

### **New Testament Student Institute Manual**

One of Paul's ongoing efforts during his missions was to gather a collection for the poor in Jerusalem (see Acts 24:17; Romans 15:25–32; 1 Corinthians 16:1–4). Paul wrote about this collection in 2 Corinthians 8–9. The churches in Macedonia had given generously to the cause, and Paul encouraged the Saints in Corinth to do likewise (see 2 Corinthians 8:1–7). Paul later wrote that the Corinthians had responded favorably to his request (see Romans 15:26).



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Paul explained in 2 Corinthians 8:12 that the willingness to give what one can is more important than being able to give in great abundance (see also Mosiah 4:24). In 2 Corinthians 8:14, Paul may have implied that the Corinthian Saints enjoyed great temporal abundance, which they should have been willing to donate in gratitude for the generous spiritual supply they received from Jerusalem (see Romans 15:27). When Paul spoke of "equality" among the Saints (2 Corinthians 8:14) he was not speaking of complete sameness. Latter-day revelation clarifies that in matters of temporal welfare, equality is determined in consideration of each person's needs, wants, and circumstances (see D&C 51:3; 82:17).





12 Wherefore, though I wrote unto you, I did it not for his cause that had done the wrong, nor for his cause that suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear unto you.

13 Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was <sup>a</sup>refreshed by you all.

14 For if I have <sup>*a*</sup> boasted any thing to him of you, I am not ashamed; but as we spake all things to you in truth, even so our <sup>b</sup>boasting, which I made before Titus, is found a truth.

15 And his <sup>*a*</sup>inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the <sup>b</sup>obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling ye received him.

16 I rejoice therefore that I have confidence in you in all things.

#### **CHAPTER 8**

True Saints impart of their substance to the poor—Christ, out of His poverty, brought eternal riches.

MOREOVER, brethren, <sup>*a*</sup>we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia;

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3 For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves;

4 Praying us with much entreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the <sup>a</sup>fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

5 And this they did, not as we hoped, but first <sup>*a*</sup> gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.

6 Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also.

7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all <sup>a</sup>diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

8 I speak <sup>*a*</sup>not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the <sup>b</sup>sincerity of your love.

9 For ye know the <sup>*a*</sup>grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was <sup>b</sup>rich, yet for your sakes he became <sup>c</sup>poor, that ye through his <sup>*d*</sup> poverty might be rich.

10 And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago.

11 Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have.

12 For if there be first a <sup>*a*</sup> willing <sup>b</sup>mind, *it is* accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

13 For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened:

14 But by an equality, *that* now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their <sup>*a*</sup> abundance also may be *a supply* for your want: that there may be <sup>b</sup>equality:

15 As it is written, He that had <sup>*a</sup>gathered* much had nothing over;</sup> and he that had gathered little had no lack.

16 But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you.

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17 For indeed he accepted the exhortation; but being more forward, of his own accord he went unto you.

18 And we have sent with him the brother, whose praise is in the gospel throughout all the churches;

19 And not *that* only, but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and declaration of your ready mind:

20 Avoiding this, that no man should blame us in this abundance which is administered by us:

21 Providing for <sup>*a*</sup>honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the <sup>b</sup>sight of men.

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23 Whether any do inquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be inquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.

24 Wherefore shew ye to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf.

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God loves and rewards a cheerful giver—Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift.

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our boasting of you should be in vain in this behalf; that, as I said, ye may be ready:

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8 And God *is* able to make all <sup>*a*</sup> grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

9 (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever.

10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your <sup>*a*</sup>righteousness;)

11 Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us <sup>*a*</sup>thanksgiving to God.

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"The Condescension of God and of Man" ([First Presidency Christmas devotional, Dec. 7, 2014]), by Elder D. Todd Christofferson.

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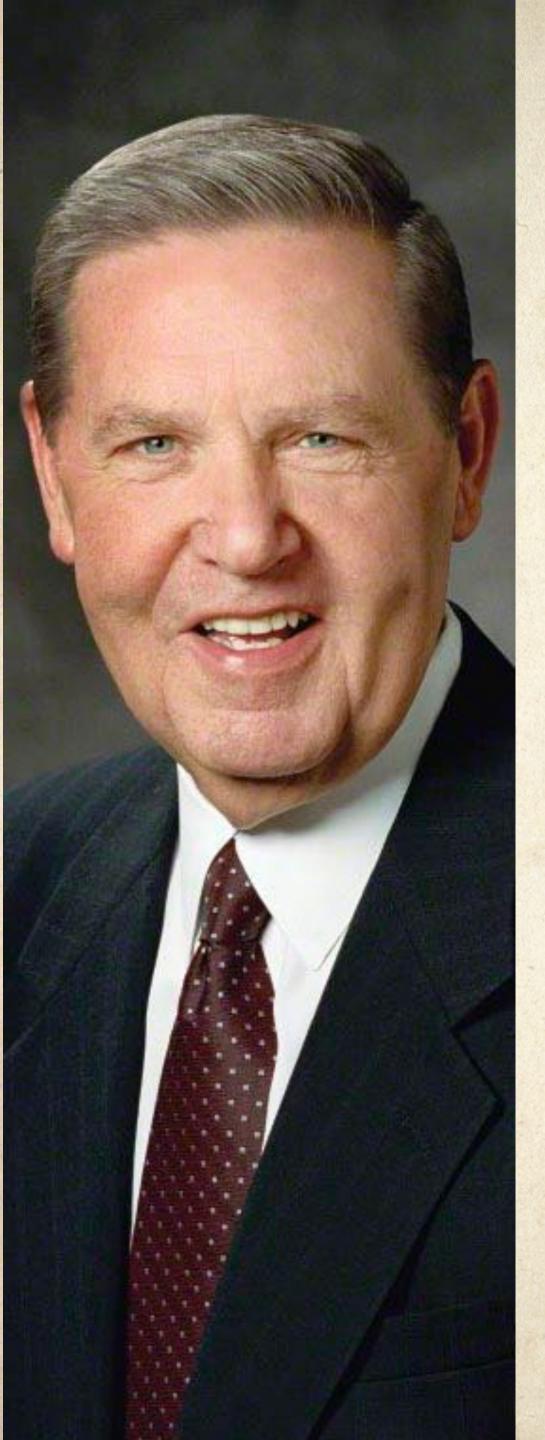
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# **Elder Jeffrey R. Holland**

"Rich or poor, we are to 'do what we can' when others are in need... I don't know exactly how each of you should fulfill your obligation to those who do not or cannot always help themselves. But I know that God knows, and He will help you and guide you in compassionate acts of discipleship if you are conscientiously wanting and praying and looking for ways to keep a commandment He has given us again and again."

("Are We Not All Beggars?", Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2014, 41).



# Elder Dale G. Renlund

"Each of us has received gifts that we could not provide for ourselves, gifts from our Heavenly Father and His Beloved Son, including redemption through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We have received life in this world; we will receive physical life in the hereafter, and eternal salvation and exaltation—if we choose it—all because of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.



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"Every time we use, benefit from, or even think of these gifts, we ought to consider the sacrifice, generosity, and compassion of the givers. Reverence for the givers does more than just make us grateful. Reflecting on Their gifts can and should transform us."

("Consider the Goodness and Greatness of God," Apr. 2020 GC, Ensign or Liahona, May 2020, 42)



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15 <sup>a</sup>Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable <sup>b</sup>gift.

#### CHAPTER 10

Bring every thought into obedience— Paul glories in the Lord.

Now I Paul myself beseech you by the <sup>*a*</sup>meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence *am* base among you, but being absent am bold toward you:

2 But I beseech *you*, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not <sup>*a*</sup>war after the flesh:

4 (For the <sup>*a*</sup>weapons of our <sup>*b*</sup>warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every <sup>*a*</sup>thought to the <sup>*b*</sup>obedience of Christ;

6 And having in a readiness to revenge all <sup>*a*</sup>disobedience, when your <sup>*b*</sup>obedience is fulfilled.

7 Do ye look on things after the outward <sup>*a*</sup>appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he *is* Christ's, even so *are* we <sup>*b*</sup>Christ's.

8 For though I should boast somewhat more of our <sup>*a*</sup>authority, which the Lord hath given us for <sup>*b*</sup>edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:

9 That I may not seem as if I would terrify you by letters.

10 For *his* letters, say they, *are* weighty and powerful; but *his* <sup>*a*</sup> bodily presence *is* weak, and *his* speech <sup>*b*</sup> contemptible.

11 Let such an one think this, that, such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such *will we be* also in deed when we are present.

12 For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

13 But we will not <sup>*a*</sup> boast of things without *our* measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you.

14 For we stretch not ourselves beyond *our measure*, as though we reached not unto you: for we are come as far as to you also in *preaching* the gospel of Christ:

15 Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's alabours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly,

16 To preach the gospel in the *regions* beyond you, *and* not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand.

17 But he that glorieth, let him <sup>*a*</sup>glory in the Lord.

18 For not he that <sup>*a*</sup> commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.

#### CHAPTER 11

Maintain the simplicity that is in Christ—Satan sends forth false apostles—Paul glories in his sufferings for Christ.

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## **Desire to give ("a willing mind" 2 Corinthians 8:12)**

Mosiah 4:24 And again, I say unto the poor, ye who have not and yet have sufficient, that ye remain from day to day; I mean all you who deny the beggar, because ye have not; I would that ye say in your hearts that: I give not because I have not, but if I had I would give.



## How much to give:

2 Corinthians 9:6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

Alma 1:30

And thus, in their prosperous circumstances, they did not send away any who were naked, or that were hungry, or that were athirst, or that were sick, or that had not been nourished; and they did not set their hearts upon riches; therefore they were liberal to all, both old and young, both bond and free, both male and female, whether out of the church or in the church, having no respect to persons as to those who stood in need.



## Attitude in giving:

2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

### **Moroni 7:6–8**

6 For behold, God hath said a man being evil cannot do that which is good; for if he offereth a gift, or prayeth unto God, except he shall do it with real intent it profiteth him nothing.
7 For behold, it is not counted unto him for righteousness.
8 For behold, if a man being evil giveth a gift, he doeth it grudgingly; wherefore it is counted unto him the same as if he had retained the gift; wherefore he is counted evil before God.



### **Gratitude to God:**

**2 Corinthians 9:11–15** 11 Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. 12 For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; 13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men; 14 And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. 15 Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.



### **Gratitude to God:**

### Mosiah 4:19–21

19 For behold, are we not all beggars? Do we not all depend upon the same Being, even God, for all the substance which we have, for both food and raiment, and for gold, and for silver, and for all the riches which we have of every kind?

20 And behold, even at this time, ye have been calling on his name, and begging for a remission of your sins. And has he suffered that ye have begged in vain? Nay; he has poured out his Spirit upon you, and has caused that your hearts should be filled with joy, and has caused that your mouths should be stopped that ye could not find utterance, so exceedingly great was your joy. 21 And now, if God, who has created you, on whom you are dependent for your lives and for all that ye have and are, doth grant unto you whatsoever ye ask that is right, in faith, believing that ye shall receive, O then, how ye ought to impart of the substance that ye have one to another.



17 For indeed he accepted the exhortation; but being more forward, of his own accord he went unto you.

18 And we have sent with him the brother, whose praise *is* in the gospel throughout all the churches;

19 And not *that* only, but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and *declaration of* your ready mind:

20 Avoiding this, that no man should blame us in this abundance which is administered by us:

21 Providing for <sup>*a*</sup>honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the <sup>*b*</sup>sight of men.

22 And we have sent with them our brother, whom we have oftentimes proved diligent in many things, but now much more diligent, upon the great <sup>*a*</sup> confidence which *I have* in you.

23 Whether any do inquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be inquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.

24 Wherefore shew ye to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf.

#### CHAPTER 9

God loves and rewards a cheerful giver—Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift.

FOR as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you:

2 For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which I<sup>*a*</sup>boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal hath <sup>*b*</sup>provoked very many.

3 Yet have I sent the brethren, lest

our boasting of you should be in vain in this behalf; that, as I said, ye may be ready:

4 Lest haply if they of Macedonia come with me, and find you unprepared, we (that we say not, ye) should be ashamed in this same confident boasting.

5 Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your <sup>*a*</sup> bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as *a matter* of bounty, and not as of covetousness.

6 But this *I say*, He which soweth sparingly shall <sup>*a*</sup>reap also sparingly; and he which <sup>*b*</sup>soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

7 Every man according as he <sup>*a*</sup>purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not <sup>*b*</sup>grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a <sup>*c*</sup>cheerful <sup>*d*</sup>giver.

8 And God *is* able to make all <sup>*a*</sup>grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work:

9 (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever.

10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for *your* food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your <sup>*a*</sup>righteousness;)

11 Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us <sup>*a*</sup>thanksgiving to God.

12 For the <sup>*a*</sup>administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;

13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for *your* liberal distribution unto them, and unto all *men*;

14 And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you.

15 <sup>a</sup>Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable <sup>b</sup>gift.

#### CHAPTER 10

Bring every thought into obedience— Paul glories in the Lord.

Now I Paul myself beseech you by the <sup>*a*</sup>meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence *am* base among you, but being absent am bold toward you:

2 But I beseech *you*, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not <sup>*a*</sup>war after the flesh:

4 (For the <sup>*a*</sup>weapons of our <sup>*b*</sup>warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every <sup>*a*</sup>thought to the <sup>*b*</sup>obedience of Christ;

6 And having in a readiness to revenge all <sup>*a*</sup>disobedience, when your <sup>*b*</sup>obedience is fulfilled.

7 Do ye look on things after the outward <sup>*a*</sup>appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he *is* Christ's, even so *are* we <sup>*b*</sup>Christ's.

8 For though I should boast somewhat more of our <sup>*a*</sup>authority, which the Lord hath given us for <sup>*b*</sup>edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:

9 That I may not seem as if I would terrify you by letters.

10 For *his* letters, say they, *are* weighty and powerful; but *his* <sup>*a*</sup> bodily presence *is* weak, and *his* speech <sup>*b*</sup> contemptible.

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12 For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

13 But we will not <sup>*a*</sup> boast of things without *our* measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you.

14 For we stretch not ourselves beyond *our measure*, as though we reached not unto you: for we are come as far as to you also in *preaching* the gospel of Christ:

15 Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's alabours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly,

16 To preach the gospel in the *regions* beyond you, *and* not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand.

17 But he that glorieth, let him <sup>*a*</sup>glory in the Lord.

18 For not he that <sup>*a*</sup> commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.

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3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not <sup>*a*</sup>war after the flesh:

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6 And having in a readiness to revenge all <sup>*a*</sup> disobedience, when your <sup>*b*</sup> obedience is fulfilled.

7 Do ye look on things after the outward <sup>*a*</sup>appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he *is* Christ's, even so *are* we <sup>*b*</sup>Christ's.

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Maintain the simplicity that is in Christ—Satan sends forth false apostles—Paul glories in his sufferings for Christ.

15 <i>a</i>	TG Thanksgiving
b	James 1:17.

Paul

WOULD to God ye could bear with me a little in *my* folly: and indeed bear with me.

2 For I am *a* jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have *b*espoused you to one husband, that I may present *you as* a chaste virgin to Christ.

3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the <sup>*a*</sup>serpent <sup>*b*</sup>beguiled Eve through his <sup>*c*</sup>subtilty, so your minds should be <sup>*d*</sup>corrupted from the <sup>*e*</sup>simplicity that is in Christ.

4 For if he that cometh preacheth another <sup>*a*</sup>Jesus, whom we have not preached, or *if* ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another <sup>*b*</sup>gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with *him*.

5 For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles.

6 But though *I be* <sup>*a*</sup>rude in speech, yet not in knowledge; but we have been throughly made manifest among you in all things.

7 Have I committed an offence in abasing myself that ye might be exalted, because I have preached to you the gospel of God <sup>*a*</sup>freely?

8 I <sup>*a*</sup>robbed other churches, taking <sup>*b*</sup>wages *of them*, to do you service.

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10 As the truth of Christ is in me, no man shall stop me of this boasting in the regions of Achaia. 11 Wherefore? because I love you not? God knoweth.

12 But what I do, that I will do, that I may cut off occasion from them which desire occasion; that wherein they <sup>*a*</sup>glory, they may be found even as we.

13 For such *are* <sup>*a*</sup>false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for <sup>*a*</sup>Satan himself is transformed into an <sup>*b*</sup>angel of light.

15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose <sup>*a*</sup> end shall be according to their works.

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17 That which I speak, I speak *it* not after the Lord, but as it were foolishly, in this confidence of boasting.

18 Seeing that many glory after the flesh, I will glory also.

19 For ye suffer fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise.

20 For ye suffer, if a man bring you into <sup>*a*</sup> bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face.

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## New Testament Student Institute Manual

Paul wrote that he might be physically weak compared to some other people; however, he pointed out that it is not wise for people to measure themselves through comparisons to others. Rather, we should measure ourselves "according to the rule [standard] which God hath [given] to us" (2 Corinthians 10:10–13). The Prophet Joseph Smith (1805–44) encouraged Church members to measure themselves through a comparison to God: "Search your hearts, and see if you are like God. I have searched mine, and feel to repent of all my sins" (Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith [2007], 72).



## Sister Patricia T. Holland

"My greatest misery comes when I feel I have to fit what others are doing, or what I think others expect of me. I am most happy when I am comfortable being me and trying to do what my Father in Heaven and I expect me to be.

"For many years I tried to measure the ofttimes quiet, reflective, thoughtful Pat Holland against the robust, bubbly, talkative, and energetic Jeff Holland and others with like qualities. I have learned through several fatiguing failures that you can't have joy in being bubbly if you are not a bubbly person. It is a contradiction in terms. I have given up seeing myself as a flawed person because my energy level is lower than Jeff's, and I don't talk as much as he does, nor as fast. Giving this up has freed me to embrace and rejoice in my own manner and personality in the measure of my creation" (Jeffrey R. Holland and Patricia T. Holland, On Earth as It Is in Heaven [1989], 69–70).





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16 To preach the gospel in the *re*gions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand.

17 But he that glorieth, let him <sup>*a*</sup>glory in the Lord.

18 For not he that <sup>*a*</sup> commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.

#### CHAPTER 11

Maintain the simplicity that is in Christ—Satan sends forth false apostles—Paul glories in his sufferings for Christ.

> *b* 2 Cor. 11:6. 13a TG Boast.

WOULD to God ye could bear with me a little in *my* folly: and indeed bear with me.

2 For I am <sup>*a*</sup> jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have bespoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the <sup>a</sup>serpent <sup>b</sup>beguiled Eve through his <sup>c</sup>subtilty, so your minds should be <sup>*d*</sup> corrupted from the <sup>*e*</sup> simplicity that is in Christ.

4 For if he that cometh preacheth another <sup>a</sup>Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another <sup>b</sup>gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

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5 For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles.

6 But though I be <sup>a</sup>rude in speech, yet not in knowledge; but we have been throughly made manifest among you in all things.

7 Have I committed an offence in abasing myself that ye might be exalted, because I have preached to you the gospel of God  $\bar{a}$  freely?

8 I<sup>*a*</sup>robbed other churches, taking <sup>b</sup>wages of them, to do you service.

9 And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was <sup>a</sup>chargeable to no man: for that which was <sup>b</sup>lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia <sup>c</sup>supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself.

10 As the truth of Christ is in me, no man shall stop me of this boasting in the regions of Achaia.

<ul> <li>11 2a TG Jealous.</li> <li>b D&amp;C 20:77.</li> <li>3a TG Devil.</li> <li>b TG Fall of Man; Temptation.</li> </ul>	churches, having taken provisions for you. b TG Wages. 9a 2 Cor. 12:13 (13, 16); 1 Thes. 2:9. b 1 Cor. 16:17	TG Devil. <i>b</i> TG Angels. 15 <i>a</i> Philip. 3:19. 16 <i>a</i> GR listen to, bear with, follow. <i>b</i> TG Peacet
<i>c</i> Gen. 3:1.	<i>b</i> 1 Cor. 16:17.	b TG Boast.
<i>d</i> Heb. 13:9.	<i>c</i> Philip. 4:10.	20 <i>a</i> TG Bondage, Physical.
e Jacob 4:14.	12a GR boast; so in	21 <i>a</i> TG Reproach.

11 Wherefore? because I love you not? God knoweth.

12 But what I do, that I will do, that I may cut off occasion from them which desire occasion; that wherein they <sup>*a*</sup>glory, they may be found even as we.

13 For such are <sup>a</sup>false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for <sup>a</sup>Satan himself is transformed into an <sup>b</sup>angel of light.

15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose <sup>*a*</sup> end shall be according to their works.

16 I say again, Let no man think me a fool; if otherwise, yet as a fool <sup>*a*</sup>receive me, that I may <sup>*b*</sup>boast myself a little.

17 That which I speak, I speak it not after the Lord, but as it were foolishly, in this confidence of boasting.

18 Seeing that many glory after the flesh, I will glory also.

19 For ye suffer fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise.

20 For ye suffer, if a man bring you into <sup>*a*</sup> bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face.

21 I speak as concerning <sup>*a*</sup> reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) I am bold also.

22 Are they <sup>a</sup>Hebrews? so am I. Are they <sup>b</sup>Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I. 23 Are they <sup>*a*</sup>ministers of Christ?

24 Of the Jews five times received I <sup>*a*</sup> forty stripes save one.

25 Thrice was I<sup>*a*</sup> beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own <sup>a</sup>countrymen, *in* perils by the <sup>b</sup>heathen, *in* <sup>c</sup>perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

27 In *<sup>a</sup>*weariness and <sup>*b*</sup>painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

29 Who is weak, and I am not <sup>a</sup>weak? who is offended, and I <sup>b</sup>burn not?

30 If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities.

31 The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not.

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23 <i>b</i> JST 2 Cor. 11:23 so	27 <i>a</i> GR toil, trouble.
am I; in labors	b TG Pain.
<i>c</i> 1 Cor. 15:10.	29 <i>a</i> 1 Cor. 9:22.
d Acts 16:23;	<i>b</i> JST 2 Cor. 11:29
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24 . Deret 25 2	$h = 1  \bigcirc  0  1$

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Paul is caught up The Lord gives n they may trium manifests the sign

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·		
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d Acts 16:23;	<i>b</i> JST 2 Cor. 11:29	b GR ineffable.
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e 2 Cor. 4:9.	<b>12</b> 1 <i>a</i> TG Boast.	d GR possible, permitted.
24 a Dart 25 2	$h = 1 \cap \mathbb{C}^n = 0 = 1$	

(I speak as a fool) <sup>b</sup>I *am* more; in <sup>c</sup>labours more abundant, in <sup>d</sup>stripes above measure, in <sup>e</sup>prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.

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Ether 12:27 (26–28).	14 <i>a</i> 1 Cor. 10:33.	TG Book of Mormon;
1 D&C 39.12	19a 1 Cor 14.26	Witness

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**Final Warnings** 

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## New Testament Student Institute Manual

Employing a common rhetorical device of his day, Paul was referring to himself in the third person when he spoke of "a man" who was once "caught up to the third heaven" (2 Corinthians 12:2-4), which is the celestial kingdom. The Prophet Joseph Smith received revelations giving further understanding of "the third heaven" (see D&C 76:50-112; 88:22-31), and he explained: "Paul ascended into the third heavens, and he could understand the three principal rounds of Jacob's ladder—the telestial, the terrestrial, and the celestial glories or kingdoms, where Paul saw and heard things which were not lawful for him to utter" (in History of the Church, 5:402; see also the commentary for 1 Corinthians 15:39-44). By sharing this experience—one that neither his detractors nor the "false apostles" in Corinth could match-Paul reinforced his authority as an Apostle of Jesus Christ.



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### Ether 12:27:

And if men come unto me I will show unto them their weakness. I give unto men weakness that they may be humble; and my grace is sufficient for all men that humble themselves before me; for if they humble themselves before me, and have faith in me, then will I make weak things become strong unto them.



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**Elder Dallin H. Oaks** 

"The healing power of the Lord Jesus Christ—whether it removes our burdens or strengthens us to endure and live with them like the Apostle Paul—is available for every affliction in mortality."

(Dallin H. Oaks, "He Heals the Heavy Laden," Oct 2006 GC, Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2006, 8)



## New Testament Student Institute Manual

The Greek word translated as thorn in 2 Corinthians 12:7 originally referred to anything pointed, such as a sharpened stake, a surgical instrument, or a fishhook. By Paul's day it came to denote a thorn or splinter that causes significant irritation. The term "a thorn in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12:7) is a metaphor suggesting an infirmity that was troublesome to Paul. Many commentators have speculated on what Paul's infirmity might have been, proposing that perhaps it was epilepsy, a serious visual impairment (see Galatians 4:13-15), or malaria. It appears that one of the positive results of this affliction was that it helped Paul avoid becoming proud (see 2 Corinthians 12:7). Weakness can lead to humble reliance upon the Lord (see Jacob 4:7; Ether 12:27, 37).





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8 For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.

9 For we are glad, when we are <sup>*a*</sup>weak, and ye are strong: and this also we wish, even your perfection.

10 Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the <sup>*a*</sup> power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction.

11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be

<sup>*a*</sup>perfect, be of good comfort, be of <sup>b</sup>one <sup>c</sup>mind, live in <sup>d</sup>peace; and the God of <sup>e</sup>love and peace shall be with you.

12 Greet one another with an holy <sup>a</sup>kiss.

13 All the saints salute you.

14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

¶ The second *epistle* to the Corinthians was written from Philippi, a city of Macedonia, by Titus and Lucas.

### THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE

### TO THE

### GALATIANS

### **CHAPTER 1**

Preachers of false gospels are accursed— Paul received the gospel by revelation— He believed, was taught, and preached to the Gentiles.

AUL, an <sup>*a*</sup>apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)

2 And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:

3 Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ,

4 Who <sup>*a*</sup> gave himself for our sins, that he might <sup>b</sup>deliver us from this

present evil world, according to the <sup>c</sup>will of God and our Father:

5 To whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

6 I marvel that ye are so soon <sup>*a*</sup>removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another <sup>b</sup>gospel:

7 Which is not another; but there be some that <sup>*a*</sup>trouble you, and would <sup>b</sup>pervert the <sup>c</sup>gospel of Christ.

8 But though we, or an <sup>*a*</sup>angel from heaven, preach any <sup>b</sup>other <sup>c</sup>gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be <sup>*d*</sup>accursed.

9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any *man* preach any other

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est apostles, though I be nothing. 12 Truly the <sup>*a*</sup>signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

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Deuteronomy 19:15 Doctrine & Covenants 6:28

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not yours, but you: for the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children.

15 And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved.

16 But be it so, I did not burden you: nevertheless, being crafty, I caught you with guile.

17 Did I make a gain of you by any of them whom I sent unto you?

### CHAPTER 13

Saints should test themselves as to righteousness—Be perfect and of one mind: live in peace.

THIS *is* the third *time* I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three <sup>*a*</sup>witnesses shall every word be established.

2 I told you before, and foretell you, as if I were present, the second time; and being absent now I write to them which heretofore have sinned, and to all other, that, if I come again, I will not spare:

3 Since ye seek a proof of Christ speaking in me, which to you-ward is not weak, but is mighty in you.

4 For though he was "crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you.

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17 Did I make a gain of you by any of them whom I sent unto you?

18 I desired Titus, and with *him* I sent a brother. Did Titus make a gain of you? walked we not in the same spirit? *walked we* not in the same steps?

19 Again, think ye that we excuse ourselves unto you? we speak before God in Christ: but *we do* all things, dearly beloved, for your <sup>*a*</sup>edifying. 20 For I fear, lest, when I come, I

9 <i>c</i>	2 Cor. 13:9;	13a 2
	Ether 12:27 (26–28).	14a
d	D&C 39:12.	<b>19</b> <i>a</i>
10 <i>a</i>	TG Adversity.	r
b	TG Persecution.	20a

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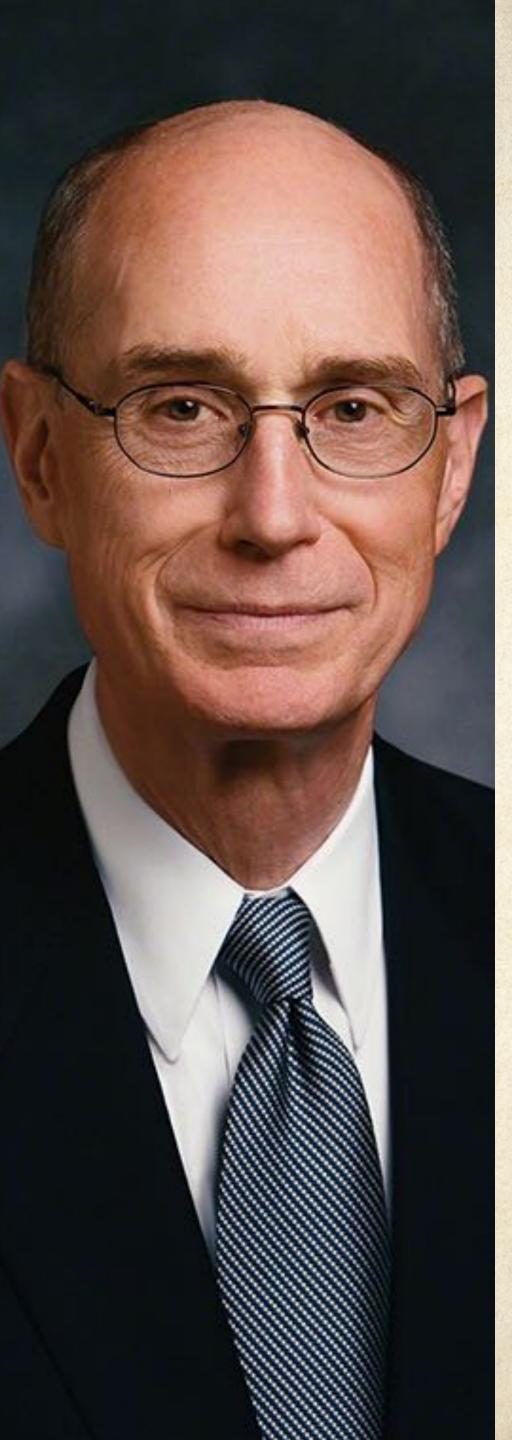
6 But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates.

evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that

2 Cor. 11:9 (8–9). 1 Cor. 10:33. 1 Cor. 14:26. TG Edification. TG Strife.

D&C 6:28.
TG Book of Mormon; Witness.
4a TG Jesus Christ,

Crucifixion of.



# Henry B. Eyring

"It takes faith to believe that [Jesus Christ] knows the people He calls perfectly, both their capacities and their potential, and so makes no mistakes in His calls.

"That may bring a smile or a shake of the head to some in this audience—both those who think their own call to serve might have been a mistake as well as those who picture some they know who seem poorly suited to their place in the Lord's kingdom. My counsel to both groups is to delay such judgments until you can better see what the Lord sees. The judgment you need to make, instead, is that you have the capacity to receive revelation and to act on it fearlessly."

("The Lord Leads His Church," Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2017, 82)

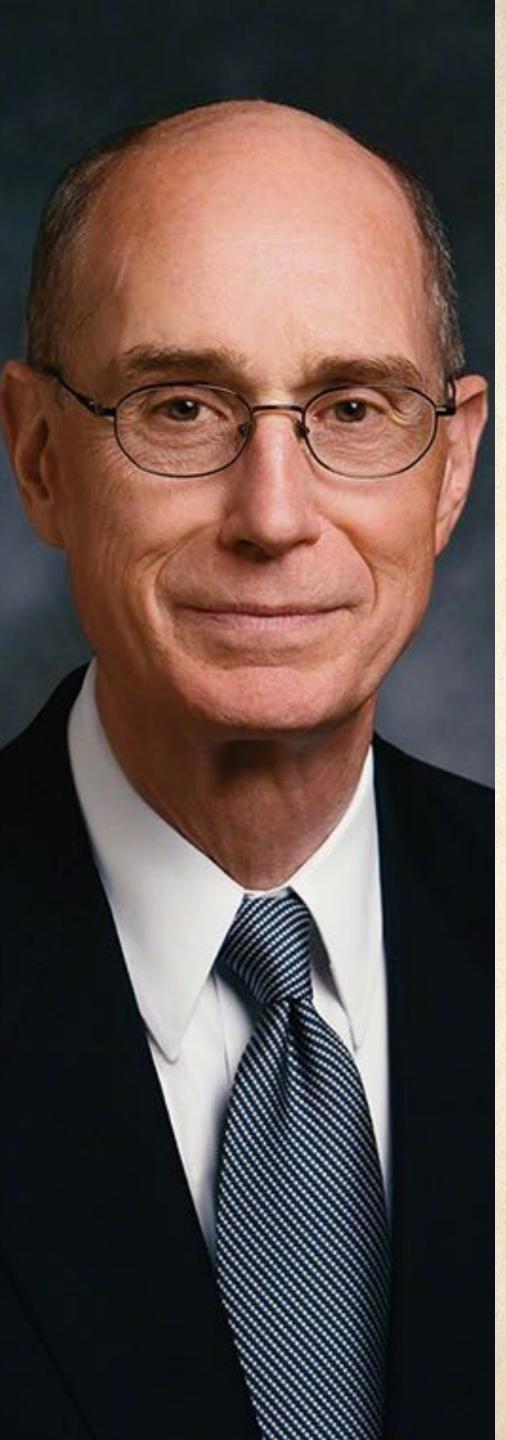




# Henry B. Eyring

"You may have been asked, or you will be, whether you sustain your bishop, stake president, the General Authorities, and the General Officers of the Church....





# Henry B. Eyring

... You could prepa following:

 Have I thought or spo have pledged to sustain?
 Have I looked for evide
 Have I conscientiously
 Have I spoken about the servants?
 Do I pray for them regular
 Those questions will, for maneed to repent."

("The Power of Sustaining Faith," April 2019 GC)

... You could prepare by asking yourself questions like the

1. Have I thought or spoken of human weakness in the people I have pledged to sustain?

Have I looked for evidence that the Lord is leading them?
 Have I conscientiously and loyally followed their leadership?
 Have I spoken about the evidence I can see that they are God's

5. Do I pray for them regularly by name and with feelings of love? Those questions will, for most of us, lead to some uneasiness and a





# Sheri Dew,

"Some people get tangled up in the question: But, are prophets, seers, and revelators infallible? That's the wrong question. A better one is, Who exactly are prophets? They are the ordained holders of priesthood keys that authorize the Lord's power to be distributed throughout the earth. They may not be perfect. But they are the most perfectly inspired leaders on earth, and their only motive is perfectly pure—to help us find our way back home by pointing us to Jesus Christ."

("Prophets" [BYU–Pathway Worldwide devotional, July 13, 2021], 2)



is made perfect in <sup>c</sup>weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may <sup>*d*</sup>rest upon me.

10 Therefore I take pleasure in <sup>*a*</sup>infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in <sup>b</sup>persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am <sup>c</sup>weak, then am I <sup>d</sup>strong.

11 I am become a fool in glorying; ye have compelled me: for I ought to have been commended of you: for in nothing am I behind the very <sup>a</sup>chiefest apostles, though I be nothing.

12 Truly the <sup>*a*</sup>signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

13 For what is it wherein ye were inferior to other churches, except it be that I myself was not <sup>a</sup>burdensome to you? forgive me this wrong.

14 Behold, the third time I am ready to come to you; and I will not be burdensome to you: for I <sup>*a*</sup>seek not yours, but you: for the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children.

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19 Again, think ye that we excuse ourselves unto you? we speak before God in Christ: but we do all things, dearly beloved, for your <sup>*a*</sup>edifying. 20 For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, <sup>a</sup>strifes, <sup>b</sup>backbitings, whisperings, swellings, <sup>c</sup>tumults:

21 And lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed.

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