



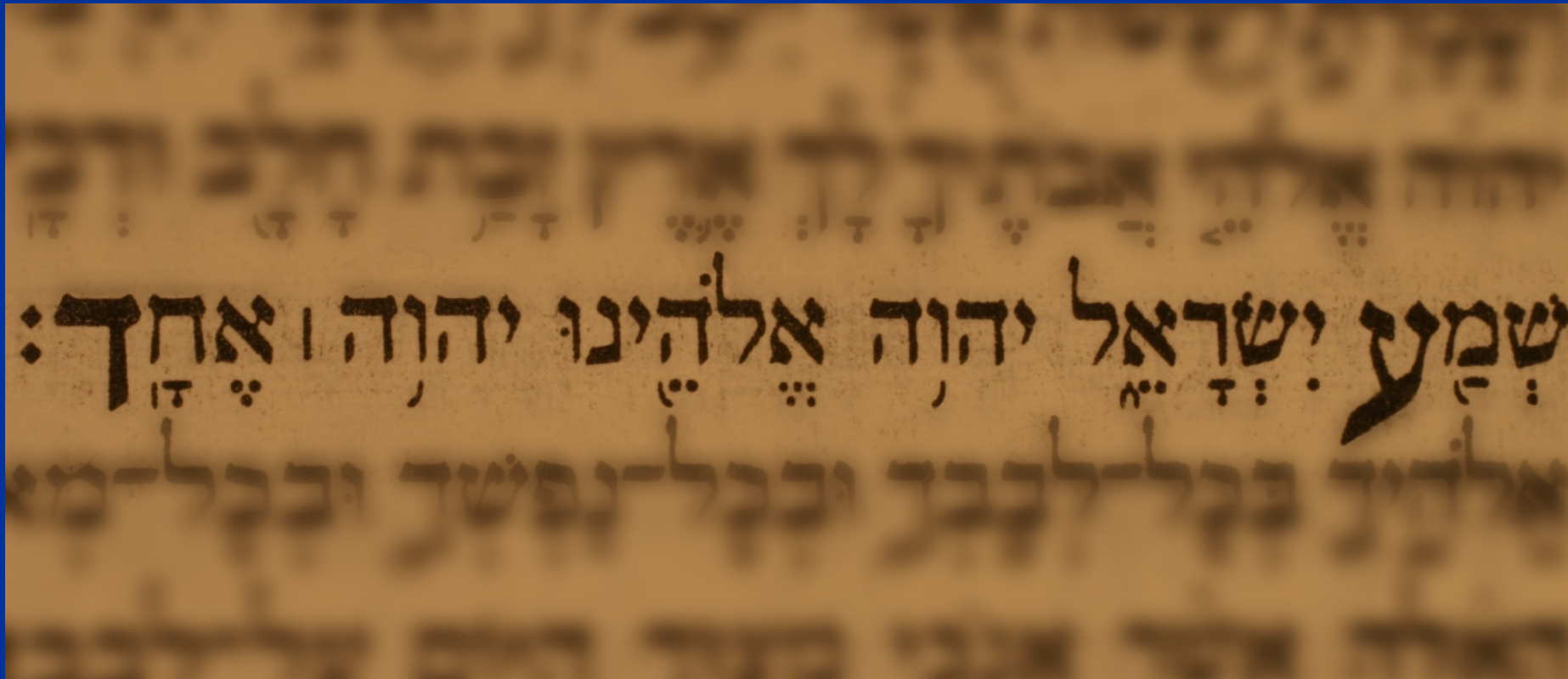
*The
Shema*

Threshold Moments



The Shema

Deut 6:4-6



Remember



Deut 6:8,9

And thou shalt bind them
for a sign upon thine
hand, and they shall be a
frontlets between thine
eyes



And thou shalt write them
upon the posts of thy
house and on thy gates.

Elder Oaks

When we think of service, we usually think of the acts of our hands. But, as shown in earlier chapters, the Lord looks to our hearts as well as our hands. *He is concerned not only with our acts but also with our motives.* One of his earliest commandments to Israel was to "love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul" ([Deuteronomy 11:13](#)).

In order to purify our service to God and to our fellowmen, it is therefore important to consider not only how we serve, but also why we serve.

[Here are 6 reasons why we serve]

Earthly Reward

Good Companionship

Fear of Punishment

Duty or Loyalty

Hope of Reward

Charity

Question:
Why is our motive so important?

Elder Oaks Continues:

We know from these inspired words that even the most extreme acts of service fall short of the ultimate "profit" unless they are motivated by the pure love of Christ.



If our service is to be most efficacious, it must be unconcerned with self and heedless of personal advantage. It must be accomplished for the love of God and the love of his children.

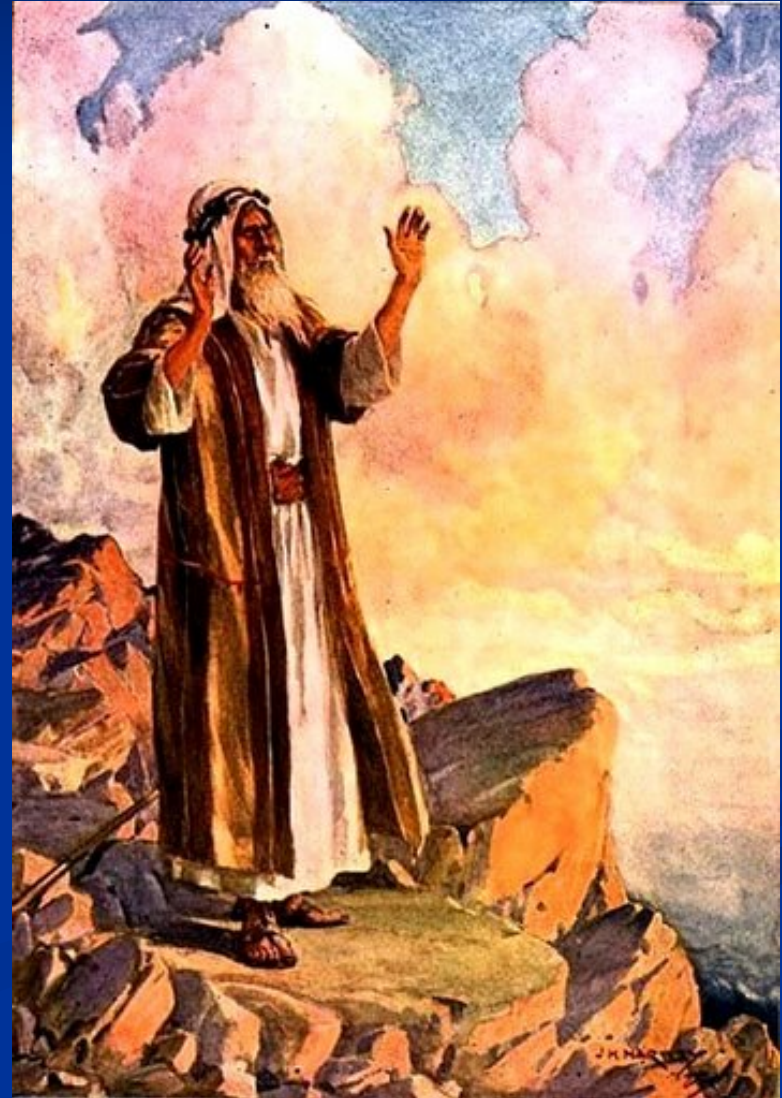
Sister Susan W. Tanner

President James E. Faust ...said The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is found in the hearts of its members. He told of an experience he had some time ago when a car with an out-of-state license plate stopped him on his walk and asked, “Where is the church of the Mormons?”

He directed them to Temple Square, but said in retrospect, “I could have pointed to my chest and said that the Church should be first and foremost in our hearts” (*Church News*, Mar. 5, 2005, 7).

Gratitude...

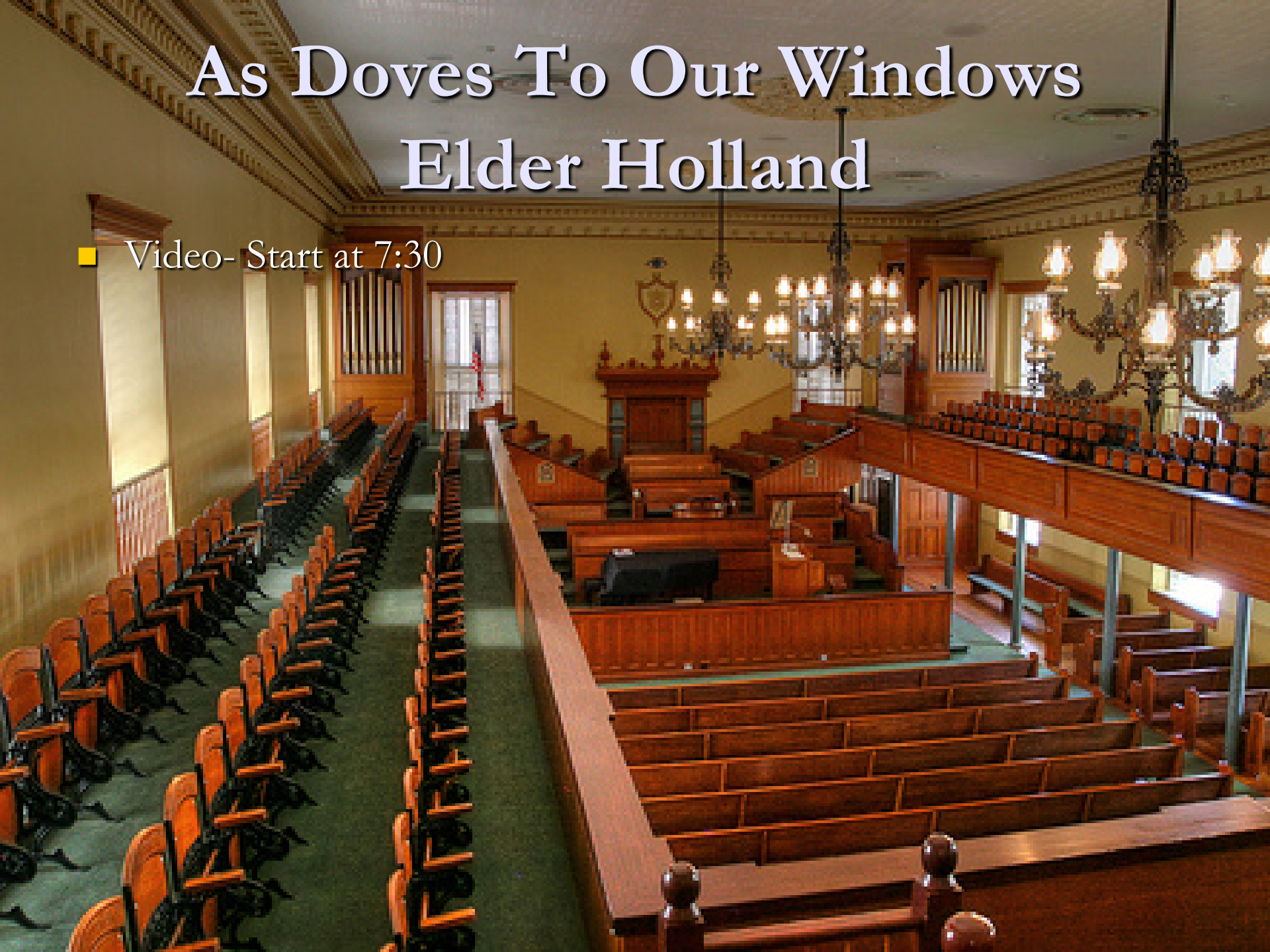
Deut 6:10-12



As Doves To Our Windows

Elder Holland

- Video- Start at 7:30



Obedience

Deut 11:26-29



Elder Neal A. Maxwell

1977 BYU Devotional

Let us minimize our personal errors which enemies could exploit. Let us conquer the weaknesses which critics could work upon. Let us be harmless, so that we go not forth on ego excursions that damage others, for we are people-builders as well as kingdom-builders.

Let our citizenship be spirited but always appropriate and befitting who we are. ...Let us be articulate, for while our defense of the kingdom may not stir all hearers, *the absence of thoughtful response may cause fledglings among the faithful to falter.*

What we assert may not be accepted, but unasserted convictions soon become deserted convictions.

Elder Maxwell Cont

Let your education be emancipating in all the correct ways, but also in another very subtle way, a way clearly related to your role in the tempestuous times before you.

I refer to the need to understand the principle of obedience, which has fallen on hard times; obedience is low on the world's scale of values.

There are causes for this, of course. Some have done terribly wrong things in obedience to unjust leaders. Some have engaged in senseless subordination to bad causes, becoming mere satellites in mindless orbits. Satan always pretzelizes principles in order to increase human misery.