

A dramatic storm scene with a large, glowing orange and red lightning bolt striking a dark, stormy sky over a dark landscape. The lightning bolt is the central focus, with a bright, fiery core and a jagged, branching path. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds, and the overall color palette is dominated by deep oranges, reds, and blacks. The text "Refuge from the Storm" is overlaid in the center in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

Refuge from the Storm

Follow the Prophet

Adam was a prophet, first one that we know.

In a place called Eden, he helped things to grow.

Adam served the Lord by following his ways.

We are his descendants in the latter days.

2. Enoch was a prophet; he taught what was good.

People in his city did just what they should.

When they were so righteous that there was no sin,

Heav'nly Father took them up to live with him.

Follow the prophet, follow the prophet,

Follow the prophet; don't go astray.

Follow the prophet, follow the prophet,

Follow the prophet; he knows the way.

Follow the Prophet

Isaiah was a prophet, Hard to understand,

When we finally get it, Everything is grand!

Hearken to the poet, Knows his stuff, I've heard,

We'll be lifted up, Par-taking of the Word!

Follow the prophet, follow the prophet,

Follow the prophet; don't go astray.

Follow the prophet, follow the prophet,

Follow the prophet; he knows the way.

The experts know more than you!

I think there is a world market for maybe five computers.”

- Thomas Watson (1874-1956), Chairman of IBM, 1943

“There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home.”

- Ken Olson, president, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977

“The concept is interesting and well-formed, but in order to earn better than a ‘C,’ the idea must be feasible.”

- A Yale University management professor in response to student Fred Smith’s paper proposing reliable overnight delivery service. (Smith went on to found Federal Express.)

“Who wants to hear actors talk?”

- H. M. Warner (1881-1958), founder of Warner Brothers, in 1927

“We don’t like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out.”

- Decca Recording Co. rejecting the Beatles, 1962

“Everything that can be invented has been invented.”

- Charles H. Duell, Commissioner, U.S. Office of Patents, 189



Looking to the Scriptures for answers

Isaiah 7



The Prophet Pattern

Isaiah 6



The Refuge from the Coming Storm

Isaiah 4: 5,6

And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence.

And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain

Three Places of Refuge:

1- Every dwelling place

2- upon her assemblies

3- a tabernacle for:

a shadow in the daytime

a place of refuge

a covert from storm and from rain

What threatens our Refuge? Isaiah 5



CAUTION

Stumbling

Blocks

Isaiah 8



Elder Holland on the Book of Mormon

If *anyone* is foolish enough or misled enough to reject 531 pages of a heretofore unknown text teeming with literary and Semitic complexity without honestly attempting to account for the origin of those pages—

especially without accounting for their powerful witness of Jesus Christ and the profound spiritual impact that witness has had on what is now tens of millions of readers—

if that is the case, then such a person, elect or otherwise, has been deceived; and if he or she leaves this Church, it must be done by crawling over or under or around the Book of Mormon to make that exit.

In that sense the book is what Christ Himself was said to be: “a stone of stumbling, ... a rock of offence,” [11](#) a barrier in the path of one who wishes not to believe in this work. (Oct 2009 GC)

Divine Pleadings

*Wash [ye],
make you clean;
put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; (1:16)*

*Learn to do well;
seek [justice], *relieve* the oppressed,
[vindicate] the fatherless, *plead* for the widow. (1:17)*

*Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord:
though your sins be as *scarlet*, they shall be as white as snow;
though they be red like *crimson*, they shall be as wool. (1:18)*

*If ye be *willing and obedient*, ye shall eat the good of the land; (1:19)
But if ye *refuse and rebel*, ye shall be devoured with the sword.
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. (1:20)*

Elder CS Lewis

I find that when I think I am asking God to forgive me I am often in reality (unless I watch myself very carefully) asking Him to do something quite different. I am asking him not to forgive me but to excuse me. But there is all the difference in the world between forgiving and excusing.

Forgiveness says, "Yes, you have done this thing, but I accept your apology; I will never hold it against you and everything between us two will be exactly as it was before." If one was not really to blame then there is nothing to forgive. In that sense forgiveness and excusing are almost opposites.

Of course, in dozens of cases, either between God and man, or between one man and another, there may be a mixture of the two. Part of what at first seemed to be the sins turns out to be really nobody's fault and is excused; the bit that is left over is forgiven.

Elder CS Lewis

If you had a perfect excuse, you would not need forgiveness; if the whole of your actions needs forgiveness, then there was no excuse for it. But the trouble is that what we call "asking God's forgiveness" very often really consists in asking God to accept our excuses.

What leads us into this mistake is the fact that there usually is some amount of excuse, some "extenuating circumstances." We are so very anxious to point these things out to God (and to ourselves) that we are apt to forget the very important thing; that is, the bit left over, the bit which excuses don't cover, the bit which is inexcusable but not, thank God, unforgivable.

And if we forget this, we shall go away imagining that we have repented and been forgiven when all that has really happened is that we have satisfied ourselves without own excuses. They may be very bad excuses; we are all too easily satisfied about ourselves.