

2025-05-18 Elder Dayn Cederstrom
Sermon - "The Most Important Thing In Life..."
Sermon Study Notes

<https://www.youtube.com/live/Rb0StXj6Lvc>

<https://www.livinghopebranch.org/sermons/2025-05-18-elder-dayn-cederstrom-the-main-thing-in-life/>

Clickable Time Stamps

06:23 Family Worship with Julie Leibold

24:34 Praise Reports with Pete Peterson

33:39 Special Music - "Hold On To Me" - Rachel Schueddig

36:56 Welcome and Call to Worship - Elder Zach Wilson

47:32 Special Music - "Flowers" - Rachel Schueddig

51:17 Sermon - "The Main Thing In Life..." - Elder Dayn Cederstrom

Summary

Elder Dayn Cederstrom warmly greets the congregation of Living Hope, reflecting on personal spiritual growth and the broader challenges faced by the church over decades. He acknowledges the history of prophetic warnings, many of which did not come to pass, and cautions against misguided beliefs and fear-driven practices such as excessive food storage and false prophecies. He stresses the importance of disciplined faith, grounded in scripture and spiritual practice rather than sensationalism or popular theology.

Central to Dayn's message is the concept of Zion—a people united in heart and mind with God, embodying charity and emulating Jesus Christ. He draws on biblical stories and teachings, encouraging listeners to pursue a genuine, disciplined spiritual life characterized by righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. Dayn emphasizes that being part of the true church entails responsibility: actively living the gospel, bearing fruit through service, and preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ.

He warns against distraction by unfounded prophecies and emphasizes the ultimate goal of building the kingdom of God through personal transformation and collective unity. Dayn closes the sermon message with a challenge to keep Jesus as the focus, to live like Him daily, and to prepare to stand before Him bearing good fruit of faithful service.

Highlights

1. Dayn reflects on his spiritual journey and the need for **honest evaluation of faith**.
2. **Cautions against fear-based practices** and failed prophetic warnings within the church.
3. Emphasizes the **necessity of disciplined** study, prayer, and fellowship in spiritual growth.
4. **Defines Zion** as a unified people of pure heart and charity, emulating Jesus Christ.
5. Encourages believers to **keep their eyes on Jesus** as the ultimate target and model.
6. Stresses the importance of **bearing spiritual fruit** through service and faithful living.
7. Calls the church to **actively build the kingdom of God** and prepare for Christ's return.

Key Insights

1. **The passage of time demands intentional spiritual stewardship:** Turning 70, Dayn recognizes life is “borrowed time,” urging believers to make the remainder of their lives meaningful by serving Jesus Christ sincerely rather than being distracted by fear and false prophecies. This reflects a mature understanding that spiritual life is a continual commitment, not a passive inheritance.
2. **False prophecies and warnings breed fear but yield no fruit:** The numerous failed doomsday predictions—from the 1960s financial collapse warnings to Y2K hysteria—led to practices like hoarding food, which ultimately resulted in loss and wasted effort. Dayn highlights that such fear-based actions do not align with true faith and only divert from God’s purpose. This insight warns the community to discern spiritual truths carefully and avoid sensationalism.
3. **Discipline is foundational to a vibrant faith:** Dayn underscores that genuine spirituality does not come from easy, popular theology or sensational teachings but through disciplined study of the scriptures, prayer, fasting, and fellowship. These spiritual disciplines foster a living relationship with God, led by the Holy Ghost, rather than grief caused by “itching ears” chasing every new teaching.
4. **Unity in Zion is not about place but spiritual condition:** Drawing from Genesis and Doctrine and Covenants, Zion is defined as people who are of one heart and one mind with God and each other—they embody charity, the pure love of Christ. The city or physical Zion is secondary and will naturally come after the right spiritual condition. This teaching shifts focus from external achievements to internal transformation within the church community.
5. **Vision and focus determine success in spiritual life:** Through the story of the king and his sons shooting at a bell, Dayn illustrates that seeing only external things will lead to missing the spiritual target. The oldest son who focused solely on the bell—Christ and the kingdom—succeeded. The spiritual application is that to be effective servants, believers must fix their eyes on Jesus and His kingdom, not distractions or worldly concerns.
6. **Bearing fruit is the evidence of discipleship:** Referencing scriptures such as John 15:8, Dayn reminds the congregation that Jesus will come to inspect the fruit of their lives. Practical acts of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and sharing the gospel are manifestations of true discipleship. Simply waiting for apocalyptic events without active service is fruitless and neglects true Christian responsibility.
7. **God’s calling is universal, not selective or insular:** Dayn criticizes prophecies and teachings that focus narrowly on American saints or particular ethnic groups, stressing that God’s kingdom is for all nations and peoples. This insight prioritizes inclusiveness and global outreach, rejecting any theology that parochializes the gospel or diminishes its universal scope.

Conclusion: Dayn’s sermon message integrates personal reflection, prophetic history, scriptural teaching, and a call to active discipleship grounded in love and unity, providing a robust framework for living faithfully in challenging times.