

Vision of Former Eminent Men in The St George Temple

Compiled By Glen W. Chapman- January 2002

“And there in the St. George temple I saw what I had always hoped and prayed that someday I would see. Ever since I returned as a humble missionary and first learned that the Founding Fathers had appeared in that temple, I wanted to see the record. And I saw the record . They did appear to Wilford Woodruff twice and asked why the work hadn’t been done for them. They had founded this country and the Constitution of this land, and they had been true to those principles In the archives of the temple, I saw in a book, in bold handwriting names of the Founding Fathers and others, including Columbus and other great Americans, for whom the work had been done in the house of the Lord... .All these appeared to Wilford Woodruff when he was President of the St. George Temple. President George Washington was ordained a High Priest at that time. You will also be interested to know that according to Wilford Woodruff’s journal, John Wesley, Benjamin Franklin, and Christopher Columbus were also ordained High Priests at the time.”
(TEACHINGS OF EZRA TAFT BENSON p. 603-4.)

“I am going to bear my testimony to this assembly, if I never do it again in my life, that those men who laid the foundation of this American government and signed the Declaration of Independence were the best spirits the God of heaven could find on the face of the earth. They were choice spirits, not wicked men. General Washington and all the men that labored for the purpose were inspired of the Lord.

Another thing I am going to say here, because I have a right to say it. Every one of those men that signed the Declaration of Independence, with General Washington, called upon me, as an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ, in the Temple at St. George, two consecutive nights, and demanded at my hands that I should go forth and attend to the ordinances of the House of God for them.... I told these brethren that it was their duty to go into the Temple and labor until they had got endowments for all of them. They did it. Would those spirits have called upon me, as an Elder in Israel to perform that work if they had not been noble spirits before God? They would not.”
(Wilford Woodruff, Conference Report, April 1898, p. 89-90.)

“I will here say that two weeks before I left St. George, the spirits of the dead gathered around me, wanting to know why we did not redeem them. Said they, ‘You have had the use of the Endowment House for a number of years, and yet nothing has ever been done for us. We laid the foundation of the government you now enjoy, and we never apostatized from it, but we remained true to it and were faithful to GodI straightway went into the baptismal font and called upon Brother McAllister to baptize me for the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and fifty other eminent men, making one hundred in all, including John Wesley, Columbus, and others. I then was baptized for every president of the United States except three; and when their cause is just, somebody will do the work for them. ”*(JD 19:229, September 16, 1877.)*

“On the same day these ordinances were performed, President Woodruff records in his journal that he baptized brother McAllister for 21, including Gen Washington & his forefathers and all the Presidents of the United States that were on my list except Buchanan, Van Buren & Grant... .Sister Lucy Bigelow Young went Forth into the font and was Baptized for Martha Washington and her family and seventy (70) of the Eminent women of the world... .There were Baptized in all to day 682”*(Woodruff, Journal 7:367-69)--Arnold K. Garr, Epilogue, Christopher Columbus, p. 71-73.*

“Much of President Woodruff’s meditations, as well as his hopes and ambitions, were associated with the world beyond the veil, and yet was not in the least sense a fanatically visionary man. When he had important dreams the were in harmony with his religious conceptions and apart of his duty, both to man and God. On the night of March 19th, 1894, he had a dream which followed his meditations upon the future life and the work that he had done for the dead. In his dream there appeared to him Benjamin Franklin for whom he had performed important ceremonies in the House of God. This distinguished patriot, according to his dream, sought further blessings in the Temple of God at the hands of his benefactor, President Woodruff wrote: ‘I spent some time with him and we talked over our Temple ordinances which had been administered for Franklin and others. He wanted more work done for him than had already been done. I promised him it should be done. I awoke and then made up my mind to receive further blessings for Benjamin Franklin and George Washington.’

It may be well here to record the fact that President Woodruff and D.T. McAllister, at the early opening of the St. George Temple were baptized for the signers of the

Declaration of Independence, and for nearly all the Presidents of the United States. The appearance, therefore, in his dream, of Franklin, was to him a satisfying conclusion that he had at least received joyfully the blessings that came to him from the ordinances of the Lord's House." (Matthias E Cowley, Wilford Woodruff--His Life and Labors, p. 585-9.)

James G. Bleak, Clerk to Brigham Young wrote "I was also present in the St. George Temple and witnessed the appearance of the Spirits of the Signers... the spirits of the Presidents... And also others, such as Martin Luther and John Wesley... Who came to Wilford Woodruff and demanded that their baptism and endowments be done. Wilford Woodruff was baptized for all of them. While I and Brothers J.D.T. McAllister and David H Cannon (who were witnesses to the request) were endowed for them. These men.. laid the foundation of this American Gov., and signed the Declaration of Independence and were the best spirits the God of Heaven could find on the face of the earth to perform this work. Martin Luther and John Wesley helped to release the people from religious bondage that held them during the dark ages. They also prepared the peoples hearts so they would be ready to receive the restored gospel when the Lord sent it again to men on the earth." (Personal journal of James Godson Bleak-Chief Recorder of the St. George Temple)

Signers

William Hooper(NC)
Joseph Hewes (NC)
John Penn(NC)
Button Gwinnett(GA)
Lyman Hall(GA)
George Walton(GA)
Edward Rutledge(SC)
Thomas Heyward Jr.(SC)
Thomas Lynch(SC)
Arthur Middleton(SC)
Samuel Chase(MD)
William Paca(MD)
Thomas Stone(MD)
Charles Carrol(MD)
George Wythe(VA)
Richard Henty Lee(VA)
Thomas Jefferson(VA)
Benjamin Harrison(VA)
Thomas Nelson Jr.(VA)
Francis Lightfoot Lee(VA)
Carter Braxton(VA)
Robert Morris (PA)
Benjamin Rush(PA)
Benjamin Franklin(PA)
John Morton(PA)
George Clymer(PA)
James Smith(PA)
George Taylor(PA)
James Wilson(PA)
George Ross(PA)
Caeser Rodney) DE)
George Read(DE)
Thomas McKean(DE)
Philip Livingston(NY)
Francis Lewis(NY)
Lewis Morris(NY)

Richard Stockton (NJ)
John Witherspoon(NJ)
Francis Hopkinson(NJ)
John Hart(NJ)
Abraham Clark(NJ)
Josiah Bartlett(NH)
William Whipple(NH)
Matthew Thornton(NH)
Samuel Adams(MA)
John Adams(MA)
Robert Treat Paine(MA)
Elbridge Gerry(MA)
Stephen Hopkins(RI)
William Ellery(RI)
Roger Sherman(CN)
Samuel Huntington(CN)
William Williams(CN)
Oliver Wolcott(CN)
(not done for John Hancock or William Floyd)

Presidents

George Washington
John Adams
Thomas Jefferson
James Madison
James Monroe
John Quincy Adams
Andrew Jackson
William Henry Harrison
John Tyler
James Knox Polk
Zachary Taylor
Millard Fillmore
Franklin Pierce
Abraham Lincoln
Andrew Johnson
(not done for Buchanan, Van Buren, or Grant)

Other Eminent Men Baptized By Wilford Woodruff in St George Temple August 1877

Gibbon, Sir Edward

Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von

Goldsmith, Oliver

Grattan, Henry

Humboldt, Alexander von
Irving, Washington
Jackson, Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall"
Johnson, Samuel
Juarez, Benito Pablo
Kemble, John Philip
Liebig, Baron Justus von
Livingstone, David
Macaulay, Thomas Babington
Nelson, Lord Horatio
O'Connell, Daniel
Peabody, George
Powers, Hiram
Reynolds, Sir Joshua
Schiller, Johann Christoph Friedrich von
Scott, Sir Walter
Seward, William Henry
Stephenson, George
Thackeray, William Makepeace
Vespucci, Amerigo
Webster, Daniel
Wesley, John
Wordsworth, William
Parepa, Count Dimitrius

Martha Washington and her family
 John Washington(Great Grandfather of G. Washington)
 Sir Henry Washington
Lawrence Washington(Brother of George Washington)
 Augustine Washington(Father of George Washington)
 Lawrence Washington(Father of Augustine)
 Lawrence Washington
 Daniel Park Custis
 John Park Custis(Son of Daniel & Martha Parke Custis)
 Martin Luther

Eminent Women Baptized

1. Armour, Jean(1767—1834) of Scotland
 [Jean Armour Burns]
 Wife of Robert Burns (1759—1796)
2. Austen, Jane (1775—1817) of England
 Novelist
3. Ball, Mary (1708—1789) of America
 [Mary Ball Washington]
 Mother of George Washington (1732—1799)
4. Barnard, Sarah (1800—1879) of England
 [Sarah Barnard Faraday]
 Wife of Michael Faraday (1791—1867)
5. Bronte, Charlotte (1816—1855) of England
 Novelist
6. Browne, Felicia Dorothea (1793—1835) of England
 [Felicia Dorothea Browne Hemans]
7. Browning, Elizabeth Barrett (1806—1861) of England
 Poet, Wife of Robert Browning (1812—1861)
8. Burney, Francis [“Fanny”] (1752—1840) of England
 [Madame d’Arbla]
9. Butler, Jane (d. 1728) of America
 [Jane Butler Washington]
10. Wife of Augustine Washington (1694—1743) [This Augustine
 was the father of George Washington by his second wife, Mary
 Ball (1708—1789).]
10. Caldwell, Martha (d. 1802) of America [Martha Caldwell Calhoun]
 Mother of John Caldwell Calhoun (1782—1850)
11. Calvert, Eleanor (c. 1757—1811) of America [Eleanor Calvert Custis Stuart]
 Wife of John Parke Custis (1757—1781); Stepgranddaughter of George
 Washington (1732—1799)
12. Carpenter, Charlotte Margaret (1770—1826) of England [Charlotte Mary
 Charpentier Scott] Wife of Sir Walter Scott (1771—1832)
13. Christina, Elizabeth (1715—1797) of Prussia [Elisabeth Christine]
 Wife of Frederick II(1712—1786)
14. Corday, Charlotte (1768—1793) of Normandy [Marie Anne Charlotte Corday
 D’Armont] French Patriot

15. Creagh, Sarah (dates unknown) of Ireland [Sarah Creagh Curran]
Wife of John Philpot Curran (1750—1817)
16. Custis, Martha Parke (1755—1773) of America Daughter of Martha Washington
(1732—1802)
17. Dandridge, Martha (1732—1802) of America
[Martha Dandridge Washington]
Wife of George Washington (1732—1799)
18. Donelson, Rachel (1767—1828) of America
[Rachel Donelson Jackson]
Wife of Andrew Jackson (1767—1845)
19. Dykes~ Elizabeth (1795—1865) of Ireland [Elizabeth Dykes Moore]
Wife of Thomas Moore (1779—1852)
20. Eastman, Abigail (1737—1816) of America
[Abigail Eastman Webster]
Mother of Daniel Webster (1782—1852)
21. Eden, Mary Anne (d. 1865) of England [Mary Anne Eden Spalding Brougham]
Wife of Lord Henry Brougham (1778—1868)
22. Edgeworth, Maria (1767—1849) of England Novelist
23. Fairfax, Anne (dates unknown) of America [Anne Fairfax Washington Lee]
Wife of Lawrence Washington (c. 1716) [This Lawrence was the son of
Augustine Washington (1694—1743) and the half-brother of George
Washington (1732—1799).]
24. Fitzgerald, Henrietta (dates unknown) of Ireland [Henrietta Fitzgerald Grattan]
Wife of Henry Grattan (1756—1820)
25. Fletcher, Grace (1781—1828) of America [Grace Fletcher Webster]
Wife of Daniel Webster (1782—1852)
26. Ford, Sarah (1669-1759)of England [Sarah Ford Johnson]
Mother of Samuel Johnson (1709—1784)
27. Fuller, Sarah Margaret (1810—1850) of America [MarchiOfless Qssoli]
Social Reformer
28. Gurney, Elizabeth (1780—1845) of England [Elizabeth Gurney Fry]
Religious Social Reformer
29. Henderson, Frances ["Fanny"] (c. 1768—1805) of England [Frances Henderson Stephenson]
Wife of George Stephenson (178 1—1848)
30. Herbert, Frances (c. 1758—1831) of England [Frances Herbert Woolward Nisbet Nelson;
Lady Nelson] Wife of Lord Horatio Nelson (1758—1805)
31. Hoffman, Matilda (179 1—1809) of America [Sarah Matilda Hoffman]
Betrothed of Washington Irving (1783—1859)
32. Hopkins, Priscilla (1755—1845) of England [Priscilla Hopkins Kemble]
Wife of John Philip Kemble (1757—1823)
33. Huntley, Lydia (179 1—1865) of America [Lydia Huntley Howard Sigourney] Author

34. Hutchinson, Mary (1770—1859) of England [Mary Hutchinson Wordsworth]
Wife of William Wordsworth (1770—1850)
35. Junkins, Elinor (1825—1854) of America
[Elinor Junkins Jackson]
Wife of “Stonewall” Jackson (1824—1863)
36. Judson, Emily Chubboch (1817—1854) of America Author [Pen Name: “Fanny Forester”]
37. Landon, Letitia Elizabeth (1802—1838) of England
Poet and Novelist
38. Lingefeld, Charlotte Von (1766—1826) of Prussia Wife of Frederick Schiller
(1759—1805)
39. Livingston, Sarah Van Brugh (1757—1802) of America Wife of John Jay (1745—1829)
40. Locke, Frances (1811/1812—1849/1850) of America [Frances Sargent Locke Osgood]
Poet
41. Marie Antoinette (1755—1793) of France Queen
42. Maria Theresa (1717—1780) of Austria Empress, Mother of Marie Antoinette
(1755—1793)
43. Mazza, Margarita (1826—1871) of Mexico [Margarita Mazza Juárez]
Wife of Benito Juárez (1806—1872)
44. Melbourne, Emily Lamb (1787—1869) of England
[Lady Palmerston; Emily Lamb Melbourne Palmerston]
Wife of Lord Palmerston (1784—1865)
45. Milbanke, Anna Isabella (1792—1860) of England
[Lady Byron; Anna Isabella Milbanke Byron]
Wife of Lord Byron (1788—1824)
46. Mitford, Mary Russell (1787—1855) of England Playwright/Novelist
47. More, Hannah (1745—1833) of England Religious Author
48. Morgan, Lady Sydney (1780—1859) of Ireland Novelist
49. Murphy, Anna (1794—1860) of Ireland [Anna Brownell Murphy Jameson]
Author/Archaeologist
50. Nugent, Jane (1734—1812) of England [Jane Mary Nugent Burke]
Wife of Edmund Burke (1729—1797)
51. O’Connell, Mary (1775—1836) of Ireland
[Mary O’Connell O’Connell]
Wife of Daniel O’Connell (1775—1847)
52. Pakenham, Lady Catherine (c. 1727—1831) of England [Duchess of Wellington]
Wife of the Duke of Wellington [Arthur Wellesley]
(1769—1852)
53. Parepa, Countess Demetrius (1815—1870) of England [Elizabeth Seguin Parepa de Boyesku] Mother of Euphrosyne Parepa (1836—1874); Wife of Baron Georgiades de Boyesku
(d. 1836)
54. Parepa, Euphrosyne (1836—1874) of England
[Madame Parepa-Rosa; Euphrosyne Parepa de Boyesku
Carve¹¹ Rosa]
Opera Singer

55. Payne, Dorothy [“Dolley”] (1772—1849) of America
 [Dorothy Payne Madison]
 Wife of James Madison (1751—1836)
56. Philipse, Mary (c. 1728—1822) of America
 [Mary Philipse Morris]
 English Patriot; Friend of George Washington (1732—1799)
57. Sedgwick, Catherine Maria (1789—1867) of America Novelist
58. Shawe, Isabella (1818—1894) of England [Isabella Gethin (or Getkin) Creagh Shawe Thackeray] Wife of William Makepeace Thackeray (1811—1863)
59. Siddons, Sarah Kemble (1755—1831) of Wales English Actress; Sister of John Philip Kemble (1757—1823)
60. Smith, Abigail (1744—1818) of America
 [Abigail Smith Adams]
 Wife of John Adams (1735—1826)
61. Somerville, Mary Fairfax (1780—1872) of Scotland Mathematician/Scientist
62. Veigel, Eva Maria (1724—1822) of England
 [Eva Maria Veigel Garrick]
 Wife of David Garrick (1717—1779)
63. Vulpius, Christiane (1764—1816) of Prussia [Christiane Vulpius Goethe]
 Wife of Goethe (1749—1832)
64. Warner, Mildred (d. 1701) of America
 [Mildred Warner Washington Gale]
 Mother of Augustine Washington (1694—1743); Paternal
 Grandmother of George Washington (1732—1799); Wife of
 Lawrence Washington (d. 1698)
65. Wayles, Martha (1748—1782) of America [Martha Wayles Jefferson]
 Wife of Thomas Jefferson
66. Wife (dates unknown) of John Washington (dates unknown) of America
67. Wife (dates unknown) of Henry Washington (dates unknown) of America
68. Wife (dates unknown) of Lawrence Washington (dates unknown) of America (not same as #23)