

“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

MOTHER IN HEAVEN

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: