

December 9–15
Moroni 7–9
“May Christ Lift Thee Up”



The Light of Christ

Moroni 7:12-14

How can we evaluate a teaching or activity to determine if it is from the devil or from God?

Joseph B. Wirthlin

"Two mighty forces are pulling in opposite directions. On the one hand is the power of Christ and his righteousness. On the other hand is Satan and the spirits who follow him.... We can know which one to follow because God has given everyone the Spirit of Christ to know good from evil and to protect themselves from sin." (CR, April 1991)

The Light of Christ

Moroni 7:15-19

What gift is given to everyone to be used to judge good from evil?

Richard G. Scott

"The ability to have an unsettled conscience is a gift of God to help you succeed in this mortal life. It results principally from the influence of the Light of Christ on your mind and heart. The Light of Christ is that divine power or influence that emanates from God through Jesus Christ. It gives light and life to all things. It prompts all rational individuals throughout the earth to distinguish truth from error, right from wrong. It activates your conscience. Its influence can be weakened through transgression and addiction and restored through proper repentance. The Light of Christ is not a person. It is a power and influence that comes from God and when followed can lead a person to qualify for the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Ghost." (CR, Oct. 2004)

Faith

Moroni 7:21-22,31-32

How do ministering angels “do the work of the covenants of the Father”?

Who do you think the “chosen vessels” are who receive the word of Christ from the ministering angles?

What responsibility is given to these “chosen vessels”?

How does this prepare the way for us to develop faith in Christ?

Marion G. Romney

“In each succeeding gospel dispensation, it has been likewise revealed to ‘chosen vessels of the Lord’ that is, to his prophets.” (CR, Oct. 1978)

2 Nephi 32

3) Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore, they speak the words of Christ....

5) For behold, again I say unto you that if ye will enter in by the way, and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do.

Faith

Moroni 7:37-39

Why is it impossible for us to have any hope of being saved unless we have faith in Christ?

Hugh Nibley

“If men insist that there is no redemption, then, sure enough, ‘they are as though there had been no redemption made’. ‘If these things have ceased,’ says [Mormon] speaking of gifts of the Spirit, ‘wo be unto the children of men, for it is because of unbelief, and all is vain.’ This is no mere figure of speech... and those who insist that all is vain are quite right.... Does God cease to do miracles? Indeed he does, ‘and the reason why he ceaseth to do miracles among the children of men is because that they dwindle in unbelief’ (Mormon 9:20). Anyone who says there are no miracles, therefore, can quote Mormon to prove that he is right.” (Since Cumorah, pg. 401)

Spencer W. Kimball

"The Lord will not force himself upon people; and if they do not believe, they will receive no visitation. If they are content to depend upon their own limited calculations and interpretations then, of course, the Lord will leave them to their chosen fate." (CR, Oct. 1966)

Hope

Moroni 7:3-4

How do we obtain the hope we need to “enter into the rest of the Lord”?

When can we begin to receive the realization of this hope?

What is an outward sign of those who are blessed with hope?

Howard W. Hunter

“I promise you in the name of the Lord whose servant I am that God will always protect and care for his people. We will have our difficulties the way every generation and people have had difficulties. But... when we have faith in God we can hope for a better world—for us personally, and for all mankind. The prophet Ether taught anciently, ‘...hope cometh of faith, maketh an anchor to the souls of men, which would make them sure and steadfast (Ether 12:4.)’. (“An Anchor to the Souls of Men”, Ensign, Oct. 1993)

Hope

Moroni 7:40-44

What can help our faith grow?

What can help our hope grow?

What is needed to develop faith and hope?

What helps charity to develop and grow?

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.'”

“Hope is critical to both faith and charity. When disobedience, disappointment, and procrastination erode faith, hope is there to uphold our faith. When frustration and impatience challenge charity, hope braces our resolve and urges us to care for our fellowmen even without expectation of reward. The brighter our hope, the greater our faith. The stronger our hope, the purer our charity.”

“The things we hope for lead us to faith, while the things we hope in lead us to charity. The three qualities - faith, hope, and charity - working together, grounded on the truth and light of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, lead us to abound in good works.” (CR, Oct. 2008)

Charity

Moroni 7:45-48

In verse 47, how does Mormon define charity?

What must we do if we want to make charity a part of our life?

Dallin H. Oaks

"We are challenged to move through a process of conversion toward that status and condition called eternal life. This is achieved not just by doing what is right, but by doing it for the right reason—for the pure love of Christ. The Apostle Paul illustrated this in his famous teaching about the importance of charity. The reason charity never fails and the reason charity is greater than even the most significant acts of goodness he cited is that charity, 'the pure love of Christ', *is not an act but a condition or state of being*. Charity is attained through a succession of acts that result in a conversion. *Charity is something one becomes.*" (CR, Oct. 2000)

Bruce C. Hafen

“We apparently cannot develop a complete and permanent Christlike love for other people on our own, even though we must qualify as ‘true followers of his Son’ in order to receive this love.... Charity in its full-blown sense is ‘bestowed upon’ Christ's righteous followers. Its source, like all other blessings of the Atonement, is the grace of God...

“The purpose of charity, however, is not merely to cause a proper motivation for charitable acts toward other people - though that is of course one important result. The ultimate purpose is to make Christ's followers like him.” (The Broken Heart, pg. 196)

Charity

Moroni 8:10-12

Charity

Moroni 8:16-17

What is an attribute that we can be blessed with if we have “perfect love”?

Neal A. Maxwell

“We are told that ‘perfect love casteth out fear. For all of us who still have some fears, how can this really occur?

“If our love of God is sufficiently deep, then we will be sufficiently assured of His enveloping loving-kindness. With this perspective, our fears can shrink. Dread can dissolve. Additionally, there need be no ultimate fear for mankind's future solely because of proximate circumstances, vexing and besetting as the latter may be.

“Amid our ‘small moment,’ we can know that what we are passing through can be ‘for [our] good’ (D&C 122:4,7). We thus love God sufficiently to trust in His perfect love for us even when we do not know the full meaning of the difficult moment.” (That Ye May Believe, pg. 57

Charity

Moroni 8:24-26

What is the process Mormon outlines for us to be “[filled] with hope and perfect love”?

Alma 13:28-29

28) But that ye would humble yourselves before the Lord, and call on his holy name, and watch and pray continually, that ye may not be tempted above that which ye can bear, and thus be led by the Holy Spirit, becoming humble, meek, submissive, patient, full of love and all long-suffering;

29) Having faith on the Lord; having a hope that ye shall receive eternal life; having the love of God always in your hearts, that ye may be lifted up at the last day and enter into his rest.

Next Week:

December 16–22

Moroni 10

“Come Unto Christ, and Be Perfected in Him”

