## **Spiritual Power**

By Mike Baird May 18, 2003 Cooper Mt Ward – Ward conference This talk was prepared but not given

## Introduction

- We need to have the Spirit in our lives Said that in January
- Prophet has asked us to raise the bar
  - Live up to our covenants
- Spiritual power comes through:
  - Sacrifice
    - Lectures on faith
    - "What are you willing to sacrifice?"
  - Service
  - Keeping covenants
    - Baptismal
      - Go over baptismal covenant
      - We are washed clean (justified)
      - We are cleansed by the Spirit (sanctification)
      - Renewed every Sunday with Sacrament
      - Expand on idea that if we come with repentance in our hearts it can be like baptism and we can then have his Spirit to be with us. Can be a source of renewal and Spiritual power
    - Temple
      - Exalting ordinances
      - Make covenants
        - wonderful blessings
- There is no spiritual power in lives of convenience
  - Often not convenient
  - Youth Temple baptisms
- We often hear of the suffering and the sacrifice the early Saints endured, and we ask ourselves:
- How did they do it?
- What was it that gave them such strength?
- Part of the answer lies in they had made covenants with God.

They did as President Brigham Young asked:

"Let the fire of the covenant which you made in the House of the Lord, burn in your hearts, like flame unquenchable" (Journal History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 28 Sept. 1846, 5; emphasis added).

- Sometimes we are tempted to let our lives be governed more by convenience than by covenant.
- It is not always convenient to live gospel standards
- It usually is not convenient to share the gospel with others.
- It isn't always convenient to respond to a calling in the Church, especially one that stretches our abilities.
- It is not always convenient to hold FHE or family prayer
- Opportunities to serve others in meaningful ways rarely come at convenient times.