Endless is its Power, Endless is its Authority

By Mike Baird June 3, 2005 Father & Sons outing

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Introduction

- Celebrating the restoration of the Priesthood
 - Aaronic & Melchizedek
 - Aaronic May 15, 1829
 - Melchizedek
 - Don't have a documented exact date
 - President Hinckley
 "Evidence points to the fact it was likely late May or June 1829" (175th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Priesthood, May 16, 2004)

"What the Priesthood means to me"

- All of us have been blessed by the Priesthood
 - Bart Welling
 - Scott Ogden
 - Sam Shapiro
 - Troy Barker

Aaronic Priesthood

- Ministering of Angels
- Gospel of Repentance
- Baptism by immersion for remission of sins
 - Sacrament
- <u>Wilford Woodruff</u>

"I merely wish to say that I went out as a priest, and my companion as an elder, and we traveled thousands of miles, and had many things manifested to

us. I desire to impress upon you the fact that it does not make any difference whether a man is a priest or an apostle, if he magnifies his calling. A priest holds the key of the ministering of angels. Never in my life, as an apostle, as a seventy, or as an elder, have I ever had more of the protection of the Lord than while holding the office as a priest. The Lord revealed to me by visions, by revelations, and by the Holy Spirit, many things that lay before me" (The Discourses of Wilford Woodruff, edited by G. Homer Durham, pg 300)

Melchizedek Priesthood

• "President Hinckley

"Endless are its powers, endless is its authority" (175th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Priesthood, May 16, 2004)

- Melchizedek Priesthood Authority to:
 - Bestow the gift of the Holy Ghost
 - Bless the sick
 - Bless wife and children
 - Govern in the church and kingdom of God

"What the Priesthood means to me (Mike)"

Joseph Smith

- 200th birthday
- Oct Conference 2001
 - Priesthood Session
 - Praise to the Man
 - Verse 3:

"Great is his glory and endless his priesthood, ever and ever the keys he will hold"

Power to bind

- Binding ties Sealing power
 - Boyd K Packer:

"It is not uncommon for responsible parents to lose one of their children, for a time, to influences over which they have no control. They agonize over rebellious sons and daughters. They are puzzled over why they are so helpless when they have tried so hard to do what they should. It is my conviction that those wicked influences one day will be overruled. . . . "We cannot overemphasize the value of temple marriage, the binding ties of the sealing ordinance, and the standards of worthiness required of them. When parents keep the covenants they have made at the altar of the temple, their children will be forever bound to them" (Conference Report, Apr. 1992, 94-95)

- My Great Grandfather father
- Remember being sealed in Idaho Falls Temple to my parents
- Sealed to Nancy
- Jennifer sealed in the Temple
- Binding ties to my children

"Endless"

• President Hinckley

"Endless are its powers, endless is its authority" (175th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Priesthood, May 16, 2004)

- It will continue forever
- It is the authority of God and so what are its bounds?
- No end to how we can bless others with the Priesthood