My wife is "dreamsofzion" and has been a member of AVOW since almost its beginning. More than ten years ago we were caught up in preparation for and the idea of an imminent call out. After several years of disappointment, a close member of our family, Thomas (not his real name), shared his many dreams and visions about the latter days with us. Thomas served his mission from October 2013 to October 2015, and during those two years, we made a concerted effort to gather and organize the things he initially saw and heard along with additional answers he received when we asked for more details and explanations to tie things together. Most points in that effort are summarized below.

As a result of what Thomas saw and heard, we have tried to dissuade others from ideas of an imminent call out, which are so prevalent now and have been over the past few years or so. Thomas says the call to gather is still "several" years in the future, and emphasizes that, along with the wicked, the righteous will suffer the calamities in the near future and only be separated from the wicked at the last moment.

Being prepared, however, will allow one to survive these coming calamities and also be ready for that separation. In particular, having one (or two) year's supply of basics is important for the call out. However, three months of every-day foods will be necessary to get us through any one of several calamities before a call to gather happens. (Indeed, notice how many calamities cited hereafter last about three months!)

Thomas has never been given specific dates for events in the future. However, he has been shown sequences of events and durations of events, even specific months when certain events will occur (e.g. April-June for the 1st Plague), but never the year.

According to Thomas, certain things must happen before a call to gather. Thomas has been given the general sequence of these events, although some may overlap or even coincide in time. These events and their sequence are as follows:

- "Hastening the Work" results in a large influx of new converts into the church. At the same time the
 "Great Latter-Day Apostasy" occurs, in which 50% of long-time (hobbyist, ancestral, and in-name-only)
 members are excommunicated or have names removed; the percentage in Utah is far more than 50%;
 causes are the gay issue, political pressures, other factors, and persecution; persecution by exmembers is intense.
- 2. Financial Calamities (several) Successive devaluations of the dollar; hard times for everyone; many banks and large companies fail, specifically BofA, Citi, GM, Amazon, Target, and many others. One significant impact of these financial calamities is the termination of all government welfare/handout programs.
- 3. The Church comes under great persecution from government agencies and zealous citizens due largely to unintended consequences/interpretations of new laws passed to ensure civil safety. One political/religious figure (not Donald Trump!), long an enemy of the church, defends these misinterpretations and condones the resulting persecution. Some general authorities are martyred while attending to their duties. (With appropriate reparations for persecution and these martyrdoms, a civil war might have been avoided. However, even though these laws are repealed, no effort is ever made to serve justice or expose/punish culprits, so war becomes certain.)
- 4. Second Civil War North/Northeast/West-Coast versus South/Southwest/West. Many leftist elements, including labor unions and democrat diehards unhappy with the political climate, foment discord and civil unrest. Skirmishes pop up everywhere with those in Chicago becoming especially violent, leading to virtual war there, which then spreads. States quickly choose sides and usurp local control over military, militias, and law enforcement. Dallas and Detroit become the capitols of the opposing sides.

The federal government is paralyzed and helpless. Most dissenters must flee their homes; the more radical go door-to-door, killing anyone who won't support them. Both sides are extremely violent and depraved, with many confrontations degenerating into indiscriminate massacres. Many flee to FEMA camps for food and safety only to die there of starvation and deprivation. A nuclear detonation in Detroit decides/ends the war. This Civil War lasts only three months but is accompanied by complete economic devastation. Tens of millions die, three-quarters of which are in supposed relief camps. Blamed for the war, the democrat party and unions are disbanded and held in great reproach thereafter. Hatred and mistrust persist among the general populace for many years. (Most other countries are appalled by the depravity of this war, which is broadcast from America throughout the rest of the world. However, many of these countries quickly get caught up in it and civil unrest and war engulfs the rest of the world, resulting in economic devastation everywhere.)

- 5. Starting near the end of the war, churches and wealthy individuals, foundations, and corporations, seeing the great suffering, set up relief organizations serving these people. These relief organizations for the most part fill the role of the now-defunct government welfare/handout programs, but are much more wide-spread. They also lay the groundwork and set up the infrastructure for many sites and retreats, which later become places of refuge.
- 6. A partial economic recovery occurs, led by advances and innovations in technology, especially in education, communication, and genetics; trust and cooperation are keys to these advances, so they're led by and mostly only benefit the righteous due to mistrust elsewhere. The hub for these developments is along the Wasatch Front. New manufacturing is done here at home; some other manufacturing returns from overseas. (This is only a mini-recovery; the general standard of living never approaches prewar levels.) This recovery lasts "several" years.
- 7. The national debt is paid off by 1) reducing government expenditures to bare minimums, 2) selling/auctioning off federal lands and historic artifacts to private individuals and companies, and 3) exchanging US investments in China for China-held dollars/debt.
- 8. Among the general populace pride, selfishness, hatred, and wickedness still prevail.
- 9. Missionaries are called home.
- 10. Natural disasters (earthquakes, volcanoes, hurricanes, tidal waves, hail, floods, etc.) and the resulting fires decimate many cities and regions in North America. Many urban areas are left desolate; rural areas are overwhelmed and become ripe for contagion. Duration is about three months. (This event provides the fulfillment of much of Joseph F. Smith's vision and the prophesied destructions of New York, Boston, and Albany.)

(These natural disasters are immediately followed by a three-year period of great tribulation in North America, each year described by major events therein: First is the year of plagues, followed the year of internal destruction, and then the year of destruction from without.)

- 11. First Plague Plague of organ suffocation. Attacks blood's ability to carry/distribute oxygen. Blue skin with white spots. Tens of millions die. Three-month duration. Followed by a three-month break before 2nd plague.
- 12. Second Plague Plague of fear with diverse, unlikely, unrelated illnesses. Tens of millions die, mostly among the worldly, who simply give up life. Faith and Priesthood power heal many righteous sufferers. Three-month duration.
- 13. Total death toll from war, disasters, and two plagues exceeds one hundred million Americans!
- 14. There is a three-month reprieve after second plague, called the "Great Silence." During the second plague, most saints begin to see the hand of the Lord in the natural disasters and plagues and decide the end is at hand. However, after the second plague runs its course, many claim the worst is over, so they don't respond to the call when it comes.

After the call to gather, inside gathering places: There is relative peace and safety, but barely enough food/supplies to survive. Not just church members are gathered; the righteous of all persuasions are inspired to gather. Indeed, many of the places of refuge are owned, planned, set up, and run by the aforementioned relief organizations. Initially easier prey and natural/tactical defenses keep gangs at bay; after the foreign invasion near the end of the first year, gathering places must consolidate for safety (There is a short reprieve in violence, allowing these consolidations to take place.) Those gathered are taught and most adopt the principles of Zion; gangs soon "fear" to go up against them. The gathering lasts two years (second and third years of tribulation).

Outside gathering places: Third plague – Boils and lesions. Complete breakdown of society, infrastructure, and government at all levels; initially some foreign troops invited to help keep order; government leaders flee to and all die in bunkers; gangs/mobs rule; chaos; violence; strife; starvation.

In the last month of the first year, Russia and China invade – the extension of WW III into America, which after almost a year of chaos is seen as ripe for takeover. After thirteen hard-fought months and amid rumors of crises at home, these invasions end, but the remnants are mostly destroyed as they try to get back home. A few Chinese invaders encounter missionaries on their way, are converted, miraculously work their way back home, and open up China to the gospel.

More than two hundred million additional Americans die during these two years!

Starting also around the end of the first year, there begins a gradual creation of the inland sea from the Great Lakes down along the general route of Mississippi River. (This inland sea is fifty-to-sixty miles wide after one year, and is the primary obstacle which keeps the main armies of Russia and China from ever meeting up.) The mid-west is "swept clean" of all life in preparation for New Jerusalem. After the middle of the second year, selected saints from gathering places are called to return to Missouri to help build up New Jerusalem.

Near the end of the second year, the Lost Ten Tribes return along the West Coast and march east, destroying remnants of gangs and invaders, crossing over the blossoming deserts of the northern Great Basin (as water wells up out of the ground), rescuing the besieged saints and genealogical records in Salt Lake City, presenting Ephraim with their own treasured family records, then triumphantly continuing on to New Jerusalem to receive temple blessings for themselves and their ancestors. Another treasure they present to Ephraim is their advanced agricultural knowledge and methods, which are put to good use in preparing for the incoming flood of righteous refugees.

After the second year: Adam-ondi-Ahman; Zion spreads throughout North America; the main occupation of all is to raise food and prepare for incoming refugees. The call goes out to all righteous throughout the world to flee to Zion.

After (some overlap with?) the cleansing of North America and the establishment of Zion, most events in the Book of Revelation occur in the rest of the world. (Most biblical and many D&C prophecies of the last days presuppose Zion already exists! For example, D&C 45:66-71, specifically 68: "And it shall come to pass among the wicked, that every man that will not take his sword against his neighbor must needs flee to Zion for safety.")

One of the significant differences between current thought and that prevalent in Thomas's visions is the timing of events here in North America versus those in the world in general: "And upon my house shall it begin, and from my house shall it go forth..." – one often-neglected interpretation of "my house" is North America.

The cleansing of North America and establishing Zion happen before and mostly independent of most events in the rest of the world. Until Zion exists, the righteous remaining in the world have no place to which to flee when confronted with unacceptable choices.

Nor would there be any reason for North America to be cut off from the rest of the world.

Enjoy. Consider this an alternative time-line. We share this with only you and a few others. Confidentiality is appreciated. We'll try to respond to questions/concerns.

P.S.: In a meager attempt to connect celestial events (i.e. specific dates) to Thomas's visions, it was noted that two upcoming solar eclipses in August of 2017 and April of 2024 - whose paths of totality crisscross North America — could symbolically bracket the "cleansing" of the wicked from this continent. "If" that connection is correct, the Second Civil War (the first step in cleansing) could start as soon as early Fall of 2017 and the wicked are gone by early Spring of 2024, with the call to gather in early Spring of 2022.

However, this connection

- 1) doesn't appear to leave much time for all the pre-2nd-civil-war events to occur, and
- 2) the duration of the post-2nd-civil-war recovery seems very short, forcing us to ultimately question this possible connection.