

“Mother in Heaven” in  
Bruce R. McConkie,  
*Mormon Doctrine* (Salt  
Lake City: Bookcraft,  
1979, pp. 516-517.

#### MOTHER IN HEAVEN

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See ETERNAL LIVES, EXALTA-  
TION, FATHER IN HEAVEN, MOTH-  
ERS IN ISRAEL, PRE-EXISTENCE.  
Implicit in the Christian verity  
that all men are the spirit children  
of an *Eternal Father* is the usually  
unspoken truth that they are also  
the offspring of an *Eternal Mother*.  
An exalted and glorified Man of  
Holiness (Moses 6:57) could not be  
a Father unless a Woman of like  
glory, perfection, and holiness was  
associated with him as a Mother.  
The begetting of children makes a  
man a father and a woman a  
mother whether we are dealing  
with man in his mortal or immortal  
state.

This doctrine that there is a  
*Mother in Heaven* was affirmed in  
plainness by the First Presidency  
of the Church (Joseph F. Smith,  
John R. Winder, and Anthon H.  
Lund) when, in speaking of pre-  
existence and the origin of man,  
they said that “man, as a spirit,  
was begotten and born of *heavenly  
parents*, and reared to maturity  
in the eternal mansions of the  
Father,” that man is the “offspring  
of *celestial parentage*,” and that  
“all men and women are in the  
similitude of the *universal Father  
and Mother*, and are literally the  
sons and daughters of Deity.”  
(*Man: His Origin and Destiny*, pp.  
348-355.)

This glorious truth of celestial  
parentage, including specifically  
both a Father and a Mother, is  
heralded forth by song in one of

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the greatest of Latter-day Saint  
hymns. *O My Father* by Eliza R.  
Snow, written in 1843, during the  
lifetime of the Prophet, includes  
this teaching: