

1 Nephi 3:7

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

This is one of the most cited and quoted verses in all of scripture. It helps us to clearly see that those who trust in God's purposes and have the attitude of Nephi will be blessed.

AND IT CAME TO PASS.... BECAUSE OF NEPHI'S FAITH IN CHRIST.

CAN YOU SUBSTITUTE YOUR NAME FOR NEPHI'S?

DO YOU HAVE NEPHI'S ATTITUDE OF OBEDIENCE?

I WILL GO

If you Go, what will GOD do for you? Think of D+C 84:88. The Lord repeats **I WILL GO** before your face.

Remember just going is not enough. You must **GO** and **DO**.

Capital "W"
JOHN 14:6

NOT, I THINK

7 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, said unto my father: I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded, for I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them.

In **VS 15** on the same page right next to vs 7 -

Nephi puts his own life on the line and puts the Lord's life on the line by making an oath. He proves he's not a quitter. Thus Nephi made God his partner.

KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS

"Obedience is the first law of heaven. All progression, all perfection, all salvation, all godliness, all that is right and just and true, all good things come to those who live the laws of Him who is Eternal. There is nothing in all eternity more important than to keep the commandments of God" (The Promised Messiah: The First Coming of Christ [1978], 126).

Bruce R. McConkie in CR April 1982 pp. 49-50 said this about Nephi:

CAN YOU RESOLUTELY LIVE HYMN 270

- Verse 1: "I'll go where you want me to go."
- Verse 2: "I'll say what you want me to say."
- Verse 3: "I'll do thy will with a heart sincere."
- "I'll be what you want me to be."

"... If he failed to get the plates, it meant God had failed. And because God does not fail, it was incumbent upon Nephi to get the plates or lay down his life in the attempt."

REMEMBER: If you go and do the Lord will be there. His Spirit (meaning the Holy Ghost) will be in your hearts. Angels will bear you up. (D+C 84:88).

1 Nephi 19:23

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

NEPHI'S BROTHERS (v.22)
also: HOUSE OF ISRAEL (v.19)

NEPHI

The PENTATEUCH
5 BOOKS from PLATES
OF BRASS

Moses' writings
are great, BUT
ISAIAHS ARE
BETTER FOR BRINGING
US UNTO CHRIST.

23 And I did read many things
unto them which were written in
the "books" of Moses; but that I
might more fully persuade them to
believe in the Lord their Redeemer
I did read unto them that which was
written by the prophet ^oIsaiah; for
I did liken all scriptures unto us,
that it might be for our "profit and
learning. FOR OUR GROWTH HERE, NOW, TODAY
THE SCRIPTURES ARE NOT HISTORY,

MEANS: ONE WHO
RECLAIMS: BUYS BACK,
PURCHASES, RECOVER,
RELEASE FROM BLAME

They are
speaking to
you!

THEY ARE
HISTORY.

NEPHI READS BOOKS OF MOSES - Genesis, Exodus,
Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy - BUT
HE READS ISAIAH TO MORE FULLY TEACH
OF CHRIST.
THE BOOKS OF MOSES TEACH THE LAW OF
MOSES, BUT ISAIAH SPEAKS OF THE HOUSE OF
ISRAEL & THE COVENANT WHICH BINDS US TO
CHRIST.

"FOR BEHOLD
this is My
work and My
Story to bring
to pass...."

ISAIAH IS EXPERT IN
SPEAKING OF CHRIST-COVENANT-
HOUSE OF ISRAEL

Bruce R. McConkie has said:

"IT JUST MAY BE THAT
MY SALVATION [AND YOURS ALSO!]
DOES IN FACT DEPEND UPON
OUR ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND
THE WRITINGS OF ISAIAH
AS FULLY AND TRULY
AS NEPHI UNDERSTOOD THEM."

[OCT 1973 ENSIGN, P.78

(see also 3 NEPHI 23:1

2 Nephi 2:25

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

PUT GOD FIRST
PRES. BARNETT APRIL 1968 G.C.

WHY DID GOD PUT THE FIRST COMMANDMENT FIRST? BECAUSE HE KNEW THAT IF WE TRULY LOVED HIM WE WOULD WANT TO KEEP ALL OF HIS OTHER COMMANDMENTS. "FOR THIS IS THE LOVE OF GOD," SAYS JOHN. "THAT WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS." (1 JOHN 5:3) SEE ALSO 1 JOHN 1:8) WE MUST PUT GOD IN THE FOREFRONT OF EVERYTHING ELSE IN OUR LIVES. WE MUST COME FIRST. JUST AS HE DECLARES IN THE FIRST OF HIS TEN COMMANDMENTS. "THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME" (EXODUS 20:3) WHEN WE PUT GOD FIRST, ALL OTHER THINGS FALL INTO THEIR PROPER PLACE OR DROP OUT OF OUR LIVES. OUR LOVE OF THE LORD WILL GOVERN THE CLAIMS FOR OUR AFFECTION, THE DEMANDS ON OUR TIME, THE INTERESTS WE PURSUE, AND THE ORDER OF OUR PRIORITIES. WE SHOULD PUT GOD AHEAD OF EVERYONE ELSE IN OUR LIVES.

Just as man does not really desire food until he is hungry, so he does not desire the salvation of Christ until he knows why he needs Christ. GC
Ezra Taft Benson APRIL 1987

We know there's a Malady, but there is a Remedy.
2 NEPHI 9:6 ← THE MERCIFUL PLAN is in vs. 6. The ↑ vs 7.

THE FALL



- ① SIN
- ② DEATH

This true Joy can be experienced here and now, however, remember (D&C 101:36), because of the FALL

25 "Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy.

[Can you see the 3 PILLARS IN THIS VS. CFA]

means: they can or may

The fall was a downward fall, but on purpose and women (mankind) IT WAS A FALL FORWARD

The simplest illustration of TRUE RELIGION may be in this paradigm:

J
O
Y
Jesus
Others
You

- with its implications for the 3 degrees of glory (D&C 76)

- J - Celestial
- O - Terrestrial
- Y - Telestial

Stephen R. Covey helps us to understand JOY with 2 quotes from his book - THE DIVINE CENTER pg. 90

When we love God and Christ first, we will love our spouse more, not less—with more true love, more wisdom, and more charity. Divine-centeredness is literally the key to a celestial relationship. If we are true and faithful to the covenants we make with the Lord, we will have the security, guidance, wisdom, and power to deal with problems in the marriage.

pg. 200
The way to really enjoy the scriptures is to truly love the Author. This will come about as we develop our highest purpose and motive for scripture study—to come to Christ, to get to know him, to be more like him, to put him and his Father at the center of our lives, and to have them bless others through us.

2 Nephi 2:27

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU _____"

Who said: "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE?"

MEANING?
See I Nephi 22:27

27 Wherefore, men are free according to the flesh; and all things are given them which are expedient unto man. And they are free to choose liberty and eternal life, through the great Mediator of all men, or to choose captivity and death, according to the captivity and power of the devil; for he seeketh that all men might be miserable like unto himself.

NECESSARY FOR MAN'S SALVATION

WHO SAID: "CHOOSE YOU THIS DAY WHOM YE WILL SERVE....?" ★

THIS IS A LIFE & DEATH DOCTRINE!

SATAN'S PURPOSE & GOAL (THINK OF ALMA 41:10 "WICKEDNESS NEVER WAS _____")

MEDIATOR =

ONE WHO STANDS IN BETWEEN TWO PARTIES WHO ARE AT VARIANCE, OR WHO ARE SEPARATED OR ALIENATED.

See D+C 45:3-5

(Remember, "THE NATURAL MAN IS AN _____ TO GOD" = HE IS SEPARATED, ALIENATED. HE NEEDS A MEDIATOR.

JESUS IS OUR MEDIATOR WITH THE FATHER.

WE REALLY MADE OUR CHOICE TO FOLLOW JESUS, VALIANTLY, IN THE PRE-EARTH LIFE. THERE IS NO NEED TO HESITATE, OR PROCRASTINATE, OR PREVARICATE HERE.

Remember ELIJAH: "HOW LONG HALT YE BETWEEN TWO OPINIONS? IF THE LORD BE GOD, FOLLOW HIM: BUT IF BAAL, THEN FOLLOW HIM."

[I KINGS 18:21]

★ DID YOU KNOW THAT JOSHUA WAS OF THE TRIBE OF EPHRAIM?

2 Nephi 9:28-29

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

He has a PLAN too?
- he is well organized? Watch out for him.

THE LORD SAID TO ENOCH: "THEY HAVE SOUGHT THEIR OWN COUNSELS IN THE DARK" ENOCH THEN ASKED THE PEOPLE: "WHY COUNSEL YE YOURSELVES?" (MOSES 6:28,43)

SEE ALSO DTC 1:16

28 O that cunning "plan of the evil one! O the 'vainness, and the frailties, and the 'foolishness of men! When they are 'learned they think they are 'wise, and they 'hearken not unto the 'counsel of God, for they set it aside, supposing they know of themselves, wherefore, their 'wisdom is foolishness and it profiteth them not. And they shall perish.
29 But to be 'learned is good if they 'hearken unto the 'counsels of God.

NATURAL MAN IS FALLEN
FRAIL, FRAGILE
FOOLISH

REMEMBER
I NEPHI 19:7

THE WORLD'S WISDOM IS FOOLISHNESS, & GOD'S 'FOOLISHNESS' IS TRUE WISDOM

SEE PAUL IN
I CORINTHIANS
1:18-29; 2:14

"THE BIGGEST WORD IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE,"
SAYS BOYD K. PACKER

PRESIDENT KIMBALL SUMMARISES THE CONCEPT PERFECTLY FOR US IN THIS CLEAR STATEMENT:

Youth, Beloved Youth

Secular knowledge, important as it may be, can never save a soul nor open the celestial kingdom nor create a world nor make a man a god, but it can be most helpful to that man who, placing first things first, has found the way to eternal life and who can now bring into play all knowledge to be his tool and servant...

Youth, beloved youth, can you see why we must let spiritual training take first place?—Why we must pray with faith, and perfect our own lives like the Savior's? Can you see that the spiritual knowledge may be complemented with the secular in this life and on for eternities but that the secular without the foundation of the spiritual is but like the foam upon the milk, the fleeting shadow?

Do not be deceived! One need not choose between the two but only as to the sequence, for there is opportunity for one to get both simultaneously; but can you see that the seminary courses should be given even preferential attention over the high school subjects; the institute over the college course; the study of the scriptures ahead of the study of the man-written texts; the association with the Church more important than clubs, fraternities, and sororities; the payment of tithing more important than paying tuitions and fees? Can you see that the ordinances of the temple are more important than the PhD or any and all other academic degrees?

President Spencer W. Kimball
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
(Cited in *Life's Directions*.)

SWB

2 Nephi 28:7-9

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

THE NATURAL MAN —
WHO IS FALLEN, CARNAL,
SENSUAL, DEVILISH —
THINKS AND SPEAKS
IN THIS WAY.

DO YOU EVER THINK OR
SPEAK OR ACT THIS
WAY?

WHAT IS
THE SOLUTION?

7 Yea, and there shall be many which shall say: ^aEat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die; and it shall be well with us.

8 And there shall also be many which shall say: ^aEat, drink, and be ^bmerry; nevertheless, fear God—he will ^cjustify in committing a little ^dsin; yea, ^elie a little, take the advantage of one because of his words, dig a ^fpit for thy neighbor; there is ^gno harm in this; and do all these things, for tomorrow we die; and if it so be that we are guilty, God will beat us with a few stripes, and at last we shall be saved in the kingdom of God.

9 Yea, and there shall be many which shall teach after this manner, ^afalse and vain and ^bfoolish ^cdoctrines, and shall be puffed up in their hearts, and shall seek deep to hide their counsels from the Lord; and their works shall be in the dark.

REMEMBER
THESE
ARE THE
FALSE
TEACHINGS
OF THOSE
WHO ARE
OF THE
WORLD.

DO THESE LINES
REMINDE YOU OF
D+C 1:2-3

NOTE
THIS
QUOTE
FROM ELDER McCONKIE



Since the fall of Adam, all accountable men are by nature carnal, sensual, and devilish. In this fallen state, as enemies to God, they are spiritually dead. To gain salvation, they must put off the natural man and become saints; they must become new creatures of the Holy Ghost, thereby attaining a state of spiritual life. They must be born again. (MOSIAH 3:19; 5:7; ALMA 7:14; 1 PETER 2:2.) (Bruce R. McConkie, DNTC 1:141).

2 Nephi 32:3

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

FEAST: "AN ELABORATE MEAL OFTEN ACCOMPANIED BY A CEREMONY."
(Webster's Dictionary)

IF AN ANGEL
CAME TO VISIT
YOU, WHAT
WOULD HE SAY?
THINK OF JOSEPH
SMITH'S EXPERIENCES.
HE ALWAYS QUOTES
SCRIPTURE!
IF WE ARE
FAMILIAR WITH

3^d Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore, they speak the words of Christ. Wherefore, I said unto you, feast upon the words of Christ; for behold, the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do.

THINK OF
"ORDINANCES"

THE SCRIPTURES - WE'LL RECOGNIZE THE PROMPTINGS OF THE HOLY GHOST!

3 MAJOR THINGS IN THIS VERSE:

- ① ANGELS (MESSENGERS, TEACHERS, MISSIONARIES)
- ② HOLY GHOST (REVELATOR)
- ③ WORDS OF CHRIST (FOUND IN SCRIPTURES, WORDS OF PROPHETS, PERSONAL REVELATION)

- * THINK OF HOW THESE 3 RELATE INSEPARABLY TOGETHER.
- * ASK YOURSELF: CAN I BE A TRUE MESSENGER OF THE GOSPEL WITHOUT THE HOLY GHOST?
CAN I HAVE THE HOLY GHOST WITHOUT A SOUND KNOWLEDGE OF THE SCRIPTURES?

One of the responsibilities which the Lord has placed upon the members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is that they search the scriptures and lay up a store of knowledge, otherwise they cannot have the guidance of the Holy Ghost, notwithstanding they have been baptized and confirmed. Those who are ignorant of the gospel truths and unacquainted with the teachings that the Lord gave to the Fathers, cannot have the guidance of the Spirit of the Lord.

(Joseph Fielding Smith, The Improvement Era, March 1964, p. 159.)

If we do not "feast" upon the scriptures and utterances of modern prophets on a continuing basis, we will not obtain the customized help needed to guide us along the straight and narrow path.

(Neal A. Maxwell, A Time to Choose, p. 53)

2 Nephi 32:8-9

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

16 references with those 2 words together

WHY "PRAY ALWAYS?" ←

"THERE IS NO LONELINESS SO GREAT, SO ABSOLUTE, SO UTTERLY COMPLETE, AS THE LONELINESS OF A MAN WHO CANNOT CALL UPON HIS GOD."

— RICHARD L. EVANS

- ① That ye may be accounted worthy to escape all things.... to stand before the Son of Man.
- ② For others to fulfil their callings.
- ③ So you don't faint - spiritually & physically.
- ④ Lest ye be tempted by the devil.
- ⑤ Same as above.... because you can be captive by him, and he desires to have you.
- ⑥ So you can conquer him and his servants.
- ⑦ So the Lord can pour out His Spirit upon you.
- ⑧ Lest ye fall into temptation.
- ⑨ Lest ye enter and lose your reward.
- ⑩ That God may unfold the mysteries.
- ⑪ That you may abide the day of His coming

Ask
Seek
Knock

8 And now, my beloved brethren, I perceive that ye ponder still in your hearts; and it grieveth me that I must speak concerning this thing. For if ye would hearken unto the ^aSpirit which teacheth a man to ^bpray ye would know that ye must ^cpray; for the ^devil spirit teacheth not a man to pray, but teacheth him that he must not pray.

9 But behold, I say unto you that ye must ^apray always, and not faint; that ye must not perform any thing unto the Lord save in the first place ye shall ^bpray unto the Father in the ^cname of Christ, that he will ^dconsecrate thy performance unto thee, that thy performance may be for the ^ewelfare of thy soul.

- ⑫ He comes quickly & wants to receive you.
- ⑬ Search, believe.... and all things shall work together for your good.
- ⑭ Lest the wicked one have power in you and remove you.
- ⑮ So your family won't be removed out of their place.
- ⑯ What I say unto one I say unto all.... WATCH, KEEP MY COMMANDMENT "HE WILL COME AGAIN!"

We would say to the brethren, seek to know God in your closets; call upon him in the fields. Follow the directions of the Book of Mormon and pray for your families, your cattle, your flocks, your herds, your corn, and all things that you possess; ask the blessing of God upon all your labors, and everything that you engage in. Be virtuous and pure; be men of integrity and truth; keep the commandments of God; and then you will be able more perfectly to understand the difference between right and wrong--between the things of God and the things of men; and your path will be like that of the just, which shineth brighter and brighter unto the perfect day.

—Joseph Smith

PRAY, BY EXPRESSING GRATITUDE, AND DON'T FORGET TO LISTEN FOR ANSWERS.... IMAGINE THAT A PERSON CAN GET "REVELATION" (GOOD ROOT) BY TALKING "WITH" GOD.

SWB

JACOB 2:18-19

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

NEARLY HALF OF THE 48 PARABLES GIVEN BY JESUS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT ARE WARNINGS AGAINST THE DARK DANGERS OF RICHES.

WHAT ARE THE VALID USES OF RICHES?

WHAT MUST COME FIRST IN OUR SOULS BEFORE WE EVEN WORRY ABOUT WEALTH OR RICHES?



18 But ^abefore ye seek for ^oriches, seek ye for the ^ckingdom of God.
19 And after ye have obtained a hope in Christ ye shall obtain riches, if ye seek them; and ye will seek them for the intent to "do good—to clothe the naked, and to feed the hungry, and to liberate the captive, and administer relief to the sick and the afflicted."

HERE IS THE ORDER:

- FIRST — JESUS Comes FIRST — "A HOPE IN CHRIST"
THEN — OTHERS Come NEXT — "TO DO GOOD.... TO THE NAKED.... TO THE HUNGRY.... THE CAPTIVE.... THE SICK AND THE AFFLICTED"
AND THEN — YOU The Lord will look after you inevitably:

REMEMBER, 'MAMMON' means 'RICHES' — and YE CANNOT SERVE GOD AND MAMMON.

And WHERE your TREASURE IS THERE WILL BE your HEART ALSO

IT IS A FALSE STANDARD TO SAY: "I'LL GO OUT AND MAKE A BUNDLE OF MONEY, THEN I'LL BE MORE USEFUL TO MY FELLOW MEN."

JOSEPH TAUGHT: "OUR AFFECTIONS SHOULD BE PLACED UPON GOD AND HIS WORK MORE THAN UPON OUR FELLOW BEINGS."

MOSIAH 2:17

SCRIPTURE MASTERY

SERVICE: King Benjamin addresses his people and counsels them to serve their Heavenly King. Notice how many times the word service, serve, served or servants appears.

We echo His ATONEMENT with our SERVICE.

17 And behold, I tell you these things that ye may learn "wisdom; that ye may learn that when ye are in the (service) of your 'fellow beings ye are only in the (service) of your God.

THESE THINGS VS 12-16

How ABOUT HYMN 249? called to SERVE HIM - Missionary work

SERVICE = PRIESTHOOD

THE HIGHEST FORM OF SERVICE WAS AND IS THE ATONEMENT. THIS SERVICE WAS PERFORMED BY THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST (HEBREWS 4:14-15), AND IS THEREFORE AN ORDINANCE (ALMA 13:16-19).

THINK OF THE SERVICE HEAVENLY FATHER GIVES, SO WE CAN ENJOY ETERNAL LIFE (JOHN 3:16).

ELDER BRUCE R. McCONKIE IN HIS DNTC p.144

See also the order of service by Joseph Smith's quote at the bottom. SAYS THIS

John 3:16. This is perhaps the most famous and powerful single verse of scripture ever uttered. It summarizes the whole plan of salvation, tying together the Father, the Son, his atoning sacrifice, that belief in him which presupposes righteous works, and ultimate eternal exaltation for the faithful.

God so loved the world [Similarly, our Lord "so loved the world that he gave his own life, that as many as would believe might become the sons of God." (D. & C. 34:3.) Only Begotten Son] Only Begotten in the flesh, meaning in mortality. This designation of our Lord signifies that he was begotten by Man of Holiness as literally as any mortal father begets a son. The natural processes of procreation were involved; Jesus was begotten by his Father as literally as he was conceived by his mother. Everlasting life] See John 17:3. Eternal life or exaltation.

17-18. Salvation is in Christ and in him only. He came to save sinners, which includes all men. Those who believe and obey shall be saved; all others are damned. "There shall be no other name given nor any other way nor means whereby salvation can come unto the children of men, only in and through the name of Christ, the Lord Omnipotent. . . . Salvation was, and is, and is to come, in and through the atoning blood of Christ, the Lord Omnipotent." (Mosiah 3:17-18.)

THINK ALSO OF THE "DOCTRINE" OF SERVICE

Chapter 2 includes the PLAN → C, F, A, Specifically to prepare us for MOSIAH 3: Ding, Ding - 1 of the 16 great FALL - ATONEMENT Chapters.

THIS SERVICE is not World Civil Social Service, but a high holy service - forgetting self covenant service, cup to the lips - SACRAMENT SERVICE.

SEE HANDOUT - TRUE RELIGION

"Our affections should be placed upon God and His work, more intensely than upon our fellow beings." [Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p 216]