

Heroes and Villains:

Satan's game of "Who's the real Hero" in the Latter-days

Abraham 3:27-28

And the Lord said: Whom shall I send? And one answered like unto the Son of Man: Here am I, send me. And another answered and said: Here am I, send me. And the Lord said: I will send the first. And the second was angry, and kept not his first estate; and, at that day, many followed after him.

Revelation 12:7-9, 17

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him... And the dragon was wroth... and went to make war with [those] which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

President Hinckley said:

"The war goes on... The victims who fall are as precious as those who have fallen in the past. It is an ongoing battle. We... are all part of the army of the Lord... We cannot be unclean and expect the help of the Almighty... You cannot afford to partake of things that will weaken your minds and your bodies... You cannot be involved in immoral activity. You cannot do these things and be valiant as warriors in the cause of the Lord in the great,

President Hinckley said:

everlasting contest that goes on for the souls of our Father's children... We are engaged in a great eternal struggle that concerns the very souls of the sons and daughters of God. We are not losing. We are winning. We will continue to win if we will be faithful and true. We can do it. We must do it. We will do it. There is nothing the Lord has asked of us that in faith we cannot accomplish. (Conference Report, October 1985, p. 57).

Numbers 21:6-9

And the LORD sent fiery (poisonous) serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

Numbers 21:6-9

And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

Alma 33:20-21

But there were many who were so hardened that they would not look, therefore they perished. Now the reason they would not look is because they did not believe that it would heal them. O my brethren, if ye could be healed by merely casting about your eyes that ye might be healed, would ye not behold quickly?

1 Nephi 17:41—The easiness of the way

Elder Rex Pinegar uses the analogy of Naaman the Leper to teach the importance of not “looking beyond the mark.” (see Rex D. Pinegar, “The Simple Things,” Ensign, Nov. 1994, 80)

President Hinckley pleads with us to hold fast to the things the Lord has given us as cures of the evils of society and the destruction of Home and Family (Gordon B. Hinckley, “To Men of the Priesthood,” Ensign, Nov. 2002, 56)

Isaiah 5:20

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2 Nephi 28:7

Yea, and there shall be many which shall say: Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die; and it shall be well with us.

President Hinckley, with many other prophets have warned against the allure of “things now.” (Gordon B. Hinckley, “To the Boys and to the Men,” Ensign, Nov. 1998, 51)

Alma 41:10

Do not suppose, because it has been spoken concerning restoration, that ye shall be restored from sin to happiness. Behold, I say unto you, wickedness never was happiness.

D&C 59:23

But learn that he who doeth the works of righteousness shall receive his reward, even peace in this world, and eternal life in the world to come.