

A Selection of the Sermons of John Y. Barlow

31 Dec 1940

12 Dec 1943

26 Dec 1943

20 Jan 1944

6 Feb 1944

12 Jul 1947

31 Aug 1947

6 Apr 1948

17 Jul 1949

SERMON GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW DECEMBER 31, 1940 AT A SISTERS CLASS IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

My dear sisters, I am pleased to meet with you again. I was sitting here looking over this congregation of women and thinking how true it was, as one sister said, that she didn't know where she would find another group in the world as blessed as this group is. No, sisters, there isn't another group. Why? Because this law was given for your exaltation in the eternal worlds that you may bear the souls of men. Remember, the soul is the body and the spirit. There are some sisters here who haven't had the privilege of having children, but they will have the privilege if they are worthy, and they will be mothers of nations.

How thankful we ought to be that we have had the privilege of mingling with the men that God has seen fit to bless and give the right to keep this holy law alive that we might have eternal increase – that we might be able to bear the souls of men. The Prophet Joseph F. Smith said, "If we reject this law, we will come to a full stop." Then why shouldn't you be the greatest on earth – those that are receiving this law. There are a great many here receiving the law that haven't entered into it yet, but they have it in their hearts, and they know it is true.

I was in Short Creek last Friday and over the holidays. While I was there, Aunt Lizzie received a letter from her mother's brother telling her that she was the cause of this law (Plural Marriage) being lived down there, and that she was the cause of so much of the down-fall of their family, and he told her to repent. Why, repent of what? For believing in the Gospel of Jesus Christ? For believing in the fullness of the Gospel? Is that what we should repent of? Christ says, "Though you live all the law, yet offend in one principle, you are guilty of the whole."

There were a great many thoughts going through my mind after reading that letter, and I thought, "Oh Lord, how long are you going to permit this to go on – having the children of the saints ridiculed and persecuted by men for upholding and maintaining the fullness of the Gospel?" I want to tell you that the parents of these children that are on the earth today are praying day and

Stop and think of it, sisters. When Enoch was taken from the earth, the Lord preserved his son that the inhabitants of the earth might not perish. Melchizedek, or Shem, was the righteous one of Noah's seed, and he kept the commandments of God all the days of his life. He gave Abraham the Priesthood. He was such a righteous man that when but a child, he quenched the pillar of fire. He received the higher order of the Priesthood. It was after the order of the Son of God. He conferred the same upon Abraham.

In our day, when we stop to think of what has happened – Elijah, holding all the power, came to the Prophet Joseph and gave it to him, and now here we are receiving it. Are we not blessed? Others are rejecting it.

Lorin Woolley used to keep telling us that his father, John Woolley, came to him quite a bit. I asked the Lord whether it was so, or whether it was not. Next time John Woolley came, I was in the room. He turned to me and said, "There is scarcely a man in this Church under ninety years old that is abiding this covenant." He gave me to understand that men out of the Church were abiding it. Those who had been ostracized. (Lorin testified that I was there when his father came.)

Now, Sisters, before Lorin died, he wanted to fill the Sanhedrin, and he told us that the Priesthood on the other side went from Canada to Mexico, and they couldn't find men to do it. What a condition. Talk about apostasy. Yet, they are trying now to put out a pamphlet and giving the names of all those who have been cast out. If I were one of those who they had missed, I would write and tell them they had slighted me.

Here is a little story on "Progress" told of a man from Sanpete whose wife was very sick. This man went to the hospital about every day to find out how his wife was. They would not let him see her, but they told him that his wife was progressing fairly well or in fair condition each time he came. One day he went to the hospital and asked how his wife was, and he found out she was dead. This is just the condition of the Church now. The members think all is well and that the Church is progressing, but some day they will wake up and find they have been deceived.

Well, I have been watching the progress of you sisters, and it has been very pleasing to me. I want you to all remember this – that the man is the head, but the woman is the neck, and the neck turns the head almost every time. I would like you to remember that. As President Young says, "If we can get the women on our side, we are all set."

I hope in the next year that we improve upon this year. Let's every one of us improve on some trait of ours. There isn't any of us but what has some little place that needs improvement. I know that this someone has.

May God bless you and be with you and help you in all your undertakings is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

**EXCERPTS FROM A SERMON GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW
DECEMBER 12, 1943
IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**

There have been many thoughts go through my mind in the last few moments. We are sorrowful of what has happened. The world is trying to stop us from keeping the commandments of God – from having eternal increase. The world is trying to, the Church is trying to. In other days when we have been persecuted, we have had the Church at our backs, but today we have only our God. He will see us through if we will get ourselves in order. If we would live right, we would be happy and free and be a most wonderfully blessed people; but on the other hand, if we do not live right, what a sorrow it will be to us. We find out that the servants of God have told us to do certain things, and we failed to do them; then we didn't get the blessing.

Nothing less than eternal salvation will satisfy the immortal soul. We were put on this earth to live a Celestial law. If we fail to live these commandments, then we will be thrown back. How will we feel when we think that we might have gone on? It is this law that is going to exalt us.

We heard in our Sunday School class a short time ago the law that made us free. Everything is predicated upon law. If we live the law, we obtain the blessing. I have heard it said of men, "That is a good man." But what is he good for? Is he good enough to become a God? to go on into exaltation? Are we living the law that will take us there? It is time