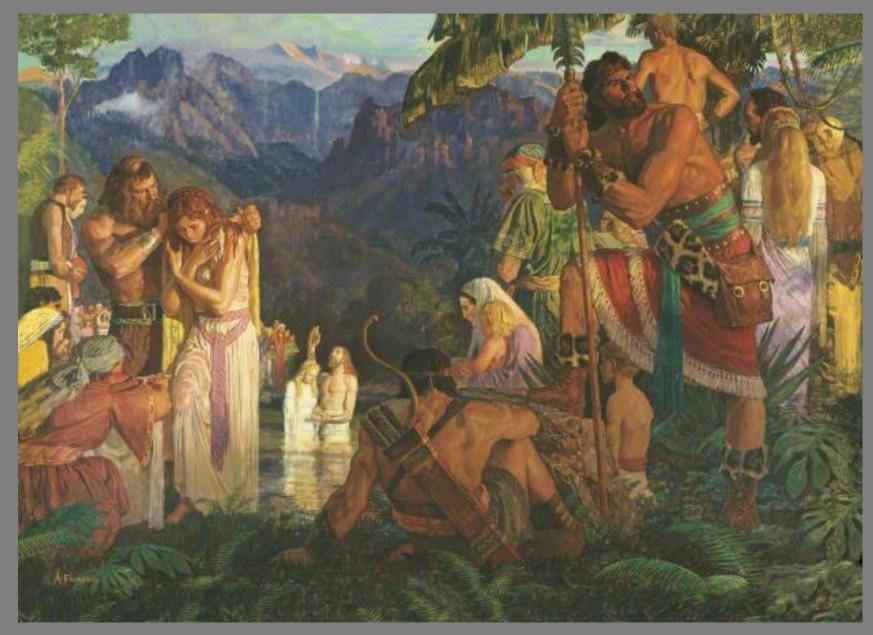
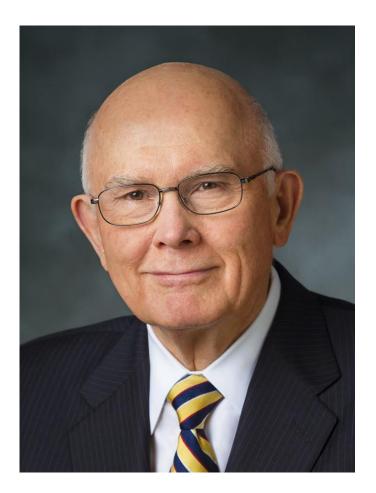
28- A Personal Witness of Jesus Christ

Mosiah 18:8–11



"Apostles have the calling and ordination to be special witnesses of the name of Christ in all the world (see D&C 107:23), but the duty to witness and testify of Christ at all times and in all places <u>applies to every member of the Church who has</u> <u>received the testimony</u> of the Holy Ghost" ("Witnesses of Christ," Ensign, Nov. 1990, 30).



"Nephi's phrase 'we talk of Christ' [2 Nephi 25:26] suggests that we are not reluctant to talk about our feelings regarding the Savior <u>in conversations and</u> <u>informal settings</u>. Often these are one-on-one situations where in open and friendly ways we can discuss who He is and what He did and taught, encouraging others also to love and follow Him.

"We rejoice in Christ' implies that we live with a generally happy outlook that reflects our faith in Christ. We know that 'his grace [is] sufficient' for us to be redeemed from death and sin and to be perfected in Him (see Moroni 10:32–33). While we face disappointments and even tragedies, we know that because of Him, <u>our eternal happiness is assured</u>. As our faith in Jesus Christ shines through, we show others who 'labour and are heavy laden' how to find rest in Him (see Matthew 11:28–30).

"We preach of Christ' certainly has reference to full-time and member missionary work but <u>also includes what we do in worship services</u>, Sunday School classes, and similar settings where He is the subject of study and instruction. <u>Our participation as both teachers and students</u> is part of our bearing witness of Him. ...

"We prophesy of Christ' means that <u>we express our testimony of Him</u> by the power of the Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 12:3). 'The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy' (Revelation 19:10). As those who anciently prophesied of His first advent, we also confirm in word and deed the prophecies of His Second Coming. ...

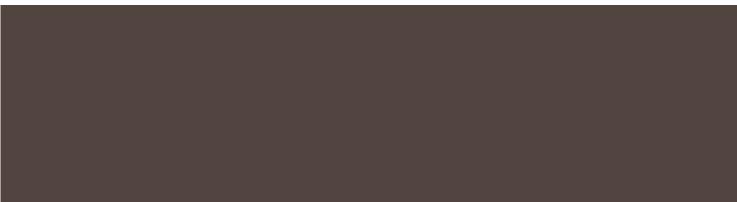
"And we write according to our prophecies' suggests the wisdom of making a permanent record of our testimony of Christ. We understand that the testimonies we bear are 'recorded in heaven for the angels to look upon; and they rejoice over [us]' (D&C 62:3). Our own descendants and others may look upon and rejoice over our witness of Christ written or

recorded for their benefit"

(Elder D. Todd Christofferson"Becoming a Witness of Christ," Ensign, Mar. 2008, 62–63).







Moroni 10.32

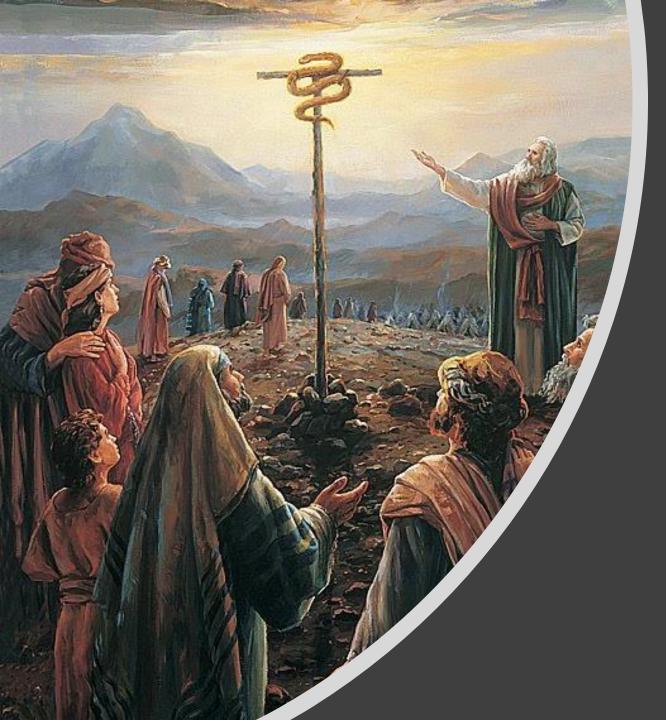
What is in our way?

Mark 5



Faith and Hope

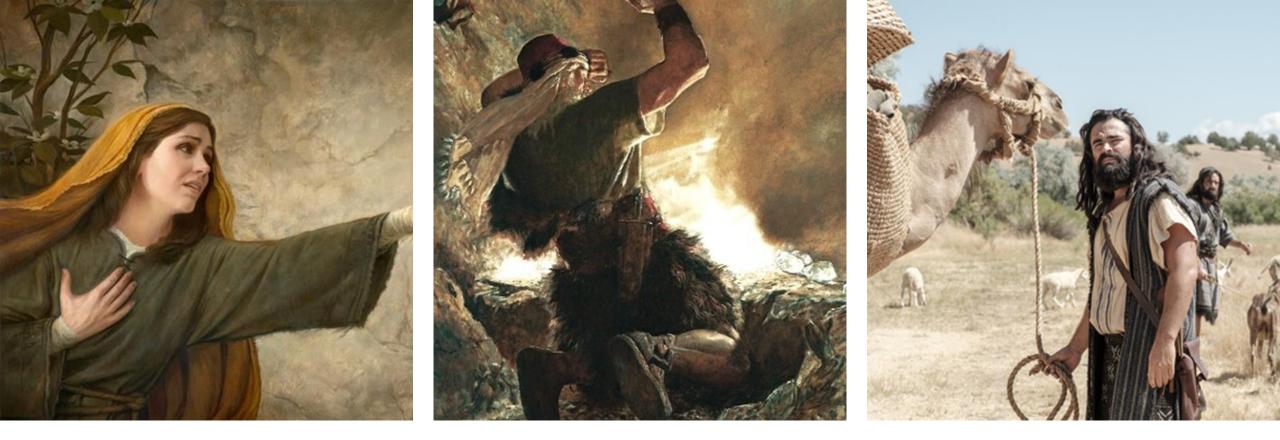
1 Nephi 15.1-9



Alma 33



Ether 3.1-3



έλπίς = Hope

ἐλπίς elpís, el-pece'; from a primary ἕλπω élpō (to anticipate, usually with pleasure); expectation
(abstractly or concretely) or confidence:—faith, hope.

Faith in Jesus Christ and the power of his atonement to save all who follow him is the central element of Christian hope. Paul spoke of having "hope toward God, ... that there shall be a resurrection of the dead." (Acts 24:15.) To the Thessalonians he wrote; "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?" (1 Thes. 2:19.) When Mormon writes, "Ye shall have hope through the atonement of Christ and the power of his resurrection, to be raised unto life eternal" (Moro. 7:41), he is telling us that we can expect to be resurrected, and that we can so live as to merit eternal life.

As a very little girl I remember hearing a talk in which the speaker made it clear that he did not think he was worthy of the celestial kingdom, doubtless from the desire to seem decently modest. The statement left me with the vivid impression, which I carried for a long time, that eternal life was a rarity which ordinary people like myself (and almost everyone else I knew) had neither right to, nor hope of, achieving. <u>Such</u> <u>"modesty" has no place in the gospel of Jesus Christ</u>. (Rebecca Gwynn Stradling, Between Faith and Charity: Some thoughts on Hope, July 1981 Ensign)



Genesis 2.25 Vulnerability



2 Nephi 33.6

I glory in my Jesus... he hath redeemed my soul.