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This is Scripture Roundtable 35 from The Interpreter Foundation, in which we discuss Doctrine & Covenants Gospel Doctrine Lesson #31, “[Sealed ... for Time and for All Eternity](#),” focusing on D&C 131, and 132, bringing in various insights to help us better understand the scriptures. These roundtables will generally follow the 2013 Gospel Doctrine schedule of scriptures, a few weeks ahead of time.

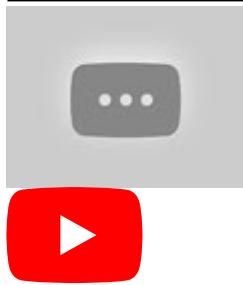
Some interesting highlights from this roundtable discussion include:

- The LDS concept of heaven centers around family. This flows naturally from the LDS concept of heavenly parents. Eliza R. Snow said she learned the principle of heavenly parents from Joseph Smith, which inspired her to write her famous poem “O My Father” hymn 292 in our LDS hymnal, which says in part:

I had learned to call thee Father, Through thy Spirit from on high, But until the key of knowledge Was restored, I knew not why. In the heavens are parents single? No, the thought makes reason stare! Truth is reason, truth eternal Tells me I've a mother there. (See Eliza R. Snow, “My Father in Heaven”, Times and Seasons, vol. 5, p. 1039 (15 November 1845)).

- Another LDS hymn, “Oh, What Songs of the Heart” hymn 286, mentions meeting our heavenly parents after this life.
- These concepts of Heaven are quite distinct from the rest of Judaism and Christianity, which views God as a “parent” of the human family, metaphorically at most, certainly not literally as do LDS.
- The sealing concept is the way LDS believe God authenticates, authorizes and makes permanent family relationships so they last beyond this life, thus making our families like God’s family. D&C Sections 131 and 132 focus on these most important concepts.
- Malachi did not say “it would be a pretty good idea” for the hearts of the fathers to turn to their children and for the hearts of the children to turn to their fathers, he said if not so, the earth would be wasted at the second coming of Jesus Christ. Thus, Malachi teaches us sealing power is most important!

Panelists for this roundtable include [Brant Gardner](#), [Craig Foster](#), and [Martin Tanner](#).



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