November 25–December 1 Ether 12–15 "By Faith All Things Are Fulfilled"



Hope

Ether 12:2-4

What is it that those "[who] believeth in God" can hope for with "surety"?

How do you think that this "hope cometh of faith"?

How do you think that being blessed with this hope would increase your faith?

How do you think that hope "[makes] an anchor to [our] souls"?

Bruce R. McConkie

"As used in the revelations, *hope is the desire of faithful people to gain eternal salvation* in the kingdom of God hereafter. It is not a flimsy, ethereal desire, one without assurance that the desired consummation will be received, but a desire coupled *with full expectation of receiving the coveted reward*." (Mormon Doctrine, pg. 365)

Howard W. Hunter

"The words 'He is not here, but is risen' contain all the hope, assurance, and belief necessary to sustain us in our challenging and sometimes grief-filled lives." (CR, April 1986)

Neal A. Maxwell

"Real hope is much more than wishful musing.... It is tied to Jesus and the blessings of the great Atonement... Hope is realistic anticipation which takes the form of a determination." (CR, Oct. 1998)

Dieter F. Uchtdorf

"Faith, hope, and charity complement each other, and as one increases, the others grow as well. Hope comes of faith, for without faith, there is no hope. In like manner faith comes of hope, for faith is 'the substance of things hoped for' (Hebrews 11:1)." (CR, Oct. 2008))

Dieter F. Uchtdorf

"We have the responsibility to make [hope] an active part of our lives and overcome the temptation to lose hope. Hope in our Heavenly Father's merciful plan of happiness leads to peace, mercy, rejoicing, and gladness. The hope of salvation is like a protective helmet; it is the foundation of our faith and an anchor to our souls." (CR, Oct. 2008)



Ether 12:5-7

What does Moroni teach us about faith in these verses?

Spencer W. Kimball

"In faith we plant the seed, and soon we see the miracle of the blossoming. Men have often misunderstood and have reversed the process. They would have the harvest before the planting, the reward before the service, the miracle before the faith." (CR, Oct. 1952)



Ether 12:8-9

What does Moroni teach us about faith in these verses?

Charity

Ether 12:28,33-34

How does Moroni define charity?

What do you think Moroni means when he says that faith, hope and charity, "bringeth unto me – the fountain of all righteousness"?

What does Moroni tell us we must obtain in order to "inherit that place... in the mansions of [the] Father"?

Bonnie D. Parkin

"Charity is our love for the Lord, shown through our acts of service, patience, compassion, and understanding for one another.

"Additional insight into the pure love of Christ is found in Ether.... Charity is also the Lord's love for us, shown through His acts of service, patience, compassion, and understanding." (CR, Oct. 2003)

Alma 7:24 And see that ye have faith, hope, and charity, and then ye will always abound in good works.

Neal A. Maxwell

"Unsurprisingly the triad of faith, hope, and charity, which brings us to Christ, has strong and converging linkage: faith is in the Lord Jesus Christ, hope is in His atonement, and charity is the "pure love of Christ"! Each of these attributes qualifies us for the celestial kingdom. Each, first of all, requires us to be meek and lowly." (CR, Oct. 1994)

<u>Neal A. Maxwell</u>

"The capacity to love grows out of 'faith unfeigned.' The Gospel of Jesus Christ offers to man 'a more excellent hope,' a perspective about life that infuses it with purpose, even with its tragedy....

"Faith and meekness permit the Holy Ghost to bless us, and the 'Comforter filleth with hope and perfect love, which love endureth' (Moroni 8:26)." (A Time To Choose, pg. 48)

Humility

Ether 12:23,26

What does Moroni say is a characteristic that we must posses in order to be taught and guided by God's grace?

<u>Neal A. Maxwell</u>

"Meekness ranks low on the mortal scale of things, yet high on God's: 'For none is acceptable before God, save the meek and lowly in heart' (Moroni 7:44). The rigorous requirements of Christian discipleship are clearly unattainable without meekness. In fact, meekness is needed in order to be spiritually successful, whether in matters of the intellect, in the management of power, in the dissolution of personal pride, or in coping with the challenges of daily life." (Meek and Lowly, pg. 9)

Humility

Ether 12:27

Spiritually speaking, what do you think it means to "make weak things become strong"?

<u>Ezra Taft Benson</u>

"...if they humble themselves before me, and have faith in me, then will I make weak things become strong unto them' (Ether 12:27).

"What a promise from the Lord! The very source of our troubles can be changed, molded, and formed into a strength and a source of power. This promise is repeated in one form or another in many other scriptures....

"Brothers and sisters, we must take our sins to the Lord in humble and sorrowful repentance. We must plead with Him for power to overcome them. The promises are sure. He will come to our aid. We will find the power to change our lives." (CR, Oct. 1989)

New Jerusalem

Ether 13:2

Why do you think that "this land... became a choice land above all other lands" after "the waters had receded"?

Hugh Nibley

"When men had defiled all the other lands in the glorious and beautiful world he had given them. *He would set apart a place where he would stand for no nonsense*; where men would be given such freedom as nowhere else, and could enjoy such prosperity as nowhere else.

"But in return for this liberty, certain ground rules have to be observed.... When the inhabitants abuse that freedom until they 'are ripened in iniquity,' their presence will be no longer tolerated" (The Prophetic Book of Mormon, pg. 505)

New Jerusalem

Ether 13:3,6

What reasons are given for "the New Jerusalem [being] built up upon this land"?

Bruce R. McConkie

"This New Jerusalem on the American continent will have a dual origin. It will be built by the saints on earth and it will also come down from heaven, and the cities so originating will be united into one holy city." (Mormon Doctrine, pg. 532)

James E. Talmage

"The Church in this day teaches that the New Jerusalem seen by John and by the prophet Ether, as descending from the heavens in glory, is the return of exalted Enoch and his righteous people; and that the people or Zion of Enoch, and the modern Zion, or the gathered saints on the western continent, will become one people." (Articles of Faith, pg. 318)

Revelations 21:1-2,21-23

- 1) And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.
- 2) And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
- 21) And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.
 22) And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.
- 23) And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

New Jerusalem

Ether 13:7-8

What does the Lord promise "the remnant of the house of Joseph"?

Russell M. Nelson

"As part of that promise, certain lands were to be inherited. While most descendants of Israel received their inheritance in the Near East, the choice land of the Americas was reserved for Joseph. It was to be the repository of the plates from which the Book of Mormon would be translated. It was also destined to become world headquarters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. From there the restored gospel would go forth to bless all nations of the earth according to the promise. Devout men, women, and children are being gathered in our day, turning to the truths of salvation that they have not heard before." (CR, April 1995)

New Jerusalem

Ether 13:9-10

New Jerusalem

Ether 13:5,11-12

Where will those who inhabit the old and new Jerusalems be gathered in from?

How do we know that those who are gathered to the old and new Jerusalems will be a righteous people?

Next Week:

December 2–8 Moroni 1–6 "To Keep Them in the Right Way"

