

**Deborah Judge, Prophetess, Military Leader,
Writer of Poetry and Song, Praising God in Song
Sept. 2025 Class**



The Only Woman Judge
in the Bible



• The Judges Had Been
Set Up Under Moses

• Exodus 18:20 And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt show them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.



Prophetess in the Bible

Exodus 15:20 And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron,

2 Kings 22:14 So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah, the prophetess,

Luke 2:36 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher

Acts 21:9 And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.

Judges 4:4 And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time

Did You Know?



The Bible mentions at least 8 female prophets (prophetesses).

Upon the Handmaids

Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions; 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit.

30 And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.

32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered; for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.

The Children of Israel Did Not Obey God



Joshua 17:16 And the children of Joseph said, The hill is not enough for us; **and all the Canaanites that dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron**, both they who are of Bethshean and her towns, and they who are of the valley of Jezreel.....

18 IT SHALL BE THINE, for thou shalt drive out the Canaanites, though they have iron chariots, and though they be strong.

Judges 1:28 And it came to pass, when Israel was strong, **that they put the Canaanites to tribute, and did not utterly drive them out.**

An Angel of the Lord Came

Judges 2:1 And an angel of the Lord came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you unto the land which I swore unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you.



2 And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars; **but ye have not obeyed my voice; why have ye done this?**

3 Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.

4 And it came to pass, when the angel of the Lord spake these words unto all the children of Israel, **that the people lifted up their voice, and wept.**

1 Corinthians 10:5-12

5 But with many of them God was not well pleased; for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.

7 Neither be ye idolaters as were some of them; as it is written. The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

8 Neither let us commit fornication as some of them committed and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.

9 Neither let us tempt Christ as some of them also tempted and were destroyed of serpents.

10 Neither murmur ye as some of them also murmured and were destroyed of the destroyer.

11 Now, all these things happened unto them for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition also and for an admonition for those upon whom the end of the world shall come.

12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed, lest he fall.

Doctrine and Covenants, Section 83, Verses 8a-c

8a And your minds in times past have been darkened because of unbelief and because you have treated lightly the things you have received, which vanity and unbelief hath brought the whole church under condemnation.

8b And this condemnation resteth upon the children of Zion, even all; and they shall remain under this condemnation until they repent and remember the new covenant, even the Book of Mormon and the former commandments which I have given them—not only to say, but to do according to that which I have written—

8c that they may bring forth fruit meet for their Father's kingdom; otherwise, there remaineth a scourge and a judgment to be poured out upon the children of Zion. . . .

A Letter Sent to Zion by Orson Hyde & Hyrum Smith

“Therefore, with the feelings of inexpressible anxiety for your welfare, we say again, **repent, repent or Zion must suffer, for the scourge and judgment must come upon her. . . .** Tell them to read the Book of Mormon and obey it; read the commandments that are printed and obey them. . . . Tell them that they must not have come up to Zion to sit down in idleness, neglecting the things of God but they are to be diligent and faithful in obeying the New Covenant.

“If the people do not repent the Lord would seek another place, and another people! Zion is the place where the temple will be built, and the people gathered. But all people upon that Holy Land and being under condemnation, the Lord will cut off, if they will repent not, and bring another race upon it, that will serve Him. The Lord will seek another place to prepare His word to go forth to the nations.”

Given in 1834 = D&C Sec. 102:2c And Zion cannot be built up **unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom;** otherwise, I cannot receive her unto myself; 2d and my people must needs be chastened until they learn obedience, if it must needs be by the things which they suffer.

D&C Sec. 102:3c Therefore, in consequence of the transgression of my people, **it is expedient in me that mine elders should wait for a little season for the redemption of Zion, that they themselves may be prepared and that my people may be taught more perfectly, and have experience . . .**

Commentary on the Doctrine and Covenants
by F. Henry Edwards

“This little season will last until the Saints develop the qualities of Zion Builders” 1834-1954

Weldon Quotes
Roy Weldon 1968 =
has been 57 years



Walter Weldon 1990 to today = 35 years

Quotes = “We are in that time period when He is telling many of His priesthood what is coming.

In the words which were given to me: ‘Tell my people, Foretold calamities are coming to cleanse the land of Zion’

We have been told what we need to do to cleanse our lives. Also to sanctify our lives and keep His celestial law . The calamities are coming because we have failed to do, and live up to His word.”

**Walter
Weldon**

“When we had our opportunity we procrastinated the time when we were able to respond.

We are going to have to go through this cleansing time.”

- DC 105:10a And upon my house shall it begin, and from my house shall it go forth, saith the Lord.



Given in 2013 at CMRB Reunion
By Elder Rob Bird

Message = “My love for each of you remains undiminished and always will be, **however, the hour of your most effective work is waning and will soon be passed on to a more obedient and committed people.**

Important choices lie before you this day and in the days ahead – **choices that have eternal consequences.”**



Are We Any Different Today?

This is a portion of the message given in 2023 at Kirtland: “If you will be obedient to keep the Two Great Commandments of love for the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost, and one another as your neighbors, I will yet use you for this purpose and stewardship that I have given you.

If not, my purposes will not fail, but, as I have said in former years, I will raise up another people I say unto you, listen to me. There are two stewardships that will ensure success if you will do them.

1. As the five wise virgins did in the parable of the last days, ‘gather and sanctify your oil, before the cry at midnight.’ 2. **Prepare yourself through scripture, prayer, fasting, and humble service. You must take the Holy Spirit as a guide in all things that you do in your life.”**

Zion Flash Card #134

God is So Longsuffering & Warns Us Over and Over



• **Sec.1:1d and the voice of warning shall be unto all people, by the mouths of my disciples, whom I have chosen in these last days, and they shall go forth and none shall stay them, for I the Lord have commanded them....the day speedily cometh-the hour is not yet, but is nigh at hand- when peace shall be taken from the earth**

God is Long Suffering

- **2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise and coming, as some men count slackness; but long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance**
- **1 Peter 3:20 Some of whom were disobedient in the days of Noah,while the long-suffering of God waited,** while the ark was preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

Psalms 103:8 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

9 He will not always chide; neither will he keep his anger forever.

10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

Judges 2:8 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died, being a hundred and ten years old



Judges 2:10 And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers; **and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.**

11 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served Baalim;

12 And they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the Lord to anger.

13 And they forsook the Lord, and served Baal and Ashtaroth.

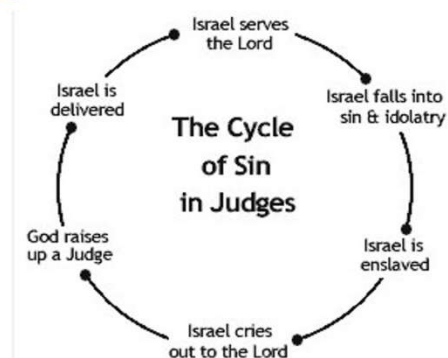
The Time of the Judges

- **Judges 3:5** And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites..... **6** And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods.



Judges 3:8 Therefore the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Chushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia; and the children of Israel served Chushan-rishathaim eight years.

9 And when the children of Israel cried unto the Lord, the Lord raised up a deliverer to the children of Israel, who delivered them, even Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother.



The Canaanite's ruled the Plains and low hill regions through their advanced military power. They had mastered making metal. This would keep the Israelites (and other raiders) from settling permanently or from significantly disturbing Canaanite trade routes along Jezreel Valley. They held a force of 900 chariots. At that time, any opposing force lay at the mercy of this powerful Canaanite weapon. When confronting them in the open field nothing could stand against their Iron Chariots. They held a mighty weapon of destruction in their chariots, much like tanks today. What field army could stand against them?

1 Samuel 13:19-22 **19** Now there was no smith found throughout all the land of Israel; for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make them swords or spears. **20** But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines to sharpen, every man, his share, and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock. **21** Yet they had a file for the mattocks, and for the coulters, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to sharpen the goads. **22** So it came to pass in the day of battle that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan;

Fear Ruled Their Minds

Judges 4:1-3 1 And the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord when Ehud was dead. 2 And the Lord sold them into the hand of Jabin, king of Canaan, that reigned in Hazor, the captain of whose host was Sisera, which dwelt in Harosheth of the Gentiles. 3 And the children of Israel cried unto the Lord; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron; and twenty years he mightily oppressed the children of Israel.

Note: The men of that day were filled with fear of Jabin and his commander Sisera. They had been under their hand for 20 years. They feared the Chariots!

Bill Jones Quote:

“What is the Spirit of Fear? Fear itself is a natural human emotion triggered by perceived danger.

“The ‘Spirit of Fear’ is often described as a Spiritual Influence, produced from an outside negative force which instills anxiety or increasing uncertainty or lack of confidence.

“Its presence can be quite debilitating. It can lead to excessive worry, anxiety, lack of trust in God or one’s own self.

“It can prevent people from taking action or pursuing goals. It can be a state of mind that hinders faith.”

Israelites Had to Slink Around on the Backroads and Were Afraid to Fight

Judges 5:6 In the days of Jael, the highways were unoccupied, and the travelers walked through byways.

7 The inhabitants of the villages ceased, they ceased in Israel until that I Deborah arose, that I arose a mother in Israel.

8 They chose new gods; then was war in the gates; was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?

Word Cease Signifies:

THEY LIVED IN FEAR

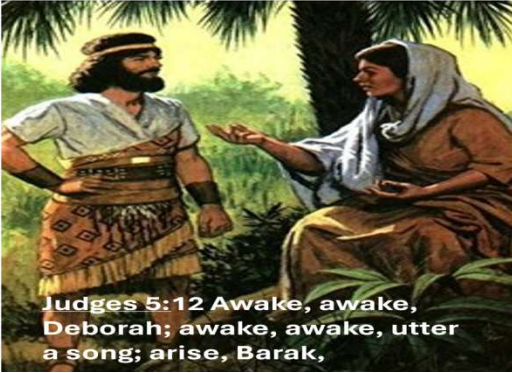
They Ceased to Fight

They Had Given up Hope

They Had Lost Faith in God



God Speaks to Deborah



Judges 5:12 Awake, awake,
Deborah; awake, awake, utter
a song; arise, Barak,

Judges 4:4 And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time.

5 And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah, between Ramah and Beth-el in mount Ephraim; and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.

6 And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali, and said unto him, **Hath not the Lord God of Israel commanded, saying, Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun?**

7 And I will draw unto thee, to the river Kishon, Sisera the captain of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his multitude; and I will deliver him into thine hand.

God Calls Us to Awake Today

Isaiah 52:1-3 **1 Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. 2 Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem; loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion. 3 For thus saith the Lord, Ye have sold yourselves for naught; and ye shall be redeemed without money.**

2 Nephi 1:27 **O, that ye would awake; awake from a deep sleep, yea, even from the sleep of hell, and shake off the awful chains by which ye are bound, which are the chains which bind the children of men, that they are carried away captive down to the eternal gulf of misery and wo!**

Alma 3:11 Behold, he changed their hearts; **yea, he awaked them out of a deep sleep, and they awoke unto God.**

Awake Arise and Go Forth

- Alma 5:38 And now my beloved brethren, I have said these things unto you, that **I might awaken you to a sense of your duty to God, that ye may walk blameless before him; that ye may walk after the holy order of God, after which ye have been received.**
- Romans 13:11 And that, knowing the time, that now **it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed**
- DC 108:3c Go ye forth unto the land of Zion, that the borders of my people may be enlarged, and that her stakes may be strengthened, and that Zion may go forth unto the regions round about; yea, **let the cry go forth among all people: Awake and arise and go forth to meet the Bridegroom**



She Went to Encourage and Give the Word of the Lord

Judges 4:8-9 8 And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go; but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go. 9 **And she said, I will surely go with thee,** notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honor; for the Lord shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh.

Israel Went Up to Mount Tabor

Judges 4:13-14 13 And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, even nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people that were with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles unto the river of Kishon. 14 And Deborah said unto Barak, **Up; for this is the day in which the Lord hath delivered Sisera into thine hand. Is not the Lord gone out before thee?** So, Barak, went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him.

Sisera is Killed

Judges 4:17-21

17 Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber, the Kenite; for there was peace between Jabin, the king of Hazor, and the house of Heber, the Kenite.

18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera and said unto him, Turn in, my lord, turn in to me; fear not. And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle.

19 And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water to drink, for I am thirsty. And she opened a bottle of milk, and gave him drink, and covered him.

20 Again he said unto her, Stand in the door of the tent; and it shall be, when any man doth come and inquire of thee and say, Is there any man here? that thou shalt say, No.

21 Then Jael, Heber's wife, took a nail of the tent, and took a hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground; for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died.

Atrocities of Sisera

Judges 5:28 The mother of Sisera looked out at a window, and cried through the lattice, Why is his chariot so long in coming? why tarry the wheels of his chariots?

29 Her wise ladies answered her, yea, she returned answer to herself,

30 Have they not sped? have they not divided the prey; to every man a damsel or two = This speaks of Sexual Assault by Sisera and his men. Even his mother was aware of this atrocious practice.

The Kenite people were nomadic people. Lived in tents, often close to the children of Israel. They were the people of Jethro, Moses's father-in-law. Their stories often intertwined with Israel.

Samuel spoke of them:

1 Samuel 15:6 *for ye showed kindness to all the children of Israel when they came up out of Egypt.*

Judges 5:24

Blessed above women shall Jael, the wife of Heber, the Kenite, be;
blessed shall she be above women in the tent.

Looking Back in Time

HAZOR HEADQUARTERS
OF KING JABIN



Psalms 103:13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

15 As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

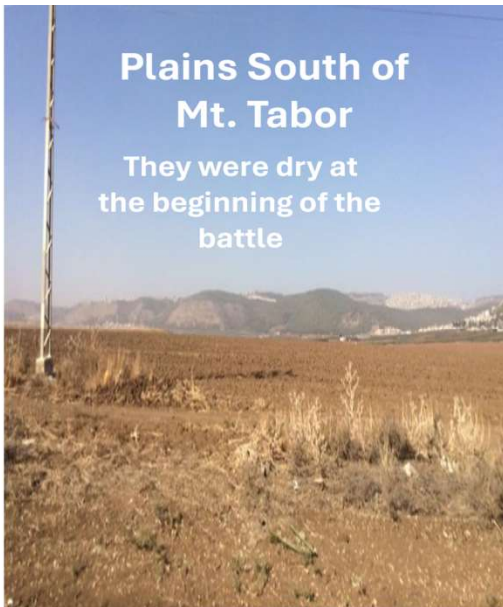
16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone, and the place thereof shall know it no more.

17 But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

18 To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

Mt. Tabor Today





Plains South of Mt. Tabor

They were dry at the beginning of the battle

PLAIN SOUTH OF MT. TABOR

Song of Deborah

Judges 5:1 Then sang Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam on that day, saying,

2 Praise ye the Lord for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves.

3 Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes; I even I, will sing unto the Lord; I will sing praise to the Lord God of Israel.

4 Lord, when thou wentest out of Seir, when thou marchest out of the field of Edom, the earth trembled, and the heavens dropped, the clouds also dropped water.

5 The mountains melted from before the Lord, even that Sinai from before the Lord God of Israel.

Victory Song of Deborah



Judges 5:7 The inhabitants of the villages ceased, they ceased in Israel, **until that I Deborah arose, that I arose a mother in Israel.....**

20 They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera. **(Ridiculing their Astronomers)**

21 **The river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river Kishon. O my soul, thou hast trodden down strength.**

22 Then were the horsehoofs broken by the means of the prancings, the prancings of their mighty ones.



Deborah Denounced Those Who Would Not Fight

Judges 5:17-18

17 Gilead abode beyond Jordan. And why did Dan remain in ships? Asher continued on the seashore and abode in his breaches.

18 Zebulun and Naphtali were a people that jeopardated their lives unto the death in the high places of the field.

Looking at Deborah's Qualities

Had Great Faith = Believed in Him Fully, No Wavering, Trusted in God's Word

Courageous = Because of Her Great Faith She Had Great Courage

She Was Anchored in Her Relationship with God = A Strong Personal Relationship with God = Comes from Prayer, Study, Faith, Discipline

Humble = Did Not Lead from Personal Power but with Divine Wisdom

Well-Studied = Had to know God's Law to Judge Effectively

She Developed Her Gift of Wisdom and Understanding, Leadership etc.

Answered God's Call and Moved Out in Faith = Out of Her Comfort Zone

She Kept Her Focus on God and His Sovereign Power = She Knew How to Praise God and Give Him the Glory

Deborah a Judge

- From Different Bible Commentaries

Deborah was one of the rulers of the Hebrews (and the only female leader) in the Old Testament. These rulers were called "mishpat," which is translated as "judges." A role that originated back when Moses appointed helpers to assist him in resolving arguments among the people. ([Exodus 18](#)).

As a judge, she resolved disputes and governed with wisdom that earned her the respect of an entire nation. Think about it – in a culture where women rarely held public roles, people from all walks of life climbed the hills to her palm tree seeking her counsel.

This wasn't just because of her titles; it was because she demonstrated a rare combination of divine wisdom, practical judgment, and compassionate leadership.

This is speaking of Christ but we can learn from this about "Gifts of Wisdom and Understanding working in His servants lives also"

[Isaiah 11:1](#) And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots;

And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,

1. the Spirit of wisdom and

2. understanding = Work together = Holy Spirit enlightens & expands our minds to comprehend

3. the Spirit of counsel== The Holy Spirit to guide and direct us,

4. and might = Holy Spirit give us Fortitude & Courage,

5. the Spirit of knowledge = Spirit of Truth & Prophecy

6. and of the fear of the Lord = Comes from knowing God & who He is = which brings forth the Spirit of "Love, Allegiance and Obedience"

3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord; and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears;

7. But with righteousness = Piety/Holiness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth;

She Must Have Been Well Studied

Exodus 18:20 And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt show them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.



Deborah Was Strong and of Good Courage = Fortitude

- She Answered = I Will Surely Go With Thee

Article from Shepherd Press

“Deborah was not caught up in the fear of her day. She took God at His word. So, when she was given the message to give to Barak to attack Sisera, she didn’t flinch.”

Even though Sisera had a formidable army that featured 900 chariots made of iron, she delivered God’s message to Barak with confidence:

‘Has not the Lord, the God of Israel, commanded you?’ (Judges 4:6)

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

DC 85:36a Therefore, verily I say unto you, my friends, Call your solemn assembly, as I have commanded you; and as all have not faith, seek ye diligently and teach one another words of wisdom; yea, seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning even by study, and also by faith

Deborah Would Have Read About Men of Faith

Genesis 14:26 Now Melchizedek was a man of faith, who wrought righteousness; and when a child he feared God, and stopped the mouths of lions, and quenched the violence of fire

Genesis 14:30 For God having sworn unto Enoch and unto his seed with an oath by himself; that every one being ordained after this order and calling should have power, by faith, to break mountains, to divide the seas, to dry up waters, to turn them out of their course

Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

All Through the Scriptures We Find Stories of Faith and Courage

“Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, ‘King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.’” – Daniel 3:16-18

“David said to the Philistine, ‘You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.’”] – 1 Samuel 17:45

“When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.” – Psalm 56:3

“I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.” – Psalm 34:4

What About Us Today = We Have All the Witnesses Down Through the Ages and God's Word Today = How is Our Faith Level?

DC 8:3d that without faith you can do nothing. **Therefore, ask in faith.**

DC 28:2c and as it is written, **Whatsoever ye shall ask in faith, being united in prayer according to my command, ye shall receive;** and ye are called to bring to pass the gathering of mine elect, for mine elect hear my voice and harden not their hearts

DC 34:3b for I am God, and mine arm is not shortened, and I will show miracles, signs and wonders, unto all those who believe on my name. **c And whoso shall ask it in my name, in faith, they shall cast out devils; they shall heal the sick; they shall cause the blind to receive their sight, and the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak, and the lame to walk**

DC 100:7a All victory and glory is brought to pass unto you through your diligence, faithfulness, and prayers of faith

DC 110:22a Brethren, shall we not go on in so great a cause? **Go forward and not backward. Courage, brethren; and on, on to the victory**

DC 129:9c So be ye encouraged and press on to the consummation designed of God for his people--**unity, honor, sanctification, and glory**. Amen. JOSEPH SMITH. LAMONI, IOWA, April 18, 1909

DC 141:7c My servants should not become weary of well-doing. The adversary is quick to discourage and thus destroy their effectiveness.

Do We Need to Increase Our Faith Level?

Deborah Had Great Faith:

Believed in God Fully, No Wavering, Trusted in God's Word Completely

She Knew God was Powerful and Able to Do the Impossible

She Did Not Hesitate, but Moved Out in Faith

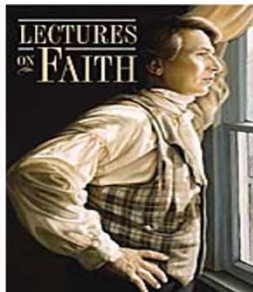
Faith = Action = See "Hebrews Hall of Fame" in Hebrews 11:1-7

Hebrews 11:7

By faith, Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet,
moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house;

**Faith = We Must Come to
Know God and His Attributes**

**Lectures
on Faith by
Joseph Smith**



In Lectures #3 & #4 Joseph expresses the concept that to have faith in God we must have a correct idea of his attributes and character.

Joseph taught that knowing the attributes of God did away with doubt

and made one's faith exceedingly strong.

Joseph said "An acquaintance with these attributes in the divine character, is essentially necessary, in order that the faith of any rational being can center in him for life and salvation."

"What object had the God of heaven in revealing his attributes to men? That through an acquaintance with his attributes they might be enabled to exercise faith in him..."

Could men exercise faith in God without an acquaintance with his attributes...They could not."

Coming to Know Christ Anchors Your Faith

"No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you."
John 15:15



Sec. 85:16a And again, verily I say unto you, my friends, I leave these sayings with you, to ponder in your hearts with this commandment which I give unto you, that ye shall call upon me while I am near; **16b** draw near unto me, and I will draw near unto you;

16c seek me diligently and ye shall find me; **16d** ask and ye shall receive; **16e** knock and it shall be opened unto you; **16f** whatsoever ye ask the Father in my name it shall be given unto you, that is expedient for you; and if ye ask anything that is not expedient for you, it shall turn unto your condemnation.

Is Your Faith Anchored

Hymn –Will Your Anchor Hold?

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life, When the clouds unfold wings of strife? Then the strong tides lift, and the cables strain, Will Your anchor hold or firm remain?

It is safely moored; will the storm withstand? For tis well secured in the Savior's hand; and the cables, passed from His heart to mine, Can defy the blast, through strength divine.

It will firmly hold in the straits of fear, When the breakers have told the reef is near; Through the tempest rave and the wild winds blow, Not an angry wave shall our bark o'er flow. We have a anchor that keeps the soul steadfast and sure while the billows roll, Fastened to the rock which cannot move, Grounded firm and deep in the Saviors love.

Hebrews 6:19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

With Out an Anchor

Mormon 2:47 But now, behold they are led about by Satan, even as chaff is driven before the wind, or as a vessel is tossed about upon the waves, without sail or anchor, or without anything wherewith to steer her; and even as she is, so are they

Do We Believe in God & Hope for a Better World? Do We Have Hope In Zion?

Ether 5:4

Wherefore, whoso believeth in God might with surety hope for a better world, yea, even a place at the right hand of God, which hope cometh of faith, an anchor to the souls of men, which would make them sure and steadfast, always abounding in good works, being led to glorify God.

The Hope of Zion

Ether 6:4-6

4 Behold, Ether saw the days of Christ, and he spake concerning a **New Jerusalem upon this land**; and he spake also concerning the house of Israel and the Jerusalem from whence Lehi should come; after it should be destroyed, it should be built up again, a holy city unto the Lord; 5 Wherefore, it could not be a New Jerusalem, for it had been in a time of old; but it should be built up again and become a holy city of the Lord; and it should be built up unto the house of Israel; 6 **And that a New Jerusalem should be built up upon this land, unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph . . .**

Doctrine & Covenants, Section 34:6a . . . **Zion shall rejoice upon the hills and flourish; and Israel shall be saved in mine own due time.**

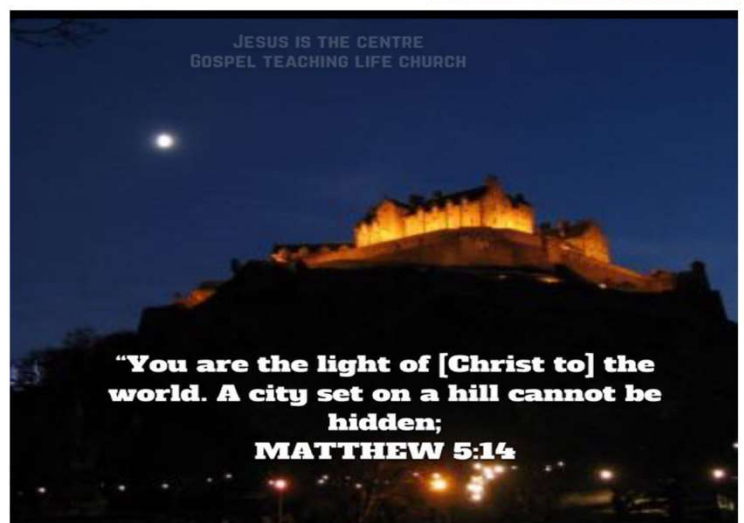
Doctrine & Covenants, Section 97:4a And now, I give unto you a word concerning Zion: **Zion shall be redeemed although she is chastened for a little season.**

Jesus foretold of a New Jerusalem
Upon the Promised Land

III Nephi 9:58 And behold, this people will I establish in this land, unto the fulfilling of the covenant which I made with your father Jacob; **and it shall be a new Jerusalem.**

59 And the powers of heaven shall be in the midst of this people; yea, even I will be in the midst of you.

- **We are called to be**
- **Salt & light**
- **to the world**



1. Need A Strong Testimony

Alma 3:76 Behold, I testify unto you, that I do know that these things whereof I have spoken, are true.

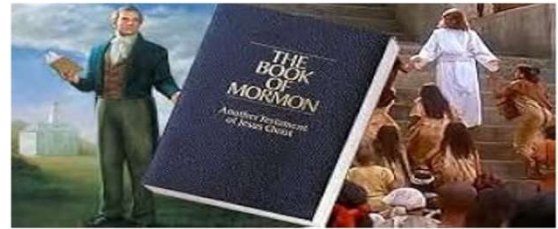
77 And how do ye suppose that I know of their surety?

78 Behold, I say unto you, They are made known unto me by the Holy Spirit of God.

79 Behold, I have fasted and prayed many days, that I might know these things of myself.

- A life changing testimony in my own life
That has been a Rock = is to know
 - The Book of Mormon is True

Moroni 10:5 And if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost; and by the power of the Holy Ghost, ye may know the truth of all things



**It is a Second Witness of Christ =
A Testimony to the Divinity of Jesus**



**Book of Mormon Adds a Second Witness
to the Other Testimonies**

1 Corinthians 15:6 After that, he was seen of about five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep

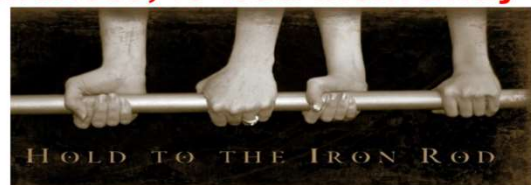
DC 76: 3g And, now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all, which we give of him, that he lives; for we saw him, even on the right hand of God

#2. To Have a Strong Faith= Read the Word Every Day

- **I Nephi 4: 38** And they said unto me, What meaneth the rod of iron which our father saw, that led to the tree?

39 And I said unto them, that it was the word of God; and whoso would hearken unto the word of God, and would hold fast unto it, they would never perish;

40 Neither could the temptations and the fiery darts of the adversary, overpower them unto blindness, to lead them away to destruction.



Hold Fast Continually to the Word

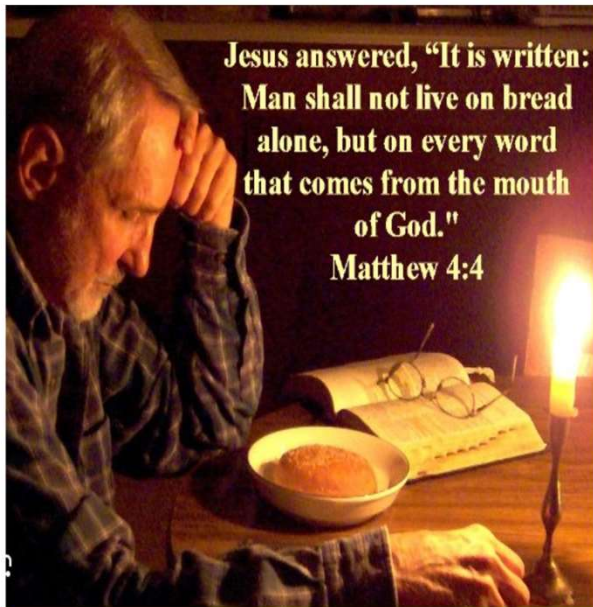
4 Groups=1 Nephi 2:78

- 1. Spacious building
- 2. Started out on path= wandered off and were lost = never had a hold of the rod
- 3. Took hold of the rod= clinging to the rod = tasted the fruit = fell away
- 4. Holding Fast=Tasted Fruit=Stayed Faithful

The Word of God is a Living Thing

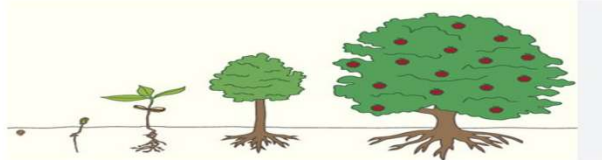
- **Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of body and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
- **Quick & Powerful = Living Thing**

Are You Reading the Word Every Day



#3. Experiment on the word of God & Nourish it

- Alma 16:163 **for ye have only exercised your faith to plant the seed, that ye might try the experiment, ...**
164 And behold, as the tree beginneth to grow, ye will say, let us nourish it with great care, that it may get root, that it may grow up and bring forth fruit unto us.
165 And now behold, if ye nourish it with much care, it will get root, and grow up, and bring forth fruit.
166 But if ye neglect the tree, and take no thought for its nourishment, behold, it will not get any root; and when the heat of the sun cometh and scorcheth it, because it hath no root, it withers away, and ye pluck it up and cast it out.



Alma on Faith 16th Chapter

Claiming the Promises = Waters the Seed of Faith = Pray, Read the Word, Ponder,
Move Out in Faith, Experiment

- 167 Now this is not because the seed was not good, neither is it because the fruit thereof would not be desirable.
168 But it is because **your ground is barren, and ye will not nourish the tree; therefore ye can not have the fruit thereof.**



Nourishing the Word and Your Soul

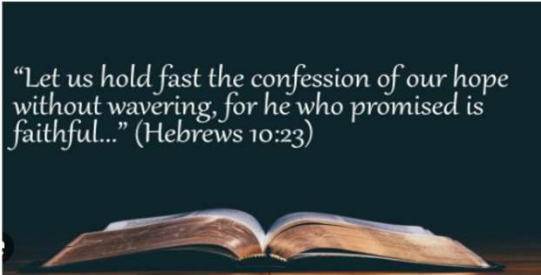
- 1. Attend Church = Including Prayer Service, Women's Activities, Special Activities, Reunions etc.
- 2. Pray Daily
- 3. Study Daily
- 4. Fasting once a week
- 5. Patriarch Pamphlet = Spiritual
- Preparation of the Body of Christ =
- Follow those steps= Stepping Stones
- to Spiritual Growth & Zion



#4. To Increase Your Faith = Search out the Promises of God and Memorize them, Claim them as your own

- **DC 1:7 Search these commandments, for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them shall all be fulfilled.**

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful..." (Hebrews 10:23)

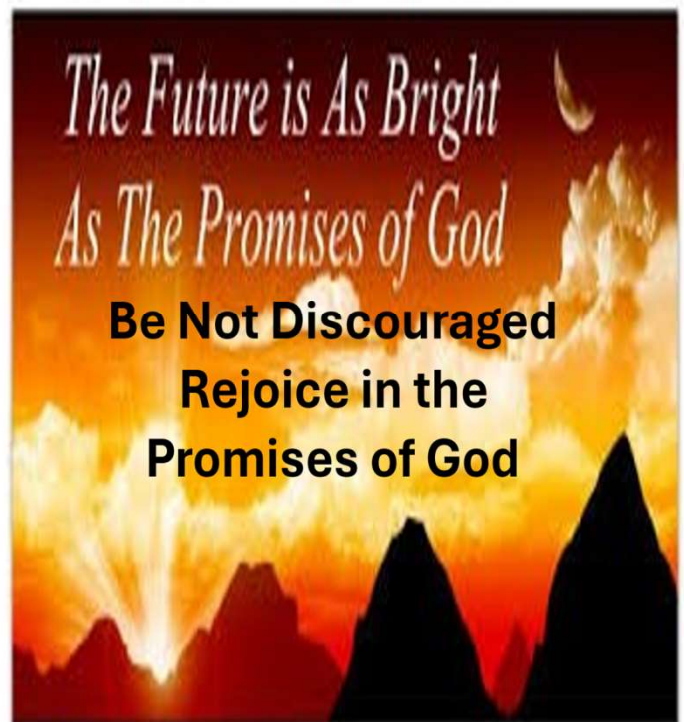
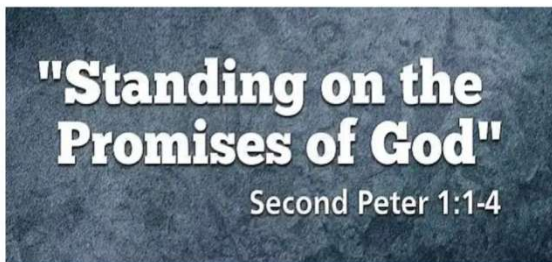


In This The Last Days = Be Not Troubled

DC 45:5b and I said unto them, **Be not troubled**, for when all these things shall come to pass, ye may know **that the promises which have been made unto you shall be fulfilled**

"Standing on the Promises of God"

Second Peter 1:1-4

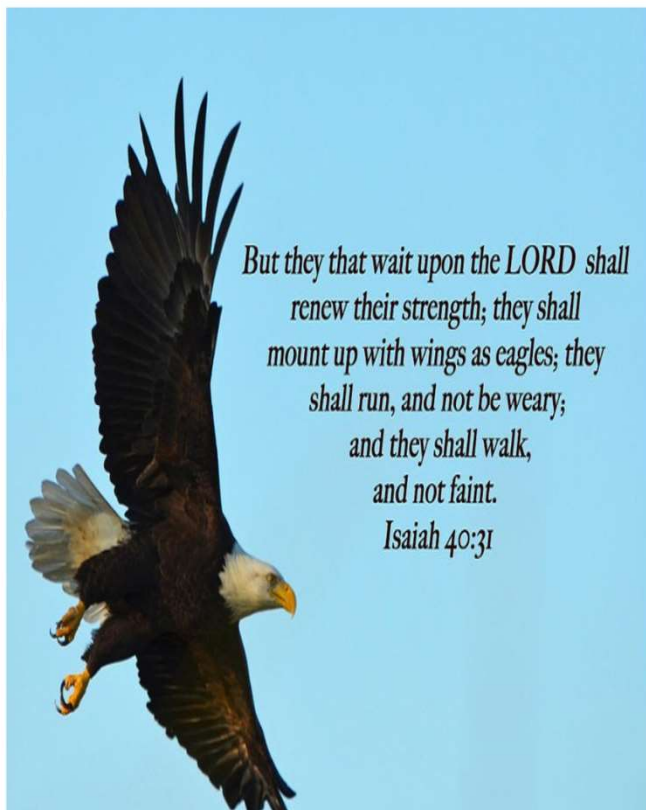


Oh, How Beautiful Are His Promises

"Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me!
For my soul trusts in You;
And in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge,
Until these calamities have passed by"
(Psalm 57: 1)

"Because You have been my help,
Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice"
(Psalm 63: 7)

"He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High
Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty...
He shall cover you with His feathers,
And under His wings you shall take refuge;
His truth shall be your shield and buckler"
(Psalm 91: 1, 4)



Knowing the Promises of God Will Increase Your Faith

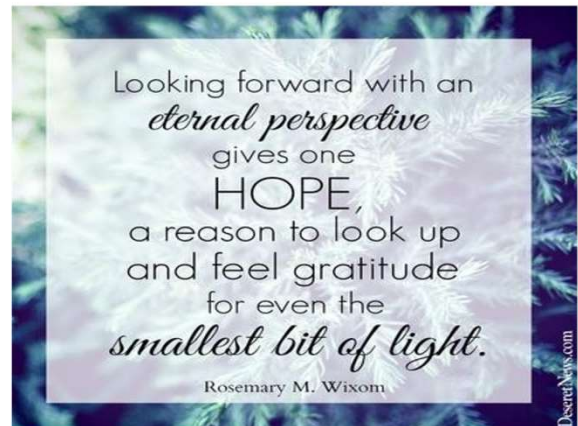
Isaiah 41:10-11 41:10 **Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.**

Deuteronomy 33:27 The eternal God is thy refuge, **and underneath are the everlasting arms;** and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.



#5. Keep an Eternal Perspective/Look forward with an Eye of Faith

Alma 3:31 **Do you look forward with an eye of faith, and view this mortal body raised in immortality, and this corruption raised in incorruption, to stand before God, to be judged according to the deeds which have been done in the mortal body?**



Keep the Eternal Perspective This is Not Our Real Home

Mosiah 9:39 And now, as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light;



1 Peter 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

12 Having your conduct honest among the Gentiles; that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Look With an Eye of Faith

Ether 5:19

And there were many whose faith was so exceeding strong even before Christ came, who could not be kept from within the veil, **but truly saw with their eyes the things which they had beheld with an eye of faith, and they were glad.**

#6. Keep Your Eyes on Jesus



- DC 85:18a And if your eye be single to my glory, your whole bodies shall be filled with light, and there shall be no darkness in you, and that body which is filled with light comprehendeth all things.

- Hebrews 12:1-3 12:1 Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,** 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith;

#7. Offer Thanksgiving & Praise to God in all Circumstances

- Psalms 56:3 What! am I afraid? I will trust in thee.
4 In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.
- **Psalms 116:17-18 116:17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord.**
- 1 Thessalonians 5:18-19 In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
- **Mosiah 11:149 being commanded of God**
 - **to pray without ceasing,**
 - **and to give thanks in all things.**
- Psalms 149:6 Let the high praises of God
 - be in their mouth, and a
 - two-edged sword in their hand



8 = Run the Race Obtain the Prize

1 Corinthians 9:24 Know ye not that they which run in a race all run, but only one receiveth the prize? **So run, that ye may obtain**

James 1:12-13 Blessed is the man that resisteth temptation; **for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.**

D.C. 24:4b Keep my commandments continually, **and a crown of righteousness thou shalt receive.**



Let Us Be Faithful

DC 58:1 for verily I say unto you, Blessed is he that keepeth my commandments, whether in life or in death; and he that is faithful in tribulation, the reward of the same is greater in the kingdom of heaven.



**This is Not a Time to Be Discouraged
We Have a Great Future Ahead—This is a Time to Go Forward**

Genesis 9:21, 23

21 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant, which I made unto thy father Enoch, that, **when men should keep all my commandments, Zion should again come on the earth, the city of Enoch, which I have caught up unto myself.** 23 And the general assembly of the church of the firstborn shall come down out of heaven, and possess the earth, and shall have place until the end come. And this is mine everlasting covenant, which I made with thy father Enoch.

**The Women of the Church
Have an Important role to Play**

- Saints Herald Vol. 95 #46

Fred M said **“ The women of the church must bear large responsibility in the development of the church... The home becomes of prime importance as around it must center the social and religious activity.....If Zion is to be an accomplished fact...we must improve conditions prevailing in our homes**

In Zion any woman who fails to impress on her children the ideals of Zion is still far short of her duty.....on each member is imposed the responsibility of participating in the work of raising before the people of the earth, an ensign, which shall be a testimony and a witness. Flash Card 14-16

**Read Audentia Anderson Testimony = Saints
Herald March 20, 1948, Flash Card #8**

- May the Women of the Church Pray for

1. **Unity and Revival in the Church = That the church would awake and we would become a Living Church on Fire with the Spirit of God and Love for One Another.**
2. **The Endowment to Come = That the Men of the Priesthood would rise up and fulfill their calling and destiny, growing ever closer to God becoming worthy of the endowment, That the Gospel may roll forth to the ends of the earth.**
3. **Pray for God’s Kingdom to Come = For Zion to come quickly and be a blessing to the nations of the earth.**
4. **Pray to know what You Personally Can Do = To help bring forth the redemption of Zion. Pray you will be able to move out in faith and accomplish the task, what ever it may be.**

**The Church Needs Help, We Need Help, Let Us Cry Out to God
the Creator of Heaven and Earth for Freedom from Bondage**

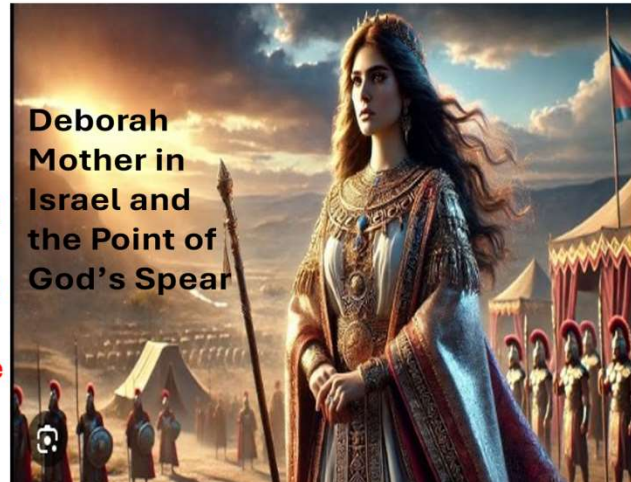
Exodus 3:9 Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me; and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

Judge 4:9 And when the children of Israel cried unto the Lord, the Lord raised up a deliverer to the children of Israel, who delivered them, even Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother

Alma 20:55 And it came to pass that they turned upon the Lamanites, and they cried with one voice unto the Lord their God, for their liberty, and their freedom from bondage. 56 And they began to stand against the Lamanites with power; and in the selfsame hour that they cried unto the Lord for their freedom, the Lamanites began to flee before them; and they fled even to the waters of Sidon.

We Are Called to Become the Point of God's Spear

- Flash Card # 149
- Rise up and through
- Prayer, Fasting and Study
- Become the Point of God's Spear
- **A Military term meaning direct and lethal part of an attack. The leading edge, the point of contact in a military operation.**
- **It is the soldier who first enters the battle area. It is the forefront, the spearhead. God's Weapon**



Mothers in Israel

- Down through the ages, there have been women who God called and chose to pour out His Spirit upon. They were women called, at a particular point and time, to carry forth God's work. We will look at some of those women in this Fall Session of classes. As we look at these great women of the past it is also important that we look at ourselves.
- We too are called to greatness. We too live at a turning point in history, where greatness is needed. **Joel 2:28-29** is speaking directly to our day and time. Deborah, the first woman we will study, was called "A Mother in Israel." Godly women in all ages are called to be "Mothers in Israel," called to be mature women of God with a strong faith in God; women who bring forth fruits of the spirit such as love, peace, joy, etc. They are awake and productive; they are busy fulfilling their individual callings, as they rely upon God.
- As "Mothers in Israel," we can expect to be called out of our comfort zones. All of these women we will study about were challenged and had to grow in faith, and move out of their comfort zones to accomplish the work given to them. This is our calling also. So let us move forward as we study these great women of the past and be ready, to not just learn from them, but to move out in faith in our individual callings. God needs mighty women today who will stand in Holy Places and be the "Point of His Spear," even "Mothers in Israel."

Each Generation to Build Upon the Other

1920, Fred M. Smith = Saints Herald

I wish I could tell you some of the things I feel and know. The great concern that has stirred me at times is, When that time of chaos comes will this people be prepared to furnish the place of safety God has intended that we should?

If we are going to prepare this place, we must be up and doing. The time may be nearer than you think. Whether it be five years or fifty, it makes no difference to us in regards to our determination to do everything in our power to establish the things God has told us we should accomplish. . . .

Let us get together and build Zion; let us start now; let us do something every day that will make us feel we are working toward the establishment of Zion.

Are You Contributing to God's Kingdom

Fred M continued

We need not only implore God every night as we go to our secret closets for prayer,

but we need to rise from our knees and say that the morning light shall come.....

and find us active in carrying out the thing that shall contribute to the bringing about of Zion



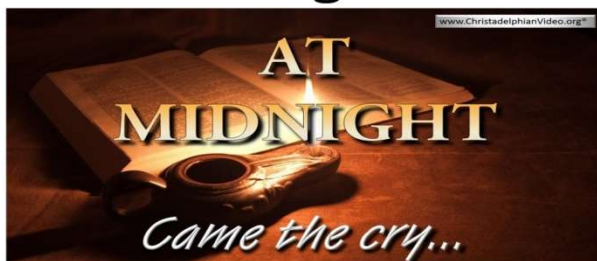
(Fred M. Smith, Continued)

We are right at the end of this dispensation of time, and, if we believe prophecies concerning our day, then we know many difficult days are yet before us.

God has called to us over and over to build Zion that we might have a place of safety and refuge. We have yet to come up to the higher standard needed for Zion. We are running out of time. It is time, even past time, for us to do this.

How badly do you want Zion? Will you seek to come up to a higher plane? Will you seek a deep personal relationship with God in the days ahead? Will you keep God first in your priorities? Will you covenant anew and keep His commandments? What will your answer be?

The Midnight Hour



Karl Anderson = CMRB Reunion
2021

• It is my belief and understanding that we are now in the mid-night hour!

The call has gone forth—the bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet Him. Only a few have heard the call, and many are without oil. But to the elect, the invitation has been sent, to put on your beautiful garments, clean and white, and to come to the wedding. The Spirit and the Bride say Come! Even so Lord Jesus Come.

Are You Ready?

- Remember Aaron Smith's Testimony of being awaked in April 2020 = 3 nights in a row and the clock read 11:59 and then rolled to midnight.
- Recently, in October 2021 he again, was awaked in the night, and when he looked at the clock he saw 12:00.
 - **He testified that it is the midnight hour.**



Matt 25:3 verse =The Wise took Oil in Their Vessels With Their Lamps



**Let's Do This Thing—It is Our Calling—Our Destiny
Building Zion for The World**

Let Us Re-Capture the Vision of Zion

Onward to Zion, Faithful and Strong, Zion the Beautiful Beckons Us On.

Onward and Upward Battle Along, Zion the Beautiful Beckons Us On.

Onward to Zion, to Christ We Belong, With Service the Watch-word, We Fight Against Wrong

Onward to Zion, March on With a Song, Zion the Beautiful Beckons Us On.

Hymn #402, Blue Hymnal, Hymns of the Restoration

Let's Get Prepared = Let's Put on the Wedding Dress and Be the Point of His Spear

- **Will you be ready?**
- **Are You Ready to Sacrifice and Give Your All to God?**
- **Will You be Among the 5 Wise Virgins with Oil in Your Lamp?**
- **Let's Do This, Let us Break Free of the Chains that bind us down**
 - **May We Set Our Hearts Upon Our God and His Kingdom Today, Never to Look Back.**



Doctrine and Covenants, Section 108, Verses 2a-3d

2a Wherefore, prepare ye, prepare ye, O my people; sanctify yourselves; gather ye together, O ye people of my church, upon the land of Zion, all you that have not been commanded to tarry.

2b Go ye out from Babylon. Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord. Call your solemn assemblies, and speak often one to another.

2c And let every man call upon the name of the Lord; yea, verily I say unto you again, The time has come when the voice of the Lord is unto you: Go ye out of Babylon; gather ye out from among the nations, from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

3a Send forth the elders of my church unto the nations which are afar off, unto the islands of the sea; send forth unto foreign lands; call upon all nations, firstly, upon the Gentiles and then upon the Jews.

3b And behold, and lo, this shall be their cry, and the voice of the Lord unto all people:

3c Go ye forth unto the land of Zion, that the borders of my people may be enlarged, and that her stakes may be strengthened, and that Zion may go forth unto the regions round about; yea, let the cry go forth among all people: Awake, and arise, and go forth to meet the Bridegroom.

3d Behold, and lo, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Prepare yourselves for the great day of the Lord.

Jesus Will Suddenly Come = Now is The Time of Your Preparation

