

THE AUDIT OF LIFE

About a week ago I received a telephone call from a gentleman who works for the Office of Labor Management Standards of the U.S. Department of Labor. He was calling to determine when would be a good time to come to our offices and audit the financial books of our union. Give or take a few days, I had no choice. I had to make arrangements to open up the books and let him scrutinize any transaction he desired.

Audits are not new in the world of business, organizations or even the government. They are a tried and proven means to establish accountability and to insure that people are operating according to set rules and regulations. We do not like them very much, but, they have their value and merit in helping us do what we are suppose to do.

It is important for us to stop periodically and perform some very meaningful and beneficial audits on our lives - is what we are doing consistent with the rules and regulations set forth by the Lord? Are we managing the assests that our Heavenly Father has given us to best of our ability? If some of the auditors we acknowledge in our lives were to call us on the telephone and set an appointment for an "audit", how would we respond? Auditors like our Bishop, parents or priesthood leaders. Would we be ready? Would we pass the test? If we audit ourselves once in a while, we will know how things will go when others call upon us.

Of course, the biggest and most important audit of all is when we stand before the judgement bar of God and we have to provide Him an accounting of our life. We are told by the prophet Alma that we will have a perfect recollection of all our thoughts, words and actions! How will we fair standing in front of Him who is all pure and righteous?

As we stop and consider the words of our family motto "...control your thoughts, your tongue, and, your actions" we should remember that the time will surely come when we will recall everything with a perfect remembrance. How important to perform those periodic audits so that we will be able to successfully pass the audit of life when the time comes. Self-inspection and evaluation of our lives, using the scriptures and counsel of our leaders as the true measuring sticks, will bring us great joy and happiness.

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according thο their works."

- Revelation 20:12