obedience and sacrifice are indelibly intertwined.** Consider the commandments to obey the Word of Wisdom, to keep the Sabbath day holy, to pay an honest tithe. **As we comply with these and other commandments, something wonderful happens to us. We become disciplined! We become disciples! We become more sacred and holy—like our Lord!**



Elder Russell M. Nelson
Oct 1987 “Lessons from Eve”

The Law of Sacrifice

D&C 97:8 Verily I say unto you, all among them who know their hearts are honest, and are broken, and their spirits contrite, and are willing to observe their covenants by sacrifice—yea, every sacrifice which I, the Lord, shall command—they are accepted of me.

What does it mean to observe our covenants by sacrifice?

The Science of Building Muscle

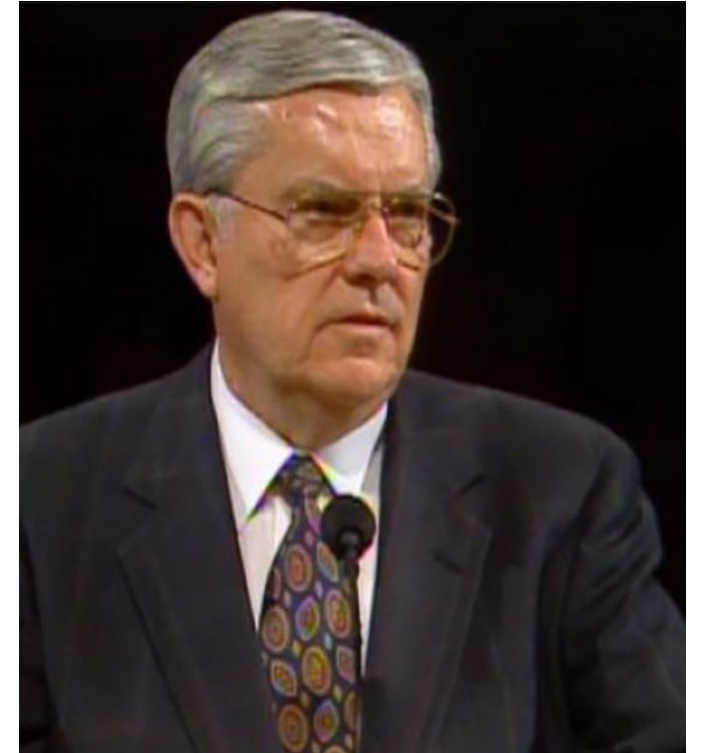
After you workout, your body repairs or replaces damaged muscle fibers through a cellular process where it fuses muscle fibers together to form new muscle protein strands. These repaired strands increase in thickness and number to create muscle hypertrophy (growth). Muscle growth occurs whenever the rate of muscle protein repair is greater than the rate of muscle protein breakdown.



How does sacrifice help us grow spiritual muscles?

The Law of Sacrifice

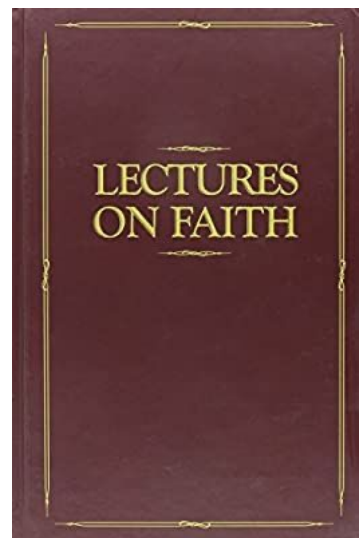
“Sacrifice is a demonstration of pure love. The degree of our love for the Lord, for the gospel, and for our fellowman can be measured by what we are willing to sacrifice for them.”



Elder M. Russell Ballard
April 1993 GC
“The Blessings of Sacrifice”

The Law of Sacrifice

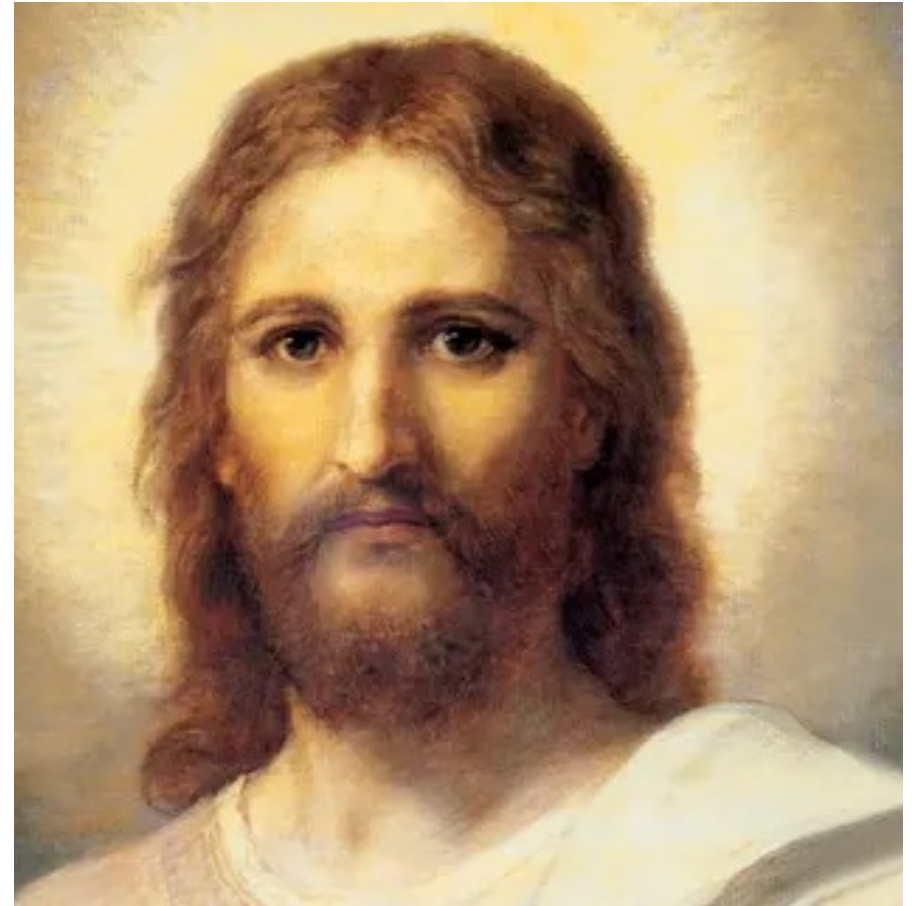
Let us here observe, that a religion that does not require the sacrifice of all things never has power sufficient to produce the faith necessary unto life and salvation; for, from the first existence of man, the faith necessary unto the enjoyment of life and salvation never could be obtained without the sacrifice of all earthly things. It was through this sacrifice, and this only, that God has ordained that men should enjoy eternal life; and it is through the medium of the sacrifice of all earthly things that men do actually know that they are doing the things that are well pleasing in the sight of God. (Lectures on Faith, Lecture 6, pg. 58)



The Law of Sacrifice

Point to Ponder:

How does the Law of Sacrifice testify of Jesus Christ?



The Law of the Gospel

The Law of Moses

- A schoolmaster to bring us to Christ. (Gal 3:24)
- The letter of the law

The Law of the Gospel

- The doctrine of Christ
- The spirit of the law

How did the Law of Moses bring the people to Christ?

The Law of the Gospel

HBI – 27.2 – The Law of the Gospel

- Exercising faith in Jesus Christ.
- Repenting daily.
- Making covenants with God by receiving the ordinances of salvation and exaltation.
- Enduring to the end by keeping covenants.
- Striving to live the two great commandments. These are to “love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind” and to “love thy neighbor as thyself” (Matthew 22:37, 39).

The Law of the Gospel

What is the significance of this law coming after the laws of obedience and sacrifice?

The Law of the Gospel

The law of the gospel embraces all laws, principles, and ordinances necessary for our exaltation. We agree to exercise faith in Jesus Christ and sincere repentance borne out of a broken heart and a contrite spirit. As we comply with the ordinances of baptism and confirmation, and continue in faith and prayer, the power of the Savior's atoning sacrifice covers our sins, and we are cleansed from all unrighteousness ... The law of the gospel is more than understanding the plan of salvation. It consists of partaking of the ordinances and the sealing powers culminating in a man being sealed up unto eternal life.



President Ezra Taft
Benson

*“Teachings of Ezra
Taft Benson” 1988*

The Law of the Gospel

In Alma 12:32 we read, “Therefore God gave unto them commandments, after having made known unto them the plan of redemption.” **The restoration of the gospel was not a restoration of rules. It was a restoration of reasons.** The Ten Commandments actually made it through the apostasy; it was the reasons to keep the commandments that were lost and, as Alma taught, those reasons are found within the plan of redemption.



Brad Wilcox

The Law of the Gospel

In the final analysis, the gospel of God is written, not in the dead letters of scriptural records, but in the lives of the Saints ... **It is engraved in the flesh and bones and sinews of those who live a celestial law, which is the law of the gospel.**

How do we engrave the Law of the Gospel in our flesh, bones, and sinews?

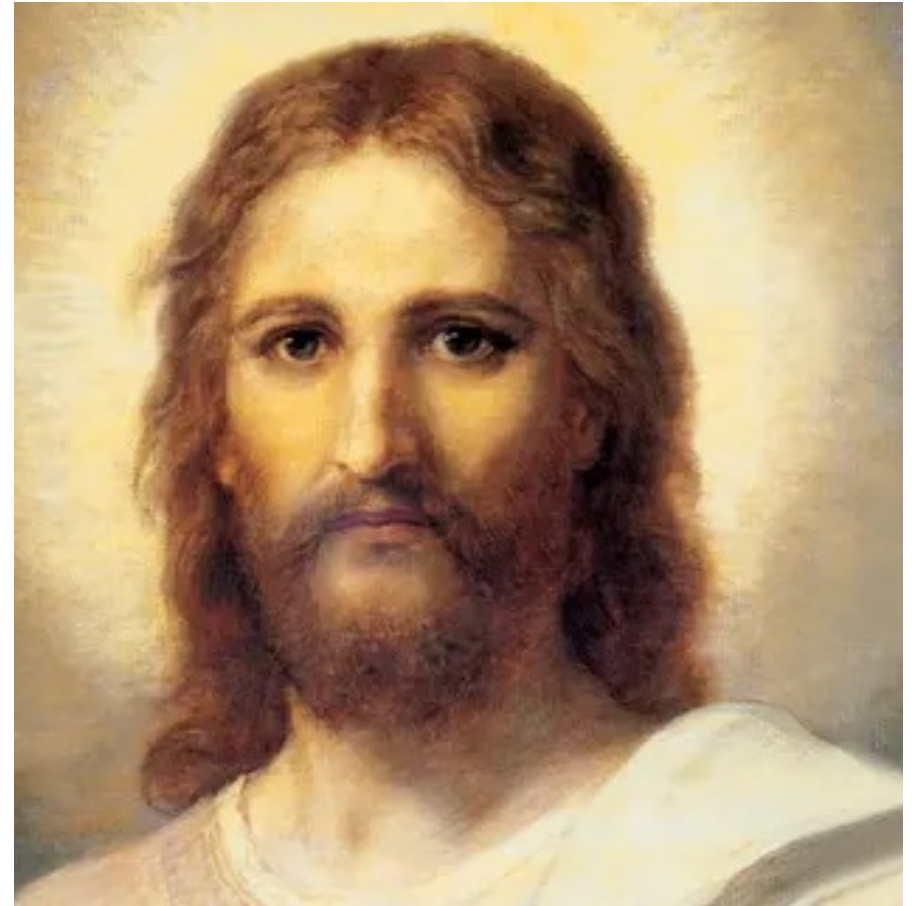


Elder Bruce R. McConkie
October 1968 GC

The Law of the Gospel

Point to Ponder:

How does the Law of the Gospel testify of Jesus Christ?



The Law of Chastity

The Law of Chastity

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 - For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence (strong sexual desire), even as the Gentiles which know not God/

What is the impact on our lives of breaking the law of Chastity?

What is the world's view of the importance of Chastity?

The Law of Chastity

Proverbs 6: 27-33 - Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth into his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent. Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry; But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house. But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul. A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.

Why is this very specific law included in the temple covenants?

The Law of Chastity

Sexual union is, in its own profound way, a very real sacrament of the highest order, a union not only of a man and a woman but very much the union of that man and woman with God. Indeed, if our **definition of sacrament is that act of claiming and sharing and exercising God's own inestimable power**, then I know of virtually *no* other divine privilege so routinely given to us all—women or men, ordained or unordained, Latter-day Saint or non-Latter-day Saint—than **the miraculous and majestic power of transmitting life, the unspeakable, unfathomable, unbroken power of procreation.**



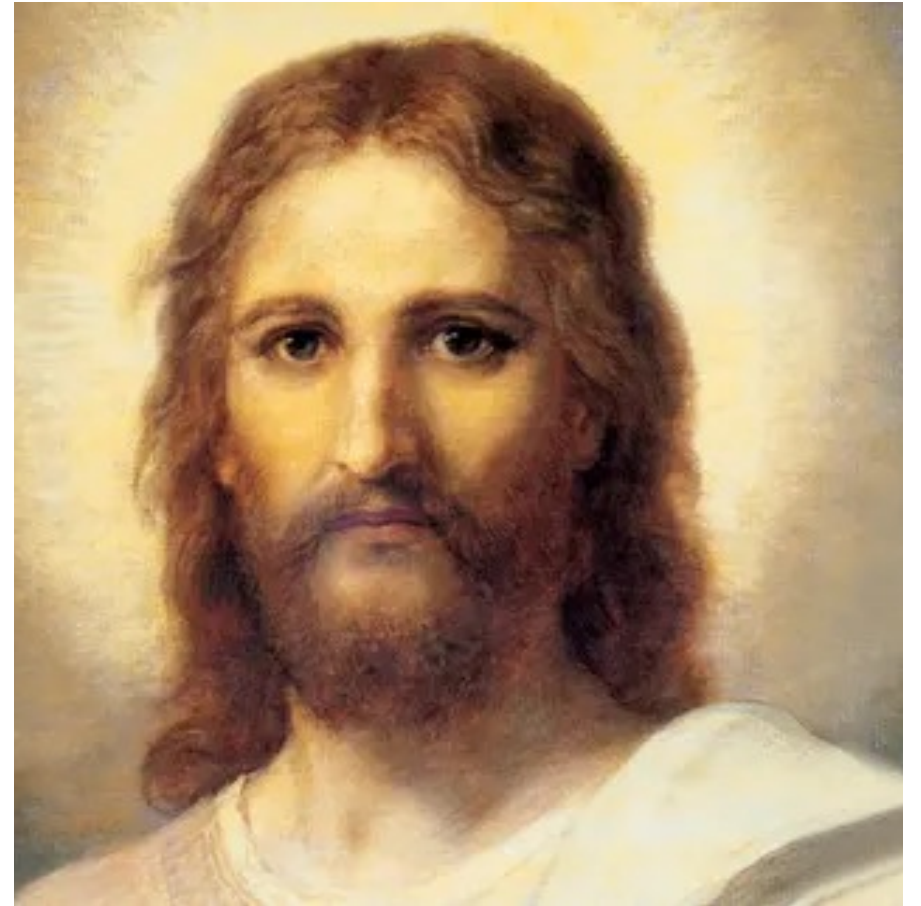
Elder Jeffrey R. Holland
*“Of Souls, Symbols, and
Sacraments”*

BYU Devotional – Jan ‘88

The Law of Chastity

Point to Ponder:

How does the Law of Chastity testify of Jesus Christ?



The Law of Consecration

The Law of Consecration

“I want to speak more particularly this morning about this one law—the law of consecration. It is that one’s time, talents, strength, property, and money are given up to the Lord for the express purpose of building up the kingdom of God and establishing Zion on the earth.”



President Ezra Taft Benson
April 1997 BYU Devotional

The Law of Consecration

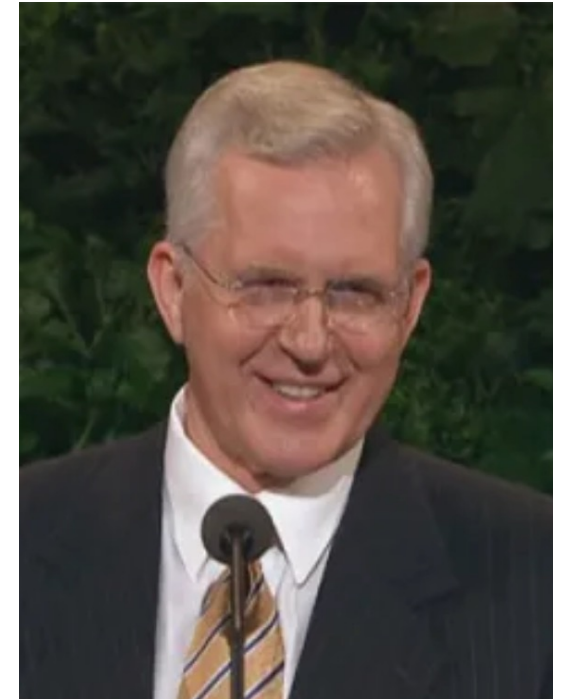
“... our life on earth is a stewardship of time and choices granted by our Creator. The word *stewardship* calls to mind the Lord’s law of consecration (see, for example, [D&C 42:32, 53](#)), which has an economic role but, more than that, is an application of celestial law to life here and now (see [D&C 105:5](#)). To consecrate is to set apart or dedicate something as sacred, devoted to holy purposes. True success in this life comes in consecrating our lives—that is, our time and choices—to God’s purposes (see [John 17:1, 4](#); [D&C 19:19](#)). In so doing, we permit Him to raise us to our highest destiny.



Elder D. Todd
Christopherson
October 2010 GC

The Law of Consecration

Consecration therefore means repentance. Stubbornness, rebellion, and rationalization must be abandoned, and in their place submission, a desire for correction, and acceptance of all that the Lord may require.



Elder D. Todd
Christopherson
October 2010 GC

The Law of Consecration

Consecration is related to but different from sacrifice. The word consecrate means to develop and “*dedicate to a sacred purpose.*” Sacrifice is what I will offer, surrender, yield, or give up. Consecration, on the other hand, is to fully develop and dedicate to a sacred purpose. As we live the law of consecration, we are willing not only to offer anything and everything we possess for the sake of the gospel, but we also promise to develop and devote our best selves—our time, talents, and strength—to the building of the kingdom of God on the earth. Our pledge is: I will give me and all that I can become, and I will live for the gospel of Jesus Christ. True consecration is motivated by charity and produces an increased desire to serve.



Elder David A Bednar
Ricks College Jan 1999

The Law of Consecration

We tend to think of consecration only as yielding up, when divinely directed, our material possessions. But ultimate consecration is the yielding up of oneself to God. *Heart, soul, and mind* were the encompassing words of Christ in describing the first commandment, which is constantly, not periodically, operative (see [Matthew 22:37](#)). If kept, then our performances will, in turn, be fully consecrated for the lasting welfare of our souls (see [2 Nephi 32:9](#)).



Elder Neal A Maxwell
December 2008 GC

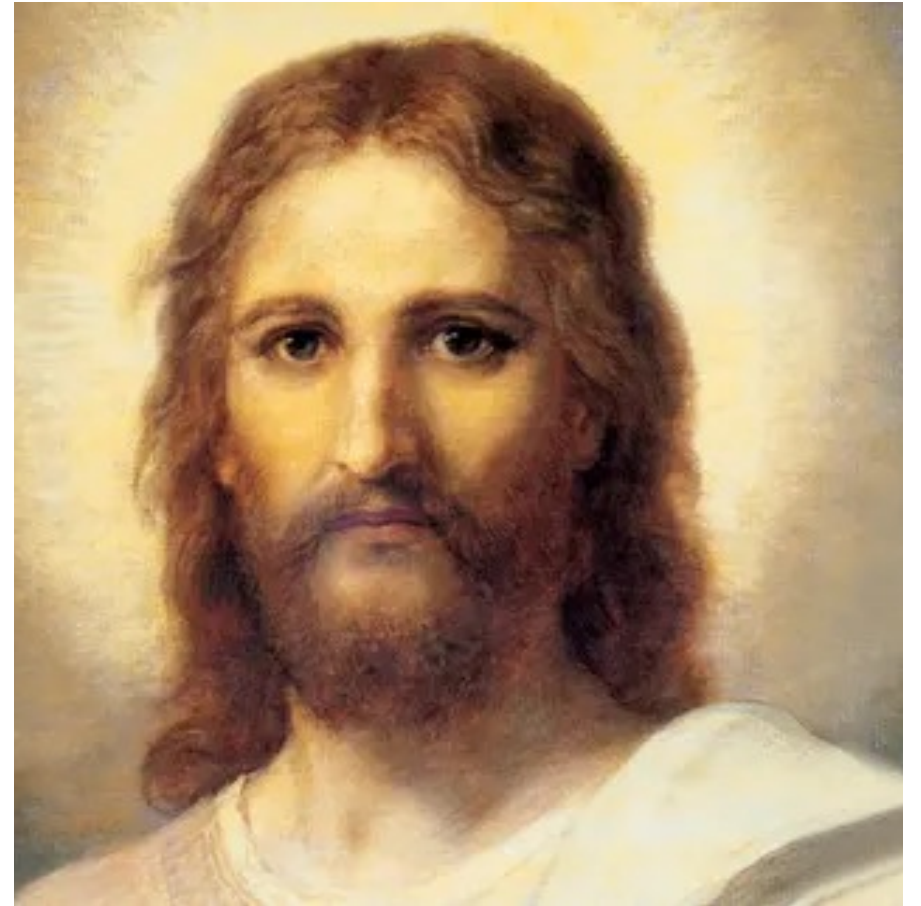
The Law of Consecration – Assessment

1. Am I willing to do or give whatever is asked of me?
2. Do I consecrate myself inside my calling or do I just want to be “seen of men”?
3. Do I give my all?
4. Who am I becoming? (heart, might, mind, strength)
5. Do I love God enough to give myself to Him?
6. Do I seek to bless or to impress?
7. Am I a kingdom builder or a reputation builder?

The Law of Consecration

Point to Ponder:

How does the Law of Consecration testify of Jesus Christ?



Holiness to the Lord

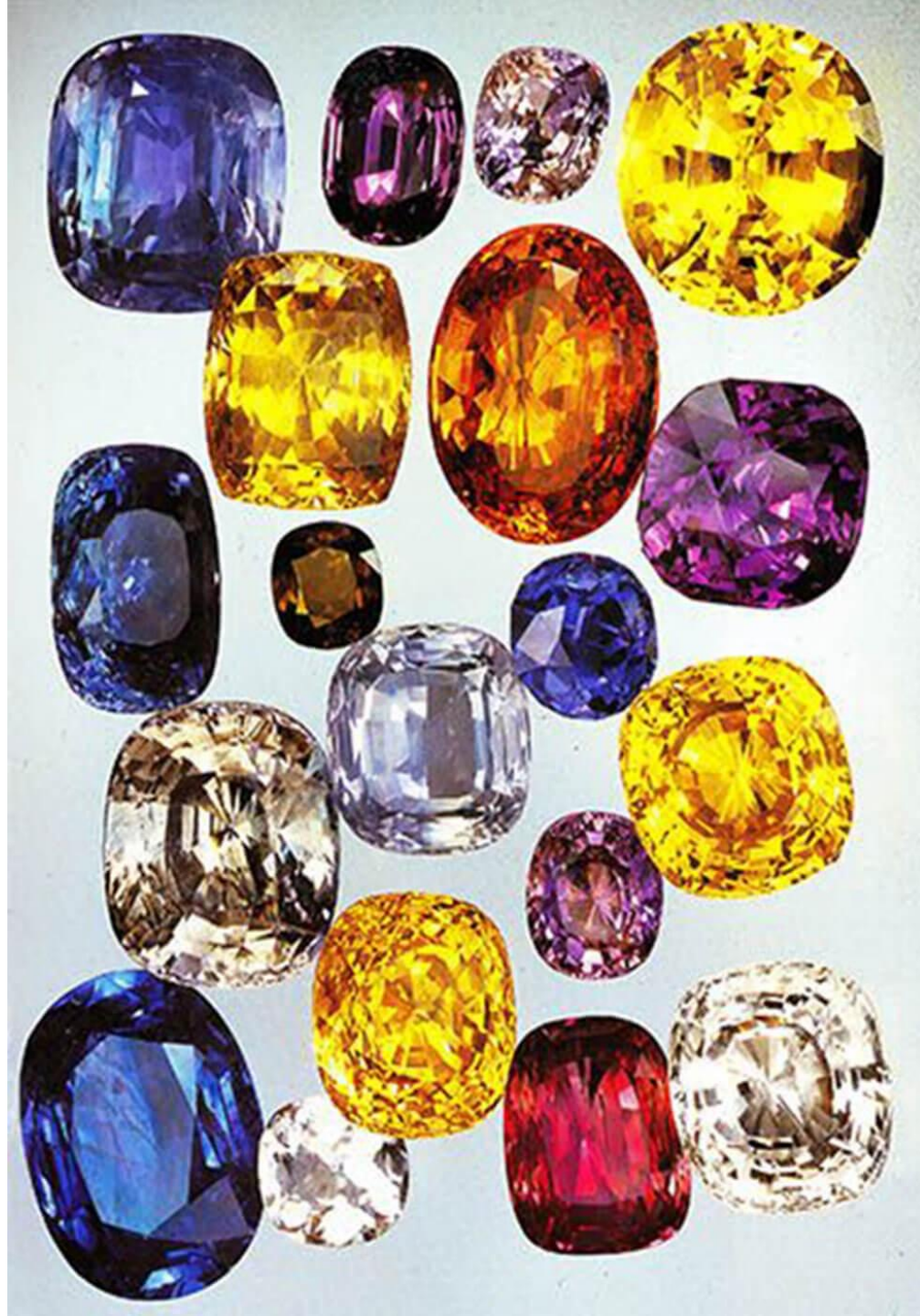
Inscribed on the front of each temple is a solemn statement: “Holiness to the Lord.” These inspired words are a clear invitation that when we enter the Lord’s house, **we embark on a sacred journey of learning to become higher and holier disciples of Christ.** As we make covenants in holiness before God and commit to follow the Savior, we **receive the power to change our hearts, renew our spirits, and deepen our relationship with Him.** Such an endeavor brings sanctification to our souls and forms a sacred bond with God and Jesus Christ



Elder Ulisses Soares
April 2024 GC

Holiness to the Lord

Malachi 3:17 And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my **jewels**; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.



Holiness to the Lord

- Why is it TO the Lord? Am I bringing my Holiness to Him?
- Coming unto Christ is about bringing Him our Holiness.
- We can only become Holy on the covenant path.
- The Temple is a required part of our Holiness journey.
- We have to BE Holy if we want to return to the presence of the Father

Summary – HBI 27.2

- The word endowment means “a gift.” The temple endowment is literally a gift from God through which He blesses His children. The endowment can be received only in holy temples. Some of the gifts that members receive through the temple endowment include:
 - Greater knowledge of the Lord’s purposes and teachings.
 - Power to do all that Heavenly Father wants His children to do.
 - Divine direction when serving the Lord, their families, and others.
 - Increased hope, comfort, and peace.
- All the promised blessings of the endowment are in force both in this life and for eternity. The fulfillment of these blessings depends on faithfulness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

קדש ליהודה