

4. In S. Michael Wilcox, *Fire in the Bones: William Tyndale—Martyr, Father of the English Bible* (2004), 47.
5. In Wilcox, *Fire in the Bones*, xv.
6. In Bobrick, *Wide as the Waters*, 168; see also James E. Kiefer, *Biographical Sketches of Memorable Christians of the Past*, “Hugh Latimer, Bishop and Martyr,” <http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bio/269.html>.
7. See Wilcox, *Fire in the Bones*, 125–26, 197; see also *Foxe’s Book of Martyrs*, ed. G. A. Williamson (1965), 124.
8. See William Cullen Bryant, ed., *Picturesque America; or, the Land We Live In*, 2 vols. (1872–74), 1:500–502; see also Le-Grand Richards, *A Marvelous Work and a Wonder*, rev. ed. (1966), 29.
9. Joseph Smith—History 1:8.
10. James 1:5.
11. See Joseph Smith—History 1:11–20.
12. Book of Mormon introduction.
13. See Joseph Smith—History 1:27–62.
14. See Doctrine and Covenants 13; Joseph Smith—History 1:66–72; *Church History in the Fulness of Times*, 2nd ed. (Church Educational System Manual, 2003), 55.
15. “The Morning Breaks,” *Hymns*, no. 1.
16. See Doctrine and Covenants 109.
17. See Doctrine and Covenants 110.
18. Quoted by Wilford Woodruff in *Deseret News*, Dec. 21, 1869, 2.
19. Doctrine and Covenants 135:3.

## Elder Won Yong Ko

### Scriptures teach of great sacrifices

Brothers and sisters, good afternoon. The Prophet Joseph Smith taught that “a religion that does not require the sacrifice of all things never has power sufficient to produce the faith necessary unto life and salvation” (*Lectures on Faith* [1985], 69). If we summarize the history of the scriptures, we can say that it is the history of sacrifice.

We can find wonderful examples in the scriptures of those who sacrificed their lives in order to keep their faith and testimonies. One example is from the story of Alma and Amulek when they had to watch with pain the people of Ammonihah who were thrown into the fire and died but kept their faith (see Alma 14:7–13).

Also we think of Jesus Christ, who condescended to come down from His Father’s presence to this earth and made the sacrifice to save the world through more severe pain than anyone else has ever endured.

In this last dispensation of the gospel, many pioneers lost their lives and made the ultimate sacrifice to keep their faith.

### Sacrifice brings joy and blessings

Today we are not likely to be asked to make such a big sacrifice as giving up our lives, but we can see many examples of Saints who make painful sacrifices to keep their faith and testimonies alive. Maybe it is more difficult to make the small sacrifices in our daily lives. For instance, it could be regarded as a small sacrifice to keep the Sabbath day holy, to read the scriptures daily, or to pay our tithing. But these sacrifices cannot be easily made unless we have the mind and the determination to make the sacrifices that are needed to be able to keep those commandments.

As we make these small sacrifices, we are compensated by more blessings from the Lord. King Benjamin said, “And ye are still indebted unto him, and are, and will be, forever and ever” (Mosiah 2:24). And, as he did with his own people, King Benjamin encourages us so that we will receive more blessings as we continue to obey the Lord’s word.

I think that the very first blessing coming from sacrifice is the joy that we can feel

when we pay the price. Perhaps the very thought that the sacrifice itself could be a blessing becomes a blessing. When we have that kind of thought and feel the joy, we might have received a blessing already.

### **Sacrifices of Korean Saints**

Recently, I have found that kind of blessing among the Saints in Korea who participated in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Church in Korea and the 200th anniversary of Joseph Smith's birth. I would like to tell you briefly about their sacrifices and the joy and blessings they received.

To celebrate the gospel, which gave hope and courage to people in Korea who were hurt so much by the Korean War, the members started to prepare for this celebration more than a year ago. Many of the members in Korea—the Primary, young men, young women, young single adults, Relief Society sisters, and others—gathered together to practice for the celebration. They prepared many traditional folk dances, including the flower dance, circle dance, fan dance, and farmer dance. They played drums; performed tae kwon do, drama, ballroom dances, and musical numbers; showed animation; and gave choir performances.

Because the young men produced such loud drum sounds, neighbors complained, and they had to stop practicing. It was really difficult to practice for long periods of time, but they did it with joy. I could not find anyone complaining about their effort and sacrifice when they had to get up at 4:00 in the morning to ride the bus for the joint practice. They felt great joy and gratitude for the blessings of the Lord and for the opportunity to show their appreciation.

Also many returned missionaries from overseas came back to Korea with their wives and children for this celebration. They made the sacrifice when they came to Korea on their missions a long time ago.

This time they made another sacrifice of time and money to bring their families and participate in the celebration during the hot summer. But they rejoiced and were grateful for all the celebrations in which they participated.

To encourage the Korean Saints and others, the Lord sent His prophet, President Gordon B. Hinckley, to Korea. President Hinckley made a great sacrifice for this trip by scheduling a 13-day, around-the-world trip and came to Korea to meet with the Saints whom he has loved for many years and to personally convey the special love of the Lord. Nobody felt that this was a sacrifice. Instead, we had tears of joy and gratitude. This is the blessing we are talking about, isn't it?

### **Become Saints willing to sacrifice**

Brothers and sisters, do not be afraid of sacrifice. Please enjoy the happiness and blessings from the sacrifice itself.

Occasionally there is a time gap between the sacrifice and the blessing. The sacrifice may come according to our time schedule, but the blessing may not come by our, but by the Lord's, calendar. Because of this, the Lord comforts us by saying, "Wherefore, be not weary in well-doing, for ye are laying the foundation of a great work" (D&C 64:33).

The blessings surely come to us. Please remember that the sacrifice itself might be a form of blessing. Let us make the sacrifice of small things.

When we read the Book of Mormon while rubbing our sleepy eyes, let us remember that we are following the counsel of our prophet and receive the joy that comes from that knowledge. We have many bills to pay, but when we pay tithing, let us feel joy for having the opportunity to donate something to the Lord.

And then greater blessings will be poured out on us. It will be just like our surprise and joy when we receive an unexpected gift.

As President Spencer W. Kimball said, “As we give, we find that ‘sacrifice brings forth the blessings of heaven!’ [“Praise to the Man,” *Hymns*, no. 27.] And in the end, we learn it was no sacrifice at all” (“Becoming the Pure in Heart,” *Ensign*, Mar. 1985, 5). I pray that we will all become Saints willing to sacrifice and become eligible for the Lord’s special blessings. The Lord will watch over us so that it will not be too difficult to endure any sacrifice. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

### President Monson

The choir and congregation will now sing “Come, Ye Children of the Lord.” At the conclusion of the singing, Elders Paul E. Koelliker, Lowell M. Snow, and Ulises Soares of the Seventy will address us. These brethren will be followed by Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

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The choir and congregation sang  
“Come, Ye Children of the Lord.”

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## Elder Paul E. Koelliker

### Be faithful to covenants

Today I desire to express my deep feelings of reverence and love for our Father in Heaven; for His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ; and for the Holy Spirit. I further bear my witness of the sacred call of President Gordon B. Hinckley as the Lord’s prophet, seer, and revelator. I sustain him with all my heart and energy.

I am grateful for the covenant of marriage in the temple to a gracious eternal companion, whom I love and cherish. She continually sets an example of caring service to those who are in need. Our marriage has been blessed with faithful and energetic children and grandchildren who have taught us much and continue to do so.

I feel particularly blessed that my brother, sisters, and I were born of righteous parents who have remained faithful to their temple covenants and have willingly sacrificed all that we might be securely invested in our Heavenly Father’s plan. To my angel mother, I can only say thank you for keeping the chain of love and gospel ordinances strong in our lives.

I have mentioned these sacred relationships because of the happiness that I

feel knowing there is a binding covenant with each of them sealed in the holy temple. I am profoundly grateful to know that regardless of any challenges that yet await us, there is hope and confidence in knowing that by keeping the covenants of the gospel, all of the momentary trials of life can be transcended. The scriptures teach us that all will eventually be well as we are faithful to our covenants. King Benjamin taught:

“Because of the covenant which ye have made ye shall be called the children of Christ. . . .

“Therefore, I would that ye should take upon you the name of Christ, all you that have entered into the covenant with God that ye should be obedient unto the end of your lives.

“And it shall come to pass that whosoever doeth this shall be found at the right hand of God” (Mosiah 5:7–9).

### Covenants are critical to salvation

Giving careful attention to covenant making is critical to our eternal salvation. Covenants are agreements we make with our Heavenly Father in which we commit our hearts, minds, and behavior to keeping