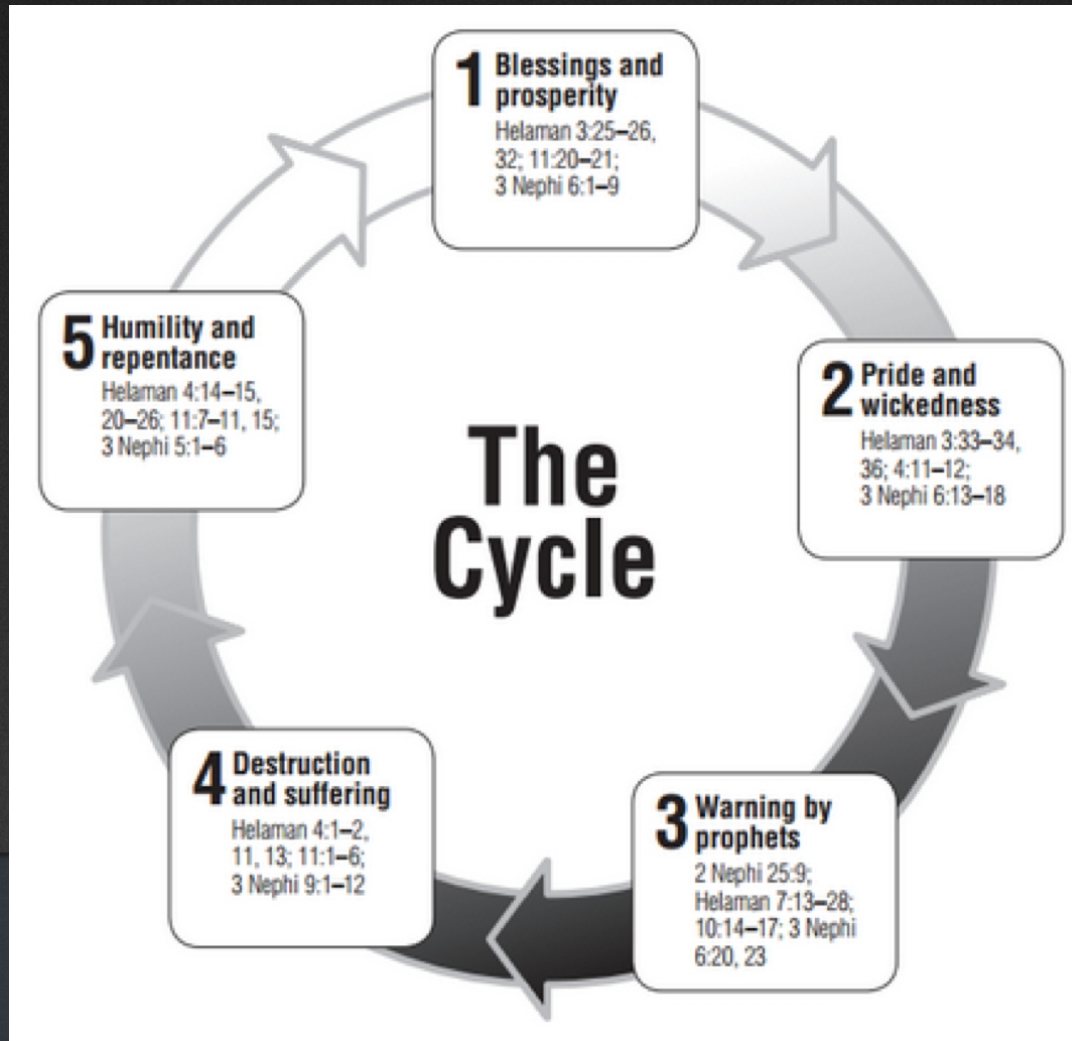


September 2–8

Helaman 7–12

“Remember the Lord”



Warning by Prophets

Helaman 7:16-20

What had the Nephites done to provoke the Lord to anger and to keep them from gathering in righteousness?

Ezra Taft Benson

“The two groups who have the greatest difficulty in following the prophet are the proud who are learned and the proud who are rich. The learned may feel the prophet is only inspired when he agrees with them; otherwise, the prophet is just giving his opinion speaking as a man. The rich may feel they have no need to take counsel of a lowly prophet.” (The Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson, pg. 138)

Warning by Prophets

Helaman 10:3-7

What great power did the Lord entrust to Nephi?

Why did the Lord entrust Nephi with such great power?

Henry B. Eyring

"April 3rd. That was the day in 1836 when Elijah, the translated prophet, was sent to the Kirtland Temple to give the sealing power to Joseph Smith and to Oliver Cowdery. Those keys reside in the Church today and will continue to the end of time.

"It is the same divine authorization given by the Lord to Peter, as He had promised: 'And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven' (Matt 16:19)." (CR, April 2012)

Henry B. Eyring

"Because of Nephi's preparation, God blessed him with power to fulfill his assignment. In His loving and empowering words to Nephi, there is a guide for us....

"That faith did not come in the moment when Nephi needed it, nor did God's trust in Nephi. He earned that great faith and God's confidence by courageous and sustained labor in the Lord's service. You young men are building that faith now for the days ahead when you will need it." (CR, Oct. 2009)

Warning by Prophets

Helaman 10:14-17

How was Nephi able to “send [God’s message and warning] forth among all the people”?

Destruction and Suffering

Helaman 11:3-6

With the promise that the Lord would grant any request from Nephi, what did he ask the Lord to do?

Why did Nephi ask for the destruction of famine instead of the destruction of war?

Humility and Repentance

Helaman 11:7-13

What did it take for the people to finally become humble enough to remember the Lord?

What did the people do that caused the Lord's "fierce anger" to be turned away?

What did Nephi do when he "saw that the people had repented and did humble themselves"?

Ezra Taft Benson

“God will have a humble people. Either we can choose to be humble or we can be compelled to be humble. Alma said, ‘Blessed are they who humble themselves without being compelled to be humble.’ (Alma 32:16)...

“We can choose to humble ourselves by conquering enmity toward our brothers and sisters, esteeming them as ourselves, and lifting them as high or higher than we are... by receiving counsel and chastisement... by forgiving those who have offended us... by rendering selfless service... by going on missions and preaching the word that can humble others.... by getting to the temple more frequently... by confessing and forsaking our sins and being born of God... We can choose to humble ourselves by loving God, submitting our will to His, and putting Him first in our lives... Let us choose to be humble. We can do it. I know we can”
(CR, April 1989)

Righteousness and Prosperity

Helaman 11:17-21

Why do you think that humility and repentance leads to prosperity?

Pride and Wickedness

Helaman 11:36-37

What did the people do that caused them to be “ripening again for destruction”?

Orson Pratt

"If Zion sins, if her people suffer pride to arise in their hearts, and follow after the foolish fashions of the Gentiles who come into their midst, and are lifted up one above another, the rich and wealthy looking down upon the poor with scorn and derision because they cannot clothe themselves in the same costly apparel as the rich, and begin to make distinctions of classes among themselves, behold the Lord will visit Zion according to all her works, and he will purge her and pour forth his judgments upon her, according to that which he has spoken." (JD 15:329)

The Pride Cycle

Helaman 12:1-3

What does the Lord do for “those who put their trust in him”?

But what happens “at the very time... [God does] all things for the welfare and happiness of his people”?

Why do they forget their God?

What does the Lord have to do to get his people to remember him again?

Melvin J. Ballard

"We are in the age of self-indulgence. It beats upon our shores from all points. It is a deadly siege in an attempt to destroy... the integrity of this people. I recognize, with my brethren, that the sorest trials that have ever come to the Church in any age of the world are the trials of peace and prosperity.... But we are to do a new thing, a thing that never has before been done- We are to take the Church of Christ not only through the age of persecution and mob violence, but through the age of peace and prosperity. For we must learn to endure faithfully even in peace and prosperity. It is the sorest trial that will come to [us]." (CR, April 1929)

The Pride Cycle

Helaman 12:4-6

What can we do to remain in the “righteousness and prosperity” phase of the cycle and not give in to “pride and wickedness”?

Henry B. Eyring

"There is a simple cure for the terrible malady of forgetting God, His blessings, and His messages to us. Jesus Christ promised it to His disciples when He was about to be crucified, resurrected, and then taken away from them to ascend in glory to His Father. They were concerned to know how they would be able to endure when He was no longer with them.

"Here is the promise.... 'But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.' (John 14:26)

"The key to the remembering that brings and maintains testimony is receiving the Holy Ghost as a companion. It is the Holy Ghost who helps us see what God has done for us. It is the Holy Ghost who can help those we serve to see what God has done for them." (CR, Oct. 2007)

Next Week:

September 9–15

Helaman 13–16

“Glad Tidings of Great Joy”

