His Healing Handbook

Symptom: My eternal family is in jeopardy

My children are not leading a valiant life. I fear they will not be part of my eternal family.

Diagnosis: No unworthy child will enter God's eternal family

The LDS Church teaches only those children judged worthy on the Last Day will be part of your eternal family. They must be judged to have done all they could have done. Parents often witness their children making less than valiant choices and doing less than they could. This can cause intense anxiety on the part of the parents.

Scripture confirms that no unworthy child will enter God's presence; much less His eternal family: "when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."

His Healing Now (Cure): Every child of God will enter His eternal family

The LDS Church teaches that all humans are literal children of God procreated in the pre-existence in spirit form. But Scriptures states that Heavenly Father only claims those who have saving faith in His Son as His children: "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:" and "They which are the children of the flesh, these *are* not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed."

In fact God makes only two distinctions concerning people; those who are His children and those who are Satan's children. "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother." In speaking to the Pharisees Jesus denied that God was their Father: "If God were your Father, ye would love me." Instead, he named Satan as their father: "Ye are of *your* father the devil".

You feel pain because you recognize your children are in peril of being excluded from *your* eternal family. But the real peril confronts both you and your children: not being recognized by Heavenly Father as *His* children and instead being named children of *Satan*.

As can be seen in the above accounts it is not those who prove they are worthy that God calls His children but those who believe. By faith we are claimed by God as His children and by faith every such child of God has eternal life: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

Treatment: Become a child of God

Jesus distinguished his family not by blood "Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?", but by faith "he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother". The will of the Father is to place faith in the Son: "And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."



Become a child of God and a member of His eternal family through faith. "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure".

Suggested Reading:

To read more about what qualifies a person to have an Eternal Family <u>Click Here</u>. This link will take you to an article on the Latter Day Saint Woman blog titled **Do You have an Eternal Family?** (http://latterdaysaintwoman.wordpress.com/2009/04/24)

To read about the relationship of marriage within the Eternal Family <u>Click Here</u>. This link will take you to an article on the Latter Day Saint Woman blog titled **Till We Meet Again... At Jesus' Feet!** (http://latterdaysaintwoman.wordpress.com/2009/10/14)

Bible Reference(s):

2 Thessalonians 1: 5-9: *Which is* a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer: ⁶Seeing *it is* a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; ⁷And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, ⁸In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: ⁹Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; ¹⁰When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

John 1:12: But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

Romans 9:4-8: Who are Israelites; to whom *pertaineth* the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service *of God*, and the promises; ⁵Whose *are* the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen. ⁶Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they *are* not all Israel, which are of Israel: ⁷Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, *are they* all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. ⁸That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these *are* not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

1 John 3:10: In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

John 8:42-45: Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. ⁴³Why do ye not understand my speech? *even* because ye cannot hear my word. ⁴⁴Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. ⁴⁵And because I tell *you* the truth, ye believe me not.

John 5:24: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Matthew 12:48-50: But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? ⁴⁹And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! ⁵⁰For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

John 6:40: And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

1 John 3:1-3: Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. ²Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. ³And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

