

Come Follow Me Podcast
Elo Viz production
Week 42
3 Nephi 20-26

This week I would like to show you something profound that I learned. It is one of the strongest tactics of the adversary that he uses on us everyday. And it is not a new thing. He has been using it since the beginning of time. Let's go way way back to the beginning.

In Genesis Chapter one we read about God and Jesus creating the Earth. For six days They created the light, the dirt, the seas, the animals, plants and everything. Then in verse 26 we read this:

“And God said, Let **us make man** in our **image**, after our **likeness**”

This of course is consistent with our beliefs. That we were created in the image and likeness of God. That we were put on this earth to have a mortal experience.

So, God created Adam and Eve, but they were not alone in the garden. The serpent, the father of lies, the evil one came and tempted them. Tempting them to do the very thing God commanded them not to do. This is in Genesis 3 verses 2-5. Listen carefully what the devil says:

“2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3 But of the fruit of the **tree** which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye** shall not surely die:

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your **eyes** shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, **knowing** good and **evil**.”

Did you catch it?

In Genesis one God created man in His own image.

In Genesis three The Serpent tells Eve that in order to be like God she needed to eat of the fruit.

The adversary is always trying to convince us that we don't have something that we have already been given by God. Think about that. What does the devil whisper in your ears?

-You are not good enough.

-Your not forgiven, and you've sinned so much that God will never forgive you.

He tells you: you are not worth saving. No one loves you, you're completely alone.

Lies, lies, lies. All of these lies are intended to distract you from the truth that God has created you in His image. That you are Good enough, you are already forgiven, you are already saved, loved and He is always by your side.

Satan is trying to tell you that you don't have gifts from God that God has already given you. We could go on for hours with examples of this. I encourage you to look at your own life and the lies the serpent is telling you. For now let's look at a few in the chapters we are reading this week:

When we really understand this principle these verses just jump out at you. Considering what we have just been discussing look at this verse in 3 Nephi 21:10:

“**10** But behold, the life of my servant shall be in my hand; therefore they shall not hurt him, although he shall be **marred** because of them. Yet I will heal him, for I will show unto them that **my** wisdom is greater than the cunning of the devil.”

I love that. What are the lies told to us by the devil?

- You need to be scared
- They are going to hurt or even kill you.
- You don't deserve to be healed.

This verse puts to rest all those lies.

We are in His hands. And though bad things may happen to us they shall not hurt us, For He will heal us.

That is a pretty powerful promise.

Here is another one. 3 Nephi 22:10

“For the **mountains** shall depart and the hills be removed, but my **kindness** shall not **depart** from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.”

God's kindness, God's peace, God's mercy. All gifts that have already been bestowed on you. Gifts that are already yours and if you have not received them, I hope this helps to open your eyes that God is standing there right in front of you, arms stretched out full of these gifts that He is just waiting for you to accept from Him.

Brad Wilcox in a recent talk spoke about the hymn “I stand all Amazed” we sing the words.

“I stand all amazed at the love Jesus offers me
Confused at the grace that, so fully, He proffers me”

Proffer is not a word that we use very often. It consists of two words “Pro” and “offer”. What it means is an active way to offer something. Here is an example: If I had a donut shop and I was giving away donuts. I would be offering free donuts. But if I took my donuts and I was out on the street giving them away. Placing them in peoples hands, I would be proffering free donuts.

We see this in the church. When we take the sacrament. The young men could prepare the bread and water and the congregation could stand in line up at the sacrament table, that would be an offering. Instead they proffer the sacrament, meaning it is literally placed in front of you to partake, to accept.

It is no wonder that we stand all amazed. When understood we are amazed at the Love Jesus offers us. We are confused at the grace that, so fully He proffers us.

In Doctrine and Covenants section 88 we read:

“33 For what doth it profit a man if a gift is bestowed upon him, and he receive not the gift? Behold, he rejoices not in that which is given unto him, neither rejoices in him who is the giver of the gift.”

The adversary is telling you that God has abandoned you, that He has left you alone. He is telling you that you are not worth saving, that God doesn't love you, that He will never forgive you.

Nothing could be further from the truth. God the Father, the Creator of the universe, and His beloved Son Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer are proffering their Love to you. they are proffering their grace and forgiveness. They are with you every minute of every day, including right here and right now.

I pray that you can have eyes to see and ears to hear the evidence of their presents in your life every day.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Notes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dU-a94190JQ&t=1085s>