

Elder Moses Thatcher said that although the Constitution may have been torn to shreds the Saints will "tie it together again:" I will say when this nation, having sown to the wind, reaps the whirlwind; when brother takes up sword against brother; when father contends against son, and son against father; when he who will not take up his sword against his neighbor must needs flee to Zion for safety— then I would say to my friends come to Utah; for the judgments of God, commencing at the house of the Lord, will have passed away, and Utah, undisturbed, will be the most delightful place in all the Union. When war and desolation and bloodshed, and the ripping up of society come upon the nation, I have said to such, "Come to Utah and we will divide our morsel of food with you, we will divide our clothing with you, and we will offer you protection. I will tell you, my brethren and sisters, the day will come, and it is not far distant, when he who will not take up his sword against his neighbor, will have to flee to Zion for safety; and it is presupposed in this prediction that Zion will have power to give them protection. We are not going to do it outside of the government either; we are going to do it inside the government. There is no power in this land to turn this people against the government of the United States. They will maintain the Constitution of this country inviolate, and although it may have been torn to shreds they will tie it together again, and maintain every principle of it, holding it up to the downtrodden of every nation, kindred, tongue and people, and they will do it, too, under the Stars and Stripes.["

Crowther, Duane S.. Prophecy, Key to the Future (Kindle Locations 5803-5812). Cedar Fort, Inc.. Kindle Edition.

What is expected to happen during this internal war in the United States to those Saints who refuse to gather to safety in the Rocky Mountains? The Prophet Joseph said in 1839 that there would be Stakes here and there but when wars come, the Saints will have to flee to Zion. He commented that the time is soon coming when no man will have any peace but in Zion and her stakes, and it appears that this is a reference to the stakes located near the center of the Church in the west, as is indicated by the statements cited above. He then told of the Saints who will be followed by mobs from city to city. The above statements seem to indicate that these Saints will not be located in the mountains, but will be the Saints who remained in outlying areas. This is the Prophet's statement: There will be here and there a Stake [of Zion] for the gathering of the Saints. Some may have cried peace, but the Saints and the world will have little peace from henceforth. Let this not hinder us from going to the Stakes; for God has told us to flee, not dallying, or we shall be scattered, one here, and another there. There your children shall be blessed, and you in the midst of friends where you may be blessed. The Gospel net gathers of every kind. I prophecy, that that man who tarries after he has an opportunity of going, will be afflicted by the devil. Wars are at hand; we must not delay; but are not required to sacrifice. We ought to have the building up of Zion as our greatest object. When wars come, we shall have to flee to Zion. The cry is to make haste. . . . The time is soon coming when no man will have any peace but in Zion and her stakes.. . . These things are at our doors. They will follow the Saints of God from city to city.

Crowther, Duane S.. Prophecy, Key to the Future (Kindle Locations 1468-1478). Cedar Fort, Inc.. Kindle Edition.

Millions of Gentiles also are expected to gather to the West at this time to escape the warfare which is to rage throughout the rest of the nation and other nations of the world. Orson Pratt said that at this time other governments would be crumbling, and gave this description of the coming of Gentile peoples to the West from foreign lands: A flowing stream is one that runs continually; and the Gentiles will, in that day, come to us as a flowing stream, and we shall have

to set our gates open continually, they will come as clouds and as doves in large flocks. Do you suppose that the Gentiles are going to be ignorant of what is taking place? "Now this will not be the case, they will perfectly understand what is taking place. The people will see that the hand of God is over this people; they will see that He is in our midst, and that He is our watch-tower, that He is our shield and our defense, and therefore, they will say, "Let us go up and put our riches in Zion, for there is no safety in our own nations." Those nations are trembling and tottering and will eventually crumble to ruin, and those men of wealth will come here, not to be baptized, but many of them will come that have never heard the servants of God; but they will hear that peace and health dwell among us, and that our officers are all peace officers, and our tax-gatherers men of righteousness.[33] Heber C. Kimball, at the time of the arrival in Salt Lake City of a second of the handcart companies, prophesied of a time when enormous amounts of people will come fleeing to the West without even so much as handcarts: I am very thankful that so many of the brethren have come in with handcarts; my soul rejoiced, my heart was filled and grew as big as a two-bushel basket. Two companies have come through safe and sound. Is this the end of it? No; there will be millions on millions that will come much in the same way, only they will not have handcarts, for they will take their bundles under their arms, and their children on their backs, and under their arms, and flee.[34]

George Q. Cannon also raised his voice to explain that when strife came, men would have to "flee to the Mormons" for safety: I expect to see the day when the Latter-day Saints will be the people to maintain constitutional government on this land. Men everywhere should know that we believe in constitutional principles, and that we expect that it will be our destiny to maintain them. That the prediction will be fulfilled that was made forty-four years ago the seventh of last March, wherein God said to Joseph Smith —" Ye hear of wars in foreign lands; but behold I say unto you, they are nigh, even at your doors, and not many years hence ye shall hear of wars in your lands;" but the revelation goes on to say that the day will come among the wicked, that every man that will not take his sword against his neighbor, must needs flee unto lion for safety. A portion of that revelation has been fulfilled, the remainder will be. The causes are in operation to bring it about. We are not alone in the thought that the republic is drifting steadily in that direction; that we are leaving the old constitutional landmarks, and that the time is not far distant when there will be trouble in consequence of it, when there will be civil broils and strife; and to escape them, we believe, men will be compelled to flee to the "Mormons, " despised as they are now."

Crowther, Duane S.. Prophecy, Key to the Future (Kindle Locations 1499-1505). Cedar Fort, Inc.. Kindle Edition.

The early leaders of the Church taught that during this era of internal strife the Saints in the West would be isolated from the rest of the United States. Brigham Young, speaking in 1868, asserted that By and by there will be a gulf between the righteous and the wicked so that they cannot trade with each other and national intercourse will cease. [36] Their theme was always the necessity for home manufacture so that the Saints would be prepared for the time when they would be cut off from the rest of the United States. This was Heber C. Kimball's admonition: Lay up your stores, and take your silks and fine things, and exchange them for grain and such things as you need, and the time will come when we will be obliged to depend upon our own resources; for the time is not far distant when the curtain will be dropped between us and the United States. When that time comes, brethren and sisters, you will wish you had commenced sooner to make your own clothing. I tell you, God requires us to go into home manufacture; and, prolong it as much as you like, you have got to do it.[37] Orson Pratt also advocated this principle. He made this statement on the necessity for the Saints to be prepared and to be self-

sustaining when "the gate will be shut down:" And the time will come, when we shall find ourselves restricted, and when it will be very important indeed for us to patronize home productions, and cease sending our millions abroad for importations, for the gate will be shut down, and circumstances will be such that we cannot bring things from abroad; and hence the necessity of the exhortation that we have received from time to time, to engage with all our hearts in the various branches of industry necessary to make us self-sustaining, and to carry them out with all the tact and wisdom which God has given to us, that we may become free and independent in all these matters, free before the heavens, and free from all the nations of the earth and their productions, so far as being dependent upon them is concerned.[38] A prophecy attributed to the Prophet Joseph Smith summarizes these problems and adds material of an international nature. It holds that the wars in America will be so inhuman and so terrible that England will try to stop them: While the terrible revolution of which I have spoken has been going on, England will be neutral until it becomes so inhuman that she will interfere to stop the shedding of blood. England and France will unite together to make peace, not to subdue the nations; they will find the nations so broken up and so many claiming government, till there will be no responsible government. Then it will appear to the other nations or powers as though England had taken possession of the country. . . . Peace and safety in the Rocky Mountains will be protected by a cordon band of the White Horse [the Church] and the Red Horse.[39]

It is logical that such a period, when no food can be imported and when the population in central areas will have undergone great increases in only a short period, there will be great danger from famine, lack of housing and sanitation preparations, etc. The Prophet Joseph, while telling of the influx of the Gentiles to the western communities during the internal wars, warned, You will be so numerous that you will be in danger of famine, but not for the want of seed time and harvest, but because of so many to be fed. Many will come with bundles under their arms to escape the calamities, and there will be no escape except by fleeing to Zion.[40] Heber C. Kimball warned that "The day will come when the people of the United States will come lugging their bundles under their arms, coming to us for bread to eat." [41] The same sermon contained the statement that The day will come that you (strangers) will have to come to us for bread to eat; and we will be your saviours here upon Mount Zion. You don't believe it now; but wait a little while, and you will see that it will come to pass.[42] On another occasion Heber C. Kimball told of a strange dream which seems to emphasize the need for food which the Saints will feel at this time: I will tell you a dream which Brother Kesler had lately. He dreamed that there was a sack of gold and a cat placed before him, and that he had the privilege of taking which he pleased, whereupon he took the cat, and walked off with her. Why did he take the cat in preference to the Gold? Because he could eat the cat, but could not eat the gold. You may see about such times before you die.[43] Wilford Woodruff taught the Saints that they must be prepared, for "the Lord is not going to disappoint either Babylon or Zion, with regard to famine, pestilence, earthquakes or storms," and he admonished them to "lay up your wheat and other provision against a day of need, for the day will come when they will be wanted, and no mistake about it." He said that "we shall want bread, and the Gentiles will want bread, and if we are wise we shall have something to feed them and ourselves when famine comes." [44] President Brigham Young asserted that the Saints would not feel the effect of famine if they would lay in their supply of food and be continually prepared: I have never promised a famine to the Latter-day Saints, if we will do half right. You have never heard it drop from my lips that a famine would come upon this people. There never will, if we will only do half right, and we expect to do better than that.

Translation

A less understood concept is that a form of translation will be the millennial norm. The power of translation will begin in Zion and spread from there until it fills the whole earth.

Millennial translation will include the ability to have children. Again, from Elder McConkie: Millennial man will live in a state akin to translation. His body will be changed so that it is no longer subject to disease or death as we know it although he will be changed in the twinkling of an eye to full immortality when he is a hundred years of age. He will, however, have children, and mortal life of a millennial kind will continue.

Here is where that comes from:

Triumph of Zion
Chapter 4 PT 1

THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS An angel is someone sent from the presence of God to perform a task in the name of his employer. Angels can be of four types:

- Righteous souls who have not yet been born and who do not possess a body (D&C 130:5).
- Righteous souls who have lived and died and do not possess a body. These are called "Spirits of just men made perfect" (D&C 76:66–79; Hebrews 12:22–24; D&C 129).
- Righteous souls who have lived and been translated and do possess a body.
- Resurrected beings (Matthew 27:52–53; Helaman 14:25; D&C 129).

2. After Christ's birth, Christ ordained apostles and disciples who bore the good news of the gospel to the world. Men gained faith in Christ through their testimony, teaching, and witness (see 1 Corinthians 1:21). The next verse asks the question: Because Christ ascended into heaven, does that mean that the ministry of angels has ended or that miracles of God have ceased?

29 And because he hath done this, [ascended into heaven] my beloved brethren, have miracles ceased? Behold I say unto you, Nay; neither have angels ceased to minister unto the children of men. 30 For behold, they are subject unto him, to minister according to the word of his command, showing themselves unto them of strong faith and a firm mind in every form of godliness. (Moroni 7:29–30)

The answer is a resounding no! Miracles continue as before, and the ministry of angels didn't stop at all, but changed its focus. After we have a strong faith in Christ and a firm mind (see Moroni 7:30), or true understanding of the gospel and the extraordinary promises of the priesthood, then angels can show themselves unto us as needed to fulfill the covenants of the Father. Anyone who has been within holy walls will understand the implication of this principle.

- Angels "speak by the power of the Holy Ghost" (2 Nephi 32:2–3).

- Angels “speak the words of Christ,” which connects them with the functionality of the light of Christ (2 Nephi 32:3).
- The “words of Christ,” and by extrapolation, angels will tell us “all things what ye should do.”
- Angels reveal “things whereof he [has] appointed unto [mortals]” (Alma 12:29). In other words, they reveal those principles, doctrines, covenants, and blessings that God has ordained that we should receive in mortality.
- Angels converse with man and “cause men to behold his glory” (Alma 12:29), which is the vital process of qualifying to enter the presence of the Lord. Temple patrons will recall the involved role of angels in the process of arriving at the veil.
- Angels are subject unto Christ and minister “according to his command” (Moroni 7:30).
- Angels show themselves unto mankind when we have a “strong faith and a firm mind in every form of godliness” (Moroni 7:30), which means after we are valiant members of the kingdom of God, strong in our faith, and firm in our understanding.
- The “office of their ministry is to call men to repentance” (Moroni 7:31).
- Angels fulfill and do the “work of the covenants of the Father” (Moroni 7:31), which includes the covenants regarding Enoch, the latter-day Zion, the oath and covenant of the priesthood, eternal marriage, consecration, temple covenants, and all others that are significant to our quest for Zion.
- Angels declare the words of Christ to the “chosen vessels of the Lord that they may bear testimony of him” to the world (Moroni 7:31; bracketed comments added).

3. And when they do appear to us, they can and will work great and marvelous miracles to prepare us for the “great and coming day” of judgment. 30 And they are as the angels of God, and if they shall pray unto the Father in the name of Jesus they can show themselves unto whatsoever man it seemeth them good. 31 Therefore, great and marvelous works shall be wrought by them, before the great and coming day when all people must surely stand before the judgment-seat of Christ. (3Nephi 28:30–31)

Hence, miracles have not ceased unless we simply do not believe (unbelief) in the fact that angels do continue to appear, minister, and work miracles even today—especially today.

36 Or have angels ceased to appear unto the children of men? Or has he withheld the power of the Holy Ghost from them? Or will he, so long as time shall last, or the earth shall stand, or there shall be one man upon the face thereof to be saved?

37 Behold I say unto you, Nay; for it is by faith that miracles are wrought; and it is by faith that angels appear and minister unto men; wherefore, if these things have ceased wo be unto the children of men, for it is because of unbelief, and all is vain. (Moroni 7:36–37)

4. If we ever become sullied by unbelief, not only would we miss the joy and miracles of the ministering of angels, but all else we do and believe would not have the desired result of exaltation. What portion of our lives, our faith, and our service might become "vain" due to such unbelief (if we allowed it to overtake us) is not easy to tell. Does this mean that all other parts of our faith would be without reward? Does it simply mean that the covenants of the Father wouldn't get fulfilled in this life, but maybe in the next? Does it only mean that we would live our lives without special miracles but otherwise receive the exaltation we hope for? Or is this simple phrase "all is vain" warning us that if we allow unbelief in the ministry of angels and other lofty things to obscure our view of the grand purposes of the Father's covenants in our lives, we are unavoidably allowing that same unbelief to distance ourselves from many other potential, even vital blessings in our lives, and hence, all is vain?

5. Nephi, the son of Helaman records:

26 But behold, I have seen them [the Three Nephites], and they have ministered unto me.

27 And behold they will be among the Gentiles, and the Gentiles shall know them not.

28 They will also be among the Jews, and the Jews shall know them not.

29 And it shall come to pass, when the Lord seeth fit in his wisdom that they shall minister unto all the scattered tribes of Israel, and unto all nations, kindreds, tongues and people, and shall bring out of them unto Jesus many souls, that their desire may be fulfilled, and also because of the convincing power of God which is in them.

30 And they are as the angels of God, and if they shall pray unto the Father in the name of Jesus they can show themselves unto whatsoever man it seemeth them good.

31 Therefore, great and marvelous works shall be wrought by them, before the great and coming day when all people must surely stand before the judgment-seat of Christ;

32 Yea even among the Gentiles shall there be a great and marvelous work wrought by them, before that judgment day. (3 Nephi 28:26–32;

6. Nephi teaches us that angels must accomplish a great and marvelous work prior to Judgment Day. Since the greatest preparatory element for Judgment Day is the building of Zion, it appears that the Three Nephites will be involved in that effort.

7. If one interprets salvation as qualifying for the celestial kingdom, then there are two distinct pathways to salvation. One is the more common pathway of living the gospel in mortality, having your calling and election made sure either before or after death, experiencing the spirit world, being resurrected, judged, and assigned to glory. The less common way, but one which millions will walk, especially in the latter days, is that of being translated during mortality, skipping the spirit world, being resurrected, judged, and then assigned to celestial glory. Translation is a true form of salvation in that it not only qualifies one for the celestial kingdom but also "saves" the individual from mortal death.

8. Enoch and his people prayed that a day of righteousness might be brought about during their day; they sought for it with all their hearts; they looked abroad over the face of the earth and

saw the corruptions that had been introduced by the various nations, the descendants of Adam, and their hearts melted within them, and they groaned before the Lord with pain and sorrow, because of the wickedness of the children of men, and they sought for a day of rest, they sought that righteousness might be revealed, that wickedness might be swept away and that the earth might rest for a season.

In response to their righteous prayers, the Lord covenanted with Enoch and his people that they would see such a day, and that He would answer their prayers, but not in that era. Accordingly, God took Enoch and his city off the face of the earth to reserve them to come back in the day when their prayers could be answered. They would return in the latter days and complete their mission, when as a result of their renewed ministry upon the mortal world, righteousness would sweep the earth prior to the Second Coming of Christ.

God gave them visions, portrayed to them the future of the world, showed unto them that this earth must fulfill the measure of its creation; that generation after generation must be born and pass away, and that, after a certain period of time, the earth would rest from wickedness, that the wicked would be swept away, and the earth would be cleansed and sanctified and be prepared for a righteous people. "Until that day," saith the Lord, "you and your people shall rest, Zion shall be taken up into my own bosom." Ancient Zion should be held in reserve until the day of rest should come, "then," said the Lord to Enoch, "thou and all thy city shall descend upon the earth, and your prayers shall be answered."

This covenant with Enoch was so momentous that God placed the rainbow in the sky to remind future generations of this grand covenant, to keep it before the minds of mankind until it was fulfilled. It is intriguing that the covenant is this important, yet we hardly know of it. This is startling, because most of us have lived all of our gospel lives without realizing what the covenant associated with the rainbow actually is. Most think it has something to do with not flooding the earth ever again. In reality it is much more glorious.

The scriptures teach us:

21 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant, which I made unto thy father Enoch; that, when men should keep all my commandments, Zion should again come on the earth, the city of Enoch which I have caught up unto myself.

22 And this is mine everlasting covenant, that when thy posterity shall embrace the truth, and look upward, then shall Zion look downward, and all the heavens shall shake with gladness, and the earth shall tremble with joy;

23 And the general assembly of the Church of the Firstborn shall come down out of heaven, and possess the earth, and shall have place until the end come. And this is mine everlasting covenant, which I made with thy father Enoch. (JST Genesis 9:21–23)

The rainbow we see in our skies represents God's promise to Enoch that when men upon the earth "should keep all my commandments" and are righteous at last, He will fulfill their righteous prayers and bring Zion back onto the earth. This will come to pass in that era when Enoch's and our combined missionary labors will bring that righteousness which will cover the earth in the Millennial day. And, by extension, when Zion is upon the earth, Christ will come and begin His millennial reign.

In words that shake the earth, the God of heaven proclaims that when we, Enoch's posterity through the prophet Noah, embrace the truth and understand our relationship to Enoch's Zion and employ our hearts, faith, and hands in building up Zion upon the earth, Enoch and his people will look downward and all the heavens will "shake with gladness, and the earth shall tremble with joy." Enoch will descend out of heaven and rush to embrace his great and righteous posterity, and they will fall upon our necks and kiss us (see Moses 7:63). Then together with us, Enoch and his Zion will possess the earth and have a place upon it until the earth becomes the future celestial kingdom. This is the covenant, the everlasting covenant, which God made with Enoch—and since it has been renewed in our day—with us.

9. In the latter days the Lord reminds us of this same covenant and of the longing of holy men to see this day of righteousness.

11 Wherefore, hearken ye together and let me show unto you even my wisdom—the wisdom of him whom ye say is the God of Enoch, and his brethren,

12 Who were separated from the earth, and were received unto myself—a city reserved until a day of righteousness shall come—a day which was sought for by all holy men, and they found it not because of wickedness and abominations;

13 And confessed they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth;

14 But obtained a promise that they should find it and see it in their flesh. (D&C 45:11–14) "In their flesh" means as either translated or resurrected beings. In the meantime, they are laboring as angels to prepare us to become Zion so we can prepare the world for them to return, thus fulfilling the Lord's covenant with them.

This idea of translated beings laboring among us without our being aware of them is taught in the following verses:

8 Wherefore, I will that all men shall repent, for all are under sin, except those which I have reserved unto myself, holy men that ye know not of. (D&C 49:8)

15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. - Rev 7:15-17
Chapter 3

TRANSLATION AND PRIESTHOOD SUCCESSION

To further our study of Zion and how to obtain it, let us first observe that one of the historic purposes of translation has been to perpetuate the priesthood from Adam through all the generations of mankind until the end comes. Even though there have been long periods of apostasy throughout history, we are told that there has never been a day when the priesthood

has not existed upon the earth. When a righteous mortal was not found to bear the priesthood, the line of authority was perpetuated by translated beings.

2. Having observed in our previous discussion that the latter-day Zion will be a society like Enoch's, the question must be asked, is it even possible for us to become a translated society? Can we even hope that such a glorious possibility is ours? Do the promises of Zion really extend to you and I? The answer is an astonishing yes!

3. The scriptures hold many keys and clues regarding Zion that can be clearly understood when the underlying facts of Zion are understood by the reader. When a reader is unaware of Zion, then these statements fade into truisms rather than truths. The difference being, that truisms lack sharp meaning, they are hazy concepts that just feel true, whereas truths are facts and principles understood in a brighter light.

4. The power of translation belongs to this priesthood. Joseph Smith simply states: "Now the doctrine of translation is a power which belongs to this Priesthood."

5. day. Joseph further notes that these priesthood powers and associated keys are to be revealed in the latter days: There are many things which belong to the powers of the Priesthood and the keys thereof, that have been kept hid from before the foundation of the world; they are hid from the wise and prudent to be revealed in the last times.

6. Elder McConkie makes this astonishing statement: Raphael, whom we assume to have been Enoch or someone from his dispensation, came and committed such keys as appertained to that day. No doubt these included the power to use the priesthood to translate men, as will be the state of all those who abide the day of the Second Coming.

7. The power of translation and the latter-day Zion are closely related. To be worthy of translation is to be a Zion-worthy individual, no matter if the command to actually build Zion has been issued in your lifetime. When the time to build Zion actually comes, then without translation Zion cannot exist on the premillennial plane that it must. It is only a small leap to say that until we become worthy to participate in the priesthood power of translation, we cannot completely establish Zion, nor can we be prepared to meet Christ when He comes again.

8. President John Taylor said: And then when the time comes that these calamities we read of shall overtake the earth, those that are prepared will have the power of translation, as they had in former times, and the city will be translated.

9. When will the Lord at last wield the mighty sword of translation in our behalf? It will be prior to the Second Coming, prior to the establishment of the city of Zion, and before we build the physical buildings of Zion. In other words, translation must come before it all. Brigham Young gave us the answer years earlier: How long, Latter-day Saints, before you will believe the Gospel as it is? The Lord has declared it to be his will that his people will enter into covenant, even as Enoch and his people did, which of necessity, must be before we shall have the privilege of building the Center Stake of Zion.

10. When that holy temple is built in Zion God will take away the veil from the eyes of his servants; and the day is yet to dawn when the sons of Moses and Aaron, having become sanctified to the renewing of their bodies, will administer in that holy house, and the veil will be taken away, and

they will gaze upon the glories of that world now unseen, and upon the faces of beings now to them invisible.⁹ In the beginning of Zion it seems reasonable that not everyone will be translated. One way to view this is that many people will have become Zion worthy through the processes we will discuss as we progress through this book, but like the Nephite nine (see 3 Nephi 28:2), many will have requested some other gift than translation.

11. Again, the principle of translation is inherent in and inseparable from Zion. To obtain translation is to obtain Zion. The implications of this are vast. Since we are commanded to build Zion, we are literally being commanded to seek and obtain that degree of righteousness that will, in the due time of the Lord, qualify us to be translated. The following quote by President John Taylor informs us that when Zion is established, it will be built by those that are prepared to be translated. We will build up our Zion after the pattern that God will show us, and we will be governed by His law and submit to His authority and be governed by the Holy Priesthood and by the word and will of God. And then when the time comes that these calamities we read of shall overtake the earth, those that are prepared will have the power of translation, as they had in former times, and the city will be translated. And Zion that is on the earth will rise, and the Zion above will descend, as we are told, and we will meet and fall on each other's necks and embrace and kiss each other. And thus the purposes of God to a certain extent will then be fulfilled.

12. Translation defines a state of purity and obedience which brings about an altered mortal state that rises above the physical limitations of mortality. In other words, a translated person is still mortal (see 3 Nephi 28:8) but is not subject to mortal frailty such as sickness, injury, death, or even sadness.

13. Many others, most of whom were not translated, will also sit upon thrones. Translation is not the only path to exaltation, but it is the preferred path for mortals when it is offered in the current dispensation. The powerful implication of the scripture above is that the blessedness of translation eclipses all other rewards, and these trailing clouds of glory will follow them into the eternities. The Lord's promises indicate that they will become even as Christ and the Father, one with Them in glory, might, and dominion. This promise is the promise of the highest possible outcome of mortality. Thus, it isn't difficult to conclude that the heightened blessedness that begins in mortality with Zion worthiness extends through all time and eternity.

14. Translation is not a permanent state but an intermediate condition prior to resurrection.

15. These are some of the principles associated with translation:

- Translated people will not endure the "pains" of death but will be changed in the twinkling of an eye (3 Nephi 28:8).
- Translated persons will not have pain or sorrow save it be for the sins of the world (3 Nephi 28:9).
- Translated beings enjoy a "fulness of joy," and will "sit down in the kingdom of my Father" (3 Nephi 28:10).
- Translated beings are changed into an immortal state and can behold the things of God (3 Nephi 28:15).

- Prisons cannot hold them, fire can not harm them, wild beasts will not injure them (3 Nephi 28:19–22).
- Translated people can work among us and not be known (3 Nephi 28:27–28).
- They are “as the angels of God” and can show themselves to whomever it seems good to them (3 Nephi 28:30).
- They can work miracles and perform great and marvelous works (3 Nephi 28: 31–32).
- They are changed. Satan cannot tempt them or have power over them. They are sanctified in the flesh (D&C 84:33) and have power over the earth (3 Nephi 28:39). This means they are not subject to the laws of what we call nature. They can create objects they need and have mastery over all things mortal.
- Translated beings prolong their labors in the ministry.¹³ Prolonging their ministry to bring souls unto Christ was the desire of the hearts of those for whom we have a detailed account of their translation.
- Translated beings are “not subject to sorrow or to disease or to death.”
- Translated individuals must be changed into the greater condition of resurrection before they can be exalted.

14. Elder McConkie states: In the case of translated beings and the righteous persons who shall live during the millennial era, death and the resurrection shall take place instantaneously. They shall be changed from mortality to immortality in the twinkling of an eye, the spirit never having occasion to separate from the body, and in their cases this change is called death (D&C 63:49–52; 3 Nephi 28). But it is not death according to the most common usage of the word (D&C 101:29–31; Isaiah 65:20).¹⁵ Again, from Elder McConkie: But they do pass through death and are changed from mortality to immortality, in the eternal sense, and they thus both die and are resurrected in the eternal sense. This, we might add, is why Paul wrote: “Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (1 Corinthians 15:51–52).¹⁶ • This earth is a function of the telestial order. Translation belongs to the terrestrial order, and when all inhabitants of the earth are translated, the earth itself will enter a terrestrial state.¹⁷ • Translated people have a purpose and calling. Translation is not just a way to go downhill skiing without the possibility of injuries. Translated people belong to the Church of the Firstborn and the Church of Enoch (D&C 76:51–57). They are, among many other things, ministering angels unto many planets. They become the ministers and messengers of God, the angels of His sending to do the work of the covenants of the Father (Moroni 7:31).

- The labor of translated beings has been at times to check the advance of evil when mortal men are not sufficiently righteous to do so.
- At least some translated beings have been assigned the ministry of bringing souls unto Christ in preparation for the return of the Lord.

- Translated beings are not subject to what we call the “laws of nature.”
- Translated persons are not yet resurrected.
- Apparently, translated beings no longer have blood flowing in their veins, but a terrestrial fluid that affects the changes of translation.
- Translated people are immune to temptation, and have power over the earth:

39 Now this change was not equal to that which shall take place at the last day; but there was a change wrought upon them, insomuch that Satan could have no power over them, that he could not tempt them; and they were sanctified in the flesh, that they were holy, and that the powers of the earth could not hold them. (3 Nephi 28:39)

- Translated people are apparently able to see into the future.

15. A less understood concept is that a form of translation will be the millennial norm. The power of translation will begin in Zion and spread from there until it fills the whole earth.

16. Millennial translation will include the ability to have children. Again, from Elder McConkie: Millennial man will live in a state akin to translation. His body will be changed so that it is no longer subject to disease or death as we know it although he will be changed in the twinkling of an eye to full immortality when he is a hundred years of age. He will, however, have children, and mortal life of a millennial kind will continue.

17. The Millennium will begin as a world in deep chaos, with a tiny portion of the world at peace under Zion’s protective dome. In fact, it appears that the millennial Zion will exist quietly at first, invisible to those who do not have ears to hear and eyes to see. It will consist of those who have privately and individually heard the call of Zion through the Holy Ghost, who have believed and walked the straighter path, kept sacred covenants, viewed the “mysteries of godliness” in inspired light, and who have become Zion themselves through an invitation into the presence of Christ.

18. Elder McConkie similarly declared that we of this generation have yet to obtain the worthiness that would let us build Zion. And while emphatically instructing us to not attempt to gather to Missouri of our own volition, he instructs us to make ourselves personally worthy of being involved in the building of Zion.

19. Elder Charles W. Penrose, an apostle of the Lord, made this profound observation. He reinforces the nature of the personal quest for Zion and suggests that those who are allowed to administer in that holy house will be translated (one possible meaning of “renewing of their bodies”).

The time will come when the servants of the living God will purify themselves before him until they will be fit to receive these blessings. When that holy temple is built in Zion God will take away the veil from the eyes of his servants; and the day is yet to dawn when the sons of Moses and Aaron, having become sanctified to the renewing of their bodies, will administer in that holy house, and the veil will be taken away.

Christ will dwell in our latter-day Zion, and as the gathering continues, Zion will increase in size and in glory. At some point Enoch's Zion will come down to join the earthly Zion, and they will combine into one holy city. The people of Enoch will be among the 144,000 and assist in the gathering and building of Zion. From that moment on, Zion will launch a great gleanings effort to gather in the elect from across the globe and bring them to Zion. They will not be converting people to the truth, but will be gathering those who are ready to enter Zion. To what end? So that they may become translated and thus "abide" the coming of Christ.

15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. - Rev 7:15-17

Okay, call it our very own book club! I was praying a few days ago for the Lord to guide me where to put my focus next as I was contemplating a few options...then I heard, "Triumph of Zion". I had read it a few years ago, loved it, and refer to it often, and was a little confused as to why now. So, I got the book out. I couldn't make it through the first chapter without sobbing. The Holy Ghost (HG) was teaching me so much more and something different than the first time I read it. (This same thing happened to me with each reading of VOG.) I will open a new thread for each chapter. Please feel free to make any comments and you can refer to the #numbers.

So, as my excitement is awakened again, I want to share some of the "nuggets" I am finding. If you have not purchased this book, you should consider it. I do consider TOZ one of the best written on the subject. The brethren have been fully aware from the early days of the church what it takes to prepare for Zion. Before one brick can be laid, those called to go there need to be prepared and translated to perform the task at hand. He lays this out beautifully and strings together the scriptures and brethren quotes. No self interpretation.

Chapter 1

WHAT ZION IS AND IS NOT

1. Zion is much more than what we as Latter-day Saints seem to think it is. Definitions range in our minds anywhere from the geography in and around Jackson County, Missouri, to the area of Salt Lake City, Utah, to the "true Church" in general, to the New Jerusalem as it will exist in the Millennium. Each of these things can be correctly called Zion in some sense of the word. We understand that Zion is a little bit of each of these, and far more than any of them. We know that Zion will receive Christ when He returns, and we know that Zion will be the City of the Living God during the Millennium and the capital city of His kingdom during that era.

2. When the truths of Zion are instilled into a soul by the Holy Spirit of God, what is gained is a truth so astonishing that it changes souls.

3. The truth whereof we speak is twofold: First, it is the astonishing facts of what Zion actually is, and second, it is the sure knowledge that we—you and I—can obtain a place within it without waiting for an actual city to be built in Missouri.

4. It is a journey intended to take a lifetime, to tug at one's heartstrings; to test to the utmost, and to purify and refine the already clean.

5. Why is it vital to our salvation? Because we have been tasked with building Zion prior to the Lord's Second Advent, and as we will discuss in detail, the Lord will not return until Zion is here to receive Him. Can we ignore such a divine responsibility and still hope to be counted valiant?

6. It may well seem paradoxical to think of having to learn to believe what our faith has already taught us. One would think if we had faith in something, we would also believe it. But a mental inventory will reveal that much of what we know by faith, we actually don't believe applies to us. Examples may include revelation, visions, miracles, and healings. As the miracles become greater, our faith remains strong, but our belief that they apply to us grows weaker. Examples of these greater miracles may include speaking in tongues, raising the dead, walking on water, building Zion, becoming translated, speaking with angels and God, and all other profound blessings of the gospel. Yet the scriptures repeatedly promise them to us. Further on we will discuss in depth the convergence of faith and belief. For now, the point being made is that we know many details about the latter-day Zion and have faith that it truly will be built prior to the Lord's return, but our belief structure may not include us personally building it.

7. Much more than a place, a city, or a society, Zion is a state of being. To be a part of a perfected Zion society in any dispensation, we have to become a Zion individual. It is roughly like saying, to live in the air, one must become a bird. To enter the unique environment of the latter-day Zion, when it has reached its full potential, requires a specific and powerful change to transform a body and soul into the Zion format.

8. As we continue to explore Zion throughout this book, it will become apparent that to be a participant in Zion is to be become pure, to be endowed with the fullest priesthood power, to rise above the mortal sphere, to be endowed with power that transcends life and death, to have authority in heaven and on earth, and to quite literally dwell with God.

9. Consider for a moment one of the statements just above. "To be a participant in Zion is to rise above the mortal sphere." What an amazing statement! What does it mean to you? Consider the raw power in those words. To rise above the mortal sphere is not to leave mortality, but as a mortal to no longer be subject to the trials of mortality, to live beyond pain, hunger, even death. Such privileges have belonged to past generations of Zion individuals, and will belong to this dispensation of those who seek and obtain Zion.

10. We are speaking of the powers of godliness, power that transcends life and death, power over personal injury, immunity to disease and sickness, and to literally have power over our own death. Such a Zion lifestyle so powerfully exceeds our present paradigm that it becomes inconceivable—not in the perception of Zion someday being like this for someone, but in the perception of Zion being like this in our day, for you and me. We can't conceptually place ourselves in that Zion. In other words, we don't believe what our faith actually tells us. Thus we have ceased to strive for the very thing which would bring us our greatest triumph in mortality, and our greatest joy. What we may not also grasp is that Zion is not unlike the celestial kingdom in that one must meet rigorous qualifications to enter. Zion is in fact the "City of the Living God," and Christ will live there and rule the earth from Zion during the Millennium. This makes Zion a function of the divine presence, and those who dwell there will of necessity be changed to endure—or better stated, to enjoy the presence of Christ. Unlike the celestial kingdom though, Zion is not on a celestialized globe. Zion will begin on this earth in this day of

wickedness, before the world is cleansed prior to the Second Coming. The Latter-day Zion is a phenomenon of mortality and will be established among living mortals—you and I, we hope—on this earth prior to the Lord's return in glory. We will discuss and document these assertions in detail later. The blinding truth before us is that Zion is not beyond our reach. God does not task us with impossible assignments. Zion is a state that has been obtained in the past, and will be obtained again in this dispensation, possibly by hundreds of thousands prior to the Lord's return. The question before us is only whether we—you and I—are willing to pay the price to be a part of it. What can be more fantastic than this? One truth in fact transcends even the glorious possibilities of Zion. We will discuss

discuss this fully later, but in brief, it is that it is within our capability to establish Zion in our lifetime. Everything we need, every doctrine, every priesthood ordinance, every truth and power and principle that is required of a mortal to personally qualify for and enter Zion exists today within the latter-day Church. Nothing is missing. Nothing remains to be revealed. No statement or proclamation of the living prophets needs to be made. It is all present, now, in its complexity and completeness. All we must do is see what we already possess with an eye of faith. We must obtain an inspired belief that it is ours to claim and then be willing to pay the price to do so. Of course, only the living prophet can tell us when it is time to gather and build the city of Zion. But we can, and must, obtain a Zion stature and privilege before we will be invited to become a part of that great city of holiness. When we as individuals enjoy the full effect of every ordinance and covenant available to us, we will become a Zion individual—not just in the Millennium—but now, in this life, in this pre-millennial world. We are the seeds that the Sower has scattered upon the landscape of mortality. Those seeds that take root in this dispensation and weather the storms that refine and define us will attain their divine birthright and bring forth the full fruit, and we will become Zion. We trouble ourselves a great deal about the timing of the Second Coming and preparing to endure the rigors we assume must precede it. We want to be among the “wise virgins” whose lamps are full, so we store food like squirrels and pay our tithing, which we humorously refer to as fire insurance. We often rehearse to ourselves that no man knows the day or hour when the Lord will return. Yet, we do know that He won't return until Zion has been established. So we may say with certainty that we do know that as long as Zion does not exist, the time is not accomplished for His return. In this sense we do know when He will come. He will come when we have built and populated Zion.

Pontius, John M.. *The Triumph of Zion: Our Personal Quest for the New Jerusalem* . Cedar Fort, Inc. Kindle Edition.

How do we know there is 7 years tribulation?

Daniel's Prophecy of 70 Weeks

1 day = 1 year

1 week = 7 years

70 weeks = 490 years

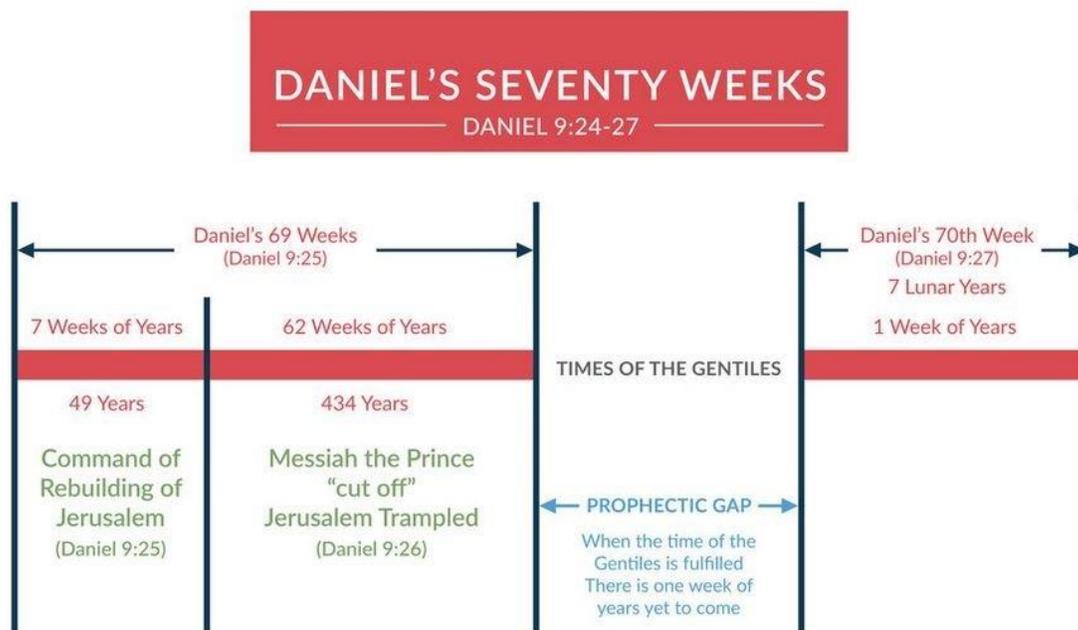
The 70 weeks were broken into 3 periods:

7 weeks = 49 years

62 weeks = 434 years

1 week = 7 years

- The first 69 weeks were before the Lords crucifixion.
- Then it will be the Times of the Gentiles.
- The last week (7 years) is the tribulation before the Savior returns.



How do we know when the 7 years of tribulation starts?

- When the ½ hour of silence ends. **(Rev 8:1)**
- When the missionaries are called home and the Times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.
(D&C 45:28-30)
- When the prophet calls for a fast and a solemn assembly (Hosannah Shout)
(Joel 1:14-15)
- When the temples are closed there is 1,290 (first 3.5 years) of tribulation before the Morning of the First Resurrection, then there is 1,335 days (last 3.5 years) of tribulation until the Afternoon of the First Resurrection.
(Daniel 12:11)

Revelation 8 – The Half Hour of Silence Ends and the Tribulations Begin

Rev 8:1-6

1 And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.

7th Seal opened 2,000 AD

D&C 77:7 Q. What are we to understand by the seven seals with which it was sealed?

A. We are to understand that the first seal contains the things of the first thousand years, and the second also of the second thousand years, and so on until the seventh.

Elder McConkie: 1,000 years is a day in the Lord, then ½ hr. of silence is 20.8 years...

2,000 + 20.8 = Fall of 2020 "OR ABOUT" = 2023

See: Orson Pratt

Silence = D&C 38:11-12 darkness prevails upon the earth, which causeth silence to reign, angels await the command to reap down the earth to gather the tares.

Journal of Discourses, Orson Pratt 16:43

“Immediately after the sounding of this trump, there will be silence in heaven for the space of half an hour.” Whether the half hour here spoken of is according to our reckoning—thirty minutes, or whether it be according to the reckoning of the Lord we do not know. We know that the word hour is used in some portions of the Scriptures to represent quite a lengthy period of time. For instance, we, the Latter-day Saints, are living in the eleventh hour, that is in the eleventh period of time; and for aught we know the half hour during which silence is to prevail in heaven may be quite an extensive period of time. During the period of silence all things are perfectly still; no angels flying during that half hour; no trumpets sounding; no noise in the heavens above; but immediately after this great silence the curtain of heaven shall be unfolded as a scroll is unfolded. School children, who are in the habit of seeing maps hung up on the wall, know that they have rollers upon which they are rolled up, and that to expose the face of the maps they are let down. So will the curtain of heaven be unrolled so that the people may gaze upon those celestial beings who will make their appearance in the clouds. The face of the Lord will be unveiled, and those who are alive will be quickened, and they will be caught up; and the Saints who are in their graves, will come forth and be caught up, together with those who are quickened, and they will be taken into the heavens into the midst of those celestial beings who will make their appearance at that time. These are the ones who are the first fruits, that is, the first fruits at the time of his coming.

Journal of Discourses, Orson Pratt 8:10

After all nations have heard the proclamation, there will be silence in the heavens, and I do not know but on the earth too; for the people will doubtless be overpowered with astonishment to see an angel, the sound of whose trump shall pierce the ears of all living. After this, I say, there will be silence in heaven for half-an-hour.

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:

1. "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.

Summary of Thomas's Visions of Future Events in North America 7/7/17

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 destruction 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.

Summary of Thomas's Visions of Future Events in North America 7/7/17

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.

Summary of Thomas's Visions of Future Events in North America 7/7/17

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.

Millennial Star, Charles W. Penrose, September 1859

Among the first-mentioned of these three classes of men the Lord will make his appearance first; and that appearance will be unknown to the rest of mankind. He will come to the Temple prepared for him, and his faithful people will behold his face, hear his voice, and gaze upon his glory. From his own lips they will receive further instructions for the development and beautifying of Zion and for the extension and sure stability of his kingdom.

John the Revelator gave the most detailed picture of these two participants. They are called the “two witnesses,” the “two olive trees” and the “two candlesticks” (Revelation 11:3–4). Latter-day revelation teaches that they are “two prophets ... raised up to the Jewish nation” who will “prophesy to [them] after they are gathered and have built ... Jerusalem” (D&C 77:15).

Elder Bruce R. McConkie wrote:

“These two shall be followers of that humble man, Joseph Smith, through whom the Lord of Heaven restored the fulness of his everlasting gospel in this final dispensation of grace. No doubt they will be members of the Council of the Twelve or of the First Presidency of the Church. Their prophetic ministry to rebellious Jewry shall be the same in length as was our Lord’s personal ministry among their rebellious forebears.

“The two olive trees, and the two candlesticks [are] symbols of the two witnesses; meaning, perhaps, that as olive trees, they shall provide oil for the lamps of those who go forth to meet the Bridegroom; ... and that as lamp stands they shall reflect to men that light which comes from Him who is the Light of the World.” (Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 3:509–10.)

An earthquake will strike the earth, affecting the whole world—the greatest earthquake the world has ever known (see Revelation 11:13; 16:18; Ezekiel 38:19–20; Haggai 2:6–7).

Elder McConkie taught:

“Three natural changes in the earth—all apparently growing out of one transcendent happening—are here named [Revelation 16:17–21] as attending our Lord’s Second Coming. They are:

“1. Earth’s land masses shall unite; islands and continents shall become one land.

“2. Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain shall be made low; the rugged terrain of today shall level out into a millennial garden.

“3. Such an earthquake as has never been known since man’s foot was planted on this planet shall attend these changes in the earth’s surface and appearance.

“And, fourthly, as recorded elsewhere, the great deep—presumably the Atlantic ocean—shall return to its place in the north, ‘and the earth shall be like as it was in the days before it was divided.’ (D. & C. 133:21–24.)” (Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 3:543.)

This quake will evidently create a huge spring in Jerusalem which will form a new river, flowing westward to the Mediterranean Sea and eastward to the Dead Sea (see Zechariah 14:8–9; Joel 3:18; Ezekiel 47:1–5). Because of this river, the Dead Sea will have its waters healed, that is, it will become a lake with verdant foliage surrounding its shores and fish teeming in its waters (see Ezekiel 47:6–12; Joseph Smith, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, p. 286).

The Lord’s fury upon the army of Gog will consist of other judgments in addition to the great earthquake:

The armies of Gog will turn upon each other, perhaps in the panic and confusion of the great earthquake (see Ezekiel 38:21; Zechariah 14:13).

A great rain of fire and hail will shower down upon the army (see Ezekiel 38:22; D&C 29:21; Revelation 16:21). John said the hailstones will weigh a talent, which is about 75.6 pounds or 34.3 kilograms (see *Bible Dictionary*, s.v. “weights and measures”). Ezekiel stated that fire will also be sent against the land of Magog (see Ezekiel 39:6). The account by Ezekiel could very easily be a description of atomic

warfare. Isaiah described the fire's effect on the land itself (see Isaiah 34:9–10).

A plague will strike the army, causing terrible disease and calamity (see Zechariah 14:12; compare D&C 29:18–20).

The result will be that only one-sixth of the invading army will survive the Lord's judgments (see Ezekiel 39:2), and their power to make war will be destroyed. In Jerusalem itself, 7000 will be slain, and one-tenth of the city destroyed (see Revelation 11:13).

So great will be the devastation that for seven years Israel will be able to live off the spoils of war left behind (see Ezekiel 39:8–10). It will take seven months to bury the dead, and thereafter burial teams will search out the remaining bodies in an attempt to cleanse the land (see Ezekiel 39:11–16). Isaiah said that the Lord “hath delivered them to the slaughter ... and the mountains shall be melted with their blood” (Isaiah 34:2–3). Jeremiah stated that the Lord “will give them that are wicked to the sword, ... and the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other” (Jeremiah 25:31, 33).

The judgments of the Lord upon the armies of Gog is known in the scriptures as the great day of the Lord's “sacrifice” (see Isaiah 34:5–6; Ezekiel 39:17–22), the Lord's “controversy with the nations” (Jeremiah 25:31), the “supper of the great God” (Revelation 19:17; see also Revelation 19:18–21), and “the great winepress of the wrath of God” (Revelation 14:19; see also Revelation 19:15; D&C 133:48–51).

Doctrine and Covenants 97:25

Doctrine and Covenants

25 Nevertheless, Zion shall escape if she observe to do all things whatsoever I have commanded her.

2 And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were **given seven trumpets.**

**Number 7 = complete – 7 years of tribulation.
Is it one trumpet/vial for each year? Maybe.**

When you line up the 7 events, it gives you an order of events!

1 – Hail and fire mingled w/blood.
(Famine, fires, and war, sores)

2 – Great mountain burning w/fire cast into the sea, 1/3 sea-life dies. **(Volcano)**

3- A great star falls from heaven, burning as a lamp, fell on the waters. **(Comet)**

4 – Wormwood, waters become “bitter” **(poisoned water)**. Men die.

5- **Woe #1** – Angel opens the bottomless pit. **RETURN OF THE 10 TRIBES!**
“Commanded not to hurt those men with the seal of God in their foreheads.”
(3Nephi 21) Remnant of Jacob will tear through the land like a lion.
The 10 Tribes will remove the gangs and foreign troops!

6 – Woe #2 - Armageddon! Four angels loosed to slay 200 million men in the world’s army.

7 – Woe #3 - Destruction of the remaining wicked.

3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he **should offer it with the prayers of all saints** upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

Joel 1:14-15

14 ¶ Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the Lord your God, and cry unto the Lord,

15 Alas for the day! for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

4 And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

5 And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were **voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.**

(This happens before the 7 trumpets sound!)

6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

When the Times of the Gentiles is Fulfilled

D&C 45:28-31

28 And when the times of the Gentiles is come in, a light shall break forth among them that sit in darkness, and it shall be the fulness of my gospel;

29 But they receive it not; for they perceive not the light, and they turn their hearts from me because of the precepts of men.

30 And in that generation shall the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

31 And there shall be men standing in that generation, that shall not pass until they shall see an overflowing scourge; for a desolating sickness shall cover the land.

President Nelson: May 19, 2019

“This Church, when restored in its fulness, will prepare the world for the coming of the Lord,” but not before Christ's followers are persecuted.”

“Church members in the Samoan Islands will not be immune from being persecuted,” he said, warning them to “prepare to be persecuted, even every day,” and telling them they have a solemn duty to prepare for it.

“Please protect your families from the deception you will see in your future,” he said. “That’s why we are all busily engaged in this work. We have to fortify our people against attacks of the adversary.”

Daniel asks “What shall be the end of these things?”

In the last days, Michael will deliver Israel from their troubles—Daniel tells of the two resurrections—The wise will know the times and meanings of his visions.

DANIEL CHAPTER 12

1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

Adam is “standing” for us.
This is Adam-ondi-Ahman!
There is a “time of trouble”.
Thy people are delivered.
Those people in the “book” (Book of Life)

2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Those in the book of life will be resurrected at the Morning of the First Resurrection. That happens at Adam-ondi-Ahman.

3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

Daniel is asked to shut the book until the end times when many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall be increased. (Last Days)

5 ¶ Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

Daniel sees two men standing on the other side of the river.

6 And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, **How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?**

One man asked, “How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?”

7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

He answers, “a time, times, and a half”. (3.5 years to scatter the power of the holy people, looks like the first half of tribulation!)

8 And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, **O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?**

Daniel asks again.

9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

Daniel told to go thy way! The words are closed up and sealed.....but

10 **Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried;** but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

Many will be purified and made white and tried! (Sounds like translation/New Jerusalem to me!)

11 **And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away,** and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

When the temples are closed, there will be 1,290 days of tribulation. **(This is the first 3.5 years. The Morning of the First Resurrection takes place here.)**

12 Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

Blessed is he that waiteth (in the grave) and come forward in the 1335 days of tribulation for the Afternoon of the First Resurrection.

13 But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.

Here is from the chapter heading again: ***Daniel tells of two resurrections.***

The “Timer” in the Apocrypha Ezra’s Eagle

- There are long feathers and short feathers. Each represent a “king” (president) of a mighty nation in end times. The message from the vision was “when” the Anti-Christ will come to power.
- **The 45th years from FDR is the midpoint and we enter the last 8 “short” feathers (5 presidents, 3 eagle heads).** A short feather denotes the king/president is cut short from finishing his reign (either 1 or 2 terms) in office. Nixon and JFK were considered short feathers.
- The odds are astronomical that Ezra could identify how many terms each president from FDR on.
- The last 8 short feathers/presidents go something like this:
 - 1 and 2 are Trump/Pence. Something happens that causes one to go out and then the other close together. And I beheld, and lo, there was one set up, but shortly it appeared no more. And the second was sooner away than the first.
 - #3 and #4 think to rule, but, behold, the head was turned with them that were with it, and did eat up the two feathers under the wing that would have reigned.
 - The 3 eagle heads #4,5,&6 (deep state) try to take control. 1 dies in bed, 2 is killed by 3, 3 is killed by the Stout Horn (A/C) This first of the three heads will wield the power and might of this country with more tyranny than any

other before him. And after this I beheld, and, lo, the head that was in the midst suddenly appeared no more, like as the wings. But there remained the two heads, which also in like sort ruled upon the earth, and over those that dwelt therein. And whereas thou sawest that the great head appeared no more, it signifieth that one of them shall die upon his bed, and yet with pain. For the two that remain shall be slain with the sword. For the sword of the one shall devour the other: but at the last shall he fall through the sword himself.

- The Beast and the False Prophet. (The Stout Horn) The last two little feathers that positioned themselves immediately under the three eagle heads as discussed previously. The angel explains what happens to these. And whereas thou sawest two feathers under the wings passing over the head that is on the right side; it signifieth that these are they, whom the Highest hath kept unto their end: this is the small kingdom and full of trouble, as thou sawest.
- This is the Anti-Christ that consolidates all power to become the world leader. This is the one who goes to war with the Saints and with Israel (Armageddon). This is who the 10 Tribes chase out of America to Europe.

Revelation 13 Description of the Anti-Christ

Revelation Chapter 13

The two Anti-Christ

1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

A beastly system rises up from the nations of the earth to create a united order: The New World Order. This the beastly system that is referred to as the "anti-Christ" until a leader comes forward who becomes the "Anti-Christ".

2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

Satan gives the beastly system its power.

3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

One of the nations of the beastly system is wounded/died out briefly. It bounces back. (Russia or the Ottoman Empire - Islam)

4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

No one can go to war with the beastly system. It's too big.

5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

The beastly system chooses a leader. He is given a mouth to speak things for 3.5 years.

6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

This leader denounces God, temples, and those who dwell in heaven with God.

7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

The Anti-Christ makes war with the Saints – all over the world. (Christian persecution and particularly the Saints with temples.)

8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Babylon will worship this leader. Those whose names are not written in the book of life (Christians who accept Jesus Christ).

9 If any man have an ear, let him hear.

10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

DO NOT GET INVOLVED IN THE FIGHTING.
Prep so you are not led into captivity.

11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

A religious leader will assist the Anti-Christ into convincing people that this New World Order is a preferred way of living.

12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

This religious leader has some powers given to him (just as the Anti-Christ is possessed by 3 evil spirits and can perform miracles.)

13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

The religious leader pushes for the people to make an image of the first beast (Anti-Christ) who was wounded but lived.

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

This may be television sets announcing that if they did not worship the beast by taking the Mark of the Beast they would be outcasts from society (but instead they are killed).

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

If the mark is a chip in the hand and if you are a resister, the mark is put on your forehead so everyone knows you are a resister.

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Without this mark (chip?) you cannot buy, sell, or trade. The patent for the chip is 060606 owned by Bill Gates who is a part of the anti-Christ beastly system – one of the 10 kings with no kingdoms.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

Joseph Smith's Description of How it all Starts Devaluation Civil War Invasion

"My brother Noah Packard says that he heard the Prophet Joseph say **that the next great U.S. civil war, after the war of the rebellion,** (the civil war of the 1860's between the North and South) would commence in a little town now called Chicago, but at that time it would have grown to be a very large city. And another brother told me that the Prophet said that **the cause of the next great trouble of the United States would be the depreciation of the currency** of the United States. I believe I have given you all the facts in as short and concise a manner as possible." -LDS church archives, letter from Nephi Packard to A. Milton Musser, July 24, 1896.

"There will be two great political parties in this country. One will be called the Republican, and the other the Democrat party. These two parties will go to war and out of these two parties will spring another party which will be the Independent American Party. **The United States will spend her strength and means warring in foreign lands until other nations will say, 'Let's divide up the lands of the United States'**, then the people of the U.S. will unite and swear by the blood of their fore-fathers, that the land shall not be divided. Then the country will go to war, and they will fight until one half of the U.S. army will give up, and the rest will continue to struggle. They will keep on until they are very ragged and discouraged, and almost ready to give up - when the boys from the mountains will rush forth in time to save the American Army from defeat and ruin. And they will say, 'Brethren, we are glad you have come; give us men, henceforth, who can talk with God'. Then you will have friends, but you will save the country when its liberty hangs by a hair, as it were." Recorded by Mosiah Hancock.

(Note: Bishop Koyle vision: When the props give away there will suddenly be an overnight price and wage crash or deflation that seemed to occur the same time as the death of the republican president.

Three Plagues and a Worldwide Influenza Pandemic

This is purely from the visions, but so far, it looks like they got it right!

Dreams of Zion (DOZ) said there would be a worldwide influenza pandemic that would come in three waves before everything is kicked off. (Coronavirus)

He also said there was 3 plagues.

1. A white blisters one that was stopped in the east coast.
2. A spiritual one called the Plague of Fear. People with no faith to be healed, died.
3. A *weaponized* Ebola plague to kill within 24-48 hours.

All were 3 months apart, starting in the same year. We are called to places of safety 1 month before the Ebola plague.

Visions of Glory (VOG) said after the Utah earthquake the plague arrived in Utah that devastated the east coast earlier that year. He saw troops that come to help were inoculated against the plague.

It came in 3 waves, each one more virulent killing healthy people and quicker. It killed billions around the world.

I think it is safe to say this is the plague president John Taylor saw. There was not a house in Utah without a badge of mourning.

The Dream of Plagues shows the Saints in camps during this plague: "A camp of the Saints who have gathered together and are living under the daily revelations of God, and thus preserved from the plague."

The scriptures describe an overflowing scourge across the land. The scriptures say the times of the Gentiles has come to an end when there is an overflowing scourge (missionaries can't be out in this).

D&C 45:31-32

30 And in that generation shall the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

31 And there shall be men standing in that generation, that shall not pass until they shall see an overflowing scourge; for a desolating sickness shall cover the land.

Order of events: (2022)

Missionaries/3 mo. destruction/call out/plague #3/invasion/Utah EQ

NEW JERUSALEM

- To be built by the City of Enoch, The 10 Tribes, the Lamanites, the Remnant of Jacob and the tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim.
- The Savior will appear there *before* going to Israel.
- The Morning of the 1st Resurrection will happen when the Savior arrives at New Jerusalem. D&C 88:96-98
- The 144k will attend the Savior. D&C 133:18
- Adam-ondi-Ahman will happen.
- The inhabitants will have to be translated to enter. See: JOD, Orson Pratt 15:45 (next page)
- It starts BEFORE Armageddon. The Savior LEAVES New Jerusalem with the 144k to destroy the world's army.
- The pure in heart from all over the world will gather there.
- The Church of the Firstborn will be there.
- The 2 prophets will leave from New Jerusalem to go to Jerusalem for 1,260 days to fight off the world's army.

Journal of Discourses, Orson Pratt 15:45

When the Temple is built the sons of the two Priesthoods...will enter into that Temple in this generation...and all of them who are pure in heart will behold the face of the Lord and that too before he comes in his glory in the clouds of heaven, for he will suddenly come to his Temple, and he will purify the sons of Moses and of Aaron, until they shall be prepared to offer in that Temple an offering that shall be acceptable in the sight of the Lord. In doing this, he will purify not only the minds of the Priesthood in that Temple, but he will purify their bodies until they shall be quickened, renewed and strengthened, and they will be partially changed, not to immortality, but changed in part that they can be filled with the power of God, and they can stand in the presence of Jesus, and behold his face in the midst of that Temple. This will prepare them for further ministrations among the nations of the earth, it will prepare them to go forth in the days of tribulation and vengeance upon the nations of the wicked, when God will smite them with pestilence, plague and earthquake, such as former generations never knew. Then the servants of God will need to be armed with the power of God, they will need to have that sealing blessing pronounced upon their foreheads that they can stand forth in the midst of these desolations and plagues and not be overcome by them. When John the Revelator describes this scene, he says he saw four angels sent forth, ready to hold the four winds that should blow from the four quarters of heaven. Another angel ascended from the east and cried to the four angels, and said, "Smite not the earth now, but wait a little while." "How long?" "Until the servants of our God are sealed in their foreheads." What for? To prepare them to stand forth in the midst of these desolations and plagues, and not be overcome. When they are prepared, when they have received a renewal of their bodies in the Lord's Temple, and have been filled with the Holy Ghost and purified as gold and silver in a furnace of fire, then they will be prepared to stand before the nations of the earth and preach glad tidings of salvation in the midst of judgments that are to come like a whirlwind upon the wicked.

Christ Appears in Zion the New Jerusalem

The Holy Bible, Revelation 22:1-4

1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

The Book of Mormon, 3 Nephi 20:22

22 And behold, this people will I establish in this land, unto the fulfilling of the covenant which I made with your father Jacob; and it shall be a New Jerusalem. And the powers of heaven shall be in the midst of this people; yea, even I will be in the midst of you.

The Book of Mormon, 3 Nephi 21:22-26

22 But if they will repent and hearken unto my words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish my church among them, and they shall come in unto the covenant and be numbered among this the remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance;

23 And they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob, and also as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem.

24 And then shall they assist my people that they may be gathered in, who are scattered upon all the face of the land, in unto the New Jerusalem.

25 And then shall the power of heaven come down among them; and I also will be in the midst.

26 And then shall the work of the Father commence at that day, even when this gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people. Verily I say unto you, at that day shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people, yea, even the tribes which have been lost, which the Father hath led away out of Jerusalem.

The Doctrine and Covenants, Section 103:19-20

19 Therefore, let not your hearts faint, for I say not unto you as I said unto your fathers: Mine angel shall go up before you, but not my presence.

20 But I say unto you: Mine angels shall go up before you, and also my presence, and in time ye shall possess the goodly land.

The Doctrine and Covenants, Section 42:35-36

35 And for the purpose of purchasing lands for the public benefit of the church, and building houses of worship, and building up of the New Jerusalem which is hereafter to be revealed—

36 That my covenant people may be gathered in one in that day when I shall come to my temple. And this I do for the salvation of my people.

The Doctrine and Covenants, Section 45:66-67

66 And it shall be called the New Jerusalem, a land of peace, a city of refuge, a place of safety for the saints of the Most High God;

67 And the glory of the Lord shall be there, and the terror of the Lord also shall be there, insomuch that the wicked will not come unto it, and it shall be called Zion.

The Doctrine and Covenants, Section 84:118-119

118 For, with you saith the Lord Almighty, I will rend their kingdoms; I will not only shake the earth, but the starry heavens shall tremble.

119 For I, the Lord, have put forth my hand to exert the powers of heaven; ye cannot see it now, yet a little while and ye shall see it, and know that I am, and that I will come and reign with my people.

The Doctrine and Covenants, Section 97:15-17

15 And inasmuch as my people build a house unto me in the name of the Lord, and do not suffer any unclean thing to come into it, that it be not defiled, my glory shall rest upon it;

16 Yea, and my presence shall be there, for I will come into it, and all the pure in heart that shall come into it shall see God.

17 But if it be defiled I will not come into it, and my glory shall not be there; for I will not come into unholy temples.

Lee, Harold B. (1971, November). The Way to Eternal Life. Ensign.

But there was a brighter day that was promised, when these judgments would descend as we see them now in great evidence: "And also the Lord shall have power over his saints, and shall reign in their midst, and shall come down in judgment upon Idumea, or the world." (D&C 1:36.) How does he reign in our midst? How shall he have power over his saints? If you had been in the meeting of the priesthood last night, you would have seen the great power that was in evidence there, where there were two thousand holders of the priesthood, the power of God by which he works through men to the accomplishment of his purposes. He is reigning in our midst through them.

Millennial Star, Charles W. Penrose, September 1859

Among the first-mentioned of these three classes of men the Lord will make his appearance first; and that appearance will be unknown to the rest of mankind. He will come to the Temple prepared for him, and his faithful people will behold his face, hear his voice, and gaze upon his glory. From his own lips they will receive further instructions for the development and beautifying of Zion and for the extension and sure stability of his kingdom.

Journal of Discourses, Orson Pratt 14:44

That is what the Lord intends to fulfill on this land. Jesus is coming here as well as to many other places. When the New Jerusalem is built on this land, Jesus will visit that city. His glory will be upon its dwelling places. Isaiah the Prophet has declared that upon every dwelling place of Mount Zion there shall be a cloud and smoke by day, and a shining, flaming fire by night. This will not only be on the New Jerusalem, but on the Holy City

that is built up on the land of Palestine; and when the people have repented and become sufficiently righteous, and made preparation for the coming of the Lord Jesus, he will come, and they will behold the Shepherd that is promised to them.

Journal of Discourses, Orson Pratt 15:41

Let me make a few remarks here in relation to the difference between Zion and Jerusalem. Zion will be favored with the presence of the Lord before the Jews are permitted to behold him. The Lord will come to the Temple of Zion before he comes to the Temple at Jerusalem. Before he comes in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory, he will manifest himself in the city and Temple of Zion; or in other words all the pure in heart who are permitted in those days to enter into the Lord's Temple in Zion, which will be built on this continent, the Lord will reveal his face onto them, they will see him and he will dwell in the midst of Zion.

Sacrament with the Elect

The Doctrine and Covenants, Section 27:5-14

5 Behold, this is wisdom in me; wherefore, marvel not, for the hour cometh that I will drink of the fruit of the vine with you on the earth, and with Moroni, whom I have sent unto you to reveal the Book of Mormon, containing the fulness of my everlasting gospel, to whom I have committed the keys of the record of the stick of Ephraim;

6 And also with Elias, to whom I have committed the keys of bringing to pass the restoration of all things spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets since the world began, concerning the last days;

7 And also John the son of Zacharias, which Zacharias he (Elias) visited and gave promise that he should have a son, and his name should be John, and he should be filled with the spirit of Elias;

8 Which John I have sent unto you, my servants, Joseph Smith, Jun., and Oliver Cowdery, to ordain you unto the first priesthood which you have received, that you might be called and ordained even as Aaron;

9 And also Elijah, unto whom I have committed the keys of the power of turning the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the

children to the fathers, that the whole earth may not be smitten with a curse;

10 And also with Joseph and Jacob, and Isaac, and Abraham, your fathers, by whom the promises remain;

11 And also with Michael, or Adam, the father of all, the prince of all, the ancient of days;

12 And also with Peter, and James, and John, whom I have sent unto you, by whom I have ordained you and confirmed you to be apostles, and especial witnesses of my name, and bear the keys of your ministry and of the same things which I revealed unto them;

13 Unto whom I have committed the keys of my kingdom, and a dispensation of the gospel for the last times; and for the fulness of times, in the which I will gather together in one all things, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth;

14 And also with all those whom my Father hath given me out of the world.

The Doctrine and Covenants, Section 27:5,14

5 Behold, this is wisdom in me; wherefore, marvel not, for the hour cometh that I will drink of the fruit of the vine with you on the earth...

14 And also with all those whom my Father hath given me out of the world.

Doctrine and Covenants Student Manual, Bruce R. McConkie

Every faithful person in the whole history of the world, every person who has so lived as to merit eternal life in the kingdom of the Father will be in attendance and will partake, with the Lord, of the sacrament.

In Our Midst

The Book of Mormon, 3 Nephi 20:22

22 And behold, this people will I establish in this land, unto the fulfilling of the covenant which I made with your father Jacob; and it shall be a New Jerusalem. And the powers of heaven shall be in the midst of this people; yea, even I will be in the midst of you.

The Doctrine and Covenants, Section 38:7-8

7 But behold, verily, verily, I say unto you that mine eyes are upon you. I am in your midst and ye cannot see me;

8 But the day soon cometh that ye shall see me, and know that I am; for the veil of darkness shall soon be rent, and he that is not purified shall not abide the day.

Lee, Harold B. (1971, November). The Way to Eternal Life. Ensign.

But there was a brighter day that was promised, when these judgments would descend as we see them now in great evidence: "And also the Lord shall have power over his saints, and shall reign in their midst, and shall come down in judgment upon Idumea, or the world." (D&C 1:36) How does he reign in our midst? How shall he have power over his saints? If you had been in the meeting of the priesthood last night, you would have seen the great power that was in evidence there, where there were two thousand holders of the priesthood, the power of God by which he works through men to the accomplishment of his purposes. He is reigning in our midst through them.

Journal of Discourses, Orson Pratt 15:41

Let me make a few remarks here in relation to the difference between Zion and Jerusalem. Zion will be favored with the presence of the Lord before the Jews are permitted to behold him. The Lord will come to the Temple of Zion before he comes to the Temple at Jerusalem. Before he comes in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory, he will manifest himself in the city and Temple of Zion; or in other words all the pure in heart who are permitted in those days to enter into the Lord's Temple in Zion, which will be built on this continent, the Lord will reveal his face onto them, they will see him and he will dwell in the midst of Zion.

Christ Appears at Adam-ondi-Ahman

The Holy Bible, Daniel 7

Daniel sees four beasts representing the kingdoms of men—He sees the ancient of days (Adam) to whom the Son of Man (Christ) will come—The kingdom will be given to the Saints forever.

The Holy Bible, Daniel 7:9-10,13-14

9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Doctrine and Covenants Student Manual, Section 116

Elder Joseph Fielding Smith said that the council at Adam-ondi-Ahman, as prophesied in Daniel 7:9-14, will be of the greatest importance to this world. At that time there will be a transfer of authority from the usurper and impostor, Lucifer, to the rightful King, Jesus Christ. Judgment will be set and all who have held keys will make their reports and deliver their stewardships, as they shall be required. Adam will direct this judgment, and then he will make his report, as the one holding the keys for this earth, to his Superior Officer, Jesus Christ. Our Lord will then assume the reins of government; directions will be given to the Priesthood; and He, whose right it is to rule, will be installed officially by the voice of the Priesthood there assembled. This grand council of Priesthood will be composed, not only of those who are faithful who now dwell on this earth, but also of the prophets and apostles of old, who have had directing authority. Others may also be there, but if so they will be there by appointment, for this is to be an official council called to attend to the most momentous matters

concerning the destiny of this earth. When this gathering is held, the world will not know of it; the members of the Church at large will not know of it, yet it shall be preparatory to the coming in the clouds of glory of our Savior Jesus Christ as the Prophet Joseph Smith has said. The world cannot know of it. The Saints cannot know of it—except those who officially shall be called into this council—for it shall precede the coming of Jesus Christ as a thief in the night, unbeknown to all the world. (Way to Perfection, pp. 290-91.)

History of the Church, Joseph Smith 3:386

Daniel in his seventh chapter speaks of the Ancient of Days; he means the oldest man, our Father Adam, Michael, he will call his children together and hold a council with them to prepare them for the coming of the Son of Man. He (Adam) is the father of the human family, and presides over the spirits of all men, and all that have had the keys must stand before him in this grand council. This may take place before some of us leave this stage of action. The Son of Man stands before him, and there is given him glory and dominion. Adam delivers up his stewardship to Christ, that which was delivered to him as holding the keys of the universe, but retains his standing as head of the human family.

Journal of Discourses, Orson Pratt 17:29

I say we are told by this Prophet that the Ancient of days is the most ancient personage that ever had an existence in days here on the earth. And who was he? Why, of course, old father Adam, he was the most ancient man that ever lived in days that we have any knowledge of. He comes, then, as a great judge, to assemble this innumerable host of which Daniel speaks. He comes in flaming fire. The glory and blessing and greatness of this personage it would be impossible even for a man as great as Daniel fully to describe. He comes as a man inspired from the eternal throne of Jehovah himself. He comes to set in order the councils of the Priesthood pertaining to all dispensations, to arrange the Priesthood and the councils of the Saints of all former dispensations in one grand family and household. What is all this for? Why all this arrangement? Why all this organization? Why all this judgment and the opening of the books? It is to prepare the way for another august personage whom Daniel saw coming with the clouds of heaven, namely the Son of Man, and these clouds of heaven brought the Son of Man near before the Ancient of days. And when the Son of Man came to the Ancient of days, behold a kingdom was given to the Son of Man, and greatness and glory, that all

people, nations and languages should serve him, and his kingdom should be an everlasting kingdom, a kingdom that should never be done away.

Newman Buckley Vision, 1886

A vision seen by Newman Bulkley, Mormon Battalion War Veteran, on the night of January 8, 1886, in Springville, Utah. I retired to rest about 9 o'clock in the evening. In a short time, I drowsed off to sleep, and it seemed as if the spirit of my dead wife was hovering round about me. Suddenly I awoke, and sleep departed from me, and the vision of my mind was opened, and I beheld the members of the Senate of the United States. And while in session, they were hurled from the Hall by an unseen power. They rallied again, and the second time they were thrown from the Hall.

They rallied the third time and were again thrown from the Hall with such violence that a great number of them were killed. All those that remained alive had the name of "EDMUNDS" printed on their foreheads. Next I saw a whirlwind commence in the center of the House of Representatives which increased until it frightened all the members out of the House, and they then scattered to various parts of the United States; and the inhabitants of the city of Washington, D.C. became frightened and scattered until the city became almost desolate.

Then I saw a great tumult commence all over the United States, which ended in a great deal of blood being shed. And a great many of the people who had heard our Elders preach, and had believed what they heard, but had not had the courage to embrace the Gospel when they heard it, gathered what little effects they could take with them, and came to the people in the Rocky Mountains. Then I saw many thousands of women and children take refuge in the timber, hazel rough, or any place they could

conceal themselves from the turmoil that was going on in the States. And when word reached this people of their situation, there were hundreds of Seventies called upon to go and hunt them up and bring them to this people in Utah. Then the Government of the United States patched up their difficulties, and elected a new Congress, which assembled to do business. The crusade continued against the Latter-day Saints. Our enemies attributed all their troubles to the Saints, and the crusaders raised such a howl and sent forth their petitions to Congress, that the first business they did was to order one-hundred-thousand of the best and most able-bodied men that could be obtained to come against us.

When this became known to the Saints, instructions were sent forth for all the inhabitants of this territory to gather into the valleys, as near as possible to the

Temples. And the people gathered into Salt Lake, Cache, Utah and Sanpete Valleys, and to Saint George until there was a family to nearly every acre of land, and all the country around was filled with our people. And water broke forth, where before there had been no water, so that all the land could be cultivated.

I saw, also, that all the old men who had honored their Priesthood, became spry and young again. I also saw that the greater number

of those who had gone into polygamy for the principle thereof, had to go to prison; while

those who had embraced it for lust, escaped, as the officers appeared to care nothing about them. I saw no preparation of any warlike demonstration in the midst of the Saints, but all appeared to have the spirit of peace and contentment. And when the soldiers came near our borders, the United States officers and all the Gentiles were seized with fearfulness and left in haste by night and day, until they all got outside of the borders of this people and united with the soldiers.

Then the army surrounded this people on every side, and there was no possible way of escape. They then raised their standard and sent forth a proclamation to all who wished to save their lives to come to them for protection. And about one-third of our men and as many women as they could persuade to follow them, went over to the army and joined it. Then I saw the preparations commence for the entire destruction of the Saints.

It consisted in their gathering together all the combustible material they could obtain, and making a complete wall all around this people. It looked to me to be some fifty feet high, and from six to ten rods wide on the bottom. During the time of their gathering this combustible material, our people were laboring in the Temples, endowing men with the fullness of the blessings of the Priesthood for their protection. And when the army had fired their combustibles, these men, endowed with the fullness of the Holy Priesthood, walked along like sentinels at their posts and waved their hands, and the flames, smoke and ashes that were intended for the destruction of the Saints turned upon our enemies. (This is like VOG! The endowment would be for the gift of translation!)

And when this combustible matter was consumed, and the fire and smoke had cleared away, lo and behold!

The enemies of this people were not to be found. During all this time, our people were laboring in the Temples day and night, endowing the Elders of Israel with the fullness of the blessings of the Holy Priesthood until they got the number of fifty-thousand endowed.

During this time the Temple in Salt Lake City had been completed, and in one of the rooms situated in one of the towers, Jesus and Joseph, with their council, were sitting. Then preparations were made for the fifty-thousand to go down to the Center Stake of Zion, with Jesus and Joseph at their head, riding in their Chariots of Fire.

They seemed to be somewhere about six to ten rods above the earth. While all these scenes had been transpiring, the remnants or Lamanites of the land had gathered in from all quarters east of the Rocky Mountains, and some had come from South America. When our brethren passed down to the Center Stake of Zion, the remnants went forth and redeemed the land of Zion.

When my attention was drawn back again to the mountains, I saw that the young men and middle-aged men had been called away upon different missions; and the old men and women and children had to do all the farm work; and all those who were laboring to build up the City of Zion in Jackson County had to be sustained from these valleys, with the exception of the remnants of the house of Jacob. The buffalo and other game had returned upon the plains to feed them until they could be taught the art of agriculture.

The earth in the valleys was sanctified and cleansed so that it brought forth in its strength, and instead of its bringing from 15 to 40 bushels of grain to the acre, it brought forth from 100 to 200 bushels. The water broke forth in the parched ground, and all these valleys were filled with the Saints of the Most High, who had gathered in from the nations of the earth, to be schooled in the Temples that are now built and that will yet be built, to prepare them to go forth to the Center Stake of Zion. I saw all this pass before the eyes of my understanding; and when it had passed once, it was repeated again, which occupied about the whole of the night. I turned over and tried to sleep, but sleep had fled from me, and soon it was daylight. I was not asleep, but was awake the whole time, and I arose, filled with the glory of what I had seen, resting upon me. (The 3½ Years, pp. 171-175; Visions of the Latter Days, pp. 109-113.)

The Dream of the Plagues (1884)

Author unknown. "Vision of Plagues". The Contributor. August 1884, 5:411

The present times seem to be more than usually prolific of prophetic dreams among the Latter-day Saints. In nearly every settlement the people have been warned of events soon to occur; and visions of the future glory of the Kingdom of God upon this earth have passed like a panorama before many of those who love God and obey His commandments.

Some two or three years ago, I had retired for the night, when suddenly a glorious messenger appeared at my bedside and awoke me from my slumber. The light of his presence filled the room, so that objects were discerned as clearly as at noonday.

He handed me a book, saying, "Look, and see what is coming to pass." I took the book in my hands and, sitting up in bed, examined it carefully and read its contents. In size this book was about seven by ten inches, opening like a copybook and bound in beautiful cover, on the front of which was stamped in gold letters its title, which was The Book of the Plagues. The leaves were printed only on the front side of each, and were composed of the very finest quality of pure white linen, instead of paper. The typography throughout was in the finest style of the printer's art. Each page was composed of a picture printed in colors as natural as art can copy nature, which occupied the upper half of the space, below which was the printed description of the scene represented.

On the first page was a picture of a feast in progress, with the long table set upon a beautiful lawn, over which were interspersed clumps of fine shrubs and towering trees. In the background through the foliage, could be discerned a stately suburban villa, adorned with all the ornaments of modern architecture. The landscape presented the appearance of midsummer. The sky, and indeed the whole atmosphere, appeared of a peculiar sickly brassy hue, similar to that which may be observed when the sun is wholly eclipsed, and the disc is just beginning again to give its light. Throughout the atmosphere small white specks were represented, similar to a scattering fall of minute snowflakes in winter. About the table a part of richly dressed ladies and gentlemen were seated in the act of partaking of the rich repast with which the table was laden. The minute specks falling from above were dropping into the food apparently unheeded by all, for a sudden destruction had come upon them. Many were falling backward in the agonies of a fearful death; others drooping upon the table, and others pausing with their hand still holding the untasted food, their countenances betraying a fearful astonishment at the peculiar and unlooked

for condition of their companions. Death was in the atmosphere; the judgments of God had come upon them as silently and swiftly as upon the proud Sennacharib and his host of Assyrians.

In one corner of this picture was a small circular vignette, showing the front of the store of a dealer in pork. The wide sidewalk was covered by an awning supported on posts at the outer edge, and on this walk were shown barrels of pork, long strings of sausages, fresh slaughtered hogs, piles of smoked bacon and headcheese; and along the edge of the walk, next to the store, beneath the front windows, leaned a number of large hams and pieces of side meat, reaching across the whole front, except a small space at the doorway. There were twelve of these pieces, and on each piece was painted a large letter, in order to make as a whole the word ABOMINATIONS.

Below this scene was the description: A Feast among the Gentiles, commencement of the Plague. And in smaller type below [was] a note saying that the particles of poison, though represented in the picture, are so small as to be invisible to the naked eye.

On the next page was another picture. It was a street scene in a large city. In the foreground were the residences of wealthy city merchants. The character of the buildings gradually changed; along the view and in the distance were shown the great buildings of trade and commerce in the heart of a large metropolis. On the sidewalks throughout the long vista, the busy, throbbing rushing crowd had been cut down like grass before the mower.

Again it was a midsummer scene. The same atoms of poison were falling through the air, but their work was done; the same sickly brazen atmosphere that seemed thick with foul odors laid upon the earth, in which no breeze stirred a leaf of the foliage. Upon the balconies of the richly decorated residences, across the thresholds of the open doorways, along the walks and upon the crossings, lay the men, women and children, who a few days before were enjoying all the pleasures of life. Further on, the dead were everywhere. Houses of business that had been thronged with customers stood with open doorways, frowning upon streets covered with the dead. Across the thresholds of the banks lay the guardians of wealth, but no thieves were there to take the unlocked treasures within. The costly merchandise of a thousand owners laid untouched upon the counters and shelves. In the noonday glare of the sickly sun, not a soul was shown alive; not one had been left to bury the dead—all had been stricken or had fled from the death-dealing plague and the doomed city. Along midway upon the street, a hungry drove of those horrible ugly slaughterhouse dogs, (which may be seen in the pens attached to the filthy slaughtering places

in the outskirts of many cities), was tearing and devouring the dead and feasting upon the bodies of rich and poor alike with none to molest them.

Below this picture was the description: Progress of the Plague among the Gentiles. A street scene in a large city. Nearly fifty of these pictures I carefully observed, wherein the fearful effects of this and other plagues were almost as vividly portrayed as if I had actually seen them.

The last scene in the book was descriptive of the same plague as the first. A beautiful park-like, grassy prairie was surrounded by elm and cottonwood trees, the area embraced being about eighty rods across. In the center of this enclosure was a large cone-shaped tent of a bright purple color, about thirty feet in height by twenty in diameter at the base. Midway in height in this tent was a floor dividing the inside into two stories. Near this tent was another, a round wall tent, about thirty feet in diameter, and nearly as high as the first. This was clean and white. Leaving a space of about a hundred yards from these central tents were hundreds of small rectangular wall tents in rows, reaching as far as the surrounding trees, each tent clean and white, and appearing to be of a size suited to the wants of an ordinary family. Not a human being, animal, bird or vehicle was in sight. Not a breath of air appeared to be stirring. The same atmosphere as in the previous pictures, with the atoms of poison, was represented, and the same time and season of the year.

Below this picture was the description: "A camp of the Saints who have gathered together and are living under the daily revelations of God, and are thus preserved from the plague." I understood from this that each family was in its tent during the hours of the day that the poison falls, and thus were preserved from breathing the deathly particles.

Handing the book to the messenger, who all this time had remained by my side, he vanished from my view as suddenly as he had appeared. I awoke my wife, who was soundly sleeping, and commenced to relate to her what I had just beheld. After telling her the description of the two pictures at the beginning of the book, and commencing on the third, this third picture and all up to the last was suddenly taken from my memory, so that I have never been able to recall them; but still I remember that they were scenes about the plagues and judgments.

John Taylor's Last Days Vision

John Taylor's Last Days Vision

by John Taylor (Source: Wilford Woodruff's Journal, June 15, 1878, "A Vision, Salt Lake City, Night of Dec 16, 1877")

NOTE: There are some that dispute whether or not it was John Taylor that had this vision. The vision does, in fact, come from the journal of Wilford Woodruff. It is verified that it was not Wilford Woodruff that had the vision. Many believe it to be John Taylor's vision.

I went to bed as usual at about 7:30PM. I had been reading a revelation in the French language. My mind was calm, more so than usual if possible, so I composed myself for sleep, but could not. I felt a strange feeling come over me and apparently became partially unconscious. Still I was not asleep, nor exactly awake, with dreary feeling. The first thing that I recognized was that I was in the tabernacle of Ogden, Utah. I was sitting in the back part of the building for fear they would call on me to preach, which however they did, for after singing the second time they called me to the stand.

I arose to speak and said that I did not know that I had anything especially to say, except to bear my testimony of the Latter-day work, when all at once it seemed as if I was lifted out of myself and I said, "Yes, I have something to say and that is this: Some of my brethren have been asking, "What is becoming of us? What is the wind blowing?" I will answer you right here what is coming very shortly."

I was then in a dream, immediately in the city of Salt Lake, and wandering around in the streets and in all parts of the city, and on the doors of the houses I found badges of mourning and I could not find a house but was in mourning. I passed my own house and found the same sign there, and I asked the question, "Is that me that is dead?" Someone gave me the answer, "No, you will get through it all."

It seemed strange to me that I saw no person in the streets in all my wandering around the country. I seemed to be in their houses with the sick, but saw no funeral procession, nor anything of the kind, but the city looking still and as though the people were praying. And it seemed that they had controlled the disease, but what the disease was I did not learn; it was not made known to me. I then looked over the country, north, east, south, and west, and the same mourning was in every land and in every place.

The next thing I knew I was just this side of Omaha. It seemed though I was above the earth, and looking down upon it. As I passed along upon my way east I saw the road full of people, mostly women, with just what they could carry in bundles on their backs, traveling to the mountains on foot. I wondered how they would get through with such a small pack on their backs. It was remarkable to us[?] that there were so few men among them. It didn't seem to me as though the cars were running, the rails looked rusty and the roads abandoned; and I have no conception of how I traveled as I looked down upon the people.

I continued east by the way of Omaha and Council Bluffs, which were full of disease. There were women everywhere. The state of Illinois and Missouri were in a tumult, men killing one another, women joining the fighting, family against family in the most horrid manner.

I imagined next that I was in Washington and I found desolation there. The White House was empty and the Halls of Congress the same, and everything in ruins. The people seemed to have left the city and left it to take care of itself.

I was in Baltimore. In the square where the Monument of 1812 stands in front of the Charles Hotel. I saw dead piled up so as to fill the street square. I saw mothers cutting the throats of their own children for their blood. I saw them suck it from their throats to quench their own thirst and then lie down and die. The water of Chesapeake Bay was stagnant, and the stench arising from it on account of their throwing their bodies into it so terrible, that the very smell carried death with it. I saw no man except they were dead or dying in the streets and very few women. Those I saw were crazy and in an ugly condition. Everywhere I went I beheld the same sights all over the city; it was terrible beyond description to look upon.

I thought this must be the end; but no, I was seemingly in an instant in the city of Philadelphia. There everything was still. No living soul was there to greet me. It seemed the whole city was without any inhabitants. In the south of Chestnut Street and in fact everywhere I went, the putrefaction of the dead caused such a stench that it was impossible for any living thing to breathe, nor did I see any living thing in the city.

Next I found myself in Broadway, in the city of New York, and there it seemed the people had done the best they could to overcome the disease, but in wandering down Broadway I saw the bodies of beautiful women lying, some dead and others in a dying condition, on the sidewalks. I saw men come out of cellars and ravish the persons of some that were yet alive and then kill them

and rob their bodies of all the valu-ables they had upon them. Then before they could get back to the cellar they would roll over a time or two and die in ag-ony. In some of the back streets I saw them kill some of their own offspring and eat their raw flesh, and in a few minutes die them-selves. Every-where I went I saw the same scene of horror and de-struction and death and rap-ine.

No car-riages, buggies, or cars were running; but death and de-struc-tion were every-where. Then I saw fire start and just at that moment a mighty East wind sprang up and car-ried the flames over the city and it burned until there was not a sin-gle building left standing there, even down to the waters edge. Wharves and shipping all seemed to burn and follow in common destruction where the "great city" was a short time ago. The stench from the bodies that were burn-ing was so great that it was carried a long dis-tance cross the Hudson Bay and carried death and destruction wherever it pene-trated. I cannot paint in words the horror that seemed to compass me about; it was beyond description of man.

I sup-posed this was the end; but it was not. I was given to understand the same horror was being en-acted all over the coun-try, east, west, north, and south. Few were left alive, still there were some.

Immediately after I seemed to be standing on the left bank of the Mis-souri River, opposite e the City of In-de-pendence, but there was no city. I saw the whole state of Missouri and Illi-nois and all of Iowa, a complete desert with no living being there. A short dis-tance from the river how-ever, I saw twelve men dressed in temple robes, stand-ing in a square or nearly so (and I under-stood it repre-sented the Twelve Gates of the New Jerusa-lem.) Their hands were uplifted in consecration of the ground and lay-ing the corner stone of the tem-ple. I saw myraids of an-gels hovering over them, and saw also an immense pil-lar of clouds over them and heard the angels singing the most heav-enly music. The words were "Now is estab-lished the King-dom of God and his Christ, which shall never more be thrown down."

I saw people com-ing from the river and from the desert places a long way off to help build the temple and it seemed that hosts of an-gels all helped to get material to build with and I saw some of them who wore temple clothes come and build the tem-ple and the city, and all the time I saw the great pillar of clouds hovering over the place.

Instantly, however, I found my-self again in the taber-nacle at Ogden. And yet, I could still see the building go on and I got quite animated in call-ing on the people in the tabernacle to listen to the beautiful music, for the an-gels were

singing the same music I had heard be-fore. "Now is estab-lished the King-dom of God and his Christ, which shall never more be thrown down."

At this I seemed to stagger back from the pulpit and Brother Francis D. Richards and some others caught my arm and prevented me from falling. Then I fin-ished so abruptly. Still even then I had not fainted, but was simply ex-hausted.

Then I rolled over in bed and awoke just as the city clock was striking twelve.

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VOG - Two Prophets

It was at this time that two prophets were called in Zion to go and alter the course of the Jewish people. I knew who they were at the time, but I have not retained that memory. I believe they were members of the Quorum of the Twelve who were then serving in Zion. I know that they studied their mission via the portal in the temple, and they were prepared for their mission and their sacrifice. They left with great courage, knowing their task was pivotal and that it would cost them their lives. They were ordained by Jesus Christ Himself to this great calling before a large assemblage in the temple, and then they departed from our sight through the portal.

Pontius, John. Visions of Glory: One Man's Astonishing Account of the Last Days (pp. 217-218). Cedar Fort, Inc.. Kindle Edition.

