

**Today is the day of your repentance
(So called Second Chance theory)
Outline – Mike Baird**

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Does the Doctrine of Salvation for the Dead offer men a 2nd Chance?

No - this life is the day for men to perform their labors

- Alma 34:31-36
 "For behold, this life is the time for men to prepare to meet God; yea, *behold the day of this life is the day* for men to perform their labors...
 for after this day of life, which is given us to prepare for eternity, behold, if we do not improve our time while in this life, then cometh *the night of darkness wherein there can be no labor performed*...
 for that same spirit which doth possess your bodies at the time that ye go out of this life, that same spirit will have power to possess your body in that eternal world..."
- Alma 9:27
 "But wo unto him that has the law given, yea, that has all the commandments of God, like unto us, and that transgresseth them, and that wasteth the days of his probation, for awful is his state!"
- Harold B Lee:
 "I answered her, 'You misunderstand our teachings. We don't believe in the gospel of the second chance. We do not believe in the gospel of the first chance but we believe in a chance or full opportunity for everyone to hear and to accept the gospel.' " (The Teachings of Harold B. Lee, pg 572.)

- Joseph Fielding Smith:
"All the others were granted bodies and the privilege of abiding in covenants here that would give them salvation, with the provision that any of the number coming to earth who, for causes over which they had no control, were denied the privileges of obedience to gospel covenants in the mortal life should have that privilege in the spirit world after death. But the Lord did not offer to those who had every opportunity while in this mortal existence the privilege of another chance in the world of spirits." (Doctrines of Salvation, vol 2: 184)
- Marion G Romney:
"In the light of these teachings, it would seem to be most unwise to rely upon the doctrine of the so-called second chance and wait until after death to perform our good works. I am acquainted with the doctrine that those who have had no opportunity to hear and receive the gospel in this life will have that opportunity in the world to come, and I rejoice in it....
All this I accept with joy. However, it does not teach, and I have never found anything in the scriptures nor in the teachings of the prophets which encourages me to believe, that those who have the gospel taught to them here will be able to make up their loss if they choose to wait for the next life to obey it. I would not advise anyone to take that chance. As I understand the scriptures, taking such a hazard would be fatal." (Conference Report, April 1953, Pg 173-176)
- Bruce R McConkie:
"There is no such thing as a second chance to gain salvation. This life is the time and the day of our probation. After this day of life, which is given us to prepare for eternity, then cometh the night of darkness wherein there can be no labor performed. " (The Seven Deadly Heresies, 1980 Devotional Speeches of the year)

Heirs of Salvation

Those that accept the gospel and live it in this life

Those that did not hear the gospel in this life and accept later

Those not held accountable – Little Children

- D&C 137:10
"I also beheld that all children who die before they arrive at

the years of accountability are saved in the celestial kingdom of heaven"

Those not held accountable – Limited mental capacity

- D&C 29:49-50
"again, I say unto you, that whoso having knowledge, have I not commanded to repent?
And he that hath no understanding, it remaineth in me to do according as it is written"
- Joseph Fielding Smith:
" The Lord has made it known by revelation that children born with retarded minds shall receive blessings just like little children who die in infancy. They are free from sin, because their minds are not capable of a correct understanding of right and wrong. ... Therefore The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints considers all deficient children with retarded capacity to understand, just the same as little children under the age of accountability. They are redeemed without baptism and will go to the celestial kingdom of God, there, we believe, to have their faculties or other deficiencies restored according to the Father's mercy and justice" (Answers to Gospel Questions, 3:20)

References

- Bruce R McConkie, The Seven Deadly Heresies, 1980 Devotional Speeches of the year
- Harold B Lee, Conference Report, April 1953, Pg 173-176
- Marion G Romney, Conference Report, April 1953, Pg 173-176
- Joseph Fielding Smith, Doctrines of Salvation, vol 2: 184, " FALSE NOTIONS ABOUT SALVATION FOR DEAD"