

November 21, 1997 – FLDS Home Economics Class

Let us turn now to the marriage covenant, page 32.

President Jeffs says there are four parts to this ordinance. First is the covenant. And there's an endowment. Secondly, thirdly, there's a patriarchal blessing. And fourth, the sealing.

The first two paragraphs are the covenant.

“Calling the brother by name, taking the sister by the right hand...”

And they have already taken what's called the patriarchal grip - a sign of the priesthood that has to happen - that has to be there for the ordinance to be sealed.

“...and receive her unto yourself to be your lawful and wedded wife, and you to be her lawful and wedded husband, for time and all eternity, with a covenant and promise on your part, that you will fulfill all the laws, rites and ordinances pertaining to this holy bond of matrimony in the new and everlasting covenant, doing this in the presence of God, angels, and these witnesses, of your own free will and choice? “

And to the sister, naming the sister, do you take this brother

“...by the right hand”

And, notice the covenants. Do you:

“give yourself to him ...”

That means a full obedience to righteous principles. No half way. No holding back. You're literally taken from your father's home and given to that man. You belong to him and you are to obey him as he obeys the Lord and the Prophet.

Your covenant is not just with the husband that you marry. Your covenant is with Heavenly Father and the Prophet who holds the keys of your salvation and your loyalty must be to them through obedience to your husband.

So you give yourself to him -

“...to be his lawful and wedded wife for time and all eternity, with a covenant and promise on your part, that you



will fulfill all the laws, rites and ordinances pertaining to this holy bond of matrimony in the new and everlasting covenant, doing this in the presence of God, angels, and these witnesses, of your own free will and choice?"

Do you get that? "Your own free will and choice." You choose to do this. Suppose the Prophet says "this is who I want you to marry." Does that mean you have no choice? Well you can say yes, or no. But before he ever tells you who to marry, it is because you chose to come to him and place your life in his hands. So, you did choose.

There is no force in this celestial law. The Prophet doesn't force you to heaven. And when you enter into marriage you never have the right to think you've have been forced into a situation. You know better. Even my saying it to you - you know it will be your choice when you say "I do" or "yes" to the Prophet.

The Prophet has the key of revelation. He knows the hearts of men better than any woman does. Trust in him.

Now let's read the next part.

"In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by authority of the Holy Priesthood, I pronounce you legally and lawfully husband and wife, for time and for all eternity, and I seal upon you the blessings of the holy resurrection, with power to come forth in the morning of the first resurrection, clothed with glory, immortality, and eternal lives."

Do you think that you are just going to go to heaven? You must have a blessing, a promise, that you will have that in the resurrection before you can ever get it. And this is contained in the marriage covenant. This will take you to the highest degree of glory in the celestial kingdom if you abide the law.

The Prophet doesn't just say words for no reason. I've seen him work and work with Heavenly Father. Should I seal these two for eternity or should I just seal them for time? The spirit of revelation in some instances says, don't say the words "for all eternity." Only say the words, "I seal you for time," for this life only.

The words he's saying here are permanent. It's - it's just like you're physically tied together forever.

But, the bond, according to section 132, is the holy spirit of God. That is the bond between husband and wife.

"...and I seal upon you the blessings of thrones and dominions, and principalities, and powers, and exaltations, together with the blessings of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

And then you're commanded to bring forth children in righteousness.

“And I say unto you, be fruitful, and multiply and replenish the earth, that you may have joy and rejoicing in your posterity in the day of the Lord Jesus. All these blessings, together with all other blessings pertaining to the new and everlasting covenant, I seal upon your heads, through your faithfulness unto the end, by the authority of the Holy Priesthood, and in the name of – “

- the Godhead.

This takes away all your mistakes. You don't have to worry about “which man,” or “do they like you,” or all the silliness that goes in with the world's way of marriage. All you have to do is prepare yourself through obedience to your father, keeping, learning the Holy Spirit, and then placing your life in the hands of the Prophet and let the Lord reveal the man that you belong too.

It frees you completely from all the terrible mistakes that girls could make.

....

I want to tell you your expressions, saying what you want or don't want, are very important.

Be careful what you say. If you say, I don't want plurality - the Prophet's going to hear it. You want to be careful.

If you put up conditions on the Prophet getting inspiration for you - be careful - you'll cut off the channel of revelation in your behalf.

The Lord knows what is best for you.