

**Church organization
and
ordinances
in our pre-mortal life**

from

Joseph Fielding Smith,

The Way to Perfection (Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, 1963), p. 50-51.

[Speaking of the pre-mortal spirit world, President Smith wrote:]

It is reasonable to believe that there was a Church organization there. The heavenly beings were living in a perfectly arranged society. Every person knew his place. Priesthood, without any question, had been conferred and the leaders were chosen to officiate. Ordinances pertaining to that pre-existence were required and the love of God prevailed. Under such conditions it was natural for our Father to discern and choose those who were most worthy and evaluate the talents of each individual. He knew not only what each of us *could* do, but also what each of us *would* do when put to the test and when responsibility was given us. Then, when the time came for our habitation on mortal earth, all things were prepared and the servants of the Lord chosen and ordained to their respective missions.

Paul said to the Ephesian Saints:

3 Blessed be the God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in *heavenly places* in Christ:

4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love. --Eph. 1:3-4.