

Christ-centered homes are fortresses for the kingdom of God on earth in a day when, as prophesied, the devil “rage[s] in the hearts of the children of men, and stir[s] them up to anger against that which is good.”



As we live with devotion born of faith in Jesus Christ, we will feel the peaceful presence of the Holy Ghost, who guides us to truth, inspires us to live worthy of the Lord’s blessings, and bears



witness that God lives and loves us. All this within the fortress of our own homes. But remember, our homes are only as powerful as the spiritual strength of each one of us within the walls.

*President Russell M. Nelson has taught, “In coming days, it will not be possible to survive spiritually without the guiding, directing, comforting, and constant influence of the Holy Ghost.” [as our watchman on the tower, he sees the advances of the enemy]*

Satan knows his days are numbered and that time is growing shorter. As crafty and cunning as he is, he will not win. However, his battle for each one of our souls rages on.

For our safety, we must build a fortress of spirituality and protection for our very souls, a fortress that will not be penetrated by the evil one.

*A mighty fortress is our God,  
A tower of strength ne'er  
falling.  
A helper mighty is  
our God,  
O'er ills of life  
prevailing.*



When we build a fortress of spiritual strength, we can shun the advances of the adversary, turn our backs on him, and **feel the peace**

**of the Spirit.** We can follow the example of our Lord and Savior, who, when tempted in the wilderness, said, “Get thee behind me, Satan.” We each have to learn by the experiences of life how to do that.



**“Be strong and of ... good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.”**

What are some ways we can fortify ourselves in troubled times, that we may be “instruments in the hands of God to bring about this great work”?

- We are obedient
- We trust the Lord
- We stand for the truth
- We make and renew our covenants by partaking of the sacrament and by worshipping in the temple
- We should have integrity in all that we do.
- We should develop discernment and discipline so that we do not have to continually determine what is right and what is wrong.



As we diligently strengthen our fortifications, **WE BECOME LIKE JESUS CHRIST**, as His true disciples, with *our very souls in His protection.*

**Your testimony of Jesus Christ is your personal fortress, the security for your soul...Our testimonies connect us to the heavens, and we are blessed with “the truth of all things.**

My dear brothers and sisters, I leave you with my blessing to-  
**Go forth with confidence in the Lord and in His gospel.**

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