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17 July 1965-

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B of M during
the winter 62-64
M. J. ...

OPEN LETTER to ALL Latter Day Saints
of the ^{late} 20th Century (at least our descendants)

Dear Children, —

How great are your privileges & advantages⁴ being
born in this era of scientific achievement & tremendous
technical advancement!

(There is hardly a common task that has
not been mechanized to relieve you of time-consuming
drudgery.)

The allowance for LEISURE time pursuits
has grown to huge proportions and ^{will be further increased} ~~can still be added~~
according to your ability to plan & schedule your time
and energy.

But WHAT to DO with it all?

The CHOICES are so MANY.

The WORLD provides entertainment of all kinds
at our elbow or but a few minutes or miles distant
But is this ALL our LEISURE is FOR??

It is natural to assume offhand that we
may do with it WHAT we PLEASE.

+ church
members
in this dispensation

Have WE earned the RIGHT as citizens of
this generation to accept the rewards of the dedicated
efforts of our pioneer forefathers, without any thought
of OUR particular responsibilities?

Perhaps THEY were chosen to live when they did
because they were imbued with great FAITH and FORTITUDE
and FORESIGHT.

They had a wilderness to tame - a struggle that

sapped their strength continually.
But did they forget their RESPONSIBILITY to their God who led them to peace and freedom from persecution?

NO. They ^{were} diligent in building Temples, Universities and maintaining all the organization revealed wherein the Gospel could be taught to all ages. They ^{members of} ^{even} went abroad to spread the Gospel message.

Are WE peculiarly FAVORED individuals that stewardship of the earth in these latter days ^(during in this dispensation) who ^{have} the RIGHT to ACCEPT all the treasure available without sufficient feeling of RESPONSIBILITY for its USE.

Have we EARNED the special RIGHT to ^{to} ~~stewardship~~ DUTY in favor of PLEASURE and RELAXATIONS?

There are THOUSANDS living who haven't HEARD the GOSPEL ^{as well as millions} and thousands of DEAD likewise ^{the many who died before the true Gospel was restored} ^{again}.

We have many talents and capabilities to get busy and develop - much information to READ for enrichment and develop - our MINDS + CONVINING of our SOULS.

Are we preparing to share ^{vital truths} with them ^{through} missionary service, Genealogy, Research, Temple activity?

We have FINEST of LEADERS to guide us but the DECISION and APPLICATION of time + effort is up to US.

Would YOU want to be guilty of letting your benefactors down thru FAILURE to CARRY ON the TORCH of FREEDOM, ^{failure} in diligent ACHIEVEMENT, no matter what the DISTRACTIONS?

Don't YOU ^{they - your forefathers} owe a debt to your Creator for BEING granted the bounties ^{this part, gift of material} & opportunities of earth-life?

Is your tithing (a mere material contribution) ENOUGH as a token of gratitude?

③

OPEN LETTER
cont.

- Is living a clean life ENOUGH? } duplicates?
- Is raising a respectable family ENOUGH?
- Is loving and assisting ^{HELP} your neighbor ENOUGH?
- Is developing ^{or sharing} your god-given talents ENOUGH?
- Is serving your church ENOUGH? Paying tithes & offerings?
- Is charity toward all mankind ENOUGH?

What IS Enough?

Isn't it the total of all of these requisites?

surely

We can each ACCOMPLISH MORE in ^{the line of our} some direction than we're now doing, our abilities, and

We can:

1. ALLOW ourselves ^{ONLY} sufficient relaxation to maintain an active MIND and BODY
2. LEARN to combine STUDY and TRAINING of various kinds with our RELAXATION.
3. Since change is as good as a rest - very little leisure need be spent on pastime except when group socializing is needed for fellowship & personality development ^{nature trips or meditation} to relieve tensions and ^{to reappraise} our goals.
4. We can TEACH ourselves and our children to so plan our lives that time ^{will} always be allotted for personal growth & achievement.
5. PREPARE ourselves thru study, attendance at specific classes, personal fasting & prayer to BECOME more useful tools ^{in the work} of Redemption of mankind (our brethren).

④. Resume

"OPEN LETTER (cont) (from →)

WHO but ^{each one of} US has had greater opportunity in this world for ULTIMATE achievement?

NOTHING we DESIRE fervently enough to achieve will be denied us.

Why can't we be AMBITIOUS to be on the LORD'S side if He is the giver of all our blessings?

Why shouldn't we want to SHARE the good things that we have inherited? ^{conversion}

These are NOT ALL ^{primarily} material.

They include primarily a Testimony of the DIVINITY of Jesus Christ & of his mission to the World.

The Book of MORMON describes His visit and teachings to ancient inhabitants of the American continent.

It also relates the teachings of early American prophets - their faith in the Lord's promises and their miraculous protection from persecution.

It recounts the ^{war &} conflicts between the righteous & unrighteous people of that time - the divine protection & revelation provided the former.

Their ^{integrity} faith & good works is a personal testimony to me that the same blessings exist for me as well, according to my faithfulness, & for you according to yours.

END