

## Endure to the end Outline – Mike Baird

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### The Gate

- What is the gate enter into the kingdom of God?
  - Repentance & baptism
    - 2 Nephi 31:17

"For the gate by which ye should enter is repentance and baptism by water; and then cometh a remission of your sins by fire and by the Holy Ghost."

### ***What happens at baptism?***

- Born into the kingdom of Heaven
  - Moses 6:59-60

"even so ye must be born again into the kingdom of heaven, of water, and of the Spirit, and be cleansed by blood, even the blood of mine Only Begotten...  
For by the water ye keep the commandment; by the Spirit ye are justified, and by the blood ye are sanctified"
- We join the church – Body of Christ
  - 1 Corinthians 12:12-13(12-27)

"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.  
For by one Spirit *are we all baptized into one body*, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."
- We join the church - Christ is bridegroom

- Matt 9:15  
"And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast"
- Matt 5:1-13 (Parable of 10 virgins)
- D&C 133:10,19
- Daniel Ludlow:  
"The Old Testament prophets often compared the spiritual relation between God and his people to a betrothal or marriage; apostasy, through idolatry or other sin, was likened to unfaithfulness on the part of the marriage partner. (Isa. 1:21; Jer. 3:1-20; Ezek. 16, 23; Hosea 2.)"  
(Companion to Your Study of the Doctrine and Covenants, vol. 2)
- We are justified
  - We are declared "not guilty"
    - How
      - Through faith in Christ
      - On account of his righteousness
- We are Sanctified
  - Made Holy
  - By receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost
- Join with a covenant
  - Always remember Him
  - Keep his commandments
  - Take upon us his name

### ***Proper Perspective***

- Members of church have already taken steps to enter into the kingdom of God
  - Entered into the covenant
  - Part of the body of Christ
  - heirs of Christ
  - Justified & Sanctified

### **The Straight & Narrow Path**

- Where does the path lead?

- 2 Nephi 31:18  
"And then are ye in this strait and narrow path which leads to eternal life..."
- Is getting on the path like hopping on a train – we'll get there unless we get off?
- How do we move along the path?
  - 2 Nephi 31:20  
"... press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men. Wherefore, if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ..."
  - Add about the Holy Ghost and in 2 Nephi 32?

### ***Sin and enduring to the end***

- Does sin cause you to fall out of the kingdom of God?
  - No unclean thing...
  - Pt about serious vs not serious sin?
- Sacrament is renewing that covenant – part of enduring to the end

### ***What happens if you endure to the end?***

- You have eternal life (Celestial Kingdom)
  - 2 Nephi 31:15  
"And I heard a voice from the Father, saying: Yea, the words of my Beloved are true and faithful. He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved"
  - 2 Nephi 31:20  
" Wherefore, if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life"

### ***What does it mean to endure to the end?***

- What do you need to do to enter the celestial kingdom?
  - Faith, Repentance, baptism, gift of Holy Ghost, endure to the end
  - highest
    - Sealed (new & everlasting covenant)
    - D&C 131:1-4  
"In the celestial glory there are three heavens or degrees;  
And *in order to obtain the highest, a man must enter into this order of the priesthood [meaning the new and everlasting covenant of marriage]*."

And if he does not, he cannot obtain it.  
He may enter into the other, but that is the end of his kingdom;  
he cannot have an increase."

***Keep all the covenants you have made***

- Mike Baird:  
"How do I endure to the end? How do I know I am enduring to the end? To me it means to keep my covenants every day"
- Richard J Maynes:  
" Therefore, in order to receive the greatest of all the blessings of our Heavenly Father, which is eternal life, we must complete the appropriate ordinance work and then continue to keep the associated covenants. In other words, we must successfully endure ("The Strength to Endure", Oct 2013 Sunday morning session)