The Why; The Key

Version 1.00

Brothers and Sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints there is a lot going on right now in the church and in the world, but the one seemingly on most people's minds right now is "the why?" Those who have listened to or read my papers for a while now have been up to speed on the desolating sickness before it happened, the Assyrian(s) taking power before it happened, and now the righteous standing in holy places and being not moved you knew about before it happened... I would, before continuing, remind people that the next series of events you will have been warned about before they happen include:

- 1. "Slaves rising against masters who were marshaled and ready for war" (what we have seen in Australia this past week is exactly what we are looking for, just a lot more of it, and then the real "clamping down" coming from the top/Assyrian[s])
- 2. The open return of Joseph Smith, the Redemption of Zion and building of New Jerusalem (also known as Joseph's Boys, the remnant of Jacob vexing the Gentiles, etc.)
- 3. The famine (already seeing the signs of this as well)
- 4. "Called to the courts" (Elder Christofferson recently at the Hill Cumorah Pageant broadcast devotional made reference to this as a hypothetical and gave his answer)

Am I the prophet? No! But we do have the scriptures/revelations/prophesies before us and the Holy Ghost as a gift if we will receive it, and the gift of prophesy and the spirit of revelation which will open our minds and make clear our understanding of these prophetic events unfolding in our time! Now, why do I bring this up...? Because when I said "the desolating sickness is most likely what is coming in 2020" and then it happened, very few people asked "why did the Lord send the desolating sickness?" (and we do know the why). And then again, with the Assyrian(s) putting us in bondage (which will get even worse overtime) very few people asked "why would the Lord allow this happen?" and so on and so on... But... When I read the prophetic Word of God and said "this is the next event and our prophet, President Nelson just said it is next! It is happening! And that is that the righteous will make the choice to stand in holy places and be not moved and the wicked will lift up their voices (on Facebook, YouTube, etc.) and curse God and die" and then it happened... People for the first time started flooding me with "why's?"

Why is this happening?
Why are people I love doing this?
Why are they doing it AFTER what the President clearly warned us against?
Why? Why?

And I ask, "why the concern for the why **now**?" And the answer? I've said it before:

It's all fun and games following the prophet and telling others to follow him too until the prophet "counsels" you to do something that your "spirit-o-meter" told you was of the devil... Then all of the sudden you have to start making some real choices.

I further explained:

"A great sifting time"...

How does a sieve work? By pulling only one direction? Or does it work by shaking back and forth...

People view these tests as political "left vs right" and that the sifting will simply be "pulling one direction"... A sieve will go BOTH directions to test if people are acting off of faith, obedience, etc. or purely political and self interests... For a while the sift only seemed to be trying "those on the left", now the sift is trying "those on the right", and very few passed or are passing BOTH tests... It's easy to pass one and not the other- or as Jesus taught, "it's easy to love those that love you and treat you good"...

I know many "on the left" politically speaking who dare I say were completely against the prophet and apostles with regards to LGBTQ+ issues (yes they still are, but a few years ago with the child baptism bit it was huge) and they failed. Period. There are many today "on the right" now pulling the same games with the vaccine... "spirit-o-meter" and "the prophet isn't always right!" etc. etc. etc.... And they are failing. Period. Now many of the same "leftists" who were attacking the prophet over LGBTQ+ issues a few years ago are now poking people over the vaccine, which just makes it even harder for those "on the right" to humble themselves... Remember...

The sieve will go back and forth, back and forth, and only those who have passed the test of obedience to the keys BOTH DIRECTIONS, will be able to abide a Celestial Law and receive exaltation...

Here is the simple truth, for the first time the "right" side of the political spectrum has seen people "curse God and die spiritually" and people don't know how to take it. They are seeing their loved ones cut the thread, curse God, and witness as veils of stupidity fall over their ears and they cry out "why dear God? Why has this befallen our people? Our loved ones, companions, friends, and family members? What could we have done to prevent this? What could we have done?!"

These are the questions, the "why"... Let me give you the "key"...

"I told the brethren that *the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth*, and the *keystone of our religion*, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, *than by any other book*."

- Joseph Smith Jr (History of the Church, 4:461.)

Yes... The Book of Mormon holds the key yet again, not Daniel, or Esdras, or Visions of Glory, or any other book... The Book of Mormon... And where?

2 Nephi 26 is the key to understanding all of this. Zion escaping, its scourging, the spirit of the Lord ceasing to strive with men and the veil of stupidity etc. It is the key to the whole subject. Nephi starts by giving a prophetic view of the buildup to the coming of Jesus Christ to the Nephites and Lamanites. This is important to cover because of how similar the buildup to the Savior's coming to the Nephites in Ancient America (~33AD) to the coming of the Savior in our day to A-O-A and the New Jerusalem.

2 Nephi 26:3-6

3 And after the Messiah shall come there shall be signs given unto my people of his birth, and also of his death and resurrection; and great and terrible shall that day be unto the wicked, for they shall perish; and

they perish *because they cast out the prophets*, and the saints, and stone them, and slay them; wherefore the cry of the blood of the saints shall ascend up to God from the ground against them.

- 4 Wherefore, all those who are proud, and that do wickedly, the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of Hosts, for they shall be as stubble.
- 5 And they that kill the prophets, and the saints, the depths of the earth shall swallow them up, saith the Lord of Hosts; and mountains shall cover them, and whirlwinds shall carry them away, and buildings shall fall upon them and crush them to pieces and grind them to powder.
- 6 And they shall be visited with thunderings, and lightnings, and earthquakes, and all manner of destructions, for the fire of the anger of the Lord shall be kindled against them, and they shall be as stubble, and the day that cometh shall consume them, saith the Lord of Hosts.

So a basic rundown of the points of reference here are:

- 1. The people reject the prophets and the Saints and stone them and slay them
- 2. The blood of the Saints cry from the ground
- 3. The people are visited with thunders and lightnings and earthquakes etc.

So what did this actually look like for the Nephites ~33AD and what else was said about it?

3 Nephi 9

- 1 And it came to pass that there was a voice heard among all the inhabitants of the earth, upon all the face of this land, crying:
- 2 Wo, wo, wo unto this people; wo unto the inhabitants of the whole earth except they shall repent; for the devil laugheth, and his angels rejoice, because of the slain of the fair sons and daughters of my people; and it is *because of their iniquity and abominations that they are fallen*!
 - 3 Behold, that great city Zarahemla have I burned with fire, and the inhabitants thereof.
- 4 And behold, that great city Moroni have I caused to be sunk in the depths of the sea, and the inhabitants thereof to be drowned.
- 5 And behold, that great city Moronihah have I covered with earth, and the inhabitants thereof, to hide their iniquities and their abominations from before my face, *that the blood of the prophets and the saints shall not come any more unto me against them.*
- 6 And behold, the city of Gilgal have I caused to be sunk, and the inhabitants thereof to be buried up in the depths of the earth;
- 7 Yea, and the city of Onihah and the inhabitants thereof, and the city of Mocum and the inhabitants thereof, and the city of Jerusalem and the inhabitants thereof; and waters have I caused to come up in the stead thereof, to hide their wickedness and abominations from before my face, *that the blood of the prophets and the saints shall not come up any more unto me against them.*
- 8 And behold, the city of Gadiandi, and the city of Gadiomnah, and the city of Jacob, and the city of Gimgimno, all these have I caused to be sunk, and made hills and valleys in the places thereof; and the inhabitants thereof have I buried up in the depths of the earth, to hide their wickedness and abominations

from before my face, that the blood of the prophets and the saints should not come up any more unto me against them.

9 And behold, that great city Jacobugath, which was inhabited by the people of king Jacob, have I caused to be burned with fire because of their sins and their wickedness, which was above all the wickedness of the whole earth, because of their secret murders and combinations; for it was they that did destroy the peace of my people and the government of the land; therefore I did cause them to be burned, to destroy them from before my face, that the blood of the prophets and the saints should not come up unto me any more against them.

10 And behold, the city of Laman, and the city of Josh, and the city of Gad, and the city of Kishkumen, have I caused to be burned with fire, and the inhabitants thereof, because of their wickedness in casting out the prophets, and stoning those whom I did send to declare unto them concerning their wickedness and their abominations.

11 And because they did cast them all out, that there were none righteous among them, I did send down fire and destroy them, that their wickedness and abominations might be hid from before my face, that the blood of the prophets and the saints whom I sent among them might not cry unto me from the ground against them.

So as one can see, Nephi's prophesy, what he saw, was played out literally in its fulfillment. And what about our parallel to our day?

Revelation 6:9-10

9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, *dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?*

So here we have the blood of the Saints crying from the ground, then continuing we read:

Revelation 6:12-14

- 12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;
- 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.
- 14 And the heavens opened as a scroll is opened when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.

D&C 88:87-90

87 For not many days hence and the earth shall tremble and reel to and fro as a drunken man; and the sun shall hide his face, and shall refuse to give light; and the moon shall be bathed in blood; and the stars shall become exceedingly angry, and shall cast themselves down as a fig that falleth from off a fig tree.

88 And after your testimony cometh wrath and indignation upon the people.

89 For after your testimony cometh the testimony of earthquakes, that shall cause groanings in the midst of her, and men shall fall upon the ground and shall not be able to stand.

90 And also cometh the testimony of the voice of thunderings, and the voice of lightnings, and the voice of tempests, and the voice of the waves of the sea heaving themselves beyond their bounds.

And here we have the people are visited with thunder, lightning, earthquake etc. after the testimonies and blood crying from the ground.

So we have clear parallels from when Jesus visited the Nephites to when Jesus will visit us in the Americas, and we also have clear "why's" for the judgement of God being poured out- but we are missing point #1, people rejecting the prophets, people stoning and slaying them, the veil of stupidity etc. and the "why" people do that! The "why" that we are discussing in this paper! Going back to 2 Nephi 26:

2 Nephi 26:7-9

7 O the pain, and the anguish of my soul for the loss of the slain of my people! For I, Nephi, have seen it, and it well nigh consumeth me before the presence of the Lord; but I must cry unto my God: Thy ways are just.

8 But behold, *the righteous that hearken unto the words of the prophets, and destroy them not*, but look forward unto Christ with steadfastness for the signs which are given, notwithstanding all persecution—behold, *they are they which shall not perish*.

9 But the Son of Righteousness shall appear unto them; and he shall heal them, and they shall have peace with him...

So, once again, the clear divide here is between those who follow the prophet vs those who follow him not, but we still need to answer the question, "why did they not heed the prophets?" Let's keep reading...

2 Nephi 26:10-11

10 And when [they have rejected the prophets] a speedy destruction cometh unto my people; for, notwithstanding the pains of my soul, I have seen it; wherefore, I know that it shall come to pass; and *they sell themselves for naught*; for, for the reward of their pride and their foolishness they shall reap destruction; for because they yield unto the devil and choose works of darkness rather than light, therefore they must go down to hell.

11 For the Spirit of the Lord will not always strive with man. And when the Spirit ceaseth to strive with man then cometh speedy destruction, and this grieveth my soul.

So what causes people to harden their hearts against the prophets or in other words to have the veil of unbelief fall upon them, or as Joseph Smith put it, the veil of stupidity come upon them, or as Nephi puts "to have the Lord's Light cease to strive with you"? *Priestcraft*. *Selling themselves for naught*. And when that happens the Spirit of the Lord ceases to strive with people. A veil of unbelief or stupidity falls upon their minds and "behold, ere, they are aware, they are left unto themselves to kick against the pricks, to persecute the Saints and to fight against God." (D&C 121:38)

2 Nephi 26:14, 19

14 But behold, I prophesy unto you concerning the last days; concerning the days when the Lord God shall bring these things forth unto the children of men.

19 And it shall come to pass, that those who have dwindled in unbelief shall be smitten [and scourged] by the hand of the Gentiles.

So Nephi sees what happens to his people and then begins to immediately relate it to us in the last days, and the most important thing would be for him to try to get us to not dwindle in unbelief and reject the prophets. So Nephi clarifies beyond any reasonable doubt what causes the unbelief, what causes the veil of stupidity, what causes the Light of Christ to no longer dwell with man and ultimately cause the rejection of the prophets- and I would add here that the rejection of such prophets is what will bring about the scourging by the Gentiles. And he does so in the following verses:

2 Nephi 26:20-22,25-31

- 20 And the Gentiles are lifted up in the pride of their eyes, and have stumbled, because of the greatness of their stumbling block, that they have built up many churches; nevertheless, they put down the power and miracles of God, and preach up unto themselves their own wisdom and their own learning, that they may get gain and grind upon the face of the poor.
- 21 And there are many churches built up [and I would add "and YouTube channels, and Facebook groups, and Come Follow Me programs, etc.] which cause envyings, and strifes, and malice.
- 22 And there are also secret combinations, even as in times of old, according to the combinations of the devil, for he is the founder of all these things; yea, the founder of murder, and works of darkness; yea, and he leadeth them by the neck with a flaxen cord, until he bindeth them with his strong cords forever.
- 25 Behold, doth [the Lord] cry unto any, saying: Depart from me? Behold, I say unto you, Nay; but he saith: Come unto me all ye ends of the earth, *buy milk and honey, without money and without price*.
- 26 Behold, hath he commanded any that they should depart out of the synagogues, or out of the houses of worship? Behold, I say unto you, Nay.
- 27 Hath he commanded any that they should not partake of his salvation? Behold I say unto you, Nay; but he hath given it free for all men; and he hath commanded his people that they should persuade all men to repentance.
- 28 Behold, hath the Lord commanded any that they should not partake of his goodness? Behold I say unto you, Nay; but all men are privileged the one like unto the other, and none are forbidden.
- 29 He commandeth that there shall be no priestcrafts; for, behold, priestcrafts are that men preach and set themselves up for a light unto the world, that they may get gain and praise of the world; but they seek not the welfare of Zion.
- 30 Behold, the Lord hath forbidden this thing; wherefore, the Lord God hath given a commandment that all men should have charity, which charity is love. And except they should have charity they were nothing. Wherefore, if they should have charity they would not suffer the laborer in Zion to perish.
- 31 But the laborer in Zion shall labor for Zion; for if they labor for money they shall perish.

This is where we are right now and here is your "why". President Nelson told us that we would live to see what Nephi only saw in vision, that we are the very people that Nephi saw in vision. He wasn't wrong. The veil of stupidity or the veil of unbelief is a topic that ties directly into this same topic- if you are curious about learning more about it and the importance of rending the veil of unbelief see my paper Faith As the Brother of Jared or the fireside from February 14 2021.

But I hear one say, "we don't stone the prophets, and throw them out and slay them! And we don't support priestcraft! We simply support financially people we want to hear..." Well the second half to the "key" is found in Helaman 13 and it has your answer so let's break it down:

Helaman 13:

8 Therefore, thus saith the Lord: Because of the hardness of the hearts of the people of the Nephites, except they repent I will take away my word from them, and I will withdraw my Spirit from them, and I will suffer them no longer, and I will turn the hearts of their brethren against them.

9 And *four hundred years* shall not pass away before I will cause that they shall be smitten; yea, I will visit them with *the sword and with famine and with pestilence*.

We should note, that in 1620 the pilgrims landed, and 400 years later we were hit with pestilence (desolating sickness), next it will be the famine, and finally the sword... We should take extra care not to overlook verse 8... "I will take away my word from them and I will withdraw my Spirit"

Elder Orson Pratt warned the Saints:

"What kind of feelings does this produce in the hearts of the humble poor who desire and are striving to serve the Lord? They feel in their hearts that they do not fellowship these rich persons, and this causes hard feelings between these classes. Is this right or is it wrong? It is wrong, materially wrong, and we have continued in this wrong over forty years. When shall it come to an end? When will we learn to keep the commandments of God and become one, not only in doctrine but in "the bonds of earthly things?" Such a time must come, and if we do not comply with it, we shall fall behind. I will prophesy to this people on this subject. The Lord commanded me to prophesy when I was about nineteen years old, but I seldom do it, for fear I should prophesy wrong. But I will prophesy concerning this Church and people, that all who will not come into that order of things, when God, by his servants, counsels them so to do, will cease growing in the knowledge of God, they will cease having the Spirit of the Lord to rest upon them, and they will gradually grow darker and darker in their minds, until they lose the Spirit and power of God, and their names will not be numbered with the names of the righteous. You may put that down and record it."

Discourse by Elder Orson Pratt, delivered in the 16th Ward Assembly Rooms, Salt Lake City, Sunday Afternoon, March 9, 1873.

vol. 15, pp. 354-366

Now I want people to read that quote over and over again... Elder Pratt said he was told to prophesy but didn't for fear "he might be wrong", but this he not only prophesied, he said "put that down and record it"... Then I want you to compare this to what President Nelson has been saying recently... Such as:

"How would your life be different if the knowledge you gained from The Book of Mormon was suddenly taken away?"

and

"The time is coming when those who who do not obey the Lord will be separated from those who do"

and finally the two letters the First Presidency has sent out:

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We find ourselves fighting a war against the ravages of COVID-19 and its variants, an unrelenting pandemic. We want to do all we can to limit the spread of these viruses. We know that protection from the diseases they cause can only be achieved by immunizing a very high percentage of the population.

To limit exposure to these viruses, we urge the use of face masks in public meetings whenever social distancing is not possible. *To provide personal protection from such severe infections, we urge individuals to be vaccinated.* Available vaccines have proven to be both safe and effective.

We can win this war if everyone will follow the wise and thoughtful recommendations of medical experts and government leaders. Please know of our sincere love and great concern for all of God's children.

The First Presidency Russell M. Nelson Dallin H. Oaks Henry B. Eyring

The First Presidency Asks Latter-day Saints Worldwide to Wear Face Masks in Temples

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On September 22, 2021, the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints sent this letter to Church leaders around the world. The letter is also available in French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish and Russian.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We are grateful that in recent months, some level of ordinance work has resumed in every temple. Our desire is to keep temples open.

As cases of COVID-19 increase in many areas, we want to do everything possible to allow temples to remain open. Therefore, effective immediately, all temple patrons and workers are asked to wear face masks at all times while in the temple. These safety protocols are temporary, based on COVID-19 conditions, and will be rescinded as soon as circumstances permit.

Our urging Church members to be vaccinated and to protect themselves and others from the spread of disease has precedent. Prior First Presidencies shared similar messages in 1900 about smallpox and in 1957 regarding polio. Please do all you can to protect yourself and others so the work of the Lord on both sides of the veil can move forward.

Sincerely yours,

Russell M. Nelson Dallin H. Oaks Henry B. Eyring

Russell M. Nelson

According to what we have just read, because the people harkened not unto the Prophet's counsel, the Lord will take away His Spirit from them, AND His word, and He will "turn the hearts of their brethren against them"... We should take careful note of what we have just been taught... Continuing in Helaman:

Helaman 13:

- 12 Yea, wo unto this great city of Zarahemla; for behold, it is because of those who are righteous that it is saved; yea, wo unto this great city, for I perceive, saith the Lord, that there are many, yea, even the more part of this great city, that will harden their hearts against me, saith the Lord.
- 13 But blessed are they who will repent, for them will I spare. But behold, if it were not for the righteous who are in this great city, behold, I would cause that fire should come down out of heaven and destroy it.
- 14 But behold, it is for the righteous' sake that it is spared. But behold, the time cometh, saith the Lord, that when ye shall cast out the righteous from among you, then shall ye be ripe for destruction; yea, wo be unto this great city, because of the wickedness and abominations which are in her.
- 1. The city is saved because of the righteous in the city
- 2. The unrighteous among the Saints disobeying the counsel of the prophets causes the Lord to "turn the hearts of their brethren against them" meaning that
- 3. The righteous Saints suffer with the unrighteous among them until
- 4. There is a separation of Saints and then
- 5. Destruction comes on the wicked

That should sound familiar to everyone:

President Joseph Fielding Smith:

"The Lord has also prophesied of these things, and they have been mentioned by ancient seers and prophets. We have had ample warning. 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 the 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... 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 judgements 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." (President Joseph Fielding Smith, Doctrines of Salvation Vol III, chapter 1 pages 25-32)

Continuing once again in Helaman:

Helaman 13:

16 Yea, and wo be unto all the cities which are in the land round about, which are possessed by the Nephites, because of the wickedness and abominations which are in them.

17 And behold, a curse shall come upon the land, saith the Lord of Hosts, because of the people's sake who are upon the land, yea, because of their wickedness and their abominations.

18 And it shall come to pass, saith the Lord of Hosts, yea, our great and true God, that whoso shall hide up treasures in the earth shall find them again no more, because of the great curse of the land, save he be a righteous man and shall hide it up unto the Lord.

19 For I will, saith the Lord, that they shall hide up their treasures unto me; and cursed be they who hide not up their treasures unto me; for none hideth up their treasures unto me save it be the righteous; and he that hideth not up his treasures unto me, cursed is he, and also the treasure, and none shall redeem it because of the curse of the land.

20 And the day shall come that they shall hide up their treasures, because they have set their hearts upon riches; and because they have set their hearts upon their riches, and will hide up their treasures when they shall flee before their enemies; because they will not hide them up unto me, cursed be they and also their treasures; and in that day shall they be smitten, saith the Lord.

- 21 Behold ye, the people of this great city, and hearken unto my words; yea, hearken unto the words which the Lord saith; for behold, he saith that ye are cursed because of your riches, and also are your riches cursed because ye have set your hearts upon them, and have not hearkened unto the words of him who gave them unto you.
- 22 Ye do not remember the Lord your God in the things with which he hath blessed you, but ye do always remember your riches, not to thank the Lord your God for them; yea, your hearts are not drawn out unto the Lord, but they do swell with great pride, unto boasting, and unto great swelling, envyings, strifes, malice, persecutions, and murders, and all manner of iniquities.
- 23 For this cause hath the Lord God caused that a curse should come upon the land, and also upon your riches, and this because of your iniquities.

Here the option of "hiding up our treasures unto the Lord" vs hiding them ourselves before fleeing (i.e. "every man who doesn't flee will have to take up sword against neighbor", D&C45). This should tie in nice to the Elder Pratt quote already shared above as well as to a proper understanding and study of the Law of Consecration and the Parable of the Treasure in the Field. It was also talked about by President Brigham Young (the key is bolded):

"This is the land of Zion; but we are not yet prepared to go and establish the Center Stake of Zion. The Lord tried this in the first place. He called the people together to the place where the New Jerusalem and the great temple will be built, and where He will prepare for the City of Enoch. And He gave revelation after revelation; but the people could not abide them, and the Church was scattered and peeled, and the people hunted from place to place till, finally, they were driven into the mountains, and here we are. Now, it is for you and me to prepare to return back again; not to our fatherland, in many cases, but to return east, and by-and-by to build up the Center Stake of Zion. We are not prepared to do this now, but we are here to learn until we are of one heart and of one mind in the things of this life. Do all the Latter-day Saints arrive at this? No; they have not, our former experience has proved this. Of the great many who have been baptized into this Church, but few have been able to abide the word of the Lord; they have fallen out on the right and on the left, and have foundered by the way, and a few have gathered together. Will these be prepared to enter the celestial kingdom? Some of them will be, and will become kings and priests; but not all of these, only a portion of them. They do not know what to do with the revelations, commandments, and blessings of God. Talking, for instance, about everyday things, how many do we see

here that know what to do with money and property when they get it? Are their eyes single to the building up of the kingdom of God? No; they are single to the building up of themselves. With all the knowledge that Elders have obtained who have traveled in the Church five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five, or thirty years, there are few who understand the principles of the kingdom and whose eyes are single to the building of it up in all respects; but their eyes are like the fool's eye—looking to the ends of the earth. They want this and that, and they do not know what to do; they lack wisdom. By-and-by, perhaps, their wealth will depart from them, and when left poor and penniless, they will humble themselves before the Lord that they may be saved.

This is the situation of the Latter-day Saints, yet they are increasing. It is astonishing to look back and see the ignorance that was manifested by the people in their first gathering together; their experience then was far less than their experience and doings now. Still we are far short of being what we should and must be.

When the people assemble together they should be instructed with regard to their temporal lives. It is good to assemble together and pray, and preach, and exhort, so that we may obtain the power of God to that degree that we can heal the sick, cast out devils, speak with tongues, prophecy and enjoy all the blessings and gifts of the holy gospel; but that does not raise our bread, nor perfect the Saints in wisdom. I referred here, last Sunday, to men out of the Church who possess great gifts and who are not in the Church. Men who know nothing of the Priesthood receive revelation and prophecy, and yet these gifts belong to the Church, and those who are faithful in the kingdom of God inherit them and are entitled to them; and all ought to live so as to enjoy the spirit of these gifts and callings continually.

Do we know and understand that it is our business to build up Zion? To have seen the way this people have conducted themselves in years past, one would not have had the least idea that such was our business; but it made no difference whom we built cities for; many would build for Jew or Gentile, Greek, Mahommedan, or Pagan, every class of men on the earth, as readily, apparently, as they would build up Zion. Yet the word of the Lord to us is to build up Zion and her cities and stakes. Lengthen her cords and strengthen her stakes, O ye House of Israel; add to her beauty and add to her strength! Why, to have seen the conduct of the people you might have supposed they knew no more about Zion than about a city of the Chinese, or a city in France, Italy, Germany, or Asia; just as soon build up a city in Asia or Africa as anywhere else, "no matter whom we build for if we only get the dollar, only get our pay for our work." Yet the commandment of God to us is to build up Zion and her cities. I told you here last Sunday what Joseph said in this respect—what we should build and what we should not build up. This book [the book of Doctrine and Covenants] is full of it.

We say we believe Joseph was a prophet, that he had the priesthood and was called of God to gather the people together and establish Zion. If we believe this, why not let our lives prove that we believe the doctrine that we profess? Can you see any of the Christians in the world who do not believe the doctrine they profess? It is a very dark picture to look upon—a sad affair that we disbelieve our own doctrines. Let us remember them and live accordingly." (Brigham Young, February 10 1867, Journal of Discourses, 11:324)

Going back to Helaman:

Helaman 13:

24 Yea, wo unto this people, because of this time which has arrived, that ye do cast out the prophets, and do mock them, and cast stones at them, and do slay them, and do all manner of iniquity unto them, even as they did of old time.

Okay, so now we are back to this same theme once again, and so I will say once again: But I hear one say, "we don't stone the prophets, and throw them out and slay them! And we don't support priestcraft! We simply support financially people we want to hear..." Let's keep reading...

Helaman 13:

25 And now when ye talk, ye say: If our days had been in the days of our fathers of old, we would not have slain the prophets; we would not have stoned them, and cast them out.

Wha-oh! Look out! Now the Lord through His prophet is talking directly to you! Let's hear him out...

Helaman 13:

- 26 **Behold ye are worse than they**; for as the Lord liveth, if a prophet come among you and declareth unto you the word of the Lord, which testifieth of your sins and iniquities, ye are angry with him, and cast him out and seek all manner of ways to destroy him; yea, you will say that he is a false prophet, and that he is a sinner, and of the devil, because he testifieth that your deeds are evil.
- 27 But behold, if a man shall come among you and shall say: Do this, and there is no iniquity; do that and ye shall not suffer; yea, he will say: Walk after *the pride of your own hearts* [i.e. "spirit-o-meters"]; yea, walk after the pride of your eyes, and *do whatsoever your heart desireth*—and if a man shall come among you and say this, ye will receive him, and say that he is a prophet. [or a great teacher, YouTuber, writer, etc.]
- 28 Yea, ye will lift him up, and ye will give unto him of your substance; ye will give unto him of your gold, and of your silver, and ye will clothe him with costly apparel; and because he speaketh flattering words unto you, and he saith that all is well, then ye will not find fault with him. [Clearly identifying the giving of substance to the person as the key to priestcraft]
- 29 O ye wicked and ye perverse generation; ye hardened and ye stiffnecked people, how long will ye suppose that the Lord will suffer you? Yea, how long will ye suffer yourselves to be led by foolish and blind guides? Yea, how long will ye choose darkness rather than light?
- 30 Yea, behold, the anger of the Lord is *already* kindled against you; behold, he hath cursed the land because of your iniquity.
- 31 And behold, the time cometh that he curseth your riches, that they become slippery, that ye cannot hold them; and in the days of your poverty ye cannot retain them.
- 32 And in the days of your poverty ye shall cry unto the Lord; and in vain shall ye cry, for your desolation is already come upon you, and your destruction is made sure; and then shall ye weep and howl in that day, saith the Lord of Hosts. And then shall ye lament, and say:
- 33 O that I had repented, and had not killed the prophets, and stoned them, and cast them out. Yea, in that day ye shall say: O that we had remembered the Lord our God in the day that he gave us our riches, and then they would not have become slippery that we should lose them; for behold, our riches are gone from us.

Pay. Close. Attention. Saints of God.

"ye are WORSE than those who kill the prophets" if ye go about seeking ways to destroy the

Prophet/keys, tear them down, belittle them, etc. "ye are WORSE than those who kill the prophets" if ye go about seeking those who will preach unto you flattering words and give them substance, in other words "dofing whatsoever your heart desireth"... or as the Lord put it in

D&C 1:

16 They seek not the Lord to establish his righteousness, but every man walketh in his own way, and after the image of his own god, whose image is in the likeness of the world, and whose substance is that of an idol, which waxeth old and shall perish in Babylon, even Babylon the great, which shall fall.

The Lord also in the same chapter gave us the key to avoiding priestcraft, avoiding this pitfall of division, contention, "everyman going his own way after his own heart or false gods"...

D&C 1:

38 What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken, and I excuse not myself; and though the heavens and the earth pass away, my word shall not pass away, but shall all be fulfilled, whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same.

And isn't that just the theme of what we are learning here? Follow the prophet, don't cut the thread, and don't attempt to cut down the prophet, belittle him or his keys while at the same time practicing priestcraft yourself or supporting it in another! And NOW is the time to make these choices brothers and sisters, NOW... "Seek Him Early" is the name of another of my papers and it harkens back to this same theme that was touched on above in Helaman:

"And in the days of your poverty ye shall cry unto the Lord; and in vain shall ye cry, for your desolation is already come upon you, and your destruction is made sure; and then shall ye weep and howl in that day, saith the Lord of Hosts."

Where else have we heard this?

D&C 101:

7 They were slow to hearken unto the voice of the Lord their God; therefore, the Lord their God is slow to hearken unto their prayers, to answer them in the day of their trouble.

8 In the day of their peace they esteemed lightly *my counsel*; but, in the day of their trouble, of necessity they feel after me.

If one esteems the Lord's counsel to them lightly, or as a thing of naught... counsel given to one by the keys of God, keys which when speaking and giving counsel is that of the Lord's very own voice... If one throws it away and follows after their "own hearts", their "own gods" which are fashioned after Babylon, after the arm of flesh... If one does that, when famines and the sword comes, the Lord will be slow to hearken unto your prayers for deliverance. Period.

Elder L Tom Perry:

"What was the difference between the people of Alma and the people of King Limhi? Obviously, there were several differences: the people of Alma were peaceful and more righteous; they had already been baptized and entered into a covenant with the Lord; *they humbled themselves before the Lord even*

before their tribulations started. All these differences made it appropriate and fair that the Lord would deliver them quickly in a miraculous way from the hand which kept them in bondage. These scriptures teach us of the Lord's power of deliverance." (The Power of Deliverance, April 2012)

But what of Limhi's group which treated lightly the words of the prophets? We learn in Mosiah 21 that they fought three battles and were slaughtered each battle... and then we read:

Mosiah 21:

13 And they did humble themselves even to the dust, subjecting themselves to the yoke of bondage, submitting themselves to be smitten, and to be driven to and fro, and burdened, according to the desires of their enemies.

14 And they did humble themselves even in the depths of humility; and they did cry mightily to God; yea, even all the day long did they cry unto their God that he would deliver them out of their afflictions.

15 And now the Lord was slow to hear their cry because of their iniquities...

Brothers and Sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints... Please hear these words:

President Joseph Fielding Smith (Doctrines of Salvation, p.43)

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.

If we don't study what has been revealed, if we are lazy learners and lax disciples, we become prey, prey for whom? Priestcraft. Period. Those wolves in sheep's clothing drop the veil of stupidity, the veil of unbelief etc. around your ears and you don't even realize it. They then create division and enmity between the Saints of God and the keys of God... This then causes the Light of Christ to flee from everyone involved which leaves them into darkness and eventually apostasy.

Joseph Smith Jr; A Key to Mysteries (TPJS p.156)

I will give you one of the Keys of the mysteries of the Kingdom. It is an eternal principle, that has existed with God from all eternity: That man who rises up to condemn other, finding fault with the Church, saying that they are out of the way, while he himself is righteous, then know assuredly, that that man is in the high road to apostasy; and if he does not repent, will apostatize, as God lives. The principle is as

correct as the one that Jesus put forth...

George Q. Cannon ("Satan Hates a United People," Gospel Truth, Vol. 1, p. 210-11)

Whenever you see a man disobeying the counsel of the Lord through the Holy Priesthood, you may know that unless he repents, he will apostatize. It is a sure sign of apostasy. A man may be an Apostle, a Seventy, a High Priest, an Elder or a Bishop, yet if he tries to divide the people and persuades them to disobey the Prophet of God, he will surely fall, unless he repents with all his heart. The Lord asks us to obey Him. He tells us how to do so. He does not ask for blind obedience, because He gives His Holy Spirit to all who ask for it to show them that it is right to obey."

There is a reason why the Lord wanted me on YouTube, I didn't see it at the time, but I see it as clear as the sun today... There is a reason "why", and that reason why is "lazy learners and lax disciples"... There is a "key", and that key is priestcraft, for lazy learners and lax disciples make easy prey for the wolves in sheep clothing. The Lord loves His sheep, and will and did lay down His life for the sheep, but if they will not hear His voice then they will not be numbered among the covenant. "Why is this happening to your loved ones"? Because they are lazy learners and lax disciples and have fallen prey to wolves in sheep's clothing. Period.

Harsh? Maybe... But like the sergeant who was viewed as a tool in boot camp, I am willing to be that, because I know it will only get worse from here, and those that don't listen now will assuredly die in the fierce battles ahead... And maybe, after what I said jolted them awake and got them feasting on the Words of God themselves, and they are in the battle field ahead, they will think back and be grateful, that tough grizzled drill sergeant... Brothers and Sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints here is where I commit you, but today I steal my commitment from a member of Discord because he voiced it perfectly.

Doer Palmer (djp)

I encourage *everyone* to listen/read this *fire* talk: Beware of False Prophets and False Teachers, by Elder M. Russell Ballard (given October 1999) and then [I] challenge you to pray to know which "false prophets" you are still following that you should "unsubscribe" from. There are so many quotes and phrases in this that applies to us TODAY. https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/1999/10/beware-of-false-prophets-and-false-teachers?lang=eng

In the name of Jesus Christ, amen!