

*Bill do not copy this*

February 2, 1934

*Preston*  
Dear Son:

Mother says it is my turn to write you. I was glad to see your good marks on your report card, but sorry to learn that you were not going to Mutual, for I am more concerned with the spiritual and physical than I am in your intellectual education. I think you already have guessed why I was so partial to the Church University. I wanted to expose you to the spiritual side of life for it is really contagious like measles only you never get over the effects of being exposed to the spiritual. The more you get the more you want, and the more you give, the more you have left. I don't care much whether you study algebra or chemistry, but I shall be deeply disappointed and feel that my money spent on your education is at least partly wasted if your heart and soul is not set a glow with an individual knowledge that God lives and Joseph is a prophet of God. Then it will be a pleasure to you to render obedience to the work and word of God--(present leader, the priesthood). You will want to go to Mutual, obey the Word of Wisdom and not play cards etc. from within *and need no suggestion from without.* *Your mother*

It will give you as much pleasure to be obedient to the Priesthood then as it does now to go to shows.

You will feel that God is your right hand partner, that you can't succeed without his help, and you will desire that help so greatly, that you will be anxious to obey every law of God. That you may enjoy the blessing that comes from obedience to the law.

When you have caught this spiritual germ, then your life will show it you will be on your toes to obey all of God's laws, priesthoods, councils. I know from my own experiences. *stop*

~~My life is not measured~~ measured by services rendered to my fellow man (real religion) I don't know of anyone that has done much more service to his fellow in these parts that I have. Except President Young and I have got or received a lot happiness out of it all. I choose medicine as my life work because it offered more opportunity to serve.

Let me tell you a few of the things God had <sup>done</sup> *done* our family and why we should all serve him faithfully all the days of our lives in appreciation of these blessings. *heard us with*

1st: He helped me through school. I could not have finished even High School without his help.

2nd: When mother got that severe cancer, Doctors said she could not live. Her faith saved her and you and others were thus born and are alive today.

3rd: When you were a baby and almost frozen to death, in front of an open window, I was told to go home from the dance and thus saved your life.

4th: You rolled down the Mountains and God miraculously saved your life.

5th: T. R. your brother was saved just last summer from death only by our faith and prayers, when an auto turned over four times with him.

6th: Latter still (about October 6) we went to the Manti Temple and I had prayed for weeks for wisdom to get out of debt and in a secret room, where there was a holy alter I prayed again for wisdom enough to get out of debt. ~~I received some assurance that I would. Since then I have been blessed to pay off a a \$2,000 note. I owe Father another \$2,000 note that has been cancelled within the last few months. I have received a \$2,000 note with \$400 interest there on returned to me marked paid in full, all from my farm and God blessings in answer to prayer. 3/4 of my debt are now wiped out I know that the others will be. I tell you these things with heart full of gratitude and eyes full of tears for these blessings. I just can't get any where without really wrestling with the Lord for help. You are at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of my blood and I fear that you can't either so I do want you to avail yourself of every opportunity to develop yourself. Spiritually until you can say in truth to God--Father thy will not mine be done in all things. And as the songs says, "I will go where you want me to go dear Lord, I'll be what you want me to be and really enjoy it."~~

I have always thought that you were a gift to us from God and I have always thought that I would like to see you devote your life to the church as a mission president or an apostle, Stake president, so prepare yourself and remember that celestial exaltation is a hundred times more desirable than any worldly--diploma can give you from school. Remember you have parents at home praying for your success, so you must succeed. Take good care of your health, go to Mutual, Sacramental, priesthood meetings when ever you can, follow the advice given above and their is no good ~~you cannot~~ achieve,

With love,

Dad