

Prophets of God

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Guds profeter

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To listen to and obey the voice of the prophet is crucial to holding on to every good thing until the Second Coming.

Dear youth, what a beautiful conference session we are having! We have already heard three living Apostles of Jesus Christ. What a wonderful blessing! And we will still hear one more, Elder Henry B. Eyring. The spiritual feast continues!

When I spoke last year, we learned how to face this world through David's experience with Goliath. Remember the five stones? Today I am sharing an Old Testament story I read at your age which left me wanting to be like its protagonist. The Bible does not tell us her name, so we will call her the woman of Shunem because this is the name of her town.

One day the prophet Elisha was passing through Shunem, and we read that there "was a great woman; and she [invited] him to eat bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in ... to eat bread." I imagine the prophet Elisha was so happy with the invitation to eat at her house! He had already gone several times, when one day the woman said to her husband, "Now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God."

The woman says, "Now, I perceive." It seems she invited Elisha to her house without knowing he was the prophet; she received her testimony through the Holy Ghost by listening carefully to what Elisha said and taught. (Remember, there were no pictures at that time! So it was hard to recognize the prophet just by his face.)

At lytte til og adlyde profetens røst er altafgørende for at gribe fat i alt godt indtil det andet komme.

Kære unge mennesker, sikke et smukt konferencemøde, vi er vidne til! Vi har allerede hørt fra tre levende Jesu Kristi apostle. Sikke en vidunderlig velsignelse! Og vi kommer til at høre fra endnu en, ældste Henry B. Eyring. Den åndelige fest fortsætter!

Da jeg talte sidste år, lærte vi, hvordan vi kan gå denne verden i møde gennem Davids oplevelse med Goliath. Kan I huske de fem sten? I dag deler jeg en historie fra det Gamle Testamente, jeg læste, da jeg var på jeres alder, og som fik mig til at ønske at være ligesom hovedpersonen i den. Bibelen nævner ikke hendes navn, så lad os kalde hende kvinden fra Shunem, for det er navnet på hendes landsby.

En dag var profeten Elisa på vej gennem Shunem, og vi læser, at der »boede en velstående kvinde, og hun indbød ham til at spise. Hver gang han kom forbi ... tog han ind hos hende for at spise.« Jeg forestiller mig, at profeten Elisa var virkelig glad for at blive inviteret til at spise hjemme hos hende! Han havde allerede været forbi adskillige gange, da kvinden en dag sagde til sin mand: »Jeg ved [nu], at han ... er en hellig gudsmand.

Kvinden sagde: »Jeg ved [nu]« [i den engelske bibel]. Det synes som om, at hun inviterede Elisa hjem til sig uden at vide, at han var profet, og modtog sit vidnesbyrd gennem Helligånden ved at lytte opmærksomt til det, Elisa sagde og underviste om. (Husk, at man ikke havde billeder på denne tid! Så det var svært at genkende profeten alene ud fra hans ansigt.)

But the story does not end there. One day the woman said to her husband, "Let us make a little chamber, ... and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in."

This faithful woman was willing to build a room in her house so that the prophet, passing through the city, would have a place to stay!

Today we can learn a powerful lesson from this experience.

The Lord testified to the woman of Shunem that Elisha was a prophet of God, and she acted by opening her house to receive him.

We too can receive a personal testimony of God's prophets today and open our hearts and minds—our house—to the message that our Heavenly Father has for us in these latter days.

Dear youth, I invite you to ask yourself this question: "Do I have a personal testimony of God's living prophets?"

Let's start at the beginning.

What is a prophet? A prophet is a man whom God has called to speak for Him. There are prophets on the earth today, just as there were in ancient times.

Prophets are seers and revelators. That means they can see what others cannot see, and they can prophesy of future events. They can also prepare us for calamities. Prophets receive commandments and revelations from the Lord. Then in this article of faith speaks of the continuing revelation in these last days. It says, "We believe all that God has revealed, all that He does now reveal, and we believe that He will yet reveal many great and important things pertaining to the Kingdom of God."

Elder Gary E. Stevenson said, "The Lord continues to reveal His commandments and will to His prophets today because He desires to lead us to happiness in this life and to celestial glory in the next life."

Prophets also proclaim the gospel and are inspired teachers and messengers of God to everyone on earth.

Each member of the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles is a prophet, seer, and revelator. Serving as a council under the Lord's direction, they have the authority to declare and interpret doctrine and establish policy for His Church. They carefully pray and deliber-

Men historien slutter ikke her. En dag sagde denne kvinde til sin mand: »Lad os indrette et lille værelse ... og sætte en seng, et bord, en stol og en lampe op til ham. Så kan han være der, hver gang han kommer hos os.«

Denne trofaste kvinde var villig til at indrette et værelse i sit hjem, således at profeten, når han var i byen, kunne have et sted at overnatte!

Denne oplevelse kan lære os en vigtig lektie i dag.

Herren vidnede for kvinden fra Shunem om, at Elisa var en Herrens profet, og hun handlede på dette ved at åbne sit hjem op for at modtage ham.

På samme måde kan vi modtage et personligt vidnesbyrd om Guds profeter i dag og åbne vores hjerte og sind – vores hus – for det budskab, vor himmelske Fader har til os i disse de sidste dage.

Kære unge mennesker, jeg opfordrer jer til at spørge jer selv: Har jeg et personligt vidnesbyrd om Guds levende profeter?

Lad os tage det fra begyndelsen.

Hvad er en profet? En profet er en mand, som Gud har kaldet til at tale for sig. Der er profeter på jorden i dag, nøjagtigt som i fordums tid.

Profeter er seere og åbenbarere. Det betyder, at de kan se det, andre ikke kan se, og at de kan profetere om fremtidige begivenheder. De kan også forberede os på katastrofer. Profeter modtager befalinger og åbenbaringer fra Herren. Derved talar trosartikler om fortsat åbenbaring i de sidste dage. Den lyder således: »Vi tror på alt, hvad Gud har åbenbaret, alt, hvad han nu åbenbarer, og vi tror, at han endnu vil åbenbare mange store og vigtige ting angående Guds rige.«

Ældste Gary E. Stevenson har sagt: »Herren fortsætter med at åbenbare sine befalinger og sin vilje for sine profeter i dag, fordi han ønsker at føre os til lykke i dette liv og til celestial herlighed i det næste liv.«

Profeter forkynder også evangeliet og er inspirerede lærere og budbringere fra Gud til alle mennesker på jorden.

Hvert medlem af Det Første Præsidentskab og De Tolv Apostles Kvorum er en profet, seer og åbenbarer. Fordi de tjener som et råd under Herrens ledelse, har de myndighed til at kundgøre og fortolke læresætninger og fastlægge retningslinjer for hans kirke. De beder omhyggeligt

ate, for the decisions of these quorums must be unanimous. In this way, the Lord assures us that His will will be done.

Prophets testify of Christ—His existence, His ministry, and His divinity.

Let us read some testimonies from prophets in the Book of Mormon.

Abinadi proclaimed:

“God himself shall come down among the children of men, and shall redeem his people.

“And because he dwelleth in flesh he shall be called the Son of God.”

Samuel the Lamanite also testified that Jesus Christ is “the Son of God, the Father of heaven and of earth, the Creator of all things from the beginning.”

And the prophet Moroni said, “I have seen Jesus, and ... he hath talked with me face to face.”

When Christ visited the Nephites, one of the first things He did was call twelve Apostles. And He said to the people, “Blessed are ye if ye shall give heed unto the words of these twelve whom I have chosen.”

Now, let me share a few words for parents or other family members raising children. The Lord Himself taught Adam and Eve the truths of the plan of salvation. And then He said to them, “I give unto you a commandment, to teach these things freely unto your children.”

What does it mean to teach freely? It is learning the truths of the gospel, having a personal testimony of them, and sharing that knowledge with our children. It is promoting both formal and informal teaching moments. It is living according to that knowledge and testimony.

The Book of Mormon describes the 2,060 stripling warriors as “men of truth and soberness, for they had been taught to keep the commandments of God and to walk uprightly before him.” These young men faithfully obeyed Helaman, who at that time was their military leader and also their prophet, and they recognized that their mothers had filled their hearts with truth and faith.

Parents, in this world where there are many voices and sometimes much darkness, God Himself has commanded us to raise our children in light and truth. He entrusted us with the responsibility to teach our children the saving truths of the gospel. If we fail to do so, the world

og drøfter sager indgående, fordi beslutninger i disse kvorummer skal træffes ved enstemmighed. På denne måde forsikrer Herren os om, at hans vilje vil ske.

Profeter vidner om Kristus— hans eksistens, hans tjenestegerning og hans guddommelighed.

Lad os læse nogle vidnesbyrd fra profeter i Mormons Bog.

Abinadi erklærede:

»Gud selv skal komme ned blandt menneskenes børn og skal forløse sit folk.

Og fordi han bor i kødet, skal han kaldes Guds Søn.«

Lamanitten Samuel vidnede også om, at Jesus Kristus er »Guds Søn, himlens og jordens Fader, skaberen af alt fra begyndelsen«.

Og profeten Moroni sagde: »Jeg har set Jesus, og ... han har talt med mig ansigt til ansigt.«

Da Kristus besøgte nefitterne, var en af de første ting, han gjorde, at kalde tolv apostle. Og han sagde til folket: »Velsignede I, hvis I giver agtpå ordene fra disse tolv, som jeg har udvalgt.«

Lad mig sige et par ord til forældre eller andre familiemedlemmer, der opdrager børn. Herren selv underviste Adam og Eva i sandhederne i frelsesplanen. Og han sagde: »Derfor giver jeg dig en befaling om frit at læredine børn dette.«

Hvad betyder det frit at lære dem dette? Det betyder at lære evangeliets sandheder, at have et personligt vidnesbyrd om dem og at dele denne viden med vores børn. Det fremelsker både formelle og uformelle undervisningssituationer. Det betyder at leve i harmoni med denne kundskab og dette vidnesbyrd.

Mormons Bog beskriver de 2.060 unge krigere som »mænd af sandhed og alvor, for de var blevet formanet til at holde Guds befalinger og vandre retsindigt for ham«. Disse unge mænd adlød Helaman trofast, som på dette tidspunkt både var deres militære leder og deres profet, og de anerkendte, at deres mødre havde fyldt deres hjerte med sandhed og tro.

Kære forældre, i denne verden, hvor der er mange stemmer og til tider meget mørke, har Gud selv befalet os at opdrage vores børn i lys og sandhed. Han har betroet os ansvaret for at undervise vores børn i evangeliets frelsende sandheder. Hvis vi ikke formår at gøre dette, gør

will not do it.

Dear young friends, I have an invitation for you: In the coming days, I invite you to kneel, open your hearts, and pray with faith to Heavenly Father, asking Him to confirm to you that His chosen prophet and apostles are His voice on the earth today.

The woman of Shunem taught us that we can have that testimony through the Holy Ghost. I promise you that once we know they are God's anointed ones, our lives will be easier in spite of our ongoing challenges, as we will obey their voices with trust, faith, and hope. To listen to and obey the voice of the prophet is crucial to holding on to every good thing until the Second Coming of our Savior.

The world's wickedness is growing, but the Church of Jesus Christ and His kingdom are stronger than ever. Zion is putting on its beautiful garments, and Christ's throne will not fall. The Lord expects us to be strong in our testimonies, to be full of faith, and to repent daily. Our Savior, Jesus Christ, is counting on each of us to carry on His work.

Once, the Prophet Joseph Smith said, "Brethren, shall we not go on in so great a cause?" However, since my message is mainly for you, the youth, I would like to use the word youth instead of brethren. Ready?

"[Youth], shall we not go on in so great a cause? Go forward and not backward. Courage, [youth]; and on, on to the victory! Let your hearts rejoice, and be exceedingly glad."

I am grateful for the guidance and consecrated efforts of the living prophets. I give you my solemn testimony that they are called by God to carry forth, establish, and lead His kingdom on earth today. And it will always be so. It will always be the Lord who chooses His servants. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

verden det ikke.

Kære unge venner, jeg har en opfordring til jer: I de kommende dage opfordrer jeg jer til at knæle ned, åbne jeres hjerte og bede vor himmelske Fader i tro om at bekræfte for jer, at hans udvalgte profet og apostle er hans talerør på jorden i dag.

Kvinden fra Shunem lærte os, at vi kan modtage dette vidnesbyrd gennem Helligånden. Jeg lover jer, at når vider, at de er Guds salvede, vil vores liv blive nemmere på trods af vores vedvarende udfordringer, når vi adlyder deres røst med tillid, tro og håb. At lytte til og adlyde profetens røst er altafgørende for at gribe fat i alt godt indtil vor Frelses andet komme.

Verdens ugudelighed tager til, men Jesu Kristi Kirke og hans rige er stærkere end nogensinde. Zion ifører sig sin festdragt, og Kristi trone røkkes ikke. Herren forventer, at vi er stærke i vores vidnesbyrd, fulde af tro, og at vi omvender os dagligt. Vor Frelser, Jesus Kristus, regner med enhver af os i forhold til at føre hans værk videre.

Engang sagde profeten Joseph Smith: »Brødre, skal vi ikke gå videre, hvad angår så stor en sag?« Men eftersom mit budskab hovedsageligt er til jer unge, vil jeg gerne anvende betegnelsen unge mennesker i stedet for brødre. Er I klar?

»[Unge mennesker], skal vi ikke gå videre, hvad angår så stor en sag? Gå fremad og ikke tilbage. Fat mod, [unge mennesker,] og videre, videre frem til sejr! Lad jeres hjerte fryde sig og være overordentlig glad.«

Jeg er taknemmelig for levende profeters vejledning og hellige indsats. Jeg bærer mit højtidelige vidnesbyrd om, at de er kaldet af Gud til at videreføre, grundfæste og lede hans rige på jorden i dag. Og det vil altid være sådan. Det vil altid være Herren, der udvælger sine tjenere. I Jesu Kristi navn. Amen.