

MY BIRTHRIGHT

A. "Where was thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? When the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? (Job. 38.4.7)

By Wordsworth

My Birth is but a sleep and a forgetting;
The soul that rises with us our life's star
Hath had elsewhere its setting, and cometh from afar.
Not in entire forgetfulness
And not in utter nakedness,
But trailing clouds of glory do we come
From God who is our home."

I dwelt in the spirit world with many of my earthly friends, I feel I knew some of them well, and mingled with the others whom of course I did not know as there were multitudes. God was my Father in Heaven, and I had a mother there also---and Jesus Christ was my elder Brother, and Lucifer was the son of the morning. Bold in his bearing, brilliant and influential, but proud and scornful, who is now the son of perdition.

B. Jesus was majestic, but meek and yet noble, and was chosen to suffer, bleed, and die that we might have everlasting life. Some of us had different gifts, such as studying, music, teaching, planting, art, mathematics, mechanics, and leadership---also inventing.

The Lord has said, "For all hath not every every gift given unto them, for there are many gifts and to every man is given a gift by the spirit of God. So I feel that I have had a previous training in the spirit world even before the world was. I feel that I must have promised to work for the dead and the living, to work in the church and help in the great plan of Salvation, and also been interested in music. Sometimes I say something or see something that I know in the past I have said or been in that certain place before.

C. My parents were sent to prepare for my coming---They having pioneer parents, who were willing to cross the plains and suffer bitter trials and hardships for the Gospel's sake. My fathers parents crossed the plains and my mothers people embraced the Gospel in England, and came to America when my mother was 6 years old, and came to the little village of Tooele. In the meantime, my father's father fought in the Mormon Battalion, and here served his country honorably, also was a faithful church worker and Pioneer. My father was born in Tooele, Utah. He helped to dig Seago roots and killed sparrows for meat. The indians shot his hat off when he was a little boy herding sheep. He pioneered in Canada when the mormons migrated there in 1899, and was in the bishopric with Will Knight as Bishop in Raymond, where my mother was president of the Relief Society. My father and mother were married in the Endowment house, and my father held all

the Priesthood at his death. He always kept the Sabbath Day holy. He kept the Word of Wisdom all of his life. My parents had good clean blood, which they inherited, and which I have, in turn, inherited, and I feel blessed, for I know they are the salt of the earth, and I should try to be worthy to call them my parents.

D. My Blessing tells me I was valient in the Spirit World before I came here. That I was valient for the cause of Christ, my elder brother; that I kept my first estate, therefore inheriting my body and clear intellect. This being my reward, having kept my first estate in the Council in Heaven. It also tells me I came to the Earth through goodly, humble, upright, virtuous parents, descending from the true blood of Israel, from Joseph who was sold into Egypt, through his son Ephraim. That this, being my Birth-right, I have inherited a clean mind, sound intellect, strong, vigorous healthy body. I have been blessed with health and long life in my blessing. That I will have wisdom--be humble and prayerful, to be kind and do my full duty on earth as a wife and mother. I was sealed up against the power of the Evil one that he may not have power to injure or disfigure or maim my body in which my immortal spirit now resides. That I may live as long as life is sweet to me, and that if I am called into the ministry, that I may have the inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God to attend me. But greatest of all blessings are that I have an important mission here on Earth, to work in the Holy House of the Lord for those that have gone before, who are patiently waiting for this work to be done. And that is what I want more than anything in the world, to be worthy of that blessing.

E. So, I feel that if I live as I have been taught from childhood, I can pass on to my posterity what I have inherited, if I'll only be faithful and seek the Lord's help. If I will also keep the Word of Wisdom, and also obey the Lord's commandments, I will be able to pass on to my children honorable inheritance. I pray that I will be found faithful to the end.

F. So that when I leave this frail existence, when I lay this mortal by, Father, Mother, may I meet you in your Royal Courts on high. Both earthly and heavenly parents, and that I will be able to go on and on, doing good, and work still in the Temples of the Lord. As I know there will be work for the righteous intelligent spirits, there will be a vast field of usefulness for preaching the Gospel, training the ignorant, and helping the weak. As in the world of mortality, this work is carried on by those who accepted the Gospel, and who have conformed their lives to its principles; so in the spirit world, the righteous find pleasant and profitable employment in working for the salvation of souls, that we will be able to follow our Saviour to the door of resurrection which He has opened for us. When our souls shall be perfectly redeemed, and they shall be clothed upon with the body of the heavenly order, a tabernacle incorruptable and immortal with which to go

into the Celestial world. There we will dwell with our Lord forever.

Sister Sadie Christensen

Essay on "Our Lineage"

Written August 1, 1933

Teacher: Brother Bert Prince

And so, in closing, let me give these few lines to think about. Supposing today was your last day on earth. The last mile of the journey you've trod. After all of your struggles, how much are you worth, how much can you take home to God. Don't count as your treasures your silver and gold, for tomorrow you leave those behind, and all that is yours to have and to hold, are the blessings you've given mankind.

Just what have you done as you journeyed along, that was really and truly worth while. Do you think that your good deeds would offset the wrong. Can you look o'r your live with a smile?

We are only supposing, but if it were real, and you invoiced your life since your birth, and you figured the profits you've made in life's deal, How much are you really worth.

(signed) SADIE CHRISTENSEN

Note: on the back of this was a note from Aunt Dora to Grandmother Bevan as follows:

Fall 1933

Dear Mother: This is about the most beautiful thing I've ever read. I'm writing Sadie to tell her so. Surely she will be able to have her heart's desire.

Love, Dora