

New Testament Seminary Manual (2016)

The epistle states that it was authored by "James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ" (James 1:1). Christian tradition has held that this James, like Jude, is one of the sons of Joseph and Mary and hence a half brother of Jesus Christ (see Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3; Galatians 1:19). The fact that James is mentioned first in the list of Jesus's brothers in Matthew 13:55 may indicate that he was the oldest of the half brothers. Like the Lord's other half brothers, James did not initially become a disciple of Jesus (see John 7:3–5). However, after Jesus was resurrected, James was one of the individuals to whom Christ appeared as a resurrected being (see 1 Corinthians 15:7).



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Later James became an Apostle and, according to early Christian writers, the first bishop of the Church in Jerusalem (see Acts 12:17; 21:18; Galatians 1:18–19; 2:9). As a leader in the Church, he played a prominent role in the council held in Jerusalem (Acts 15:13). His influence in the Church was no doubt strengthened by his kinship to Jesus, yet James showed humility in introducing himself not as the brother of Jesus but as a servant of the Lord (see James 1:1).

It is unknown when James wrote this letter. Since James lived in Jerusalem and watched over the affairs of the Church there, he likely wrote his epistle from that area.



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The fact that James did not mention the Jerusalem conference of about A.D. 50 (see Acts 15) could indicate that this letter was written before it took place. If this letter was indeed written before the Jerusalem conference, it is one of the first epistles in the New Testament to have been written.

The General Epistle of James is well known among members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for the significant passage in James 1:5 that led young Joseph Smith to seek for truth from God. Throughout his epistle, James emphasized that we are to be "doers of the word, and not hearers only" (James 1:22).



THE GENERAL EPISTLE OF JAMES

CHAPTER 1

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God—Resist temptation—Be doers of the word—James explains how to recognize pure religion.

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15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth ^{*a*}sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

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18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to ^{*a*}speak, ^{*b*}slow to ^{*c*}wrath:

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22 But be ye ^{*a*}doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

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

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

26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his ^{*a*}tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is ^bvain.

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God has chosen the poor of this world who are rich in faith—Salvation is gained by keeping the whole law—Faith without works is dead.

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NT Institute Student Manual

Every member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been blessed by the declaration that James made: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God" (James 1:5). This simple but inspired passage motivated young Joseph Smith to turn to God for a heavenly answer (see Joseph Smith—History 1:11–13). James 1:5 teaches that the heavens are not sealed, that God will reveal answers to those of any generation who ask Him in faith, including us today (see also D&C 6:11; 42:61).

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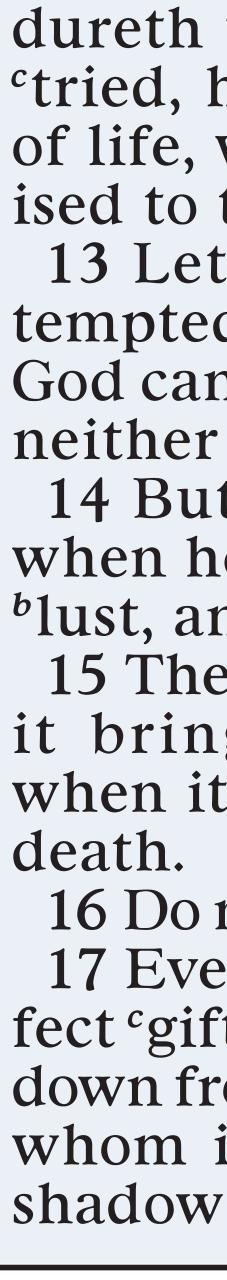
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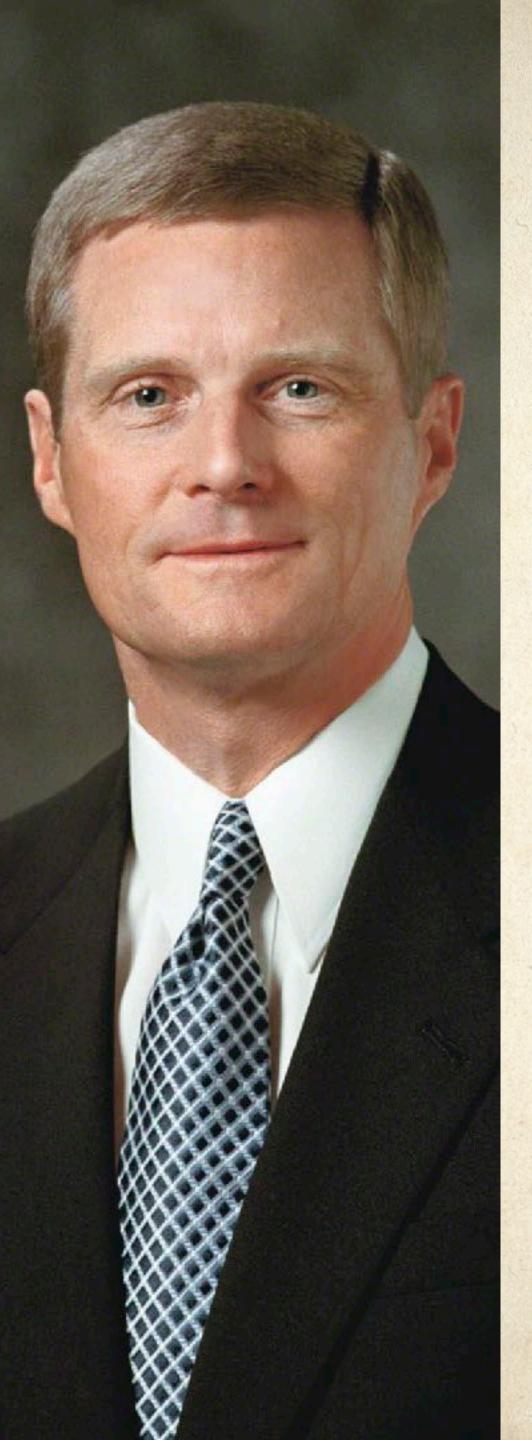
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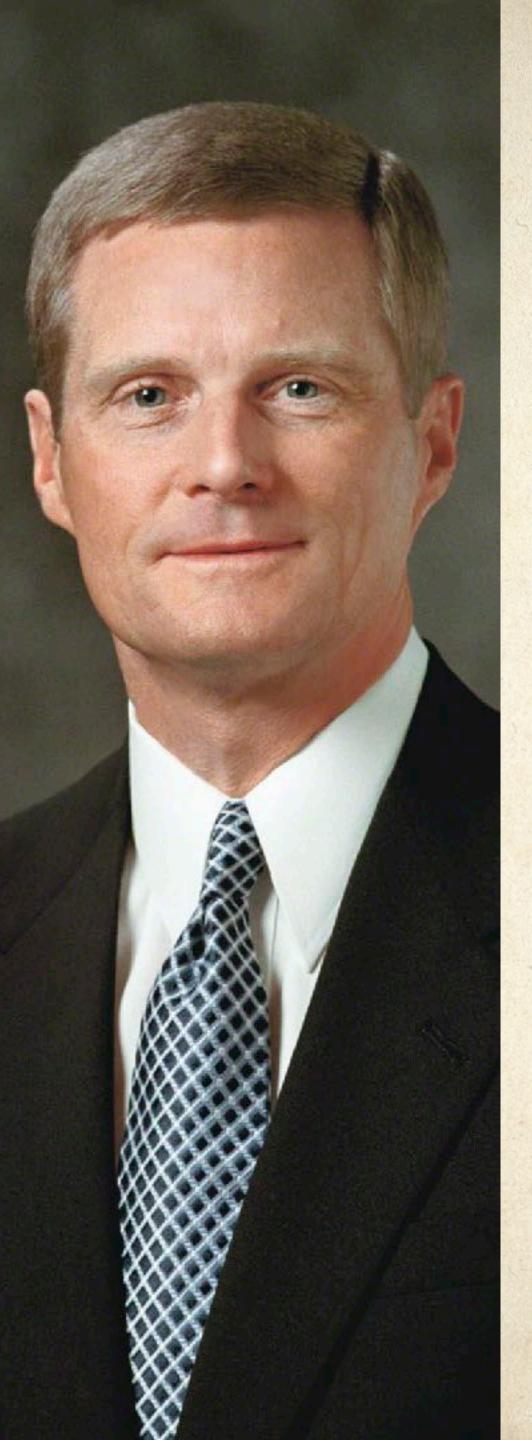
Elder David A. Bednar

"Notice the requirement to ask in faith, which I understand to mean the necessity to not only express but to do, the dual obligation to both plead and to perform, the requirement to communicate and to act.

"... Note the questions that guided Joseph's thinking and supplicating. ...

"My object in going to inquire of the Lord was to know which of all the sects was right, that I might know which to join' (Joseph Smith—History 1:10, 18).



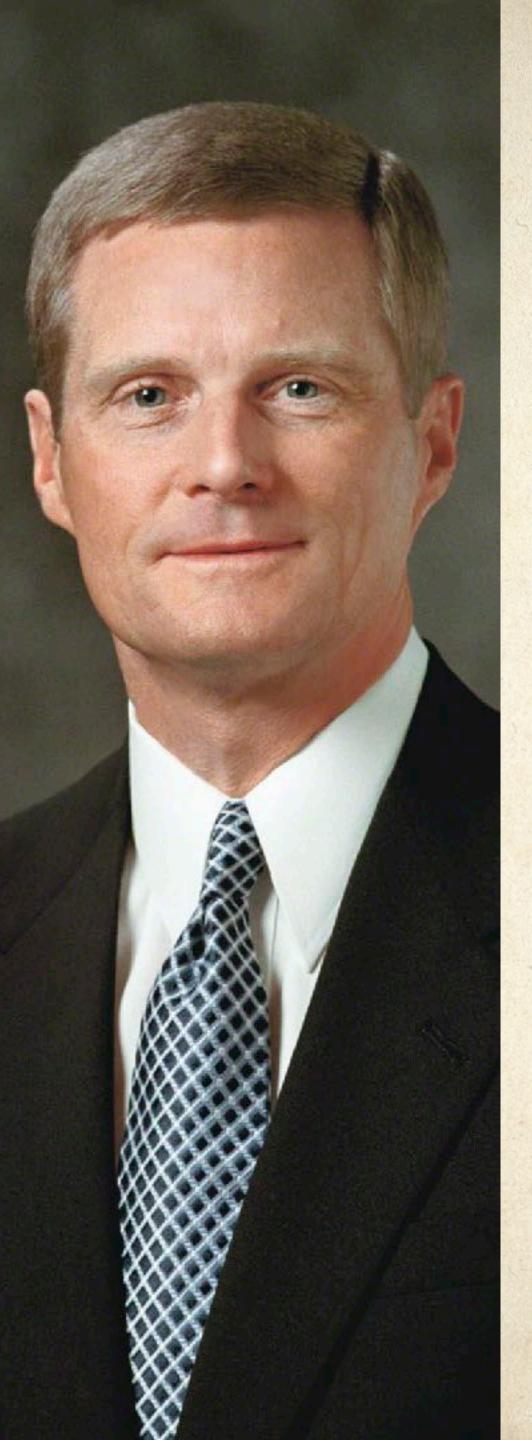


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"Joseph's questions focused not just on what he needed to know but also on what was to be done! His prayer was not simply, 'Which church is right?' His question was, 'Which church should I join?' Joseph went to the grove to ask in faith, and he was determined to act.

"True faith is focused in and on the Lord Jesus Christ and always leads to righteous action....





Elder David A. Bednar

"... We press forward and persevere in the consecrated work of prayer, after we say 'amen,' by acting upon the things we have expressed to Heavenly Father.

"Asking in faith requires honesty, effort, commitment, and persistence."

("Ask in Faith," Apr. 2008 GC, Ensign, May 2008, 94–95).



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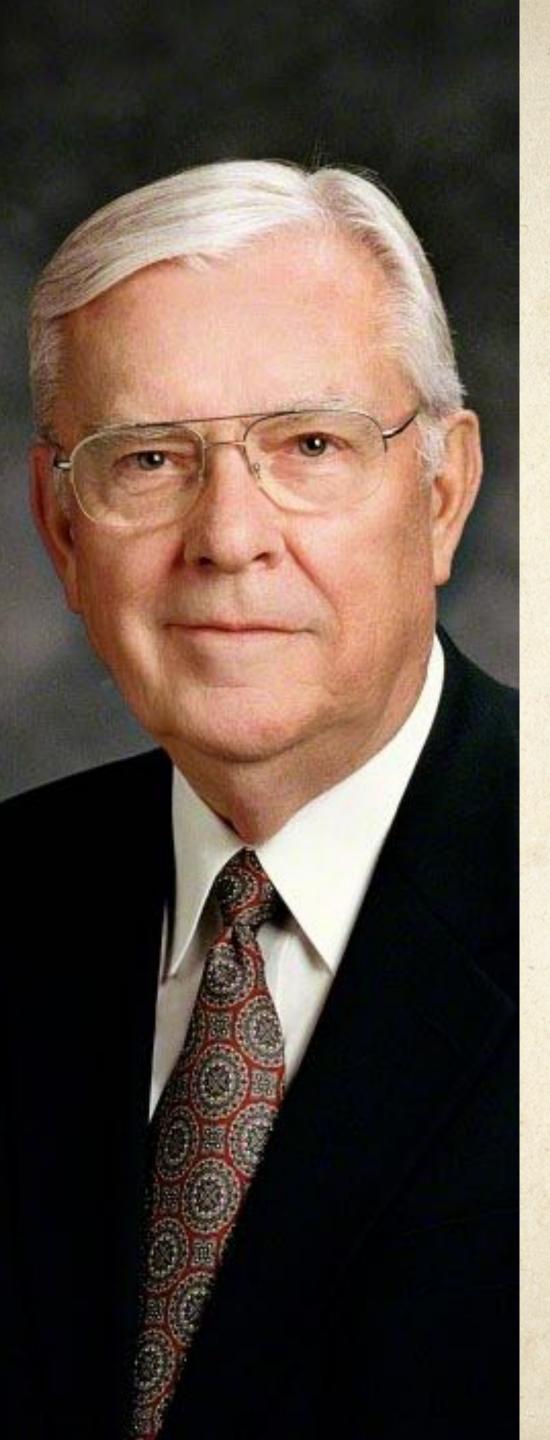
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While God is known to test the faith of His children (see Genesis 22:1; D&C 101:3–5; Abraham 3:25), He is not the source of temptation. James taught that temptations do not come from God but from the devil, who attempts to draw us away from righteousness by enticing us to do evil. The Greek verbs from which "drawn away" and "enticed" are translated refer to the traps and bait used when hunting and fishing (James 1:14).



President M. Russell Ballard

"The use of artificial lures to fool and catch a fish is an example of the way Lucifer often tempts, deceives, and tries to ensnare us.

"Like the fly fisherman who knows that trout are driven by hunger, Lucifer knows our 'hunger,' or weaknesses, and tempts us with counterfeit lures which, if taken, can cause us to be yanked from the stream of life into his unmerciful influence."

("O That Cunning Plan of the Evil One," Oct 2010 GC, Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2010, 108).



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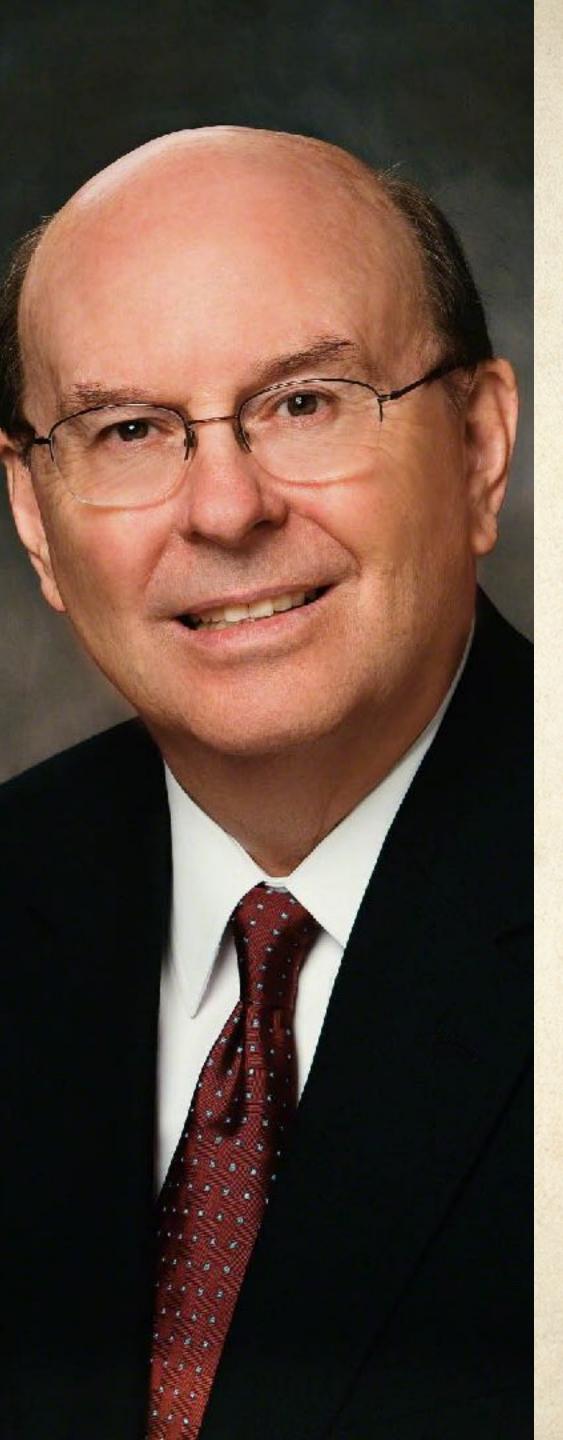
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As part of his teaching that "the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God" (James 1:20), James exhorted his readers to "lay apart all ... superfluity of naughtiness" (James 1:21). "Naughtiness" has come to connote petty or mischievous acts, such as the pranks of children, but this is a very inadequate translation of the Greek word James used, which is kakias. This Greek word not only meant evil in the general sense but, specifically, hatred or bitterness toward another. Thus "malice" probably comes closest to the truest meaning. The Greek word translated "superfluity" is used in many other places in the New Testament. Typically it is translated as "abundance," which gives the true sense of James's phrase: "abundance of malice."





Elder Quentin L. Cook

"I recently met a fine teenage young man. His goals were to go on a mission, obtain an education, marry in the temple, and have a faithful happy family. ... I felt he genuinely wanted to go on a mission and was avoiding serious transgressions that would prohibit a mission, but his day-to-day conduct was not preparing him for the physical, emotional, social, intellectual, and spiritual challenges he would face. He had not learned to work hard. He was not serious about school or seminary. He attended church, but he had not read the Book of Mormon. He was spending a large amount of time on video games and social media. He seemed to think that showing up for his mission would be sufficient" ("Choose Wisely," Oct. 2014 GC, Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2014, 47).



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In his oft-quoted passage "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only" (James 1:22), James taught readers that it is not sufficient to hear the word of God; the Lord expects us to act upon gospel truths (see Matthew 7:21–23; Mosiah 4:10; D&C 78:7). The Epistle of James focuses largely on helping readers to become doers of the word.

President Dallin H. Oaks

"It is not enough to know that God lives, that Jesus Christ is our Savior, and that the gospel is true. We must take the high road by acting upon that knowledge" ("Be Not Deceived," Oct 2004 GC, Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2004, 46).



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<u>c TG Meek</u>	D&C 136:8 (7-9).	3 <i>a</i> GR splendid.

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5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the ^{*a*}poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

6 But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men ^{*a*} oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?

7 Do not they blaspheme that worthy ^{*a*}name by the which ye are called?

8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt ^{*a*}love thy ^bneighbour as thyself, ye do well:

James observed that caring for others, particularly widows and the fatherless, is a manifestation of "pure religion" (James 1:27). Anciently, widows and orphans were among the most underprivileged members of society and had few rights or opportunities; thus, the Lord repeatedly commanded His people to care for them and for others in great need (see Exodus 22:22; Isaiah 1:17; Acts 6:1; D&C 83:6).



Elder Earl C. Tingey

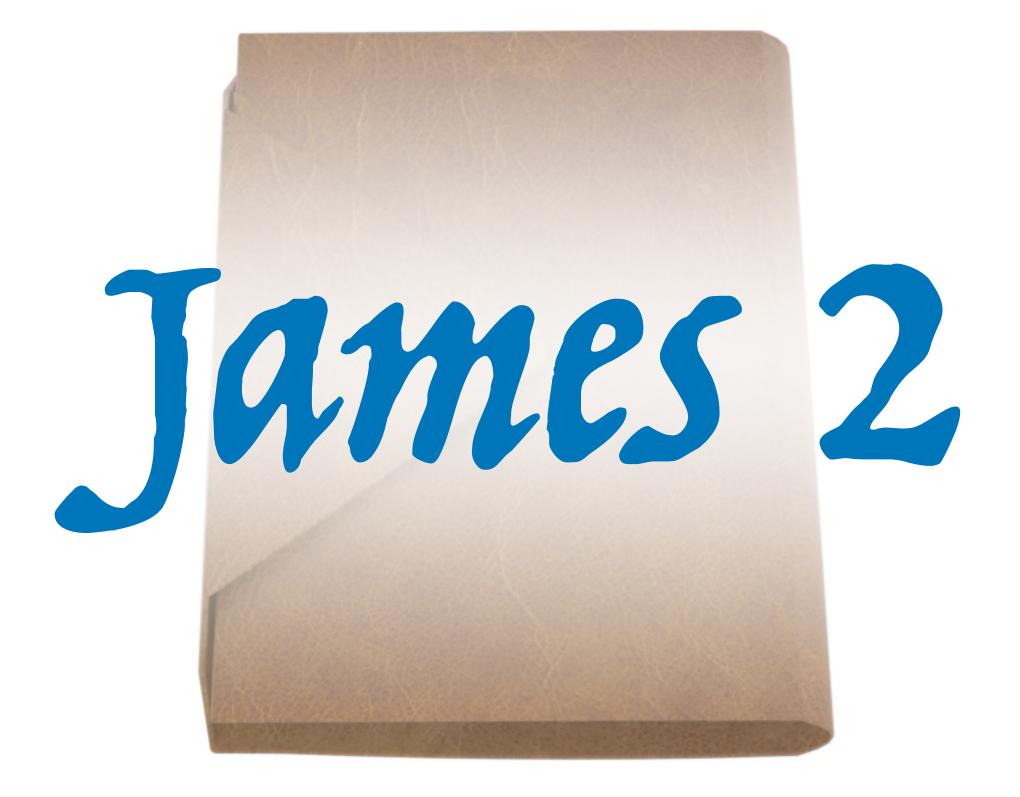
"The term widows is used 34 times in the scriptures. In 23 of these passages, the term refers to widows and the fatherless. I believe the Lord has a tender feeling toward widows and the fatherless, or orphans. He knows that they may have to rely more completely on Him than on others....

"To the family and friends of widows, God knows of your service and He may judge your works by how well you assist the widow. ...

"... I know that the leaders of the Church are concerned about the welfare of widows. We members should care for and assist the widows within our family, home, ward, and neighborhood."

("The Widows of Zion," Apr. 2000 GC, Ensign, May 2000, 62–63).





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CHAPTER 2

18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to ^{*a*}speak, ^{*b*}slow to ^{*c*}wrath:

20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

21 Wherefore lay apart all ^{*a*}filthiness and ^bsuperfluity of naughtiness, and receive with ^cmeekness the ^{*d*}engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

22 But be ye ^{*a*}doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

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

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

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

26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his ^{*a*}tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is ^bvain.

27 Pure ^{*a*} religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To ^bvisit the ^cfatherless and ^dwidows in their ^eaffliction, and to keep himself^{*f*}unspotted from ^{*g*}the ^{*h*}world.

God has chosen the poor of this world who are rich in faith—Salvation is gained by keeping the whole law—Faith without works is dead.

My brethren, ^{*a*}have not the faith of our ^bLord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.

2 For if there come unto your as-

sembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a ^{*a*} poor man in ^{*b*} vile raiment; 3 And ye have respect to him that weareth the ^{*a*}gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: 4 ^{*a*}Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of Ř 5 Hearken, my beloved brethren,

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worthy ^{*a*}name by the which ye are called?

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19 <i>a</i> Prov. 17:27. <i>b</i> TG Patience. <i>c</i> TG Anger.	Good Works; Welfare. c Deut. 26:13;	our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, and y have respect to persons.
21 a TG Filthiness.	Job 22:9; 31:21 (21–22);	b TG Jesus Christ, Lord.
<i>b</i> GR overabundance of	Ps. 10:14; 146:9 (1–10);	2a TG Poor.
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22 <i>a</i> TG Commitment; Duty;	e TG Affliction.	not then in yourselves

yet

9 But if ye have ^{*a*} respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

10 For whosoever shall keep the ^{*a*}whole law, and yet ^{*b*}offend in one point, he is ^cguilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit ^aadultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of ^{*a*}liberty.

13 For he shall have ^ajudgment without ^bmercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

14 ^{*a*}What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath ^bfaith, and have not works? can faith save him?

15 If a ^{*a*} brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily ^bfood,

16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be *ye* warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye ^{*a*}give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

17 Even so ^{*a*}faith, if it hath not ^bworks, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my ^{*a*} faith by my ^bworks.

19 Thou believest that there is one

God; thou doest well: the ^{*a*} devils also ^bbelieve, and tremble.

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that ^{*a*} faith without ^{*b*} works is dead?

21 Was not Abraham our father ^boffered Isaac his son upon the altar?

22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by ^{*a*}works was faith made ^bperfect?

23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham ^a believed God, and it was imputed unto him for ^brighteousness: and he was called the ^cFriend of God.

24 Ye see then how that by ^{*a*}works a man is ^b justified, and not by faith only.

25 Likewise also was not ^aRahab the harlot ^b justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?

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CHAPTER 3

By governing the tongue, we gain perfection-Heavenly wisdom is pure, peaceable, and full of mercy.

My brethren, ^{*a*}be not many ^{*b*}masters, knowing that we shall ^creceive the greater condemnation.

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9 <i>a</i> Deut. 1:17; Prov. 28:21. 10 <i>a</i> D&C 50:28 (28–29). <i>b</i> GR stumble, err. TG Offense; Sin.	 b Matt. 7:20 (15–20); D&C 20:37. 19<i>a</i> JST James 2:19 devils also believe, and 	24 <i>a</i> 2 Ne. 25:23. TG Commitment. <i>b</i> TG Justification. 25 <i>a</i> Josh. 2:1.
c TG Guilt.	tremble; thou hast made	<i>b</i> Heb. 11:31.
11 <i>a</i> TG Adulterer.	thyself like unto them, not	26a TG Spirit Body;
12 <i>a</i> TG Liberty.	being justified.	Spirits, Disembodied.
13 <i>a</i> Ps. 109:7.	Acts 16:17.	b TG Death.
b TG Mercy.	<i>b</i> Luke 8:28 (27–28).	c TG Good Works.
14 <i>a</i> JST James 2:14–21	20 <i>a</i> TG Faith.	3 1 <i>a</i> JST James 3:1 strive
(Appendix).	<i>b</i> Prov. 24:12.	not for the mastery,



ren let every man be swift to hear, gained by keeping the whole law—Faith without works is dead.



GR not with partiality, have the faith of our Lord.

JST James 2:1 ... ye cannot have the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, and yet have respect to persons. ilthghtiness able

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Hath not God chosen the ^{*a*}poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

6 But ve have despised the poor.

To have "respect of persons" means to show partiality or favoritism toward individuals (James 2:1)... James condemned such biased treatment of others, specifically discrimination against the poor in favor of the rich (see James 2:2-6). Other scriptures teach that followers of Christ should not discriminate on the basis of skin color, social standing, gender, or nationality (see 2 Nephi 26:33); education or economic standing (see 3 Nephi 6:10-12, 15; Proverbs 22:22); clothing (see Jacob 2:13); or health, age, or religious affiliation (see Alma 1:30). By living in this way, we become more like our Heavenly Father, who "is no respecter of persons" (Acts 10:34; Romans 2:11; D&C 1:34-35).





President Gordon B. Hinckley

"We must never forget that we live in a world of great diversity. The people of the earth are all our Father's children and are of many and varied religious persuasions. We must cultivate tolerance and appreciation and respect one another. We have differences of doctrine. This need not bring about animosity or any kind of holier-than-thou attitude."

("The Work Moves Forward," Apr. 1999 GC, Ensign, May 1999, 5).



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Good Works; Welfare. Deut. 26:13; Job 22:9; 31:21 (21–22);

our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, and yet have respect to persons.

b TG Jesus Christ, Lord.

NT Institute Student Manual

To exhort his readers to treat all people, both rich and poor, with charity, James quoted from Leviticus 19:18, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself," labeling it "the royal law" (James 2:8). "Royal" means "belonging to a king." This teaching parallels Jesus's command to "love the Lord thy God" and to "love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matthew 22:37, 39). Those who keep "the royal law" love everyone and avoid showing favoritism.

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9 But if ye have ^{*a*} respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

10 For whosoever shall keep the ^{*a*}whole law, and yet ^{*b*}offend in one point, he is ^cguilty of all.

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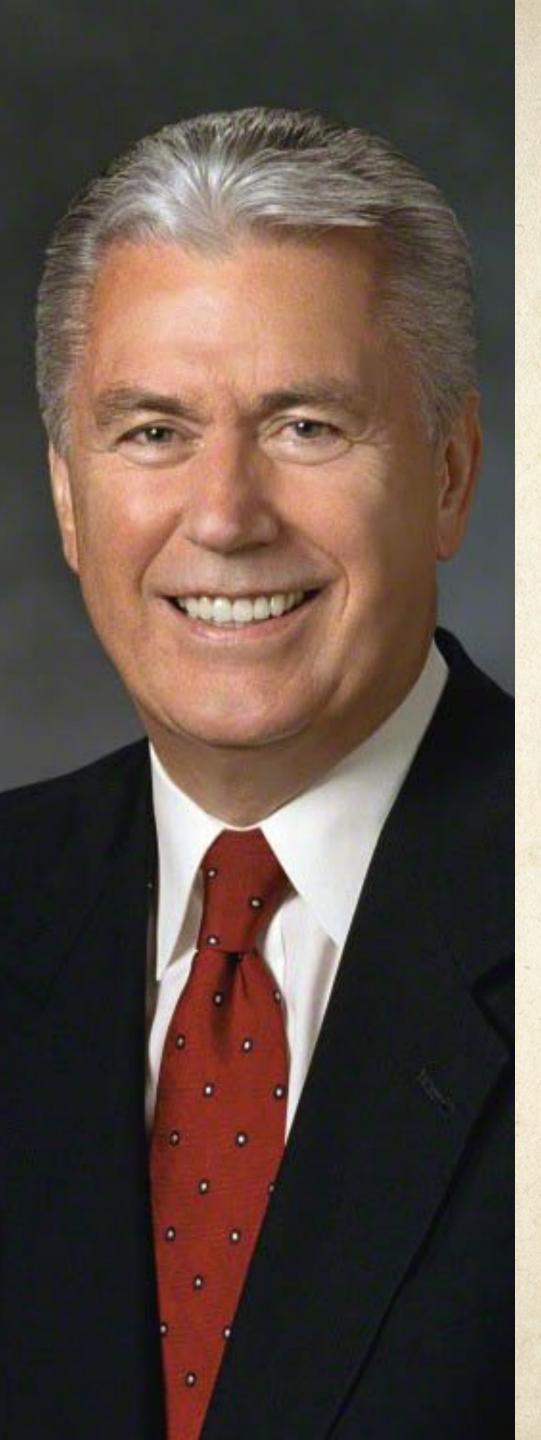
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24 Ye see then how that by ^{*a*} works a man is ^b justified, and not by faith only.

25 Likewise also was not ^aRahab the harlot ^b justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another



President Dieter F. Uchtdorf

"All is not lost. The grace of God is our great and everlasting hope. Through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the plan of mercy appeases the demands of justice [see Alma 42:15] 'and [brings] about means unto men that they may have faith unto repentance' [Alma 34:15].

"Our sins, though they may be as scarlet, can become white as snow [see Isaiah 1:18]. Because our beloved Savior 'gave himself a ransom for all,' [1 Timothy 2:6] an entrance into His everlasting kingdom is provided unto us [see 2 Peter 1:11]."

("The Gift of Grace," Apr. 2015 GC, Ensign, May 2015, 108).



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7:20 (15–20);

James responded to reports of people who were speaking simplistically of faith as something separate from one's actions, or "works" (see James 2:14-26). It may be that the Apostle Paul's teachings were being distorted as they circulated orally among members of the Church (see Acts 21:21; 2 Peter 3:15–16). Paul had emphasized that salvation came through faith in Jesus Christ and not through works or ceremonial performances of the law of Moses (see the commentaries for Romans 3:27–31 and for Galatians 2:15–16).



James used the term works in a different manner than Paul, referring to righteous deeds as the natural expression of belief. In response to those who suggested one could have faith "and have not works," James asked, "Can faith save him?" (James 2:14). The Greek text of this phrase contains an article before faith; James meant, "Can [that kind of] faith save him?" James was not teaching that faith has no saving power; he was teaching that a passive belief that resulted in no action was not true, saving faith. When James challenged his readers to "shew me thy faith without thy works" (James 2:18), he was pointing out that it is not possible to show one's faith except through one's actions—true faith cannot exist apart from righteous works.



In Lectures on Faith we read that "faith is not only the principle of action, but of power also, in all intelligent beings, whether in heaven or on earth" ([1985], 3). Commenting on this statement, Elder David A. Bednar taught, "Thus, faith in Christ leads to righteous action, which increases our spiritual capacity and power. Understanding that faith is a principle of action and of power inspires us to exercise our moral agency in compliance with gospel truth, invites the redeeming and strengthening powers of the Savior's Atonement into our lives, and enlarges the power within us whereby we are agents unto ourselves (see D&C 58:28)" ("Ask in Faith," Apr 2008 GC, 95).



14 "What doth it profit, my brethonly. ren, though a man say he hath ^bfaith, 25 Likewise also was not ^aRahab and have not works? can faith save the harlot ^b justified by works, when she had received the messengers, him? and had sent them out another 15 If a ^{*a*} brother or sister be naked, way?

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23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham ^{*a*} believed God, and it was imputed unto him for ^{*b*} righteousness: and he was called the ^{*c*} Friend of God.

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25 Likewise also was not ^{*a*}Rahab the harlot ^{*b*} justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent *them* out another [fn JST-thou hast made thyself like unto them, not being justified].

This sounds brutal but remember various devils that testified of Christ (Mark 1:34; 3:11; 5:7) or of Paul as the servant of the most high God (Acts 16:16-17). So even devils believe. What sets us apart as believers is what we are willing to do.

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Elder David A. Bednar

"True faith is focused in and on the Lord Jesus Christ and always leads to righteous action. ... Action alone is not faith in the Savior, but acting in accordance with correct principles is a central component of faith."

("Ask in Faith," Apr 2008 GC).

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President Russell M. Nelson

"To do anything well requires effort. Becoming a true disciple of Jesus Christ is no exception. Increasing your faith and trust in Him takes effort....

...What would you do if you had more faith? Think about it. Write about it. Then receive more faith by doing something that requires more faith."

("Christ Is Risen; Faith in Him Will Move Mountains," Apr 2021 GC)

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CHAPTER 2

18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

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worthy ^{*a*}name by the which ye are called?

8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt ^{*a*}love thy ^bneighbour as thyself, ye do well:

19 <i>a</i> Prov. 17:27. <i>b</i> TG Patience. <i>c</i> TG Anger.	Good Works; Welfare. c Deut. 26:13;	our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, and y have respect to persons.
21 <i>a</i> TG Filthiness.	Job 22:9; 31:21 (21–22);	b TG Jesus Christ, Lord.
<i>b</i> GR overabundance of	Ps. 10:14; 146:9 (1–10);	2a TG Poor.
malice, trouble, evil.	3 Ne. 24:5;	b GR dirty.
с тG Meek.	D&C 136:8 (7–9).	3 <i>a</i> GR splendid.
d GR implanted, ingrafted.	d TG Widows.	4 <i>a</i> JST James 2:4 Are ye
22 <i>a</i> TG Commitment; Duty;	e TG Affliction.	not then in yourselves

yet

9 But if ye have ^{*a*} respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

10 For whosoever shall keep the ^{*a*}whole law, and yet ^{*b*}offend in one point, he is ^cguilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit ^aadultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of ^{*a*}liberty.

13 For he shall have ^ajudgment without ^bmercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

14 ^{*a*}What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath ^bfaith, and have not works? can faith save him?

15 If a ^{*a*} brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily ^bfood,

16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be *ye* warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye ^{*a*}give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

17 Even so ^{*a*}faith, if it hath not ^bworks, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my ^{*a*} faith by my ^bworks.

19 Thou believest that there is one

God; thou doest well: the ^{*a*} devils also ^bbelieve, and tremble.

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that ^{*a*} faith without ^{*b*} works is dead?

21 Was not Abraham our father ^boffered Isaac his son upon the altar?

22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by ^{*a*}works was faith made ^bperfect?

23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham ^a believed God, and it was imputed unto him for ^brighteousness: and he was called the ^cFriend of God.

24 Ye see then how that by ^{*a*}works a man is ^b justified, and not by faith only.

25 Likewise also was not ^aRahab the harlot ^b justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?

26 For as the body without the ^{*a*}spirit is ^{*b*}dead, so faith without ^cworks is dead also.

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By governing the tongue, we gain perfection-Heavenly wisdom is pure, peaceable, and full of mercy.

My brethren, ^{*a*}be not many ^{*b*}masters, knowing that we shall ^creceive the greater condemnation.

2 For in many things we ^{*a*} offend all. If any man ^boffend not in ^cword, the

 9a Deut. 1:17; Prov. 28:21. 10a D&C 50:28 (28–29). b GR stumble, err. TG Offense; Sin. 	 b Matt. 7:20 (15–20); D&C 20:37. 19a JST James 2:19 devils also believe, and 	24 <i>a</i> 2 Ne. 25:23. TG Commitment. <i>b</i> TG Justification. 25 <i>a</i> Josh. 2:1.
c TG Guilt.	tremble; thou hast made	<i>b</i> Heb. 11:31.
11 <i>a</i> TG Adulterer.	thyself like unto them, not	26 <i>a</i> TG Spirit Body;
12 <i>a</i> TG Liberty.	being justified.	Spirits, Disembodied.
13 <i>a</i> Ps. 109:7.	Acts 16:17.	b TG Death.
b TG Mercy.	<i>b</i> Luke 8:28 (27–28).	c TG Good Works.
14 <i>a</i> JST James 2:14–21	20 <i>a</i> TG Faith.	3 1 <i>a</i> JST James 3:1 strive
(Appendix).	<i>b</i> Prov. 24:12.	not for the mastery,





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3 Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.

4 Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the ^{*a*} governor listeth.

5 Even so the tongue is a little member, and ^{*a*} boasteth great things. Behold, how great a ^bmatter a little fire kindleth!

6 And the ^{*a*} tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

7 For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:

8 But the ^{*a*}tongue can no man tame; it is an ^bunruly evil, full of deadly poison.

9 Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith ^{*a*}curse we men, which are made after the ^bsimilitude of God.

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17 But the ^{*a*}wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and ^beasy to be entreated, full of ^cmercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without ^{*d*}hypocrisy.

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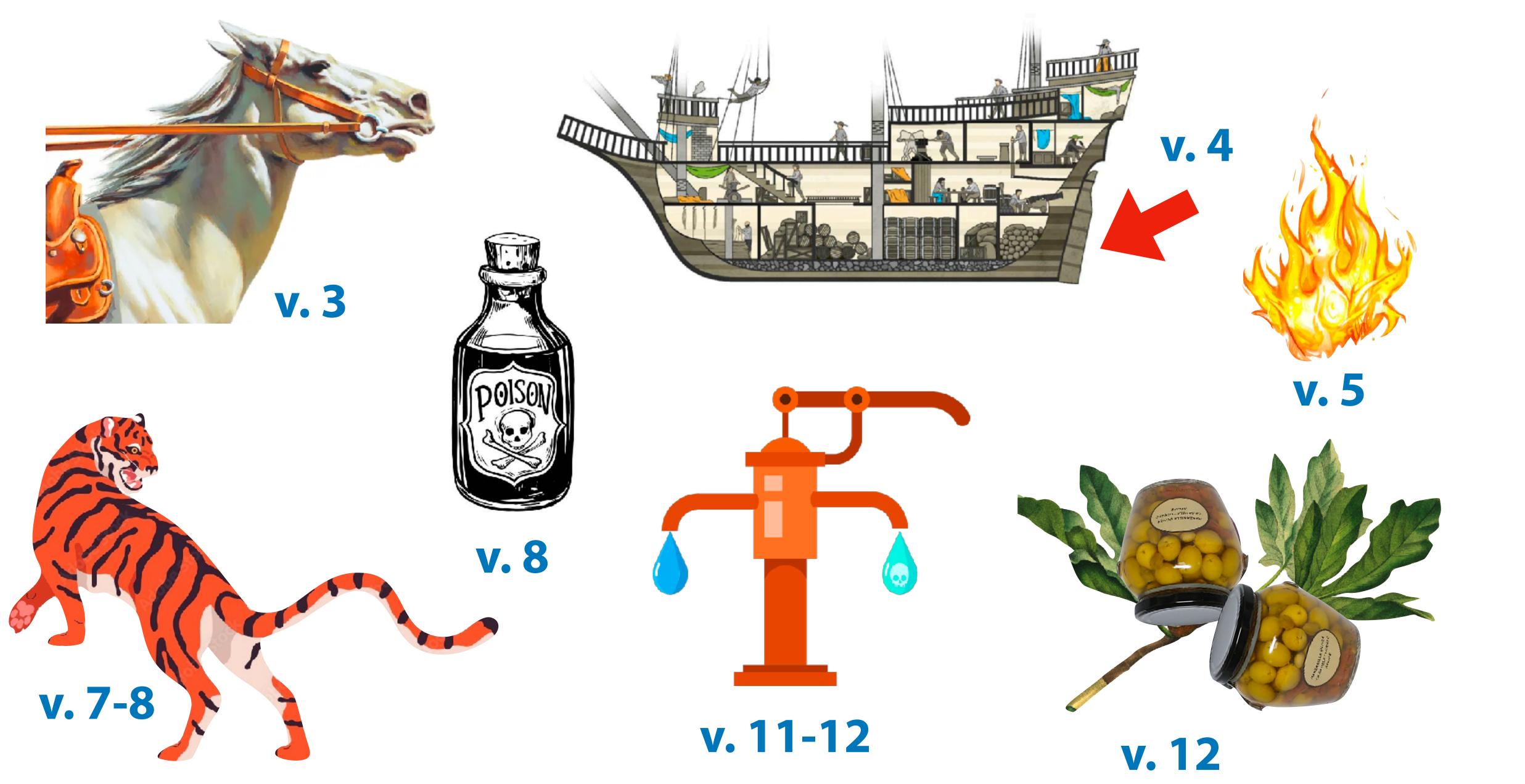
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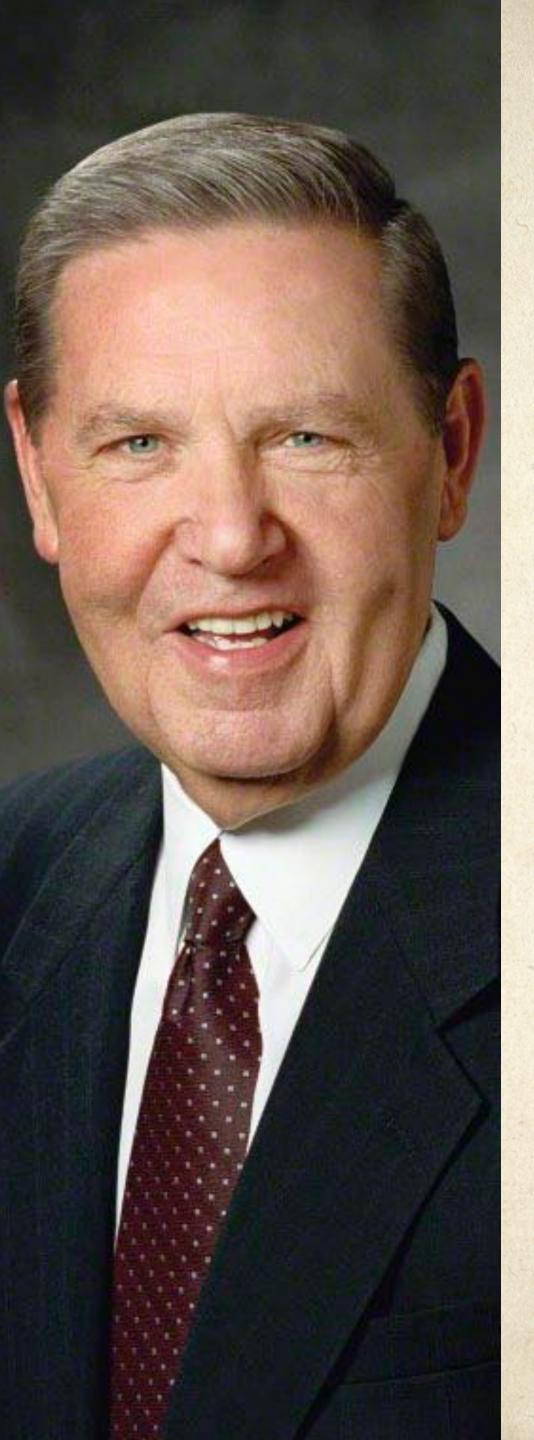
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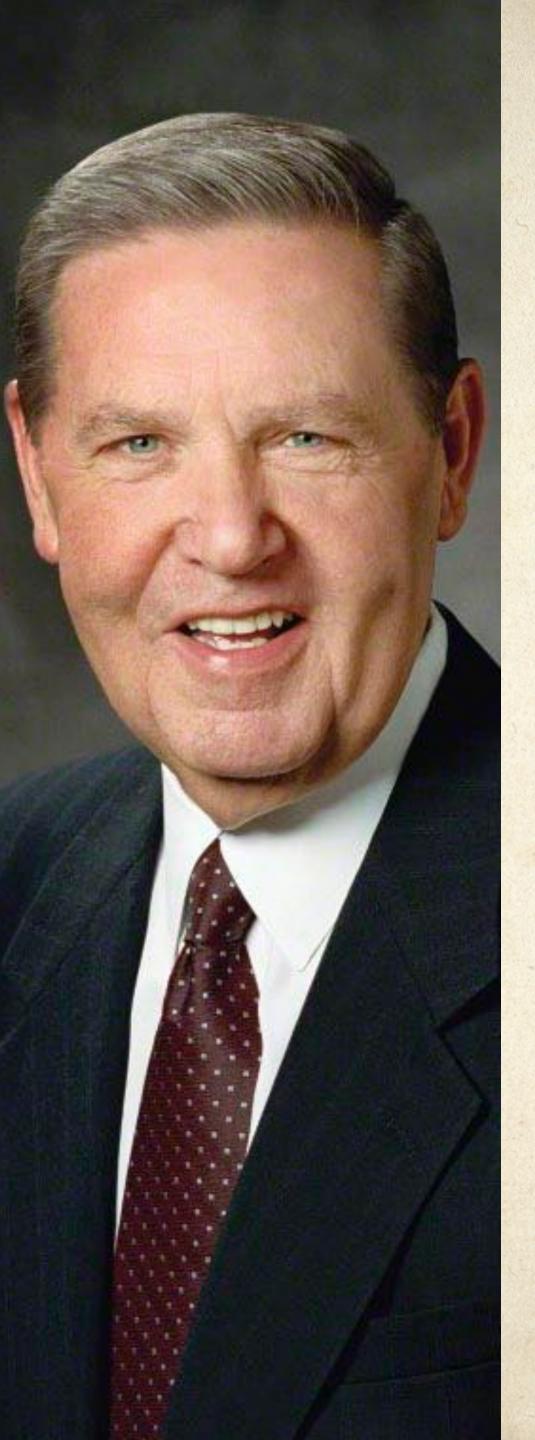






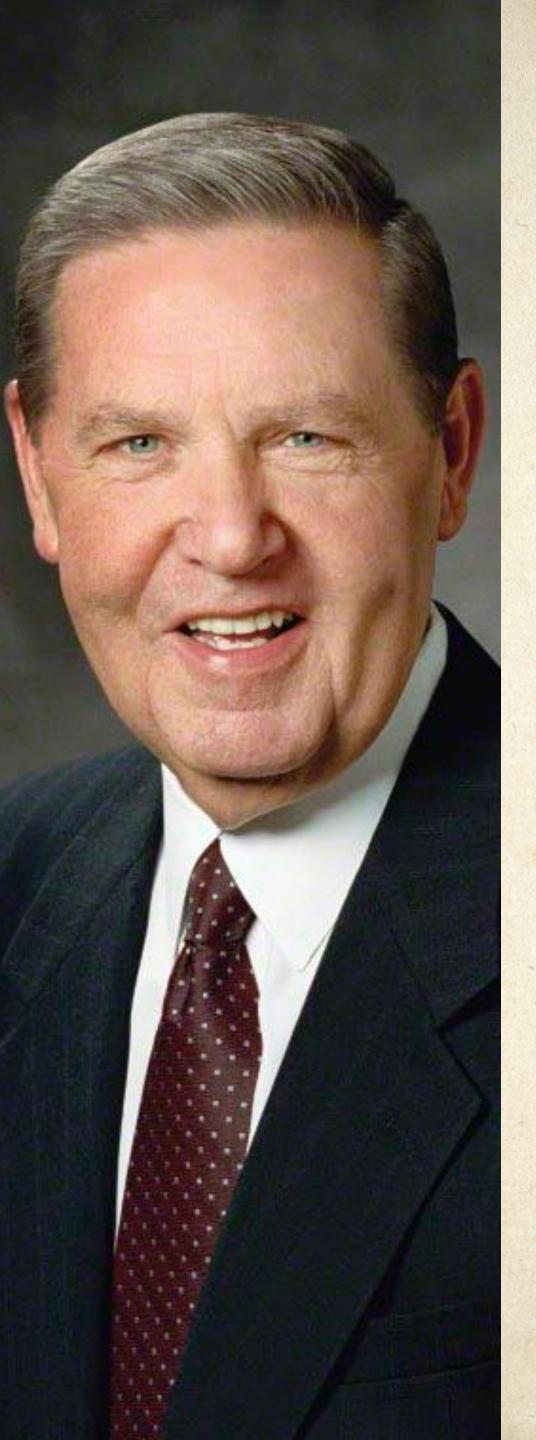
"Obviously James doesn't mean our tongues are always iniquitous, nor that everything we say is 'full of deadly poison.' But he clearly means that at least some things we say can be destructive, even venomous—and that is a chilling indictment for a Latter-day Saint! The voice that bears profound testimony, utters fervent prayer, and sings the hymns of Zion can be the same voice that berates and criticizes, embarrasses and demeans, inflicts pain and destroys the spirit of oneself and of others in the process....





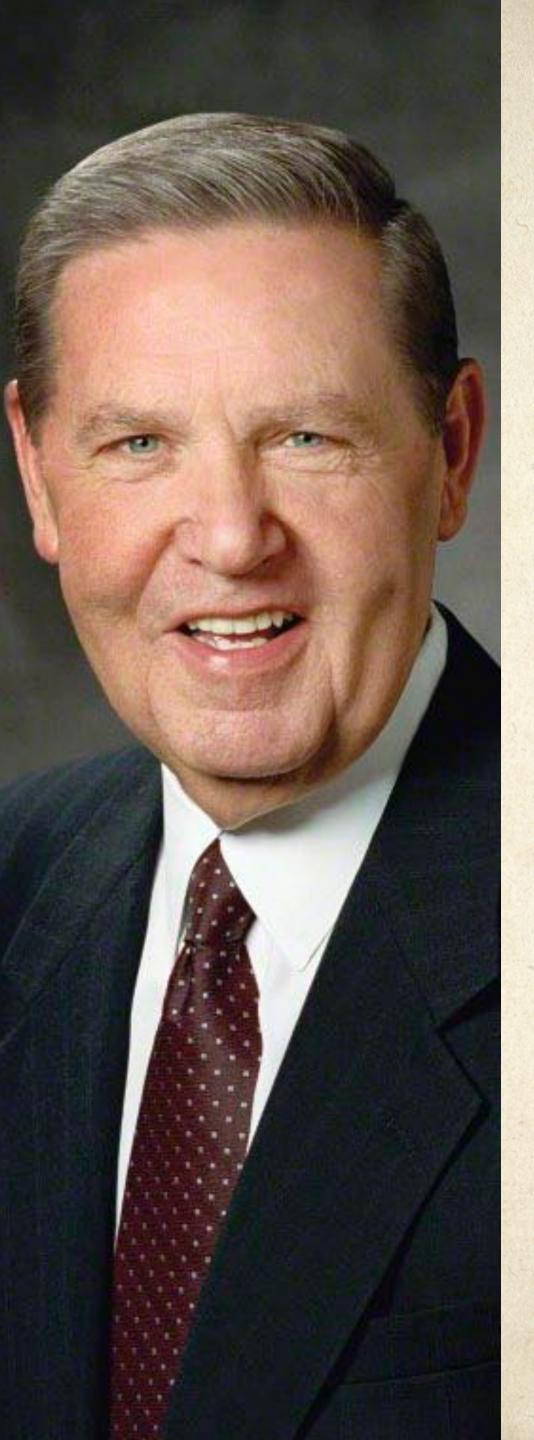
"Husbands, you have been entrusted with the most sacred gift God can give you—a wife, a daughter of God, the mother of your children who has voluntarily given herself to you for love and joyful companionship. Think of the kind things you said when you were courting, think of the blessings you have given with hands placed lovingly upon her head, ... and then reflect on other moments characterized by cold, caustic, unbridled words. ... A husband who would never dream of striking his wife physically can break, if not her bones, then certainly her heart by the brutality of thoughtless or unkind speech....





"... Wives, what of the unbridled tongue in your mouth, of the power for good or ill in your words? How is it that such a lovely voice ... could ever in a turn be so shrill, so biting, so acrid and untamed? A woman's words can be more piercing than any dagger ever forged, and they can drive the people they love to retreat beyond a barrier more distant than anyone in the beginning of that exchange could ever have imagined."





"... May we try to be 'perfect' men and women in at least this one way now—by offending not in word, or more positively put, by speaking with a new tongue, the tongue of angels. Our words, like our deeds, should be filled with faith and hope and charity, the three great Christian imperatives so desperately needed in the world today. With such words, spoken under the influence of the Spirit, tears can be dried, hearts can be healed, lives can be elevated, hope can return, confidence can prevail."

("The Tongue of Angels," Apr 2007 GC, Ensign, May 2007, 16–17).



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 $\begin{array}{c|c} c & TG \ Peacemakers. \\ 12.13 & (13-19) \end{array}$

Elder Robert S. Wood

"Our words and external expressions are not neutral, for they reflect both who we are and shape who we are becoming. ...

"What we say and how we present ourselves not only betray our inner person but also mold that person, those around us, and finally our whole society. Every day each of us is implicated in obscuring the light or in chasing away the darkness. We have been called to invite the light and to be a light, to sanctify ourselves and edify others. ...



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"When we speak and act, we should ask whether our words and expressions are calculated to invite the powers of heaven into our lives and to invite all to come unto Christ. We must treat sacred things with reverence. We need to eliminate from our conversations the immodest and the lewd, the violent and the threatening, the demeaning and the false. As the Apostle Peter wrote, "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation" [1 Peter 1:15]. The expression conversation refers here not only to speech but also to our entire comportment."

(Robert S. Wood, "The Tongue of Angels," Oct 1999 GC, Ensign, Nov. 1999, 83-84)



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6 But he giveth more ^agrace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the ^bproud, but giveth grace unto the ^chumble.

7 ^{*a*}Submit yourselves therefore to God. ^bResist the ^cdevil, and he will flee from you.

8 ^{*a*}Draw ^{*b*}nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. ^cCleanse your hands, ye sinners; and ^{*d*} purify your hearts, ye double minded.

9 ^{*a*}Be afflicted, and mourn, and ^bweep: let your laughter be turned to ^cmourning, and your joy to heaviness.

10 ^{*a*}Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

11 ^{*a*}Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the ^blaw, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

12 There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that ^{*a*} judgest another?

13 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to ^amorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:

14 Whereas ye know not what shall

be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a ^{*a*}vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

15 For that ye *ought* to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.

16 But now ye rejoice in your ^{*a*} boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.

17 Therefore to him that ^{*a*}knoweth to do good, and ^bdoeth *it* not, to him it is ^csin.

CHAPTER 5

Misery awaits the wanton rich—Await the Lord's coming with patience—The elders are to anoint and heal the sick.

Go to now, ye rich men, ^aweep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

2 Your ^{*a*}riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten.

3 Your ^agold and silver is ^bcankered; and the ^crust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.

4 Behold, the ^{*a*}hire of the ^{*b*}labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

5 Ye have lived ^{*a*} in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.

4 <i>b</i> TG World; Worldliness.	<i>d</i> TG Purification; Purity.	17 <i>a</i> Luke 12:47; 2 Ne. 9:25 (25–27).
c TG Opposition.	9 <i>a</i> GR Endure hardship,	b TG Disobedience;
d TG Enemies.	Suffer harassment.	Good Works;
5a TG Envy.	<i>b</i> Isa. 22:12;	Obedience.
6a TG Grace.	Joel 2:17;	c TG Sin.
b TG Pride.	2 Cor. 7:10.	5 1 <i>a</i> TG Mourning.

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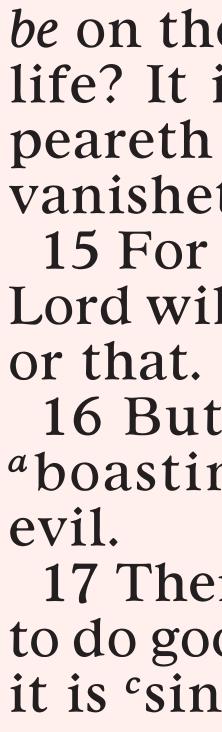
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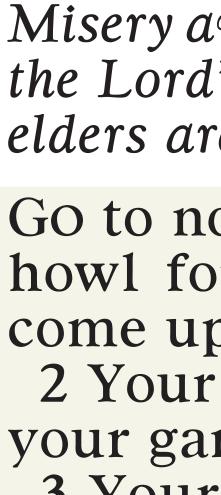
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9^{*a*}Be afflicted, and mourn, and ^bweep: let your laughter be turned to ^cmourning, and your joy to heaviness.

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CHAPTER 5

Misery awaits the wanton rich—Await the Lord's coming with patience—The elders are to anoint and heal the sick.

Go to now, ye rich men, ^aweep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

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12 There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that ^{*a*} judgest another?

13 Go to now, ye that say, 10 day or to ^{*a*}morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:

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4b TG World;	<i>d</i> TG Purification;	17 <i>a</i> Luke 12:47;
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JANLO T.J-J.J

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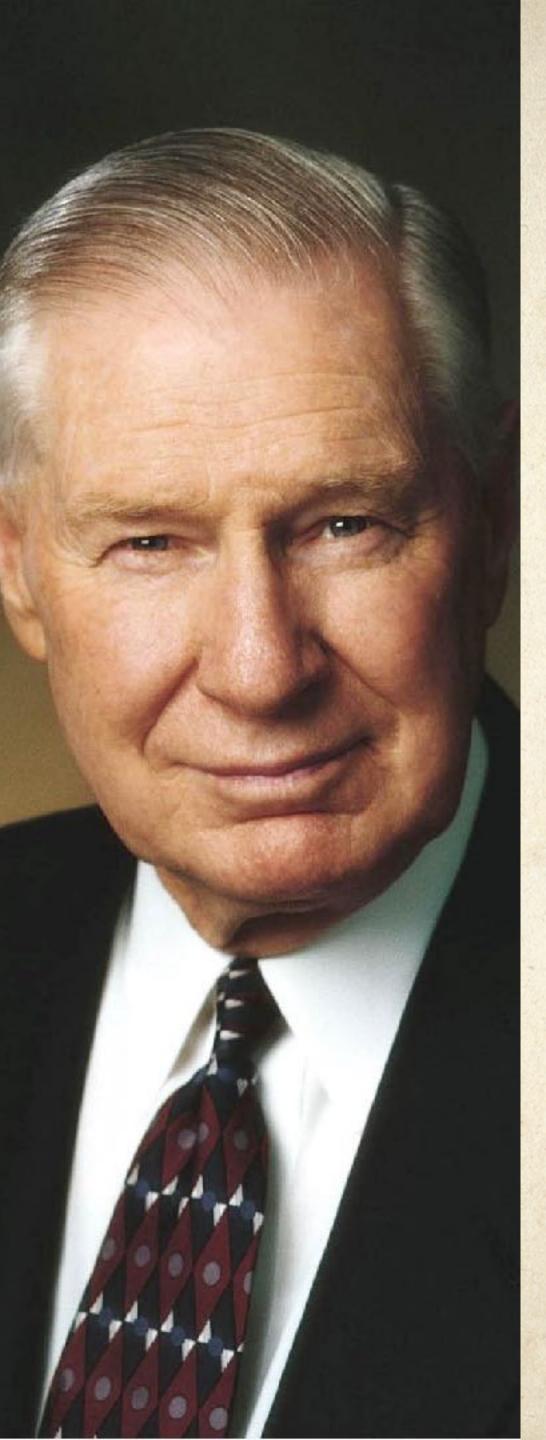
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President James E. Faust

"I fear that some of our greatest sins are sins of omission. These are some of the weightier matters of the law the Savior said we should not leave undone [see Matthew 23:23]. These are the thoughtful, caring deeds we fail to do and feel so guilty for having neglected them.





President James E. Faust

"As a small boy on the farm during the searing heat of the summer, I remember my grandmother Mary Finlinson cooking our delicious meals on a hot woodstove. When the wood box next to the stove became empty, Grandmother would silently pick up the box, go out to refill it from the pile of cedar wood outside, and bring the heavily laden box back into the house. I was so insensitive and interested in the conversation in the kitchen, I sat there and let my beloved grandmother refill the kitchen wood box. I feel ashamed of myself and have regretted my omission for all of my life. I hope someday to ask for her forgiveness."

("The Weightier Matters of the Law: Judgment, Mercy, and Faith," Oct 1997 GC, Ensign, Nov. 1997, 59).





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4b TG World; Worldliness.	<i>d</i> TG Purification; Purity.	17 <i>a</i> Luke 12:47; 2 Ne. 9:25 (25–27).
c TG Opposition.	9 <i>a</i> GR Endure hardship,	b TG Disobedience;
d TG Enemies.	Suffer harassment.	Good Works;
5 <i>a</i> TG Envy.	<i>b</i> Isa. 22:12;	Obedience.
6 <i>a</i> TG Grace.	Joel 2:17;	c TG Sin.
b TG Pride.	2 Cor. 7:10.	5 1 <i>a</i> TG Mourning.

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2.

Patience

6 Ye have condemned *and* killed the just; *and* he doth not resist you.

7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

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9 ^{*a*}Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

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14 Is any ^{*a*}sick among you? let him call for the ^{*b*}elders of the church; and let them ^{*c*}pray over him, ^{*d*}anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

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17 Elias was a man subject to like ^{*a*} passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it ^{*b*} rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

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8а тG Patience.	Kindness.	TG Forgive.
<i>b</i> 2 Ne. 31:20 (17–21).	12 <i>a</i> TG Swearing.	16a TG Confession.
<i>c</i> D&C 106:4.	b TG Oath.	b TG Benevolence.
9 <i>a</i> TG Backbiting;	13 <i>a</i> TG Affliction.	<i>c</i> Ex. 33:17.
Malice.	14a TG Sickness.	<i>d</i> Jer. 29:13;
10а тG Example.	b TG Elder, Melchizedek	1 Ne. 1:5 (5–8);
<i>b</i> 2 Cor. 11:23 (23–33);	Priesthood;	2 Ne. 4:24 (23–25);
Mosiah 17:13 (10–20);	Heal.	Moro. 7:9.
Alma 14:26 (20–27);	c TG Prayer.	e TG Prayer.
JS—H 1:22.	<i>d</i> Ex. 31:11.	17a Acts 14:15 (11–15).
TG Suffering.	TG Administrations to	b TG Drought.
11а тG Happiness.	the Sick;	20 <i>a</i> D&C 6:11.
b TG Perseverance;	Anointing.	TG Conversion.
Steadfastness.	15 <i>a</i> D&C 104:80.	<i>b</i> 1 Tim. 4:16.
<i>c</i> Job 1:1.	<i>b</i> Matt. 15:28 (25–28).	<i>c</i> See JST 1 Pet. 4:8 (1 Pet.
d TG Compassion.	TG Faith.	4:8 note <i>a</i>).
e TG God, Mercy of;	<i>c</i> Mark 2:5 (3–9).	

13 Is any among you ^{*a*}afflicted?



New Testament Institute Student Manual

Prophets have warned repeatedly against pride and the evils that often accompany wealth (see Jeremiah 9:23; Amos 2:6-7; 4:1; Matthew 13:22; 1 Timothy 6:7–10; 2 Nephi 9:30; D&C 56:16). James specifically identified three areas of concern: (1) hoarding wealth (see James 5:2–3), meaning accumulating so much material wealth that it sits unused and decaying; (2) failing to pay wages to employees (see verse 4); (3) living a luxurious and self-indulgent lifestyle (see verse 5). The "day of slaughter" (verse 5) may refer to the coming Day of Judgment—much like cattle are fattened prior to their slaughter, so the wicked rich have fattened their hearts, unaware of the coming judgment against them.

In verse 4, James wrote that the cries of those defrauded by their deceitful employers "are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth." Sabaoth is a Hebrew word meaning "hosts"; thus, "Lord of sabaoth" means "Lord of Hosts."



LJTJ

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New Testament Institute Student Manual

Farmers in ancient Israel waited patiently for the "early" rain of the planting season, which helped a seed to sprout and to grow, and for the "latter rain," which helped plants to mature prior to harvesting. James used this imagery to teach that, like the farmer who must patiently tend the field and wait for the rains and eventual harvest, the righteous are to patiently preach the gospel and nurture one another, knowing that salvation will eventually come.



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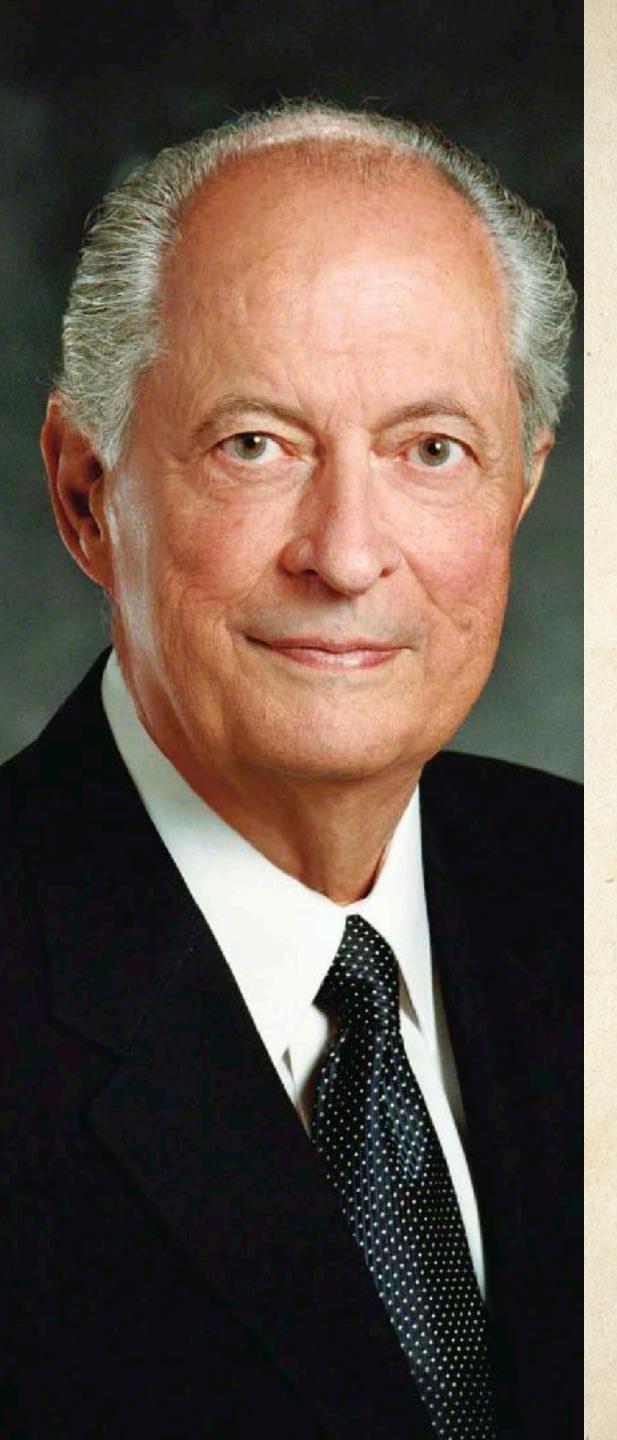
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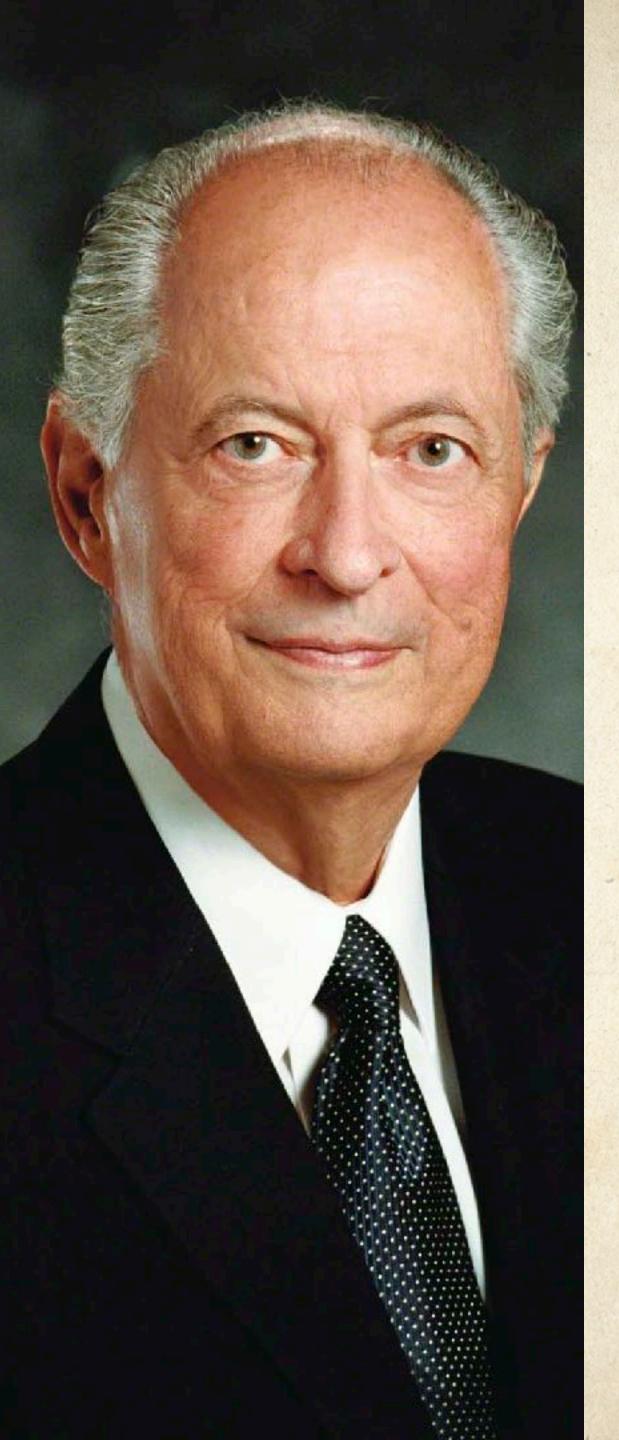
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Elder Robert D. Hales

"In our dispensation, the Prophet Joseph Smith endured all manner of opposition and hardship to bring to pass the desire of our Heavenly Father the restoration of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Joseph was harassed and hunted by angry mobs. He patiently endured poverty, humiliating charges, and unkind acts. His people were forcibly driven from town to town, from state to state. He was tarred and feathered. He was falsely charged and jailed....





Elder Robert D. Hales

"Joseph knew that if he were to stop going forward with this great work, his earthly trials would probably ease. But he could not stop, because he knew who he was, he knew for what purpose he was placed on the earth, and he had the desire to do God's will."

("Behold, We Count Them Happy Which Endure," Apr 1998 GC, Ensign, May 1998, 75).



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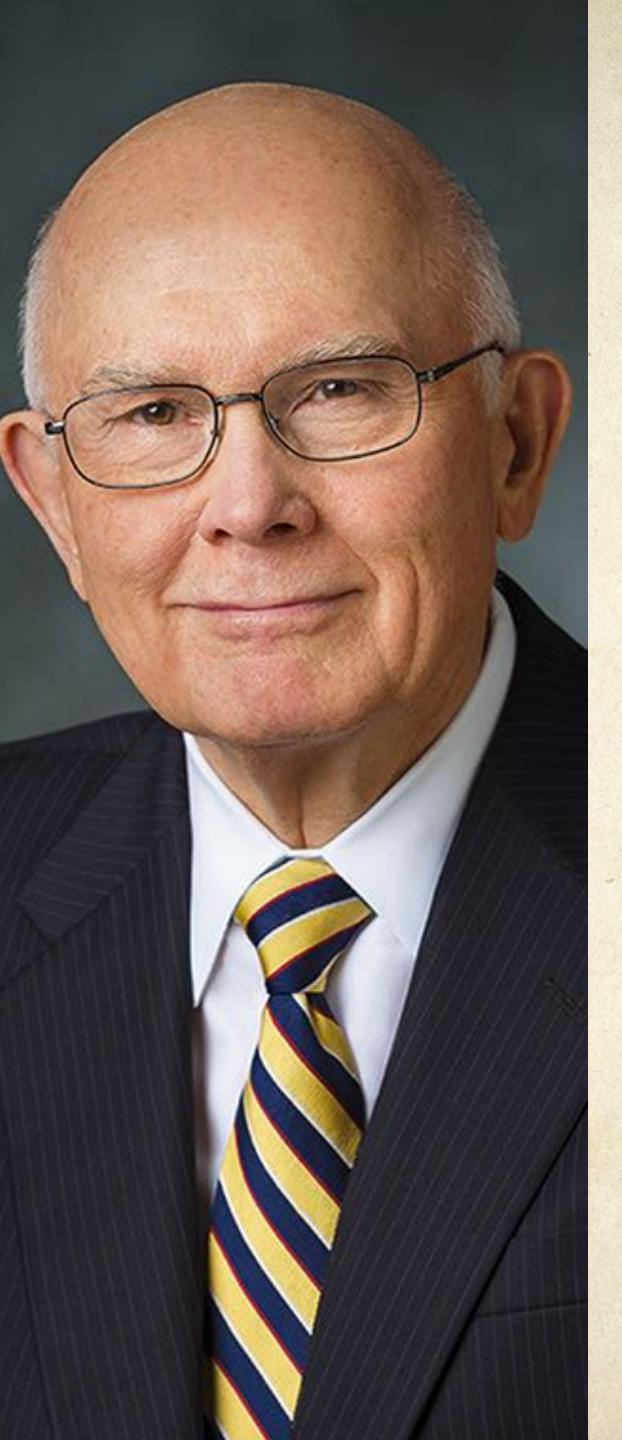
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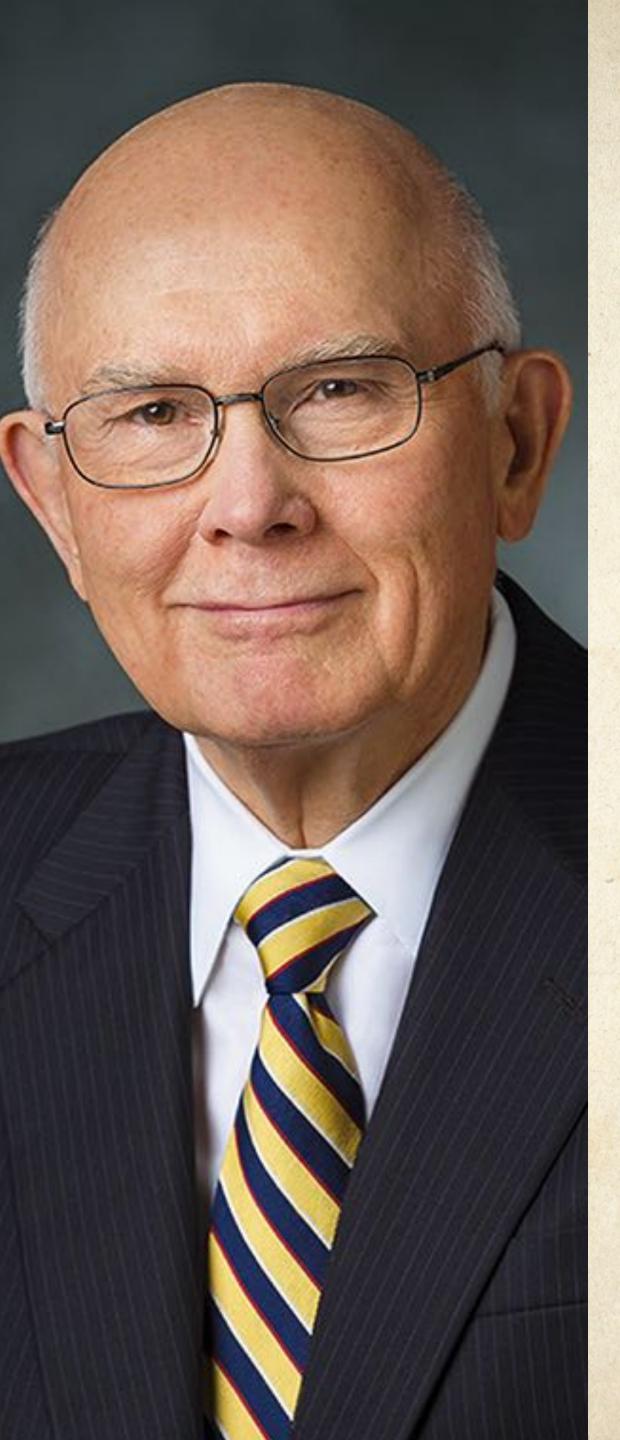
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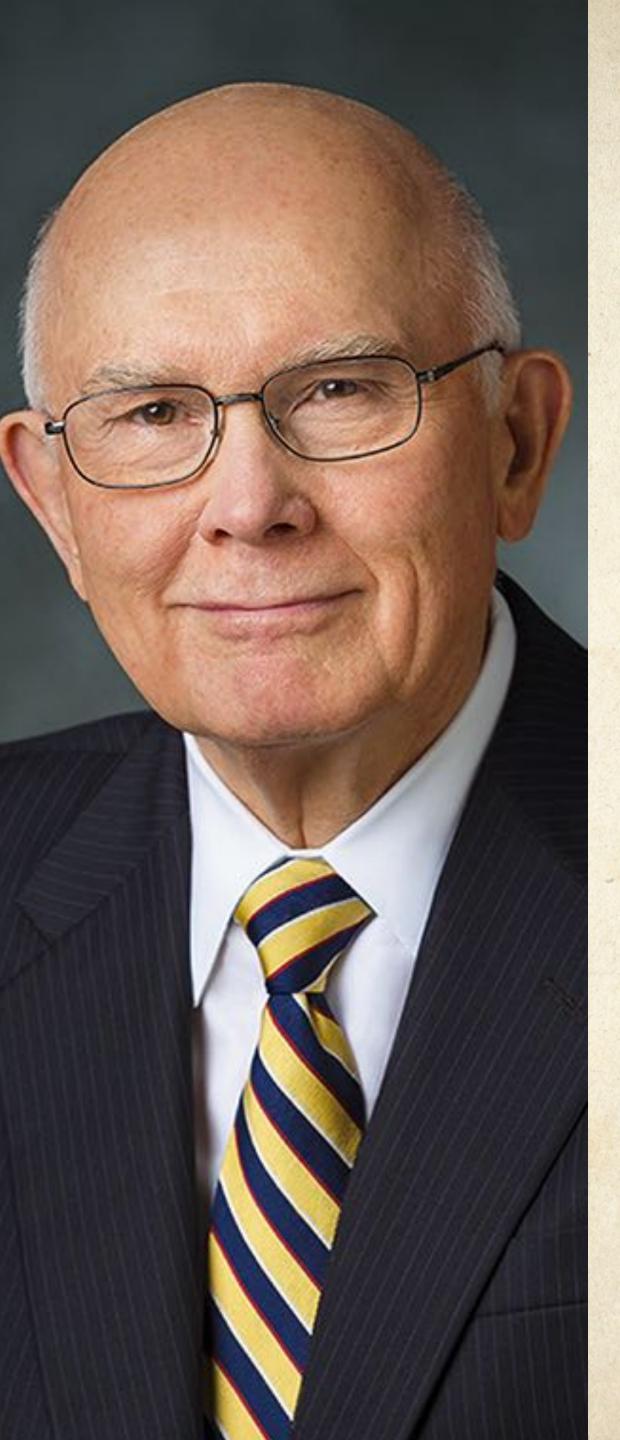
"When someone has been anointed by the authority of the Melchizedek Priesthood, the anointing is sealed by that same authority. To seal something means to affirm it, to make it binding for its intended purpose. When elders anoint a sick person and seal the anointing, they open the windows of heaven for the Lord to pour forth the blessing He wills for the person afflicted.





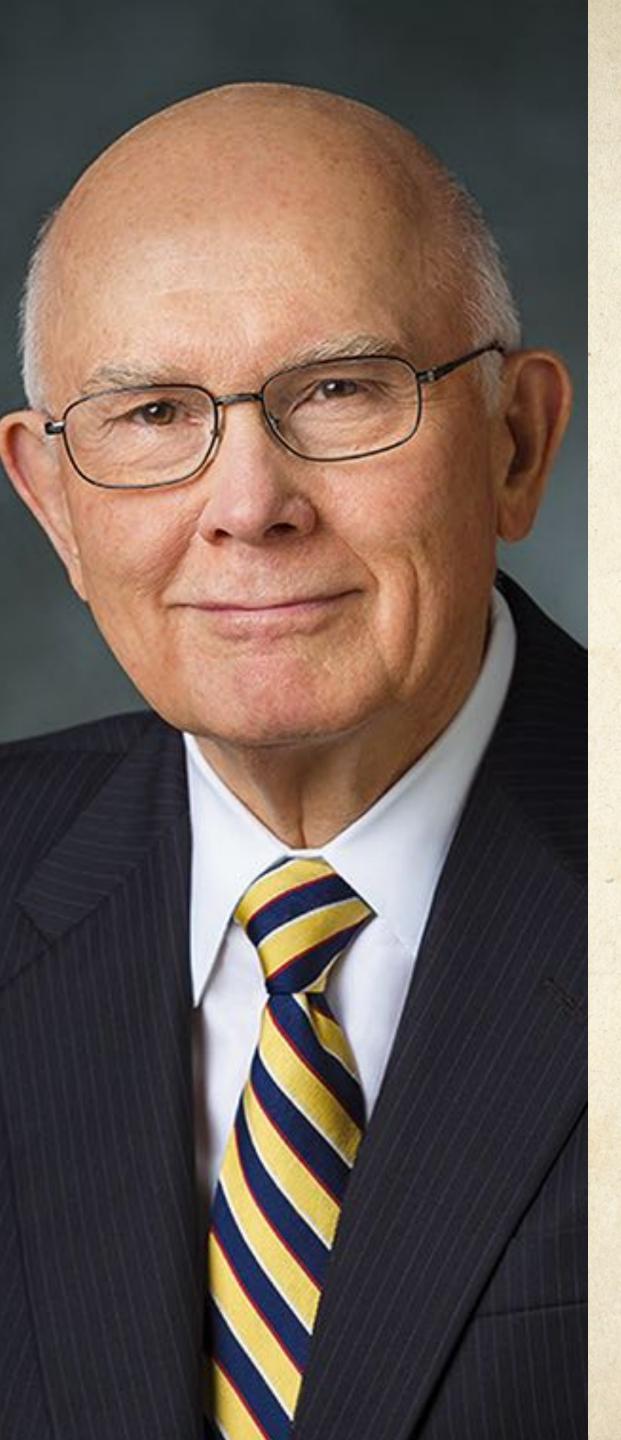
"When someone has been anointed by the authority"President Brigham Young taught: 'When I lay hands on the sick, I expect the healing power and influence of God to pass through me to the patient, and the disease to give way. ... When we are prepared, when we are holy vessels before the Lord, a stream of power from the Almighty can pass through the tabernacle of the administrator to the system of the patient, and the sick are made whole' [Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Brigham Young (1997), 252]....





"Faith is essential for healing by the powers of heaven. The Book of Mormon even teaches that 'if there be no faith among the children of men God can do no miracle among them' (Ether 12:12). In a notable talk on administering to the sick, President Spencer W. Kimball said: 'The need of faith is often underestimated. The ill one and the family often seem to depend wholly on the power of the priesthood and the gift of healing that they hope the administering brethren may have, whereas the greater responsibility is with him who is blessed....





The major element is the faith of the individual when that person is conscious and accountable. "Thy faith hath made thee whole" [Matthew 9:22] was repeated so often by the Master that it almost became a chorus' ['President Kimball Speaks Out on Administration to the Sick,' Tambuli, Aug. 1982, 36–37; New Era, Oct. 1981, 47]....

"... As we exercise the undoubted power of the priesthood of God and as we treasure His promise that He will hear and answer the prayer of faith, we must always remember that faith and the healing power of the priesthood cannot produce a result contrary to the will of Him whose priesthood it is"

("Healing the Sick," Apr 2010 GC, Ensign, May 2010, 48–50).



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15 And the ^{*a*} prayer of ^{*b*} faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be ^cforgiven him.

16 Confess your faults one to another, and ^bpray one for another, that ye may be healed. ^cThe effectual ^{*d*} fervent ^{*e*} prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

17 Elias was a man subject to like ^{*a*} passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it ^brained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; 20 Let him know, that he which ^{*a*} converteth the sinner from the E la super al all basses a saul

10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an ^{*a*}example of ^{*b*}suffering affliction, and of patience.

11 Behold, we count them ^{*a*}happy which ^{*b*}endure. Ye have heard of the patience of ^{*c*}Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very ^{*d*}pitiful, and of tender ^{*e*}mercy.

12 But above all things, my brethren, ^{*a*}swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other ^{*b*}oath: but let your yea be yea; and *your* nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

13 Is any among you ^{*a*}afflicted?

8 <i>a</i> TG Patience.	Kindı
<i>b</i> 2 Ne. 31:20 (17–21).	12 <i>a</i> TG SW
<i>c</i> D&C 106:4.	b TG Oa
9 <i>a</i> TG Backbiting;	13 <i>a</i> TG Af
Malice.	14 <i>a</i> TG Sid
10 <i>a</i> TG Example.	b TG El
<i>b</i> 2 Cor. 11:23 (23–33);	Priest
Mosiah 17:13 (10–20);	Heal.
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man availeth much.

17 Elias was a man subject to like ^{*a*} passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it ^{*b*} rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth and one convert him.

20 Let him know, that he which ^{*a*} converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall ^{*b*} save a soul from death, and shall ^{*c*} hide a multitude of sins.

ness. wearing. ath. ffliction. ickness. lder, Melchizedek thood;

16a TG Confession.
b TG Benevolence.
c Ex. 33:17.
d Jer. 29:13;
1 Ne. 1:5 (5–8);
2 Ne. 4:24 (23–25);
Moro. 7:9.

TG Forgive.