

DAILY TIDINGS

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025

DAY 5

Daily Theme: Coming Together and Asking God for Direction ~ Mosiah 11:188 ~

¹⁸⁸ Yea, born of God, changed from their carnal and fallen state to a state of righteousness, being redeemed of God, becoming his sons and daughters; and thus they become new creatures; and unless they do this, they can in no wise inherit the kingdom of God.

CONFERENCE FINANCIAL GOAL: Thank you for your generosity! If you will be donating by check, please make the check out to: Conference of Restoration Elders OR CRE. The financial goal of the conference is: \$ 16,800.00

Financial Goal \$16,800.00
Offerings \$10,645.20
Balance To Be Met \$ 6,154.80



LAYING ON OF HANDS; ADMINISTRATION:

If you need this ordinance, contact any Elder or specifically Elder Doug Smith who is the Conference Pastor.

SANCTUARY: A consecrated place. Please maintain a sense of quiet and reverence when in the sanctuary. Also, NO food or drink in the sanctuary, except for bottled water.



LEARNING & OUR RESPONSE: Is a class that “everyone of all ages” (priesthood, non-priesthood, women and children) are invited to attend. *This session is from 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. every weekday.* Today’s class will be led by Jay Havener.



REGISTRATION: Please register at the table in the foyer if you haven’t already done so on-line. This helps us have a count for presentations,

classes, and for meals. There is NO cost to register (however if you would like to purchase a binder with all the pertinent information, the cost is \$15). Registration on weekdays is from Monday, March 24th – Friday, March 28th; 8:15 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and then after the evening service.

Conference Registration: To register on-line directly, use this link:
<http://eldersconference.org>

Once you have registered you will then receive a link to access on-line.

- ◆ Access the website
- ◆ Register On-Line
- ◆ Conference Schedule
- ◆ Waldo Church Map
- ◆ Elders Quorum Mtgs.
- ◆ Aaronic Quorum Mtgs.
- ◆ Members Quorum Mtgs.
- ◆ Public Zoom Mtgs.
- ◆ Conference Notebook
- ◆ Digital Handouts & Resources



ELECTRONIC “GADGETS”: Please set your phones on silent or off when in the building. Take and make calls outside the building.

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SEATING: Please fill in the seats in the main section *BEFORE* filling in the seating on the sides of the sanctuary.



CHOIR PRACTICE: Choir practice will be daily at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

NAME BADGES: When you leave the conference and won't be returning, please leave your plastic name badge at the registration table.



MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD: You must register and be credentialed in order to have a voice and vote in the Elder's sessions. The first Elder's Quorum session is Monday, March 24, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. Please check the schedule



in the conference notebooks (Section 1, Page 4 & 5) as well as at the Registration desk for times and locations for all meetings. Pick up your name badge and conference notebook at the registration table in the gym. A \$15.00 donation is helpful to cover the cost of the notebooks.



Just a thought... I've learned that if I pray for God to move a mountain, I need to be prepared to wake up next to a shovel!

FIRST AID, & AED DEFIBRILLATOR:

Check at the Registration Desk in the gymnasium if you have first aid needs. We will not have a nurse "on duty" but some may be



available. A portable AED Defibrillator is also located in the southwest corner of the gymnasium as well. Point of contact for these items is Janet Dickson at the registration table. You can call or text her at (940) 783-7987.



TESTIMONIES FOR TIDINGS OF ZION:

Write your testimonies for Tidings and send them to:

centerplacetidingssofzion@gmail.com

LAST DAY for the RLDS

Books! Dee & Paul Ludy will be here TODAY from 4:00 p.m. until after the evening service. They are packing up books this evening and will not have them here Friday.



WATER BOTTLE FOUNTAIN:

The water fountain has been replaced by a water bottle station. Feel free to bring your own water bottles for refilling. There will be cups by the station in case you do not have your own bottles.



REFRESHMENTS: There will be refreshments, in the gym, following following each evening service. Please stay for snacks and fellowship.



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FREE WILL BREAKFAST & LUNCH:



will be served in the Sorenson Room all week. Breakfast is from 7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m. and lunch will be served from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Thursday's Menu

Breakfast: Muffins & Yogurt, Cereal, Milk, Juice & Fruit

Lunch: Spaghetti Bake, Tuna Salad, Soup, Salad & Fruit

Friday's Menu

Breakfast: Leftovers Cereal, Milk, Juice & Fruit

Lunch: Leftovers, Soup, Salad & Fruit

DISPLAYS: Various displays are set up in the gymnasium. Please take time to visit them to see what is going on in and around the Center **Place**. **Displays will be up all week and removed by Friday, March 28, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.**



- ♦ ARM: African Restoration Ministries
- ♦ Aaronic Council
- ♦ Children's Books by: Beyrle Immer
- ♦ FSM: Freedom Stewardship Ministries
- ♦ GEM: Greater European Ministries
- ♦ Joseph Smith III & Israel A. Smith Home Historical Society
- ♦ Old Bookman: Paul & Dee Ludy
- ♦ Publications Council
- ♦ Restoration Hymn Society, Inc.
- ♦ Shear Jashub
- ♦ Women's Council



BUILDING OPEN & CLOSURE TIMES: The building will be closed at 10:00 p.m. nightly. Please complete all your business

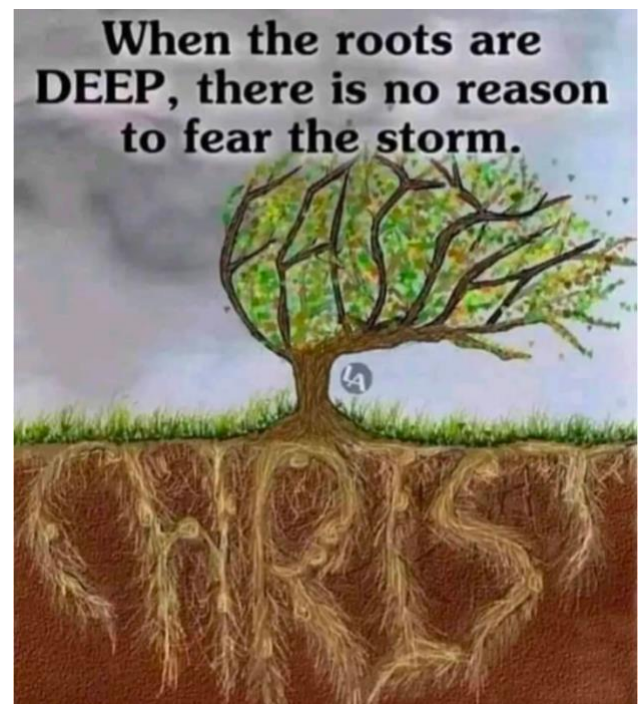
by that time, so reunion staff can close up and get home shortly thereafter.

LOST AND FOUND: Lost and found items can be turned in at the foyer desk. Please be sure that your items are marked with your name so that they can be returned to the rightful owner.



RESTROOMS:

Restrooms are located at the NE corner behind the sanctuary, and in the Sorensen Room (cafeteria, downstairs).



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9 Reasons Why God Compares Us to Sheep

Do you ever wonder why God compares us to sheep in the Bible? Is it that we are cute and cuddly like them, or is there more to the comparison? There has to be a reason why Jesus refers to Himself as the Good Shepard and us , His sheep.

After much research, I found out why we are like sheep in the Bible. Some of these reasons are funny and heartwarming. And some are just downright shocking that we are so alike.

In fact, it may make you think twice about your life when you read these spiritual lessons from sheep.

Why Does the Bible Compare Us to Sheep?

You may wonder how we are like sheep in the Bible and why God chose to use sheep and goats as symbols for how we act. These nine characteristics of sheep in the Bible will give you pause and maybe even make you giggle.

1. Sheep have no sense of direction

Many people say sheep are stupid. Let's just say that have no sense of direction-at all. In fact, they will follow whoever is leading them, even if it leads them off a cliff. Remember the question, "If your friend jumps off a cliff, would you do it too?" Well, they actually would.

This is a real news story I found online. In Eastern Turkey, about 1500 unattended sheep fell off a cliff while the shepherds ate breakfast far away from the flock.

The first 400 fell to their death in a ravine, but the remaining 1100 were saved because the first 400 broken the fall. The first 400 sheep were a big, fluffy cushion for the other sheep. *It sounds like a good commercial for toilet paper, huh?*

Apparently, this is what happened: The sheep in the back couldn't see past the sheep in front, so they were unaware of what was ahead. The sheep in front couldn't stop because the sheep in the back were pushing them forward.

Kinda reminds you of your teen years? The proverbial blind leading the blind.

I read another funny story about sheep: One farmer said that if you have a bunch of sheep in a barn, stretch a rope across the door before you let them out.

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9 Reasons Why God Compares Us to Sheep, *Cont'd.*

1. Sheep have no sense of direction, *Cont'd.*

When the sheep come out of the barn, the first few will jump over the rope. If you cut the rope, the remaining sheep will still jump over the “invisible rope”. Because it’s what the rest of the flock did.

I’m trying not to laugh. *I mean, that is pretty stupid.* But, oh my goodness, I can see why God compares us to sheep.

How many times do we follow someone who is leading us in the wrong direction or acting foolishly? We see our friends fall off the cliff, and we go right along with them into the ravine.

Or we imitate them because we think it is cool when they are really just doing something stupid. And now, we are doing it too...I can think of a few weird hairstyles in that category.

Can you see why God compares us to sheep in the Bible?

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way”. (Isaiah 53:6).

2. Sheep are defenseless

One of the most interesting characteristics of sheep in the Bible is that they can not defend themselves very well.

Have you ever seen sheep growl or show their teeth? Or maybe bark, bite, run fast, shoot quills, or pull out their claws? *Perhaps they could spray you with their...uh, fur.* Ha!

They do have two things in their arsenal:

1. When sheep are frightened by noise such as running water, they will run away together (hopefully in the right direction). As a whole group, they have some kind of protection, whereas individually, they are defenseless.
2. Sheep kick. A ewe is especially prone to kicking if she is protecting her young.

Other than these two defense mechanisms, sheep are a Snicker’s bar just waiting to be eaten by a wolf if they don’t stick together.

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9 Reasons Why God Compares Us to Sheep, *Cont'd.*

2. Sheep are defenseless, *Cont'd.*

We are much the same way. We can kick a little and run, but we are defenseless mostly. God compares us to sheep in the Bible because we need His protection. We need to stick together as fellow Christians.

What does Jesus say about sheep? Check out this verse: *“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd”*. (Matthew 9:36 ESV).

3. Sheep can't get up without help

Again, I'm trying not to laugh... Sometimes, sheep turn over on their back (like a cockroach or turtle) with their legs flailing in the air. There is an old English shepherd's terms for this. It is called “cast down.”

A “cast” sheep is actually a pitiful sight. It will die if the shepherd does not lift it and put it back on its feet. When in this position, it is completely helpless to the prey around it. Furthermore, it could get left behind when the flock moves on.

How often have we been “cast down” or flailing on our backs?

I can think of a few times when I would have been in serious trouble without intervention from the Good Shepherd.

Thank goodness He loves us enough to help us get right-sided. I know God compares us to sheep in the Bible for good reason. We are a mess without Him.

“He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young” (Isaiah 40:11 ESV).

4. Sheep are emotional and recognize the Shepherd's voice

This is where stupidity ends for shepherds and sheep in the Bible. Sheep have a remarkable instinct for knowing the voice of their shepherd. Because they are emotional animals, they can detect strangers. Amazingly, they will fear a stranger's voice and flee.

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9 Reasons Why God Compares Us to Sheep, *Cont'd.*

4. Sheep are emotional and recognize the Shepherd's voice, *Cont'd.*

Since sheep are emotional, they can build friendships with other sheep and stick up for each other when in a fight. They can also get anxious or distressed very easily, and they feel sad when their sheep friends are gone (dead).

We can learn a lot from these animals.

What they lack in direction, they make up for a loyalty, friendship, and voice recognition for the shepherd.

I think there is a breakdown when God compares us to sheep in the Bible. We aren't so loyal, we don't always stick up for friends, and we struggle to recognize the Shepherd's voice.

Perhaps we don't know His voice because we aren't communing with Him all day and all night like sheep do with their shepherd. However, we do have the ability to hear the Shepherd's voice if we will stop and listen. But that is hard for some sheep (us), I think.

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27).

5. Sheep are not meant to carry burdens

You will never see sheep carrying a pack on their back. Other animals are good for carrying things, but not sheep. They were not meant to carry a heavy load. They would be crushed under such a weighty burden.

This is why God compares us to sheep in the Bible.

We were not meant to carry our burdens. We are to give Him our heavy load so He can carry it for us.

"Cast your burdens on the Lord, and He will sustain you" (Psalm 55:22).

6. Sheep will settle for less

When sheep are thirsty, they stop at a dirty puddle right before them instead of going for the clean, still water twenty feet ahead of them.

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9 Reasons Why God Compares Us to Sheep, *Cont'd.*

6. Sheep will settle for less, *Cont'd.*

Sadly, they are content with filth so long as it satisfies them at the moment. Furthermore, they will stink and never even know it. Truthfully, they lack discernment and judgment and, frankly, don't know what is good for them.

I find we are not much different.

Many times, we see a dirty puddle (sin) in front of us and go straight for it because we think that is all there is in life. We believe we are satiated when, in reality, we are poisoned and stink.

Perhaps it (sin) even looks enticing at the time because, after all, it is "water". We often KNOW it will harm us, yet we still do it because we are stubborn, blinded from the truth, or lack judgment.

God compares us to sheep in the Bible because we don't always know what is good for us.

The Lord is my Shepherd. I want for nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters (Psalms 23:1-2).

7. Sheep are valuable

The significance of sheep in the Bible is probably more than you ever realized. Sheep were treated as a prized possession in Jesus' day. You were counted as a wealthy man if you owned large flocks because they provided meat, milk and wool, And they produced offspring.

Shepherds made many sacrifices to make sure their flocks were protected. They knew it was their livelihood at stake.

How much more precious are we than smelly sheep?

Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for us because He loved us so much. He died on a cross so we would live with Him forever.

Now can you see the significance of sheep in the Bible? God views us as priceless.

When John the Baptist saw Jesus, he shouted, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

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9 Reasons Why God Compares Us to Sheep, *Cont'd.*

8. Sheep can not care for themselves when wounded

When sheep get a wound or a bite, they can't care for themselves. Other animals lick a wound until it heals, but not sheep. They need a shepherd to tend to their injuries.

Many times, there would be a salve that needed to be put on their leg and possibly binding of the wounds. A good shepherd would look after the wound constantly until it was healed completely.

Oh, how He wants to look after our wounds, treat them with salve, and bind them up. Often, we are brokenhearted and need His healing, but we won't let Him touch us. This is why God compares us to sheep in the Bible.

"He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds" (Psalms 147:3).

9. Sheep are innocent

In Christianity, sheep symbolize gentleness, purity, and innocence. The lamb, which wasn't a goat or any other animals, was sacrificed at Passover because it represented the Lamb of God-flawless, pure, and holy.

Interestingly, goats are known for being independent, opinionated, and curious at best-or vulgar, dangerous, and destructive at worst. If you know anything about Satanism, you know they are a goat as their symbol, as it is the opposite of a lamb.

We are to be innocent as lambs. Pure and righteous. Not goats who are independent, strong-willed, and destructive. That's the difference between sheep and goats in the Bible.

And He'll "separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats" (Matthew 25:32).

