

# Triple Parallel

Text from: *The Law and the Word of the Lord: Our Duty and Our Quest*, by Sterling D. Allan



## First and Second Thirds:

A	We live during the most <b>exciting</b> and <b>challenging</b> time in the history of the world.	In this same revelation in Doctrine and Covenants 103, the Lord <b>promised</b>
B	We have embarked on an <b>adventure</b> that far surpasses anything Hollywood ever produced.	that if the saints would hearken to all his counsels, they would prevail against the kingdoms of the world
C	We have important <i>foreordained destinies</i> to fulfil.	and would " <i>never cease to prevail until the kingdoms of the world are subdued under [His] feet,</i>
D	The forces of evil that are now arrayed must be overcome,	and the earth is given unto the saints, to possess it forever and ever." (103:7.)
E	<b>both</b> individually <b>and</b> collectively.	However, he then warned that if the saints would not hearken <b>altogether</b> unto his precepts and commandments that the kingdoms of the world would prevail against them.
F	Individually we are striving ultimately to come unto Christ. Collectively we are striving to <u>build up Zion</u> .	He reassured us that <u>Zion</u> will "be <u>established</u> , no more to be thrown down." (103:14.)
G	The <b>struggles</b> that lie ahead	However, he said that this <b> blessing</b>
H	will <u>try</u> us to the very core--	will come "after much <u>tribulation</u> ." (103:12.)
I	<i>even as Abraham.</i> (D&C 101:4.)	This prophecy in the Doctrine and Covenants <i>is strikingly similar</i> in wording and essence to Daniel chapter seven.
J	That is the <i>purpose of the trials</i> .	There also, Daniel spoke of how the saints shall eventually " <i>possess the kingdom</i> for ever, even for ever and ever." (7:18; compare D&C 103:7.)
K	<b>Great tribulations</b> will produce a <u>sanctified people</u> worthy to raise up the <u>city of Zion</u> .	He said that before the <u>saints</u> would be given <b>the kingdom</b> , the <b>kingdoms of the world would prevail against them</b> . The symbolic beast he described "shall <b>devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.</b> " (7:23.)
L	<i>Individually</i> , if a person is faithful, <b>tribulations</b> like unto Abraham's will bring the blessings of Abraham.	It will also <i>make "war with the saints, and...[prevail] against them"</i> for three and a half years. (7:21,25; compare Rev. 13:5.)
M	Nearly one third of all scriptures deal with <b>prophecy</b> .	World <b>conditions today</b> suggest
N	Many of those <u>prophecies</u> focus on the very day in which we live, it is so crucial.	that we stand on the brink of the fulfillment of this <u>prophecy</u> .
O	<u>Joel called</u>	In First Nephi 14, <u>Nephi describes</u>
P	this <i>crucible of time</i> ,	the <i>two sides</i>
Q	"the <b>valley of decision</b> ." (Joel 3:14.)	of this <b>war</b> .

R	<p>THE DECISION of which he spoke lies at the core of the dreadful events that are shortly to come.</p>	<p>He saw that all mankind would <b>either (1)</b> belong to the church of the Lamb of God, <b>or (2)</b> they would belong to the church of the devil. (14:10.) People will <b>either (1)</b> be convinced unto peace and life eternal <b>or (2)</b> they will be delivered to the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds. (14:7.)</p>
S	<p>The picture that the prophecies paint of that which is just ahead is not pleasant. Yet the main purpose of prophecies is <b>not to frighten</b> us--</p>	<p>Accordingly, President Benson recently declared, "As the issues become clearer and more obvious, all mankind will be required <b>to align</b> themselves</p>
T	<p>though they do stir us up in <i>remembrance of the Lord</i>.</p>	<p>either <b>for the kingdom of God</b> or with the kingdom of the devil.</p>
U	<p>They are given so that we might <i>believe</i></p>	<p><i>As these conflicts rage</i>, either secretly or openly,</p>
W	<p>repent, understand,</p>	<p>the righteous will be . ." (Ensign, Nov. 1988, p. 87.)</p>
W	<p><u>prepare</u>. (Hel 14:11-13; D&amp;C 84:117; Hel 14:9.)</p>	<p><u>prepares</u> us for this valley of decision by laying down the</p>
X	<p>In Third Nephi, Christ prophesied that the time _____ come in</p>	<p>He said the reason destructions <u>will</u> _____</p>
Y	<p>that THE GENTILES WOULD _____ THE <u>GOSPEL</u></p>	<p>will be "because [we] have (1) <u>cast away the law</u> hosts, and (2) <u>despised the word</u> 5:24.) The law and the word, though related, are separate things. We can readily identify the word of the Lord: it is the _____ of Jesus Christ.</p>
Z	<p>_____ they would be "lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all the people of the whole earth...."</p>	<p>Recall <u>Christ's prophecy</u> _____ .</p>
AA	<p>President Benson, in the last April General Conference,</p>	<p>He, like Isaiah,</p>
BB	<p>addressed this issue of <b>pride</b>. He reminded us of the warning in the Doctrine and Covenants that states, "Beware of <b>pride</b>, lest ye become as <i>the Nephites</i> of old." (D&amp;C 38:39.) We must remember that <b>pride</b> not only caused <i>the Nephites'</i> utter destruction. (Moro. 8:27.) It also brought punishing destructions upon them, to chasten them. (Hel. 15:3.)</p>	<p>said the time would come that <u>the Gentiles</u> would <b>reject the gospel</b>.</p>
CC	<p>The <i>situations presented in the book of Helaman</i> <b>parallel</b> remarkably the conditions we find in the world today and the chastening destructions that apparently await us.</p>	<p>According to Presidents George Albert Smith and Harold B. Lee, the law of the Lord, on the other hand, has to do with the principles of the Constitution of the United States. (George Albert Smith, Improvement Era, Oct. 1945, p. 564; Harold B. Lee, Ensign, Nov. 1971, p. 15.) No wonder Presidents John Taylor and Ezra Taft Benson said, "Besides the preaching of the Gospel, we have another mission, namely, the perpetuation of the free agency of man and the maintenance of liberty, freedom, and the rights of man." (CR., Oct., 1963, p. 16.)</p>
DD	<p>Christ continued his prophecy, declaring that if the <u>Gentiles</u> would not <i>repent and hearken unto him</i></p>	<p>The word of the Lord deals with <u>individual salvation</u>.</p>
EE	<p>that they would be "as <i>salt that hath lost its savor</i>,</p>	<p><i>Rebelling</i> against the word of the Lord</p>
FF	<p>which is thenceforth <i>good for nothing but to be cast out</i></p>	<p>brings <i>spiritual captivity</i></p>

GG	and... <i>trodden under foot....</i> " (3 Ne. 16:15.)	(which, of course, usually has <i>physical manifestations</i> ).
HH	Many other prophets have also described how this hypocritical Gentile <u>nation</u>	The law of the Lord deals with the salvation of <u>nations</u> .
II	shall be <i>trodden down</i> .	Rejecting the law of the Lord results in <i>literal captivity</i> .
JJ	The <b>TWO POINTS</b> I would like to address are <i>the reasons behind this awful scene that will unfold and the stance we should take as we enter into it</i> .	<b>(1)</b> In order to achieve personal salvation and overcome the temptations of the devil, we must adhere to the principles of the gospel. <b>(2)</b> In order to establish Zion and overcome the kingdoms of the world we must adhere to hallowed principles of government. <b>(1)</b> The word of the Lord should be our personal pattern of government. <b>(2)</b> The law of the Lord is for the proper government of the masses.
KK	<u>These two points</u> ,	<u>These two</u> ,
LL	<u>the reasons</u>	<u>the spiritual</u>
MM	and the <u>solution</u> ,	and the <u>temporal</u> ,
NN	seem to <u>hinge on the same factors</u> .	are <u>closely intertwined</u> .
OO	As members of the Church, collectively,	We <u>as members of the church</u>
PP	our garments are not completely clean of the <i>degeneration</i> of our society.	were set up to be a <i>light unto the world</i> on both issues.
QQ	<b>(1)</b> In the one hundred and third section of the Doctrine and Covenants, the Lord told us that He <u>set us up (2)</u> "to be a <i>light unto the world (3)</i> and to be the <i>saviors of men</i> ." (103:9.) <b>(4)</b> Have we <u>adequately performed our obligations</u> over the years?	<b>(4)</b> On both fronts collectively we have not <u>adequately fulfilled our responsibility</u> . <b>(1)</b> We have not <u>held up (2)</u> the principles of the gospel as we should <i>both by sharing it and by the way we live our personal lives</i> . <b>(1)</b> Also, not enough of us have <u>stood up (3)</u> to <b>defend</b> our <i>originally inspired and now faltering Constitution</i> as it has eroded before our eyes.
RR	The Lord seems to suggest that <i>had we been diligent</i> in our duties,	These issues constitute <i>basic reasons</i>
SS	our world would not have <b>fallen</b> to the state that it is now in.	for the <i>coming chastening destructions</i> .
TT	Continuing his above statement--this time specifically referring to the <u>negligent members--</u>	<i>Renewing our devotion</i> to these principles will likewise save us.
UU	the Lord said, "inasmuch as they are not the <i>saviors of men</i> , they are as salt that has lost its savor, and is thenceforth good for nothing but to be <b>cast out an trodden under foot of men</b> ." (103:10.)	Perhaps a major purpose of the <b>chastisement to come</b> will be to restore our determination to <u>stand firm on both fronts</u> .
VV	Note that <i>some of the wording here is identical</i> to that in the prophecy in Third Nephi	From the book of Helaman, we discover that <i>these same factors</i> laid at the root of a division
WW	about our <b>GENTILE</b> society in general. (3 Ne. 16:15.)	that occurred among the <b>NEPHITES</b> .
XX	IS THE REASON OUR SOCIETY AS A WHOLE HAS FALLEN FROM GOD'S FAVOR BECAUSE THE SALT HAS <b>LOST ITS SAVOR?</b>	They too had come to <b>DESPISE</b> THE WORD OF GOD. (Hel. 8:25.) They had also <b>CAST AWAY</b> THE LAWS of Mosiah, which hold remarkable similarities to the <i>Constitution of the United States</i> . (Hel. 4:22.)

\*There are *fifty* consecutive parallels in the first two-thirds of this talk.

**Second and Third Thirds:**

<p>A In this same revelation in Doctrine and Covenants 103, <i>the Lord promised that if the saints would hearken to all his counsels,</i></p>	<p>For these reasons,</p>
<p>B <i>they would prevail</i> against the kingdoms of the world and would "never cease to prevail</p>	<p><i>chastening destructions</i> came upon them.</p>
<p>C until the <i>kingdoms of the world</i> are <i>subdued</i></p>	<p>They were <i>delivered</i> when they humbled themselves sufficiently and destroyed the <i>Gadianton robbers</i></p>
<p>D <i>under [His] feet,</i></p>	<p><i>from off the face of the land.</i> (Hel. 11:10.)</p>
<p>E and the <i>earth is given unto the saints, to possess it forever and ever.</i>" (103:7.)</p>	<p>This ancient secret combination, like one that threatens the world today, had <i>usurped the Nephite's virtuous government</i></p>
<p>F However, he then warned that if <i>the saints</i> would not hearken altogether unto his precepts and commandments that the <i>kingdoms of the world would prevail against them.</i></p>	<p>and even "<i>seduced</i> the more part of <i>the righteous</i></p>
<p>G He reassured us that Zion will "be established, no more to be <i>thrown down.</i>" (103:14.) However, he said that this blessing will come "<i>after much tribulation.</i>" (103:12.)</p>	<p>until they had <i>come down</i> to <i>believe in their works.</i>" (Hel. 7:4; 6:38.)</p>
<p>H This prophecy in the <i>Doctrine and Covenants</i></p>	<p>In <i>Revelation chapter thirteen</i>, John recorded a vision</p>
<p>I is <i>strikingly similar</i> in wording and essence</p>	<p>that <i>closely resembles</i></p>
<p>J to <i>Daniel</i> chapter seven.</p>	<p>the one <i>Daniel</i> saw.</p>
<p>K There also, <i>Daniel spoke</i></p>	<p><i>He described</i></p>
<p>L of how the <i>saints</i></p>	<p>a symbolic <i>beast</i></p>
<p>M shall <i>eventually "possess the kingdom</i></p>	<p>that <i>would make war with the Saints</i></p>
<p>N for ever, even <i>for ever and ever.</i>" (7:18; compare D&amp;C 103:7.)</p>	<p><i>for three and a half years.</i> (13:5,7.)</p>
<p>O <i>He said</i></p>	<p><i>His graphic account suggests</i></p>
<p>P that before the saints would be given the kingdom, the <i>kingdoms of the world would prevail</i> against them.</p>	<p>how <i>influential, deceptive,</i></p>
<p>Q The symbolic beast he described "<i>shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.</i>" (7:23.)</p>	<p>and <i>alluring</i> this beast will be.</p>
<p>R It will also make "war with the <i>saints</i>, and...<i>[prevail] against them</i>" for three and a half years. (7:21,25; compare Rev. 13:5.)</p>	<p>Only those <i>saints</i> whose names are "written in the book of life" will not <i>worship the beast</i></p>
<p>S World conditions today suggest that <i>we stand on the brink of the fulfillment of this prophecy.</i></p>	<p>and take THE MARK OF THE BEAST. (13:8,16.)</p>
<p>T In <i>First Nephi 14,</i></p>	<p>In the previous <i>chapter,</i></p>
<p>U <i>Nephi</i> describes</p>	<p><i>John</i> described</p>
<p>V the two sides of this <i>war.</i></p>	<p>another <i>war--</i></p>

W	He saw that <b>all mankind would either belong to the church of the Lamb of God, or they would belong to the church of the devil.</b> (14:10.)	the WAR IN HEAVEN. (12:7.)
X	<b>People will either be convinced unto peace and life eternal or they will be delivered to the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds.</b> (14:7.)	Then in the same context he mentioned the WAR that satan will wage yet again ON THE EARTH. (12:17.)
Y	Accordingly, President Benson recently declared, "As the issues become clearer and more obvious,	Indeed, the <b>war</b> that is <i>now being waged on earth,</i>
Z	all mankind <u>will be</u> required to align themselves	and which <u>will become</u> most intense in the days ahead,
AA	<i>either for the kingdom of God or with the kingdom of the devil.</i>	is a repeat of the war in heaven.
BB	As these conflicts rage, either secretly or openly, the <b>righteous will be tested.</b> " (Ensign, Nov. 1988, p. 87.)	FREEDOM IS STILL THE CRUX,
CC	Isaiah prepares us for <u>this valley of decision</u>	<u>this time</u>
DD	by laying down the <u>two issues</u> into which all other issues may be circumscribed.	on <u>two arenas</u> .
EE	He said the reason destructions will come will be "because [we] have <b>(1)</b> cast away <i>the law</i> of the Lord of hosts, and <b>(2)</b> despised <i>the word</i> of the Holy One of Israel." (Isa. 5:24.) <b>(1)</b> The law and <b>(2)</b> the word, though related, <u>are separate things</u> .	THE CONFLICT <u>is not only</u> <b>(2)</b> <i>spiritual</i> , it is also <b>(1)</b> <i>physical</i> .
FF	We can readily identify the word of the Lord: it is the <u>gospel</u> of Jesus Christ.	Satan's <i>alluring alternative</i>
GG	Recall Christ's prophecy above. He, like Isaiah, said the <u>time would come</u> that the Gentiles would <b>reject the gospel</b> .	and his <b>arrogant aim</b> were no different in the pre-existence than they are <u>today</u> .
HH	According to Presidents George Albert Smith and Harold B. Lee, the <i>law of the Lord</i> , on the other hand, has to do with the <b>principles</b> of the <i>Constitution of the United States</i> . (George Albert Smith, <i>Improvement Era</i> , Oct. 1945, p. 564; Harold B. Lee, <i>Ensign</i> , Nov. 1971, p. 15.)	Satan's soothing <b>appeal</b> was then, and is now that <b>not one soul will be lost</b> . (Moses 4:1.)
II	No wonder Presidents John Taylor and Ezra Taft Benson said, "Besides the preaching of the Gospel, we have another mission, namely, the perpetuation of the <b>free agency</b> of man and the maintenance of <b>liberty, freedom</b> , and the <b>rights</b> of man." (CR., Oct., 1963, p. 16.)	His plan then, as now, was not in reality a noble solution: he only wanted unsurpassed praise as the <b>autocratic global guardian</b> . (4:1.)
JJ	The word of the Lord deals with individual <i>salvation</i> . Rebelling against the word of the Lord brings <i>spiritual captivity</i>	Though the kingdoms of the world will <i>prevail</i> for a time,
KK	(which, of course, usually has <i>physical manifestations</i> ).	the saints of God will <i>eventually triumph</i> .

LL	The law of the Lord deals with the <b>salvation of nations</b> .	Nephi saw that the <i>saints would be "armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory."</i> (1 Ne. 14:14.)
MM	Rejecting the law of the Lord results in <i>literal captivity</i> .	The <i>challenge ahead</i> is great,
NN	In order to achieve <i>personal salvation</i> and <b>overcome the temptations of the devil</b> , we must adhere to the principles of the gospel. In order to establish <i>Zion</i> and <i>overcome the kingdoms of the world</i> we must adhere to hallowed principles of government.	but <i>the rewards</i> will <i>more than match the trials that will precede them</i> .
OO	The word of the Lord should be our personal pattern of government. The law of the Lord is for the proper government of the masses. These two, the spiritual and the temporal, are closely intertwined.	As we contemplate the <b>TRIALS</b> that lie ahead, the following remarks of the apostle Paul become reassuring. He counseled, "...Despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:
PP	We as <b>members of the church</b>	For <b>whom the Lord loveth</b> he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." (Heb. 12:5,6.)
QQ	were <i>set up to be a light</i> unto the <u>world</u> on both issues.	Nephi declared that the Lord "doeth not anything save it be for <i>the benefit</i> of the <u>world</u> ; for he loveth the <u>world</u> ...." (2 Ne. 26:24.)
RR	On BOTH FRONTS <i>collectively</i> we have not adequately fulfilled our responsibility. <b>(1)</b> We have not held up the principles of the <b>gospel</b> as we should both by sharing it and by the way we live our personal lives. <b>(2)</b> Also, not enough of us have stood up to defend our originally inspired and now faltering <b>Constitution</b> as it has eroded before our eyes.	<b>(2)</b> <i>Zion</i> is our goal <i>collectively</i> , <b>(1)</b> and having our <b>calling and election</b> made sure is our goal individually.
SS	These issues constitute <i>basic reasons</i> for the coming <u>chastening</u> destructions.	The <u>chastisements</u> of the Lord are "for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness." (Heb. 12:10.) "No <u>chastening</u> for the present," continued Paul, "seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees...." (Heb. 12:11.)
TT	<i>Renewing our devotion to these principles</i>	Paul further indicated that <i>if we do these things</i> ,
UU	will likewise <i>save</i> us.	we "shall <i>see the Lord</i> ." (12:14.)
VV	Perhaps a major purpose of the chastisement to come will be to <i>restore our determination</i> to stand firm on BOTH FRONTS.	<b>(1)</b> Like an individual must <i>overcome</i> the world to be redeemed, <b>(2)</b> so must the saints of God <i>overcome</i> the kingdoms of the world so that the world might be redeemed.
WW	From the book of Helaman, we discover that these same factors laid at the root of a <b>division that occurred among the Nephites</b> .	<i>The Lord will be our staff and our stay, but we must be the instruments.</i>
XX	<b>They too had come to despise the word of God.</b> (Hel. 8:25.) <b>They had also cast away the laws of Mosiah, which hold remarkable similarities to the Constitution of the United States.</b> (Hel. 4:22.)	This is our duty, this is our quest. <b>MAY WE BE FAITHFUL IN THIS GLORIOUS RESPONSIBILITY.</b>

\*There are *fifty* consecutive parallels in the last two-thirds of this talk.