

1 Kings 19:11-13

Boyd K. Packer, *Ensign*, November 1994, 60.

The Holy Ghost speaks with a voice that you *feel* more than you *hear*. It is described as a "still small voice." And while we speak of 'listening' to the whisperings of the Spirit, most often one describes a spiritual prompting by saying, 'I had a *feeling* ...' Revelation comes as words we *feel* more than *hear*. Nephi told his wayward brothers, who were visited by an angel, "Ye were past *feeling*, that ye could not *feel* his words."

Henry B. Eyring, *Ensign*, May 1991, 67.

I testify [that the Spirit] is a small voice. It whispers not shouts. And so you must be very quiet inside. That is why you may wisely fast when you want to listen. And that is why you will listen best when you feel, 'Father, thy will, not mine, be done.' You will have a feeling of 'I want what you want.' Then the still small voice will seem as if it pierces you. It may make your bones to quake. More often it will make your heart burn within you, again softly, but with a burning which will lift and reassure.

Boyd K. Packer, *Candle of the Lord*, 53.

The Spirit does not get our attention by shouting or shaking us with a heavy hand. Rather it whispers. It caresses so gently that if we are preoccupied we may not feel it at all.... Occasionally it will press just firmly enough for us to pay heed. But most of the time, if we do not heed the gentle feeling, the Spirit will withdraw and wait until we come seeking

Moses 1:34

1st Presidency, *Messages of the First Presidency*, 4:205-6.

It is held by some that Adam was not the first man upon this earth, and that the original human being was a development from lower orders of the animal creation. These, however, are the theories of men.... True it is that the body of man enters upon its career as a tiny germ embryo, which becomes an infant, quickened at a certain stage by the spirit whose tabernacle it is, and the child, after being born, develops into a man. There is nothing in this, however, to indicate that the original man, the first of our race, began life as anything less than a man, or less than the human germ or embryo that becomes a man.... The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, basing its belief on divine revelation, ancient and modern, proclaims man to be the direct and lineal offspring of Deity.... Man is the child of God, formed in the divine image and endowed with divine attributes, and even as the infant son of an earthly father and mother is capable, by experience through ages and aeons, of evolving into a God.

(Cf. Genesis 1:26-27; Ether 3:15; D&C 77:3)

1 Samuel 8:5

Elder Spencer W. Kimball, "Like All The Nations," *Church News*, 15 Oct 1960, 14.

Samuel called the people together and explained to them that the people of the Lord should be different, with higher standards. 'We want to be like other peoples' they demanded. '*We do not want to be different*'...

Not so different are we today! We want the glamour and frothiness of the world, not always realizing the penalties of our folly ... Others ... indulge in their social drinking-"we must have a king like unto other nations."

Styles are created by the vulgar and the money-mad and run from one extreme to the other to outdate present wardrobes and create business for merchants. We cannot be different. *We would rather die than be 'not up to date.'* If the dress is knee length, we must go a little above the knee. If shorts are short we must have the shortest...If bathing suits are skimpy, we must have the skimpiest. We must have a king like unto other nations. *The Lord has said that he will have a peculiar people but we do not wish to be peculiar* ...If intimate fondling is the pattern of the crowd, we will fondle. We must have a king like unto other nations.

The world has a queen in every industry, business, factory, school and social group. She must dress immodestly, display her figure and appear in public places to further the financial interests of business, entertainment and social groups...Ours, also, must have a beautiful face, a little talent and a well formed body for public exhibition. We can do little else for we must have a queen like unto other nations.

When, oh when, will our Latter-Day Saints stand firm on their own feet, establish their own standards, follow proper patterns and live their own glorious lives in accordance with Gospel inspired patterns... Certainly good times and happy lives and clean fun are not dependent upon the glamorous, the pompous the extremes."

2 Samuel 11:2-4

Spencer W. Kimball, *Miracle of Forgiveness*, 113-114.

To want, to desire, to crave - that is to lust. So when the thought is born which starts a chain reaction, a sin has already been committed. If the thought is sown, then develops into lust, it is almost certain to bring eventually the full harvest of the act of the heinous sin, adultery . . . adultery is not the result of a single thought. There first is a deterioration of thinking. Many sinful chain-thoughts have been coursing through the offender's mind before the physical sin is committed. Yes, as a man thinketh, so *does* he. If he thinks it long enough he is likely to do it, whether it be theft, moral sin, or suicide. Thus the time to protect against the calamity is when the thought begins to shape itself. Destroy the seed and the plant will never grow. Man alone, of all creatures of earth, can change his thought pattern and become the architect of his destiny.

Hosea 7:4-10

Jeffrey R. Holland, *Ensign* November 1998, 76.

Why is this matter of sexual relationships so severe that fire is almost always the metaphor, with passion pictured vividly in flames? What is there in the potentially hurtful heat of this that leaves one's soul-or the whole world, for that matter-destroyed if that flame is left unchecked and those passions unrestrained? By assigning such seriousness to a physical appetite so universally bestowed, what is God trying to tell us about its place in His plan for all men and women? I submit to you He is doing precisely that-commenting about the very plan of life itself.

(Cf. Proverbs 6:27-28, 32-33)

Genesis 1:1

Joseph Smith, Jr., *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 350-52.

You ask the learned doctors why they say the world was made out of nothing; and they will answer, "Doesn't the Bible say He *created* the world?" And they infer, from the word create, that it must have been made out of nothing. Now, the word create came from the word *baurau* which does not mean to create out of nothing; it means to organize; the same as a man would organize materials and build a ship. Hence, we infer that God has materials to organize the world out of chaotic matter, which is element, and in which dwells all the glory. Element had an existence from the time he had. The pure principles of elements are principles which can never be destroyed; they may be organized and re-organized, but not destroyed. They had no beginning, and can have no end.

(Cf. Hebrews 11:3; D&C 93:29-30; 131:7-8; Abr. 4:14)

Isaiah 55:8-9

Joseph Smith Jr., *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 137.

A fanciful and flowery and heated imagination beware of; because the things of God are of deep import; and time, and experience, and careful and ponderous and solemn thoughts can only find them out. Thy mind, O man! if thou wilt lead a soul unto salvation, must stretch as high as the utmost heavens, and search into and contemplate the darkest abyss, and the broad expanse of eternity-thou must commune with God. How much more dignified and noble are the thoughts of God, than the vain imaginations of the human heart!

(Cf. 1 Kings 19:11-12; 1 Corinthians 2:9-16; 2 Nephi 9:28-29; D&C 88:78-81, 118)

JST 2 Samuel 12:13

Joseph Fielding Smith, *Answers to Gospel Questions*, 1:74.

David committed a dreadful crime, and all his life afterwards sought for forgiveness. Some of the Psalms portray the anguish of his soul; yet David is still paying for his sin. He did not receive the resurrection at the time of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Peter declared that his body was still in the tomb [Acts 2:29], and the Prophet Joseph Smith has said, "David sought repentance at the hand of God carefully with tears, for the murder of Uriah; but he could only get it through hell: he got a promise that his soul should not be left in hell [TPJS, 339]." Again, we ask: Who wishes to spend a term in hell with the devil before being cleansed from sin?

Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, 520.

Murderers are forgiven eventually but only in the sense that all sins are forgiven except the sin against the Holy Ghost; they are not forgiven in the sense that celestial salvation is made available to them (Matt. 12:31-32; TPJS, 356-57). After they have paid the full penalty for their crime, they shall go on to a telestial inheritance (Rev.22:15).

Boyd K. Packer, "Brilliant Morning..." *Ensign*, October 1995, 21 [footnote #15].

Forgiveness will come eventually to all repentant souls who have not committed the unpardonable sin (Matt. 12:31). Forgiveness does not, however, necessarily assure exaltation, as is the case with David (see D&C 132:38-39; see also Ps. 16:10; Acts 2:25-27; TPJS, 339).

Proverbs 29:15

Without worthy goals, you become subject to the environment into which you are placed and it dictates your destiny

You cannot stay on the summit forever
You have to come down again,
So why climb in the first place? Just this:
What is above knows what is below
What is below does not know what is above
One climbs, one sees
One may descend and see no longer,
But, one has seen!
There is an art to conducting oneself in the lower regions by the memory of what one has seen higher up.
When one can see no longer,
One can at least remember.

René Dumall

The Book of Job

Joseph F. Smith, *Gospel Doctrine*, 56.

We have it enunciated in the revelations to Joseph the Prophet, in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, that the Lord is greatly displeased only with those who do not confess or acknowledge "his hand in all things, and obey not his commandments" [59:21]. Many things occur in the world in which it seems very difficult for most of us to find a solid reason for the acknowledgment of the hand of the Lord. I have come to the belief that the only reason I have been able to discover by which we should acknowledge the hand of God in some occurrences is the fact that the thing which has occurred has been permitted of the Lord.... [e.g. two men fighting] have received from God the freedom of their own agency to exercise their own intelligence, to judge between the right and wrong for themselves, and to act according to their own desire. The Lord did not design or purpose that these two men should quarrel.... God has never designed such a thing as that, nor can we charge such things to the Almighty.

The Book of Job

Neal A. Maxwell, *All These Things Shall Give Thee Experience*, 29-30.

Type I: Some things happen to us because of our own mistakes and our own sins....

Type II: Still other trials and tribulations come to us merely as a part of living.... We are not immunized against all inconvenience and difficulties nor against aging....

Type III: There is another dimension of suffering and other challenges that come to us even though we seem to be innocent. These come to us because an omniscient Lord deliberately chooses to school us.... Nevertheless the Lord seeth fit to chasten his people; yea, he trieth their patience and their faith.

D&C 76:89

Joseph Smith, Jr., (quoted by Wilford Woodruff), in *Diary of Charles Lowell Walker*, ed. A. Karl Larson and Katherine M. Larson [U.S.U. Press, 1980], 1:465-66.

Br. Woodruff spoke.... He referred to a saying of Joseph Smith which he heard him utter (like this) That if the People knew what was behind the vail, they would try by every means to commit suicide that they might get there, but the Lord in his wisdom had implanted the fear of death in every person that they might cling to life and thus accomplish the designs of their creator.

[Cited in **Dahl, *Studies in Scripture*, 1:307**; with this note: "what the Prophet said [apparently] was not in reference to the telestial kingdom, but to life 'behind the veil,' which may mean a number of things.]