

THE HEALING & MENDING POWER OF THE TEMPLE

In the April, 2006 General Conference, Elder Jeffrey R. Holland gave a talk which was titled, "Broken Things to Mend." He spoke earnestly about the fact that all of us find ourselves broken or in need of mending at one time or another in our lives and then emphasized our need for the healing power of the Christ in our lives. Let me cite a few lines from a poem he read during his remarks.

In Nazareth, the narrow road,
That tires the feet and steals the breath,
Passes the place where once abode
The Carpenter of Nazareth.

And up and down the dirty way
The village folk would often wend;
And on the bench, beside Him, lay
Their broken things for Him to mend.

The maiden with the doll she broke,
The woman with the broken chair,
The man with broken plough, or yoke,
Said, "Can you mend it, Carpenter?"

And each received the thing he sought,
In yoke, or plough, or chair, or doll;
The broken thing which each had brought
Returned again a perfect whole.

It has been my experience that there is a special manifestation of the Savior's power to heal and mend in the Holy Temple. During years of service in the Ogden Temple, as well as the London Temple where my husband and I served a mission, I have seen this special power in the lives of acquaintances.

While waiting for other patrons to arrive for a sealing session, my husband spoke with a sister who arrived early for the session. He asked if she came often to the temple, for which she replied that she tried to attend the temple 2 or 3 times a week. My husband was surprised and said, "Wow, that is a lot." She went on to tell about a very difficult time in her life when she and her husband were eager to have a child, but she was not able to conceive. She attended a mission reunion with her husband, where his president was Elder Kikuchi of the Seventy. After the reunion she and her husband were visiting with Elder Kikuchi and he inquired about their family. This caused her to begin to weep, and then explain that they were unable to have children. After a few

moments, Elder Kikuchi said, "I promise you that if you will attend the temple frequently, you will be able to have a baby." The sister went on to explain to my husband that she had been attending the temple as he had promised, and that she was now 2 months pregnant. She had truly been blessed.

The second experience took place in the London Temple where I was able to attend the sealing of a beautiful young mother to her deceased husband and to have their two young sons sealed to them. She had married a non-member and they had one son and she was expecting the second. Her husband had been investigating the Church and had accepted the challenge to be baptized. Before this had been able to take place, he was killed in a traffic accident on their way home from church. She had suffered greatly from his loss, but eventually, following the birth of her second son, she prepared herself and came to the temple. It was a beautiful ceremony and very touching to watch. She truly felt that her broken life had been healed.

As we returned from our mission, our son-in-law gave me a picture of the London Temple with a poem he had written. It is titled, "Come to the Temple".

Come to the Temple, the House of the Lord,
Come with a longing to learn.
Come and prepare to be taught from above,
And truth and knowledge you'll earn.

Come to the Temple, the House of the Lord,
Come feel His spirit so sweet.
Open your heart, needed refreshment you'll find,
With the dews from heaven your treat.

Come to the Temple, the House of the Lord,
Spend time where the veil is thin.
Commune with angels and powers from heaven,
And break every yoke of sin.

Come to the Temple, the House of the Lord,
Where the power to seal is restored.
Turn your heart to your fathers in love,
Life eternal will be your reward.

I pray that you will come to the temple to mend any broken things that you may have, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.