

#5: "Two Ways: Good/Evil, Light/Dark"

Monte F. Shelley, 14 Feb 2010

Two Ways: Good or Evil (Moses 1–8)	
1	Moses: worship God or Satan (HEB <i>adversary, opponent</i>)
2	God created things to act and things to be acted upon (2 Ne 2:14)
3	Opposition: good/evil, bitter/sweet, tree of Life or Knowledge
4	Moral Agency: Satan tempts Eve, transgression → mortality
5	Way of life (worship God) or death (worship Satan; Cainites)
6	Sons of God, from Seth (Sethites) to Enoch, worship God
7	Fruits of wickedness; Fruits of righteousness; Christ's mission
8	Methuselah, Noah; destruction of wicked decreed

1. Gift of agency to Adam and Eve

In the Garden of Eden, gave I unto man his agency; (Moses 7:32)

Free= aware of choices ("of every tree ... thou mayest eat")

Agency=power to act or carry out choice (body, access to trees)

- "Free agency" is not found in the scriptures.
- "That every man my act ... according to the *moral agency* which I have given unto him." (D&C 101:78)

Moral= choose between good and evil (commandment, law)

2. Why is Satan essential to our agency? (Moses 4)

The devil ... rebelled against me, saying, Give me thine honor, which is my power; and also a third part ... turned he away from me because of their agency; And they were thrust down, ... And it must needs be that the devil should tempt the children of men, or they could not be agents unto themselves; (D&C 29:36–39)

^{4:3-4} Satan ... sought to destroy the agency of man. ... He became Satan [*adversary*], yea, even the devil [*slanderer*], the father of all lies, to deceive and to blind men, and to lead them captive at his will, even as many as would not hearken unto my voice.

⁶ Satan ... sought also to beguile Eve, for he knew not the mind of God, wherefore he sought to destroy the world.

Lies: (1) You will not die (immediately), (2) God does not want you to be like him, and (3) your eyes will be opened and you will (begin to be) be as gods (HEB *elohim*). Therefore, disobedience is the only way to become like God.

Why did God ask, Where goest (art) thou?

¹³ [Their] eyes ... were opened, and they knew that they had been naked. And they sewed fig-leaves together and made themselves aprons. ... ¹⁶ [Adam] said, I heard thy voice ... and I was afraid, because I beheld that I was naked; and I hid myself. ¹⁷ ... God said ... Who told thee thou wast naked?

The devil tempted Adam, and he partook of the forbidden fruit and transgressed the commandment, wherein he became subject to the will of the devil, because he yielded unto temptation. (D&C 29:40)

¹⁸ [Adam]: The woman thou gavest me, and commandest that she should remain with me, she gave me of the fruit ... and I did eat. ... ¹⁹ [Eve]: The serpent beguiled [NIV deceived] me, and I did eat.

3. How is this story of temptation relevant to us?

God ... hath made manifest unto you our imperfections, that ye may learn to be more wise than we have been. (Morm 9:31)

4. Consequences of the Fall

⁴¹ I, the Lord God, caused that [Adam] should be cast out from the Garden of Eden, from my presence, because of his transgression, wherein he became spiritually dead, which is the first death. ... ⁴² But, ... [I] gave unto Adam ... that they should not die as to the temporal death, until I ... should send forth angels to declare unto them repentance and redemption, through faith on the name of mine Only Begotten Son. (D&C 29:41–42)

As gods	As devils
Know good from evil	Carnal, sensual, devilish by nature
Agency to act as one wills	Temptation, subject to will of devil
Able to have children	Spiritual and physical death

Satan: ²¹ I will put enmity between thee and the woman, between thy seed and her seed; and he shall bruise [HEB crush, or grind] thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Eve: ²² In sorrow [NIV pain] thou shalt bring forth children, and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule [preside] over thee.

Adam: ²³ Cursed shall be the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. HEB pain, toil [labor], grieve

Coats of skin: ²⁷ Unto Adam, and ... his wife, did I, the Lord God, make coats of skins, and clothed them. OR garments or tunics

Some ancient traditions say these garments were made of *sheepskin* and God himself showed them how *animal sacrifice* was to be performed. The coats or garments of skin are a token of death and a promise of life.

Endow, endue: to invest, to clothe; to furnish with a gift

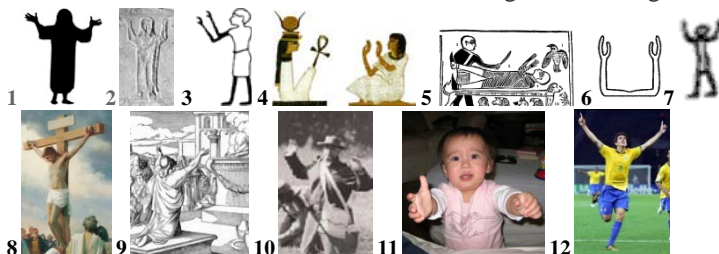
5. Adam and Eve in the lone and dreary world (Moses 5)

Obedience: ¹ Adam began to till the earth ... and to eat his bread by the sweat of his brow, as I the Lord had commanded him. And Eve ... did labor with him ... ² and she bare ... sons and daughters, and they began to multiply and to replenish the earth.

Duties: be fruitful, multiply, replenish (fill) the earth and subdue (cultivate) it (2:28); dress (till, cultivate, serve) and keep (tend, take care of, preserve) the garden (3:15)

Prayer: ⁴ Adam and Eve, his wife, called upon the name of the Lord, and they heard the voice of the Lord.

Ancient sources often say Adam prayed with uplifted hands. Solomon "spread forth his hands toward heaven" and prayed "before the altar of the Lord" while standing and kneeling.



1-2: Orant/s; 3-5: *dua* or *tua*; 4: ☩ = *ankh*; 6: *ka*; 7: *qa*; 9: Solomon

Nibley: "That magnificent gesture" of raising both hands high above the head with which those in the [ancient] prayer circle began their prayer was ... a natural gesture ... of *supplication* and *submission*. It was ... a conscious *imitation of the crucifixion*. ... The Lord on the cross called upon the Father. ... It recalls the cry of distress of David ...: "Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth." (Ps 54:2)

In the school of the prophets, one report mentions "silent prayer, kneeling, with our hands uplifted." In 1898 an apostle said, "it is not always necessary to raise the hands to bless the bread or water ... [or] in opening or closing a meeting."

Several Maori leaders told their people how to recognize the true church. In 1830, "one shall stand and raise both hands to heaven." In 1880, "its ministers go two by two; when they pray they raise their hands. They ... will dine, live, talk, and sleep with you." In 1881, "its missionaries will travel in pairs. They will visit with us in our homes ... [and] learn our language. ... When they pray they will raise their right hands."

Sacrifice: ⁵ He gave unto them commandments, that they should worship the Lord their God, and should offer the firstlings of their flocks ... unto the Lord. And Adam was obedient.

⁶ And after many days an angel of the Lord appeared unto Adam, saying: Why dost thou offer sacrifices unto the Lord? And Adam said unto him: I know not, save the Lord commanded me.

⁷ And then the angel ... [said]: This thing is a similitude of the sacrifice of the Only Begotten of the Father. ... ⁸ Wherefore, thou shalt do all that thou doest in the name of the Son, and thou shalt repent and call upon God in the name of the Son forevermore.

Baptism: ^{6:52} [God] said ...: If thou wilt turn unto me, ... hearken unto my voice, and believe, and repent ..., and be baptized ... in the name of ... Jesus Christ, ... ye shall receive ... the Holy Ghost. ... ⁵³ Adam ... said: Why ... must [men] repent and be baptized ...? The Lord said ...: I have forgiven thee thy transgression in the Garden of Eden. ⁵⁴ Hence came the saying ... that the Son of God hath atoned for original guilt, wherein the sins of the parents cannot be answered upon the heads of the children. ... ⁶⁴ Adam ... was caught away by the Spirit ..., and was carried down into the water, ... ⁶⁵ and the Spirit of God descended upon him, and thus he was born of the Spirit, and became quickened in the inner man.

Holy Ghost: ^{5:9} The Holy Ghost fell upon Adam ... saying: I am the Only Begotten of the Father ... as thou hast fallen thou mayest be redeemed, and all mankind, even as many as will.

¹⁰ Adam blessed God ... saying: Blessed be the name of God, for because of my transgression my eyes are opened, and in this life I shall have joy, and again in the flesh I shall see God. ¹¹ And Eve ... heard all these things and was glad, saying: Were it not for our transgression we never should have had seed, and never should have known good and evil, and the joy of our redemption, and the eternal life which God giveth unto all the obedient.

6. The children of Adam and Eve

If Adam had not transgressed... they would have had no children; ... no joy, for they knew no misery. ... Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy. (2 Ne. 2:22-25)

³ The sons and daughters of Adam began to divide two and two ... and to till the land, and to tend flocks, and they also begat sons and daughters. ... ¹² Adam and Eve ... made all things known unto their sons and their daughters. ¹³ Satan came among them, saying: I am also a son of God; and he commanded them, saying: Believe it not; and they believed it not, and they loved Satan more than God. And men began ... to be carnal, sensual, and devilish.

¹⁴ The Lord God called upon men by the Holy Ghost ... and commanded them that they should repent; ... ¹⁶ Eve ... bare Cain, and said: I have gotten a man from the Lord; wherefore he may not reject his words. But behold, Cain hearkened not, saying: Who is the Lord that I should know him? ... ²⁷ And Adam and his wife mourned ... because of Cain and his brethren.

Elder Nelson: Men are that they might have joy—not guilt trips!

7. Transgressions of Adam and Cain

Adam's transgression	Cain's transgression
Loved God	Loved Satan
Command: not eat fruit or die	Command: offer animal sacrifice
Satan enticed him to eat	Satan enticed him to offer crops
Ate fruit	Offered crops; not accepted
Shame, hide, fig leaf aprons	Cain was angry; Satan pleased
Justify and admit	Did nothing wrong; God is wrong
God invited to repent (obey)	God invited to repent, or else ...
Called upon and obeyed God	Listened not any more to Lord
Labored to bear fruit	Secrecy oath; murder to get gain

8. Cain's Sin

²⁸ Cain took one of his brothers' daughters to wife, and they loved Satan more than God.

Better to rule in hell, than to be ruled in heaven! (Milton)

Secrecy Oath: ²⁹ Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me by thy throat, ... and swear thy brethren by their heads, and by the living God, that they tell it not; for if they tell it, they shall surely die; and this that thy father may not know it; and this day I will deliver thy brother Abel into thine hands.

³¹ Cain said: Truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret, that I may murder and get gain. Wherefore Cain was called Master Mahan, and he gloried in his wickedness. ³² ... Cain rose up against Abel, his brother, and slew him. ³³ And Cain gloried in that which he had done, saying: I am free; surely the flocks of my brother falleth into my hands.

Denial: ³⁴ The Lord said unto Cain: Where is Abel, thy brother? And he said: I know not. Am I my brother's keeper?

HEB keep, watch, preserve, guard (prison keeper, zookeeper)

Curse: ³⁷ When thou tillest the ground it shall not ... yield unto thee her strength. A fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be.

Excuse: ³⁸ Cain said ...: Satan tempted me because of my brother's flocks. And I was wroth also; for his offering thou didst accept and not mine. ... ³⁹ From thy face shall I be hid; and ... he that findeth me will slay me, because of mine iniquities.

Protection: ⁴⁰ The Lord said ...: Whosoever slayeth thee, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And I the Lord set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

"Cain ... aimed to procure every thing that was for his own bodily pleasure, though it obliged him to be injurious to his neighbors. He ... [got] much wealth, by rapine and violence; he excited his acquaintance to procure pleasures and spoils by robbery, and became a great leader of men. ... The posterity of Cain became ... more wicked. ... They were intolerable in war, and vehement in robberies; and if any one were slow to murder people, yet was he bold in his profligate behavior, in acting unjustly, and doing injuries for gain." (Josephus)

Cain and his descendants became metalworkers, keepers of cattle, and musicians. They used their skills to build weapons and instruments to kill, steal, or lead people astray.

9. Charity is the pure love of Christ (Moro 7:45; 1 Cor 13)

Let thy bowels also be full of charity towards all men ... and let virtue garnish thy thoughts unceasingly; then shall thy confidence wax strong in the presence of God; and ... (D&C 121:45)

charity suffereth long, and is kind, and envieth not, ^{KJV} vaunteth not itself and is not puffed up, ^{KJV} not behave ... unseemly seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, and rejoiceth not in iniquity ...

patient {impatient; not put up with}
kind {unkind}
jealous, envy (ill-will) {content}
boastful
proud {humble}
rude (uncivilized, discourteous)
demand own way {welfare of Zion}
angered, irritable {calm/peaceful}
keeps no record/score of wrongs

10. Lamech's Sin

⁴⁹ Lamech ... entered into a covenant with Satan ... wherein he became Master Mahan, master of that great secret... and Irad, the son of Enoch, having known their secret, began to reveal it unto the sons of Adam; ⁵⁰ Wherefore Lamech, being angry, ... slew

him for the oath's sake.⁵¹ For, from the days of Cain, there was a secret combination, and their works were in the dark, and they knew every man his brother.

⁵³ Among the daughters of men these things were not spoken, because that Lamech had spoken the secret unto his wives, and they rebelled against him, and declared these things abroad, and had not compassion;⁵⁴ Wherefore Lamech was despised, and cast out, and came not among the sons of men, lest he should die.

11. Seth and his descendants (Moses 6)

^{6:10} Adam ... begat a son in his own likeness, after his own image, and called his name Seth.^{6:2} ... for he said: God hath appointed me another seed, instead of Abel. ...³ And God revealed himself unto Seth, and he rebelled not, but offered an acceptable sacrifice, like unto his brother Abel. ...

- Cain; **Enoch** (city of Enoch); Irad (revealed secret); Mahujael; Methusael; **Lamech** (killed Irad for telling); Jabal, Jubal, Tubal Cain, and Naamah (sister)
- Seth; Enos; Cainan; Mahalaleel; Jared; **Enoch** (city of Enoch); Methuselah; **Lamech**; Noah (Gabriel *TPJS* 157–8)

Nibley: *Cainites* were “dedicated to following Satan, ... lived in a fertile country ... far distant from Eden, and ... devoted ... to all the pleasures of the flesh and all manner of immorality.” *Sethites* “dwelt in the mountains near the Garden, were faithful to the divine law, and bore the names of the Sons of God.”

12. Wickedness prevailed

^{6:15} The children of men were numerous. And in those days, Satan had great dominion among men, and raged in their hearts; and from thenceforth came wars and bloodshed; and a man's hand was against his own brother, in administering death, because of secret works, seeking for power.

13. Enoch's mission call

²⁷ [Enoch] heard a voice from heaven, saying: Enoch, my son, prophesy unto this people, and say unto them—Repent ...²⁹ and a hell I have prepared for them, if they repent not;

³¹ Enoch ... [said]: Why is it that I have found favor in thy sight, and am but a lad, and all the people hate me; for I am slow of speech; wherefore am I thy servant?

Endowed:³² The Lord said ... do as I have commanded thee, and no man shall pierce thee. Open thy mouth, and it shall be filled, and I will give thee utterance. ...³⁴ My Spirit is upon you, ... and the mountains shall flee ... and the rivers shall turn from their course; ...³⁵ Anoint thine eyes with clay, and wash them, and thou shalt see. ...³⁶ He beheld the spirits that God had created; and ... things ... not visible to the natural eye; and ... [then] came the saying ...: A seer hath the Lord raised up unto his people.

Preaches Gospel:⁵⁷ All men ... must repent, or they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God, for no unclean thing can dwell there, or dwell in his presence; ...⁵⁹ By reason of transgression cometh the fall, which fall bringeth death, and inasmuch as ye were born into the world by water, and blood, and the spirit, ... even so ye must be born again into the kingdom of heaven, of water, and of the Spirit, and be cleansed by blood, even the blood of mine Only Begotten; that ye might be sanctified from all sin, and enjoy the words of eternal life in this world, and eternal life in the world to come, even immortal glory;⁶⁰ For by the water ye keep the commandment; by the Spirit ye are justified, and by the blood ye are sanctified;

14. Enoch's Vision (Moses 7)

^{7:2} I was journeying, and stood upon the place Mahujah, and cried unto the Lord, there came a voice out of heaven, saying—Turn ye, and get ye upon the mount Simeon.³ ... I turned and went up on the mount; and ... I beheld the heavens open, and I was clothed upon with glory;⁴ And I saw the Lord; and he stood before my face, and he talked with me, even as a man talketh one with another, face to face; and he said unto me: Look, and I will show unto thee the world for the space of many generations.

15. Enoch establishes Zion

¹⁸ The Lord called his people Zion, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there was no poor among them.¹⁹ And Enoch continued his preaching ... unto the people of God. And ... he built a city that was called the City of Holiness, even Zion. ...⁶⁹ And Enoch and all his people walked with God, and he dwelt in the midst of Zion; and it came to pass that Zion was not, for God received it up into his own bosom

16. Enoch sees Satan's dominion and flood

²⁶ [Enoch] beheld Satan; and he had a great chain in his hand, and it veiled the whole face of the earth with darkness; and he looked up and laughed, and his angels rejoiced. ...²⁸ God ... wept. ...²⁹ And Enoch said ...: How is it that thou canst weep ...?

³² The Lord said ...: These thy brethren ... are the workmanship of mine own hands, ... and in the Garden of Eden, gave I unto man his agency;³³ ... I said ... they should love one another, and that they should choose me, their Father; but behold, they are without affection, and they hate their own blood;³⁴ ... and in my hot displeasure will I send in the floods upon them. ...³⁸ and behold, I will shut them up; a prison have I prepared for them.

³⁹ And That which I have chosen hath pled before my face. Wherefore, he suffereth for their sins; inasmuch as they will repent in the day that my Chosen shall return unto me, and until that day they shall be in torment;

17. Enoch sees Christ's life, death, resurrection, etc.

⁴⁴ As Enoch saw this, he had bitterness of soul, and wept over his brethren, and said ... I will refuse to be comforted; but the Lord said ...: Lift up your heart, and be glad; and look. ...

⁴⁵ Enoch looked; and from Noah, he beheld all the families of the earth; and ... [said]: When shall the day of the Lord come? When shall the blood of the Righteous be shed, that all they that mourn may be sanctified and have eternal life?

⁴⁶ And the Lord said: It shall be in the meridian of time, in the days of wickedness and vengeance. ...

⁴⁷ Enoch saw ... the coming of the Son of Man, ... in the flesh; and his soul rejoiced, saying: The Righteous is lifted up, and the Lamb is slain from the foundation of the world; and through faith I am in the bosom of the Father, and behold, Zion is with me.

18. Sons of God and Sons of Men (Moses 8)

¹³ Noah and his sons hearkened unto the Lord, ... and they were called the sons of God.¹⁴ And when ... daughters were born unto them, the sons of men saw that those daughters were fair, and they took them wives. ...¹⁵ The Lord said unto Noah: The daughters of thy sons have sold themselves; ... mine anger is kindled against the sons of men, for they will not hearken to my voice.

19. Other Views of the Fall of Adam and Eve

Radio minister: “One caller [to a radio program] asked, ‘... why did Adam and Eve take the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?’ The minister's answer was ... ‘I don't know. ... That's the dumbest thing anyone could have done! Why, if Adam and Eve had not been so selfish, so power-hungry, we might all have been in paradise today!’” (J. F. McConkie, *The Man Adam*, 190)

An agnostic and former protestant minister: The Christian God is omniscient and loving, but in Genesis God is:

- without foresight (why allow Satan? why allow access to tree?),
- unjust (curses Adam, Eve, and descendants for human nature),
- vindictive (because of what you did, childbirth will be painful),
- gender-biased (he will rule over you),
- not omniscient (God asks where they are, what they did), and
- unloving (allows pain, suffering, murder, stealing, hurt others, disease, disasters, hell for unbelievers, animals kill and eat)

Joseph Fielding Smith: Thank the Lord ... for Adam. If it hadn't been for Adam, ... we would be waiting in the heavens as spirits. ... To become gods, it is necessary for us to know ... about pain, ... sickness, and ... other things that we partake of in this school of mortality. So don't ... complain about Adam and wish he hadn't done something. ... I want to thank him. I am glad to have the privilege of ... going through mortality. (CR, Oct. 1967, 122)

Dallin H. Oaks: Eve ... transgressed ... to initiate the conditions of mortality. Her act ... was formally a transgression but eternally a glorious necessity to open the doorway toward eternal life. Adam showed his wisdom by doing the same. And thus Eve and "Adam fell that men might be" (2 Ne. 2:25). Some Christians condemn Eve for her act, concluding that she and her daughters are somehow flawed by it. Not the Latter-day Saints! Informed by revelation, we celebrate Eve's act and honor her wisdom and courage in the great episode called the Fall. (*Ensign*, Nov 1993)

20. Two Ways Lead to Life or Death

Eternal Life (7:23; 8:27)	God's work/glory
Consecration (7:18)	seek welfare of others
Chastity (6:5–23; 8:13)	-desires (lusts of flesh)
Gospel, church (5:58–59; 8:19)	-behavior, words (fame)
Sacrifice (5:4–8, 20)	-property (money, gain)
Obedience (5:1–6)	Thy will be done (-power)
Defiance (5:13–14)	My will be done
Sacrifice my way (5:18–19, 21)	
Secret combinations, murder for gain (5:29–33, 47–57)	
Carnal, sensual, devilish (5:13; 6:49; 8:14–22)	
War, seek power, reign (6:15; 7:26, 33; 8:22, 28)	
Death (8:30)	

C. S. Lewis: There are only two kinds of people in the end: [1] those who say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and [2] those to whom God says, 'Thy will be done.' All that are in Hell, choose it.

²⁶ Because [the children of men] are redeemed from the fall they ... ²⁷ are free to choose liberty and eternal life, through the great Mediator of all men, or to choose captivity and death, according to the captivity and power of the devil; for he seeketh that all men might be miserable like unto himself. (2 Ne 2:26–27)

Gadanton robbers "seduced the more part of the righteous ... to believe in their works and partake of their spoils. ... Thus they did obtain the sole management of the government ... to rule ... that they might get gain and glory ... [and] more easily commit adultery, ... steal, ... kill, and do according to their own wills." (Hel 6:38–39; 7:4–5)

Moroni: These murderous combinations ... are built up to get power and gain ... This secret combination which shall be among you; ... seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all ... countries; and it bringeth to pass the destruction of all people, for it is built up by the devil, who is the father of all lies; ... who hath caused man to commit murder from the beginning. (Ether 8:23–25)

Quotes

Thomas S. Monson: "Anger doesn't solve anything. It builds nothing, but it can destroy everything." ... *To be angry is to yield to the influence of Satan.* No one can make us angry. It is our choice. If we desire to have a proper spirit with us at all times, we must choose to refrain from becoming angry. I testify that such is possible. (*Ensign*, Nov. 2009, 68)

Richard G. Scott: The inspiring influence of the Holy Spirit can be overcome or masked by *strong emotions*, such as *anger, hate, passion, fear, or pride*. When such influences are present, it is like *trying to savor the delicate flavor of a grape while eating a jalapeño pepper*. Both flavors are present, but one completely overpowers the other. In like manner, strong emotions overcome the delicate promptings of the Holy Spirit. (*Ensign*, Nov. 2009, 8)

Ezra Taft Benson: When obedience ceases to be an irritant and becomes our quest, in that moment God will endow us with power.

Richard G. Scott: Many of you have heavy hearts because a son or daughter, husband or wife, has turned from righteousness to pursue evil. ... Your life is filled with anguish, pain, and, at times, despair. I will tell you how you can be comforted by the Lord. ...

1. While there are many things you can do to help a loved one in need, there are some things that must be done by the Lord.
2. Also, no enduring improvement can occur without righteous exercise of agency. Do not attempt to override agency. The Lord himself would not do that. Forced obedience yields no blessings (see D&C 58:26–33). ...

Seven ways you can help. [1] love without limitations. ... [2] do not condone the transgressions, but extend every hope and support to the transgressor. ... [3] teach truth. ... [4] honestly forgive as often as is required. ... [5] pray trustingly. 'The ... fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much' (James 5:16). ... [6] keep perspective. ... When the things you realistically can do to help are done, leave the matter in the hands of the Lord and worry no more. Do not feel guilty because you cannot do more. Do not waste your energy on useless worry. ... In time, you will feel impressions and know how to give further help. You will find more peace and happiness, will not neglect others that need you, and will be able to give greater help because of that eternal perspective. ... [7] *Never give up on a loved one, never!*"

Nibley: If every choice I make expresses a preference, if the world I build up is the world I really love and want, then with every choice I am judging myself, proclaiming ... to God, angels, and my fellowmen where my real values lie, where my treasure is, the things to which I give supreme importance. Hence, in this life every moment provides a perfect and foolproof test of your real character, making this life a time of testing and probation.

Spencer W. Kimball: May I suggest three fundamental things we must do if we are to 'bring again Zion.' ... [1] we must eliminate the individual tendency to selfishness that snares the soul, shrinks the heart, and darkens the mind. ... [2] we must cooperate completely and work in harmony one with the other. There must be unanimity in our decisions and unity in our actions. ... 'If the Spirit of the Lord is to magnify our labors, then this spirit of oneness and cooperation must be the prevailing spirit in all that we do' ... (*TPJS* 183) [3] we must lay on the altar and sacrifice whatever is required by the Lord. We begin by offering a 'broken heart and a contrite spirit.' We follow this by giving our best effort in our assigned fields of labor and callings. We learn our duty and execute it fully. Finally we consecrate our time, talents and means as called upon by our file leaders and as prompted by the whisperings of the Spirit (*Ensign*, May 1978, 81).