

Belnap

“Love, Unity, Solidarity”  
*Belnap Family Organization Motto*



“The Belnap Family Organization is a non-profit ancestral family organization for all descendants of Utah Pioneer Gilbert Belnap, created to preserve, perpetuate, and promote family solidarity.”

*Belnap Family Organization Mission Statement*





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### This Day In Belnap Family History

No Events

### About Us

The Belnap Family Organization was created in 1904 to preserve, perpetuate, and promote family solidarity among all descendants of Utah Pioneer Gilbert Belnap. It is one of the oldest and largest family organizations in the United States, with over 10,000 descendants located throughout the United States and around the world.



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### Welcome!

#### BFO Overview

Mission Statement "The Belnap Family Organization is a non-profit ancestral family organization for all descendants of Utah Pioneer Gilbert Belnap, created to preserve, perpetuate, and promote family solidarity." Summary Founded in 1904, the Belnap Family Organization is one of the oldest and largest non-profit ancestral family organizations in the United States. Over the past century, the organization has completed a significant amount ... [\[Read More...\]](#)

### Recent News...



#### Rock On! Ryan Shupe to Perform at 2016 Reunion

Gilbert Belnap descendant Ryan Shupe (yes, the Ryan Shupe of "Ryan Shupe and the Rubber Band" fame) is scheduled to perform at the 2016 Belnap Family Reunion, which will be held on Saturday, August 13, in Eden, Utah. Ryan, who started playing the ... [\[Read](#)

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#### Elder Carl B. Cook to Address 2016 Reunion

Elder Carl B. Cook, a General Authority Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints--and direct

Find us online at:  
[www.belnapfamily.org](http://www.belnapfamily.org)

# Like "Belnap Family Organization" on Facebook



A screenshot of the Belnap Family Organization Facebook page. The page header features a large black and white photograph of a family group. Below the photo is the organization's name, "Belnap Family Organization", and its website, "@belnapfamily.org". Navigation buttons for "Contact Us", "Liked", and "Message" are visible. The page is categorized as a "Non-Profit Organization" in "Ogden, Utah" with a 5.0 star rating. A search bar and engagement statistics (475 likes, 40% response rate) are shown. The main post is a flyer for the "2016 Belnap Family Reunion" held in Eden, Utah, on August 13, 2016. The flyer includes details about the location, time, and featured speakers, including Elder Carl B. Cook and Ryan Shupe.

**Belnap Family Organization**  
@belnapfamily.org

Non-Profit Organization · Ogden, Utah  
5.0 ★★★★★

Search for posts on this Page

40% response rate, 25-days response time  
Respond faster to turn on the badge

475 likes +15 this week  
Caroline McCulloch and 253 other friends

4 post reach this week

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Use a Get Directions button to  
load these directions to 4500

**2016 Belnap Family Reunion**  
All descendants of Gilbert Belnap are especially invited to the  
2016 Belnap Family Reunion!

When: Saturday, August 13, 2016  
9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

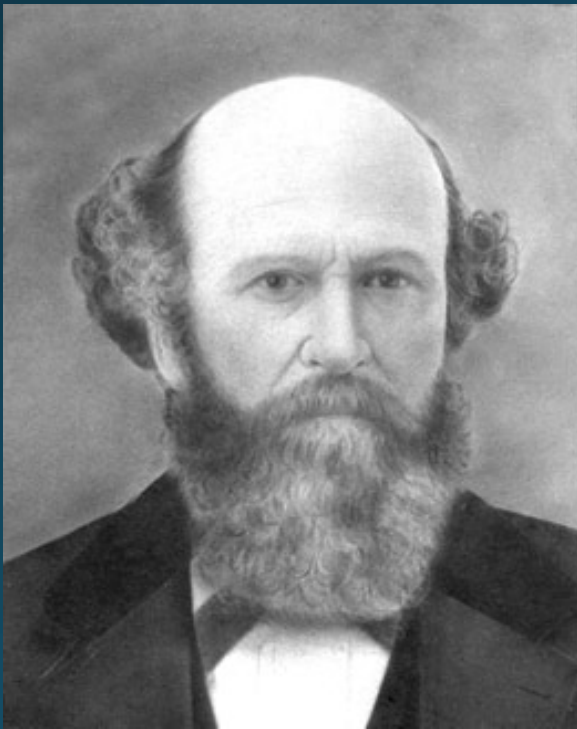
Where: LDS Stake Center, 2655 North Highway 162,  
Eden, Utah 84210

♦ **Elder Carl B. Cook**, General Authority Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—and direct descendant of Gilbert Belnap, will be the keynote speaker.

♦ **Ryan Shupe**, nationally acclaimed musician and leader of "Ryan Shupe and the Rubber Band"—and direct descendant of Gilbert Belnap, is scheduled to perform.

♦ **Belnap Coat of Arms Ties** are available again! Genuine silk, custom-designed ties featuring the Coat of Arms, available only at the Reunion.

“Now then boys, whatever thing you do or enter into must be done on the square, no underhand work or chicanery. If you do, it will fall through and you will come out worse in the end than you were in the beginning.”



*Gilbert Belnap, advice given to his sons  
shortly before he passed away  
on 26 February 1899*

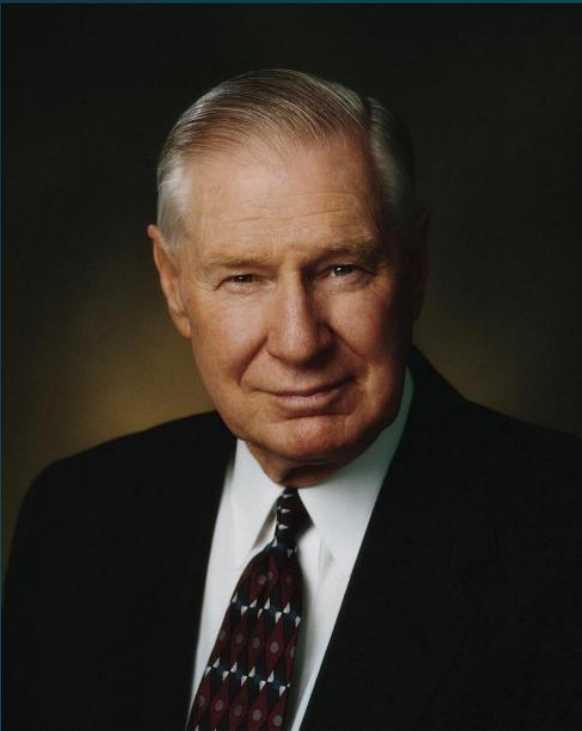


“While the strength of manhood in my poor way has been devoted to the building up of the Kingdom of God on the earth, and ere feeble steps shall mark my future course, or the light that sparkles from my dark eyes shall go out and gray hairs crown my brow, may the influence that I have and the Priesthood that I bear be used to induce my posterity to seek first the Kingdom of God and its future greatness on the earth.”

*Gilbert Belnap, letter to his son Hyrum, 22 Dec 1881*

“That is a good Church name; Belnaps have always been faithful and true, faithful and true.”

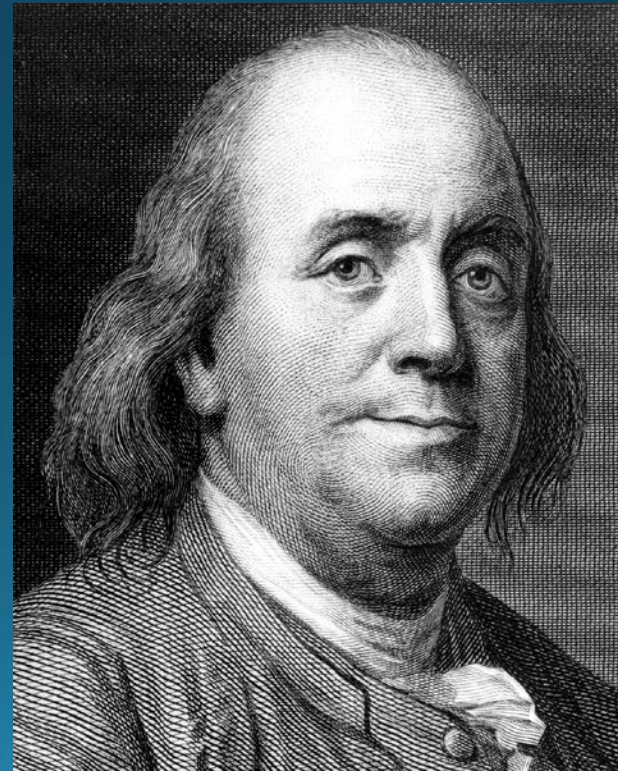
*President James E. Faust (about the surname “Belnap” as shared with Neil Belnap)*





“Dear Son, I have ever had a pleasure in obtaining any little anecdotes of my ancestors.”

*Benjamin Franklin, Autobiography, Part 1*



“Since it is not granted to us to live long, let us transmit to posterity some memorial that we have at least lived.”

*E. Joseph Cossman (Marketing Entrepreneur)*



“The Spirit of Elijah affects people inside and outside of the Church. However, as members of Christ’s restored Church, we have the covenant responsibility to search out our ancestors and provide for them the saving ordinances of the gospel.”



*Elder David A. Bednar,  
General Conference, Oct 2011*

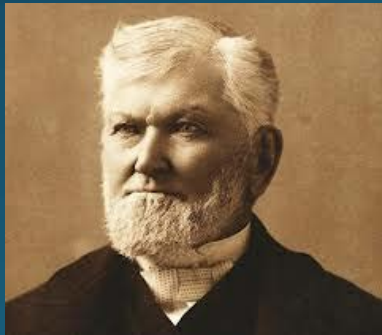


“I invite the young people of the Church to learn about and experience the Spirit of Elijah. I encourage you to study, to search out your ancestors, and to prepare yourselves to perform proxy baptisms in the house of the Lord for *your* kindred dead. And I urge you to help other people identify their family histories.”



*Elder David A. Bednar,  
General Conference, Oct 2011*

“There is hardly any principle the Lord has revealed that I have rejoiced more in than in the redemption of our dead; that we will have our fathers, our mothers, our wives and our children with us in the family organization, in the morning of the first resurrection and in the Celestial Kingdom. These are grand principles. They are worth every sacrifice.”



*President Wilford Woodruff*

“My beloved young brothers and sisters, family history is not simply an interesting program or activity sponsored by the Church; rather, it is a vital part of the work of salvation and exaltation. You have been prepared for this day and to build up the kingdom of God. You are here upon the earth now to assist in this glorious work.”



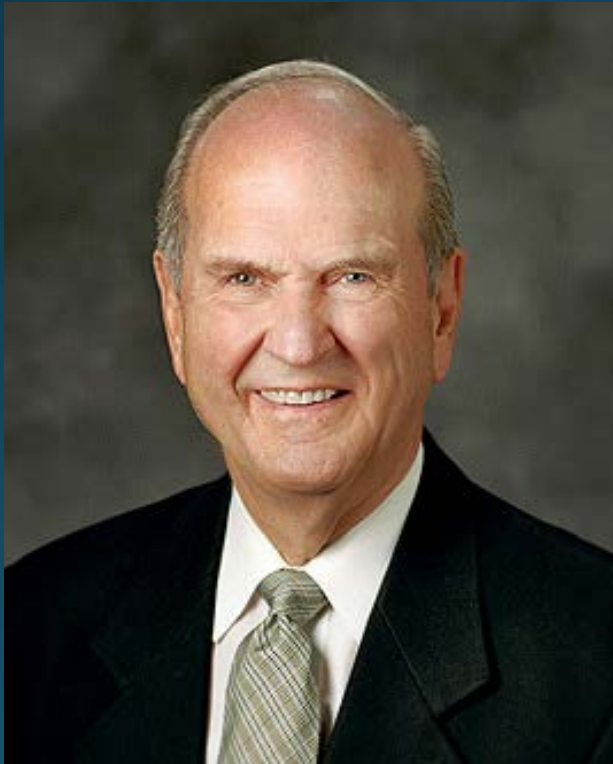
*Elder David A. Bednar,  
General Conference, Oct 2011*



“As you respond in faith to this invitation, your hearts shall turn to the fathers. . . . Your love and gratitude for your ancestors will increase. Your testimony of and conversion to the Savior will become deep and abiding. And I promise you will be protected against the intensifying influence of the adversary. As you participate in and love this holy work, you will be safeguarded in your youth and throughout your lives.”

*Elder David A. Bednar, General Conference, Oct 2011*

The Spirit of Elijah is “a manifestation of the Holy Ghost bearing witness of the divine nature of the family.”



*Elder Russell M. Nelson,  
General Conference, April 1998*

“The lessons learned in the home are those that last the longest.”



*President Thomas S. Monson,  
General Conference, April 2005*

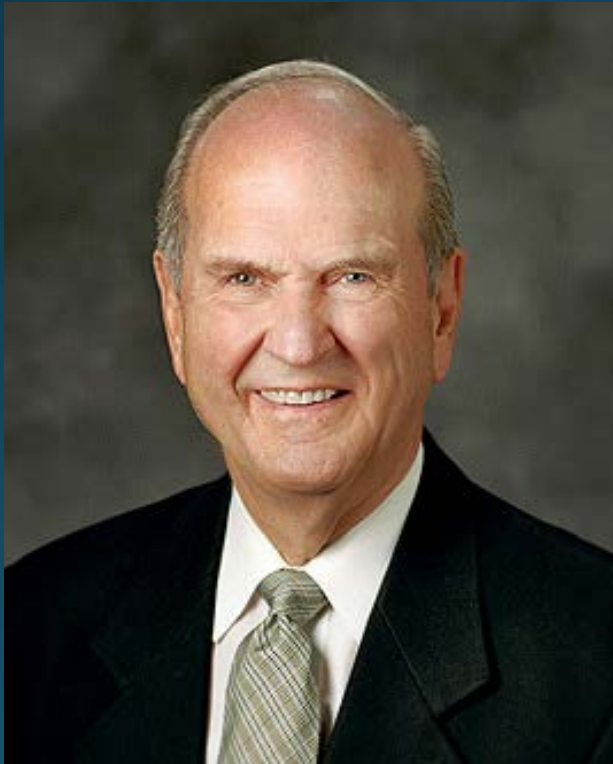


“I admonish all families: search out your heritage. It is important to know, as far as possible, those who came before us. We discover something about ourselves when we learn about our ancestors.”



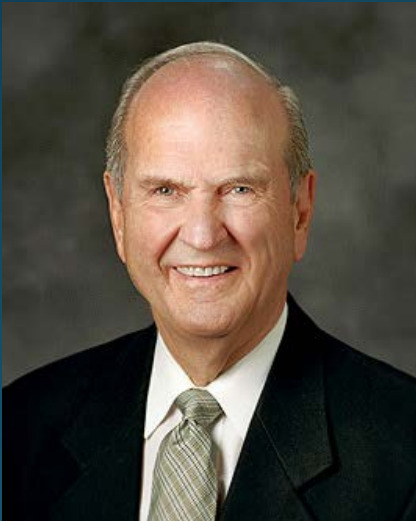
*President Thomas S. Monson,  
General Conference, April 2005*

“When our hearts turn to our ancestors,  
something changes inside us. We feel part of  
something greater than ourselves.”



*Elder Russell M. Nelson,  
General Conference, April 2010*

“While temple and family history work has the power to bless those beyond the veil, it has an equal power to bless the living. It has a refining influence on those who are engaged in it. They are literally helping to exalt their families.”



*Elder Russell M. Nelson,  
General Conference, April 2010*



“The greatest responsibility in this world that God has laid upon us is to seek after our dead.”

*Joseph Smith, Jr.*



“In all of us there is a hunger, marrow deep, to know our heritage—to know who we are and where we came from. Without this enriching knowledge, there is a hollow yearning. No matter what our attainments in life, there is still a vacuum, an emptiness, and the most disquieting loneliness.”



*Alex Haley (Author of Roots)*

“Do you young people want a sure way to eliminate the influence of the adversary in your life? Immerse yourself in searching for your ancestors, prepare their names for the sacred vicarious ordinances available in the temple, and then go to the temple to stand as proxy for them to receive the ordinances of baptism and the gift of the Holy Ghost.”



*Elder Richard G. Scott,  
General Conference, Oct 2012*

“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.”

*Doctrine and Covenants 128:15*



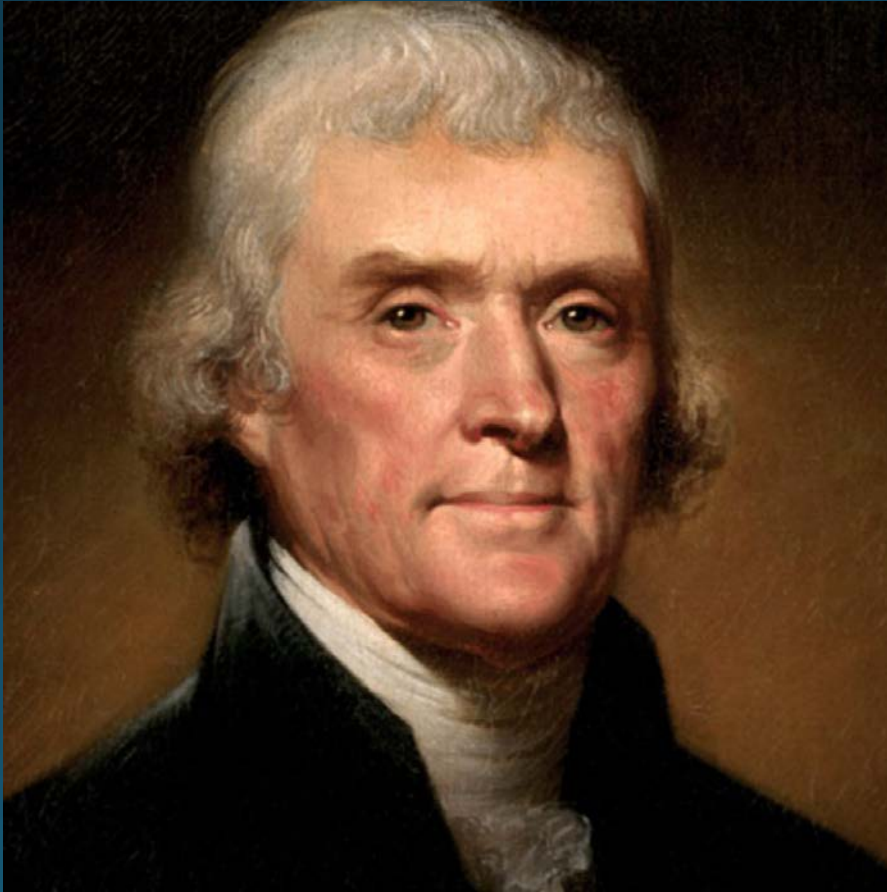
“He only deserves to be remembered by posterity who treasures up and preserves the history of his ancestors.”



*Edmund Burke*

“Too old to plant trees for my own gratification, I shall do it for my posterity.”

*Thomas Jefferson*



“In every conceivable manner, the family is link to our past, bridge to our future.”

*Alex Haley (Author of Roots)*



“A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches.”

*Proverbs 22:1*





“Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

*Proverbs 22:6*



“A good name is better than precious ointment.”

*Ecclesiastes 7:1*



“So, as you go into battle, remember your  
ancestors and remember your descendants.”

*Tacitus*



“It is not the honor that you take with you, but the heritage you leave behind.”

*Branch Rickey (Major League Baseball Executive)*





“I hold that a strongly marked personality can influence descendants for generations.”

*Beatrix Potter (Author)*



“Children need fairy tales, but it is just as essential that they have parents who tell them about their own lives, so that they can establish a relationship to the past.”

*Mark Kurlansky (Author)*



“When we reject our origins, we become the product of whatever soil that we find ourselves planted; the colors of our leaves change as we consume borrowed nutrients with borrowed roots.”

*Michael Norton (Author)*



“History doesn’t move you more than when it’s  
in the iron of your own blood.”

*J. R. Tompkins (Author)*





“I have drunk deep of the waters of my  
ancestors.”

*Larry Neal (Black Arts Movement Scholar)*



“We are as one with our ancestors and children.”  
*Rosita Worl Tlingit (Alaska Native Leader)*



“Family means no one gets left behind or forgotten.”

*David Ogden Stiers (Actor)*



“Your ancestors are rooting for you.”

*Eleanor Brownn (Motivational Speaker)*



“Home is where you are loved the most and act the worst.”

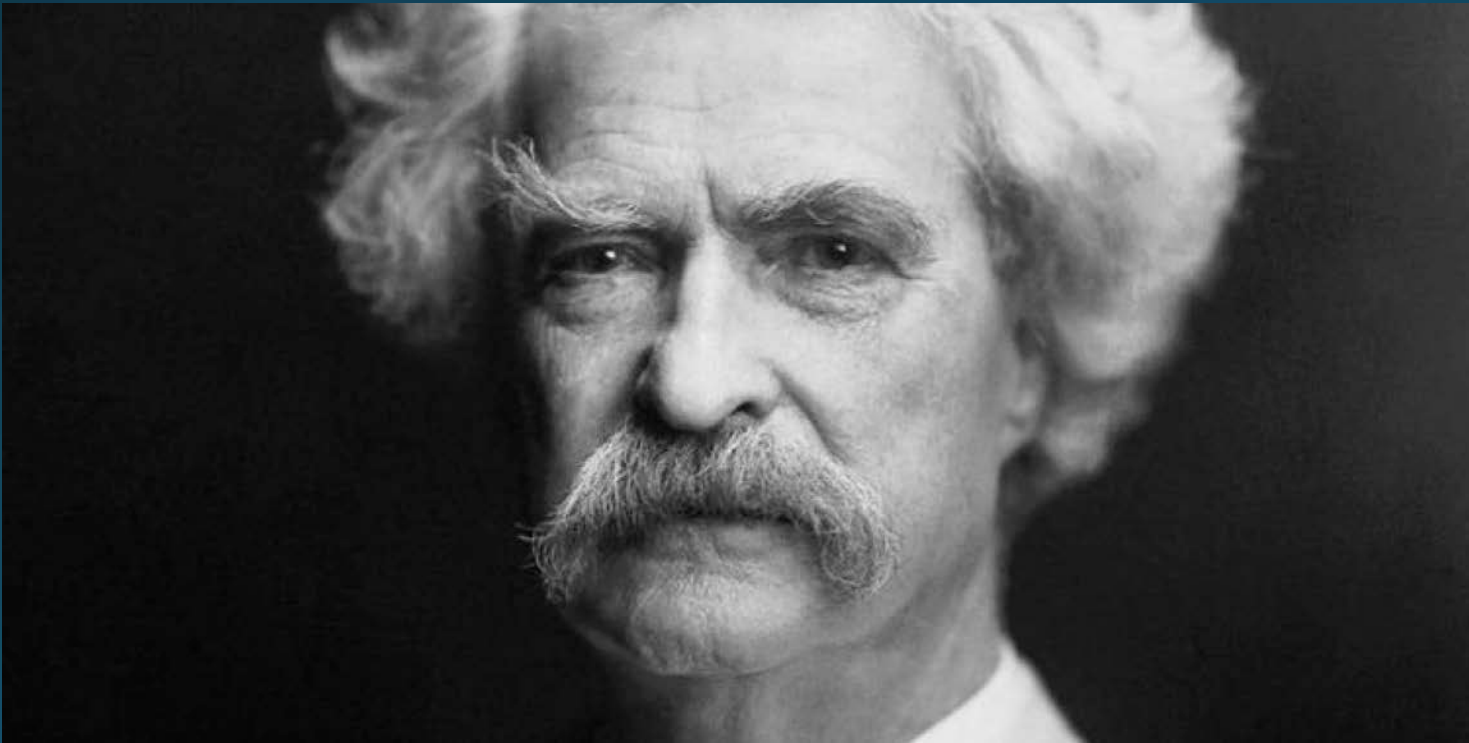
*Marjorie Pay Hinckley*





“Why waste your money looking up your family tree? Just go into politics and your opponent will do it for you.”

*Mark Twain*



“The past is never dead. It’s not even past.”

*William Faulkner, Requiem for a Nun, 1951*



“If you don’t know history, then you don’t know anything. You are a leaf that doesn’t know it is part of a tree.”



*Michael Crichton*

“History remembers only the celebrated,  
genealogy remembers them all.”

*Laurence Overmire (Author)*



“You have to stay true to your heritage; that’s what your brand is about.”

*Alice Temperley (British Fashion Designer)*





“Over the course of the millennia, all these multitudes of ancestors, generation upon generation, have come down to this moment in time — to give birth to you. There has never been, nor will ever be, another like you. You have been given a tremendous responsibility. You carry the hopes and dreams of all those who have gone before. Hopes and dreams for a better world. What will you do with your time on this Earth? How will you contribute to the ongoing story of humankind?”



*Laurence Overmire (Author)*

“The lack of emotional security of our American young people is due, I believe, to their isolation from the larger family unit. No two people—no mere father and mother—as I have often said, are enough to provide emotional security for a child. He needs to feel himself one in a world of kinfolk, persons of variety in age and temperament, and yet allied to himself by an indissoluble bond which he cannot break if he could, for nature has welded him into it before he was born.”



*Pearl S. Buck*

“A civilization is a heritage of beliefs, customs, and knowledge slowly accumulated in the course of centuries, elements difficult at times to justify by logic, but justifying themselves as paths when they lead somewhere, since they open up for man his inner distance.”

*Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (French Writer)*



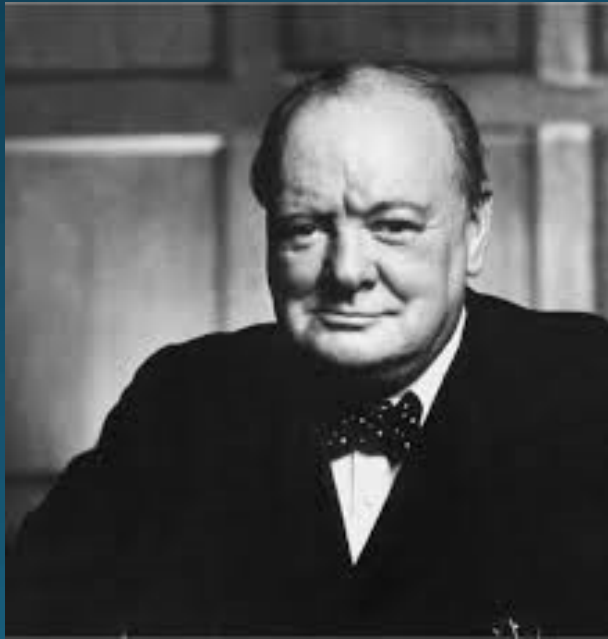
“There is no such thing as an insignificant life,  
only the insignificance of mind that refuses to  
grasp the implications.”

*Laurence Overmire (Author)*



“There is no doubt that it is around the family and the home that all the greatest virtues, the most dominating virtues of humans, are created, strengthened, and maintained.”

*Winston Churchill*





“People will not look forward to posterity who do not look back to their ancestors.”

*Edmund Burke*



“Family is not an important thing; it’s everything.”



*Michael J. Fox*

“What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family.”

*Mother Teresa*



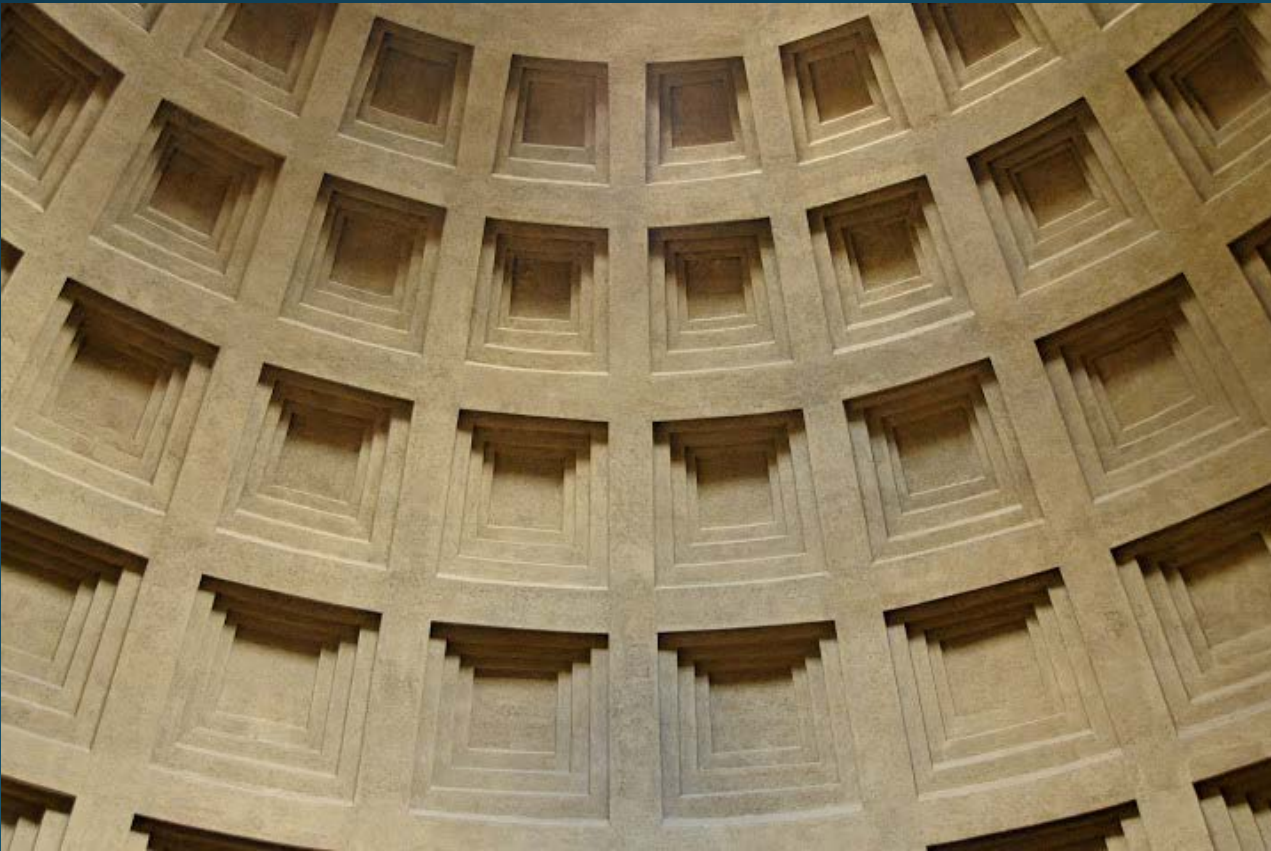
“History illuminates reality, vitalises memory,  
provides guidance in daily life.”

*Cicero*



“vox audita perit, littera scripta manet” (“The heard voice perishes, the written letter remains.”)

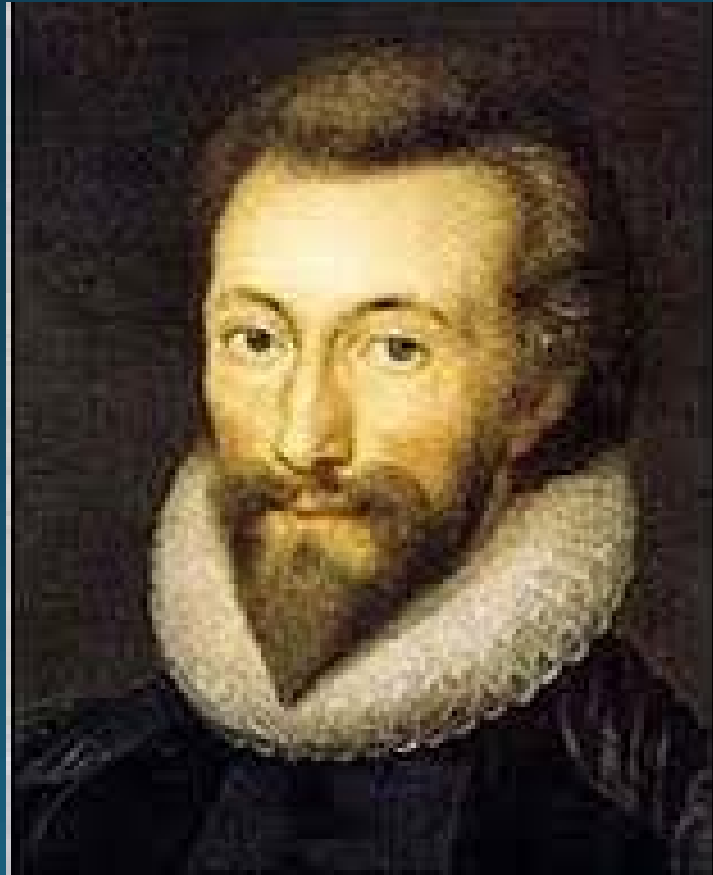
*Latin Maxim*





“What printing presses yield we think good store;  
But what is writ by hand we reverence more.”

*John Donne*



“What greater thing is there for human souls than to feel that they are joined for life — to be with each other in silent unspeakable memories.”

*George Elliot*



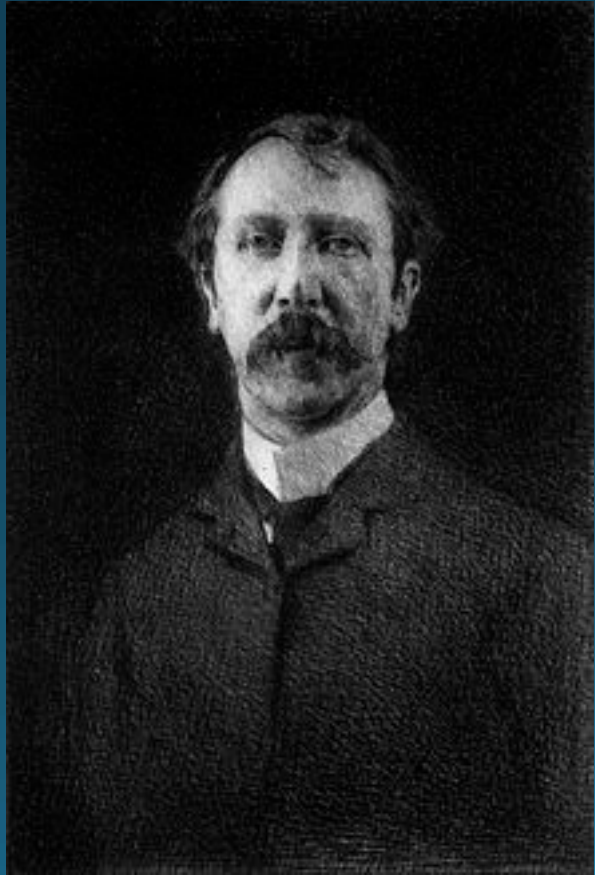
“A pack rat is hard to live with, but makes a fine ancestor.”

*Anonymous*



“A man travels the world over in search of what he needs, and returns home to find it.”

*George Moore (Novelist)*



“The great gift of family life is to be intimately acquainted with people you might never even introduce yourself to, had life not done it for you.”

*Kendall Hailey (Writer and Autodidact)*





“If you don’t recount your family history, it will be lost. Honor your own stories and tell them too. The tales may not seem very important, but they are what binds families and makes each of us who we are.”



*Madeleine L'Engle (Author)*

“The only rock I know that stays steady, the only institution I know that works, is the family.”

*Lee Iacocca*



“You don’t choose your family. They are God’s gift to you, as you are to them.”

*Desmond Tutu*



“Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family . . . in another city.”

*George Burns (Comedian)*



“No matter how many communes anybody invents, the family always creeps back.”

*Margaret Mead (Cultural Anthropologist)*





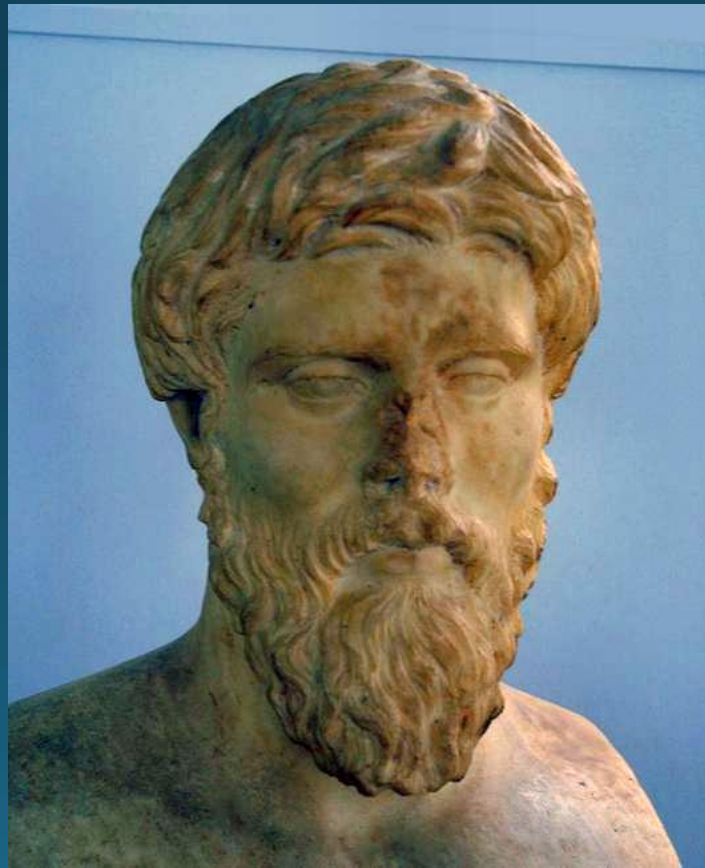
“Nobody has ever before asked the nuclear family to live all by itself in a box the way we do. With no relatives, no support, we’ve put it in an impossible situation.”

*Margaret Mead (Cultural Anthropologist)*



“It is a desirable thing to be well descended, but  
the glory belongs to our ancestors.”

*Plutarch*



“A family is a place where minds come in contact with one another.”

*Buddha*



“Family faces are magic mirrors. Looking at people who belong to us, we see the past, present, and future.”

*Gail Lumet Buckley (Author)*



“Family: A social unit where the father is concerned with parking space, the children with outer space, and the mother with closet space.”

*Evan Esar (Humorist)*





“Feelings of worth can flourish only in an atmosphere where individual differences are appreciated, mistakes are tolerated, communication is open, and rules are flexible — the kind of atmosphere that is found in a nurturing family.”



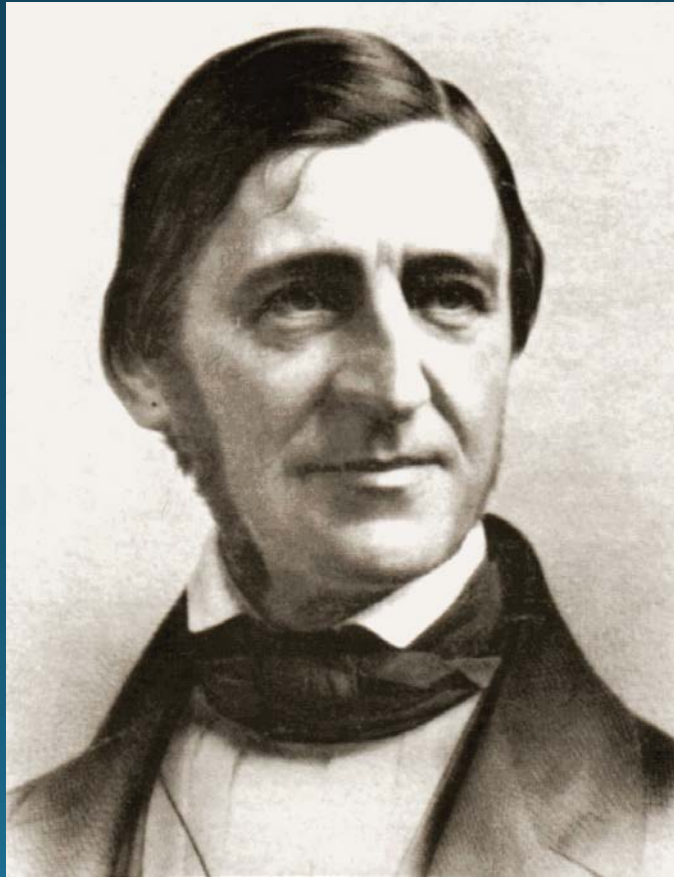
*Virginia Satir (Family Therapist)*

“If the family were a fruit, it would be an orange,  
a circle of sections, held together but separable —  
each segment distinct.”

*Letty Cottin Pogrebin (Author and Social Activist)*

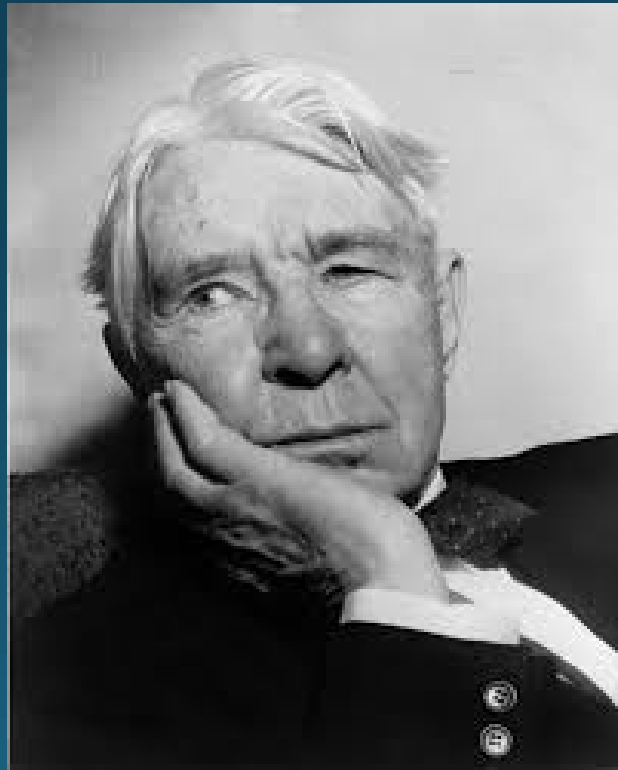


“There is properly no history, only biography.”  
*Ralph Waldo Emerson, Essays: First Series, 1841*



“When a society or a civilization perishes, one condition can always be found: They forgot where they came from.”

*Carl Sandburg*



“As my family planted for me, so do I plant for my children.”

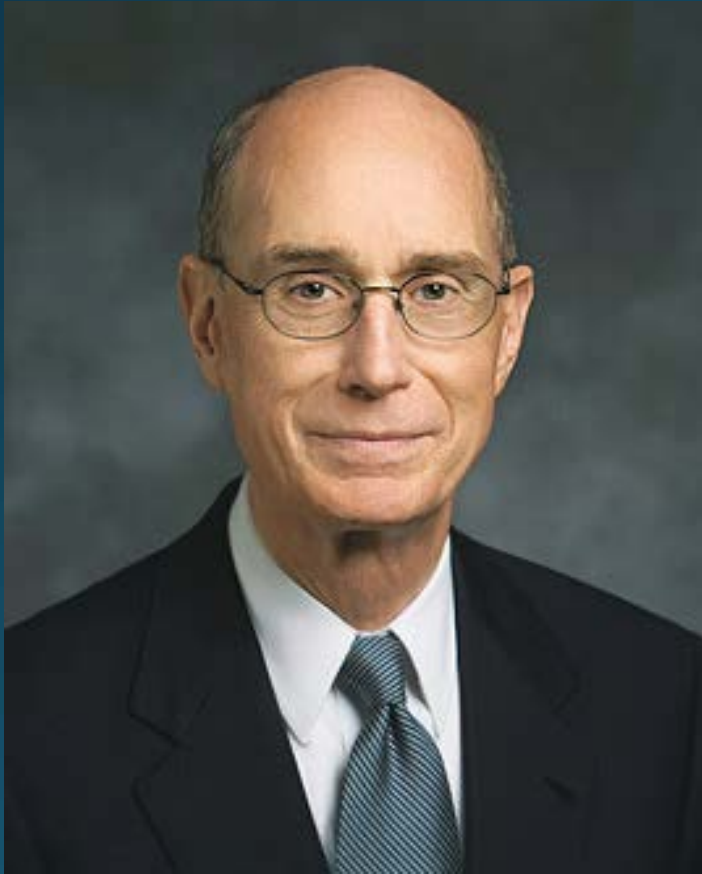
*Talmud*





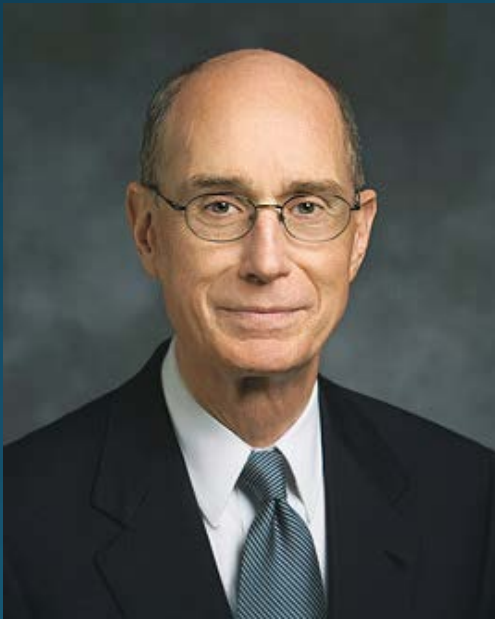
“[H]istory . . . is recorded in words and numbers,  
but . . . heritage is passed heart to heart.”

*President Henry B. Eyring*



“Our most important and powerful assignments are in the family. They are important because the family has the opportunity at the start of a child’s life to put feet firmly on the path home.”

*President Henry B. Eyring*



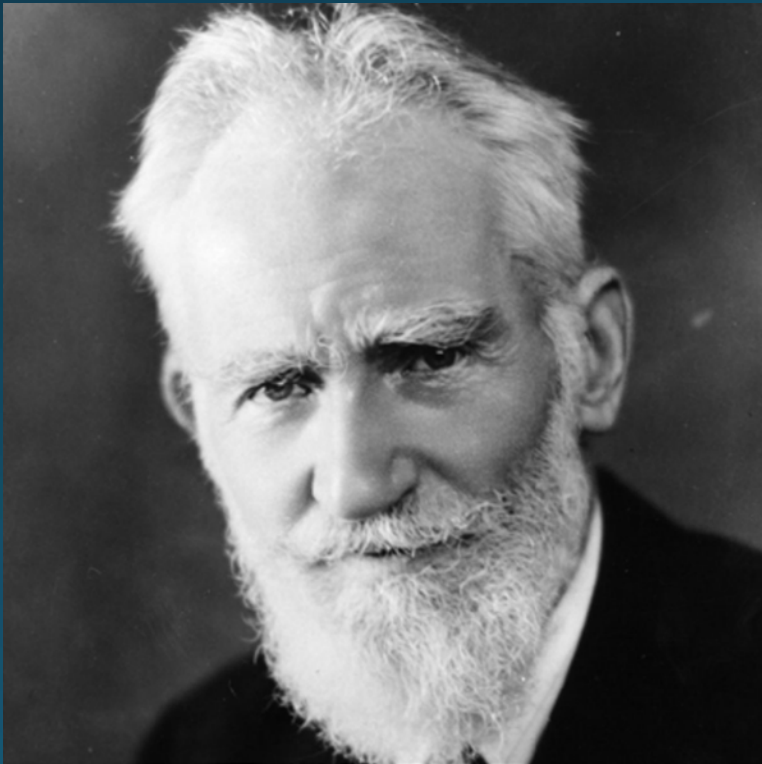
“We need to be connected to both our roots and branches.”



*Elder Quentin L. Cook,  
General Conference, April 2014*

“Perhaps the greatest social service that can be rendered by anybody to this country and to mankind is to bring up a family.”

*George Bernard Shaw*

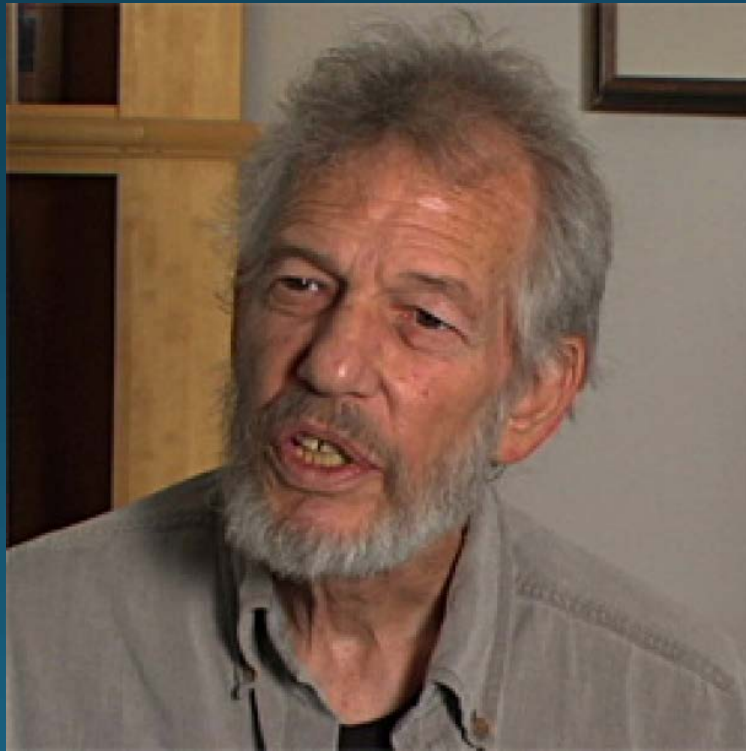


“Look unto the rock from whence ye are hewn,  
and to the hole of the pit from whence ye are  
digged.”

*2 Nephi 8:1 (cf. Isaiah 51:1)*



“If you were going to die soon and had only one phone call you could make, who would you call and what would you say? And why are you waiting?”



*Stephen Levine (Poet)*



“Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.”



*Joel 1:3*

“For behold, this is my work and my glory — to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man.”

*Moses 1:39*



“You don’t stumble upon your heritage. It’s there, just waiting to be explored and shared.”

*Robbie Robertson (Musician)*



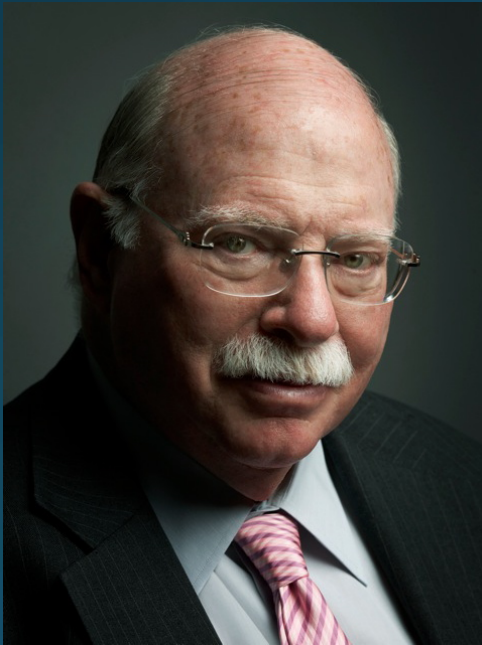
“And that same sociality which exists among us here will exist among us there, only it will be coupled with eternal glory, which glory we do not now enjoy.”

*Doctrine and Covenants 130:2*



“In North America, the greatest threat to the Jewish people is not the external force of antisemitism, but the internal forces of apathy, inertia, and ignorance of our own heritage.”

*Michael Steinhardt (Philanthropist)*





“As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children . . . . Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them.”

*Psalm 127:4-5*





“Let us, therefore, as a church and a people, and as Latter-day Saints, offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness; and let us present in his holy temple, when it is finished, a book containing the records of our dead, which shall be worthy of all acceptation.”

*Doctrine and Covenants 128:24*

“It is sufficient to know, in this case, that the earth will be smitten with a curse unless there is a welding link of some kind or other between the fathers and the children, upon some subject or other — and behold what is that subject? It is the baptism for the dead. For we without them cannot be made perfect; neither can they without us be made perfect.”

*Doctrine and Covenants 128:18*

“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.”

*Malachi 4:5-6*

“Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons’ sons.”

*Deuteronomy 4:9*

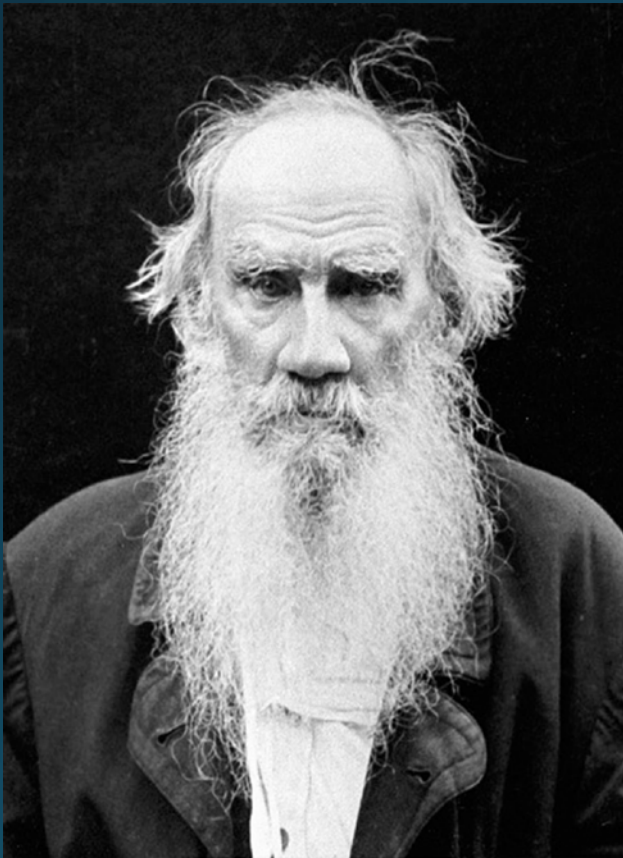
“Family is the most important thing in the world.”



*Princess Diana*

“All happy families resemble one another; each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.”

*Leo Tolstoy, Anna Karenina, Part 1*





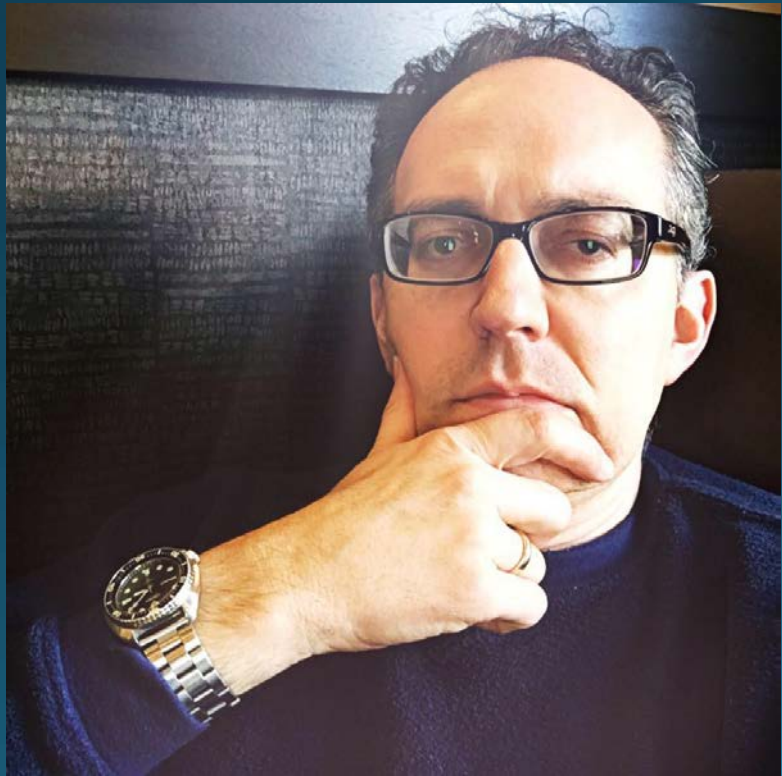
“Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.”

*Deuteronomy 32:7*



“Children are not a distraction from more important work. They *are* the most important work.”

*John Trainer, MD*



“While we try to teach our children all about life,  
our children teach us what life is all about.”

*Angela Schwindt (Homeschooling Mom)*



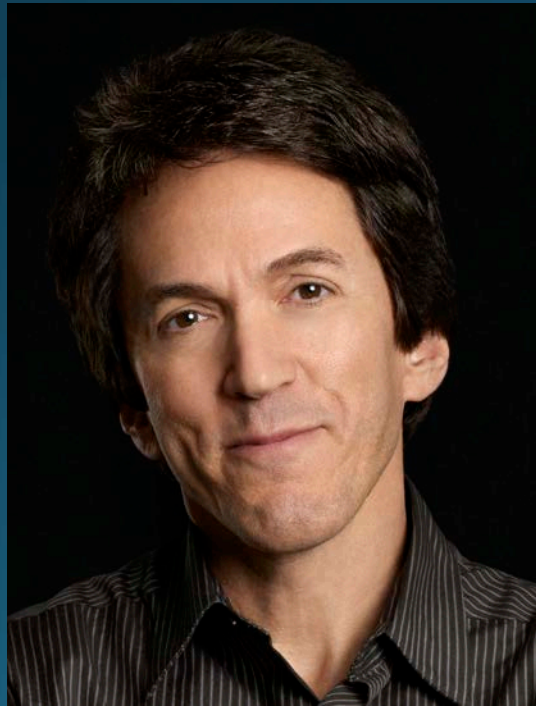
“To forget one’s ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root.”

*Chinese Proverb*





“A memoir should have some uplifting quality, inspiring or illuminating, and that’s what separates a life story that can influence other people.”



*Mitch Albom (Screenwriter)*

“When you look at your life, the greatest happinesses are family happinesses.”

*Dr. Joyce Brothers*





“A family is a place where principles are hammered and honed on the anvil of everyday living.”

*Charles Swindoll (Evangelical Pastor)*



“As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live.”

*Pope John Paul II*



“No matter what you’ve done for yourself or for humanity, if you can’t look back on having given love and attention to your own family, what have you really accomplished?”

*Elbert Hubbard (Writer)*



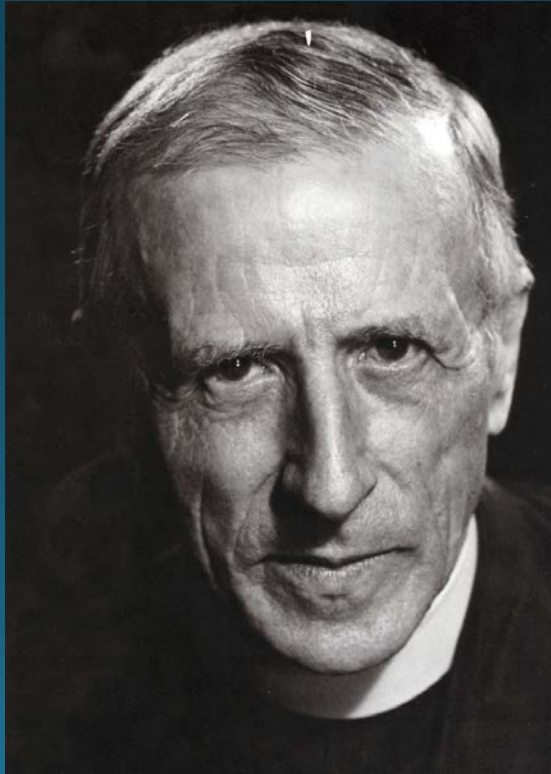
“The family. We were a strange little band of characters trudging through life sharing diseases and toothpaste, coveting one another’s desserts, hiding shampoo, borrowing money, locking each other out of our rooms, inflicting pain and kissing to heal it in the same instant, loving, laughing, defending, and trying to figure out the common thread that bound us all together.”



*Erma Bombeck*

“The future belongs to those who give the next generation reason for hope.”

*Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (Jesuit Philosopher)*





“A man filled with the love of God is not content with blessing his family alone, but ranges through the whole world, anxious to bless the whole human race.”

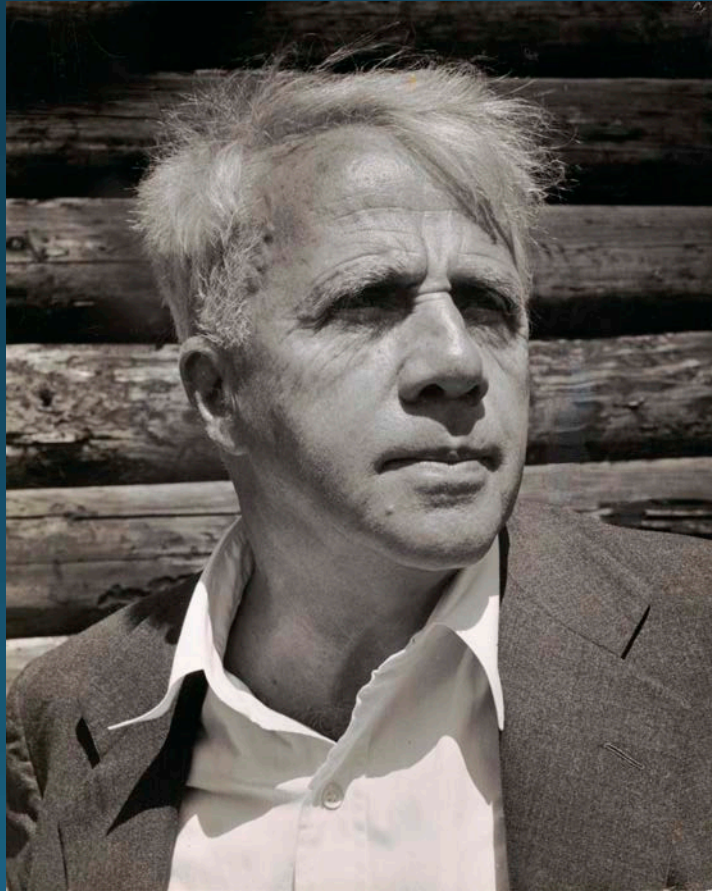


*Joseph Smith, Jr.*



“Home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in.”

*Robert Frost*



“If you don’t know history . . . you are a prisoner of your time and place; you don’t know what came before, so you can never know what will come next. You’ve lost the knowledge of the origins of things. You’re frozen in ‘me’ and most often in ‘now,’ when it should be ‘we’ and ‘forever.’”



*Georgie Anne Geyer,  
Westminster College  
Commencement Address, 1996*

“A good way to learn to love our relatives is to spend time together in well-planned family reunions. A family reunion can be a very personal and privileged gathering. If you have never organized your family for a reunion, start now — you will receive joy far beyond your expectations. Yes, there will be discouragements. Some family members will say they don’t have time or that they are too busy. But the rewards more than compensate for the discouragements.”

*Alma Heaton (BYU Dance Instructor)*

“I urge all of the people of this Church to give serious attention to their family histories, to encourage their parents and grandparents to write their journals, and let no family go into eternity without having left their memoirs for their children, their grandchildren, and their posterity. This is a duty and a responsibility, and I urge every person to start the children out writing a personal history and journal.”



*President Spencer W. Kimball,  
General Conference, April 1978*

“I promise that if you will keep your journals and records, they will indeed be a source of great inspiration to your families, to your children, your grandchildren, and others, on through the generations. Each of us is important to those who are near and dear to us and as our posterity reads of our life's experiences, they, too, will come to know and love us. And in that glorious day when our families are together in the eternities, we will already be acquainted.”

*President Spencer W. Kimball*



“Over the years as my thoughts and heart have turned to the lives of my noble ancestors, my appreciation for them has increased. Learning about my ancestors has not only turned my heart to them but has helped me see eternity more clearly. My own life is rooted not just in the present, but in the lives of my ancestors as well.”



*President Spencer W. Kimball,  
Ensign, January 1977*



“It is important for us ... to cultivate in our own family a sense that we belong together eternally, that whatever changes outside our home, there are fundamental aspects of our relationship which will never change. We ought to encourage our children to know their relatives. We need to talk of them, make effort to correspond with them, visit them, join family organizations, etc.”



*President Spencer W. Kimball,  
General Conference, October 1974*



# Belnap Family Organization

*Love, Unity, Solidarity*

The Belnap Family Organization is a non-profit ancestral family organization for all descendants of Utah Pioneer Gilbert Belnap, created to preserve, perpetuate, and promote family solidarity.

[www.belnapfamily.org](http://www.belnapfamily.org)