

Satan Unites; Jesus Divides

Once again, the false traditions and teachings of men have filtered into how a lot of members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints view and teach doctrine. Simply put many members attribute attributes to Christ that aren't there and then turn around and attribute attributes to Satan, that likewise, aren't there! Anybody who has heard (or God forbid uttered) things like "Satan divides; Jesus unites!" or "Satan brings contention while Jesus only makes you feel good!" knows what I am referring to. This is simply put, in doctrinal terms, "utter bullocks". Let's go through the Word of God, the scriptures, the Mind of God, The Holy Ghost, real Charity, etc. and learn. I plan on putting this paper together like I did the "Nephites vs Lamanites" papers, I plan on providing a ton of scriptures and then at the end providing what I believe to be basic level extrapolations or gleanings of what we have just read- as plain and literal as possible. I wish I didn't have to, but I do so I will, continue to put this at the top of my papers of such apparent "controversial topics".

*"The world worships the learning of man. They trust in the arm of flesh (see D&C 1:19). To them, man's reasoning is greater than God's revelations. The precepts of man have gone so far in the educational system that in many cases, a higher degree today, in the so-called social sciences can be tantamount to a major investment in error. Very few men can build firmly enough on the rock of revelation to go through this kind of indoctrination and come out untainted. **Unfortunately, of those who succumb, some use their higher degree to get teaching positions even in our Church Educational System, where they spread the falsehoods they have been taught.** President Joseph Fielding Smith was right when he said that false educational ideas would be one of the threats to the Church within."*

-Ezra Taft Benson; God, Family & Country p. 258

*"Now Satan is anxious to neutralize the inspired counsel of the Prophet and hence keep the priesthood off-balance, ineffective and inert in the fight for freedom. He does this through diverse means including the use of perverse reasoning.... Sometimes from behind the pulpit, in our classrooms, in our Council meetings and in our church publications we hear, read or witness things that do not square with the truth... Now do not let this serve as an excuse for your own wrong-doing. The Lord is letting the wheat and the tares mature **before he fully purges the Church.** He is also testing you to see if you will be misled. The devil is trying to deceive the very elect. As members of the Church we have some close quarters to pass through if we are to save our souls. As the Church gets larger some men have increasing responsibility and more and more duties must be delegated. We all have stewardships for which we must account to the Lord. Unfortunately some men who do not honor their stewardships may have an adverse affect on many people. Often the greater the man's responsibility the more good or evil he can accomplish. The Lord usually gives a man a long enough rope and sufficient time to determine whether that man wants to pull himself into the presence of God or drop off somewhere below. There are some regrettable things being said and done by some people in the Church today. As President Clark so well warned, 'The ravening wolves are amongst us, from our own membership and they, more than any others, are clothed in sheep's clothing because they wear the habiliments of the priesthood.... We should be careful of them.' "*

-Ezra Taft Benson- Our Immediate Responsibility. BYU Devotional, October 25, 1966

"Our right to guidance from Holy Ghost. We have the right to the guidance of the Holy Ghost, but we cannot have that guidance, if we wilfully refuse to consider the revelations that have been given to help us to understand and to guide us in the light and truth of the everlasting gospel. We cannot hope to have that

guidance when we refuse to consider these great revelations which mean so much to us both temporally and spiritually.

Now if we find ourselves in this condition of unbelief or unwillingness to seek for the light and the knowledge which the Lord has placed within our reach, then we are liable or in danger of being deceived by evil spirits, the doctrines of devils, and the teachings of men. And when these false influences are presented before us, we will not have the distinguishing understanding by which we can segregate them and know that they are not of the Lord. And so we may become prey unto the ungodly, to the vicious, to the cunning, to the craftiness of men.”

-Joseph Fielding Smith, Doctrines of Salvation, p.43

Those are two witnesses from two Presidents of the Lord’s church. With that said, and note it is important to understand this before continuing but it does tie directly into this topic, so let us now move into the scriptures and topic at hand so that we can see how they connect:

Luke 12: 42-57

*“And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh **shall find so doing**. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to **eat and drink, and to be drunken**; The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and **will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. And that servant, which knew his lord’s will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more. I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is. And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass. Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time? Yea, and why even of yourselves **judge ye not what is right?**”***

The Lord makes it crystal clear here that the Lord has not come to unify all of the human race but to call people to repentance and separate the righteous from the wicked- to prove them herewith if they will do all things which the Lord their God shall command them. The Lord makes it clear that a driving factor in His separation is found in “faith”, which mean “actions”, which we will get to later with what Paul taught but we also get that strongly in the parables of the ten virgins, talents, and the sheep and goats which we will not be getting into in this paper for sake of time. We need to act, and those that have been warned, those that know better, it becomes us to raise the warning voice, to yell from the roofs “repent ye repent ye for the Kingdom of our God is come!”, and those found doing THAT when the Lord comes, it will be

well with them. The Lord also makes it clear that those preaching His gospel, those sent by Him, etc. will be causing divisions and fracturing of families. The Lord then finishes his teaching by calling all of those confused at his startling remarks “hypocrites”- this once again hearkens back to the Lords warning in D&C “for at my house shall it begin and from my house shall it go forth saith the Lord of hosts, first among those among you who profess to know me but do not”, ie. “hypocrites”, ie. “priestcraft”.

Mark 3: 21-26

“And when his friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, He is beside himself. And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils. And he called them unto him, and said unto them in parables, How can Satan cast out Satan? And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan rise up against himself, and be divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end.”

Here the Lord makes it really clear, that anyone who believes that Satan is chaotic, that he ONLY sows seeds of division- even among his own “kingdom”, they aren’t thinking straight. The Lord even questions the logic “How can Satan cast out Satan?” If Satan never unified people under “his thinking”, Satan wouldn’t have a kingdom, according to the Lord. We know that Satan does have a kingdom however and so does the Lord; Satan unifies people unto himself, he doesn’t sow seeds of confusion in his kingdom. If you were under the belief that “only Jesus unifies people” you might very well have been standing with the Jews accusing Jesus of casting out devils by the power of the devil. Knowing the doctrine allows us to see things clearly, allows us to not look and sound ignorant- this is why this is crucial for the last days. This is why the Lord said “these are they which have taken the Holy Spirit for their guide and have not been deceived”. We need to know the doctrine, we can’t simply just “know last days events” and “love Jesus” and dump the rest of your responsibility on “feelings” and “grace”. You will be deceived.

1 Nephi 14: 5-14

*“And it came to pass that the angel spake unto me, Nephi, saying: Thou hast beheld that **if the Gentiles repent it shall be well with them**; and thou also knowest concerning the covenants of the Lord **unto the house of Israel**; and thou also hast heard that **whoso repenteth not must perish**. Therefore, wo be unto the Gentiles if it so be that they harden their hearts against the Lamb of God. For the time cometh, saith the Lamb of God, that I will work a great and a marvelous work among the children of men; a work which shall be everlasting, **either on the one hand or on the other—either to the convincing of them unto peace and life eternal, or unto the deliverance of them to the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds unto their being brought down into captivity, and also into destruction, both temporally and spiritually, according to the captivity of the devil, of which I have spoken**. And it came to pass that when the angel had spoken these words, he said unto me: Rememberest thou **the covenants of the Father unto the house of Israel**? I said unto him, Yea. And it came to pass that he said unto me: Look, and behold that **great and abominable church**, which is **the mother of abominations**, whose founder is the devil. And he said unto me: **Behold there are save two churches only; the one is the church of the Lamb of God, and the other is the church of the devil; wherefore, whoso belongeth not to the church of the Lamb of God belongeth to that great church, which is the mother of abominations; and she is the whore of all the earth**. And it came to pass that I looked and beheld the **whore of all the earth, and she sat upon many waters; and she had dominion over ball the earth, among all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people**. And it came to pass that I beheld **the church of the Lamb of God, and its***

numbers were few, because of the wickedness and abominations of the whore who sat upon many waters; nevertheless, I beheld that the church of the Lamb, who were the saints of God, were also upon all the face of the earth; and their dominions upon the face of the earth were small, because of the wickedness of the great whore whom I saw. And it came to pass that I beheld that the great mother of abominations did gather together multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the nations of the Gentiles, to fight against the Lamb of God. And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory.”

The Lord here must really confuse people because he explains that he will both be gathering and separating and destroying temporally; he also explains that Satan will also be gathering, and that people are free to make the choice. The Lord explains that to be a part of “His group”, repentance tied to covenant making is the key, not perfection, not an absence of all weaknesses of the flesh, nay, the Lord identifies once again “repentance” and “covenants” as the key. Those who listen and heed the Holy Ghost repent in humility, strive in their lives to be and get better, while those who listen to Satan are content with where they are, and when called on to stretch or repent they become hostile in acts of open rebellion. This great division hereto explained by the angel (and the Lord) to Nephi has not taken place, as “those that reject that light” will be destroyed both temporally AND spiritually. The 144k will have power given them to seal both to life eternal or destruction immediately, a power we have yet to see or experience. It is then explained that these two great divisions and gatherings will be done by both Satan and the Lord, to the Lord’s church and to the great and abominable church, for there are save two only but there are *two*. The Lord will not, I repeat, will not ever teach unity with Satan or His kingdom. Because of this extreme separation required by the Lord we learn that “there were few followers of Christ on all the face of the land”, meaning this is clearly not “Christianity as a whole”, this is a subset of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a much smaller group- once again, division, separation, etc. It is also explained that Satan during this time is in fact doing MORE “gathering”, as Satan is said to have gathered “multitudes together upon the face of the land” while the Lord’s “few” are still scattered all over the face of the land- once again, the Lord is separating to strengthen and prove while Satan is gathering to crush and destroy. It is not as simple as “the Lord always gathers and unifies and Satan only separates and divides”- that principle it not a divine or true principle. Satan clearly gathers and the Lord has and continues to scatter his people for his purposes- the entire parable of the olive tree found in Jacob chapter five is an entire parable of the Lord separating his people for his wise purposes. Some of those purposes were explained at the beginning of this paper by President Ezra Taft Benson, others we will continue to read as we continue.

(JST) Hebrews 4: 1-12

*“Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. And in this place again, **If they harden not their hearts they shall enter into my rest.** Seeing therefore it remaineth that **some** must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached **entered not in because of unbelief**: Again, **he limiteth** a certain day, saying in David, **To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.** For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. There remaineth therefore a rest **to the people of God.** For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath*

ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Those who study the scriptures will hear “fear the Lord” a lot, those who don’t study the scriptures will say “we should have no fear” which isn’t entirely true. We should fear the Lord; we should not fear man or the world, for the Son of Man hath overcome the world. I go over in great depth 2 Nephi 27 in my “Joseph Smith to Return Continued” but simply put the large theme of Nephi’s climatic writing was geared towards the Latter-day Saints, directly before Joseph Smith again gets the plates and finishes his translation of the sealed portion, and the warning to the Saints was that almost all of the Saints will be failing “because they are taught to fear the Lord according to the precepts of men” and not by the Holy Ghost which is the Word of God. 2 Nephi 28-FIN is entirely Nephi explaining the how, what, etc. of Saints failure caused by this false fear of God taught by the precepts of men. Paul starts off this letter by teaching the correct understanding and launching point- fear God, for if we don’t fear God we won’t act, and without action (faith) our redemption is vain, “it won’t profit us”. To “hear Him” is to rend the veil of unbelief (we did a wonderful fireside on this, look it up) by hearkening back to the Words of God. We learn in D&C “that by this ye may know they are under the bondage of sin, that they hear not my voice and come not unto me” but rather they harden their hearts. We also learn in D&C that this act of rebellion actually prevents the Holy Ghost from purging out the old blood and turning us literally into the blood of Israel, ie “let God prevail”. (That was gone over in some depth in my breakdown of President Eyring’s talk “Tested, Proved, and Polished”). Paul then wraps up with a true understanding of the Word of God- it is a divider of men, it is not a unifier of all men, in fact it had been, and is, and will yet be THE divider of men and women born into this life “for though the heavens and the Earth will pass away the Lord’s words shall not pass away, but every one shall be fulfilled... and those who do not hear the voice and hearken to it will be cut off from among my people oh house of Israel”. Satan’s words and teachings are designed to unite people from all sorts of backgrounds, they are flaxen, soft, gentle, unthreatening, etc. and get them to fall into a deep sleep from whence there is no waking up. The Lord’s words are calls to wake up, calls to act, and those who don’t want to change, those who don’t want to act, will be divided out, they will be made bare, they will become hostile. The Lord’s words do not always “make you feel good” and unite you together as a community, and Satan’s words don’t always “make you feel bad” and divide people.

Abraham 3: 28

*“And the second was angry, and kept not his first estate; and, at that day, **many followed after him.**”*

Moses 4: 5-6

*“And now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which I, the Lord God, had made. And Satan put it into the heart of the serpent, (**for he had drawn away many after him,**) and he sought also to beguile Eve, for he knew not the mind of God, wherefore he sought to destroy the world.*

D&C 29:36-37

*“And it came to pass that Adam, being tempted of the devil—for, behold, the devil was before Adam, for he rebelled against me, saying, Give me thine honor, which is my power; **and also a third part of the hosts of heaven turned he away from me because of their agency.**”*

Once again, the clear pattern of Satan drawing people unto himself is set forth from the beginning. Satan draws people unto himself and the doctrines he teaches and not unto the Lord. The Lord and Satan both gather, the Lord and Satan both cause division and separate. The Lord unites us to the Father, the ONE Lord ONE faith ONE baptism and requires all to unite behind it; Satan unites people against the Father, every man following after their own gods. The Lord separates and divides the righteous from the unrighteous, the Godly from the ungodly, the blood of Israel and the (in the words of Paul) bastards; Satan sows seeds of confusion among the people of God, Satan sows seeds of confusion and division with the opinions of men, the precepts of men, and Satan sows division as well between the Lord's people and the great and abominable church. Also, Satan's crown was "many" and is yet many today, this theme of "Satan having many; the Lord having few" will continue to be shown as we continue.

3 Nephi 7: 11-22

*"And it came to pass that **they were not so strong in number as the tribes of the people, who were united together** save it were their leaders did establish their laws, every one according to his tribe; nevertheless they were enemies; **notwithstanding they were not a righteous people, yet they were united in the hatred of those who had entered into a covenant to destroy the government.** Therefore, Jacob seeing that their enemies were more numerous than they, he being the king of the band, therefore he commanded his people that they should take their flight into the northernmost part of the land, and **there build up unto themselves a kingdom, until they were joined by dissenters, (for he flattered them that there would be many dissenters) and they become sufficiently strong to contend with the tribes of the people; and they did so.** But they did establish very strict laws that one tribe should not trespass against another, insomuch that in some degree **they had peace in the land; nevertheless, their hearts were turned from the Lord their God, and they did stone the prophets and did cast them out from among them.** And it came to pass that Nephi—having been visited by angels and also the voice of the Lord, therefore having seen angels, and being eye-witness, and having had power given unto him that he might know concerning the ministry of Christ, and also **being eye-witness to their quick return from righteousness unto their wickedness and abominations;** Therefore, being grieved **for the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds**—went forth among them in that same year, and began to testify, **boldly,** repentance and remission of sins through faith on the Lord Jesus Christ. And he did minister many things unto them; and all of them cannot be written, and a part of them would not suffice, therefore they are not written in this book. And Nephi did minister with power and with great authority. And it came to pass that **they were angry with him, even because he had greater power than they, for it were not possible that they could disbelieve his words, for so great was his faith on the Lord Jesus Christ that angels did minister unto him daily...** And the people saw it, and did witness of it, **and were angry with him because of his power;** and he did also do many more miracles, in the sight of the people, in the name of Jesus. And it came to pass that the thirty and first year did pass away, **and there were but few who were converted unto the Lord;** but as many as were converted **did truly signify** unto the people that they had been visited by the power and Spirit of God, which was in Jesus Christ, in whom they believed. And as many as had devils cast out from them, and were healed of their sicknesses and their infirmities, **did truly manifest unto the people** that they had been wrought upon by the Spirit of God, and had been healed; and they did show forth signs also and did do some miracles among the people."*

People can and are unified by a hatred of others. People can and are unified on greed, lust, gain, etc. The Saints of God are always "the few". Countries can have peace and be unified even while living in great sin and in outright rebellion against the Lord. During these times the Lord sends his people, his servants, into the vineyard to warn the people "**boldly**". People always hate those they deem to have more than themselves- this applies even to the understanding of doctrines in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-

day Saints. People hate those who clearly know more than them, they hate the power they display because of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and a pure understanding of the doctrine taught in His restored church. Some have this hate out of jealousy, some out of spite, some from projecting, others looking back on their lives realizing they never reached their full potential decide to lash out at those they know have made wiser decisions than themselves. The fact remains, the Lord's servants, the ones serving Him and "hearing Him" will have power, power with a capital "P", and those even in the church (possibly even especially in the church) hate those who have more of that power than themselves. They might throw around past callings that they've held, or they might name drop associations they have had with those they think are "high ranking members of the church", etc. while they call the servants of God with Power preaching boldly "proud". This is yet another division Satan is spearheading, and once again the Lord provides his Saints with the tools they need to "judge wisely". Those converted by the servants of the Lord, were once again, "few". Once again, if you find yourself in a throng of people chanting and drinking the kool-aid you should quickly re-evaluate. The Lord also said that the righteous "did truly signify", this had reference to their ACTIONS. Once again, the Lord's people in this time period are a "Community of Doers" not a "Community of Watchers"- "be ye therefore doers of the word and not hearers (watchers) only!"

Matthew 13: 24-30

*"Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, **his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat**, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together **first the tares**, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but **gather the wheat into my barn.**"*

Doctrine and Covenants 86

*"Verily, thus saith the Lord unto you my servants, concerning the parable of the wheat and of the tares: Behold, verily I say, the field was the world, and the apostles were the sowers of the seed; And after they have fallen asleep the great persecutor of the church, the apostate, the whore, even Babylon, that maketh all nations to drink of her cup, in whose hearts the enemy, even Satan, sitteth to reign—**behold he soweth the tares**; wherefore, the tares choke the wheat and drive the church into the wilderness. But behold, in the last days, even now while the Lord is beginning to bring forth the word, and the blade is springing up and is yet tender— Behold, verily I say unto you, the angels are crying unto the Lord day and night, who are ready and waiting to be sent forth to reap down the fields; But the Lord saith unto them, pluck not up the tares while the blade is yet tender (for verily your faith is weak), lest you destroy the wheat also. Therefore, **let the wheat and the tares grow together until the harvest is fully ripe; then ye shall first gather out the wheat from among the tares, and after the gathering of the wheat, behold and lo, the tares are bound in bundles, and the field remaineth to be burned.** Therefore, thus saith the Lord unto you, with whom the priesthood hath continued through the lineage of your fathers— For ye are lawful heirs, according to the flesh, and have been hid from the world with Christ in God— Therefore your life and the priesthood have remained, and must needs remain through you and your lineage until the restoration of all things spoken by the mouths of all the holy prophets since the world began. Therefore,*

blessed are ye if ye continue in my goodness, a light unto the Gentiles, and through this priesthood, a savior unto my people Israel. The Lord hath said it. Amen.”

Members should note that the Lord wanted to completely separate “his people” from the world. This is why intermarriage out of the faith was constantly and consistently taught against to the children of Israel- and was one of it not the downfall of the ancient kingdom multiple times. It was Satan who wanted unity, it was Satan who wanted his tares among the Saints, it was Satan who wanted us all “to just get along and live together”. It was at this time that the Lord knew that if he forcefully removed the tares, the tares would forcefully take wheat out with them, destroying the wheat before it was fully ripe. The Lord LET the wheat and the tares grow together, the Lord didn’t in this case DESIRE it or DO it- in the parable we learn Satan did it. Once again a clear pattern is shown, in which the Lord is primarily scattering and dividing people while Satan is trying to throw everything in the same pot and cook it. We should also note that the first thing the Lord plans on doing, the FIRST thing, is “to gather the wheat from out from among the tares and move it to the garner”, ie. “separation”. The garner is the New Jerusalem and the New Jerusalem “shall stand INDEPENDENT from all creatures under heaven”, once again, clear separation and division with a purpose.

3 Nephi 24: 2-3

*“But who may abide the day of his coming, and who shall stand when he appeareth? **For he is like a refiner’s fire, and like fuller’s soap. And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.**”*

3 Nephi 25: 1-3

*“For behold, the day cometh that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and **all that do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up,** saith the Lord of Hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. **But unto you that fear my name, shall the Son of Righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth and grow up as calves in the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet** in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of Hosts.”*

D&C 105:6

*“And my people must needs be chastened **until they learn** obedience, if it must needs be, by the things which they suffer.”*

Alma 32:16

*“**Therefore, blessed are they who humble themselves without being compelled to be humble;** or rather, in other words, blessed is he that believeth in the word of God, and is baptized without stubbornness of heart, yea, without being brought to know the word, or even compelled to know, before they will believe.”*

I believe these scriptures speak for themselves, there really is nothing more to add. Plus, President Joseph Fielding Smith summarized the concept beautifully for me anyways:

President Joseph Fielding Smith:

“WORLD CONDITIONS WILL GET WORSE.

*We hear occasionally somebody make the statement that things are as bad as they could be, that they could not be worse. I want to tell you they could be worse, a great deal worse. If I read the signs of the times, we have not suffered yet as much as we are going to suffer, **unless we repent**. From this stand men have prophesied in the name of the Lord for many decades. President Brigham Young, President John Taylor, President Wilford Woodruff, and others of our leading brethren and presidents of the Church, have raised the warning voice. They have called attention to these present conditions. The Lord has also prophesied of these things, and they have been mentioned by ancient seers and prophets. We have had ample warning. (Elder Bednar’s concert of clarity!) We have been told of the calamities that are coming. We have been taught how we might avoid them, how we might be protected, if we would only hear the counsels that come to us, heed the testimony of truth. If we fail, we cannot escape. . . . Do not think that we have reached a condition where things could not be worse. Unless there is repentance they **will** be worse. And so I cry repentance to this people, to the Latter-day Saints, to the people of this nation, and to the nations of the earth everywhere.*

HOW TO ESCAPE CALAMITIES

HOW ZION MAY ESCAPE THE LORD'S SCOURGE.

"Nevertheless, Zion shall escape if she observe to do all things whatsoever I have commanded her. But if she observe not to do whatsoever I have commanded her, I will visit her according to all her works, with sore affliction, with pestilence, with plague, with sword, with vengeance, with devouring fire. Nevertheless, let it be read this once to her ears, that I, the Lord, have accepted of her offering; and if she sin no more none of these things shall come upon her."

*This way of escape, insuring the protection of the Lord, is a very simple one. Unfortunately, many of the people of Zion have refused to take advantage of this promise. As I observe conditions among the people I cannot see how we are going to escape when the judgments are to pass over the nations, which are promised in this revelation and in others which I cannot take time to read. Because of our disobedience and our failure to keep the commandments of the Lord, **the righteous, as in times past, may be called upon to suffer with the unrighteous among us.**"*

Doctrine and Covenants 101:2-5, 39-42

“I, the Lord, have suffered the affliction to come upon them, wherewith they have been afflicted, in consequence of their transgressions; Yet I will own them, and they shall be mine in that day when I shall come to make up my jewels. Therefore, they must needs be chastened and tried, even as Abraham, who was commanded to offer up his only son. For all those who will not endure chastening, but deny me, cannot be sanctified... When men are called unto mine everlasting gospel, and covenant with an everlasting covenant, they are accounted as the salt of the earth and the savor of men; They are called to be the savor of men; therefore, if that salt of the earth lose its savor, behold, it is thenceforth good for nothing only to be cast out and trodden under the feet of men. Behold, here is wisdom concerning

the children of Zion, even many, but not all; they were found transgressors, therefore they must needs be chastened— He that exalteth himself shall be abased, and he that abaseth himself shall be exalted.”

I just kept bolding sections of that until finally it was all bold. So important for us to understand what is being said here, especially in conjunction with:

Doctrine and Covenants 105: 35-37

*“There has been a day of calling, but the time has come for a **day of choosing**; and let those be chosen that are worthy. And it shall be manifest unto **my servant**, by the voice of the Spirit, those that are chosen; and they shall be sanctified; And inasmuch as they follow the counsel which they receive, they shall have power after many days to accomplish all things pertaining to Zion.*”

We are living in this day brothers and sisters, of that I testify boldly before Gods and Angels- we are living in the day in which those who have been called are being chosen! We know, ***we know*** brothers and sisters how to make ourselves chosen, and if there is a “chosen” there is a “not chosen” and the Lord and Joseph Smith will be doing that separation. If we don’t understand that there is a day of separation spearheaded by the Lord then we won’t realize that we could be the ones separated out, and if we don’t realize that we could be the ones separated out we will never learn or accept what is required to be chosen, what it means to be “one of the Lord’s Jewels”. What an honor! What a privilege! Lost on so many of the Saints who should know better, but who are taught to fear the Lord according to the precepts of men and not the Lord. Wake up brothers and sisters and seize the day! Seize it! Please, for the Love of our God I know you can, don’t give up, press forward and do and I can promise you that the Lord will uphold you.

Hebrews 12:5-8

“And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him. For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.”

Those that believe in a pre-tribulation rapture according to Holland in his October “Waiting on the Lord” conference talk are those that believe and teach that you can “hop on a cloud” and pass by all problems and then park yourself next to Paul, Abraham, Moses, etc. and say to them “wow, aren’t we alike?” And Paul here says that those that received no such testing, no such tribulation, no such chastening are bastards. According to Paul if you believe and teach in a pre-tribulation rapture you are I suppose both a bastard and an idiot. We need to accept and endure trials and tribulations, we should not seek them out aimlessly or believe/teach that we can avoid all of them with a quick fix “pray all night on your knees until you are translated” event. That is tantamount to devil worship.

2 Nephi 28: 3-32

*“For it shall come to pass in that day that the churches which are built up, and not unto the Lord, when the one shall say unto the other: Behold, I, I am the Lord’s; and the others shall say: I, I am the Lord’s; and thus shall every one say that hath built up churches, and not unto the Lord— And they shall contend one with another; and their priests shall contend one with another, and **they shall teach with their learning, and deny the Holy Ghost**, which giveth utterance. And **they deny the power of God, the Holy***

One of Israel; and they say unto the people: Harken unto us, and hear ye our precept; for behold there is no God today, **for the Lord and the Redeemer hath done his work, and he hath given his power unto men**; Behold, hearken ye unto **my precept**; if they shall say there is a miracle wrought by the hand of the Lord, believe it not; for this day he is not a God of miracles; **he hath done his work**. Yea, and there shall be many which shall say: Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die; and it shall be well with us. And there shall also be many which shall say: Eat, drink, and be merry; nevertheless, fear God—he will justify in committing a little sin; yea, lie a little, take the advantage of one because of his words, dig a pit for thy neighbor; there is no harm in this; and do all these things, for tomorrow we die; and if it so be that we are guilty, God will beat us with a few stripes, and at last we shall be saved in the kingdom of God. Yea, and there shall be many which shall teach after this manner, **false and vain and foolish doctrines**, and shall be puffed up in their hearts, and **shall seek deep to hide their counsels from the Lord; and their works shall be in the dark**. And the blood of the saints shall cry from the ground against them. **Yea, they have all gone out of the away; they have become corrupted. Because of pride, and because of false teachers, and false doctrine**, their churches have become corrupted, and their churches are lifted up; because of pride they are puffed up. They rob the poor because of their fine sanctuaries; they rob the poor because of their fine clothing; and they persecute the meek and the poor in heart, because in their pride they are puffed up. They wear stiff necks and high heads; yea, and because of pride, and wickedness, and abominations, and whoredoms, **they have all gone astray save it be a few**, who are the humble followers of Christ; **nevertheless, they are led, that in many instances they do err because they are taught by the precepts of men**. O the wise, and the learned, and the rich, that are puffed up in the pride of their hearts, and **all those who preach false doctrines**, and all those who commit whoredoms, and **pervert the right way of the Lord, wo, wo, wo be unto them, saith the Lord God Almighty, for they shall be thrust down to hell! Wo unto them that turn aside the just for a thing of naught and revile against that which is good, and say that it is of no worth!** For the day shall come that the Lord God will speedily visit the inhabitants of the earth; and in that day that they are fully ripe in iniquity they shall perish. But behold, if the inhabitants of the earth shall repent of their wickedness and abominations they shall not be destroyed, saith the Lord of Hosts. But behold, that great and abominable church, the whore of all the earth, must tumble to the earth, and great must be the fall thereof. For the kingdom of the devil must shake, **and they which belong to it must needs be stirred up unto repentance, or the devil will grasp them with his everlasting chains, and they be stirred up to anger, and perish; For behold, at that day shall he rage in the hearts of the children of men, and stir them up to anger against that which is good. And others will he pacify, and lull them away into carnal security, that they will say: All is well in Zion; yea, Zion prospereth, all is well—and thus the devil cheateth their souls, and leadeth them away carefully down to hell. And behold, others he flattereth away, and telleth them there is no hell; and he saith unto them: I am no devil, for there is none—and thus he whispereth in their ears, until he grasps them with his awful chains, from whence there is no deliverance**. Yea, they are grasped with death, and hell; and death, and hell, and the devil, and all that have been seized therewith must stand before the throne of God, and be judged according to their works, from whence they must go into the place prepared for them, even a lake of fire and brimstone, which is endless torment. Therefore, wo be unto him that is at ease **in Zion!** Wo be unto him that crieth: All is well! Yea, wo be unto him that hearkeneth unto the precepts of men, and denieth the power of God, and the gift of the Holy Ghost! Yea, wo be unto him that saith: We have received, and we need no more! And in fine, **wo unto all those who tremble, and are angry because of the truth of God! For behold, he that is built upon the crock receiveth it with gladness; and he that is built upon a sandy foundation trembleth lest he shall fall**. Wo be unto him that shall say: We have received the word of God, and we need no more of the word of God, for we have enough! For behold, thus saith the Lord God: I will give unto the children of men line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little; and blessed are those who hearken unto my precepts, and

*lend an ear unto my counsel, for they shall learn wisdom; for unto him that receiveth I will give more; and from them that shall say, We have enough, **from them shall be taken away even that which they have.** Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, **save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.** Wo be unto the Gentiles, saith the Lord God of Hosts! For notwithstanding I shall lengthen out mine arm unto them from day to day, they will deny me; nevertheless, I will be merciful unto them, saith the Lord God, if they will repent and come unto me; for mine arm is lengthened out all the day long, saith the Lord God of Hosts.”*

I had literally hours more content I thought I was going to put in this paper but it just became too long!

Brothers and sisters in the name of our God I plead with you and to myself, let us not be counted foolish. The Lord will separate the foolish out from among us, the Lord will purge the church, Saints of God let us fear the Lord, let us “work out our salvation before God with fear and trembling” so that we may be chosen for exaltation and not mitigated to a lower degree of servitude. Let us, I plead with you, shut down our itching ears and hear Him, and only Him; rid yourself of the opinions of men, the precepts of devils and demons, and cling to the iron rod which is the Word of God. Satan is gathering people unto himself, he is speaking in soft, delicate, flowery words, uniting his followers together as they all hold hands and sing “Kumbaya” as they ignorantly march carefully down to hell. The Lord is and will cause a great division in **His** church, this has been prophesied about for a millennia, and those on the wrong side of the divide will be whispering “the Lord wouldn’t divide us!” while the righteous shout “you are on the wrong side!” When the horn blows and the division occurs, Saints, we need to be armed with pure doctrine, pure understanding which will create an immovable and unshakable faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We will, anchored in pure doctrine have the promised “dogged persistence” promised by President Nelson. We will, anchored in a real understanding of doctrine, the Words of God, the Holy Ghost, etc. we will not be deceived. The Lord will divide, Satan will gather, the only thing that can and will allow you to understand which side is right and which side is wrong is the iron rod. Those that teach the Lord won’t divide and Satan won’t ever reach around you and hug you with soft flaxen are either ignorant to the scriptures or conspirators with Satan himself. I love you brothers and sisters, and I know the way to show you that love is by preaching the Word of God in its plainness and purity with boldness- knowing that my words may fail, but the Lord’s Words shall never fail. We have been warned, I have been warned... and it becometh those who have been warned to raise the warning voice! Yea, a voice of warning unto this generation, repent ye repent ye! Put away your priestcrafts, and idolatry, and your secret combinations far from you and come and unite yourself to the one and true living gospel, the one and only true living gospel with the power to save **on the entire planet**- I say come unto Christ, be baptized and partake of His goodness while it is yet daylight for soon cometh the night in which there will be no labor performed, only separation and division. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen!