

Important Gospel Principles

- Those who keep their covenants with the Lord will be blessed, while those who do not will be cursed (1-10, 23, 31-42, 46).
- The Church's welfare services use principles of the law of consecration to help care for the poor (11-18).
- God created the earth with enough to provide for all His children. All things are His, and we must provide for ourselves and the poor in His way (14-18).
- The Lord counsels us to pay our debts and avoid the bondage of debt (78-83).

Church Welfare Services



Vital Welfare Statistics (2001)

- Over 150,000 jobs placed
- 111 storehouses
- 108 canneries
- 201 employment centers
- 72 priesthood-managed production projects
- 64 family services/adoption offices
- 2,400 welfare missionaries in 55 countries
- Relief sent to over 130 major disasters since 1986
- Humanitarian relief to 147 countries (tens of millions dollars annually)
- 38,833 tons of food distributed
- 4,345 tons of medical equipment donated
- 43,972 tons of clothing issued
- 3,312 tons of educational supplies delivered to the needy.



Pay Debts/Avoid Bondage of Debt

THE 'EVIL' OF INTEREST

- A 30 year \$ 100,000 loan at 9% will incur over \$189,000 in interest. The total cost of the loan is over \$289,000.
- An \$2000 charge on a credit card that has a 19% interest rate and making the minimum payment will take you 432 months (36 years) to pay off and you will pay about \$6,200 in interest.
- Once in debt, interest is your companion every minute of the day and night; you cannot shun it or slip away from it. -Rueben J. Clark Jr.



"In the financial operations of the Church, we have observed two basic and fixed principles: One, the Church will live within its means. It will not spend more than it receives. Two, a fixed percentage of the income will be set aside to build reserves against what might be called a possible 'rainy day.' For years the Church has taught its membership the principle of setting aside a reserve of food, as well as money, to take care of emergency needs that might arise. We are only trying to follow the same principle for the Church as a whole."

- President Gordon B. Hinckley (April 1991)