

## **Class 1 Theme - Those things that are recorded on Earth are Recorded in Heaven.**

“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.” Revelation 20:12

“...As are the records on the earth in relation to your dead, which are truly made out, so also are the records in heaven. This, therefore, is the sealing and binding power, and in one sense of the work, the keys of the kingdom, which consist of the key of knowledge. And now my dearly beloved brethren and sisters, let me assure you that these are principles in relation to the dead and the living that cannot be lightly passed over, as pertaining to our salvation. For their salvation is necessary and essential to our salvation, as Paul says concerning the fathers - ‘that they without us cannot be made perfect - neither can we without our dead be made perfect.’ And now, in relation to the baptism for the dead, I will give you another quotation of Paul, 1 Corinthians 15:29: ‘Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? Why are they then baptized for the dead?’ And again, in connection with this quotation I will give you a quotation from one of the prophets, who had his eye fixed on the restoration of the priesthood, the glories to be revealed in the last days, and in an especial manner this most glorious of all subjects belonging to the everlasting gospel, namely, the baptism for the dead: for Malachi says, last chapter, verse 5 and 6; ‘Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.’ – D&C 128:14 - 17

“... giving line upon line, precept upon precept; here a little and there a little; giving us consolation by holding forth that which is to come, confirming our hope.” – D&C 128:21

“Going hand in hand with this increased temple activity is an increase in our family history work. The computer in its various ramifications is accelerating the work, and people are taking advantage of the new techniques being offered to them. How can one escape the conclusion that the Lord is in all of this ? As computer facilities improve, the number of temples grows to accommodate the accelerated family history work.” – President Gordon B. Hinckley, Ensign, Nov 1999.

### **Assignment**

- 1.Begin to organize your information.
- 2.Gather additional information from home sources.
- 3.Enter the information in your PAF file.
- 4.Bring a document/home source to next class
- 5.Bring your PAF backup to next class.

## Discussion and Theory

**1. Identify what you know.** Begin by recording what you know about your ancestors in PAF. Add everything you can remember. Start with yourself and your parents, add your brothers and sisters. Then move onto your parent’s brothers and sisters and their parents, and your grandparents. Go back as far as you can from memory.

**2. Record the information you find in PAF.**

**3. Gather home sources.** After you have recorded what you know from personal knowledge, it’s time to start looking for things around your home that may fill in some blanks. Look for documents and artifacts that may help you in tracing your ancestry, then move onto your relatives’ homes. Of course ask permission before you start rummaging around in someone’s house. Types of records to look for:

Bibles	Family Bibles may contain a few pages devoted to genealogical records of the family (births, marriages, and deaths). Information found in a family Bible should be carefully evaluated, and if possible, confirmed by other sources.
Diaries and Journals	From the standpoint of family history, diaries and journals are invaluable. They should be carefully studied for genealogical information.
Biographies	Often, unpublished biographies are found among the loose papers of a relative. Unscholarly, poorly written, and illogical as they may sometimes seem, they are still priceless to the family historian.
Letters	Old letters are the most informal and intimate family sources. Note the addresses, names of the correspondents, postmarks, and dates for useful information.
Memorial Cards and Funeral Programs	Genealogical data on funeral memorabilia includes date of birth, place of birth, date of death, place of burial, and age at death.
Church Records	These records include certificates of birth, baptism or christening, marriage, advancement, death, and funeral notices.
Civil Records	Competent civil recorders prepared birth, marriage, and death certificates usually near the date of the event.
Citizenship Records	The records of immigrant ancestors may contain citizenship papers, dates of arrival, ports of embarkation and debarkation, and other details.
Fraternal Records	Freemasons, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Knights of Columbus, etc., preserve biographical sketches of their membership.
Genealogical Records	Other family members and ancestors may have compiled genealogical records. Inquire about both paper and digital files.
Histories	Occasionally, a manuscript history in the handwriting of an ancestor is found. Verification with supporting evidence is helpful in such instances.
Legal Papers	Family members may have preserved legal documents. Included in this category are wills, deeds, mortgages, and land grants. These are valuable because of the names, dates, and places mentioned.
Military Records	Search for discharge papers, pensions records, service records, medals, ribbons, etc.
Newspapers Clippings	Many families have collections of newspaper clippings relevant to family history.
Occupational Records	Apprentice records, awards, citations, and other occupational achievements are often found in the home.
School Records	School attendance records and graduation certificates provide genealogical data.
Albums	Photograph albums are among the most cherished family records. Ask older relatives about their pictures and label them as soon as possible. <sup>1</sup> BYU 261. Internet

**4. Organize records as you put families together.** Remember this work is about families so we must do research by family. Prepare a file folder for each marriage.

**5. Glean and use genealogical data.** There is never enough information. It takes many, many,

records to re-create the life of an individual. Nothing is insignificant. Continue to search for every record in which your ancestor may be found. Some records will only give a small piece of the puzzle but given enough small pieces a picture will begin to form. Many so called family sources may surface years later so stay watchful. "They can run but they can't hide."