



“Missionary work is not limited to proclaiming the gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people now living on the earth. Missionary work is also continuing beyond the veil among the millions and even billions of the children of our Heavenly Father who have died either without hearing the gospel or without accepting it while they lived on the earth. Our great part in this aspect of missionary work is to perform on this earth the ordinances required for those who accept the gospel over there. The spirit world is full of spirits who are anxiously awaiting the performance of these earthly ordinances for them. **I hope to see us dissolve the artificial boundary line we so often place between missionary work and temple and genealogical work, because it is the same great redemptive work!**” (Ensign, “The Things of Eternity—Stand We in Jeopardy?” January 1977, p. 3)

Family History: “In Wisdom and in Order”

“There is much each member can do toward redeeming the dead—and each can contribute according to individual circumstances and abilities.

...

“Our effort is not to compel everyone to do everything, but to encourage everyone to do something.

...

“We think first of submitting names and going to the temple to perform proxy ordinances for those who are dead. But there is much more to this work.”



<https://www.lds.org/ensign/1989/06/family-history-in-wisdom-and-in-order?lang=eng>

“I’m off the hook...our work is all done.”



“It doesn’t matter whether your computer is able to compile all the family group sheets for everyone that every lived on the earth, it remains the responsibility of each individual to know his kindred dead...Even if the work is done, then it is still each person’s responsibility to study and become acquainted with his ancestors.”

-- President Joseph Fielding Smith - Turned to the Fathers - p.184

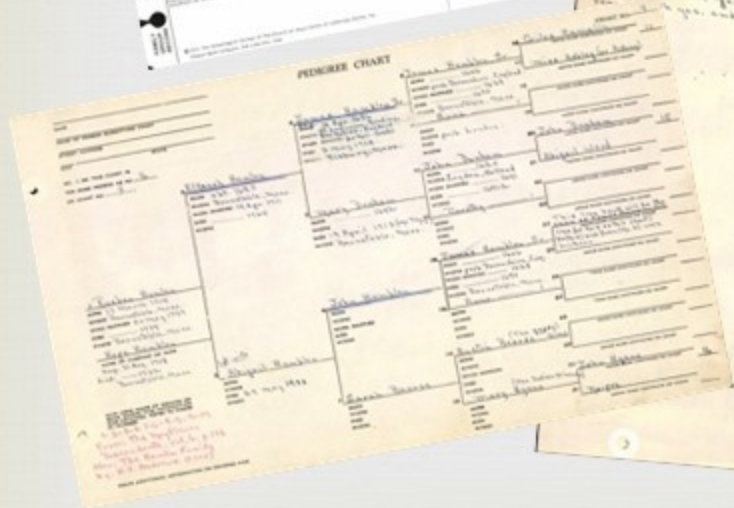


...not a name and a date

A handwritten ledger or record book page with multiple columns and rows. The text is dense and includes various entries, possibly names and dates, written in blue ink. The page is tilted and partially obscured by other documents.

...not a name and a date

...not a name and a date



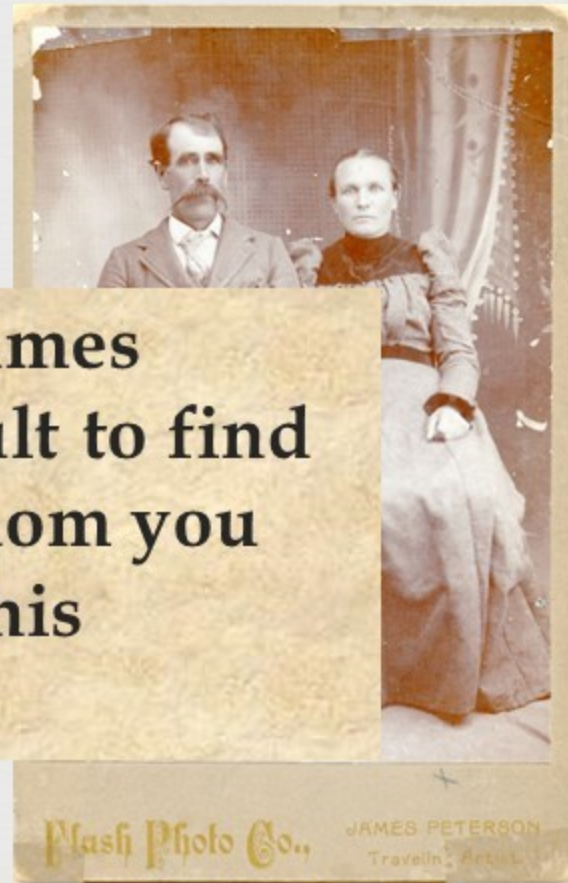
Flash Photo Co.,

JAMES PETERSON
Traveling Artist

...not a name and a date



**...remember that the names
which will be so difficult to find
are of real people to whom you
owe your existence in this
world... (President Eyring)**



Flash Photo Co.,

JAMES PETERSON
Traveler, Artist

“I’m off the hook...our
work is all done.”



“Your genealogy has not all been done. My own grandparents performed ‘all’ the temple work for their deceased relatives fifty-five years ago. Since that time our family has discovered sixteen thousand others.”

- Elder W. Grant Bangerter

“Why is it that sometimes only one of a city or household receives the Gospel? It was made known to me that it is because the righteous dead who have received the Gospel in the spirit world are exercising themselves, and in answers to their prayers elders of the Church are sent to the homes of their posterity. . . .”

- Elder Melvin J. Ballard



Elder Melvin J. Ballard testified that
“the spirit and influence of your
dead will guide those who are
interested in finding those records.
If there is anywhere on the earth
anything concerning them, you will
find it”

Bryant S. Hinckley, Sermons and Missionary Services of
Melvin Joseph Ballard, Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Company, 1949, p.
230;

“ . . . remember that the names which will be so difficult to find are of real people to whom you owe your existence in this world and whom you will meet again in the spirit world. When you were baptized, your ancestors looked down on you with hope. Perhaps after centuries, they rejoiced to see one of their descendants make a covenant to find them and to offer them freedom. **In your reunion, you will see in their eyes either gratitude or terrible disappointment. Their hearts are bound to you. Their hope is in your hands.** You will have more than your own strength as you choose to labor on to find them.”

- President Henry B. Eyring





...a higher vision



“In the past, motivated by a deep conviction of the sanctity of the work, individuals have valiantly faced a challenge that seemed like single-handedly endeavoring to harvest all the grain in Nebraska. Now, many mighty combines are at work. Together we can and will accomplish the required work.”

Elder Richard G. Scott



The Promises:



“I have the conviction that the Lord will bless us as we attend to the sacred ordinance work of the temples. Blessings there will not be limited to our temple service. We will be blessed in all of our affairs. We will be eligible to have the Lord take an interest in our affairs both spiritual and temporal.”



President Boyd K. Packer

The Promises:



“No work is more of a protection to this Church than temple work and the family history research that supports it. No work is more spiritually refining. No work we do gives us more power. No work requires a higher standard of righteousness.”

– President Boyd K. Packer



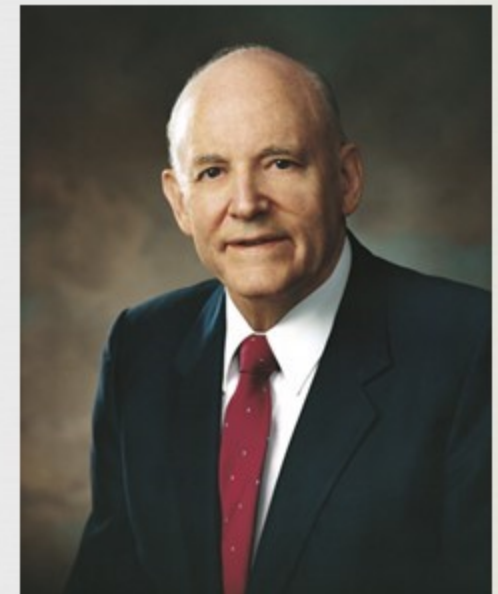
A Renewed Call...



“There are some members who engage in temple work but fail to do family history research on their own family lines.

Although they perform a divine service in assisting others, they lose a blessing by not seeking their own kindred dead as divinely directed by latter-day prophets. . . . *I have learned that those who engage in family history research and then perform the temple ordinance work for those whose names they have found will know the additional joy of receiving both halves of the blessing.*”

- President Howard W. Hunter



A Renewed Call...



“The Prophet Joseph Smith stated, “The greatest responsibility in this world that God has laid upon us is to seek after our dead” (*History of the Church*,6:313). He also stated: “This doctrine was the burden of the scriptures. Those Saints who neglect it in behalf of their deceased relatives, **do it at the peril of their own salvation**” (*ibid.*, 4:426)...Every prophet who has led this church from the days of Joseph Smith until the present has repeated this same sublime truth.” - President Howard W. Hunter





“Brethren, shall we not go on in so great a cause? Go forward and not backward. Courage, brethren; and on, on to the victory! Let your hearts rejoice, and be exceedingly glad. Let the earth break forth into singing.



Let the dead speak forth anthems of eternal praise to the King Immanuel, who hath ordained, before the world was, that which would enable us to redeem them out of their prison; for the prisoners shall go free” ([D&C 128:22](#)).