

EPISODE 32

Dr. Kenneth L. Alford



D&C 85-87

“Stand Ye in Holy Places”

Show Notes

Podcast General Description:

Follow Him: A *Come, Follow Me* Podcast with Hank Smith & John Bytheway

Do you ever feel that preparing for your weekly *Come, Follow Me* lesson falls short? Join hosts Hank Smith and John Bytheway as they interview experts to make your study for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' *Come, Follow Me* course not only enjoyable but original and educational. If you are looking for resources to make your study fresh, faithful, and fun--no matter your age--then join us every Sunday.

Podcast Episode Descriptions:

Part 1:

Will members receive revelation for those outside of their stewardship? Who is the one “Great and Mighty” mentioned in this week’s lesson? Join Dr. Kenneth Alford as he shares what it means to “steady the ark,” as well as teaching how the early Saints learned about personal revelations, corporeal revelation, and the “unspeakable gift” of the Holy Ghost. The Saints are living through persecution and hear the rumors of war. This week’s lesson applies to each member as we live in a time of tribulations and learn to listen to the voice of the Lord.

Part 2:

How do Lydia and Edward Partridge’s suffering, humility, and service apply to Latter-day Saints today? Dr. Alford returns for Part II and we discuss keeping a record of the Lord’s hand in our lives, what supporting our leaders may look like (or not), as well as the parable of the Last

Days. Dr. Alford's lifelong service in the US Army helps us relate to wars, rumors of wars, in the 1830s and today.

Timecodes:

Part 1

- 00:00 Welcome to follow HIM with Hank Smith and John Bytheway
- 01:16 Introduction of Kenneth L. Alford, Ph.D. Professor of Church History and Doctrine, Brigham Young University, Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret.)
- 09:26 Background to Section 85
- 11:26 W.W. Phelps had been baptized, bought a printing press, and is printing the Book of Commandments
- 12:16 Section 85 is a letter from Joseph to W. W. Phelps
- 15:21 Description of Holy Ghost as something that "pierceth all things"
- 16:13 Edward Partridge struggling lead the Saints to live the Law of Consecration while facing persecution
- 19:00 Story of Uzzah steadying the Ark of the Covenant and the phrase "one mighty and strong" is used by many splinter groups, cause of much speculation for 75 years
- 25:07 What "steady the ark" may look like in our day
- 34:00 President Oaks story about praying over types of beans
- 36:12 The Holy Ghost is the "unspeakable gift" and we have to learn to Hear Him
- 38:14 Edward Partridge becomes a great hero of the Restoration and someone "one mighty and strong" doesn't have to save the Church. Edward becomes that man
- 45:29 Importance of keeping records
- 48:51 Background to Section 86 and the parables of the wheat and the tares and the sower
- 1:03:08 The love of money and the deceitfulness of riches
- 1:06:30 End of Part I

Part 2:

- 00:00 Welcome to Part II
- 00:30 Background to Section 87--South Carolina and the Nullification Crisis
- 03:47 The juxtaposition between Section 86 and 87. Joseph receives a revelation on war which becomes Section 87, right after Section 86 regarding peace
- 06:01 Section 130 refers to Section 87 and war and Joseph praying and receiving Section 87
- 09:08 *Philadelphia Sunday Mercury* publishes Section 87 in its entirety

- 11:44 *Civil War Saints* (edited by Dr. Alford) lists known LDS members involved in the Civil War
- 13:14 Story of William Douglas who goes AWOL, changes name to John Davis, joins Church, serves mission, receives temple blessings, etc. under pseudonym
- 16:51 Mentions of other books involving LDS members in US Wars
- 19:00 Dr. Alford discusses the tragedy of the US Civil War, the changes in warfare, bullet rifling, etc.
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- 24:30 The Savior says “war and rumors of war” are a sign of the Last Days and 33% of the Book of Mormon discusses war
- 27:44 End of slavery in the United States and the world as well as earthquakes are mentioned in Section 87 and the Lord’s use of a militaristic title: Lord of the Sabaoth
- 36:23 Dr. Alford shares Gulf War story that includes a plane, an attack, and a priesthood blessing
- 39:22 Dr. Alford shares story of LDS Chaplain wearing a pink uniform
- 41:59 Story about the Spirit and an IED
- 42:55 Story of the Church being organized in Afghanistan
- 48:16 The organization of a military district of the Church in Iraq
- 50:35 Story of William K Jackson and his motorcade and a briefcase in Iraq
- 53:45 Essay by the late Scott Pace
- 1:00:07 Testimony of Section 87 and revelation to Saints during times of war and standing in holy places
- 1:06:19 Rank disappears with the military when there are Saints serving together--like the temple
- 1:08:10 Dr. Alford bears his testimony about the Restoration, the love of God for all of his children, and the Savior.
- 1:14:06 End of podcast

Sources:

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Foundation. <https://josephsmithfoundation.org/destroying-angels-are-active-wilford-woodruff/>.

Additional Sources:

The Come, Follow Me Lesson for Sections 85-87:

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/come-follow-me-for-individuals-and-families-doctrine-and-covenants-2021/32?lang=eng>

Revelations in Context:

<https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/landing/revelations-in-context?lang=eng>

If you enjoyed Episode 32 with Dr. Kenneth Alford, you may also like:

Dr. Alford's book about LDS Saints during the US Civil War, *Civil War Saints*:

<https://rsc-legacy.byu.edu/award-winning/civil-war-saints>

Dr. Alford's Book *Saints at War*

https://deseretbook.com/p/rsc-saints-at-war-the-gulf-war-afghanistan-and-iraq?queryID=9b65f6171c027ab8a517dc6761c8e3d7&variant_id=179358-hardcover

The Church's response after 9/11:

<https://www.thechurchnews.com/archives/2018-09-10/balm-for-wounded-hearts-at-memorial-159490>

Bibliography:



Dr. Alford, Ph.D. Professor of Church History and Doctrine, Brigham Young University, Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret.).

Background: After serving almost thirty years on active duty in the United States Army, he retired as a colonel in 2008. While on active military duty, Ken served in numerous assignments, including the Pentagon, eight years teaching computer science and information systems engineering at the United States Military Academy at West Point, and four years as a professor of behavioral science and department chair at the National Defense University in Washington, DC. After serving in the England Bristol Mission, he earned a bachelor of arts degree in political

science from Brigham Young University, a master of arts in international relations from the University of Southern California, a master of computer science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a PhD in computer science from George Mason University. He has published and presented on a wide variety of subjects during his career. Ken and his wife, Sherilee, have four children and eighteen grandchildren.

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