

My name is Lisa Roseman. I have a blog named [Desire to Serve God](http://DesiretoServeGod.com). I only post on my blog when the Lord lets me know He wants something. You can access it on the Internet at Desiretoservegod.wordpress.com. I will place a pdf file with references and links. The title for this paper, video and audio is Repentance Heals.

Repentance Heals

Around a month ago, I started getting tidbits from the Lord that I may need to do something further on my blog. I was praying and asking: how do you want me to go about this Lord?, who is the audience?, what do you want me to say?

So now I sit at my computer striving to deliver the message, using inspired scriptures to help interpret the message for you, for us. It is an important message! And I'm just the means by which the Lord is trying to get His message out. Please pray about this content and determine for yourself if this message is indeed inspired and comes from our Lord, and if you should heed it.

I consider this message to be to all those who consider themselves Covenant Christians.

The main theme of the message is this: We all need to repent.

None of us are good. None of us are right and we should have been awakened to that fact with all that has been going on as of late. It's been going on a good while really.

We don't need to dredge up old business, we don't need to pick up our swords or weapons of war against one another, we don't need to go back and suffer that the old wounds reopen. We don't need to create any more division or contention.

Consider this, consider the Lord is trying to gather us, and every time He cups His hands to gently pick us up, we jump. Not one of us jumps, but we all jump. And it's like we all jump in different directions. That has to be frustrating when He's trying to rescue us, He's trying to save us, He's trying to salvage us.

And we would not.

We have to stop it. We need to repent and we need to forget about all that has been going on in the past. Because we are all wrong, and we are all in sin, we are all transgressing, and we are all in iniquity. And to get ourselves out of it, we must repent. Do not hang onto old sins. Don't look back. Repent in sackcloth and ashes, nigh unto death as Alma the younger did.

[Mosiah 11: 26-29](#) CoC- *While he was out trying to destroy God's congregation (doing it secretly with Mosiah's sons), trying to destroy the congregation and lead the Lord's people astray, violating not only God's commandments but also the king's — and as I told you, as they were*

going about rebelling against God, the angel of the Lord appeared to them, descending in what seemed like a cloud. He spoke with a voice like thunder, making the ground shake where they were standing.

*Their astonishment was so great that they fell to the ground and didn't understand the words he spoke. But he called out again, saying: Alma, get up and step forward. Why do you persecute God's congregation? Because the **Lord has said: This is My congregation and I'll establish it, and nothing will destroy it except for My people's transgressions.***

This is still in effect today. The Lord is establishing His congregation and we the Lord's covenant people are the only ones who can jeopardize what the Lord is doing. That's why if we destroy our chance, He has to get another people and begin again. How careful ought we be to ensure this doesn't happen to us.

The angel also said: The Lord has heard His people's prayers and the prayers of His servant Alma, your father. He's prayed with great faith about you, so you could be brought to the knowledge of the truth. Therefore I've come to convince you of God's power and authority, so His servants' prayers will be answered according to their faith. Can you challenge God's power? Does my voice not shake the earth?

Do you think people are not praying for you, for God to strengthen and continue to work with you, with us? Because what "you" do affects us all. And "you" could be anybody at this point. Because "you" points to anybody who is transgressing.

Transgression means you don't even know you're doing it (you're ignorant). Repentance from transgression involves recognition, understanding, and change. Meaning you recognize you are offending the laws ordained before the foundation of the world, then you understand what you are doing, you're doing something in direct opposition to God, and then you stop doing it. You stop it!

Let's continue with the angel of the Lord's message to Alma, and those who were with him.

*Can you not see me in front of you? I am sent from God. Now I tell you: Go; and remember the slavery of your people in the lands of Helam and Nephi, and remember how He has done great things for them. **They were enslaved and He set them free.** Now I tell you, Alma (and we can fill in the blanks here, and use some names in our group): Go your way, and so that their prayers will be answered, **end your efforts to destroy the congregation, unless you want to be destroyed!***

Now these were the last words the angel said to Alma, as he left.

As we know, Alma experienced a real “come to Jesus moment.” ...*He stood up and began to speak to the crowd gathered around him, telling them to be of good cheer. He said: I’ve repented of my sins and have been redeemed by the Lord. I’m born of the Spirit.*

Well that’s good news for sure! This is what it took for Alma to stop jeopardizing the whole congregation.

*And the Lord said to me: Don’t be surprised that all mankind, men, and women — people of every nation, tribe, and language — **must be born again, born of God**, changed from their carnal and fallen state to a state of righteousness, being redeemed by God, becoming His sons and daughters. Therefore they become new creatures.*

These are good questions we need to apply to ourselves. Are we born of God? Or are we still carnal, sensual, and devilish, or unredeemed? Are we sons and daughters of God? Have we had a fundamental change on the inside, becoming new creatures in Christ? Or, are we still suffering in the bondage of sin?

Because unless we do this, there’s no way for us to inherit God’s kingdom.

And we are so worried about what other people are doing, we are out of the way.

And using Alma’s language, *I tell you: If you don’t follow God, you’ll be rejected. I know this because I was on the verge of being rejected.*

*I know this because the Lord, in His mercy, has seen fit to **rescue me** suddenly from an everlasting burning; and I’m born of God. My soul has been redeemed from a state of suffering in bondage of sin. I was in the darkest abyss, but now I see God’s marvelous light. My soul was tortured with eternal torment, but I was quickly rescued, and my soul isn’t pained anymore.*

I can empathize with Alma, I’ve been on the verge of being rejected myself. I would say we could potentially all be on the verge of being rejected, if we don’t do what Alma did.

What did he do? He Repented! He not only repented, he surrendered, he went “all in” with the Lord. And he learned the truth.

I rejected my Redeemer and denied what our fathers had said. But now I know that they correctly predicted He will come, and that He remembers every creature of His creation, and He will reveal Himself to everyone. Every knee will bow and every tongue will acknowledge Him in His presence. They’ll acknowledge He is God on the last day, when all mankind stands to be judged by Him. Then those who live on earth without God will acknowledge that the judgment they receive of everlasting punishment is right and fair. They’ll shake, tremble, and recoil at a glance from His all-searching eye.

When we accepted the covenant, when we agreed to use the Covenant of Christ and the scriptures to guide our daily lives, what that meant is to look at what happened to Alma and the sons of Mosiah and apply that in our lives. What did Alma do? Did he go get a self-help book?

Alma said: *I was on the verge of being rejected. Nevertheless, after wading through great distress, repenting close (nigh unto) to death,*

I would say that we may well be on the verge of being rejected, so it would behoove us to do as Alma did? Repent nigh unto death.

Repentance in the Glossary – partial definition - Penitence is another way to describe repentance (or the process of change and growing beyond sins that limit your happiness). It comes as you **allow Christ to “succor” you through the power of the atonement**. Through penitence, **people do away with the darkness in their lives and add light instead**.

That succoring through the power of the atonement means: through your repentance, He helps you (through the power of His atonement) to make your weaknesses become strengths. Or to change your darkness to light. That’s repentance. That’s real healing. That’s real change.

Repentance is turning away from all other distractions (which amounts to the darkness in you, which holds you captive) to change to face the light, to face God.

To repent is to turn to Him. To turn to Him is to face Him, listen to Him, heed Him, and pay attention to what He is, says, and does. It is to seek to be in contact with Him. If one is in contact with Him, He will teach him or her all things he or she should do. “Constant contact between you and [God] can and will occupy your desires, thoughts, and deeds. But turning to face Him is left to you. He cannot enter where He is not invited.

So please invite Him and seek that constant contact between you and Him.

Another great example we can learn from is in Helaman Chapter 3 in the Covenant of Christ:

In [Helaman 3](#) CoC:

When Nephi got up from lamenting and praying to God because of the people’s wickedness, he saw a crowd had gathered. He asked them: Why have you come here? You want me to tell you about your iniquities? Is it because I’ve gotten on my tower in order to lament to God as I mourn over your terrible iniquities? Is it because of my mourning and lamentation you’ve come here and act surprised? Indeed, you should be surprised! You should be surprised by how you’ve surrendered to the accuser and given him complete control over your hearts. Why have you surrendered to the lies of someone who wants to drag your souls down to everlasting misery and endless suffering?

O repent, repent! Why are you determined to die? Turn back, turn back to the Lord who is God! Do you know why He's abandoned you? It's because you've hardened your hearts. Indeed, you ignore the Good Shepherd's voice. You've made Him angry at you. Therefore instead of gathering you, He'll exterminate you and feed dogs and scavengers with your carcasses, unless you repent. How could you turn your back on God in the very moment He saved you? It's because you want wealth, to be envied for your gold and silver.

You only value wealth and worldly things of no real value, and to get it you're willing to murder, rob, steal, and tell lies about your neighbor and do every kind of evil. Because of this, you're headed for misery and calamity unless you repent. If you don't repent, this great city and all the other great cities throughout our land will be lost, leaving you no place to live. Because the Lord won't protect you against your enemies, as He's done until now. **This is what the Lord says: I won't support the wicked with My protection for any one more than another, but I protect only those who repent of their sins and obey Me.**

I can tell you that His protection is more valuable than anything this world has to offer. Without His protection, you may end up with no place to live. To receive His protection we must repent, and obey Him. It's a small price to pay.

This is an example of how false and unsteady mankind's hearts are and shows that the Lord in His great infinite goodness blesses and prospers those who trust in Him. It shows how, at the very time He blesses His people with expanding crops, flocks, herds, gold, silver, and every kind of valuable, sparing their lives and rescuing them from the power of their enemies, softening the hearts of their enemies, so they don't start wars against them, and in short, doing everything for His people's well-being and happiness, that's when they harden their hearts, forget the Lord their God, and turn their backs on the Holy One.

*They do this because their lives are easy, comfortable, and prosperous. It shows us that unless the Lord disciplines His people using hardships, including the threats of death, terror, famine, and diseases, they forget Him. How foolish, vain, evil, and devilish are mankind; how quick to commit iniquity and slow to do good; how quick to follow the words of the Evil One and to set their hearts on the worthless things of the world; how quick to be prideful; how quick to brag and become evil; and how slow they are to remember the Lord who is God and to follow His counsel; indeed, how slow they are to let Wisdom guide them. They don't allow the Lord who is God, who created them, to rule and reign over them. **Despite His great goodness and His mercy toward them, they treat His advice as worthless and they refuse to let Him guide them.***

I think we must look pretty ungrateful right now, especially after everything He has done for us! We desperately need to stop defending our errors, our transgressions, and our iniquities. There is no defense. And we should know better.

I mean those who want to argue, to create uninspired definitions and unwise guidance and regulations for us all, those who want to smite each other, and even those that still want a different Guide and Standard or Statement of Principles.

In the:

[GUIDE AND STANDARD: the Statement of Principles:](#)

The Lord commanded us, I require a statement of principles to be adopted by the mutual agreement of my people, for if you cannot do so, you will be unable to accomplish other works that I will require at your hands. When you have an agreed statement of principles, I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow. Remember there are others who know nothing, as yet, of my work now underway, and therefore the guide and standard is to bless, to benefit and inform them.

[I require it to also be added as a guide and standard for my people to follow.]

JESUS CHRIST

*...The Lord admonished us, I descended below it all, and know the sorrows of you all, and have borne the grief of it all, and I say to you, **Forgive one another. Be tender with one another, pursue judgment, bless the oppressed, care for the orphan, and uplift the widow in her need, for I have redeemed you from being orphaned and taken you that you are no longer a widowed people. Rejoice in me, and rejoice with your brethren and sisters who are mine also.***

Be one. For you to unite I must admonish and instruct you, for my will is to have you love one another. It is not enough to say you love God; you must also love your fellow man. I have given to you my doctrine, and have also revealed teachings, commandments, precepts, and principles to guide you, and it is not meet that I command you in all things — reason together and apply what I have given you, and it will be enough...

*...**Love one another and you will be mine**, and I will preserve you, and raise you up, and abide with you for ever.*

God says, love one another and you will be mine. It's the first thing in the *Guide and Standard* under the heading of Jesus Christ. The next thing is the Doctrine of Jesus Christ, and next is the Law of Christ.

[From the Response from the Lord on the Statement of Principles](#)

I will accept the house and the road, that none of your labor be lost.

*I say to you that there is need for but **one house**, and **I accept the statement you have adopted and approve it as your statement to be added.***

Conditionally bringing up the *Guide and Standard*, wanting us to redo *the Guide and Standard* continually trying to un-adopt what we already adopted, that's not God's will that we do. He says right here that we only need one house. And He accepts the statement we have adopted and **He approves of it**, our statement to be added to scriptures.

...As I have said before, I say again, Love one another, (this is what He wants us to do!)

God says love one another, and you will be mine. It's the first thing in the ***Guide and Standard*** under the heading of ***Jesus Christ***. The next thing is the ***Doctrine of Jesus Christ***, and the next thing is the ***Law of Christ***.

The statement we adopted was approved by the Lord to be added to scripture.

The task was a test.

The ordeal with the Women's Council debacle was a test.

The Lord gives us tests for us to be able to see our faults and failings.

What we should learn from the test is to acknowledge that we aren't that good, and move forward with a desire to do better. Once that test is over, it's over.

A teacher does not give you a test, then once you fail the test, you don't get to take the exact same test you failed. The Lord instructs, He shows you where you went wrong. Then later He gives you another opportunity to prove to Him you've learned the lesson. The lesson here appears to be *to love each other*. And we haven't learned the lesson, apparently.

We failed that test once, He gave another opportunity, we failed it again, He provided more instruction, more time, then He provided another opportunity, and we failed again. I'm not sure how many strikes we get. But I think we are running out of time.

If we are lucky, there will be another test down the road. It won't be the same test rehashed. It's like in the Tenth Parable, the Missing Virtue, located in the [Ten Parables Book](#):

To recap the parable:

One day as the young man was leaving a courthouse in Salt Lake City, he was approached by a very young beggar. The beggar asked for money so that he might buy food. The young man said he had no money with him, which was true. However the young man did have money in his car which he did not offer to give.

As he walked away, the young man thought upon the beggar and was troubled that he gave nothing to him. The poor man seemed to be honest, even pure, though his clothing appeared tattered and worn. The contrast between the purity of the young beggar's face and the apparent decay of his clothing seemed odd. The young man determined he would return from

his car and give to the beggar. **When he returned the beggar was gone. Though the young man searched the area—then the block—then drove about for blocks searching—the beggar could not be found. The young man returned to his office.**

That evening as the young man was thinking of the beggar he recalled the beggar's face. He wondered if he was able to satisfy his need. For many months the young man would think of the beggar. **He found himself reflecting on the petition for aid and how he refused.**

[The young man knew he failed the test. He regretted his failure.]

He regretted not bringing the beggar with him to his car and thought it was wrong to refuse one in need. Some years later the young man taught a lesson from the Book of Mormon in which the sermon of King Benjamin was discussed. As teacher he asked, "How seriously should we take King Benjamin's instruction to give relief to the beggars?"

[The young man could not go back and find the beggar. Repentance is provided for just this kind of circumstance. The Lord provided instruction to the young man, in the form of having him teach others King Benjamin's sermon. Now he was ready for another test. The Lord will lead us in how we proceed to the next opportunity to prove ourselves. He teaches us and prepares us for the next test.]

It's up to us to do it differently, to do it better, to ultimately pass the test, or to repent because we failed to pass the test. We've had quite a few opportunities to repent. We need to know where we have failed. We need to understand what we need to do different next time to pass.

Stop the loop, cut the cord, repent, and Come unto to Christ and none else. Let's do better next time!

If you decide not to heed the message, this message, and change, turning your face fully towards Jesus Christ in full humility, contrition, and repentance... You're not going to hear back from me. I didn't give you the test. I can't save you. Only Jesus Christ can do that. And He's going to preach His own sermon!

I'm just obeying His commandment to me. I have tests as well. But when I know I'm failing, I repent, and He shows me how to do better. But I have to change. I'm the one who has to do better.

In the blogpost dated - 2010-05-18

[Most Answers are in the Scriptures](#)

When it comes to asking the Lord about something on which His teachings are already clear, a person risks receiving permission to do what will ultimately instruct them by sad example that they ought to have followed His earlier teachings. ... The "yes" was not because God had

changed His mind, but because we have simply refused to learn by anything other than sad experience to **respect God's counsel**.

We may need to learn by sad experience what we might have learned instead by precept and wisdom from the Lord. It is the kind of experience men and women repeat by **failing to follow God's counsel**. [Did we get that?]

If the answer is in the scriptures (and almost everything IS in there) and **we do not choose to find it, but to inquire for a new revelation instead, we oftentimes doom ourselves to a sad experience**.

So what is this experience saying about wisdom and what it really is, because I don't think we know. Because what I've seen everybody doing, is not in my view what needs to be done to develop wisdom. According to the information in this blogposts, **wisdom is following God's counsel**.

We can learn by following God's counsel, or we can learn by sad experience. **Why does wisdom have to be learned?** Well, because initially we don't heed God's counsel. We receive a sad experience and then we say, oh, well what happened there? That was very painful. I don't want to do that again. What do I need to do differently? Well, apparently I made the wrong decision. So if I can't make a good decision, maybe I can pray and ask the Lord to direct me on what I need to do?

And I've done that in my life quite a bit, after having so many instances of sad experience! It's learned, because well, we don't get it right the first time, so we keep trying and sometimes we might never get it right, unless we understand what wisdom really is.

We can learn by **following God's counsel**, or we can learn by **sad experience**. God knows everything. We don't! Is it not wisdom, to lean unto His understanding, instead of our own, since we don't know everything?

In the Blogpost - 2024-02-13 [Not Automatic](#)

Behold, **here is wisdom — yea, to be a seer, a revelator, a translator, and a prophet, having all the gifts of God.... In other words, to be able to hear the voice of the Shepard, and obey His counsels to further His work. That's what we are supposed to be doing!**

In [2 Nephi 6:9 CoC](#)

How crafty is the Evil One's plan! How vain, weak, and foolish are mankind! If they're educated, they think they're wise,

(So being educated is not synonymous with being wise. They make their own decisions, because they think they know better than God. As a result, their pretended wisdom is foolishness. It doesn't do them any good. So, they will perish!)

...and they don't follow God's counsel. They set it aside, thinking they know better themselves. As a result, their wisdom is foolishness, and doesn't benefit them, and they will perish. So being educated is not synonymous with being wise.

Education is only good if you follow God's counsels.

So what IS wisdom? It's following God's counsels.

In the blogpost, What of wisdom? - Recent events have demonstrated how little wisdom we have acquired....It's as if the outpouring of knowledge has left no measurable increase in our wisdom. **We are imbalanced, and cannot advance as a group if we neglect the need for developing wisdom.**

What's this saying? It's saying we need to learn how to follow God's counsels, **obey God's commandments to us personally**. If we do that, as group we should be able to do what God asks us to do, and still love each other.

Instead of developing these gifts, we've been wasting our time with other less important endeavors. So we had a test and apparently, **we failed** based on the talk "The Perfect Mousetrap."

From Denver's talk, "[*The Perfect Mousetrap*](#)":

I've read, (this is Denver) some of what people believe to be discussing their disagreements. Instead of identifying assumptions, and stating needs, people have used insults, demanded apologies for imagined offenses, employed emotional manipulation, and worn their self-justification on their countenances. Conversations go nowhere. No attempt is made to understand the other viewpoint. No questions are asked and emotional outbursts are hurled at the other side. When things like this happen, progress is impossible.

We should all realize that we may well misunderstand the other person and only they can help us. If we give them a chance we can learn that they are not irrational, not our opponent, and not preventing any of us from getting to Zion. The perfect mousetrap being developed for us has begun to catch us in its snare. But if we awake and arise, we can by-pass the trap and emerge stronger, more godly and more unified. It can be an opportunity to advance one heart, one mind, and unify our society. But that requires us to recognize the trap for what it is and what it has succeeded in accomplishing.

The Allegory of the Olive Tree includes these events that we may well see happen:

*Then the servants went ahead and worked hard, and **the lord of the vineyard also worked with them. And they obeyed the lord of the vineyard's direction in all things. And original fruit again grew in the vineyard, and the original branches began to grow and produce abundantly, and the wild branches began to be cut off and thrown away. And they kept the root and the top equal based on their strength.***

The key statement in that description of the final preparation of the vineyard for the harvest is the second sentence: And they obeyed the lord of the vineyard's direction in all things.

[They heeded the Lord's counsel. They were wise. Or they hearkened to the counsels of the Lord, or they displayed wisdom.]

His direction is to accomplish a good thing: restoring something original and valuable. To get there any branch that remains "**wild**" needs to be cut off and thrown away. What remains will be those whose **root and top are equal**.

Repentance, if it is not accompanied by contrition, a broken heart, and humility, it is ineffectual. The Lord requires a sacrifice of a broken heart and a contrite spirit. This is a sacrifice. A hard heart requires a hard break to penetrate the surface. The Lord can supply that, if necessary in the form of sad experiences.

Blogpost - August 1, 2010 titled [2 Nephi 28 :18 –19](#)

Notice the devil's tool that will be used in opposition to repentance :they will "be stirred up to anger, and perish." That is, **to harden hearts** and **to blind eyes**, anger will be **the most effective tool**.

Rather than being humbled by the fall of the great whore, **those who will continue to resist repentance will be angry for the losses**. They will lament the loss of what they held so dearly.

This then, is how the groups break down —For those who repent, the difficulties they encounter bring humility and contrition. For those who refuse to repent, they respond with anger at their trials.

This is the great watershed test. If your setbacks in life humble you, then your heart is soft and you **are a candidate for repentance**. If you become angry, accuse God of causing evil, and refuse to be comforted, **you are not a candidate for repentance**. Your anger is a tool used to blind you. The one employing the tool is the enemy to your soul.

It's much better if we repent in humility and contrition. We want to be a candidate for repentance.

I recently noticed something very interesting in the Covenant of Christ, when I was looking for a scripture on the "natural man." I couldn't find it. I had to find it in the *Book of Mormon* and cross reference it to the *Covenant of Christ*.

In the [Book of Mormon the Mosiah](#) scripture reads:

For the "natural man" is an enemy to God, and has been from the fall of Adam, and will be for ever and ever but if he yields to the enticings of the holy spirit, and putteth off the "natural man", and becometh a saint through the atonement of Christ the Lord, and becometh as a child: submissive, meek, humble, patient, full of love, willing to submit to all things which the Lord seeth fit to inflict upon him, even as a child doth submit to his father.

But in the *Covenant of Christ* it says this:

[Mosiah 1:16](#) CoC -

Men and women, in their natural state, are out of harmony with God and have been since the Fall of Adam. This disharmony will continue from eternity to eternity, unless they yield to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, abandon their fallen nature, and become holy through the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ. They should strive to become like a child, humble, meek, patient, and full of love, willing to accept everything that the Lord deems appropriate for them, as a child obeys their parents.

The Lord did not want to have us mistake the term "natural man," as to include only men. I think that would be easy to do. I thought that was a very interesting and timely update.

Well ladies there it is. In our **natural state**, men and women are out of harmony with God.

If we are out of harmony with God, is it wise to try to insert ourselves with our biased opinions, our pride, our vanity our errors our vitriol, in the affairs of God? I don't think that's wise at all.

This disharmony will continue from eternity to eternity, unless they yield to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, abandon their fallen nature, and become holy through the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ.

What does that look like? We should find out!

2014-08-14 [Talk 9 Marriage and Family Paper](#) page 10

Wait a little longer, until you shall have my word, my rock, my church, and my gospel, that you may know of a surety my doctrine. Then they were given the gifts, the endowment necessary in order to begin preaching, [or teaching.] Hyrum was told: "Seek not to declare my word, but

first seek to obtain my word, and then shall your tongue be loosed; then, if you desire, you shall have my Spirit and my word, yea, the power of God unto the convincing of men. Hyrum Smith was told by the Lord, do not go out and start preaching yet. This was what qualified them to know the truth of all things, and have the wisdom to impart it, so that they could persuade their children to believe in Christ.

Well this scripture tells us in the natural state we will stay on the cycle, the one circumnavigating the globe.

How do we ladies, abandon our fallen nature? That question is definitely something that should occupy our minds.

Blogpost June 12, 2010 titled [Alma 13 :12](#)

“Now they, after being sanctified by the Holy Ghost, having their garments made white, being pure and spotless before God, could not look upon sin save it were with abhorrence; and there were many, exceedingly great many, who were made pure and entered into the rest of the Lord their God.”

These people are “sanctified by the Holy Ghost” as a result of “having their garments made white.” They are “pure and spotless before God!”

This is the reason they can enter into His presence. He has accepted them because just like Him, they are without sin. They were not perfected by their own acts. The earlier reference to their repentance makes that clear. **They become pure and spotless before God because they have done what was asked of them to become clean. They have repented.**

Have we done that? Have we done what was asked of us to become clean? Have we repented to that degree?

As they gain greater truth and light they see things how they really are. Right and wrong are seen differently. What once was “right” is now wrong as greater light and truth is received. What was once “wrong” is now seen clearly, without all the errors of understanding held before.

The spotlessness is because their heart is right. **They want to please their Lord. They want to be like Him. Sin is not tempting because it is contrary to Him whom they love.**

The abhorrence they feel at sin is not within them. It is not the temptations they struggle against. That is not the meaning at all. It is what they see all about them. The lost souls are the object of their compassion and care.

They want to have others redeemed and saved from this lost and fallen world. The fruit they tasted is something they desire to share. They want many, an exceeding many, to share with them in the **hope that can be won by repentance**.

Sadly, only a few will listen. That won't detract from the power of the message delivered by those who are after the holy order of the Son of God, for their words can save any who will listen.

Melchizedek's city, they were all in iniquity. How did they get gathered? How did they escape judgement? **They repented.**

In [Alma 10:2](#) CoC - Now Melchizedek was ruler and teacher over the land of Salem. And **his people had relapsed into iniquity and abominations; indeed, they had all gone astray and were involved in all kinds of wickedness.** But Melchizedek was a faithful, godly man ordained to the office of the High Priesthood according to the Holy Order of God, **who preached repentance to his people. And they repented.**

*Now when Alma had said these words to them, he stretched out his hand to them and loudly proclaimed: Now is the time to repent, **because the day of salvation is approaching.** And the Lord's voice, sent through angels, is declaring it to all nations, so they can hear this good news of great joy....*

*...Now, my people, I plead with all my heart, with painful anxiety, that you listen to my words and abandon your sins and not delay the day you repent. Please humble yourselves before the Lord, call upon His holy name, and watch and pray continually, so you aren't tempted more than you can resist. Then you can be led by the Holy Spirit, becoming **humble, meek, submissive, patient, full of love and all long-suffering.***

*I ask you to have faith in the Lord, and hope to receive eternal life, and **have God's love always in your hearts,** so you can be lifted up on the last day and enter His rest. **And may the Lord acknowledge your repentance, so you don't experience His wrath upon you, and you avoid the chains of hell, so you don't suffer the second death.***

And when we repent, we don't repent out of one side of our mouth, and then continue the battle out of the other side of our mouth.

We can't just say I repent, but... With repentance there is forgiveness, to forgive and forget. Not say I forgive, but... and then begin describing how we are right, and how it should be done our way.

Have we really forgiven each other, if we continue to wage war against each other?

[Contention](#) in the Glossary RE – Partial Definition

The more contention and disputation there is with one another, the better the people become at contention. Rhetorical skills are polished. That spirit [**an evil spirit**] of contention can take possession, and when it does, one is hard-pressed to be a peacemaker with others.

But peace should not be made at the cost of truth.

Truth must be the only goal. Truth, however, belongs to God. Desires, appetites, and passions are prone to make people stray well beyond the bounds set by God. Therefore, when pride is gratified, one should question if truth is being advanced.

When one's ambition is served, he or she should question if he or she is in the Lord's employ or his own. When someone insists upon control, one should question if he or she is like the Lord or, instead, like His adversary.

When one uses any means for compelling others, one should wonder if he or she is mocking the God who makes the sun to shine and rain to fall on all His fallen children without compulsion.

When one displays unrighteous dominion, he or she should question whether he or she is worthy of any dominion at all. Our tools must be limited to **persuasion, gentleness, meekness, love unfeigned, and pure knowledge, with all of them marshaled "without compulsory means" to persuade others to accept the truth.**

[In the May 1840 edition](#) of the Times and Seasons a letter which had been written by Joseph Smith while he was imprisoned in Missouri during the Mormon War was published which included, in part, the following:

...be aware of an aspiring spirit, which has frequently urged men and women forward to make foul speeches and beget an undue influence in the minds of the saints and bring much sorrow and distress in the church; we would likewise say be aware of pride, for truly hath the wise man said "pride goeth before destruction and an haughty spirit before a fall;" outward appearance is not always a criterion for us to judge our fellow man by, but **the lips frequently betray the haughty and overbearing mind,**

(Ladies) **flattery also, is a deadly poison;**

...a frank and open rebuke, provoketh a good man or woman to emulation, and in the hour of trouble he will be your best friend, but rebuke a wicked man or woman and you will soon see manifest, all the corruption of a wicked heart, the poison of asps is under their tongue, and they cast the saints in prison that their deeds be not reprov'd.

From [Forgiveness](#) in the Glossary RE - Christ taught His followers to forgive so that they may, in turn, merit forgiveness. He said: For if you forgive men their trespasses who trespass against you, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Heavenly Father forgive you your trespasses.

Christ taught that there is atonement power in forgiving others. As a result of the things He suffered, He understood that men and women must forgive others in order to be able to obtain forgiveness. There are many things men and women do in which they lack the capacity to make amends. Isn't that true, sometimes we just cannot make amends.

The price they must pay for their own transgressions is paid by forgiving all others of their offenses.

2007-10-31 *Eighteen Verses*

Chapter 9: PROSPERING IN THE LAND, paragraph 42 (approx. page 177)

There is also a relationship between our repentance, and removing the Lord's condemnation. What may appear hopeless at one point, becomes hopeful **after repentance**. Take the example of Jonah who went to the citizens of Nineveh and "he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown."

Their condemnation was apparently sure. But it was subsequently affected by their behavior. They repented in **sackcloth and ashes** and when they did, "God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not." Not only was the past no promise of the future, **neither was the Lord's initial judgment an irrevocable decree divorced from their repentance**.

In [Enos 1:5](#) CoC - *The Nephites tilled the ground and raised all kinds of grain and fruit, and large herds — cattle of every kind, goats, wild goats, and many horses. And we had a great many prophets, **but the people were stubborn and hard to persuade**.*

*Nothing kept them from destruction except for blunt and unequivocal language preaching and prophesying about wars, conflicts, and destruction, and constantly reminding them of death and the length of eternity and God's judgments and power — all this continually threatening them to **keep them in the fear of the Lord — I say there was nothing except for unmistakable blunt language that could keep them from quickly being destroyed**. This is how I would describe them. I personally experienced wars between the Nephites and Lamanites during my life.*

The [Covenant of Christ](#) was updated to our modern language by the hand of God, so **that we could learn from their mistakes**. We have no excuses!

It's our choice, we can choose. How many times do we have to be warned? How many times do we have to be chastened? How many sad experiences do we have to go through? How many times do we have to fail to let wisdom guide us?

There are so many applicable scriptures that can help us to learn how to do better. I wish we would consult scriptures and the Lord instead of leaning to our own understanding, which is unwise and perilous.

I have no anger or guile in my heart whatsoever in bringing these things to your attention, I am concerned if you don't stop it, you will be destroyed, **because among other things, you are not keeping the covenant**. What's more important to us, our own vanity and pride, or the salvation of our souls? We are selfish. And we need to get over ourselves. **This is the Lord's work. If He is not commanding you, you should be waiting at the pass. Not rushing ahead. Be still. Be patient. Not jumping around in a panic, creating havoc at every turn.**

The following is coming to a theatre near you, and I believe soon!

[3 Nephi 3](#): 4-7 CoC- *And it came to pass that there was thick darkness upon the face of all the land, insomuch that the inhabitants thereof who had not fallen could feel the vapor of darkness....*

And it came to pass that it did last for the space of three days that there was no light seen; and there was great mourning, and howling, and weeping among all the people continually, yea, great were the groanings of the people because of the darkness and the great destruction which had come upon them.

*And in one place they were heard to cry, saying, **Oh that we had repented before this great and terrible day, and then would our brethren have been spared, and they would not have been burned in that great city Zarahemla.***

*And in another place they were heard to cry and mourn, saying, **Oh that we had repented before this great and terrible day and had not killed and stoned the prophets and cast them out, then would our mothers, and our fair daughters, and our children have been spared and not have been buried up in that great city Moronihah. And thus were the howlings of the people great and terrible.***

*And it came to pass that there was a voice heard among all the inhabitants of the earth upon all the face of this land, crying, Woe, woe, woe unto this people. Woe unto the inhabitants of the whole earth **except they shall repent**, for the Devil laugheth and his angels rejoice because of*

the slain of the fair sons and daughters of my people; and it is because of their iniquity and abominations that they are fallen.

O all ye that are spared because ye were more righteous than they, will ye not now return unto me, and repent of your sins, and be converted, that I may heal you? Yea, verily I say unto you, if ye will come unto me, ye shall have eternal life. Behold, mine arm of mercy is extended towards you, and whosoever will come, him [or her] will I receive; and blessed are those who come unto me [Jesus Christ.]

*And ye shall offer up unto me no more the shedding of blood, yea, your sacrifices and your burnt offerings shall be done away, for **I will accept none of your sacrifices and your burnt offerings; and ye shall offer for a sacrifice unto me a broken heart and a contrite spirit.** Behold, I have come unto the world to bring redemption unto the world, to save the world from sin.*

Therefore, whoso repenteth and cometh unto me as a little child, him will I receive, for of such is the kingdom of God. Behold, for such I have laid down my life and have taken it up again; therefore, ***repent and come unto me ye ends of the earth and be saved.***

[1 Nephi 3:26](#) CoC - **Then the Angel told me: You've seen that if the Gentiles repent, it will turn out well for them.** You also know about the Lord's covenants with the house of Israel. And you've also heard that **whoever doesn't repent must perish.**

*As a result, if the Gentiles harden their hearts against the Lamb of God, **I will afflict them.** Because the time will come, says the Lamb of God, **when I'll bring about a great and awe-inspiring work among mankind, one that will be everlasting — one way or the other — either to convince them, resulting in peace and life eternal; or to give them up to their hard hearts and blind minds, bringing about their slavery and temporal and spiritual destruction, under the accuser's enslavement** which I've spoken about.*

In the talk, [God's Covenant People](#):

We were warned in the covenant He made with us: But if you do not honor me, nor seek to recover my people Israel, nor teach your children to honor me, nor care for the poor among you, nor help lighten one another's burdens, **then you have no promise from me and I will raise up other people who will honor and serve me, and give unto them this land, ...if they repent, I will abide with them.**

This warning serves as a reminder that we are expected to obey and contribute to furthering the Lord's work. He will help. He will labor beside us as the Allegory of the Olive Tree states in [Jacob 3:27](#): **Then the servants went ahead and worked hard, and the lord of the vineyard also worked with them. And they obeyed the lord of the vineyard's direction in all things, [they were wise]. This is the prophecy.** But it will not be fulfilled by lazy servants who will not "work

hard and obey the [Lord's] direction in all things. If you do not want other people to replace you, then you must be obedient [to the Lord].

In the Blogpost dated - July 6, 2010 [1 Nephi 14:5](#)

And it came to pass that the angel spake unto me, Nephi, saying :Thou hast beheld that if the Gentiles **repent** it shall be well with them; **and thou also knowest concerning the covenants of the Lord unto the house of Israel; and thou also hast heard that whoso repenteth not must perish.**

Nephi's angel-minister reminds Nephi of two different thoughts : There are covenants with the house of Israel. So they will be remembered. **Whoever repents will find things will be well.**

Nephi was told :“thou also knowest concerning the covenants of the Lord unto the house of Israel; **and thou also hast heard that whoso repenteth not must perish.** The result is that even though the gentiles are not given a covenant status, they are nonetheless included within the promise that **it is well with whoever should repent. Accordingly, if they will repent, the gentiles will not perish but will have eternal life.**

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who declare that God reigneth and will deliver His people. How merciful it is that **the Lord God will accept all those as His people who will repent and come unto Him.**

Turn away, all you Gentiles, from your wicked ways and repent of your evil deeds, your lying and deceiving, your whoredoms, your secret abominations and idolatrous ways, your murders, priestcrafts, envying, and strife, and from all your wickedness and abominations, and come to Me and be baptized in My name, so you can receive a remission of your sins and receive the Holy Ghost, so you can be included with My people of the house of Israel.

You shall thank the Lord your God in all things. You shall ***offer a sacrifice unto the Lord your God in righteousness, even that of a broken heart and a contrite spirit.***

What is righteousness? Who is righteous? The righteous will be gathered.

I came across this definition of righteousness in [the 2nd Edition of Glossary Terms book](#), not by accident I don't think.

We desperately need to know this. This gives us hope!

...Righteousness can be defined in the most simple terms as **hearing the voice of the Shepherd, the voice of the Son – hearing that voice, heeding it, and repenting, no matter where that voice comes from.**

Question - Who is righteous? Answer - **Anyone who is repenting.**

No matter how bad [she] has been, if [she] is repenting, [she] is a righteous [woman]. There is hope for [her].

And no matter how good [she] has been all [her] life, if [she] is not repenting, [she] is a wicked [woman].

The difference is which way you are facing. The [woman] on the top of the stairs facing down is much worse off than the [woman] on the bottom step who is facing up.

The direction we are facing, that is repentance; and that is what determines whether we are good or bad.

“The gospel of repentance is a constant reminder that the most righteous are still being tested and may yet fall, and that the most wicked are not yet beyond redemption and may still be saved.

And that is what God wants: Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? There are poles for all to see, but in this life no one has reached, and few have ever approached either pole, and no one has any idea at what point between her neighbor stands. Only God knows that.”

“An extremely important lesson [is] driven home repeatedly in the Book of Mormon/Covenant of Christ, that righteousness does not consist of being identified with this or that nation, party, church, or **group**.

When you find a particularly wicked society in the story, look back a few pages and you will probably find that not many years before those same people were counted righteous. Or, when you find a particular godless and ferocious lot of Lamanites, if you look a few pages ahead you may find them among the most blessed and favored of God’s people.”

...However the **self-righteous** fail to realize that **self-righteousness is a lie, a mirage and utterly untrue**.

“How odd it is that the **self-proclaimed ‘righteous’ are almost without exception those who are the most wicked, fallen, abominable and proud**.

You rarely encounter a corrupt group in the Book of Mormon/Covenant of Christ who are not also quite involved in a **false religion... which frequently teach that the followers are righteous and highly favored of God.**”

The title of this blogpost or video is **Repentance Heals**. I hope I have found enough in the scriptures and words from the Lord to support that truth.

In my own experience: Repentance in my view, is essentially a darkness eraser. Our repentance helps us to let go of old bad habits (darkness), unfruitful traditions (darkness), mortal weaknesses (darkness), incorrect understanding, or error (darkness), and it allows us to change, repentance allows us to change - and fully face our Lord, acknowledging we are willing unto come unto Him and receive His spirit to show us how to become just like He is. He heals through His atonement and His great love and compassion for us.

I am always ready to repent and forgive. Doing so has always benefited me. It has brought me peace, which is a sparse commodity in our day.

Repentance is to yield to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, **Repentance does strengthen us to abandon our fallen nature**, and **Repentance will allow the Lord to guide us to become holy through His atonement.**

Repentance through the power of the atonement rehabilitates us from our carnal, fallen state. It's the only way we can hope to overcome the world, Babylon.

Repentance changes our natures from the inside, not just a temporary outward change in our behaviors, but a real true enduring change. It's not just pretense. It is becoming something different, no longer motivated by lust and carnal desires. A new creature in Christ.

We all should value repentance as one of the most important, effective, and essential ways to become fit for our salvation and eternal life. That's a huge understatement, but I don't have the words to describe my utter reliance on this precious gift from our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. He gave everything for us. **Repentance is a minute requirement for us to give to become benefactors of our Savior's tutelage and advocacy.**

I testify to the truthfulness, the validity and utter urgency, necessity, and importance of this message of Repentance.

I sincerely repent to my Lord Jesus Christ of any instance, where I have displeased Him. I ask all of my fellow Covenant Christian's to forgive me for anything I've done, that has not been satisfactory in His eyes. I am available to engage with anyone who desires to reason with me.

Reasoning requires all parties to see with our eyes, hear with our ears, and understand with our hearts and minds. It requires study and prayer. It requires revelation (wisdom). It requires spiritual maturity, love, kindness, maybe some long suffering and definitely a lot of patience.

Our love for each other should never be sacrificed because of a difference of opinion. I

wonder if the reason that some people have not engaged and people have retreated from the conversation is because it's hard to undo a failed test. The Lord got His answer by proving us. We haven't learned from our failures. We haven't developed the very sparse gift of wisdom, to abide by God's counsel to us.

There's no productivity in pointing fingers. We can't look at the other side and say you're all wrong. We have to take responsibility collectively for finding out what went wrong and what should have we done differently. **We have been taught, none of us are right, none of us are good.** So name calling and unhealthy judgements of each other will not help us to yield good fruit.

Remember there may be another test coming. Or at least the Lord will give us credit for acknowledging and repenting of failing the tests we've had in the past.

We are continually being chastened because we don't know how to reason with each other.

Reasoning just means to find the reason. What are the main points of our differences? What reasons do we take different viewpoints?

Reasoning with each other helps us to understand the root causes of our differences. What is the reason we can't communicate and come to an understanding of our various differing viewpoints.

Can we not find commonalities in our fellowships? Can we not discuss things one on one and come to an understanding as to our differences? I know it's very difficult to do on online venues. Call the other person. Come to an understanding together one on one, if you must.

To come together, if not in full agreement, in mutual understanding. That's reasoning. To find the reason we differ. Not to force our ways upon each other. Then we can walk our ways in love and respect, continuing in good faith and fellowship.

Put it on the shelf. Let it sit until the Lord instructs us and we've learned new truths that can show how both viewpoints can intersect. We really have no idea what the future is going to look like.

Where one person looks at an issue in a Terrestrial way, the other person may look at it in a Celestial way. Hopefully, no one is looking at it in a Telestial way, at this point. If we are not living the same law, we can't expect to have the same viewpoints.

There will be people living Terrestrial and Celestial laws going forward. Only the Lord can help us successfully navigate the differences the future will hold. So none of us are right, because none of us have that information, as of yet anyway.

I think we are missing opportunities to learn from each other how to develop gifts, such as the gift of wisdom, the gift of charity. How have we learned to receive revelation from the Lord? How do we receive the constant gift of the Holy Ghost? Why is it important we receive it? How does it come into play with regard to Salvation and Eternal Life. What ways can we exhibit

service and compassion for our fellow Covenant Christians? How have we been successful teaching our families truth?

My email address is located on my blogsite Desiretoservegod.wordpress.com, in the About section. I welcome engagement. I look forward to reuniting with all those who can attend the upcoming St. George Conference in April. May God Bless You All!

When God's servants met in the wilderness on their way to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, they were overjoyed, they rejoiced in seeing each other. We need to meet each other with jubilation and rejoicing, big hugs, and salutations of love and kindness, having desperately missed each other in our absence.

This is not an attempt to bring any notice to myself. I am putting into words what the Lord has given me to deliver. It's only an attempt to persuade.

I love you all and I pray you heed His warning. May God bless all of us!

I'll be praying for us! Wouldn't it be nice if we all prayed for each other, even those we may not be able to understand or may not love that much. Practicing love for those we don't love that much, or we may not even like will help us to develop the understanding to see them as God sees them. And that will help us to eventually become fit to receive the gift of Charity, which we all need!

My hopes are that you will embrace this message and act upon it, and fight Satan with all of your might, because he wants your soul, and he wants it now, don't give it to him.

I cry this message in the Holy Name of Jesus Christ, my Great Redeemer!

Amen Lord, Thank You for continuing to work with us, your Covenant Christians!

Thank you so much for joining me! God Bless!