
Loose Thyself from the Bands of the Neck

Testimony of Lucy Mack Smith

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Lucy Mack Smith, the mother of Joseph Smith the prophet, was in charge of moving about 80 people, mostly women and children, from New York to Kirtland, Ohio. They were traveling by river in the winter. At Buffalo, New York, the wharf area iced over and no one was able to go forward on the river. Other Saints were stranded there and cautioned Lucy not to tell anyone they were of the Mormon faith. Lucy replied she should tell the people precisely who she was. She was not



ashamed of Christ and expected that her group would get to Kirtland before the stranded Saints.

Speaking to her group she said, "Now brethren and sisters, if you will all of you raise your desires to heaven, that the ice may be broken up, and we be set at liberty, as sure as the Lord lives it will be done." At that instant a noise was heard like

bursting thunder. The ice parted, leaving a narrow passage for the boat to pass through. The ice then closed together again.

This story of Lucy Mack Smith reminded me again of the power of God to assist us in the work. We see here it was the power of prayer and faith that made the difference. Prayer is powerful because it connects us to the very source of power, even the Creator of heaven and earth.

Is this not another parable, as it were, to us today? Ladies let us not be discouraged at the ice/bands that seem to have encased our people, but let us pray that the ice/bands be loose/broken, just as Lucy prayed for the ice that held them captive to be broken. **My sisters if we pray in faith believing, surely God will hear our prayers and set us free.**

We also need to be repentant of those things that we have done that hinder the work and the sins that have beset us. Let us be repentant and pray for God to move in great power that His Kingdom will be set free from all that holds it captive.