

MORMON'S TESTIMONY

TO THE FUTURE

MORMON 7

Lesson 140

Suggested Hymn:
#134 Believe in
Christ



230,000

The number of Nephite soldiers
who died in the final battle,
recorded in Mormon 6



“Don’t you think the Lord has given us these things that we might know and we might prepare ourselves through humility, through repentance, through faith, that we might escape from these dreadful conditions that are portrayed by these ancient prophets?”
Elder Joseph Fielding Smith



WHAT MUST YOU KNOW?

Knowledge that you are of the house of Israel



Knowledge that you must repent or you cannot be saved



Knowledge that you must 'lay down your weapons of war'



Knowledge that you must know of the prophets before you



Knowledge and understanding that Jesus is the Son of God and was slain by the Jews and has been resurrected

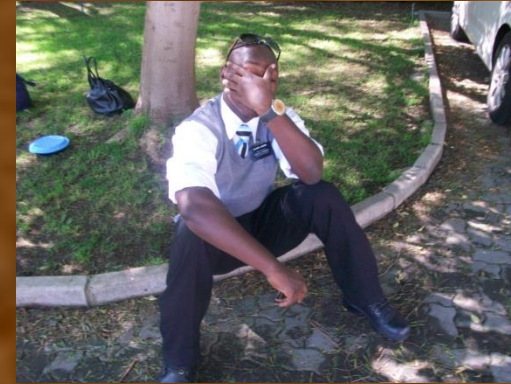


PREREQUISITE FOR ETERNAL HAPPINESS

Faith in the Lord
Jesus Christ



Repentance



Baptism by
immersion



Receive the
Gift of the
Holy Ghost



You will be numbered among the
people of the first covenant



“Live the doctrine of Christ, the simple and basic principles of the gospel, each day—have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, repent, honor the covenant of baptism, live worthy of the Holy Ghost as your companion, and endure to the very end.

All who accept and obey the principles and ordinances of the gospel of Jesus Christ will receive eternal life

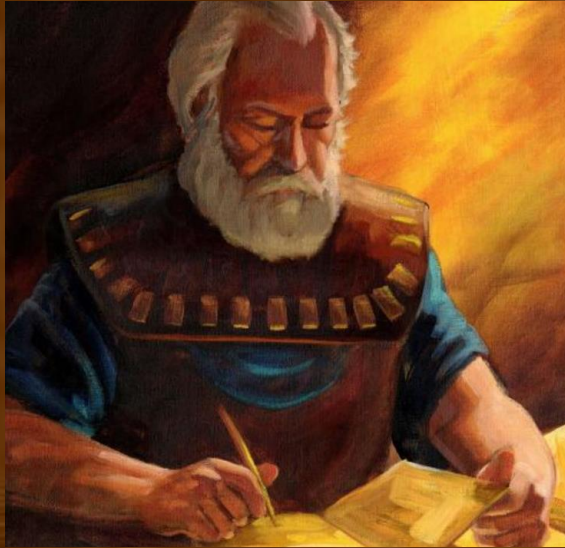
Do this every day, and the Spirit of the Lord will be with you to keep you safely on the pathway that leads to eternal life.”

M. Russell Ballard

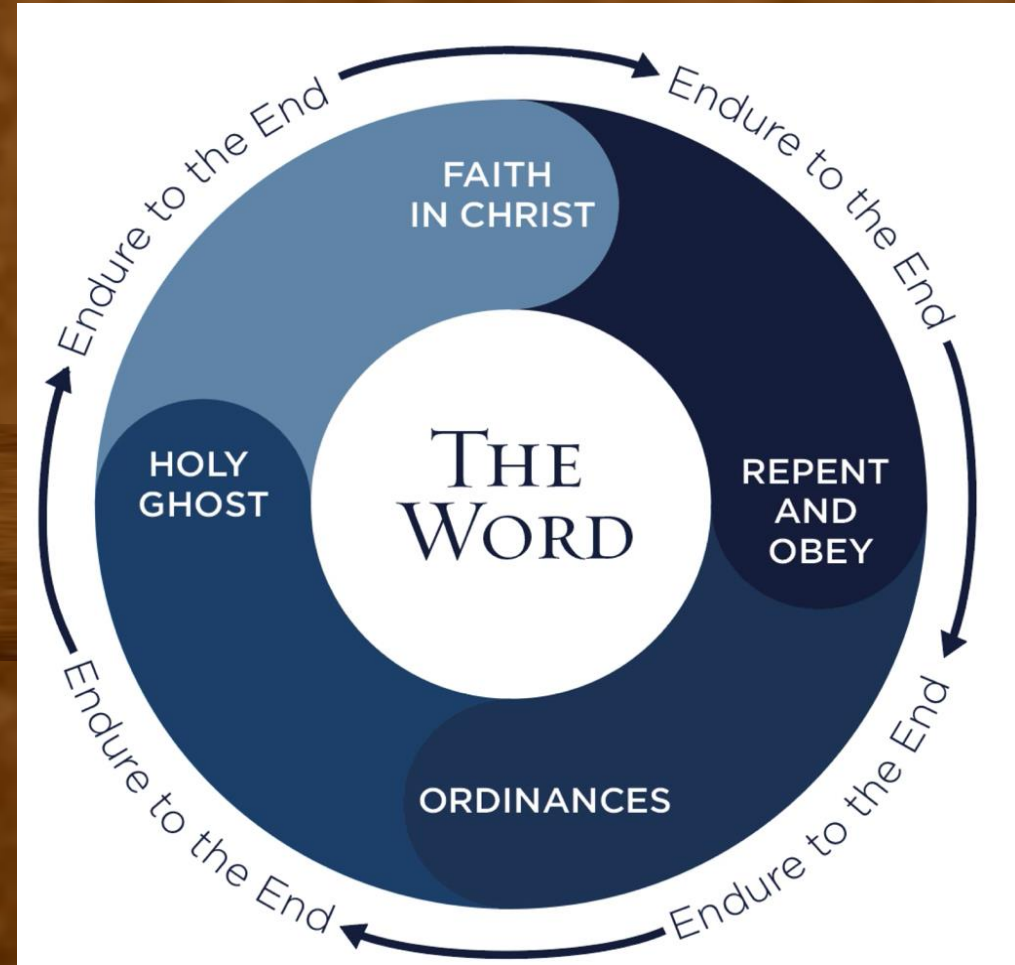


THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST

Mormon bids farewell with words of the Doctrine of Christ



7:10: ...believe in Christ
7:8: Therefore repent
7:10: ...baptized first with water
7:10: ...and the Holy Ghost...



“In a soliloquy of death, Mormon reached across time and space to all, especially to that ‘remnant of the house of Israel’ who would one day read his majestic record. Those of another time and place must learn what those lying before him had forgotten—that all must ‘believe in Jesus Christ, that he is the Son of God,’ that following his crucifixion in Jerusalem he had, ‘by the power of the Father ... risen again, whereby he hath gained the victory over the grave; and also in him is the sting of death swallowed up.

“‘And he bringeth to pass the resurrection of the dead ... [and] the redemption of the world.’ Those who are redeemed may then, because of Christ, enjoy ‘a state of happiness which hath no end.’ [Mormon 7:2, 5–7.] ...

“To ‘believe in Christ,’ especially when measured against such tragic but avoidable consequences, was Mormon’s last plea and his only hope. It is the ultimate purpose of the entire book that would come to the latter-day world bearing his name”

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland





Sources:

Elder Joseph Fielding Smith *The Signs of the Times* pg. 154-155

M. Russell Ballard, “Follow the Doctrine and Gospel of Christ” [Brigham Young University fireside, Nov. 7, 2010], 8, speeches.byu.edu

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland (*Christ and the New Covenant: The Messianic Message of the Book of Mormon* [1997], 321–22).

True Believers

True believers are settled in their views of Christ. Despite their weaknesses, their spirituality is centered on the Savior, so their views of everything else are put in that precious perspective.

True believers gladly perform their duties in the kingdom. These duties are usually measurable and straightforward. They include partaking worthily of the sacrament, rendering Christian service, studying the scriptures, praying, fasting, receiving ordinances, attending to family duties, paying tithes and offerings...

True believers are humble. They are *'meek and lowly of heart'* [Moroni 7:43]... They are not easily offended. They do not resist counsel.

True believers are willing to do what Christ wants. ... Are we willing to let the Lord lead us into further development experiences? Or do we shrink back? The things which enlarge the soul inevitably involve stretching.

True believers have a balanced contentment. They strike a balance between being too content and wishing for a more important role...

True believers truly pray. Their prayers are sincere... The true believer's prayers, at least some of the time, are inspired.

True believers have both right conduct and right reasons for that conduct. They are so secure in their relationship with the Lord that their goodness would continue even if nobody were watching...

True believers rejoice in the success of others... They don't regard colleagues as competitors.

True believers remember that forgetting is part of forgiving. They follow the Lord's example: *'I [will] remember [their sins] no more'* (D&C 58:42)....

True believers are innocent as to sin, but not naïve. They are kind, but candid. They love their fellowmen...

True believers are happy. Instead of a *'woeful countenance,'* true believers in Christ have a disciplined enthusiasm to work righteousness. They are serious about how they live life but are also of good cheer.

--Neal A. Maxwell, "True Believers," New Era, Apr. 1994, 20-24

Doctrine of Christ Experiment

If you highlight or circle these words:

Believe/Faith,

Repent/Repentance,

Baptism/Water,

Holy Ghost/Fire/Spirit

You will most likely find they are clumped together throughout the Book of Mormon.

This is the Doctrine of Christ

Example: Mormon 7:8-10

8 Therefore **repent**, and be baptized in the name of Jesus, and lay hold upon the gospel of Christ, which shall be set before you, not only in this record but also in the record which shall come unto the Gentiles from the Jews, which record shall come from the Gentiles unto you.

9 For behold, this is written for the intent that ye may **believe** that; and if ye **believe** that ye will believe this also; and if ye **believe** this ye will know concerning your fathers, and also the marvelous works which were wrought by the power of God among them.

10 And ye will also know that ye are a remnant of the seed of Jacob; therefore ye are numbered among the people of the first covenant; and if it so be that ye **believe** in Christ, and are **baptized**, first with water, then with **fire and with the Holy Ghost**, following the example of our Savior, according to that which he hath commanded us, it shall be well with you in the day of judgment. Amen.