

SALINA KANSAS STAKE YOUTH TREK 2015

COVENANT IN THE COVE

REMEMBER THE PROMISES

In the April 1997 General Conference Elder M. Russell Ballard made the following statement in regards to the early Pioneer Saints,

“We cannot begin to understand the journeys made by those who laid the foundation of this dispensation until we understand their spiritual underpinnings. Once we make the connection, however, we will begin to see how their journeys parallel our own. There are lessons for us in every footstep they took – lessons of love, courage, commitment, devotion, endurance and most of all faith.”

One of the primary *spiritual underpinnings* for many of the early Pioneer Saints was to immigrate to Zion as soon as possible so they could be sealed to their families and make covenants in the Temple. The 1,300 mile trek by handcart was only a portion of their journey; it was the covenants they had made and the covenants they hoped to make that gave them the motivation and drive to push towards Zion.

D&C 97: 8

Verily I say unto you, all among them who know their hearts are honest, and are broken, and their spirits contrite, and are willing to observe their covenants by sacrifice—yea, every sacrifice which I, the Lord, shall command—they are accepted of me.

Mosiah 24:13

And it came to pass that the voice of the Lord came to them in their afflictions, saying: Lift up your heads and be of good comfort, for I know of the covenant which ye have made unto me; and I will covenant with my people and deliver them out of bondage.

2 Nephi 9:53

And behold how great the covenants of the Lord, and how great his condescensions unto the children of men; and because of his greatness, and his grace and mercy, he has promised unto us that our seed shall not utterly be destroyed, according to the flesh, but that he would preserve them; and in future generations they shall become a righteous branch unto the house of Israel.

