

March 2020, Lesson #2
Keeping God as Your First Love



Mark 12:34 And Jesus answered him: The first of all the commandments is; Hearken, and hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord;

35 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength.

36 This is the first commandment. And the second is like this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

If we want to be a part of God’s Kingdom we must become a prepared people. One of the key steps to becoming prepared is to keep God as our First Love. Our hearts must love God more than anything else. If we truly love God He will be at the center of our daily lives. Spending time with Him will be our heart’s desire and we will make it a priority. We will keep His commandments because we love Him.

In the Old Testament the word “**heart**” is used more than 800 times, and more than 200 times it deals with one’s thought-life, emotions, the wellspring of life, things that motivate us and mold us. The Bible calls that the “**heart**.”

1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him; for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.

This tells us something about the importance of our hearts. The Lord looks at our hearts and evaluates us by the very condition of our hearts.

In our physical bodies the heart is the center of life. We can lose a kidney or even a lung or gall bladder etc., but if the heart stops working all other organs cease to function and death ensues. So it is spiritually that the function /condition of our hearts determine our spiritual health and life.

Jesus has called to us to be the salt of the earth, to be the light of the world. He has called us to be like Him, to follow His example of love and service. He has called us to put God first in our lives. He has called us to assist in His great work in this, the latter day. He has called us to prepare and build up His Kingdom.

What will your answer be?

March 2020, Lesson #2 Keeping God as Your First Love

God Calls Us to Prepare Our Hearts In This The Latter Days (1)

Called to be light and salt in this, the latter days:

D&C 100:2c But inasmuch as they keep not my commandments, and hearken not to observe all my words, the kingdoms of the world shall prevail against them, for they were set to be a light unto the world, and to be the saviors of men;

100:2d and inasmuch as they are not the saviors of men, they are as salt that has lost its savor, and is thenceforth good for nothing but to be cast out and trodden under foot of men.

We must serve God with all our heart if we desire to build up His kingdom:

D&C 4:1b therefore, O ye that embark in the service of God, see that ye serve him with all your heart, might, mind, and strength, that ye may stand blameless before God at the last day.

Instruction in the latter days concerning our hearts and the coming of Christ:

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

2d wherefore the decree hath gone forth from the Father that they shall be gathered in unto one place, upon the face of this land, to prepare their hearts, and be prepared in all things, against the day when tribulation and desolation are sent forth upon the wicked;

2e for the hour is nigh, and the day soon at hand, when the earth is ripe; and all the proud, and they that do wickedly, shall be as stubble, and I will burn them up, saith the Lord of Hosts, that wickedness shall not be upon the earth;

2f for the hour is nigh, and that which was spoken by mine apostles must be fulfilled; for as they spoke, so shall it come to pass;

2g for I will reveal myself from heaven with power and great glory, with all the hosts thereof, and dwell in righteousness with men on earth a thousand years, and the wicked shall not stand.

Read verses 4-5 also.

God has given us beautiful promises if we will seek Him with all our hearts:

D&C 38:3c and the angels are waiting the great command to reap down the earth, to gather the tares that they may be burned; and, behold, the enemy is combined...

4d And I have made the earth rich, and, behold, it is my footstool: wherefore, again I will stand upon it; and I hold forth and deign to give unto you greater riches, even a land of promise;

4e a land flowing with milk and honey, upon which there shall be no curse when the Lord cometh; and I will give it unto you for the land of your inheritance, if you seek it with all your hearts.

God requires our hearts:

D&C 64:4d I, the Lord, require the hearts of the children of men.

5a Behold, now it is called today (until the coming of the Son of man), and verily it is a day of sacrifice, and a day for the tithing of my people; for he that is tithed shall not be burned (at his coming); for after today cometh the burning: this is speaking after the manner of the Lord;

5b for verily I say, Tomorrow all the proud and they that do wickedly shall be as stubble; and I will burn them up, for I am the Lord of hosts; and I will not spare any that remaineth in Babylon. Wherefore, if ye believe me, ye will labor while it is called today.

We are told to harden not our hearts:

D&C 45:2a Hearken, O ye people of my church, and ye elders, listen together, and hear my voice, while it is called today, and harden not your hearts.

March 2020, Lesson #2 Keeping God as Your First Love

God Calls Us to Prepare Our Hearts In This The Latter Days (2)

We are to be of one heart and mind:

D&C 36:2h And the Lord called his people Zion, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness;

We are to offer a broken heart and contrite spirit:

D&C 59:2e Thou shalt offer a sacrifice unto the Lord thy God in righteousness; even that of a broken heart and a contrite spirit.

2f And that thou mayest more fully keep thyself unspotted from the world, thou shalt go to the house of prayer and offer up thy sacraments upon my holy day; for verily this is a day appointed unto thee to rest from thy labors, and to pay thy devotions unto the Most High;

2g nevertheless thy vows shall be offered up in righteousness on all days, and at all times;

We must have clean hearts:

D&C 85:20a Behold, I will hasten my work in its time; and I give unto you who are the first laborers in this last kingdom, a commandment, that you assemble yourselves together, and organize yourselves, and prepare yourselves; and sanctify yourselves;

20b yea, purify your hearts, and cleanse your hands and your feet before me, that I may make you clean;

We must not be faint of heart:

D&C 100:3f Therefore, let not your hearts faint, for I say not unto you as I said unto your fathers, Mine angel shall go up before you, but not my presence; but I say unto you, Mine angels shall go before you, and also my presence, and in time ye shall possess the goodly land.

Zion is the pure in heart:

D&C 94:5c therefore verily thus saith the Lord, Let Zion rejoice, for this is Zion, THE PURE IN HEART; therefore let Zion rejoice, while all the wicked shall mourn; Fear not but let your hearts be comforted:

D&C 95:1a Verily I say unto you, my friends, Fear not, let your hearts be comforted, yea, rejoice evermore, and in everything give thanks, waiting patiently on the Lord;

Blessings await the upright in heart:

D&C 129:8g and until such heed is paid to the word which has been given, and which is in accordance with other revelations given to the church, which had been before given, the church cannot receive and enjoy the blessings which have been looked for when Zion should be fully redeemed.

8h Therefore, hearken once again unto the voice of inspiration, in warning and instruction, and conform to that which is given and receive what is awaiting the upright and the pure in heart.

Do you love God? If so how much do you love him?

The answer to that question may be found by evaluating if you actually put God first in your life.

Matthew 22:36-39 Jesus tells us that everything else hangs on the first two commandments: **Love God with all thy heart and thy soul and with all thy mind . . . love thy neighbor as thyself On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**

March 2020, Lesson #2 Keeping God as Your First Love

**Is Your Heart Set Upon God? Is He First in Your Life? Is God Your Treasure?
Do You Treasure Your Time and Your Relationship with God Above All Others?
What Is Your Heart's Treasure????**



Matthew 6:19 Lay not up for yourselves treasure upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal.

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.

21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Arthur Oakman says this about our loving God and building Zion: “We love God. That is not our problem. Our problem is that in loving him we do not love him enough. What impedes the kingdom? The thing that impedes the kingdom is the fact that we have not learned the truth of the first commandment. Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, might, mind, and strength. And if you love him with all your heart, might, mind and strength then your “self,” which is you, will be cleansed and purified and made white and clean, and with such a self you can be left safely to love your fellow men.”

Oakman, Seminar on the Zionite Community

We Are in a Day of Choosing

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Will You Choose to Cleave Unto God? Put God First?

Jacob gave us this plea from the Book of Mormon:

Jacob 4:8 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, I beseech of you in words of soberness, that ye would repent, and come with full purpose of heart, and cleave unto God as he cleaveth unto you.

9 And while his arm of mercy is extended towards you in the light of the day, harden not your hearts.

10 Yea, to-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts: for why will ye die?

If we will truly love God and seek Him first in our lives I believe that we would be richly rewarded. God has blessings to give us that He cannot give to us when our hearts are not ready to receive them, one being His kingdom. He promises to bless us with all we need if we will seek Him and His kingdom first in our lives. Matthew 6:38-39 Wherefore, seek not the things of this world but seek ye first to build up the kingdom of God, and to establish his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.

All things added unto us. What a Wonderful Promise!!! Why do we hesitate?

March 2020, Lesson #2 Keeping God as Your First Love

Be Still and Know that I Am God

Psalms 46:5-10 Zion shall come, and God shall be in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God shall help her right early..... Come behold the works of the Lord, what desolations he shall make in the earth in the latter days.....Be still and know that I am God.

D&C 98:4f, 5a Therefore let your hearts be comforted concerning Zion for all flesh is in my hands; be still and know that I am God.... Behold, it is my will, that all they who call on my name, and worship me according to mine everlasting gospel, should gather together and stand in Holy places and prepare...when all flesh shall see me all together.

In these two scriptures we find instructions given to us, the Saints who dwell in the latter days, concerning Zion and our preparation for the coming of the Lord. Let's take a closer look at this instruction to "Be Still and Know that I am God."

To better understand the words "Still and Know" I went to the Hebrew root words, as found in The New Strong's Concordance.

Still = Hebrew root word =

1. Leave, let alone = leave worldly activities
2. Draw toward God= by prayer, study, etc.
3. Thoroughly made whole, Physician to mend or Repair
God has cured = find healing in God
Be invigorated = be renewed by God
4. Temple or house of God = receive Holy Spirit
5. Names for God = reveal to us God's attributes & our faith grows

Know = Hebrew root word =

1. Be Aware & Consider = God
2. Discern & Discover, = God
3. Friend of = God
4. Take knowledge of = God
5. Respect, & Regard & Be diligent to = God
6. To lie with a Man, but also means to be
Spiritually one with God = whole heart
Given to God = as lover and dearest friend
7. Names for God = reveal to us God's Attributes=faith

March 2020, Lesson #2
Keeping God as Your First Love

To Be Still = Leave the World and Draw Towards God

“Be Restored, Healed, Invigorated”

Matthew 11:28-30 All things are delivered unto me of my Father; and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and they to whom the Son will reveal himself; they shall see the Father also.

11:29 Then spake Jesus, saying, Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

11:30 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls; for my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Rev. 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

To be “still” we must leave the worldly order behind and spend some time with our God. We are called to come out of the world and spend time with God. In our busy lifestyles we may find that, to spend time with our God, first we may need to redeem our time.

Business is Not the Point of life = Change Habits & Make New Goals

Our goals and habits are really statements about what we believe God wants us to do or to be. Challenge yourself by asking yourself this question: “If I knew I only had a year to live, how would I spend my time.”

When we spend time with God by reading His words and pondering those words in our hearts, and seeking God out by communicating with Him in prayer, we do find peace for our souls, and healing of mind and body. By becoming still, leaving the worldly cares, and seeking God, we are renewed and invigorated; yes, our burdens become lighter and we find true rest.

Remember, prayer service is important; it is a mid-week opportunity to draw near unto Him. The quiet of the hour “Re-Sets” our thinking and helps us to draw apart from the world and “Be Still.”

March 2020, Lesson #2 Keeping God as Your First Love

God Calls You to Come and Know Him

“When We Know Him Our Faith Grows”

In [Psalms 46](#) and [D&C 131](#) God calls to you; He calls you to be still and come to know him, as a personal God. The root words of “KNOW” and “STILL” both lead us to the “Names of God.” This is important because God is calling you to come and know him, and is revealing the names by which He is called—to assist you in that process.

Take Some Time to Consider What These Names Reveal about God:

Gentle Shepherd, Rock of Ages, Mighty Fortress, Living Waters, Bread of Life, Great Creator, The Door, Great Physician, Lion of Judah, Great I Am, The Savior, Advocate, The Resurrection and The Life, Master, Head of the Church, Teacher, Light of the World, Image of the Invisible God, Bridegroom, Chief Corner Stone, Redeemer, Author & Finisher of the Faith, Lamb of God, Lion of Judah, Anchor, Only Begotten Son, Bright and Morning Star, The Way, The Truth, The Light, The Life, The Son of God, Judge, Servant, True Vine, Messiah, Alpha and Omega, Man of Sorrows, Lord of Lords, King of Kings, Wonderful, Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace,
El-Dad=God is love, El-Yakh-Baw=God will hide us
El-Yaw-Sheeb=God will restore, Jehovah Yir-E =God will supply or see to it
Jehovah Reeb=God will contend/fight your battles

These are only some of the names by which He is called. When I read these names, I know God a little better. I understand more about His nature, His attributes and who He is, as I seek him out through prayer, study, and fasting.

When I meditate upon His names my anxiety level always goes down. I feel more peaceful and my faith grows. This is the God I can run to in times of trouble. This is the God you too can trust to help you in every time of trouble. He is your Heavenly Father, your El-Dad, and He loves you so much that He gave His life for you. Learn to listen to His still small voice; come to know Him as your personal friend and Savior. Learn to love Him, even as your only lover and very best friend.

God Calls Us to be of Sound Understanding

“Know Him Through His Word”

[Alma 12:4-5](#) For they were men of a sound understanding, and they had searched the scriptures diligently, that they might know the word of God. But that is not all: they had given themselves to much prayer, and fasting, therefore they had the spirit of prophecy, and spirit of revelation.

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

March 2020, Lesson #2 Keeping God as Your First Love

Redeeming Your Time

Eph. 5:15-16 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Psalms 90:12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

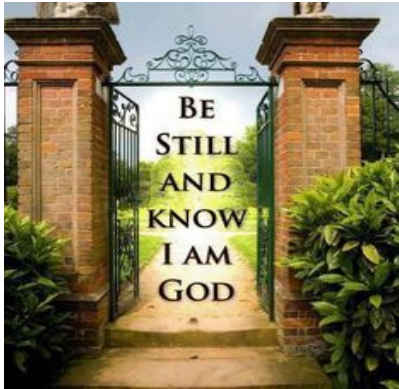
Col. 4:5 Walk in wisdom...redeeming the time.

1. Change your thinking = Romans 12:2 Be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds.
Renew your mind =
 - A. Shift from making excuses = to making a plan
 - B. Shift from here-and-now thinking = to “Eternal Thinking”
 - C. Shift to “Servant of God” thinking=Consider & pray about what God’s goal is for you. What does He want you to do?
He created you with gifts and talents to be used in His work, in this day and age. What service are you offering to Him?
 - D. Shift your “Significance of Life”=In what way is your life eternally significant?
What heritage are you leaving behind for future generations?
2. Get a support group =
 - A. Encourage each other
 - B. Pray for each other
 - C. Keep each other accountable
 - D. Share ideas and what works
3. Set Goals =
 - A. Long Term = ending goal = Eternal Life
 - B. Short Term Goals = to help you achieve ending goal, by little steps & small changes.
4. Prioritize =
 - A. Make plans & schedules=put time with God first = Give God your First Fruits!
 - B. Be Creative = pray as you exercise, listen to scripture tapes in the car etc. etc.
 - C. Put the plan into practice & start living out your goals = don’t wait, start now!
5. Give yourself Spiritual Checkups =
 - A. Evaluate yourself
 - B. Balance your life
 - C. If things are not where they should be, do something about it!
6. Write down your progress =
 - A. Keep a spiritual journal
 - B. Don’t just write down the good things
7. Be Determined & Don’t give up =
 - A. Keep working the plan = change it around if it’s not working for you.
 - B. Continue to ask God for help
 - C. Remember Satan’s best tool is discouragement
 - D. Don’t give up!
8. Continue to renew yourself =
even after you have made the changes by:
 - A. Keep in close contact with God = keep walking with Him
 - B. Spend time with God on a daily bases through =
Prayer, fasting, and study = stay focused on your eternal goals!
Continue to grow spiritually!
9. Take Time to Know God =
 - A. Not only make sure you keep your daily prayer and study time but mark one or two days each month on your calendar as special days for you to visit with God. Just as you mark your calendar if you invited someone into your home for an evening. If you have small children get a babysitter just as if you were going out for the evening.
 - B. Plan this as a time to “Be Still.” Plan on spending one or two hours with God. This, “Be Still” time, is a time to go over your prayer list, evaluate your life, set new goals, meditate & ponder on “God’s Holy Words”; it is a time of study, worship, praise and prayer. Remember, we can meet a business associate daily in the halls for years and not really know him/her. We can spend five minutes a day with God for quite some time and still only know him on a superficial level.

Take Time to “Be Still & Know God”

March 2020, Lesson #2

Keeping God as Your First Love



D&C 98:4-5 98:4a Verily, I say unto you, Notwithstanding their sins, my bowels are filled with compassion toward them; I will not utterly cast them off; and in the day of wrath I will remember mercy.

98:4b I have sworn, and the decree hath gone forth by a former commandment which I have given unto you, that I would let fall the sword of mine indignation in the behalf of my people; and even as I have said, it shall come to pass.

98:4c Mine indignation is soon to be poured out without measure upon all nations, and this will I do when the cup of their iniquity is full.

98:4d And in that day, all who are found upon the watchtower, or in other words, all mine Israel shall be saved.

98:4e And they that have been scattered shall be gathered; and all they who have mourned shall be comforted; and all they who have given their lives for my name shall be crowned.

98:4f Therefore, let your hearts be comforted concerning Zion, for all flesh is in mine hands: be still, and know that I am God.

98:4g Zion shall not be moved out of her place, notwithstanding her children are scattered, they that remain and are pure in heart shall return and come to their inheritances; they and their children, with songs of everlasting joy; to build up the waste places of Zion. And all these things, that the prophets might be fulfilled.

98:4h And, behold, there is none other place appointed than that which I have appointed, neither shall there be any other place appointed than that which I have appointed for the work of the gathering of my Saints, until the day cometh when there is found no more room for them;

98:4i and then I have other places which I will appoint unto them, and they shall be called stakes, for the curtains, or the strength of Zion.

98:5a Behold, it is my will, that all they who call on my name, and worship me according to mine everlasting gospel, should gather together and stand in holy places, and prepare for the revelation which is to come when the veil of the covering of my temple, in my tabernacle, which hideth the earth, shall be taken off, and all flesh shall see me together.

March 2020, Lesson #2 Keeping God as Your First Love



Psalms 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble.

46:2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth shall be removed, and though the mountains shall be carried into the midst of the sea;

46:3 And the waters thereof roar, being troubled, and the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

46:4 Yet there shall be a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.

46:5 For Zion shall come, and God shall be in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God shall help her right early.

46:6 The heathen shall be enraged, and their kingdoms shall be moved, and the Lord shall utter his voice, and the earth shall be melted.

46:7 The Lord of hosts who shall be with us, the God of Jacob our refuge. Selah.

46:8 Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolations he shall make in the earth in the latter days.

46:9 He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire, and saith unto the nations,

46:10 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

46:11 The Lord of hosts shall be with us, the God of Jacob our refuge. Selah.

March 2020, Lesson #2
Keeping God as Your First Love

The Importance of Knowing the Attributes of God (1)

Lectures on Faith by Joseph Smith

In Lectures #3 and #4 Joseph expresses the concept that to have faith in God we must have a correct idea of His attributes and character. Then Joseph quoted the following Scriptures:

Exodus 34:6 And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth....

Psalms 103:6 The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.

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

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

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

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Psalms 90:1 Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God

Malachi 3:6 For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Numbers 23:19 God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent; hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

I John 4:8 He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love.

4:9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

Heb.1:10-12 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands.

11 They shall perish, but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;

12 And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed; but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

Acts 10:34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons;

35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

March 2020, Lesson #2
Keeping God as Your First Love

The Importance of Knowing the Attributes of God (2)

Lectures on Faith by Joseph Smith

After quoting these scriptures Joseph stated:

“From the forgoing testimonies we learn the following things respecting the character of God:

“First, that he was God before the world was created, and the same God that he was after it was created.

“Secondly, that he is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abundant in goodness, and that he was so from everlasting, and will be to everlasting.

“Thirdly, that he changes not, neither is there variableness with him; but that he is the same yesterday, today and forever; and that his course is one eternal round, without variation.

“Fourthly, that he is a God of truth and cannot lie.

“Fifthly, that he is no respecter of persons...

“Sixthly, that he is love.”

Joseph taught that knowing the attributes of God
did away with doubt
and made one’s faith exceedingly strong.

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

“What object had the God of heaven in revealing his attributes to men? That through an acquaintance with his attributes they might be enabled to exercise faith in him...could men exercise faith in God without an acquaintance with his attributes? ... They could not.”

March 2020, Lesson #2 Keeping God as Your First Love

Study Scriptures for Consideration

Matthew 22:36-37 Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.

Rev. 2:1-5 Unto the servant of the church of Ephesus write; these things.... Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.... Remember and repent.

Mark 13: 3 Verily I say unto you, they shall be thrown down and left unto the Jews desolate.

Genesis 7:41 But, behold, they are without affection, and they hate their own blood; and the fire of mine indignation is kindled against them.

II Peter 3:1-2 beloved, I now write unto you; in which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance; That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the Holy Prophets,

Jacob 3:7 Wherefore, we search the prophets; and we have many revelations, and the spirit of prophecy, and having all these witnesses, we obtain a hope, and our faith cometh unshaken,

D&C 43:5f Repent, and prepare for the great day of the Lord... 6c How oft have I called upon you by the mouth of my servants, and by the ministering of angels, and by mine own voice, and by the voice of thunderings, and by the voice of lightnings, and by the voice of tempests, and by the voice of earthquakes, and great hailstorms, and by the voice of famines and pestilences of every kind... 6d Behold, the day has come, when the cup of the wrath of mine indignation is full.

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

2 Nephi 6:65 And wo unto the deaf, that will not hear: for they shall perish.

2 Nephi 14:4 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.

D&C 63:16 Ye receive the spirit through prayer.

Psalms 102:13 Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion; for the time to favor her, yea, the set time, is come.

D&C 45:1b And again I say, Hearken unto my voice, lest death shall overtake you; in an hour when ye think not, the summer shall be past, and the harvest ended, and your souls not saved. 2a Hearken, O ye people of my church, and ye elders, listen together, and hear my voice, while it is called today, and harden not your hearts;

D&C 45:12c and it shall be called the New Jerusalem, a land of peace, a city of refuge, a place of safety for the saints of the most high God; d and the glory of the Lord shall be there, and the terror of the Lord also shall be there, insomuch that the wicked will not come unto it; and it shall be called Zion. 13a And it shall come to pass, among the wicked, that every man that will not take his sword against his neighbor, must needs flee unto Zion for safety. b And there shall be gathered unto it out of every nation under heaven; and it shall be the only people that shall not be at war one with another.

D&C 45:4e but my disciples shall stand in holy places, and shall not be moved; but among the wicked, men shall lift up their voices and curse God, and die. 4f And there shall be earthquakes, also, in divers places and many desolations;

D&C 6:3a Now, as you have asked, behold, I say unto you, Keep my commandments, and seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion:

D&C 23:4a For thou shalt devote all thy service in Zion. And in this thou shalt have strength.

March 2020, Lesson #2
Keeping God as Your First Love

Questions for Consideration

1. What do Matthew 22:36-37 and Revelation 2:1-5 have in common?
2. D&C 28:2 speaks of God sending forth a decree. What does this mean to you personally?
3. In D&C 43:5f we are told God is calling to us. What are the many ways in which God is calling to us? What ways do you see this scripture being fulfilled today?
4. What does II Nephi 6:65 and D&C 45:1b have in common? How should we respond to these scriptures?
5. II Nephi 14:4 instructs us to do what?
6. D&C 63 tells us of one avenue/way in which we can invite the Holy Spirit to be a part of our daily lives, what is that?
7. D&C 45:12-13 offers a road of escape; what is it, and why will you need it?
8. D&C 45:4e tells us where to stand. Where is that and how will you accomplish it?
9. What do D&C 98 and Psalms 46 have in common? What will your response be to these scriptures?
10. Psalms 102:13 says there is a set time for Zion. If tomorrow were the day, would you be ready? If not, what do you need to do?