

Understanding Our Calling to Power

Abinadi spoke **Mosiah 7:107** *And he spake with power and authority from God; and he continued his words, saying, Ye see that ye have not power to slay me, therefore I finish my message.*

Matthew 17:21 *Howbeit, this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.*

Mark 9:26 *And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing but by prayer and fasting.*

Alma and Amulek Alma with Zeezrom **Alma 10: 49** *Therefore let us stretch forth our hands, and exercise the power of God which is in us, and save them from the flames.*

Virtue

Mark 5:23 *And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press and said, Who touched my clothes?*

Luke 8:47 *And Jesus said, Some one hath touched me; for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.*

Luke 6:19 *And the whole multitude sought to touch him; for there went virtue out of him and healed them all.*

2 Peter 1:5 *And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue (power); and to virtue (power), knowledge;*

Definition of Virtue:

Strongs Concordance:

- Strength, power, ability
- Inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts & puts forth
- Moral power and excellence of soul
- Power for performing miracles

1 Corinthians 5:4 *In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and have the Spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,*

Acts 1:8 *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you;*

Mark 4:20 *And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear; for with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you; and unto you that continue to receive, shall more be given; for he that receiveth, to him shall be given; but he that continueth not to receive, from him shall be taken even that which he hath.*

DC 50:6b and that which doth not edify, is not of God, and is darkness: that which is of God is light, and he that receiveth light and continueth in God, receiveth more light, and that light groweth brighter and brighter, until the perfect day.

Moroni 7:10-14 10 Wherefore, all things which are good, cometh of God; and that which is evil, cometh of the devil; for the devil is an enemy unto God, and fighteth against him continually, and inviteth and enticeth to sin, and to do that which is evil continually.

11 But behold, that which is of God, inviteth and enticeth to do good continually; wherefore, everything which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to love God, and to serve him, is inspired of God.

12 Wherefore take heed, my beloved brethren, that ye do not judge that which is evil to be of God, or that which is good and of God, to be of the devil.

13 For behold, my brethren, it is given unto you to judge, that ye may know good from evil; and the way to judge is as plain, that ye may know with a perfect knowledge, as the daylight is from the dark night.

14 For behold, the Spirit of Christ is given to every man, that they may know good from evil; wherefore I shew unto you the way to judge: for everything which inviteth to do good, and to persuade to believe in Christ, is sent forth by the power and gift of Christ;

Revelation 3:15-16 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot; I would thou wert cold or hot.

16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth.

Matthew 5:16-18 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, I give unto you to be the light of the world; a city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.

17 Behold, do men light a candle and put it under a bushel? Nay, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light to all that are in the house.

18 Therefore, let your light so shine before this world, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Psalms 68:35 O God, thou art terrible out of thy holy places; the God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God

Members

After going to the wilderness and being tempted of the devil, Jesus:

Luke 4:13 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit, into Galilee.

Alma 12:1-7, 27, 43-163 1 And now it came to pass that as Alma was journeying from the land of Gideon, southward, away to the land of Manti, behold, to his astonishment, he met the sons of Mosiah, journeying towards the land of Zarahemla.

2 Now these sons of Mosiah were with Alma at the time the angel first appeared unto him; therefore Alma did rejoice exceedingly, to see his brethren;

3 And what added more to his joy, they were still his brethren in the Lord; yea, and they had waxed strong in the knowledge of the truth;

4 For they were men of a sound understanding, and they had searched the scriptures diligently, that they might know the word of God.

5 But this is not all: they had given themselves to much prayer, and fasting, therefore they had the spirit of prophecy, and the spirit of revelation, and when they taught, they taught with power and authority, even as with the power and authority of God.

6 And they had been teaching the word of God for the space of fourteen years, among the Lamanites, having had much success in bringing many to the knowledge of the truth;

7 Yea, by the power of their words, many were brought before the altar of God, to call on his name, and confess their sins before him.

27 Therefore they separated themselves one from another, and went forth among them, every man alone, according to the word and power of God, which was given unto him.

Ammon showing forth the power

43 Now when Ammon saw this, his heart was swollen within him, with joy; for, said he, I will shew forth my power unto these my fellow servants, or the power which is in me, in restoring these flocks unto the king, that I may win the hearts of these my fellow servants, that I may lead them to believe in my words.

Helaman 2:31 Nevertheless, they did fast and pray oft, and did wax stronger and stronger in their humility, and firmer and firmer in the faith of Christ, unto the filling their souls with joy and consolation, yea, even to the purifying and the sanctification of their hearts, which sanctification cometh because of their yielding their hearts unto God.

Moroni 10:7-30 7 And ye may know that he is, by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore I would exhort you, that ye deny not the power of God; for he worketh by power, according to the faith of the children of men, the same to-day and to-morrow, and for ever.

8 And again I exhort you, my brethren, that ye deny not the gifts of God, for they are many; and they come from the same God.

9 And there are different ways that these gifts are administered; but it is the same God who worketh all in all; and they are given by the manifestations of the Spirit of God unto men, to profit them.

10 For behold, to one is given by the Spirit of God, that he may teach the word of wisdom; and to another, that he may teach the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; and to another exceeding great faith; and to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit.

11 And again, to another, that he may work mighty miracles; and again, to another, that he may prophesy concerning all things; and again, to another, the beholding of angels and ministering spirits; and again, to another, all kinds of tongues; and again, to another, the interpretation of languages and of divers kinds of tongues.

12 And all these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ; and they come unto every man severally, according as he will.

13 And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that every good gift cometh of

Christ.

14 And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that he is the same yesterday, today, and for ever, and that all these gifts of which I have spoken, which are spiritual, never will be done away, even as long as the world shall stand, only according to the unbelief of the children of men.

15 Wherefore, there must be faith; and if there must be faith, there must also be hope; and if there must be hope, there must also be charity; and except ye have charity, ye can in no wise be saved in the kingdom of God;

16 Neither can ye be saved in the kingdom of God, if ye have not faith; neither can ye if ye have no hope; and if ye have no hope, ye must needs be in despair; and despair cometh because of iniquity.

17 And Christ truly said unto our fathers, If ye have faith, ye can do all things which are expedient unto me.

18 And now I speak unto all the ends of the earth, that if the day cometh that the power and gifts of God shall be done away among you, it shall be because of unbelief.

19 And wo be unto the children of men, if this be the case, for there shall be none that doeth good among you, no not one.

20 For if there be one among you that doeth good, he shall work by the power and gifts of God.

21 And wo unto them who shall do these things away and die, for they die in their sins, and they can not be saved in the kingdom of God; and I speak it according to the words of Christ, and I lie not.

22 And I exhort you to remember these things; for the time speedily cometh that ye shall know that I lie not, for ye shall see me at the bar of God, and the Lord God will say unto you, Did I not declare my words unto you, which were written by this man, like as one crying from the dead?

23 Yea, even as one speaking out of the dust?

24 I declare these things unto the fulfilling of the prophecies.

25 And behold, they shall proceed forth out of the mouth of the everlasting God; and his word shall hiss forth from generation to generation.

26 And God shall shew unto you, that that which I have written is true.

27 And again I would exhort you, that ye would come unto Christ, and lay hold upon every good gift and touch not the evil gift, nor the unclean thing.

28 And awake, and arise from the dust, O Jerusalem; yea, and put on thy beautiful garments, O daughter of Zion, and strengthen thy stakes, and enlarge thy borders for ever, that thou mayest no more be confounded, that the covenants of the eternal Father which he hath made unto thee, O house of Israel, may be fulfilled.

29 Yea, come unto Christ, and be perfected in him, and deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and if ye shall deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and love God with all your might, mind and strength, then is his grace sufficient for you, that by his grace ye may be perfect in Christ; and if by the grace of God ye are perfect in Christ, ye can in no wise deny the power of God.

30 And again, if ye, by the grace of God, are perfect in Christ, and deny not his power, then are ye sanctified in Christ by the grace of God, through the shedding of the blood of Christ, which is in the covenant of the Father, unto the remission of your sins, that ye become holy without spot.

DC 45:2c *I came unto my own, and my own received me not; but unto as many as received me gave I power to do many miracles and to become the sons of God, and even unto them that believed on my name gave I power to obtain eternal life.*

John 14:11-14 *11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me; or else believe me for the very works' sake.*

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

DC 58:6d *Verily I say, Men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness; for the power is in them, wherein they are agents unto themselves.*

Transition from members to priesthood:

Ephesians 4:11-16 *11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;*

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ;

13 Till we, in the unity of the faith, all come to the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ;

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

DC 140:1b *If those of the priesthood will perform their responsibilities in good fellowship, and sustain each other, they will be supported by the faith and prayers of the church and the work will go forward with increasing power.*

DC 83:3c *Therefore, in the ordinances thereof the power of godliness is manifest; and without the ordinances thereof, and the authority of the priesthood, the power of godliness is not manifest unto men in the flesh; for without this, no man can see the face of God, even the Father, and live.*

Priesthood

DC 17:12b *and he is to be ordained by the power of the Holy Ghost which is in the one who ordains him.*

Aaronic

DC 16:5e *And, behold, you are they who are ordained of me to ordain priests and teachers to declare my gospel, according to the power of the Holy Ghost which is in you, and according to the callings and gifts of God unto men; and I, Jesus Christ, your Lord and your God, have spoken it.*

D&C 104:10 *10 The power and authority of the lesser, or Aaronic, priesthood is, to hold the keys of the ministering of angels, and to administer in outward ordinances--the letter of the gospel--the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, agreeably to the covenants and commandments.*

Examples:

Acts 6:8 *And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.*

Alma 6:38-42 *38 And Alma went forth, and also Amulek, among the people to declare the words of God unto them; and they were filled with the Holy Ghost;*

39 And they had power given unto them, insomuch that they could not be confined in dungeons; neither were it possible that any man could slay them;

40 Nevertheless they did not exercise their power until they were bound in bands and cast into prison.

41 Now this was done that the Lord might shew forth his power in them.

42 And it came to pass that they went forth and began to preach and to prophesy unto the people, according to the spirit and power which the Lord had given them.

Melchizedek

Genesis 14:30 *30 For God having sworn unto Enoch and unto his seed with an oath by himself; that every one being ordained after this order and calling should have power, by faith, to break mountains, to divide the seas, to dry up waters, to turn them out of their course;*

31 To put at defiance the armies of nations, to divide the earth, to break every band, to stand in the presence of God; to do all things according to his will, according to his command, subdue principalities and powers; and this by the will of the Son of God which was from before the foundation of the world.

D&C 104:9a-b *9a The power and authority of the higher, or Melchisedec, priesthood, is to hold the keys of all the spiritual blessings of the church; to have the privilege of receiving the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven; to have the heavens opened unto them;*

9b to commune with the general assembly and church of the Firstborn; and to enjoy the communion and

presence of God the Father, and Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant.

1 Nephi 3:30 And the mysteries of God shall be unfolded unto them by the power of the Holy Ghost, as well in this time as in times of old;

DC 43:4d Sanctify yourselves and ye shall be endowed with power, that ye may give even as I have spoken.

Examples:

Helaman 3:115-123 115 Blessed art thou, Nephi, for those things which thou hast done; for I have beheld how thou hast with unwearyingness declared the word which I have given unto thee, unto this people.

116 And thou hast not feared them, and hast not sought thine own life, but have sought my will, and to keep my commandments.

117 And now because thou hast done this with such unwearyingness, behold, I will bless thee for ever; and I will make thee mighty in word and in deed, in faith and in works; yea, even that all things shall be done unto thee according to thy word, for thou shalt not ask that which is contrary to my will.

118 Behold, thou art Nephi, and I am God.

119 Behold, I declare it unto thee in the presence of mine angels, that ye shall have power over this people, and shall smite the earth with famine, and with pestilence, and destruction, according to the wickedness of this people.

120 Behold, I give unto you power, that whatsoever ye shall seal on earth, shall be sealed in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven; and thus shall ye have power among this people.

121 And thus, if ye shall say unto this temple, It shall be rent in twain, it shall be done.

122 And if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou cast down and become smooth, it shall be done.

123 And behold, if ye shall say, God shall smite this people, it shall come to pass.

3 Nephi 3: 58 And he (Nephi) did minister many things unto them; and all of them can not be written, and a part of them would not suffice: therefore they are not written in this book. And Nephi did minister with power and with great authority.

Deny Power

1 Thessalonians 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

2 Timothy 3:5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof; from such turn away.

2 Nephi 12:6 And they deny the power of God, the Holy One of Israel; and they say unto the people, Harken unto us, and hear ye our precept;

2 Nephi 12:30-40 30 Therefore, wo be unto him that is at ease in Zion.

31 Wo be unto him that crieth, All is well; yea, wo be unto him that hearkeneth unto the precepts of men, and denieth the power of God, and the gift of the Holy Ghost.

32 Yea, wo be unto him that saith, We have received, and we need no more.

33 And in fine, wo unto all those who tremble, and are angry because of the truth of God.

34 For behold, he that is built upon the rock, receiveth it with gladness: and he that is built upon a sandy foundation, trembleth, lest he shall fall.

35 Wo be unto him that shall say, We have received the word of God, and we need no more of the word of God, for we have enough.

36 For behold, thus saith the Lord God: I will give unto the children of men line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little:

37 And blessed are those who hearken unto my precepts, and lend an ear unto my counsel, for they shall learn wisdom;

38 For unto him that receiveth, I will give more: and from them that shall say, We have enough, shall be taken away even that which they have.

39 Cursed is he that putteth his trust in man, or maketh flesh his arm, or shall hearken unto the precepts of men, save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.

40 Wo be unto the Gentiles, saith the Lord God of hosts; for notwithstanding I shall lengthen out mine arm unto them from day to day, they will deny me;

Challenge - ZION

1 Corinthians 4:20 For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.

D&C 100:3d Behold, I say unto you, The redemption of Zion must needs come by power

DC 140:5c The work of preparation and the perfection of my Saints go forward slowly, and Zionic conditions are no further away nor any closer than the spiritual condition of my people justifies.

D&C 138:3a-3e 3a Let the church again be admonished that the task of establishing Zion presses heavily upon us.

3b Barriers and hindrances to the achievement of this goal should be removed as speedily as possible and practicable.

3c To lay securely the foundations for Zion and her buildings the work should be accomplished in peace and harmony. Unity should prevail.

3d To this end all the Saints should work together in the rich fraternity which can and will prevail among them when they keep faithfully the commandments.

3e Great blessings are in store for the church if it will in faith and saintly devotion go forward in its tasks.

DC 122:17b *Let nothing separate you from each other and the work whereunto you have been called; and I will be with you by my Spirit and presence of power unto the end.*

D&C 102:2b-3e *2b but, behold, they have not learned to be obedient to the things which I require at their hands, but are full of all manner of evil, and do not impart of their substance, as becometh Saints, to the poor and afflicted among them, and are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom; 2c and Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom, otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself;*

2d and my people must needs be chastened until they learn obedience, if it must needs be, by the things which they suffer.

3a I speak not concerning those who are appointed to lead my people, who are the first elders of my church, for they are not all under this condemnation; but I speak concerning my churches abroad;

3b there are many who will say, Where is their God? Behold, he will deliver in time of trouble; otherwise we will not go up unto Zion, and will keep our moneys.

3c Therefore, in consequence of the transgression of my people, it is expedient in me that mine elders should wait for a little season for the redemption of Zion, that they themselves may be prepared, and that my people may be taught more perfectly, and have experience, and know more perfectly, concerning their duty, and the things which I require at their hands;

3d and this can not be brought to pass until mine elders are endowed with power from on high;

3e for, behold, I have prepared a great endowment and blessing to be poured out upon them, inasmuch as they are faithful, and continue in humility before me;

DC 142:4b *It will be profitable for my servants of the eldership to meet often for study, under the direction of those having responsibility to teach, at such times and places as may be practicable, in preparation for the greater endowment of spiritual power which has been promised and which awaits the time when they can receive it.*

I Nephi 3:187-189 *187 And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost;*

188 And if they endure unto the end, they shall be lifted up at the last day, and shall be saved in the everlasting kingdom of the Lamb;

189 And whoso shall publish peace, yea, tidings of great joy, how beautiful upon the mountains shall they be.

Isaiah 6:8 *Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.*

BONUS:

Alma 14:78-94 78 And now behold, Ammon, and Aaron, and Omner, and Himni, and their brethren, did rejoice exceedingly, for the success which they had had among the Lamanites, seeing that the Lord had granted unto them according to their prayers, and that he had also verified his word unto them in every particular.

79 And now, these are the words of Ammon to his brethren, which say thus: My brothers and my brethren, behold I say unto you, How great reason have we to rejoice; for could we have supposed, when we started from the land of Zarahemla, that God would have granted unto us such great blessings?

80 And now I ask, What great blessings has he bestowed upon us? Can ye tell?

81 Behold, I answer for you; for our brethren, the Lamanites, were in darkness, yea, even in the darkest abyss; but behold, how many of them are brought to behold the marvelous light of God!

82 And this is the blessing which hath been bestowed upon us, that we have been made instruments in the hands of God, to bring about this great work.

83 Behold, thousands of them do rejoice, and have been brought into the fold of God.

84 Behold, the field was ripe, and blessed are ye, for ye did thrust in the sickle, and did reap with your mights, yea, all the day long did ye labor;

85 And behold the number of your sheaves, and they shall be gathered into the garners, that they are not wasted; yea, they shall not be beaten down by the storm, at the last day;

86 Yea, neither shall they be harrowed up by the whirlwinds; but when the storm cometh, they shall be gathered together in their place, that the storm can not penetrate to them; yea, neither shall they be driven with fierce winds, whithersoever the enemy listeth to carry them.

87 But behold, they are in the hands of the Lord of the harvest, and they are his; and he will raise them up at the last day.

88 Blessed be the name of our God; let us sing to his praise, yea, let us give thanks to his holy name, for he doth work righteousness for ever.

89 For if we had not come up out of the land of Zarahemla, these our dearly beloved brethren, who have so dearly beloved us, would still have been racked with hatred against us, yea, and they would also have been strangers to God.

90 And it came to pass that when Ammon had said these words, his brother Aaron rebuked him, saying: Ammon, I fear that thy joy doth carry thee away unto boasting.

91 But Ammon said unto him, I do not boast in my own strength, or in my own wisdom; but behold, my joy is full, yea, my heart is brim with joy, and I will rejoice in my God;

92 Yea, I know that I am nothing; as to my strength, I am weak; therefore I will not boast of myself, but I will boast of my God; for in his strength I can do all things; yea, behold, many mighty miracles we have wrought in this land, for which we will praise his name for ever.

93 Behold, how many thousand of our brethren has he loosed from the pains of hell; and they are brought to sing redeeming love; and this because of the power of his word which is in us; therefore have we not great reason to rejoice?

94 Yea, we have reason to praise him for ever, for he is the most high God, and has loosed our brethren from the chains of hell.