

Revelation

Already you have been taught to pray. You need to know how to get answers. It is good to learn when you are young that spiritual things cannot be forced. Sometimes you may struggle with a problem and not get an answer. What could be wrong? It may be that you are not doing anything wrong. It may be that you have not done the right things long enough. Remember, you cannot force spiritual things. Sometimes we are confused simply because we won't take no for an answer. On several occasions when a member has insisted that something be done his way, I have remembered that great lesson from Church history. I have said to myself in my mind: All right, Joseph, give the manuscript to Martin Harris. Do it your own way, and see where you get. Then when you're confounded and confused, come back and we'll get you set on the course that you might have taken earlier if you had been submissive and responsive.... You can learn now, in your youth, to be led by the Holy Ghost. As an Apostle I listen now to the same inspiration, coming from the same source, in the same way, that I listened to as a boy. The signal is much clearer now.

President Boyd K. Packer

Atonement

He struggled and groaned under a burden such as no other being who has lived on earth might even conceive possible. It was not physical pain, nor mental anguish alone, that caused Him to suffer such torture as to produce an extrusion of blood from every pore; but a spiritual agony of soul such as only God was capable of experiencing. No other man, however great his powers of physical or mental endurance could have suffered so; for his human organism would have succumbed, and syncope would have produced unconscious and welcome oblivion. In that hour of anguish Christ met and overcame all the horrors that Satan, 'the prince of the world' could inflict. The frightful struggle incident to the temptations immediately following the Lord's baptism was surpassed and overshadowed by this supreme contest with the powers of evil. In some manner, actual and terribly real though to man incomprehensible, the Savior took upon Himself the burden of the sins of mankind from Adam to the end of the world.

❖ *Elder James E. Talmage, Jesus the Christ, 613*

The Fall

In conformity with the will of the Lord, Adam fell both spiritually and temporally. Spiritual death entered the world, meaning that man was cast out of the presence of the Lord and died as pertaining to the things of the Spirit which are the things of righteousness. Temporal death also entered the world, meaning that man and all created things became mortal, and blood became the life preserving element in the natural body. In this mortal condition it became possible for the body and the spirit to separate, a separation which by definition is the natural or temporal death.

Elder Bruce R. McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, p.268-9

Prayer

Sincere prayer is the heart of a happy and productive life. Prayer strengthens faith. Prayer is the preparation for miracles. Prayer opens the door to eternal happiness.

H. Burke Peterson, Ensign, Jan. 1974, p. 19

Service

To serve others willingly and unselfishly should be one of our greatest virtues. It is not even a matter of choice. It is an obligation, a sacred command. ... Therefore, let us serve one another with brotherly love, never tiring of the demands upon us, being patient and persevering and generous.

President Ezra Taft Benson, "Your Charge," New Era, Sept. 1979, p. 44

Commandments

One goal that most of us share in this life is the desire to achieve true joy and lasting happiness. There is only one way to do this, and that is by being obedient to all the commandments of God. ... 'When the Lord commands, do it,' was a rule in the life of the first prophet of this dispensation. May that be the motto and practice of each of us.

Delbert L. Stapley, Ensign, Nov. 1977, pp. 19, 21

Already you have been taught to pray. You need to know how to get answers. It is good to learn when you are young that spiritual things cannot be forced. Sometimes you may struggle with a problem and not get an answer. What could be wrong? It may be that you are not doing anything wrong. It may be that you have not done the right things long enough. Remember, you cannot force spiritual things. Sometimes we are confused simply because we won't take no for an answer. On several occasions when a member has insisted that something be done his way, I have remembered that great lesson from Church history. I have said to myself in my mind: All right, Joseph, give the manuscript to Martin Harris. Do it your own way, and see where you get. Then when you're confounded and confused, come back and we'll get you set on the course that you might have taken earlier if you had been submissive and responsive.... You can learn now, in your youth, to be led by the Holy Ghost. As an Apostle I listen now to the same inspiration, coming from the same source, in the same way, that I listened to as a boy. The signal is much clearer now.

President Boyd K. Packer

Atonement

He struggled and groaned under a burden such as no other being who has lived on earth might even conceive possible. It was not physical pain, nor mental anguish alone, that caused Him to suffer such torture as to produce an extrusion of blood from every pore; but a spiritual agony of soul such as only God was capable of experiencing. No other man, however great his powers of physical or mental endurance could have suffered so; for his human organism would have succumbed, and syncope would have produced unconscious and welcome oblivion. In that hour of anguish Christ met and overcame all the horrors that Satan, 'the prince of the world' could inflict. The frightful struggle incident to the temptations immediately following the Lord's baptism was surpassed and overshadowed by this supreme contest with the powers of evil. In some manner, actual and terribly real though to man incomprehensible, the Savior took upon Himself the burden of the sins of mankind from Adam to the end of the world.

❖ *Elder James E. Talmage, Jesus the Christ, 613*

In conformity with the will of the Lord, Adam fell both spiritually and temporally. Spiritual death entered the world, meaning that man was cast out of the presence of the Lord and died as pertaining to the things of the Spirit which are the things of righteousness. Temporal death also entered the world, meaning that man and all created things became mortal, and blood became the life preserving element in the natural body. In this mortal condition it became possible for the body and the spirit to separate, a separation which by definition is the natural or temporal death.

Elder Bruce R. McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, p.268-9

Prayer

Sincere prayer is the heart of a happy and productive life. Prayer strengthens faith. Prayer is the preparation for miracles. Prayer opens the door to eternal happiness.

H. Burke Peterson, Ensign, Jan. 1974, p. 19

Service

To serve others willingly and unselfishly should be one of our greatest virtues. It is not even a matter of choice. It is an obligation, a sacred command. ... Therefore, let us serve one another with brotherly love, never tiring of the demands upon us, being patient and persevering and generous.

President Ezra Taft Benson, "Your Charge," New Era, Sept. 1979, p. 44

Commandments

One goal that most of us share in this life is the desire to achieve true joy and lasting happiness. There is only one way to do this, and that is by being obedient to all the commandments of God. ... 'When the Lord commands, do it,' was a rule in the life of the first prophet of this dispensation. May that be the motto and practice of each of us.

Delbert L. Stapley, Ensign, Nov. 1977, pp. 19, 21