

Chiasmus in the LDS Church's 2014 Essay "Plural Marriage in Kirtland and Nauvoo"

<https://www.lds.org/topics/plural-marriage-in-kirtland-and-nauvoo>

- A) the Lord commanded some of His people to practice plural marriage
- B) many later testified of powerful *spiritual experiences* that helped them overcome their hesitation and gave them courage to *accept this practice*
- C) Church leaders and members experienced these *challenges* as they heeded the command to practice plural marriage
- D) asked to walk by faith
- E) God justified Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, and Solomon in having many wives
- F) enter into the practice
- G) rejected in Western cultures
- H) the only legal form
- I) God commands a difficult task
- J) threatening Joseph with destruction
- K) Little is known about this marriage
- L) the Church moved to Nauvoo, Illinois
- M) eternal marriage was essential to inheriting the fulness
- N) performed by priesthood authority
- O) unions of which they disapproved
- P) parents and children
- Q) lasting into the eternities
- R) for time and eternity
- S) the next life alone
- T) The oldest, Fanny Young, was 56 years old
- T) The youngest was Helen Mar Kimball (several months before her 15th birthday)
- S) for eternity alone
- R) for time and eternity
- Q) create an eternal bond
- P) parent to child
- O) complaints about these sealings
- N) sealed by priesthood authority
- M) blessings they might not otherwise receive in the next life
- L) moved to Utah with the Saints
- K) Emma likely did not know about all of Joseph's sealings
- J) stern warnings, some directed at Emma
- I) obey God's law and commands
- H) "receive not this law"
- G) Emma's rejection of plural marriage
- F) entering into the practice
- E) at times, however, He commanded plural marriage
- D) move forward in faith
- C) The *challenge* of introducing a principle as controversial as plural marriage is almost impossible to overstate
- B) A *spiritual witness* of its truthfulness allowed Joseph Smith and other Latter-day Saints to *accept this principle*
- A) Church members no longer practice plural marriage

Heber C. Kimball

“I never felt more sorrowful”

learned of plural marriage

“...I was satisfied”

earnest prayer and intense soul-searching

“pray unceasingly”

“satisfied me”

the rightness of plural marriage

“she never saw so happy a man”

Lucy Walker

inner turmoil

“Every feeling of my soul revolted against it”

“filled with a holy influence”

“brilliant sunshine”

“My soul was filled with a calm sweet peace that I never knew”

“supreme happiness”