



"A farmer was in need of replacing his hired hand. As he interviewed several applicants he was impressed by one man that listed as part of his qualifications for the job, "I can sleep when the wind blows." The farmer did not ask what that meant but liked what he saw in the man otherwise so he hired him and put him to work. He seemed to be a good worker and the farmer was pleased with his choice. Many weeks had passed when one night the farmer was awakened in the middle of the night by the sound of a raging storm outside and he became alerted to the need to secure his animals and equipment from damage or loss. He quickly dressed and tried to awaken his hired hand but despite all of his efforts the man was in a very deep sleep and could not be awakened. Giving up on his efforts he decided to try to do what he could on his own to save his property. But as he went about his property in the raging storm he found all secured, tied down and out of harm's way. Everything was spared any injury or damage due to the preparations made systematically, over time, and reviewed each day by his hired hand. It was then he realized the importance of that one qualification of his hired hand and he 'could indeed sleep when the wind blows' because he had done all in advance of the storm to be ready when it came, because he knew that one day it would come."

I guess when we are prepared we shall all not fear but be able to rest knowing we have made ready for the day the storms will come, as they always do. This applies, of course, to both temporal and spiritual preparation. The story applies to the temporal and these two scriptures apply to the spiritual:

Alma 26: 5-7 Behold, the field was ripe, and blessed are ye, for ye did thrust in the sickle, and did reap with your might, yea, all the day long did ye labor; and behold the number of your sheaves! And they shall be gathered into the garners, that they are not wasted. Yea, they shall not be beaten down by the storm at the last day; yea, neither shall they be harrowed up by the whirlwinds; but when the storm cometh they shall be gathered together in their place, that the storm cannot penetrate to them; yea, neither shall they be driven with fierce winds whithersoever the enemy listeth to carry them. But behold, they are in the hands of the Lord of the harvest, and they are his; and he will raise them up at the last day.

D&C 101:63-66 Again, verily I say unto you, I will show unto you wisdom in me concerning all the churches, inasmuch as they are willing to be guided in a right and proper way for their salvation—That the work of the gathering together of my saints may continue, that I may build them up unto my name upon holy places; for the time of harvest is come, and my word must needs be fulfilled. Therefore, I must gather together my people, according to the parable of the wheat and the tares, that the wheat may be secured in the garners to possess eternal life, and be crowned with celestial glory, when I shall come in the kingdom of my Father to reward every man according as his work shall be; While the tares shall be bound in bundles, and their bands made strong, that they may be burned with unquenchable fire.

Prepare Ye, Prepare Ye is the ever present watch cry of our Master.
Might we be wise in heeding that counsel.

-- President Roberts