

D & C Lesson 43 “TAKE UPON YOU MY WHOLE ARMOR”

Prepared by Duane S. Crowther, December 2001

1. Scriptures refer to temptations as “fiery darts of the adversary”

A. *D&C 3:8*: [God] “would have . . . supported you against all the fiery darts of the adversary; and he would have been with you in every time of trouble.”

B. *D&C 27:17*: “Taking the shield of faith wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.” [*D&C 27:15-18*]

B. *Ephesians 6:16*: “Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.” [*Eph. 6:11-18*]

C. *1 Nephi 15:23-24*: What meaneth the rod of iron? . . . it was the word of God; whoso would hearken and hold fast to it would never perish; neither could temptations and “the fiery darts of the adversary overpower them unto blindness, to lead them away to destruction.”

2. Put on the whole armor of God Two scriptural passages describe it:

A. *D&C 27:15-18*: “Rejoice, and gird up your loins, and take upon you my whole armor, that ye may be able to withstand the evil day, having done all, that ye may be able to stand.”

B. *Ephesians 6:10-18*: “Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. . . . that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

C. Components	Doctrine & Covenants 27	Ephesians 6
1. Truth:	loins girt about with truth	loins girt about with truth
2. Righteousness:	breastplate of righteousness	breastplate of righteousness
3. Gospel of Peace:	feet shod with preparation of <i>angels sent to commit to us</i>	feet shod with preparation of
4. Faith:	shield of faith	shield of faith
5. Salvation:	helmet of salvation	helmet of salvation
6. Spirit:	sword of my Spirit <i>which I will pour out upon you</i> <i>my word which I will reveal unto you</i>	sword of the Spirit <i>which is the word of God</i>

D. “What can we do to put on the “whole armour” of God? . . . Have you felt added protection from temptation as you have prayed? studied the scriptures? kept the Sabbath day holy? gone to the temple? honored the priesthood?” [*Gospel Doctrine Teacher’s Manual*, 1999, p. 250]

3. Satan’s methodology:

A. *Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin*: Satan “*seeks to find any chink in the armor of each person. He knows our weaknesses and knows how to exploit them if we allow him to do so. We can defend ourselves against his attacks and deceptions only by understanding the commandments and by fortifying ourselves each day through praying, studying the scriptures, and following the counsel of the Lord’s anointed.*” [*Ensign*, November 1988, p. 35]

B. *3 Nephi 7:5*: “Iniquity had come upon the people because they did yield themselves unto the power of Satan.”

C. *1 Nephi 22:26*: “Because of the righteousness of his [the Lord’s] people, Satan has no power; . . . he hath no power over the hearts of the people, for they dwell in righteousness.”

4. Live the law of chastity

A. *D&C 42:24*: “Thou shalt love thy wife with all thy heart, and shalt cleave unto her and none else. . . . Thou shalt not commit adultery.”

B. *D&C 59:6*: “Thou shalt not steal, neither commit adultery, nor kill, nor do anything like unto it.”

C. *D&C 63:16*: “He that looketh on a woman to lust after her, or if any shall commit adultery in their hearts, they shall not have the Spirit, but shall deny the faith and shall fear.”

D. **The First Presidency**: “The Lord’s law of moral conduct is abstinence outside of lawful marriage and fidelity within marriage. Sexual relations are proper only between husband and wife appropriately expressed within the bonds of marriage. Any other sexual contact, including fornication, adultery, and homosexual and lesbian behavior, is sinful” [*First Presidency letter*, 14 Nov. 1991, as cited in *Gospel Doctrine Teacher’s Manual*, 1999, p. 250].

E. **Elder Richard G. Scott**: “Any sexual intimacy outside of the bonds of marriage—I mean any intentional contact with the sacred, private parts of another’s body, with or without clothing—is a sin and is forbidden by God.” [*Ensign*, November 1994, p. 38]

F. “The law of chastity includes purity of thought as well as action. . . . How can we dismiss unclean thoughts from our minds? . . . Putting something edifying in their place, . . . praying for strength, singing a favorite hymn or reciting a favorite scripture in our minds, or thinking about our love for family members.” [*Gospel Doctrine Teacher’s Manual*, 1999, pp. 251-252]

5. Be honest

A. *D&C 42:19, 20*: “Thou shalt not steal; . . . thou shalt not lie.”

B. *D&C 51:9*: “Let every man deal honestly.”

C. *D&C 97:8*: “All among them who know their hearts are honest . . . are accepted of me.”

D. **President James E. Faust**: “Honesty is more than not lying. It is truth telling, truth speaking, truth living, and truth loving. [*Ensign*, November 1996, p. 41]

E. “What does it mean to be honest with the Lord? . . . keeping covenants and other promises we have made to the Lord, fulfilling Church assignments, partaking of the sacrament worthily, and paying tithes and offerings. . . . What does it mean to be honest with ourselves? . . . we do not rationalize or excuse sin.” [*Gospel Doctrine Teacher’s Manual*, 1999, p. 252]

6. Use language that reverences God and is edifying

A. *D&C 63:61-62*: “Let all men beware how they take my name in their lips—many there be who are under this condemnation, who use the name of the Lord, and use it in vain . . . Remember that which cometh from above is sacred, and must be spoken with care, and by constraint of the Spirit.”

B. *D&C 136:21*: “Keep yourselves from evil to take the name of the Lord in vain.”

C. **President Gordon B. Hinckley**: “Don’t swear. Don’t profane. Avoid so-called dirty jokes. Stay away from conversation that is sprinkled with foul and filthy words. You will be happier if you do so, and your example will give strength to others. [*Ensign*, October 1987, p. 48]

D. “What are some ways that people take the Lord’s name in vain? . . . using it disrespectfully, using it in a way that is common or casual, and using it in association with coarse thoughts or evil acts. . . . What other kinds of language should we avoid? . . . Language that is vulgar, obscene, crude, or degrading.” [*Gospel Doctrine Teacher’s Manual*, 1999, p. 252]