

# We Will Witness what Nephi Saw in Vision Part 2

# President Nelson

“We live in the day that ‘our forefathers have awaited with anxious expectation.’ We have front-row seats to witness live what the prophet Nephi saw only in vision, that ‘the power of the Lamb of God’ would descend ‘upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory.’

You, my brothers and sisters, are among those men, women, and children whom Nephi saw. Think of that!” (‘Hear Him’, April 2020 General Conference)

President Nelson quoted one of the most dramatic and pivotal prophecies in scripture, seen also by Daniel, John the revelator and many other prophets, and he identified us as the ones that will live to see it come to pass. This is the greatest prophecy I've heard any living prophet ever speak to a generation.

And then he invited us to “think of that!”

He quoted the part of Nephi's prophecy that describes how Zion will overcome as all the powers of the earth unite to fight against the saints of God.

Nephi also saw other events and circumstances leading up to that point. As we follow the prophet's invitation to think about and ponder this prophecy, we discover life changing truths.

We will witness the final stages of wickedness in our civilization.

We will see the day when our survival depends on our spiritual capacity to perform miracles.

We will see the Lord's prophet speak to the nations as Moses spoke to Pharaoh.

As Gentile civilization crumbles we will gather into the society that becomes the millennial kingdom of God.

# 1 Nephi 14

13 And it came to pass that I beheld that the great mother of abominations did gather together multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the nations of the Gentiles, to **fight against the Lamb of God**.

14 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were **armed with righteousness** and with the power of God in great glory.

15 And it came to pass that I beheld that **the wrath of God** was poured out upon that great and abominable church, insomuch that there were wars and rumors of wars among all the nations and kindreds of the earth.

Knowing that we are among the men, women, and children that Nephi saw, we should better understand what we will witness live. The events we will investigate are:

- Fighting against the Lamb of God
- The wrath of God poured out upon the gentiles
- Armed with righteousness

As we look deeper into each of these themes, it will clarify when and how they will come to pass, and how we should respond.

# 1 Nephi 14

13 And it came to pass that I beheld that the great mother of abominations did gather together multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the nations of the Gentiles, to **fight against the Lamb of God**.

Fighting against the Lamb of God

# 1 Nephi 14

1 Nephi 14:13 ...multitudes among all the nations of the Gentiles gather to **fight** against the Lamb of God.

1 Nephi 11:34 And after he was slain I saw the multitudes of the earth, that they were gathered together to **fight** against the apostles of the Lamb...

What is meant by the word 'fight'? In the same vision the word 'fight' is used to describe what happened to the 12 apostles.

Both John the Revelator and Daniel described this same event as making "war with the saints" (Revelation 13:7, Daniel 7:21)



# **Modern prophets foretell of this**

## **Robert D. Hales**

"In recent decades the Church has largely been spared the terrible misunderstandings and persecutions experienced by the early Saints. It will not always be so." (October 2013 Gen. Conference)

## **Russell M. Nelson**

"Why do we need such resilient faith? Because difficult days are ahead. Rarely in the future will it be easy or popular to be a faithful Latter-day Saint. Each of us will be tested. The Apostle Paul warned that in the latter days, those who diligently follow the Lord "shall suffer persecution." That very persecution can either crush you into silent weakness or motivate you to be more exemplary and courageous in your daily lives." (April 2011 Gen. Conference)

# Modern prophets foretell of this

Russell M. Nelson

“‘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, he said.

‘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.”

(Apia, Samoa Devotional, Saturday, May 18, 2019

<https://www.thechurchnews.com/leaders-and-ministry/2019-05-18/pacific-tour-president-nelson-samoa-devotional-tuimalealiifano-vaaletoa-sualauvi-ii-2030>)

# 1 Nephi 14

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The Wrath of God  
What is it, and what brings it about?

## Ether 2 (Moroni writing)

9 And now, we can behold the decrees of God concerning this land, that it is a land of promise; and whatsoever nation shall possess it shall serve God, or they shall be swept off when the fulness of his wrath shall come upon them. And the **fulness of his wrath** cometh upon them when they are **ripened in iniquity**.

10 ...And it is not until the fulness of iniquity among the children of the land, that they are swept off.

The wrath of God cleanses the wicked from the land. It comes only after a nation has ripened in iniquity and no sooner.

Although this decree is specific to America, the scriptures show that it is consistent with other lands and nations throughout history.

How do we know if a nation is ripened in iniquity?

## Alma 10 (Amulek in Ammonihah)

22 Yea, and I say unto you that if it were not for the prayers of the righteous, who are now in the land, that ye would even now be visited with utter destruction...

23 But it is by the prayers of the righteous that ye are spared; now therefore, **if ye will cast out the righteous from among you then will not the Lord stay his hand; but in his fierce anger he will come out against you...**

# Helaman 13 (Samuel the Lamanite to the Nephites)

13 But blessed are they who will repent, for **them will I spare**. But behold, if it were not for the righteous who are in this great city, behold, I would cause that fire should come down out of heaven and destroy it.

14 But behold, **it is for the righteous' sake that it is spared**. But behold, the time cometh, saith the Lord, that **when ye shall cast out the righteous from among you, then shall ye be ripe for destruction...**

When the wicked use physical aggression in casting out the righteous, this causes a geographical separation of the righteous from the wicked. Once the separation is complete, the wrath of God is poured out upon the wicked to their destruction. This seems to be the pattern for cleansing irreversibly corrupt societies. There is a consistent cause and effect relationship between:

1. Persecution of the righteous
2. Physical separation of the righteous from the wicked (ripened in iniquity)
3. The wrath of God poured out on the wicked

This pattern has repeated itself again and again throughout history. We will look at a few historical examples of the wrath of God to give us a clearer picture of what will occur in our day.



# Nephites

## 3 Nephi 9 (voice of Jesus to the Nephites)

10 ...and the city of Kishkumen, have I caused to be burned with fire, and the inhabitants thereof, because of their wickedness in **casting out the prophets**, and stoning those whom I did send to declare unto them concerning their wickedness and their abominations.

11 And **because they did cast them all out, that there were none righteous among them, I did send down fire and destroy them...**

13 O all ye that are spared because ye were more righteous than they...

# Nephites

## 3 Nephi 10 (Mormon commenting on the destruction)

12 And it was the more righteous part of the people who were saved, and it was they who received the prophets and stoned them not; and it was they who had not shed the blood of the saints, who were spared

# Sodom & Gomorrah

## Genesis 18

23-26 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? And the Lord said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

32 ...**And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.**

The only righteous people found were lot and his family. Despite his family's reluctance, the angels grabbed them by the arm to get them out of the city and spare their lives.

# Enoch pre-flood

## Moses 7

13 And so great was the faith of Enoch that he led the people of God, and **their enemies came to battle against them**...and all nations feared greatly, so powerful was the word of Enoch,...

21 ...and lo, **Zion**, in process of time, **was taken up into heaven**...

27 And Enoch beheld angels **descending out of heaven**, bearing testimony of the Father and Son; and the Holy Ghost fell on many, and **they were caught up by the powers of heaven into Zion**.

Prior to the flood those who weren't ripened in iniquity were translated, leaving only those who were ripe in iniquity, excepting the eight who boarded the ark.

# Canaanites

## Genesis 15 (The Lord covenants with Abraham)

13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.

The Lord wouldn't let the children of Abraham dispossess the Amorites until they were ripened in iniquity.

# Canaanites

## 1 Nephi 17 (Speaking of Joshua's conquest of the land of Canaan)

34 Do ye suppose that our fathers [the Israelites] would have been more choice than [the Canaanites] if they had been righteous? I say unto you, Nay.

35 ...But behold, [the Canaanites] had rejected every word of God, and they were ripe in iniquity; and the fulness of the wrath of God was upon them...

These scriptures show that God is consistent and his laws for individuals and nations do not change.

In order for the wrath of God to come upon the gentiles as Nephi saw, the gentiles must first become ripened in iniquity. We will witness this same pattern in our day.

1. Persecution
2. Physical separation - ripened in iniquity
3. The wrath of God

Because God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, a study of history is a study of prophecy. Apart from casting out the righteous, there are other scriptural patterns that will help us measure how close our civilization is to being ripened in iniquity.

# Gary E. Stevenson

October 2019 General Conference

“Satan... has spent millennia calculating and practicing the ability to persuade God’s children to believe that good is evil and evil is good.”

Consider that satan and his followers have played an active role in every civilization that has ripened in iniquity. They have been perfecting the formula to corrupt a society, and lead to its demise. And those same beings are working to destroy our civilization as well.

What is their formula for corrupting nations? What can consistently cause entire societies to fall apart?

Answer: Breaking down the foundation of society. Family is the first, and most basic form of society.



# The Family Proclamation

“God has commanded that the sacred powers of procreation are to be employed only between man and woman, lawfully wedded as husband and wife.

We declare the means by which mortal life is created to be divinely appointed.”

The sustainability of society depends upon the proper use of the procreative powers.

Therefore, in order to destroy society, satan and his followers seek to destroy the family unit by creating a culture that distorts and abuses the procreative powers.

After the children of Israel entered the promised land, the Lord warned them of four sins that led the Canaanites to destruction.

Notice the order of these four groups of sins, and how they all relate to the abuse of the procreative powers, and the disintegration of the family unit.

# Four Stages of Moral Decay

## Leviticus 18

3 ...after the doings of the land of Canaan, whither I bring you, shall ye not do: neither shall ye walk in their ordinances.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Then verses 6-20 list various forms of fornication, incest, and adultery which all can be categorized as violations of the law of chastity.

# Four Stages of Moral Decay

## Leviticus 18

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1. Law of Chastity
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

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# Four Stages of Moral Decay

## Leviticus 18

21 And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech.

1. Law of Chastity
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Molech was a Canaanite idol. Several scriptures indicate that infants and children were sacrificed by fire to this idol. (See Ezekiel 23:37-39, Jeremiah 7:31)

We will label this child sacrifice.

# Four Stages of Moral Decay

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This refers to homosexuality

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## Leviticus 18

23 Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto...

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This refers to bestiality.

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# Four Stages of Moral Decay

## Leviticus 18

24 Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you:

1. Law of Chastity
2. Child Sacrifice
3. Homosexuality
4. Bestiality

The Lord warns the Israelites that if they follow the same pattern as the Canaanites they too will be cast out of the land.

# Four Stages of Moral Decay

## 2 Kings 21

9 ...Manasseh seduced them to do **more evil than did the nations whom the Lord destroyed before the children of Israel.**

11 Because Manasseh king of Judah hath done these abominations, and hath done wickedly above all that the Amorites did, which were before him...

1. Law of Chastity
2. Child Sacrifice
3. Homosexuality
4. Bestiality

Manasseh was one of the last of the kings of Judah. He seduced the children of Israel to do all and worse than the abominations of the Canaanites.

# Four Stages of Moral Decay

## 2 Kings 21

12 Therefore thus saith the Lord God of Israel...

13 ...I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it, and turning it upside down.

1. Law of Chastity
2. Child Sacrifice
3. Homosexuality
4. Bestiality

The Lord cleansed the land by the Babylonians in 586 B.C.

This same thing happened to the Northern kingdom earlier.

# Four Stages of Moral Decay

## 2 Kings 17 (The reasons for the Assyrian captivity)

7 For so it was, that the children of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God...

8 And **walked in the statutes of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out** from before the children of Israel...

1. Law of Chastity
2. Child Sacrifice
3. Homosexuality
4. Bestiality

For the same reason, the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed and taken captive by the Assyrians in 721 B.C.

# Four Stages of Moral Decay

This same sequence seems to be repeating in our civilization as well.

1. Law of Chastity
2. Child Sacrifice
3. Homosexuality
4. Bestiality

# Four Stages of Moral Decay

Neil L. Andersen

April 2019 General Conference

“During my teenage and early married years, many in the world walked away from the Lord’s standard we call the **law of chastity**, that sexual relations are to occur only between a man and a woman who are **lawfully married**.

1. **Law of Chastity**
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1. **Law of Chastity**
2. **Child Sacrifice**
3. **Homosexuality**
4. Bestiality

# Four Stages of Moral Decay

1. Law of Chastity
2. Child Sacrifice
3. Homosexuality
4. Bestiality

If the pattern continues, then we can expect that the final stage of our ripening society will tolerate, accept, legally protect, embrace, and even celebrate bestiality. When a culture condones the abuse and distortion of the pro-creative powers that God has ordained for the creation of families, it disintegrates the family unit in that society. The legal status of these four stages of corruption is also an indicator of the society at large.

# Legal Status

## Mosiah 29 (Mosiah regarding their new republic)

26 Now it is not common that the voice of the people desireth anything contrary to that which is right; but it is common for the lesser part of the people to desire that which is not right; therefore this shall ye observe and make it your law—to do your business by the voice of the people.

27 And if the time comes that the voice of the people doth choose iniquity, then is the time that the judgments of God will come upon you; yea, then is the time **he will visit you with great destruction...**

# Legal Status

## Helaman 5 (Mormon on the state of the republic)

2 For as their laws and their governments were established by the voice of the people, and they who chose evil were more numerous than they who chose good, therefore **they were ripening for destruction, for the laws had become corrupted.**

# Legal Status

Laws are already being passed that are setting the stage for this. To give an example here is an excerpt from a Rule that the Utah State Board of Education passed on August 5th 2021.

# Legal Status

## Board Rule R277-328-3

"(3) professional learning...**may not include instruction** that promotes or endorses that:...(b) a student or educator's...sexual orientation... determines the content of the student or educator's character including the student or educator's values, morals, or personal ethics;"

This rule makes it illegal to teach that sexual orientation is related to values, morals or ethics. If a student or educator states that they have a sexual orientation of pedophilia or that they practice bestiality, it would be considered discrimination and non-inclusive to teach that it is immoral. Rather it would be met with...

# Legal Status

## Board Rule R277-328-3

“(2) The professional learning... **shall include instruction** in: ...(d) acknowledging differences... and showing due regard for feelings, rights, cultures, and traditions; (e) ...acknowledging diverse... values... and lived experiences; (f) implementing principles and strategies of inclusion, as they pertain to students and educators with diverse abilities and backgrounds”

While outlawing the teaching of morals regarding “sexual orientation”, it legally protects and promotes inclusivity of every imaginable lifestyle.



# Legal Status

## Board Rule R277-328

It is through broad and vague legislation like this that the next wave of the sexual revolution will be protected and promoted in the name of inclusion and anti-discrimination.

This is just one example of how the stage is being set for the final phase of iniquity.

# The Earth Responds to iniquity

## Leviticus 18

24 Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you:

25 And the land is defiled: therefore **I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants.**

# The Earth Responds to iniquity

## Moses 7

48 And it came to pass that Enoch looked upon the earth; and he heard a voice from the bowels thereof, saying: Wo, wo is me, the mother of men; **I am pained, I am weary, because of the wickedness** of my children. When shall I rest, and **be cleansed from the filthiness** which is gone forth out of me?

The earth itself responds when societies become ripened in iniquity. The destruction of the wicked cleanses the land. Children born into these societies would have no way of choosing between good and evil because they would only be presented with evil. To prevent the pure spirits of the Father from entering these societies, the Lord revokes their procreative powers by taking away their bodies and sending them to the spirit world. The wrath of God is a merciful way to cleanse societies so the earth may continue to be a place for His children to learn and grow.

# God always warns through His prophets

## 2 Nephi 25

9 And as one generation hath been destroyed among the Jews because of iniquity, even so have they been destroyed from generation to generation according to their iniquities; and **never hath any of them been destroyed save it were foretold them by the prophets of the Lord.**

As the gentile culture approaches the fullness of iniquity the true prophets of God will continue to warn of the unsustainable course of society, and the wrath of God to be poured out.

# **God always warns through His prophets**

## **The Family Proclamation**

“we warn that the disintegration of the family will bring upon individuals, communities, and nations the calamities foretold by ancient and modern prophets.”

# Comparing false prophets and true prophets

The false prophets of the world call for obedience to the collectivist ideology of global sustainability, a plan of safety for all that excludes God and His commandments. They threaten that disobedience will destroy our entire planet.

The true prophets of God call for obedience to God's laws to avoid the decay and demise of society.

The world's plan of salvation rejects God's plan of salvation. Elder Christofferson compared the urgency of God's plan of salvation vs the worlds plan of sustainable development.

# D. Todd Christofferson

April 2020 General Conference

"In 2015 the United Nations adopted what was called 'The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' It was described as 'a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.'..."

[He then mentions some of the goals of this plan, citing the United Nations website where you can read all 17 goals.]

"The concept of sustainable development is an interesting and important one. **Even more urgent**, however, is the broader question of sustainable societies.

'Urgent' is the word he uses to contrast these two concepts. What are the most urgent parts of the 2030 agenda?





1 NO POVERTY



2 ZERO HUNGER



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



5 GENDER EQUALITY



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



**10** REDUCED  
INEQUALITIES



**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



**12** RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION



**13** CLIMATE  
ACTION



**14** LIFE  
BELOW WATER



**15** LIFE  
ON LAND



**16** PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



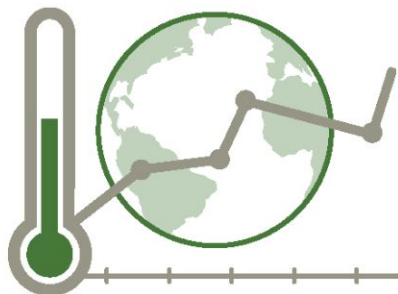
13 CLIMATE ACTION



# TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

BEFORE COVID-19

GLOBAL COMMUNITY SHIES AWAY FROM COMMITMENTS REQUIRED TO REVERSE **THE CLIMATE CRISIS**



2019 WAS THE  
SECOND WARMEST YEAR  
ON RECORD

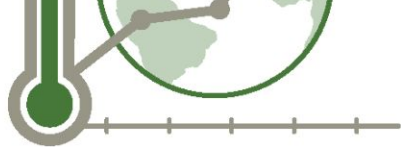
GLOBAL TEMPERATURES  
ARE PROJECTED TO RISE  
BY UP TO 3.2°C BY 2100



ONLY **85 COUNTRIES**  
HAVE NATIONAL  
**DISASTER RISK  
REDUCTION STRATEGIES**  
ALIGNED TO THE  
SENDAI FRAMEWORK

CLIMATE FINANCE:  
INVESTMENT





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## COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS

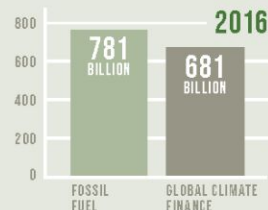


COVID-19 MAY RESULT IN A  
6% DROP IN GREENHOUSE  
GAS EMISSIONS FOR 2020

STILL SHORT OF 7.6% ANNUAL  
REDUCTION REQUIRED TO LIMIT  
GLOBAL WARMING TO 1.5°C

## CLIMATE FINANCE: INVESTMENT IN FOSSIL FUELS

CONTINUES TO BE HIGHER  
THAN INVESTMENT IN  
CLIMATE ACTIVITIES



CLIMATE CHANGE CONTINUES TO  
EXAGGERBATE THE FREQUENCY AND  
SEVERITY OF NATURAL DISASTERS



MASSIVE WILDFIRES



DROUGHTS



HURRICANES



FLOODS

AFFECTING MORE THAN  
39 MILLION PEOPLE  
IN 2018

# Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

<https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

14 "...Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time... **The survival of many societies... is at risk.**"

31 "...We are determined to address decisively the **threat posed by climate change**... The global nature of climate change calls for the **widest possible international cooperation**..." (Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)

Goal 1.5 "...reduce their exposure and vulnerability to **climate-related extreme events**... and **environmental shocks and disasters**"

# Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

<https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

50 "...We can be the first generation to succeed in ending poverty; just as **we may be the last to have a chance of saving the planet.**"

That's a sample of the doomsday rhetoric and crisis forecasting found in the 'blueprint' that highlight the **urgency** of Sustainable Development.

And what did Elder Christofferson say about all this urgency?

# D. Todd Christofferson

April 2020 General Conference

**“Even more urgent**, however, is the broader question of sustainable societies.”

[He then refers to the Zion societies of Enoch and the Nephites as models for us.]

"The societies in these two examples were sustained by the blessings of heaven"

"A society... in which individual consent is the only constraint on sexual activity is a society in decay. Adultery, promiscuity, out-of-wedlock births, and elective abortions are but some of the bitter fruits that grow out of the ongoing sexual revolution..."

The Creator of this planet has made it clear that the consequences of moral decay are far more urgent to address than the threat of ozone decay. The true prophets of God invite us to keep God's commandments. The false prophets of the world seek and preach salvation without God, using fear to cause people to trust in the arm of the flesh.

Those who follow the direction of the true prophets of God will develop into a culture marked by trust in God, families, peace, virtue, and holiness.

Those who follow the panic of the false prophets of the world will develop into a culture marked by hysteria, loneliness, despair, and hedonism.



The ripening of iniquity adds a moral and cultural component to the polarization of society. The ideology of the church of the devil rejects the three most essential parts of the Father's plan; Jesus Christ the Creator and Savior, freedom to choose, and the family.

The ideological division develops and matures into a cultural division. More and more righteous families are awakening to the dangers of remaining attached to the decaying culture of Babylon. To spiritually protect ourselves and our children, we need to throw off the traditions that bind us to Babylon. The righteous will feel an increasing need to gather for spiritual and emotional strength as they fit-in less with the norms of society. We must strive to build a Christ-centered culture of Zion.

# William K. Jackson

October 2020 General Conference

“It may seem that culture is so heavily embedded in our thinking and behavior that it is impossible to change. It is, after all, much of what we feel defines us and from which we feel a sense of identity. It can be such a strong influence that we can fail to see the man-made weaknesses or flaws in our own cultures, resulting in a reluctance to throw off some of the traditions of our fathers. An overfixation on one’s cultural identity may lead to the rejection of worthwhile—even godly—ideas, attributes, and behavior.”

In addition to the cultural division that will come from ripening in iniquity, there are other prophecies that we will witness before the wrath of God is poured out upon the gentiles.

# Final testimony to the gentiles

## Doctrine & Covenants 88

73 Behold, I will hasten my work in its time.

84 Therefore, tarry ye, and labor diligently, that you may be perfected in your ministry to **go forth among the Gentiles for the last time**, as many as the mouth of the Lord shall name, to **bind up the law** and **seal up the testimony**, and to **prepare the saints for the hour of judgment which is to come**;

85 That their souls may escape **the wrath of God, the desolation of abomination** which awaits the wicked, both in this world and in the world to come...

88 And after your testimony cometh wrath and indignation upon the people.

# Final testimony to the gentiles

## Doctrine & Covenants 88

89 For **after your testimony** cometh the testimony of earthquakes, that shall cause groanings in the midst of her, and men shall fall upon the ground and shall not be able to stand.

90 And also cometh the testimony of the voice of thunderings, and the voice of lightnings, and the voice of tempests, and the voice of the waves of the sea heaving themselves beyond their bounds.

After the final testimony to the gentiles nature will testify, or in other words, the wrath of God will come. The earth responds to iniquity.

# Final testimony to the gentiles

This is the only verse in all of scripture where the Lord himself mentions the hastening of His work. And it refers to the missionary work “among the Gentiles for the last time”.

When will this hastened final period begin?

It already has! It began in 2013 with the lowering of the age of missionaries.

# Final testimony to the gentiles

S. Gifford Nielsen

October 2013 General Conference

“All over the world, stakes, districts, and missions are experiencing a new level of energy, as the Savior’s declaration to Joseph Smith in 1832 is being fulfilled: ‘Behold, I will hasten my work in its time’ (D&C 88:73). Brothers and sisters, that time is now!”

# Final testimony to the gentiles

L. Tom Perry

June 26, 2013, Church History Library SLC

“This is the most remarkable era in the history of the Church. This is something that ranks with the great events that have happened in past history, like the First Vision, like the gift of the Book of Mormon, like the Restoration of the gospel, like all of the things that build that foundation for us to go forward and teach in our Father in Heaven’s kingdom”



# The ultimatum - the Lord's servant speaks

The final testimony to the gentiles will culminate with the Lord's servant speaking to the nations, giving the final ultimatum that determines their fate. The rejection of which, will seal their destruction.

# The ultimatum - the Lord's servant speaks

## 3 Nephi 21 (Jesus' prophecy to the Nephites)

10 But behold, the life of **my servant** shall be in my hand...

11 Therefore it shall come to pass that whosoever will not believe in my words, who am Jesus Christ, which the Father shall cause **him** to bring forth unto the Gentiles... they shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant.

21 And I will execute vengeance and fury upon them, even as upon the heathen, such as they have not heard.

The Lord's servant will deliver the words of Christ to the gentiles. If they believe his words and repent they will be gathered with the covenant people, if not, they will be cut off from them.

# **The ultimatum - the Lord's servant speaks**

## **Doctrine & Covenants 1**

14 ...and the day cometh that they who will not hear the voice of the Lord, neither the voice of his servants, neither give heed to the words of the prophets and apostles, shall be cut off from among the people;

# The ultimatum - the Lord's servant speaks

Attr. John Taylor

The Coming Crisis, Millennial Star, 30 April 1853

“Now just at this time, God will come out of His hiding place and vex the nations in his hot displeasure. By the mouth of His Prophet He will rebuke strong nations afar off, notwithstanding their strong armies and great miracles, and cunning arts.

“His servant, the Prophet, in Zion will have a marvelous boldness to rebuke them, and to lay down before them in plainness and inflexible firmness the law of the Lord. As Moses laid down the law to Pharaoh, and then continued to multiply evils and judgments until he made an utter end of Pharaoh and the Egyptians, even so will the living God prescribe the line of conduct to be pursued, and the penalties of violation, to great and mighty nations, until they rally around the ensign established upon the mountains, and go up to the house of the God of Jacob to learn His ways, or are utterly overwhelmed in keen anguish and ruin.”

# The ultimatum - the Lord's servant speaks

## Moses in Egypt gives a pattern

Exodus 12:37 “And the **children of Israel** journeyed... about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.

38 And a **mixed multitude** went up also with them”

A multitude of people who were not of the covenant chose to follow the prophet, flee from Egypt and gather with the people of God.

The Lord made bare his arm (revealed his power) to the nation of Egypt. In the latter-days the Lord will make bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations. (See 1 Nephi 22:10-11) As with Egypt, the Lord will do it, through his covenant people, who Nephi saw were scattered upon the face of the earth.

Before the wrath of God is poured out upon the gentiles as Nephi saw, we will witness the following:

- Our culture ripen in iniquity (likely through the four stages of corruption)
- Moral and cultural polarization between the two churches
- Increasing persecution towards those of the church of the Lamb
- The last missionary efforts to the gentiles
- An ultimatum to the nations by the Lord's servant
- The final opportunity to gather with the covenant people or be cut off

# 1 Nephi 14

14 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were **armed with righteousness** and with the power of God in great glory.

## Armed with Righteousness

# 1 Nephi 14

14 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon **the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord**, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory.

In part 1 we already identified those who align with the **church of the devil** and those who align with the **church of the Lamb**. But who are **the covenant people** that Nephi sees?



## 2 Nephi 30

2 ...as many of the Gentiles as will repent **are the covenant people of the Lord**; and as many of the Jews as will not repent shall be cast off; **for the Lord covenanteth with none save it be with them that repent and believe in his Son**, who is the Holy One of Israel.

The covenant people are those who repent and enter into covenants with the Lord.

# 1 Nephi 14

14 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon **the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord**, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory.

Just as the 'mixed multitude' walked safely through the Red sea by gathering with God's covenant people, similarly all who choose to align with the church of the Lamb will find safety by gathering with the covenant people.

# 1 Nephi 14

14 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were **armed** with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory.

What is meant by the word armed? The word fight refers to physical aggression, warfare, battle, and combat. Therefore the wicked gentiles will be armed with physical weapons and instruments of war. To overcome this, the righteous will need physical protection from a greater power.

# 1 Nephi 14

14 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were **armed with righteousness** and **with the power of God** in great glory.

There is only one other scripture that refers to being armed with the power of God. And it tells us how to do it.

# Doctrine & Covenants 109

22 And we ask thee, Holy Father, that thy servants may go forth from this house **armed with thy power**, and that thy name may be upon them, and **thy glory be round about them**, and thine angels have charge over them

This is Joseph Smith's inspired dedicatory prayer of the Kirtland temple.

It is through the ordinances of the temple that the covenant people will be armed with the power of God.

# 1 Nephi 14

14 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were **armed with righteousness** and **with the power of God** in great glory.

Of all the verses in Nephi's vision that we will live through, why did President Nelson choose this one to be the focus?

# President Nelson

“As a new Presidency, we want to **begin with the end in mind**...The end for which each of us strives is to be **endowed with power** in a house of the Lord...”  
(President Nelson, ‘As We Go Forward’ Liahona April 2018)

As we witness the final stages of a decaying society it is the endowment of power that we should consistently have in our minds as our protection.

Just as the scriptures have examples of societies being ripened in iniquity. There are also examples of societies being armed with righteousness which will give us a clearer picture of what must occur in our day.



# Enoch

## Dieter F. Uchtdorf

“Every dispensation has faced its times of trial and hardship.

Enoch and his people lived in a time of wickedness, wars, and bloodshed. “But the Lord came and dwelt with his people.” He had something unimaginable in mind for them. He helped them establish Zion—a people “of one heart and one mind” who “dwelt in righteousness.”

God has something unimaginable in mind for you personally and the Church collectively—a marvelous work and a wonder.” (October 2020 General Conference)

# Enoch

## Moses 7

13 And so great was the faith of Enoch that he led the people of God, and **their enemies came to battle against them**; and he spake the word of the Lord, and the earth trembled, and the mountains fled, even according to his command; and the rivers of water were turned out of their course; and the roar of the lions was heard out of the wilderness; and all nations feared greatly, **so powerful was the word of Enoch**, and so great was the power of the language which God had given him.

14 There also came up a land out of the depth of the sea, and so great was the fear of the enemies of the people of God, that they fled and stood afar off and went upon the land which came up out of the depth of the sea.

# Enoch

## Moses 7

15 And the giants of the land, also, stood afar off; and there went forth a curse upon all people that fought against God;

16 And from that time forth there were wars and bloodshed among them; but the Lord came and dwelt with his people, and they dwelt in righteousness.

17 The fear of the Lord was upon all nations, **so great was the glory of the Lord, which was upon his people**. And the Lord blessed the land, and they were blessed upon the mountains, and upon the high places, and did flourish.

# Melchizedek

## JST Genesis 14

30 For God having sworn unto Enoch and unto his seed with an oath by himself; that every one being ordained after this order and calling should **have power**, by faith, to break mountains, to divide the seas, to dry up waters, to turn them out of their course;

31 **To put at defiance the armies of nations**, to divide the earth, to break every band, to stand in the presence of God; to do all things according to his will, according to his command, subdue principalities and powers; and this **by the will of the Son of God** which was from before the foundation of the world.

# Nephites

## Jacob 4

6 Wherefore, we search the prophets, and we have many revelations and the spirit of prophecy; and having all these witnesses we obtain a hope, and our faith becometh unshaken, insomuch that **we truly can command in the name of Jesus and the very trees obey us, or the mountains, or the waves of the sea.**

# Doctrine & Covenants 103

15 Behold, I say unto you, **the redemption of Zion must needs come by power;**

16 Therefore, I will raise up unto my people a man, who shall lead them **like as Moses led the children of Israel.**

17 For ye are the children of Israel, and of the seed of Abraham, and **ye must needs be led out of bondage by power**, and with a stretched-out arm.

18 And as your fathers were led at the first, even so shall the redemption of Zion be.

# Doctrine & Covenants 103

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.

Imagine the marvel and wonder felt by the Egyptians, the mixed multitude, and the children of Israel. How the news spread like wildfire through the nearby nations.

Now instead of one isolated event in one nation, imagine that multiplied all over the world where temples dot the earth as the power of the Lamb descends upon groups and communities that are scattered upon all the face of the earth.

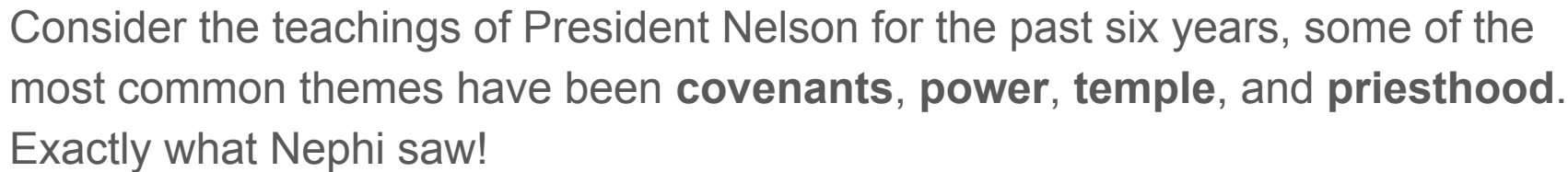
As marvelous as the days of Enoch, Melchizedek, and Moses were . They all “awaited with anxious expectation” for the day that you and I would live to see.



Part one revealed the tactics that will be used to deceive the nations, enabling us to awaken to our awful situation. It's as if we're all asleep, living in a dream until we open our eyes and awaken to the reality around us. Or as Paul said, we believe a lie, a strong delusion. Those who are sleeping, aren't aware of what is going on, and are incapable of reacting. As in a dream, everything is confusing, and nothing really makes sense.

While the awake are reacting to what the devil has done, he is already planning to release his next scheme. We need to be more than awake, we need to see beyond what's happening in the present, and proactively prepare for what will come. The Lord's wisdom is greater than the cunning of the devil, and His prophet is always several steps ahead of the devil. As we follow His council, we will be able to take steps now, that will enable us to avoid the snares and traps of the devil, and eventually triumph.

President Nelson is preparing us



# President Nelson

April 2016 General Conference

“I fear, brethren, that some among us **may one day wake up and realize what power in the priesthood really is** and face the deep regret that they spent far more time seeking power over others or power at work than learning to exercise fully the power of God.

“I urgently plead with each one of us to live up to our privileges as bearers of the priesthood. **In a coming day, only those men who have taken their priesthood seriously, by diligently seeking to be taught by the Lord Himself, will be able to bless, guide, protect, strengthen, and heal others.** Only a man who has paid the price for priesthood power will be able to **bring miracles to those he loves and keep his marriage and family safe**, now and throughout eternity.”

# President Nelson

April 2016 General Conference

“In these latter days, we know there will be earthquakes in diverse places. Perhaps one of those diverse places will be in our own homes, where emotional, financial, or spiritual “earthquakes” may occur. **Priesthood power can calm the seas and heal fractures in the earth. Priesthood power can also calm the minds and heal fractures in the hearts of those we love.**”

# President Nelson

April 2020 General Conference

“...Daily immersion in the word of God is crucial for spiritual survival, especially in these days of increasing upheaval. **As we feast on the words of Christ daily, the words of Christ will tell us how to respond to difficulties we never thought we would face.**

“We can also hear Him in the temple. The house of the Lord is a house of learning. There the Lord teaches in His own way. There each ordinance teaches about the Savior. There we learn how to **part the veil** and communicate more clearly with heaven. There we learn how to **rebuke the adversary** and **draw upon the Lord’s priesthood power** to strengthen us and those we love. **How eager each of us should be to seek refuge there.**

# President Nelson

April 2020 General Conference

**“I renew my plea for you to do whatever it takes to increase your spiritual capacity to receive personal revelation.**

**“Doing so will help you know how to move ahead with your life, **what to do during times of crisis**, and how to discern and avoid the temptations and the deceptions of the adversary.**

**“What will happen as you more intentionally hear, hearken, and heed what the Savior has said and what He is saying now through His prophets? I promise that **you will be blessed with additional power** to deal with temptation, struggles, and weakness. **I promise miracles** in your marriage, family relationships, and daily work. And I promise that your capacity to feel joy will increase **even if turbulence increases in your life.**”**

# Review

Those who belong to the church of the devil will ripen in iniquity as they embrace abominations that disintegrate the family unit. This adds a moral and cultural component to the polarization of society. The church of the devil will ultimately reject the three most essential parts of the Father's plan; Jesus Christ the Creator and Savior, freedom to choose, and the family.

As this polarization intensifies persecution will increase resulting in a geographical separation of the wicked from the righteous. The righteous will need to gather to places of refuge and safety. These communities will dot the globe.



Through faith in Jesus Christ and by power in the priesthood enabled through temple ordinances, the covenant people of the Lord and those gathered with them will be armed with the power of God in great glory. The arm of the Lord will be revealed to all nations as mighty miracles and great wonders are performed like those in the days of Enoch, Melchizedek, and Moses.

The Lord's servant will speak to the nations and offer a final invitation for repentance and salvation. Those who reject his words will be cut off from the Lord's people, those who believe will gather with them. After the final testimony is sealed the wrath of God will be poured out upon the gentiles.

The period between the persecution and the endowment of power could be described as a time of travail and pain for the righteous. It is in this period that the political kingdom of God will be born.

# The Kingdom of God

## JST Revelation 12

1 ...a great sign in heaven **in the likeness of things on the earth**

John's vision of the war in heaven is similar to what will happen on earth.

# The Kingdom of God

## JST Revelation 12

7 And the dragon prevailed not against Michael, neither the child, nor **the woman, which was the church of God**, who had been delivered of her pains and **brought forth the kingdom of our God** and his Christ.

2 And the woman, being with child, cried, travailing in birth and pained to be delivered.

3 And she brought forth a man-child, who was to rule all nations with a **rod of iron...**

The rod of iron represents the word of God. What is this kingdom that will be born of the church and that will rule all nations with the word of God?

# Rule all nations with a rod of iron

## Doctrine & Covenants 101

77 the laws and constitution of the people... should be maintained for the rights and protection of **all flesh**

80 And for this purpose have I established the Constitution of this land

The rod of iron represents the word of God. What is this kingdom that will be born of the church and that will rule all nations with the word of God?

# Rule all nations with a rod of iron

George Q. Cannon

“...A man may belong to the Kingdom of God and yet not be a member of the Church of God.... Because God is the Father of the Latter-day Saints as well as of every human being.... When he establishes his kingdom it will protect all in their equal rights... That is the kind of kingdom we have to contend for; that is the kind of kingdom we have to establish, and **it is already provided for in the Constitution given unto us by God**...There is no liberty that a human being can desire, neither is there a right that can be exercised properly, that we do not have under the Constitution of our land...it is broad enough, if interpreted in its true spirit, to cover the individual, the continent, and the entire globe and furnish freedom for all" (Journal of Discourses 20:195)

# Rule all nations with a rod of iron

## Joseph Fielding Smith

"...the framers of the Constitution... were men inspired to make this document as near to the fundamental **doctrines of the kingdom of God** as it was possible under the circumstances for it to be." (The Progress of Man 297)

## Brigham Young

"The kingdom of God will be extended over the earth... Even now the form of the Government of the United States differs but little from that of the kingdom of God." (Journal of Discourses 6:345)

"When the day comes in which the Kingdom of God will bear rule, the flag of the United States will proudly flutter unsullied on the flag staff of liberty and equal rights..." (Journal of Discourses 2:317)

# The Birth of the Kingdom

The United States constitution is integral to the establishment of the political kingdom of God.

The political kingdom of God will be born in a period of travail and pain. Travail means painful, laborious effort. As a child is nourished in the womb of the mother until the appointed time, similarly the kingdom of God grows in embryo and will be born out of the church through painful, laborious effort.

# The Birth of the Kingdom

## Brigham Young

**"... this kingdom, which was only in embryo... would soon send forth its influence throughout the nations.** There will no doubt be a regular organization." (JS, Journal, 10 Mar. 1844)

**“that kingdom grows out of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,** but it is not the church; for a man may be a legislator in that body which will issue laws to sustain the inhabitants of the earth in their individual rights and still not belong to the Church of Jesus Christ at all” (History of the Church, 7:382)

Both the Church of God and the Kingdom of God will be directed by the Lord through His prophet, until He comes to reign personally. However they are not the same institution.



# The Birth of the Kingdom

Ezra Taft Benson

"I have faith that **the Constitution will be saved** as prophesied by Joseph Smith. **But it will not be saved in Washington.** It will be saved by the citizens of this nation who love and cherish freedom. It will be saved by enlightened members of this Church—men and women who will subscribe to and abide by the principles of the Constitution." (The Constitution—A Heavenly Banner September 16, 1986)

# The Birth of the Kingdom

Orson Pratt

**“We shall be obliged to have a government to preserve ourselves in unity and peace;** for they, through being wasted away, will not have power to govern; for state will be divided against state, city against city, town against town, and the whole country will be in terror and confusion; mobocracy will prevail and there will be no security, through this great Republic, for the lives or property of the people. **When that time shall arrive, we shall necessarily want to carry out the principles of our great constitution...**” (Orson Pratt Discourse July 25, 1875)

# The Birth of the Kingdom

From these statements we learn that the constitution will be saved at a more local level when the current system of government is failing to maintain order.

It is during this period of painful laborious effort that the constitution must be saved giving birth to God's millennial political kingdom.

# **The Birth of the Kingdom**

## **Benjamin F. Johnson referring to Joseph Smith**

"And he [Joseph Smith] taught us relating to the Kingdom of God, as it would become organized upon the earth through... all adopting the God-given constitution of the United States as a Palladium of Liberty and Equal Rights."  
(Benjamin F. Johnson, They Knew the Prophet 95 – 96)

## **Dallin H. Oaks**

“Our belief in divine inspiration gives latter-day saints a unique responsibility to uphold and defend the United States constitution and principles of constitutionalism wherever we live.” (April 2021 General Conference)

# The Birth of the Kingdom

## Joseph Smith

“For on this Nation will be on the very verge of the birth of a new people willing to  
be guided by the Holy Spirit, and to do the will of the Father in heaven. Then shall the Kingdom of God on earth be established, and the strength of men shall  
be known, and the power of the Holy Spirit shall be made manifest to all eyes, and the  
world shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Father in heaven.”

Through His prophet, the Lord will then call the righteous who are armed with power and are scattered upon the face of earth, to come to America, the land of Zion.

It is important that the saints build Zion in their homelands until this point. It will be through His covenant people that are scattered across the earth that the Lord will reveal His arm in the eyes of all nations thereby blessing all the kindreds of the earth. (See 2 Nephi 22:10-12)

We will live through a period of great transition.

As one culture embraces abominations, another will seek holiness.

As the power of the devil is made manifest, the power of the Lamb is waiting to burst forth.

As one civilization is wiped away, another will emerge.

As the kingdom of the devil shakes and tumbles, the kingdom of God will be born.

This world is revolving through the dark of night into the millennial day. You and I were born to participate in the greatest revolution of light that has ever occurred on this earth.

We were foreordained to be on the earth at this time. Not merely to survive through it, but to be leaders and gatherers into the society that is to emerge, leading through the transition into the millennium, preparing the world for the second coming of Christ. We can prepare for the kingdom of God by gathering others to support and defend the constitution, and we can establish Zion by gathering others to Jesus Christ and His only true and living church.

As we diligently seek to be taught by the Lord Himself, and learn to exercise fully the power of God, we will become kings and queens unto the most high God. Those kings and queens of the gentiles that be will be nursing fathers and nursing mothers to gather the remaining scattered of Israel, to bring them in our arms and carry them on our shoulders. (1 Nephi 21-22) Bring them out of captivity unto freedom, and out of darkness into light. (JST Gen. 48:10, 50:25) And be saviors on mount Zion. (Obadiah 1:21)