**Sharpening the Sword**

**#7 (v1.0)**

**Golden Scripture #1**

**Romans 2:12-13**

12 For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

13 (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.

**Application: Once you know something or have access to said knowledge you will be judged according to that knowledge. To be hearers only and not doers will not grant exaltation.**

 **Golden Scripture #2
Helaman 5:12**

12 And now, my sons, remember, remember that it is upon the rock of our Redeemer, who is Christ, the Son of God, that ye must build your foundation; that when the devil shall send forth his mighty winds, yea, his shafts in the whirlwind, yea, when all his hail and his mighty storm shall beat upon you, it shall have no power over you to drag you down to the gulf of misery and endless wo, because of the rock upon which ye are built, which is a sure foundation, a foundation whereon if men build they cannot fall.

 **Application:** **Being doers of the Word fortifies us and helps us overcome temptation, setbacks, frustrations etc.**

**Story/Scripture Chain #1:
Matthew 7:24-27**

24 ¶ Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

***image: house on rock (silver/grey ground)***

26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

***image: house on sand (yellow ground)***

**Application:** **Contrast between building on Christ and His doctrine vs. everything else is laid out**

 **Story/Scripture Chain #2:
James 1:22-25**

22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

***image: mirror***

**James 1:23. “A Man Beholding His Natural Face in a Glass”**

In James 1:23 the word “glass” refers to a polished metal surface that was used as a mirror (see commentary for 1 Corinthians 13:9–13). James compared those who deceive themselves by hearing God’s word but neglecting to act in righteousness to those who see their own reflection in a mirror and then forget how they looked. Elder Bruce R. McConkie added this insight: “To hear and not do—to seek salvation solely through the good works of Christ, without personal conformity to his laws—is to see a glimpse of what salvation is in a mirror without ever receiving the real thing” (Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 3:252).

**Application:** **This parable won’t be any use to you unless you understand how to teach it. To be hearers of the Word and not doers is like somebody who sees themselves in a mirror with mud on their face and instead of cleaning their face, turns away from the mirror and either forgets what he saw in the mirror or pretends like they didn’t see it and go about their day.**

**Fire Scriptures of the Day:**

**1 Nephi 15:32-36**

**32 And it came to pass that I said unto them that it was a representation of things both temporal and spiritual; for the day should come that they must be judged of their works, yea, even the works which were done by the temporal body in their days of probation.**

**33 Wherefore, if they should die in their wickedness they must be cast off also, as to the things which are spiritual, which are pertaining to righteousness; wherefore, they must be brought to stand before God, to be judged of their works; and if their works have been filthiness they must needs be filthy; and if they be filthy it must needs be that they cannot dwell in the kingdom of God; if so, the kingdom of God must be filthy also.**

**34 But behold, I say unto you, the kingdom of God is not filthy, and there cannot any unclean thing enter into the kingdom of God; wherefore there must needs be a place of filthiness prepared for that which is filthy.**

**35 And there is a place prepared, yea, even that awful hell of which I have spoken, and the devil is the preparator of it; wherefore the final state of the souls of men is to dwell in the kingdom of God, or to be cast out because of that justice of which I have spoken.**

**36 Wherefore, the wicked are rejected from the righteous, and also from that tree of life, whose fruit is most precious and most desirable above all other fruits; yea, and it is the greatest of all the gifts of God. And thus I spake unto my brethren. Amen.**

**Fire Scriptures of the Day #2:**

**Matthew 7:16-23**

**16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?**

**17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.**

**18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.**

**19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.**

**20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.**

**21 ¶ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.**

**22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?**

**23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**

**Application: There is a time coming when we shall be judged of our works and if we looked in the mirror and saw our own filthiness and decided to not build on the rock, we decided to be hearers only, we decided to walk away from the mirror and pretend like we didn’t see or hear anything, we shall be filthy still at the judgement and no amount of pleading or weeping and gnashing of teeth will save us.**

**Example of “story drawing images”: Example of “Fire”:**

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