

Alma 20:2-51 *Voice of the Lord to Ammon*

"Dramatic and miraculous answers to prayer may come, but they are the exceptions. Even at the highest levels of responsibility in this kingdom of God, which is being built up upon the earth, *the voice is still small*.... My testimony is that the Lord is speaking to you! But with the deafening decibels of today's environment, all too often we fail to hear him.... Listening is a challenge for us."

Graham W. Doxey, *Ensign*, November 1991, 25; emphasis in original.

Alma 20: 13-172 *Temper*

"A violent temper is such a terrible, corrosive thing. And the tragedy is that it accomplishes no good; it only feeds evil with resentment and rebellion and pain.... May I suggest that you watch your temper, now in these formative years of your life.... This is the season to develop the power and capacity to discipline yourselves.... Anger is not an expression of strength. It is an indication of one's inability to control his thoughts, words, his emotions. Of course it is easy to get angry. When the weakness of anger takes over, the strength of reason leaves. Cultivate within yourselves the mighty of self-discipline."

Gordon B. Hinckley, "Our Solemn Responsibilities" *Ensign*, November 1991, p. 49.

Alma 20:273 *Our Missionary Responsibility*

"I want to emphasize that we as a people have one supreme thing to do, and that is to call upon the world to repent of sin, to come to God. And it is our duty above all others to go forth and proclaim the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the restoration again to the earth of the plan of life and salvation.... We have in very deed the pearl of great price. We have that which is of more value than all the wealth and the scientific information which the world possesses. We have the plan of life and salvation. The first great commandment was to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, might mind and strength; and the second was like unto it, to love our neighbor as ourselves. And the best way in the world to show our love for our neighbor is to go forth and proclaim the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, of which he has given us an absolute knowledge concerning its divinity."

Heber J. Grant in CR, Apr. 1927, pp.175-76.

4 There never was a set of men since God made the world under a stronger responsibility to warn this generation, to lift up our voices long and loud, day and night so far as we have the opportunity and declare the words of God unto this generation. We are required to do this. This is our calling. It is our duty. It is our business.

Wilford woodruff in JD 21:122

5 Our most important obligation... is to divide with our Father's children all those fundamental truths, all his rules and regulations which prepare us for eternal life, known as the gospel of Jesus Christ. Until we have done that to the full limit of our power, we will not receive all the blessings which we might otherwise have.

George Albert Smith in CR, Oct. 1945, p. 119

6 President John Taylor said, "God will hold us responsible to the people we might have saved had we done our duty."

7 D&C 63:37: And that *every man* should take righteousness in his hands and faithfulness upon his loins, and lift a warning voice unto the inhabitants of the earth; and declare both by word and by flight that desolation shall come upon the wicked.

8 **Alma 20:29**

Suffering

There is terrible suffering in our world today. Tragic things happen to good people. God does not cause them, nor does He always prevent them. He does, however, strengthen us and bless us with His peace, through earnest prayer.

Rex D. Pinegar, *Ensign*, May, 1993, 67.

9 I don't deny the struggle, it is the essence of Eden, but personal progress is what this life is about. We must begin at once to work our plan of life, deciding to whom and to what we will give our fullest attention, our highest loyalty, our deepest commitment.

Elaine Cannon

10 No pain that we suffer, no trial that we experience is wasted. It ministers to our education, to the development of such qualities as patience, faith, fortitude and humility. All that we suffer and all that we endure, especially when we endure it patiently, builds up our characters, purifies our hearts, expands our souls, and makes us more tender and charitable, more worthy to be called the children of God... and it is through sorrow and suffering, toil and tribulation, that we gain the education that we come here to acquire and which will make us more like our Father and Mother in heaven.

Orson Whitney, cited in Spencer W. Kimball, *Faith Precedes the Miracle*, p. 98.

11 **Alma 20:30**

Hardened and stiff-necked

Why should I speak to anyone about the gospel who seems content? What danger is there to them or to me if I do or say nothing?

Well, the danger may be hard to see, but it is real, both for them and for us. For instance, at some moment in the worlds to come, everyone you will ever meet will know what you know now. They will know that the only way to live forever in association with our families and in the presence of our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, was to choose to enter into the gate by baptism at the hands of those with authority from God. They will know that the only way families can be together forever is to accept and keep sacred covenants offered in the temples of God on this earth. And they will know that you knew. And they will remember whether you offered them what someone had offered you.

Henry B. Eyring, in Conference Report, Oct. 1998, 41 or *Ensign*, Nov. 1998, 33.