

Gospel Doctrine Sunday School Lesson

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Slippery Rock Branch

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Today's Word: eschatology

June 17, 2007

Are You:

- Keeping the Promises You Made with Lord?
- Doing the Right Things Out of a Motivation of our Love of Jesus Christ?

Today's Scriptures

Joseph Smith—Matthew
(Matthew 24)

Next Week:

Lesson 22:

“Inherit the Kingdom
Prepared for You”

Matthew 25

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Lesson 21: “What is the Sign of Thy Coming?”



Questions to Ponder

- How can we avoid being deceived by false prophets?
- What are some holy places in which we should stand?

President James E. Faust:

“We unavoidably stand in so many unholy places and are subjected to so much that is vulgar, profane, and destructive of the Spirit of the Lord that I encourage our Saints all over the world, wherever possible, to strive to stand more often in holy places.” (*“Standing in Holy Places,”* Ensign, May 2005, 62).

Elder M. Russell Ballard gave the following counsel of hope and encouragement:

“Although the prophecies tell us that these things are to take place, more and more people are expressing great alarm at what appears to be an acceleration of worldwide calamity. ... Admittedly we have ample reason to be deeply concerned because we see no immediate answers to the seemingly unsolvable problems confronting the human family. But regardless of this dark picture, which will ultimately get worse, we must never allow ourselves to give up hope! ...

“... The Lord is in control. He knows the end from the beginning. He has given us adequate instruction that, if followed, will see us safely through any crisis. His purposes will be fulfilled, and someday we will understand the eternal reasons for all of these events. Therefore, today we must be careful not to overreact, nor should we be caught up in extreme preparations; but what we must do is keep the commandments of God and never lose hope!

“But where do we find hope in the midst of such turmoil and catastrophe? Quite simply, our one hope for spiritual safety during these turbulent times is to turn our minds and our hearts to Jesus Christ. ... Armed with the shield of faith, we can overcome many of our daily challenges and overpower our greatest weaknesses and fears, knowing that if we do our best to keep the commandments of God, come what may, we will be all right” (*Ensign*, Nov. 1992, 31–32).