

Discerning Truth from Error

In all gospel dispensations, the forces of evil have opposed God and His work. But God’s work will not be frustrated. In these latter days, the stone has been cut out of the mountain, and it will “roll forth, until it fills the whole earth” (D&C 65:2). However, because individual members of the Church can be deceived, we each need to “watch and pray always” (3 Nephi 18:18).



“There is no need for you or for me, in this enlightened age when the fulness of the gospel has been restored, to sail uncharted seas or to travel unmarked roads in search of truth. A loving Heavenly Father has plotted our course and provided an un-failing guide—even *obedience*. A knowledge of truth and the answers to our greatest questions come to us as we are obedient to the commandments of God” (Thomas S. Monson, “Obedience Brings Blessings,” *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2013, 89).



“My dear friends—please, first doubt your doubts before you doubt your faith. We must never allow doubt to hold us prisoner and keep us from the divine love, peace, and gifts that come through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ” (Dieter F. Uchtdorf, “Come, Join with Us,” *Ensign or Liahona*, Nov. 2013, 23).



“Satan is the great deceiver, ‘the accuser of [the] brethren’ [Revelation 12:10], the father of all lies [see John 8:44], who continually seeks to deceive that he might overthrow us [D&C 50:3]. . . .

“For those who already embrace the truth, his primary strategy is to spread the seeds of doubt. For example, he has caused many members of the Church to stumble when they discover information about the Church that seems to contradict what they had learned previously.

“If you experience such a moment, remember that in this age of information there are many who create doubt about anything and everything, at any time and every place. . . .

“ . . . And it is always good to keep in mind that just because something is printed on paper, appears on the Internet, is frequently repeated, or has a powerful group of followers doesn’t make it true.

“Sometimes untrue claims or information are presented in such a way that they appear quite credible. . . .

“ . . . What may seem contradictory now may be perfectly understandable as we search for and receive more

trustworthy information” (Dieter F. Uchtdorf, “What Is Truth?” [Church Educational System devotional, Jan. 13, 2013], lds.org/broadcasts).



“When we begin by measuring modern practices and proposals against what we know of God’s plan and the premises given in the word of God and the teachings of His living prophets, . . . we know that this puts us on safe ground eternally” (Dallin H. Oaks, “As He Thinketh in His Heart” [evening with Elder Dallin H. Oaks, Feb. 8, 2013], lds.org/broadcasts).



“In moments of fear or doubt or troubling times, hold the ground you have already won, even if that ground is limited. . . . When those moments come and issues surface, the resolution of which is not immediately forthcoming, *hold fast to what you already know and stand strong until additional knowledge comes*” (Jeffrey R. Holland, “Lord, I Believe,” *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2013, 93–94).



“We might remind the sincere inquirer that Internet information does not have a ‘truth’ filter. Some information, no matter how convincing, is simply not true” (Neil L. Andersen, “Joseph Smith,” *Ensign or Liahona*, Nov. 2014, 29).



“Answers to spiritual questions are given to individuals who don’t harden their hearts; who ask in faith, believing they will receive; and who diligently keep the commandments” (Paul V. Johnson, “A Pattern for Learning Spiritual Things” [Church Educational System address to religious educators, Aug. 7, 2012]; si.lds.org).



“Studying the Church . . . through the eyes of its defectors [is] like interviewing Judas to understand Jesus” (Neal A. Maxwell, “All Hell Is Moved” [Brigham Young University devotional, Nov. 8, 1977], 3; speeches.byu.edu).

