

Prepare Yourself

To Receive a Patriarchal Blessing

*A*sk God for help and *B*e willing to *C*hange.

*D*esire to do what *E*ver He asks... *F*orever.

*G*od wants you to be *H*appy. *I*gnore the world.

*J*ust do what is right. *K*eep the commandments.

*L*ove one another. *M*ake up your mind to *N*ever give up.

*D*on't ever stop *P*raying. *Q*uit complaining. *R*esist evil.

*S*tart *T*oday. Don't *U*nderestimate the power of His *V*ictory.

*W*in the day with e*X*tra jo*Y* and *Z*eal.

What is a patriarchal blessings?

1st It includes a Declaration of Lineage –

It states that the person is of the house of Israel—a descendant of Abraham, belonging to a specific tribe of Jacob. Many Latter-day Saints are of the tribe of Ephraim, the tribe given the primary responsibility to lead the latter-day work of the Lord.

Because each of us has many bloodlines running in us, two members of the same family may be declared as being of different tribes in Israel.

It does not matter if a person's lineage in the house of Israel is through bloodlines or by adoption. Church members are counted as a descendant of Abraham and an heir to all the promises and blessings contained in the Abrahamic covenant (see [Abrahamic Covenant](#)). ~ Elder Dallin H. Oaks

2nd It includes a Declaration of Blessings –

While a patriarchal blessing contains inspired counsel and promises, it should not be expected to answer all of the recipient's questions or to detail all that will happen in his or her life. If the blessing does not mention an important event, such as a full-time mission or marriage, the person should not assume that he or she will not receive that opportunity.

Similarly, the recipient of the blessing should not assume that everything mentioned in it will be fulfilled in this life. A patriarchal blessing is eternal, and its promises may extend into the eternities. If one is worthy, all promises will be fulfilled in the Lord's due time. Those promises and blessings that are not realized in this life will be fulfilled in the next.

Patriarchal blessings are sacred and personal. They may be shared with immediate family members, but should not be read aloud in public or read or interpreted by others. Not even the patriarch or bishop or branch president should interpret it.

Those who have received a patriarchal blessing should treasure its words, ponder them, and live to be worthy to receive the promised blessings in this life and in the life to come.

~ Elder Dallin H. Oaks



Why should I receive a patriarchal blessing?

- Those who have received a patriarchal blessing should read it humbly, prayerfully, and frequently. It contains personal revelation and instructions from Heavenly Father, who knows our strengths, weaknesses, and eternal potential. Patriarchal blessings may contain promises, admonitions, and warnings.
- Those who follow the counsel in their patriarchal blessing will be less likely to go astray or be misled. Only by following the counsel in a patriarchal blessing can one receive the blessings contained therein.

~ Elder Dallin H. Oaks

When should I receive a patriarchal blessing?

- ...the best time for you to receive a blessing is when you are ready. Being “ready” means being emotionally as well as spiritually prepared. This will probably be during your teenage years. This is when you start to become independent and begin to wonder about life and what will happen to you.

~ Robert K Wagstaff

How do I receive a patriarchal blessing?

- When you are ready to receive a patriarchal blessing, you will be interviewed by your bishop or branch president. He will ask you questions about your worthiness, such as whether you live the Word of Wisdom, pay a full tithe, live a morally clean life, and are an active member of the Church. However, you do not need to be perfect to be worthy. Desiring a blessing and wanting to know how you can live closer to your Heavenly Father are also as important as being worthy. You can increase your desire for a blessing by personal prayer, gospel study, and by striving to listen to the Spirit. ~ Robert K Wagstaff

Where do I receive a patriarchal blessing?

- (In the Provo Utah Parkway Stake) After calling my wife for an appointment, in most cases the patriarchal blessing will be given in our home. It will normally be scheduled on a Sunday afternoon or evening.

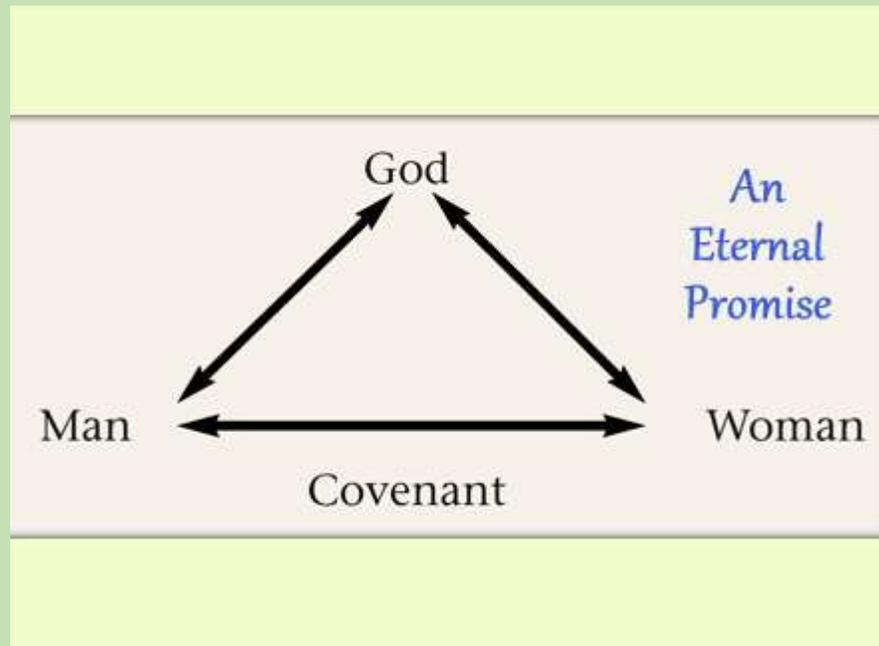


Who is a patriarch?

The scriptures speak of two kinds of patriarchs:

1. An ordained office in the Melchizedek Priesthood, sometimes called an evangelist. Ordained offices of the Melchizedek Priesthood are: Apostle, Seventy, Patriarch, High Priest, and Elder. The fathers from Adam to Jacob were all ordained patriarchs.
2. Fathers of families. The word is of Greek derivation and means father-ruler; the Hebrew word it translates is simply *father*.

“Lineage” by Nick Ryan



What is the Abrahamic Covenant?

Abraham made covenants with God

- when he received the gospel,
- when he was ordained a high priest, and
- when he entered into celestial marriage.

In these covenants, God promised great blessings to Abraham and his family. These blessings, which extend to all of Abraham's seed, are called the Abrahamic covenant.

What is the Abrahamic Covenant? (continued)

Among the promises made to Abraham were the following:

- His posterity would be numerous (see [Genesis 17:5-6](#); [Abraham 2:9](#); [3:14](#)).
- His seed, or descendants, would receive the gospel and bear the [priesthood](#) (see [Abraham 2:9](#)).
- Through the ministry of his seed, "all the families of the earth [would] be blessed, even with the blessings of the Gospel, which are the blessings of salvation, even of life eternal" ([Abraham 2:11](#)).

What is the Abrahamic Covenant? (continued)

A person can receive all the blessings of the Abrahamic covenant—even if he or she is not a literal descendant of Abraham—by obeying the laws and ordinances of the gospel (see [Galatians 3:26-29](#); [4:1-7](#); [D&C 84:33-40](#)).

Jacob, who was later called Israel, received the blessings of his father Isaac and his grandfather Abraham, through his personal obedience to God's laws. We too will be blessed by following Jacob's example of keeping God's commandments.

Satan promises freedom and happiness yet he delivers captivity and sorrow.

16 Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

17 If any man will do his will [Heavenly Father's will], he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. ([John 7:16-17](#))

The Provo Tabernacle's transformation into the Provo City Center Temple is a powerful symbol.



Don't Give Up!

No matter how difficult your life gets.

Don't give up on the Lord because He will never give up on you. Remember, God will *exalt* your faithful effort.

Exalt means to promote, raise, elevate, intensify, boost, lift, and praise. It also means to glorify by being invited into the Kingdom of God.

"Don't give up. ... Don't you quit. ... Trust God and believe in good things to come."

[\(Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, Ensign November 1999\)](#)

The Prophet Ezekiel tells of a city called “The Lord is There”

		North			
		Reuben	Judah	Levi	
W e s t	Gad			Joseph	E a s t
	Asher			Benjamin	
	Naphtali			Dan	
		South			
		Simeon	Issachar	Zebulun	

The Kingdom of God

Ezekiel 48:

31 And the gates of the city shall be after the names of the tribes of Israel: three gates northward; one gate of **Reuben**, one gate of **Judah**, one gate of **Levi**.

32 And at the east... three gates; and one gate of **Joseph**, one gate of **Benjamin**, one gate of **Dan**.

33 And at the south... three gates; one gate of **Simeon**, one gate of **Issachar**, one gate of **Zebulun**.

34 At the west side... three gates; one gate of **Gad**, one gate of **Asher**, one gate of **Naphtali**.

At least symbolically, for you to enter into
The Lord is There city,
you may need to select
the correct gate.

Everyday, ordinary people
do small and simple acts of kindness
that confound the wise and change the world in remarkable ways.
The Lord can change hearts ~ one by one.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0SVPjHc8C0>