

My brothers and sisters and friends, I feel most honored and certainly humble in occupying these few moments as we pay honor to a favorite of a great family whose roots go deep in the history of the Church, Uncle Wilford W. Phelps. - Whom God has called from this mortal life.

And we pray that aunt Claire and her family ~~will~~ particularly will have a faith that will strengthen and fortify them in this hour and in the days that lie ahead.

*not shown*

A modern prophet has said that a difference between the young and the older dying is that one lives a little longer in the heavens and eternal light and glory than the other and is released a little sooner ~~is~~ from a miserable world. But we ~~can~~ be thankful for the long life ~~of~~ Uncle Wilford and we know that he appreciated the love and support of his good wife and family.

I thought <sup>THIS MORNING</sup> ~~that~~ we might remind ourselves ~~of~~ of some of the things that pertain to ~~the~~ beautiful plan of ~~salvation~~ that was introduced in the heavens before the world was and can be such an anchor to the soul.

~~It~~ <sup>IT</sup> explains that passing from this life is not a great tragedy and that many are appointed unto death and that it is ~~the~~ will of the Lord. And so we look to the future and ponder the status of our loved ones whom God has called from this mortal life. The message that we refer to can bring comfort and can even warm our hearts on such occasions as ~~this~~ <sup>UNCLE WILFORD'S PROPHET</sup> we are experiencing today and surely, when we consider the many of ~~his~~ <sup>THEIR</sup> loved ones on the other side <sup>TOP</sup> we realize that there is great rejoicing in the heavens, though it is not ~~easy~~ for those who are left behind.

<sup>THE PLAN</sup>  
In the first place, ~~it~~ teaches us that if mortality were the perfect state, death would be a frustration.

The scriptures say, "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord", and this indicates to me that death can be the opening of the door to new opportunities.

Certainly we do not seek after death for we pray for those who are ill. The scriptures say that we shall live together in faith insomuch that we shall weep for the loss of them that die.

We miss our loved ones who have gone on from this life, but death is a part of life and is a sorrow that a strong family shares as it shares its joys.

Lets go back to the time before we came here. We might ask, "Was there really a life before this earth life?" ~~X~~ <sup>Yes</sup> Certainly there was for the evidence <sup>is</sup> that we are the begotten Spirit children of God.

~~As~~ a matter of fact, the Plan that we ~~are~~ are talking about was presented in the Councils in Heaven by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and ~~we~~ ~~accepted~~ with the exercise of our free agency we accepted it and covenanted with God our heavenly Father then that when we came here we would do all things whatsoever we were commanded to do.

Now we know that the veil of forgetfulness was drawn over our eyes and

A modern Prophet has said that the ~~only~~ difference between the old and the young dying is that one lives a little longer in heaven and eternal light and glory than the other and is freed a little sooner from a miserable world.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ We lose sight of this ~~XXXX~~ for a moment, he said, and mourn the loss but we do not mourn as those without hope.

~~I feel to thank God our eternal Father for the long life of this wonderful lady in spite of the period of time of her infirmities to give us the opportunity to know her better; to know her ~~great~~ love for her family that was evidenced to such a great extent from the ~~portraits~~ that you see as you stepped into her living room; and to know of her abiding faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His Gospel ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ that is being declared throughout the earth.~~

*But*  
*no*  
*happy*  
I feel to thank God our Eternal Father for the long life of this great lady who withstood the ~~and~~ trials of her infirmities for such a period of time ~~long~~ with ~~these~~ Edna and ~~these~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ other members of the family who were so devoted to her. It gave an opportunity ~~to know her better~~ and to know of the great love that she had for her family as was evidenced extensively by the picture portraits that you see as you stepped into her living room; and also to know of her abiding faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ in His Gospel.

One writer said that the brightest crowns that are worn in heaven have been tried, and smelted, and polished, and glorified through the furnaces of tribulation, and I am sure that the crown that Sister Warner wears will certainly be one such as this describes, as she weathered the ~~XXXX~~ storm of the pioneer ~~life~~ and left her posterity the ~~XXXX~~ beautiful memory of a truly successful ~~life here~~ *LIFE HERE*

I thought we might ~~XXX~~ remind ourselves today of some of the things~~XXX~~ that pertain to that beautiful plan of Salvation that was introduced in the heavens before the world was, and is such an anchor to the soul.

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In a sort of a summation, I would like to add the following:

- 1 - The spirits of all men, immediately upon death, go to the spirit world to await the resurrection.
- 2 - For the righteous, the spirit world is a place of joy and peace.
- 3 - The spirit world is a place of continued progress and a place where those who have received the gospel can teach it to those who have not.
- 4 - Our departed loved ones are changed only in that they are temporarily separated from their bodies. The spirit does not change.
- 5 - The Spirit world is not far removed from earth but is close by, though invisible to our mortal eyes.
- 6 - Some departed spirits know and understand our thoughts and feelings; ~~XXX~~ they are aware of us and retain their love for us.