

The Book of Mormon

An Interpretive Key for Current Events

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Note: During my talk, I mentioned having a more robust paper that included the teachings of Nephi and Jacob, which I omitted at the conference due to time constraints. Since then, I have chosen to omit a large part of that text altogether from this online resource (as further indicated on p. 3) and to instead make this paper a reflection of what was said during the talk. I have, however, included as a postscript the Book of Mormon passages I studied and used in preparing the talk. Much of what I did not have time to discuss at the conference appears there. Additionally, there are footnotes in the paper that I did not reference during the talk, but which may prove a valuable resource.

BECAUSE THE BOOK OF MORMON is every bit as much prophetic as it is historical in nature, and because its prophet-writers saw our day, the book is a valuable lens through which to view and understand current events.¹ This is especially true here at home, in *this land*.² The Book of Mormon is an interpretive key, but only if properly understood. Part of understanding the Book of Mormon and the story of the last days is accepting the identity of the gentiles spoken of by Christ and His servants in the Book of Mormon, which identity they communicate clearly and consistently and includes the Latter-day Saints. Too often, too many think they have a “hope in membership in the Church, but the scriptures offer us no reason for such hope.”³

I want to begin, before getting into the text of the Book of Mormon, which will largely be what I share for the rest of the talk, with another text given to us by the prophet Joseph Smith. Very shortly after Joseph completed the translation of the Book of Mormon, the Lord instructed him to accomplish an inspired revision of the Bible, which Joseph later referred to as “the fullness of the scriptures,” and which in 1831 he said the church must “receive” or “they would yet fall.”⁴ In that revision, Matthew records a prophecy that Jesus gives in the form of a parable to the “chief priests and elders of [the Jews].” He gives this prophecy in the temple at Jerusalem. Our Lord’s parable reveals something about what is unfolding right now, in our own day, and is truer than what either Christian pastors or LDS prophets appear to be able to teach about WHAT is transpiring now and WHY. The prophecy contained in Christ’s parable provides us a useful context for understanding Christ’s words that also appear in the Book of Mormon.

From Matthew:

¹ The Restoration Edition (RE) scriptures were used in the preparation of this talk and all references herein are to the RE scriptures. Corresponding verses in the LDS edition of the scriptures can be found using scriptures.info or by performing a word search elsewhere.

² The phrase “this land” is used dozens of times by the prophet-writers of the Book of Mormon in an attempt to connect the land they had come to possess after they departed Jerusalem, crossed the ocean, and settled in the Americas, with the land that the gentiles *would possess* in the last days as a “land of liberty.” See, for example, 2 Ne. 7:2: “And *this land* shall be a land of liberty unto the gentiles.” See also 2 Ne. 1:1.

³ Denver Snuffer, Jr. “Discussion of the Gentiles and the Remnant.” www.denversnuffer.com, July 24, 2010.

⁴ In the minutes of an October 1831 conference, Joseph said: “God had often sealed up the Heavens because of covetousness in the church. Said the Lord would cut his work short in righteousness and except the church receive the fulness of the scriptures they would yet fall.” See T&C Glossary: “Fullness of the Scriptures.”

Behold, there was a certain householder who planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and dug a winepress in it, and built a tower, and leased it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country. And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive fruits of it. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did unto them likewise. But last of all, he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him and let us seize on his inheritance. And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him.

Note: that's the end of the parable.

And Jesus said unto [the chief priests and Pharisees], When the lord therefore of the vineyard comes, what will he do unto those husbandmen? ***They say unto him, He will destroy those miserable, wicked men and will lease the vineyard unto other husbandmen, who shall render him the fruits in their seasons.***

Jesus said unto them, Did you never read in the scriptures: The stone which the builders rejected, the same is to become the head of the corner; this is the Lord's doings, and it is marvelous in our eyes? ***Therefore say I unto you, the kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.***⁵ For whoever *shall fall on* this stone shall be broken, but *on whomever it shall fall,* it will grind him to powder.

And when the chief priests and Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he spoke of them. And they said among themselves, Shall this man think that he alone can spoil this great kingdom? And they were angry with him. But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they learned that the multitude took him for a prophet.

And now his disciples came to him, and Jesus said unto them, Do you marvel at the words of the parable which I spoke unto them? Truly I say unto you, ***I am the stone, and those wicked ones reject me.*** I am the head of the corner. ***These Jews shall fall upon*** me and shall be broken, ***and the kingdom of God shall be taken from them and shall be given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof (meaning the gentiles).*** Wherefore, *on whomever this stone shall fall,* it shall grind him to powder. And when the Lord therefore of the vineyard comes, he will destroy *those* miserable, wicked men, and will lease again his vineyard unto other husbandmen, even in the last days, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons.

⁵ In a marvelous display of divine karma, our Lord passes upon these corrupt priests the same judgment with which they unwittingly judged themselves (e.g. “*They say unto him [about themselves], He will destroy those miserable, wicked men and will lease the vineyard unto others husbandmen.*”)

And then understood they the parable which he spoke unto them, **that the gentiles should be destroyed also when the Lord should descend out of Heaven to reign in his vineyard**, which is the earth and the inhabitants thereof.⁶ (emphasis added)

While Christ spoke in parables to the Jewish scribes and Pharisees, He taught his Jewish apostles more plainly that the gospel would be “taken from” the Jews and that it would be “given to the gentiles.” His apostles understood that Christ was teaching them about the end time, “when the Lord should descend out of Heaven to reign” on the earth, and that at that time “the gentiles should be destroyed also.” It is a dramatic prophecy, but one that is easily understood and believed if one understands and believes in the message of the Book of Mormon where this same prophecy is laid out plainly for the latter-day gentile reader of the book, but with far greater context from multiple writers.

Shortly after the Lord’s *mortal* ministry, a resurrected Lord visits with the Nephites in this land and teaches them more concerning the last-days gentiles, which he commanded them to record SO THAT His teachings would come TO the last-days gentiles, those who INHERIT their book, *those on whom the kingdom should fall*. Christ shared this with the Nephites to explain to them how God intended to fulfill his covenants to their fathers Lehi and Nephi.

What I unfortunately have to do now in the interested of time, is speed through Lehi’s, Nephi’s, and Jacob’s teachings about the gentiles, and Nephi’s and Jacob’s use of Isaiah to describe our day, on our way to 3 Nephi where Christ’s teachings appear. But I will very briefly share a few ideas that properly establish the context for Christ’s, Mormon’s, and Moroni’s teachings in the second half of the Book of Mormon about the gentiles, and you can look it all up after the conference in the material I will have posted there—and it is critical context:

[Note: I have omitted text from Nephi and Jacob, as noted above; what follows in pp. 3-5 is what was used in summary in its place.]

LEHI, speaking six centuries before Christ, prophesies that at some point after the House of Israel is scattered, “the gentiles would receive *the fulness of the gospel*,” which would thereafter go forth from THE GENTILES TO “the remnants of the house of Israel.”⁷ What is clear is that *both before and after* the fulness of the gospel is given them, the group is simply “the gentiles” to Lehi.

NEPHI prophesies about “white” gentiles who come across the ocean from Europe—and I’ll add here, Ephraimites, largely speaking—and scatter the seed of Lehi.⁸ Nephi beholds that the Bible is “carried forth among” the gentiles—that when the Bible was written it “contained the fulness of the gospel,” but that it had been transmitted to the gentiles only after being tampered with by “that great

⁶ Matt. 10:12-16.

⁷ 1 Ne. 3:4.

⁸ 1 Ne. 3:20.

and abominable church” and the fullness of the gospel obscured.⁹ We hereby learn that the gentiles prophesied of by Lehi as possessing the “fulness of the gospel” are NOT the BROADER CHRISTIAN BODY OF GENTILES in the Americas, but another future group who is given far more than what was possessed by the “blinded” gentile Christians who initially came here out of captivity carrying the Bible—in other words, Lehi was talking about the Latter-day Saints. The Lord promises to give the “blinded” gentiles the Book of Mormon and “much of” Christ’s gospel and to then commission THE GENTILES that have the Book of Mormon to bring the gospel to Lehi’s seed.¹⁰ This nation of gentiles is prophesied of, by Nephi, to be “lifted up by the power of God above all other nations” upon this land, which is “choice above all other lands,” but it is clear in the record that they abide here conditionally since the land has been promised to Lehi’s seed for their inheritance.¹¹

Nephi then gives some warnings to the gentiles who receive his writings. AFTER THE GENTILES RECEIVE these “blessings,” only those who “seek to bring forth Zion” will have “the gift and power of the holy ghost” and be “saved in the everlasting kingdom of the Lamb.”¹² But these gentiles “stumble,” and the Lord finds it necessary to “set himself again the second time” to recover his people by sending a “root of Jesse” to establish an “ensign to the nations.”¹³ Nephi and Jacob quote Isaiah to teach about this, and it is a remarkable prophecy.

Nephi prophesies that there shall be “envyings, and strifes” among the latter-day gentiles, words that should be familiar to those *here* who remember the Lord’s 1833 censure of the latter-day saints contained in section 101 of the Doctrine and Covenants.¹⁴

Nephi warns the latter-day bearers of the gospel and the Book of Mormon to not engage in the practice of “priestcrafts; for behold, priestcrafts are that men preach and set themselves up for a light unto the world, that they may get gain and praise of the world, but they seek not the welfare of Zion”—an odd warning to give to those who have *not* received the gospel.¹⁵ He says that these gentiles will be lulled into “carnal security” and that they will say “All is well in Zion, yea, Zion prospereth, all is well.”¹⁶

One last point from Nephi. Nephi charges the last-days gentiles with neglect of the Jews, saying the gentiles have “not sought to recover mine ancient covenant people”—a charge that Nephi could hardly bring against gentiles who *do not* possess the gospel or the Book of Mormon.¹⁷ It is a charge that can only justly be made against those gentiles who *do possess* those things. Gentile neglect

⁹ 1 Ne. 3:21.

¹⁰ 1 Ne. 3:23.

¹¹ 1 Ne. 3:22.

¹² 1 Ne. 3:23-24. It is in this context, one in which the latter-day gentiles have received the Book of Mormon and “much of” Christ’s gospel, that Nephi says that “If the gentiles shall hearken unto the Lamb of God” and “harden not their hearts . . . they shall be numbered among the seed of [Lehi]” and among “the house of Israel” (1 Ne. 3:25). The angel tells Nephi that “if the gentiles repent,” and again the context is after these things are given to them, “it shall be well with them” (1 Ne. 3:26). But “woe be unto the gentiles if it so be that they harden their hearts against the Lamb of God (*Ibid.*).

¹³ 2 Ne. 5:5; 8:18; 9:22; see also 2 Ne. 11:13-15.

¹⁴ 2 Ne. 11:15; see also T&C 101:2; 156:3; 158:10.

¹⁵ 2 Ne. 11:17.

¹⁶ 2 Ne. 12:4.

¹⁷ 2 Ne. 12:9.

of the Jews is equated with “cursing the Jews” and “hating them.” Nephi writes the words of the Lord concerning this: “O ye gentiles, have ye remembered the Jews, mine *ancient* covenant people? Nay, but ye have cursed them, and have hated them, and **have not sought** to recover them.¹⁸ But behold, I will return all these things upon your own heads, for I the Lord hath not forgotten my people.”¹⁹ Once again, how could the Lord justly condemn the gentiles for *not* seeking to recover the Jews if the gentiles *possess not* the gospel? Those gentiles addressed here by Nephi and by the Lord *do possess* the gospel. And they possess the book [of Mormon]. Since the Lord has not forgotten the Jews, and the work of recovering them apparently remains to be accomplished, it must be done by a believing and repentant subset of the gentiles from whom the Lord removes the condemnation for treating lightly the Book of Mormon and who are to be “numbered among the house of Israel” by covenant.

JACOB, Nephi’s brother, also teaches concerning these things. He is a powerful teacher and his brother Nephi includes parts of JACOB’S teachings in the record of the small plates as a second witness to Nephi’s own teachings.²⁰

Now a lot happens in the record between the time when Nephi is writing and the time when the last-days gentiles are ever mentioned again in the Book of Mormon record. Roughly 600 years after Nephi writes about the gentiles, the resurrected Lord comes and ministers to Lehi’s seed and reintroduces the gentile theme. As I said earlier, our Lord’s resurrected ministry among Lehi’s seed in which He also prophesies about the unfortunate fate of the last-days gentiles occurs right on the heels of His having prophesied of the same last-days destruction of the gentiles to his apostles during his mortal ministry, which we read at the beginning from Matthew.²¹

Christ has a lot to say about this topic to His Nephite audience, and he is clear that what He says was commanded him by the Father to say.

Christ says: “At that day when *the gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel* . . . Behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fullness of my gospel *from among* [the gentiles].”²² This prophecy, commanded by the Father to be spoken by the resurrected Lord, is consistent with the prophetic context established earlier by Nephi, and Jacob. It is what Hugh Nibley called the “great warning of the Book of Mormon.”

¹⁸ On May 18, 1988, the Salt Lake City-based LDS Church promised the government of Israel in writing that it will not “engage in any missionary activity within the borders of Israel.” “Missionary activity” is defined in the letter as “organized activity to induce or persuade a person NOT a member of [the Church]” to JOIN the Church. The Church voluntarily specified that “this obligation applies to our Church and each of its branches and to every institution under its control.” The letter is signed by Apostle Howard W. Hunter. Several years earlier, an “Undertaking” was drafted by the Church in connection to its Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies (the BYU Jerusalem Center), which declared that the Church will not engage in “proselytizing activities in Israel,” and directed that students and faculty participating in study programs in Israel “shall sign an undertaking not to engage in proselytizing activity in Israel.” Copies of these documents are in my possession.

¹⁹ 2 Ne. 12:9.

²⁰ See, for example, 2 Ne. 5:3-5; also 2 Ne. 7:2-4.

²¹ See Matt. 10:16.

²² 3 Ne. 7:5.

Christ continues: “But if the gentiles will repent and *return* unto me, saith the Father, behold, they shall be *numbered among* my people, O house of Israel.”²³ The gentiles must needs RETURN to the Lord because they’ve departed FROM that which they were given.

Christ then warns what will happen to the last-days gentiles if they fail to repent when the Lord sets his hand again the second time. “But if [the gentiles] will not turn unto the Lord and ‘hearken unto [His] voice,’ He will suffer His people who are of the house of Israel to “go through among [the gentiles] and tread them down,” and the gentiles “shall be as **salt that has lost its savor.**”²⁴

Christ says that the Father commanded Him to “give unto [Lehi’s seed] this land for [their] inheritance.”²⁵ He says to the Nephites who are gathered at the destroyed temple at Bountiful “that if the gentiles do not repent *after the blessing which they shall receive . . . then shall*” a remnant of the house of Jacob “go forth among them” and “shall be in the midst of [the gentiles] who shall be many . . . as a lion among the beasts of the forest, and as a young lion among the flocks of sheep, who, if he goeth through, both treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver.”²⁶

You see, the Lord himself is referring to a particular group of gentiles—those who receive “the blessing” of “much of Christ’s gospel,” those to whom the Book of Mormon came, those to whom a stewardship was entrusted for the house of Israel.

Christ says: The “sword of justice shall hang over [the gentiles] at that day” if they fail to repent, and “it shall fall upon them, saith the Father.”²⁷ This is, in fact, true of “all the nations of the gentiles”—none shall be spared, and NONE can deliver.²⁸

If you want a framework for understanding current events, then believe the message of Christ and His servants.

Now hear this: When that time comes that “the sword of justice” hangs over the heads of the gentile nations, and the gentiles are being trodden under foot, then the Lord will work to “establish His people” in this land, “fulfill the covenants” which He made to the Fathers, and the result “shall be a

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid. The Lord describes in an 1833 revelation to Joseph Smith what it means to be accounted as the salt of the earth. The Lord says: “When men are called unto mine everlasting gospel, and covenant with an everlasting covenant, they are accounted as the salt of the earth and the savor of men; they are called to be the savor of men; therefore, if that salt of the earth lose its savor, behold, it is thenceforth good for nothing only to be cast out and trodden under the feet of men” (see T&C 101:7-9). And, again, in an 1834 revelation, the Lord says: “But inasmuch as [my people] keep not my commandments and hearken not to observe all my words, the kingdoms of the world shall prevail against them. For they were set to be a light unto the world, and to be the saviors of men, and inasmuch as they are not the saviors of men they are as salt that has lost its savor and is thenceforth good for nothing but to be cast out and to be trodden under the feet of men. . . . If [my people] shall pollute their inheritances, they shall be thrown down, for I will not spare them if they shall pollute their inheritances” (T&C 104:3). The unprecedented invasion of this land by non-gentile nations across our southern border is part of the fulfilment of the Lord’s prophecy that the gentiles will be trodden under foot.

²⁵ 3 Ne. 9:7.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

new Jerusalem.”²⁹ And “every soul who will not hear” the voice of Christ “shall be cut off from among” God’s covenant people.³⁰

And again, the work that the Father has to accomplish will be “declared unto the gentiles” by “a man” who is a “servant in the hands of Christ.”³¹ He speaks the words of Christ, and those who hear not Christ’s words shall be “cut off from among [God’s] people who are of the covenant.”³² At that day, “woe be unto the gentiles except they repent,” for the Father “will cut off their horses out of the midst of [them],” He will “destroy [their] chariots,” or military might and capability, He will “cut off the cities of [their] land and throw down all [their] strong holds.”³³ The Father will then “execute vengeance and fury upon [the gentiles],” including those to whom the gospel once came, “even as upon the heathen.”³⁴ The “cities” of the gentiles shall become “desolate.”³⁵ And the gentiles shall be “ground to powder,” as Matthew records.

This *is* what is happening! If you cannot see these things happening even now, then get some more of the Book of Mormon into your soul.

In MORMON’s writings, he remains consistent with the other prophets of the Book of Mormon in his description of the identity of the last-days gentiles. The gentiles are yet again identified as those *from whom* the Book of Mormon record was to come to Lehi’s seed.³⁶ Mormon had read through the ancient records kept by Lehi, Nephi, and others of Nephi’s line. He understood their prophecies and was shown, in vision, the last days.

Mormon writes that Jesus commanded him to say to the latter-day gentile inheritors of the Book of Mormon that they must “turn from [their] wicked ways, and repent . . . of [their] whoredoms, and of [their] secret abominations, and [their] idolatries, and of [their] . . . priestcrafts, and [their] envyings, and [their] strifes,” and come unto Christ and be baptized, that they may be “numbered with [His] people who are of the house of Israel.”³⁷

Listen to Mormon. He speaks in the first person and addresses the latter-day gentile reader: “I write unto you gentiles,” he says, “*who have care for* the house of Israel”—he explains that he is speaking directly to that group of gentiles who “*realize and know from whence their blessings come*”—a clear reference to the Latter-day Saints and other branches of the restoration who lay some claim upon Joseph’s restored gospel.³⁸ Mormon tells that group that they are in need of repentance: “O ye gentiles, how can ye stand before the power of God except ye shall repent and turn from your evil ways?”³⁹ He continues: “Therefore, repent ye, and humble yourselves before [Christ], lest he shall come out in

²⁹ 3 Ne. 9:8.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ 3 Ne. 9:12; see also T&C 129:3; Isa. 5:4; 2 Ne. 9:22; Rom. 1:74.

³² 3 Ne. 9:12.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ 3 Ne. 12:1.

³⁷ 3 Ne. 14:1.

³⁸ Morm. 1:12; 2:5-6.

³⁹ Morm. 2:7.

justice against you, lest a remnant of the seed of Jacob shall go forth among you as a lion and tear you in pieces, and there is none to deliver.”⁴⁰

Mormon says: “O ye wicked, and perverse, and stiffnecked people, why have you built up churches unto yourselves to get gain? Why have ye transfigured the holy word of God that ye might bring damnation upon your souls? Behold, look ye unto the revelations of God, for behold, the time cometh at that day when all these things must be fulfilled. Behold, the Lord hath shewn unto me great and marvelous things concerning that which must shortly come at that day when these things shall come forth among you. Behold, I speak unto you as if ye were present, and yet ye are not. But behold, Jesus Christ hath shewn you unto me, and I know your doing, and I know that ye do walk in the pride of your hearts. And there are none, save a few only, who do not lift themselves up in the pride of their hearts, unto the wearing of very fine apparel, unto *envying, and strifes*, and malice, and persecutions, and all manner of iniquity. And your churches, yea, EVEN EVERY ONE, have become polluted because of the pride of your hearts. For behold, ye do love money, and your substance, and your fine apparel, and the adorning of your churches, more than ye love the poor and the needy, the sick and the afflicted. O ye pollutions, ye hypocrites, ye teachers who sell yourselves for that which will canker, WHY HAVE YE POLLUTED THE HOLY CHURCH OF GOD?”⁴¹ (emphasis added)

Finally, MORONI picks up on this gentile theme. He informs us that it is God’s “everlasting decree” that “whatsoever nation shall possess” this land “shall serve God or shall be swept off.”⁴² He explains to the latter-day gentile reader that the Book of Mormon has come unto them “that [they] may know the decrees of God, that [they] may repent and not continue in [their] iniquities.”⁴³ He teaches that “this is a land which is choice above all other lands,” and that the gentiles have the opportunity to remain “free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations under heaven,” if they will but serve Christ.⁴⁴

Moroni then gives his own “great warning”—and it is a perfect coupling with the warning from Christ that we read in 3 Nephi. He warns the gentiles that if they repent not they shall meet the selfsame fate met by both the Jaredites and the Nephites: “murderous combinations *shall* get above you and *shall* spread over the nation” and work “the work of destruction upon you.”⁴⁵ If you want to know what is going on, this is the best framework you’ve got for it; it’s the Book of Mormon. Moroni testifies that if the last-days gentiles have not faith after being given the Book of Mormon, the Lord will “prove them and *take away their talent*, yea, even that which they have received, and give unto them who shall have more abundantly.”⁴⁶ (emphasis added) Moroni then bids “farewell to the [end-times] gentile” reader, and he “commends” them to “seek this Jesus” whom he himself had seen.⁴⁷

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Morm. 4:5.

⁴² Ether 1:7.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Ether 3:18.

⁴⁶ Ether 5:6.

⁴⁷ Ether 5:8.

Secret combinations. Civil strife, conflict, and violence. Being trodden under foot. This *is* what is happening. And it is what is coming.

In his 1836 Kirtland Temple dedicatory prayer, which Joseph explained came by revelation, Joseph prays: “Now these words, O Lord, we have spoken before thee concerning the revelations and commandments which thou has given unto us *who are identified with the gentiles.*”⁴⁸

Well, it was not only in the Book of Mormon and in Joseph Smith’s day that the Lord has told us all these things, and made clear to us the opportunities and obligations resting with the last-days gentiles. He has warned us in our own day, which I plan to talk more about at the Kentucky conference next month.

So, what *has* happened and what *is* happening?

The Book of Mormon describes the Europeans coming to this land, the natives being scattered and trodden under foot, the establishment of the United States, the restoration of the gospel through Joseph Smith, the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, and the protection and prosperity this nation of gentiles has enjoyed above all other nations. But it says more. . . .

The gentiles to whom the gospel was first entrusted are filled with all manner of “envyings and strifes” and all manner of “whoredoms” and “secret combinations” and “murders.”

The gentiles to whom the gospel was first committed have built up “many churches” that they grind upon the face of the poor. They have polluted the holy church of God.

The gentiles to whom the gospel and the Book of Mormon were first entrusted have not sought to recover the Jews, but have conspired with governments to *not* recover them.

The gentiles have allowed secret combinations to get above them that actively—even now—seek to destroy their government and to overthrow and oppress.

The gentiles to whom the fulness of the gospel came rejected that fulness, and are now beginning to be trodden under foot by many nations to include the seed of Lehi as a migratory invasion unfolds at the southern border that undermines forever the territorial integrity and political sovereignty of the gentiles’ “land of liberty.” The land will be given to others.

What Christ and His prophets have taught concerning the last-days gentiles has been plainly borne out in history. That being the case, why should we think that their words fail as an interpretive framework for what is presently unfolding?

When you wonder at all that is happening here and abroad, think of the Book of Mormon prophecies. Remember that the Father’s work has commenced and that he intends to fulfill ancient covenants. Believe the Lord when He says that all those who will not hear His voice as He sets his hand again the second time shall be cut off from among God’s covenant people. When you watch with dismay at the gentile nation and land of liberty being trodden under foot, praise the Lord that He first told you all about it, that it was going to happen this way, and have faith that all His words and works shall be accomplished, even according to the words of all the holy prophets.

⁴⁸ T&C 123:18.

Postscript

This document contains every Book of Mormon verse that makes reference to “the gentiles.” In addition to these verses, there is a great deal of information to be gleaned in other surrounding verses in the Book of Mormon that do not explicitly use the term “gentile,” but that nevertheless address the topic of the gentiles. When read altogether and in context, it is clear that the gentiles of the Book of Mormon share a common identity in the minds of the prophet-writers of the Book of Mormon. Those prophet-writers span a period of over 900 years and include Nephi and Jacob (both of whom also quote Isaiah in reference to the last-days gentiles), Christ during his resurrected ministry among the seed of Lehi in this land, and Mormon and Moroni. The text itself asserts that some of the prophecies pertaining to the last-days gentiles are given directly by angels in some instances, by Christ in others, and even Christ’s Father in others.

Chapters and verses are taken from the Restoration Edition scriptures and can be found at scriptures.info.

I have bolded and underlined various items in this document simply to draw attention to specific themes and context, not because what is bolded and underlined necessarily covers the entirety of pertinent material.

The document is arranged in the order in which the verses occur in the Book of Mormon.

NEPHI TAUGHT:

And it came to pass, after my father had spoken these words, he spake unto my brethren concerning the gospel which should be preached among the Jews, and also concerning the dwindling of the Jews in unbelief. And after they had slain the Messiah who should come, and after he had been slain, he should rise from the dead and should make himself manifest by the holy ghost unto the gentiles. Yea, even **my father spake much concerning the gentiles**, and also concerning the house of Israel, that they should be compared like unto an olive tree whose branches should be broken off and should be scattered upon all the face of the earth. Wherefore, he said it must needs be that we should be led with one accord into the land of promise, unto the fulfilling of the word of the Lord that we should be scattered upon all the face of the earth. And **after the house of Israel should be scattered**, they should be gathered together again, or in fine, **after the gentiles had received the fullness of the gospel, the natural branches of the olive tree — or the remnants of the house of Israel — should be grafted in**, or come to the knowledge of the true Messiah, their Lord and their Redeemer. And **after this manner of language did my father prophesy and speak unto my brethren**, and also many more things which I do not write in this book; for I have written as many of them as were expedient for me in mine other book. And all these things of which I have spoken were done as my father dwelt in a tent in the valley of Lemuel. (1 Ne. 3:4)

And it came to pass that **the angel spake unto me**, saying, Look. And I looked and beheld many nations and kingdoms. And the angel said unto me, What beholdest thou? And I said, I behold many nations and kingdoms. And he said unto me, **These are the nations and kingdoms of the gentiles. And it came to pass that I saw among the nations of the gentiles the formation of a great church. And the angel said unto me, Behold the formation of a church which is most abominable above all other churches**, which slayeth the saints of God, yea, and tortureth them,

and bindeth them down, and yoketh them with a yoke of iron, and bringeth them down into captivity. And it came to pass that I beheld this great and abominable church, and I saw the Devil that he was the foundation of it. And I also saw gold, and silver, and silks, and scarlets, and fine twined linen, and all manner of precious clothing; and I saw many harlots. And the angel spake unto me, saying, Behold, the gold, and the silver, and the silks, and the scarlets, and the fine twined linen, and the precious clothing, and the harlots are the desires of this great and abominable church. And also for the praise of the world do they destroy the saints of God and bring them down into captivity. (1 Ne. 3:19)

And it came to pass that **I looked and beheld many waters, and they divided the gentiles from the seed of my brethren.** And it came to pass that the angel said unto me, Behold, the wrath of God is upon the seed of thy brethren. And **I looked and beheld a man among the gentiles, who was separated from the seed of my brethren by the many waters;** and I beheld the spirit of God, that it came down and wrought upon the man, and he went forth upon the many waters, even unto the seed of my brethren who were in the promised land. And it came to pass that **I beheld the spirit of God, that it wrought upon other gentiles,** and they went forth out of captivity upon the many waters. And it came to pass that I beheld many multitudes of the gentiles upon the land of promise; and **I beheld the wrath of God, that it was upon the seed of my brethren; and they were scattered before the gentiles and were smitten.** And I beheld the spirit of the Lord, that it was upon the gentiles, that **they did prosper and obtain the land for their inheritance.** And I beheld that they were white, and exceeding fair and beautiful, like unto my people before they were slain. And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld that the gentiles who had **gone forth out of captivity did humble themselves before the Lord, and the power of the Lord was with them.** And I beheld that **their mother gentiles were gathered together upon the waters, and upon the land also, to battle against them.** And I beheld that the power of God was with them, and also that the wrath of God was upon all those that were gathered together against them to battle. And I, Nephi, beheld that **the gentiles that had gone out of captivity were delivered by the power of God out of the hands of all other nations.** And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld that **they did prosper in the land.** (1 Ne. 3:20)

And **I beheld a book, and it was carried forth among them.** And the angel said unto me, Knowest thou the meaning of the book? And I said, I know not. And he said, Behold, **it proceedeth out of the mouth of a Jew** — and I, Nephi, beheld it. And he said unto me, The book that thou beholdest is a record of the Jews, which contains the covenants of the Lord which he hath made unto the house of Israel; and it also containeth many of the prophecies of the holy prophets. And it is a record like unto the engravings which are upon the plates of brass, save there are not so many. Nevertheless, they contain the covenants of the Lord which he hath made unto the house of Israel; wherefore, they are of great worth unto the gentiles. And the angel of the Lord said unto me, Thou hast beheld that the book proceeded forth from the mouth of a Jew. **And when it proceeded forth from the mouth of a Jew, it contained the fullness of the gospel of the Lamb,** of whom the twelve apostles bare record; and they bare record according to the truth which is in the Lamb of God. Wherefore, these things go forth from the Jews in purity unto the gentiles, according to the truth which is in God. And

after they go forth by the hand of the twelve apostles of the Lamb from the Jews unto the gentiles, thou seest the formation of that great and abominable church, which is **the most abominable of all other churches**. For behold, **they have taken away from the gospel of the Lamb many parts which are plain and most precious; and also many covenants of the Lord have they taken away**. And all this have they done **that they might pervert** the right ways of the Lord, **that they might blind the eyes** and harden the hearts of the children of men. Wherefore, thou seest that after the book hath gone forth through the hands of the great and abominable church, that there are many plain and most precious things taken away from the book, which is the book of the Lamb of God. **And after these plain and precious things were taken away, it goeth forth unto all the nations of the gentiles.** (1 Ne. 3:21)

And after it goeth forth unto all the nations of the gentiles, yea, even across the many waters (which thou hast seen) with the gentiles which have gone forth out of captivity, thou seest, because of the many plain and precious things which have been taken out of the book — which were plain unto the understanding of the children of men, according to the plainness which is in the Lamb of God — **that because of these things which are taken away out of the gospel of the Lamb, an exceeding great many do stumble, yea, insomuch that Satan hath great power over them.** Nevertheless, thou beholdest that **the gentiles who have gone forth out of captivity and have been lifted up by the power of God above all other nations** upon the face of the land — which is choice above all other lands, which is the land the Lord God hath covenanted with thy father that his seed should have for the land of their inheritance — will not utterly destroy the mixture of thy seed who are among thy brethren. Neither will he suffer that the gentiles shall destroy the seed of thy brethren; neither will the Lord God suffer that the gentiles shall for ever remain in that awful state of blindness, which thou beholdest they are in because of the plain and most precious parts of the gospel of the Lamb which have been kept back by that abominable church, whose formation thou hast seen. Wherefore, saith the Lamb of God, I will be merciful unto the gentiles, unto the visiting of the remnant of the house of Israel in great judgment. (1 Ne. 3:22)

And it came to pass that **the angel of the Lord spake** unto me, saying, Behold, saith the Lamb of God, after I have visited the remnant of the house of Israel (and this remnant of whom I speak is the seed of thy father), wherefore, after I have visited them in judgment and **smitten them by the hand of the gentiles**, and after that the gentiles do stumble exceedingly because of the most plain and precious parts of the gospel of the Lamb which has been kept back by that abominable church, which is the mother of harlots, saith the Lamb, **I will be merciful unto the gentiles in that day, insomuch that I will bring forth unto them in mine own power much of my gospel** which shall be plain and precious, saith the Lamb. For behold, saith the Lamb, I will manifest myself unto thy seed, that they shall write many things which I shall minister unto them, which shall be plain and precious. And after thy seed shall be destroyed and dwindle in unbelief, and also the seed of thy brethren, behold, these **things shall be hid up to come forth unto the gentiles by the gift and power of the Lamb.** And in them shall be written my gospel, saith the Lamb, and my rock and my salvation. And **blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and the**

power of the holy ghost. And if they endure unto the end, they shall be lifted up at the last day and shall be saved in the everlasting kingdom of the Lamb. Yea, whoso shall publish peace, yea, tidings of great joy, how beautiful upon the mountains shall they be! (1 Ne. 3:23)

And it came to pass that I beheld the remnant of the seed of my brethren and also the book of the Lamb of God which had proceeded forth from the mouth of the Jew, **that it came forth from the gentiles unto the remnant of the seed of my brethren.** And after it had come forth unto them, I beheld other books which came forth by the power of the Lamb from the gentiles unto them, **unto the convincing of the gentiles, and the remnant of the seed of my brethren, and also the Jews who were scattered** upon all the face of the earth, that the records of the prophets and of the twelve apostles of the Lamb are true. And the angel spake unto me, saying, **These last records which thou hast seen among the gentiles shall establish the truth of the first,** which are of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, and shall make known the plain and precious things which have been taken away from them, and shall make known to all kindreds, tongues, and people that the Lamb of God is the Son of the Eternal Father and the Savior of the world, and that all men must come unto him or they cannot be saved. And they must come according to the words which shall be established by the mouth of the Lamb; and **the words of the Lamb shall be made known in the records of thy seed, as well as in** the records of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. Wherefore, they both shall be established in one, for there is one God and one Shepherd over all the earth. And the time cometh that he shall manifest himself unto all nations, both unto the Jews and also unto the gentiles. And after he has manifested himself unto the Jews and also unto the gentiles, then he shall manifest himself unto the gentiles and also unto the Jews; and the last shall be first, and the first shall be last. (1 Ne. 3:24)

And it shall come to pass that **if the gentiles shall hearken unto the Lamb of God in that day** that he shall manifest himself unto them in word and also in power, in very deed, unto the taking away of their stumbling blocks, and harden not their hearts against the Lamb of God, **they shall be numbered among** the seed of thy father. Yea, **they shall be numbered among** the house of Israel; and they shall be a blessed people upon the promised land for ever. They shall be no more brought down into captivity, and the house of Israel shall no more be confounded. And that great pit which hath been digged for them by that great and abominable church — which was founded by the Devil and his children, that he might lead away the souls of men down to hell — yea, that great pit which hath been digged for the destruction of men shall be filled by those who digged it, unto their utter destruction, saith the Lamb of God, not the destruction of the soul, save it be the casting of it into that hell which hath no end. For behold, this is according to the captivity of the Devil, and also according to the justice of God, upon all those who will work wickedness and abomination before him. (1 Ne. 3:25)

And it came to pass that **the angel spake unto me**, Nephi, saying, Thou hast beheld that **if the gentiles repent, it shall be well with them;** and thou also knowest concerning the covenants of the Lord unto the house of Israel. And thou also hast heard that whoso repenteth not must perish. Therefore, **woe be unto the gentiles if it so be that they harden their hearts against the Lamb of God.** For the time cometh, saith the Lamb of God, that I will work a great and a marvelous work

among the children of men, a work which shall be everlasting, either on the one hand or on the other, either to the convincing of them unto peace and life eternal, or unto the deliverance of them to the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds, unto their being brought down into captivity and also unto destruction, both temporally and spiritually, according to the captivity of the Devil of which I have spoken. (1 Ne. 3:26)

And it came to pass that **I looked and beheld the whore of all the earth**, and she sat upon many waters, and she had dominion over all the earth, among all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people. And it came to pass that **I beheld the church of the Lamb of God**, and its numbers were few because of the wickedness and abominations of the whore who sat upon many waters. Nevertheless, I beheld that **the church of the Lamb, who were the saints of God**, were also upon all the face of the earth; and their dominions upon the face of the earth were small because of the wickedness of the great whore whom I saw. And it came to pass that **I beheld that the great mother of abominations did gather together in multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the nations of the gentiles**, to fight against the Lamb of God. 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. (1 Ne. 3:28)

And it came to pass that after I had received strength, I spake unto my brethren, desiring to know of them the cause of their disputations. And they said, Behold, we cannot understand the words which our father hath spoken concerning the natural branches of the olive tree, and also concerning the gentiles. And I said unto them, Have ye inquired of the Lord? And they said unto me, We have not, for the Lord maketh no such thing known unto us. Behold, I said unto them, How is it that ye do not keep the commandments of the Lord? How is it that ye will perish because of the hardness of your hearts? Do ye not remember the thing which the Lord hath said, If ye will not harden your hearts, and ask me in faith, believing that ye shall receive, with diligence in keeping my commandments, surely these things shall be made known unto you? (1 Ne. 4:2)

Behold, I say unto you that the house of Israel was compared unto an olive tree by the spirit of the Lord which was in our father. And behold, are we not broken off from the house of Israel? And are we not a branch of the house of Israel? And now the thing which our father meaneth concerning the grafting in of the natural branches **through the fullness of the gentiles** is that **in the latter days**, when our seed shall have dwindled in unbelief — yea, for the space of many years and many generations after the Messiah shall be manifested in body unto the children of men — **then shall the fullness of the gospel of the Messiah come unto the gentiles, and from the gentiles unto the remnant of our seed**. And at that day shall the remnant of our seed know that they are of the house of Israel and that they are the covenant people of the Lord. And then shall they know and come to the knowledge of their forefathers, and also to the knowledge of the gospel of their Redeemer, which was ministered unto their fathers by him. Wherefore, they shall come to the knowledge of their Redeemer and the very points of his doctrine, that they may know how to come unto him and be

saved. And then at that day, will they not rejoice and give praise unto their everlasting God, their rock, and their salvation? Yea, at that day, will they not receive strength and nourishment from the true vine? Yea, will they not come unto the true fold of God? Behold, I say unto you, yea, they shall be numbered again among the house of Israel; they shall be grafted in, being a natural branch of the olive tree, into the true olive tree; and this is what our father meaneth. And he meaneth that it will not come to pass until after they are scattered by the gentiles. And he meaneth that it shall come by way of the gentiles, that the Lord may shew his power unto the gentiles for the very cause that he shall be rejected of the Jews, or of the house of Israel. Wherefore, our father hath not spoken of our seed alone, but also of all the house of Israel, pointing to the covenant which should be **fulfilled in the latter days**, which covenant the Lord made to our father Abraham, saying, In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. (1 Ne. 4:3)

(Quoting Isaiah) And now saith the Lord, that formed me from the womb, that I should be his servant to bring Jacob again to him. Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and my God shall be my strength. And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldst be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved of Israel. I will also give thee for a light to the gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth. Thus saith the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers: Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the Lord that is faithful. Thus saith the Lord: In an acceptable time have I heard thee, O isles of the sea, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee. And I will preserve thee and give thee my servant for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages, that thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth — to them that sit in darkness, Shew yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places. They shall not hunger nor thirst, neither shall the heat nor the sun smite them; for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them. And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted. And then, O house of Israel, behold, these shall come from far, and lo, these from the north, and from the west, and these from the land of Sinim. (1 Ne. 6:7)

(Quoting Isaiah) Thus saith the Lord God: Behold, **I will lift up mine hand to the gentiles and set up my standard to the people.** And they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers. They shall bow down to thee with their face towards the earth and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the Lord, for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me. For shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered? But thus saith the Lord: Even the captive of the mighty shall be taken away and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered, for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee and I will save thy children. And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; they shall be drunken with their own blood as with sweet wine. And all flesh shall know that I the Lord am thy Savior and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob. (1 Ne. 6:10)

Nevertheless, **after** they have been nursed by the gentiles, and **the Lord has lifted up his hand upon the gentiles, and set them up for a standard**, and their children have been carried in their arms, and their daughters have been carried upon their shoulders — behold, these things of which are spoken are temporal, for thus is the covenants of the Lord with our fathers. And it meaneth us in the days to come, and also all our brethren who are of the house of Israel. And it meaneth that the time cometh that after all the house of Israel have been scattered and confounded, **that the Lord God will raise up a mighty nation among the gentiles, yea, even upon the face of this land, and by them shall our seed be scattered**. And after our seed is scattered, the Lord God will proceed to do a marvelous work among the gentiles which shall be of great worth unto our seed. Wherefore, it is likened unto their being nursed by the gentiles and being carried in their arms and upon their shoulders. And it shall also be of worth unto the gentiles, and not only unto the gentiles but unto all the house of Israel, unto the making known of the covenants of the Father of Heaven unto Abraham, saying, In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. And I would, my brethren, that ye should know that all the kindreds of the earth cannot be blessed unless he shall make bare his arm in the eyes of the nations. Wherefore, the Lord God will proceed to make bare his arm in the eyes of all the nations, in bringing about his covenants and his gospel unto those who are of the house of Israel. Wherefore, he will bring them again out of captivity, and they shall be gathered together to the lands of their first inheritance, and they shall be brought out of obscurity and out of darkness, and they shall know that the Lord is their Savior and their Redeemer, the Mighty One of Israel. (1 Ne. 7:3)

JACOB (BROTHER OF NEPHI) TAUGHT:

(Quoting Isaiah) And now these are the words: **Thus saith the Lord God: Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the gentiles and set up my standard to the people**; and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. And kings shall be thy nursing fathers and their queens thy nursing mothers. They shall bow down to thee with their faces towards the earth and lick up the dust of thy feet. And thou shalt know that I am the Lord, for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me. (2 Ne. 5:3)

And **blessed are the gentiles**, they of whom the prophet has written. For behold, **if it so be that they shall repent, and fight not against Zion, and do not unite themselves to that great and abominable church**, they shall be saved. For the Lord God will **fulfill his covenants** which he has made unto his children; and for this cause the prophet has written these things. Wherefore, they that fight against Zion and the covenant people of the Lord shall lick up the dust of their feet; and the people of the Lord shall not be ashamed. For **the people of the Lord are they who wait for him**; for they still wait for the coming of the Messiah. And behold, according to the words of the prophet, **the Messiah will set himself again the second time to recover them**. Wherefore, he will manifest himself unto them in power and great glory, unto the destruction of their enemies, when that day cometh when they shall believe in him; and **none will he destroy that believeth in him**. And they that believe not in him shall be destroyed, both by fire, and by tempest, and by earthquakes, and by bloodsheds, and by pestilence, and by famine. And they shall know that the Lord is God, the Holy

One of Israel. For shall the prey be taken from the mighty? Or the lawful captive delivered? But thus saith the Lord: Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered, for the mighty God shall deliver his covenant people. For thus saith the Lord: I will contend with them that contendeth with thee; and I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh, and they shall be drunken with their own blood as with sweet wine. And all flesh shall know that I, the Lord, am thy Savior and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob. (2 Ne. 5:5)

But behold, thus saith the Lord God: When the day cometh that they shall believe in me, that I am Christ, then have I covenanted with their fathers that they shall be restored in the flesh upon the earth unto the lands of their inheritance. And it shall come to pass that they shall be gathered in from their long dispersion, from the isles of the sea, and from the four parts of the earth. **And the nations of the gentiles shall be great in the eyes of me, saith God, in carrying them forth to the lands of their inheritance.** Yea, the kings of the gentiles shall be nursing fathers unto them, and their queens shall become nursing mothers. Wherefore, **the promises of the Lord are great unto the gentiles**, for he hath spoken it, and who can dispute? **But behold, this land, saith God, shall be a land of thine inheritance, and the gentiles shall be blessed upon the land. And this land shall be a land of liberty unto the gentiles**, and there shall be no kings upon the land who shall raise up unto the gentiles, and I will fortify this land against all other nations. And **he that fighteth against Zion shall perish, saith God**, for he that raiseth up a king against me shall perish. For I the Lord, the King of Heaven, will be their king, and I will be a light unto them for ever that hear my words. (2 Ne. 7:2)

Wherefore, **for this cause, that my covenants may be fulfilled** which I have made unto the children of men, that I will do unto them while they are in the flesh, I must needs destroy the secret works of darkness, and of murders, and of abominations. **Wherefore, he that fighteth against Zion, both Jew and Gentile, both bond and free, both male and female, shall perish; for they are they who are the whore of all the earth. For they who are not for me are against me, saith our God. For I will fulfill my promises** which I have made unto the children of men that I will do unto them while they are in the flesh. (2 Ne. 7:3)

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, thus saith our God: **I will afflict thy seed by the hand of the gentiles;** nevertheless, I will soften the hearts of the gentiles, that they shall be like unto a father to them. Wherefore, the gentiles shall be blessed and numbered among the house of Israel. Wherefore, **I will consecrate this land unto thy seed, and they who shall be numbered among thy seed, for ever, for the land of their inheritance;** for it is a choice land, saith God unto me, above all other lands. Wherefore, I will have all men that dwell thereon that they shall worship me, saith God. (2 Ne. 7:4)

NEPHI PICKS UP TEACHING AGAIN:

(Quoting Isaiah) And **in that day, there shall be a root of Jesse which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the gentiles seek, and his rest shall be glorious.** And it shall come to

pass **in that day** that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people which shall be left from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And **he shall set up an ensign for the nations**, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, **and gather together** the dispersed of Judah, from the four corners of the earth. The envy of Ephraim also shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off. Ephraim shall not envy Judah and Judah shall not vex Ephraim. But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west, they shall spoil them of the east together, they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab, and the children of Ammon shall obey them. And the Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea, and with his mighty wind he shall shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dry-shod. And there shall be a highway for the remnant of his people which shall be left from Assyria, like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt. (2 Ne. 9:22)

And as I spake concerning the convincing of the Jews that Jesus is the very Christ, it must needs be that the gentiles be convinced also that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God, and that he manifesteth himself unto all those who believe in him by the power of the holy ghost, yea, unto every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, working mighty miracles, signs, and wonders among the children of men according to their faith. (2 Ne. 11:12)

But behold, **I prophesy unto you concerning the last days**, concerning the days when the Lord God shall bring these things forth unto the children of men. **After** my seed and the seed of my brethren shall have dwindled in unbelief, and shall have been smitten by the gentiles, **yea, after** the Lord God shall have camped against them round about, and shall have laid siege against them with a mount, and raised forts against them, **and after** they shall have been brought down low in the dust, even that they are not, **yet the words of the righteous shall be written**, and the prayers of the faithful shall be heard, and all those who have dwindled in unbelief shall not be forgotten. **For those who shall be destroyed shall speak unto them out of the ground, and their speech shall be low out of the dust**, and their voice shall be as one that hath a familiar spirit, for the Lord God will give unto him power that he may whisper concerning them, even as it were out of the ground, and their speech shall whisper out of the dust. (2 Ne. 11:13)

And it shall come to pass that those who have dwindled in unbelief **shall be smitten by the hand of the gentiles. And the gentiles are lifted up in the pride of their eyes, and have stumbled because of the greatness of their stumbling block**, that they have built up many churches; nevertheless, **they put down the power and the miracles of God, and preach up unto themselves their own wisdom and their own learning, that they may get gain and grind upon the face of the poor. And there are many churches built up which causeth envyings, and strifes, and malice**; and there are also secret combinations, even as in times of old, according to the combinations of the Devil. For he is the foundation of all these things, yea, the foundation of murder and works of darkness; yea, and he leadeth them by the neck with a flaxen cord until he bindeth them with his strong cords for ever. (2 Ne. 11:15)

He commandeth that there shall be no priestcrafts; for behold, priestcrafts are that men preach and set themselves up for a light unto the world, that they may get gain and praise of the world, but they seek not the welfare of Zion. Behold, the Lord hath forbidden this thing; wherefore, the Lord God hath given a commandment that all men should have charity, which charity is love. And except they should have charity, they were nothing; wherefore, if they should have charity, they would not suffer the laborer in Zion to perish. But the laborer in Zion shall labor for Zion, for if they labor for money, they shall perish. And **again, the Lord God hath commanded that men should not murder, that they should not lie, that they should not steal, that they should not take the name of the Lord their God in vain, that they should not envy, that they should not have malice, that they should not contend one with another, that they should not commit whoredoms**, and that they should do none of these things. For whoso doeth them shall perish, for none of these iniquities come of the Lord. For he doeth that which is good among the children of men, and he doeth nothing save it be plain unto the children of men. And he inviteth them all to come unto him and partake of his goodness, and he denieth none that come unto him, black and white, bond and free, male and female; and he remembereth the heathen, and all are alike unto God, both Jew and gentile. (2 Ne. 11:17)

But behold, in the last days, or in the days of the gentiles, yea, behold, **all the nations of the gentiles**, and also the Jews, both those who shall come upon this land and those who shall be upon other lands, yea, even upon all the lands of the earth, behold, they **will be drunken with iniquity and all manner of abominations**. And **when that day shall come**, they shall be visited of the Lord of Hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and with a great noise, and with storm and tempest, and with the flame of devouring fire. And all the nations that fight against Zion and that distress her shall be as a dream of a night vision. Yea, it shall be unto them even as unto a hungry man which dreameth, and behold, he eateth, but he awaketh and his soul is empty. Or like unto a thirsty man which dreameth, and behold, he drinketh, but he awaketh and behold, he is faint and his soul hath appetite. Yea, even so shall the multitude of all the nations be that fight against Mount Zion. For behold, all ye that do iniquity, stay yourselves and wonder, for ye shall cry out and cry. Yea, ye shall be drunken, but not with wine; ye shall stagger, but not with strong drink. **For behold, the Lord hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, for behold, ye have closed your eyes, and ye have rejected the prophets, and your rulers and the seers hath he covered because of your iniquity.** (2 Ne. 11:18)

Woe be unto the gentiles, saith the Lord God of Hosts, for notwithstanding I shall lengthen out mine arm unto them from day to day, they will deny me. Nevertheless, I will be merciful unto them, saith the Lord God, **if they will repent and come unto me**, for mine arm is lengthened out all the day long, saith the Lord God of Hosts. (2 Ne. 12:7)

But behold, **there shall be many at that day** when I shall proceed to do a marvelous work among them, that I may remember my covenants which I have made unto the children of men, **that I may set my hand again the second time to recover** my people which are of the house of Israel, and also

that I may remember the promises which I have made unto thee, Nephi, and also unto thy father, that I would remember your seed, and that the words of your seed should proceed forth out of my mouth unto your seed. And my words shall hiss forth unto the ends of the earth for a standard unto my people which are of the house of Israel. And because my words shall hiss forth, many of the gentiles shall say, A bible, a bible, we have got a bible, and there cannot be any more bible. But thus saith the Lord God: O fools, they shall have a bible and it shall proceed forth from the Jews, mine ancient covenant people. And what thank they the Jews for the bible which they receive from them? Yea, what do the gentiles mean? Do they remember the travels, and the labors, and the pains of the Jews? And their diligence unto me in bringing forth salvation unto the gentiles? (2 Ne. 12:8)

O ye gentiles, have ye remembered the Jews, mine ancient covenant people? Nay, but ye have cursed them, and have hated them, and have not sought to recover them. But behold, I will return all these things upon your own heads, for I the Lord hath not forgotten my people. Thou fool that shall say, A bible, we have got a bible and we need no more bible. Have ye obtained a bible, save it were by the Jews? Know ye not that there are more nations than one? Know ye not that I, the Lord your God, have created all men, and that I remember those who are upon the isles of the sea? And that I rule in the heavens above and in the earth beneath, and I bring forth my word unto the children of men, yea, even upon all the nations of the earth? Wherefore murmur ye because that ye shall receive more of my word? Know ye not that the testimony of two nations is a witness unto you that I am God? That I remember one nation like unto another? Wherefore, I speak the same words unto one nation like unto another. And when the two nations shall run together, the testimony of the two nations shall run together also. And I do this that I may prove unto many that I am the same yesterday, today, and for ever, and that I speak forth my words according to mine own pleasure. (2 Ne. 12:9)

And now behold, my beloved brethren, I would speak unto you, for **I, Nephi, would not suffer that ye should suppose that ye are more righteous than the gentiles shall be. For behold, except ye shall keep the commandments of God, ye shall all likewise perish.** And because of the words which have been spoken, **ye need not suppose that the gentiles are utterly destroyed.** For behold, I say unto you, 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. (2 Ne. 12:11)

And now I would prophesy somewhat more concerning the Jews and the gentiles. **For after the book of which I have spoken shall come forth, and be written unto the gentiles, and sealed up again unto the Lord, there shall be many which shall believe the words which are written, and they shall carry them forth unto the remnant of our seed.** And then shall the remnant of our seed know concerning us, how that we came out from Jerusalem, and that they are descendants of the Jews. And the gospel of Jesus Christ shall be declared among them; wherefore, they shall be restored unto the knowledge of their fathers, and also to the knowledge of Jesus Christ which was had among their fathers. And then shall they rejoice, for they shall know that it is a blessing unto them from the hand

of God. And their scales of darkness shall begin to fall from their eyes, and many generations shall not pass away among them save they shall be a pure and a delightsome people. And it shall come to pass that the Jews which are scattered also shall begin to believe in Christ, and they shall begin to gather in upon the face of the land. And as many as shall believe in Christ shall also become a delightsome people. (2 Ne. 12:12)

And now I, Nephi, cannot write all the things which were taught among my people, neither am I mighty in writing, like unto speaking; for when a man speaketh by the power of the holy ghost, the power of the holy ghost carrieth it unto the hearts of the children of men. But behold, there are many that harden their hearts against the holy spirit, that it hath no place in them. Wherefore, they cast many things away which are written and esteem them as things of naught. But **I, Nephi, have written what I have written, and I esteem it as of great worth**, and especially unto my people. For I pray continually for them by day, and mine eyes water my pillow by night because of them. And I cry unto my God in faith, and I know that he will hear my cry, and I know that the Lord God will consecrate my prayers for the gain of my people. And the word which I have written in weakness will he make strong unto them, for it persuadeth men to do good. It maketh known unto them of their fathers, and it speaketh of Jesus and persuadeth men to believe in him and to endure to the end, which is life eternal. And it speaketh harsh against sin according to the plainness of the truth; wherefore, no man will be angry at the words which I have written, save he shall be of the spirit of the Devil. I glory in plainness; I glory in truth; I glory in my Jesus, for he hath redeemed my soul from hell. I have charity for my people and great faith in Christ that I shall meet many souls spotless at his judgment seat. I have charity for the Jew — I say Jew because I mean them from whence I came. **I also have charity for the gentiles. But behold, for none of these can I hope except they shall be reconciled unto Christ**, and enter into the narrow gate, and walk in the straight path which leads to life, and continue in the path until the end of the day of probation. (2 Ne. 15:1)

CHRIST TAUGHT:

And now it came to pass that when Jesus had spoken these words, he said unto those twelve whom he had chosen, Ye are my disciples, and ye are a light unto this people, who are **a remnant of the house of Joseph. And behold, this is the land of your inheritance, and the Father hath given it unto you**. And not at any time hath the Father given me commandment that I should tell it unto your brethren at Jerusalem; neither at any time hath the Father given me commandment that I should tell unto them concerning the other tribes of the house of Israel whom the Father hath led away out of the land. This much did the Father command me that I should tell unto them, that other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd. And now because of stiffneckedness and unbelief, they understood not my word; therefore, I was commanded to say no more, of the Father, concerning this thing unto them. But verily I say unto you that the Father hath commanded me, and I tell it unto you, that ye were separated from among them because of their iniquity; therefore, it is because of their iniquity that they know not of you. And verily I say unto you again that the other tribes hath the Father

separated from them, and it is because of their iniquity that they know not of them. And verily I say unto you that ye are they of whom I said, Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd. And they understood me not, for they supposed it had been the gentiles; for they understood not that **the gentiles** should be converted through their preaching. And they understood me not, that **I said, They shall hear my voice, and they understood me not that the gentiles should not at that time hear my voice**, that I should not manifest myself unto them save it were by the holy ghost. But behold, ye have both heard my voice and seen me, and ye are my sheep, and ye are numbered among those whom the Father hath given me. And verily, verily I say unto you that I have other sheep which are not of this land, neither of the land of Jerusalem, neither in any parts of that land round about whither I have been to minister. For they of whom I speak are they who have not as yet heard my voice, neither have I at any time manifested myself unto them. But I have received a commandment of the Father that I shall go unto them, and that they shall hear my voice and shall be numbered among my sheep, that there may be one fold and one shepherd; therefore, I go to shew myself unto them. (3 Ne. 7:3)

And I command you that ye shall write these sayings after I am gone, that if it so be that my people at Jerusalem — they who have seen me and been with me in my ministry — do not ask the Father in my name that they may receive a knowledge of you by the holy ghost, and also of the other tribes whom they know not of, that **these sayings which ye shall write shall be kept and shall be manifested unto the gentiles; that through the fullness of the gentiles**, the remnant of their seed, who shall be scattered forth upon the face of the earth because of their unbelief, may be brought in, or may be brought to a knowledge of me, their Redeemer. And then will I gather them in from the four quarters of the earth, and then will I fulfill the covenant which the Father hath made unto all the people of the house of Israel. And blessed are the gentiles because of their belief in me, in and of the holy ghost, which witness unto them of me and of the Father. Behold, because of their belief in me, saith the Father, and because of the unbelief of you, O house of Israel, in the latter day shall the truth come unto the gentiles, that the fullness of these things shall be made known unto them. (3 Ne. 7:4)

But woe, saith the Father, unto the unbelieving of the gentiles, for — notwithstanding that they have come forth upon the face of this land, and have scattered my people who are of the house of Israel, and my people who are of the house of Israel have been cast out from among them and have been trodden under feet by them; and because of the mercies of the Father unto the gentiles, and also the judgments of the Father upon my people who are of the house of Israel — verily, verily I say unto you that **after all this** — and I have caused my people who are of the house of Israel to be smitten, and to be afflicted, and to be slain, and to be cast out from among them, and to become hated by them, and to become a hiss and a byword among them — and, **thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you: At that day when the gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations and above all the people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner of hypocrisy, and murders, and**

priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and of secret abominations, and if they shall do all these things, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, Behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fullness of my gospel from among them. And then will I remember my covenant which I have made unto my people, O house of Israel, and I will bring my gospel unto them. And I will shew unto thee, O house of Israel, that the gentiles shall not have power over you, but I will remember my covenant unto you, O house of Israel, and ye shall come unto the knowledge of the fullness of my gospel. **But if the gentiles will repent and return unto me, saith the Father, behold, they shall be numbered among my people, O house of Israel.** And I will not suffer my people who are of the house of Israel to go through among them and tread them down, saith the Father. But if they will not turn unto me and hearken unto my voice, I will suffer them — yea, I will suffer my people, O house of Israel — that they shall go through among them and shall tread them down and they shall be as salt that hath lost its savor, which is thenceforth good for nothing but to be cast out and to be trodden underfoot of my people, O house of Israel. (3 Ne. 7:5)

And it came to pass that when they had all given glory unto Jesus, he said unto them, Behold, now I finish the commandment which the Father hath commanded me concerning this people who are a remnant of the house of Israel. Ye remember that I spake unto you and said that when the words of Isaiah should be fulfilled — behold, they are written, ye have them before you, therefore search them — and verily, verily I say unto you that when they shall be fulfilled, then is the fulfilling of the covenant which the Father hath made unto his people, O house of Israel. Then shall the remnants which shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the earth be gathered in from the east, and from the west, and from the south, and from the north; and they shall be brought to the knowledge of the Lord their God who hath redeemed them. **And the Father hath commanded me that I should give unto you this land for your inheritance.** And I say unto you that **if the gentiles do not repent after the blessing which they shall receive** after they have scattered my people, then shall ye who are a remnant of the house of Jacob go forth among them. And ye shall be in the midst of them who shall be many, and ye shall be among them as a lion among the beasts of the forest, and as a young lion among the flocks of sheep, who, if he goeth through, both treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and **none can deliver.** Thy hand shall be lifted up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shall be cut off. And I will gather my people together as a man gathereth his sheaves into the floor, for I will make my people with whom the Father hath covenanted, yea, I will make thy horn iron and I will make thy hoofs brass, and thou shalt beat in pieces many people. And **I will consecrate their gain unto the Lord and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.** And behold, I am he who doeth it. **And it shall come to pass, saith the Father, that the sword of my justice shall hang over them at that day; and except they repent, it shall fall upon them, saith the Father,** yea, even upon all the nations of the gentiles. (3 Ne. 9:7)

And it shall come to pass that **I will establish my people, O house of Israel.** 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. Behold, I am he of whom Moses spake, saying, A prophet shall

the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. **And it shall come to pass that every soul who will not hear that prophet shall be cut off from among the people.** Verily I say unto you, yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have testified of me. And behold, ye are the children of the prophets, and ye are of the house of Israel, and ye are of the covenant which the Father made with your fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed, the Father having raised me up unto you first, and sent me to bless you in turning away every one of you from his iniquities — and this because ye are the children of the covenant. And after that ye were blessed, then fulfilleth the Father the covenant which he made with Abraham, saying, In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed, unto **the pouring out of the holy ghost through me upon the gentiles, which blessing upon the gentiles shall make them mighty above all, unto the scattering of my people,** O house of Israel. And they shall be a scourge unto the people of this land. Nevertheless, when they shall have received the fullness of my gospel, then, if they shall harden their hearts against me, I will return their iniquities upon their own heads, saith the Father. And I will remember the covenant which I have made with my people, and I have covenanted with them that I would gather them together in mine own due time, that I would give unto them again the land of their fathers for their inheritance, which is the land of Jerusalem, which is the promised land unto them for ever, saith the Father. (3 Ne. 9:8)

And verily I say unto you, I give unto you **a sign**, that ye may know the time when these things shall be about to take place, that I shall gather in from their long dispersion my people, O house of Israel, and shall establish again among them **my Zion**. And behold, this is the thing which I will give unto you for a sign: for verily I say unto you that when these things which I declare unto you — and which I shall declare unto you hereafter of myself and by the power of the holy ghost, which shall be given unto you of the Father — shall be made known unto the gentiles, that they may know concerning this people who are a remnant of the house of Jacob, and concerning this my people who shall be scattered by them, verily, verily I say unto you, when these things shall be made known unto them of the Father and shall come forth of the Father from them unto you — **for it is wisdom in the Father that they should be established in this land and be set up as a free people by the power of the Father, that these things might come forth from them** unto a remnant of your seed, that the covenant of the Father may be fulfilled which he hath covenanted with his people, O house of Israel — therefore, when these works and the works which shall be wrought among you hereafter **shall come forth from the gentiles** unto your seed which shall dwindle in unbelief because of iniquity — for thus **it behoveth the Father that it should come forth from the gentiles, that he may shew forth his power unto the gentiles** for this cause, that the gentiles, if they will not harden their hearts, that they may repent, and come unto me, and be baptized in my name, and know of the true points of my doctrine, that they may be numbered among my people, O house of Israel — and when these things come to pass, that thy seed shall begin to know these things, it shall be a sign unto them that they may know that the work of the Father hath already commenced **unto the fulfilling of the covenant** which he hath made unto the people who are of the house of Israel. And when that day shall come, it shall

come to pass that kings shall shut their mouths, for that which had not been told them shall they see, and that which they had not heard shall they consider. (3 Ne. 9:11)

For in that day, for my sake, **shall the Father work a work** which shall be a great and a marvelous work among them, and **there shall be among them those who will not believe it, although a man shall declare it unto them.** But behold, the life of my servant shall be in my hand; therefore, they shall not hurt him, although he shall be marred because of them. Yet I will heal him, for I will shew unto them that my wisdom is greater than the cunning of the Devil. **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, and shall give unto him power that he shall bring them forth unto the gentiles, it shall be done even as Moses said — They shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant.** And my people who are a remnant of Jacob shall be among the gentiles, yea, in the midst of them as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep, who, if he go through, both treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver. Their hand shall be lifted up upon their adversaries, and all their enemies shall be cut off. Yea, **woe be unto the gentiles except they repent, for it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Father, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, and I will destroy thy chariots, and I will cut off the cities of thy land and throw down all thy strong holds.** And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thy land, and thou shalt have no more soothsayers. Thy graven images I will also cut off and thy standing images out of the midst of thee, and thou shalt no more worship the works of thy hands. And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee; so will I destroy thy cities. And it shall come to pass that all lyings, and deceivings, and envyings, and strifes, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms shall be done away. For it shall come to pass, saith the Father, that at that day, whosoever will not repent and come unto my Beloved Son, them will I cut off from among my people, O house of Israel, and I will execute vengeance and fury upon them, even as upon the heathen, such as they have not heard. (3 Ne. 9:12)

And then shall that which is written come to pass: Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child; for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord. Enlarge the place of thy tent and let them stretch forth the curtains of thy habitations; spare not, lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes, **for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left, and thy seed shall inherit the gentiles and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.** Fear not, for thou shalt not be ashamed, neither be thou confounded, for thou shalt not be put to shame; for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood anymore. For thy Maker, thy husband, the Lord of Hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, the God of the whole earth shall he be called. For the Lord hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth when thou wast refused, saith thy God. For a small moment have I forsaken thee, but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment, but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord thy Redeemer. For this, the waters of Noah unto me, for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, so

have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee. For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee. (3 Ne. 10:2)

And now behold, I say unto you that ye had ought to search these things. Yea, a commandment I give unto you that ye search these things diligently, for great are the words of Isaiah. For surely he spake as touching all things concerning my people which are of the house of Israel. **Therefore, it must needs be that he must speak also to the gentiles. And all things that he spake hath been and shall be, even according to the words which he spake.** Therefore, give heed to my words. Write the things which I have told you, and, according to the time and the will of the Father, they shall go forth unto the gentiles. And whosoever will hearken unto my words, and repenteth and is baptized, the same shall be saved. Search the prophets, for many there be that testify of these things. (3 Ne. 10:4)

MORMON TAUGHT:

And now there cannot be written in this book even an hundredth part of the things which Jesus did truly teach unto the people. But behold, the plates of Nephi do contain the more part of the things which he taught the people. And these things have I written, which are a lesser part of the things which he taught the people, and **I have written them to the intent that they may be brought again unto this people from the gentiles**, according to the words which Jesus hath spoken. And when they shall have received this, which is expedient that they should have first to try their faith, and if it should so be that they shall believe these things, then shall the greater things be made manifest unto them. And if it so be that they will not believe these things, then shall the greater things be withheld from them unto their condemnation. Behold, I were about to write them all, which were engraven upon the plates of Nephi, but the Lord forbid it, saying, I will try the faith of my people. Therefore I, Mormon, do write the things which have been commanded me of the Lord. And now I, Mormon, make an end of my sayings and proceed to write the things which have been commanded me. Therefore, I would that ye should behold that the Lord truly did teach the people for the space of three days, and after that, he did shew himself unto them oft, and did break bread oft, and bless it, and give it unto them. (3 Ne. 12:1)

And now I, Mormon, make an end of speaking concerning these things for a time. Behold, I was about to write the names of **those who were never to taste of death**, but the Lord forbade. Therefore, I write them not, for they are hid from the world. But behold, I have seen them and they have ministered unto me, and behold, they **will be among the gentiles and the gentiles knoweth them not**. They will also be among the Jews and the Jews shall know them not. 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. **And they are as the angels of God**, and if they shall pray unto the Father in the name of

Jesus, they can shew themselves unto whatsoever man it seemeth them good. 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. **Yea, even among the gentiles shall there be a great and marvelous work wrought by them before that judgment day.** And if ye had all the scriptures which give an account of all the marvelous works of Christ, ye would, according to the words of Christ, know that these things must surely come. And **woe be unto him that will not hearken unto the words of Jesus and also to them whom he hath chosen and sent among them;** for whoso receiveth not the words of Jesus and the words of those whom he hath sent, receiveth not him, and therefore he will not receive them at the last day. And it would be better for them if they had not been born. For do ye suppose that ye can get rid of the justice of an offended God who hath been trampled under feet of men, that thereby salvation might come? (3 Ne. 13:5)

And now behold, I say unto you that when the Lord shall see fit in his wisdom that **these sayings shall come unto the gentiles** according to his word, **then ye may know** that the covenant which the Father hath made with the children of Israel concerning their restoration to the lands of their inheritance is already beginning to be fulfilled. And ye may know that the words of the Lord which have been spoken by the holy prophets shall all be fulfilled. And ye need not say that the Lord delays his coming unto the children of Israel. And ye need not imagine in your hearts that the words which have been spoken are vain, for behold, the Lord will remember his covenant which he hath made unto his people of the house of Israel. And **when ye shall see these sayings coming forth among you,** then ye need not any longer spurn at the doings of the Lord, for **the sword of his justice is in his right hand.** And behold, at that day, if ye shall spurn at his doings, he will cause it that it shall soon overtake you. (3 Ne. 13:7)

Hearken, O ye gentiles, and hear the words of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, which he hath commanded me that I should speak concerning you; for behold, he commandeth me that I should write, saying, **Turn, all ye gentiles, from your wicked ways, and repent of your evil doings** — of your lyings and deceivings, and of your whoredoms, and of your secret abominations, and your idolatries, and of your murders, and your priestcrafts, and your envyings, and your strifes, and from all your wickedness and abominations — and come unto me and be baptized in my name, that ye may receive a remission of your sins and be filled with the holy ghost, that ye may be numbered with my people who are of the house of Israel. (3 Ne. 14:1)

And it came to pass that I utterly refused to go up against mine enemies. And I did even as the Lord had commanded me, and I did stand as an idle witness to manifest unto the world the things which I saw and heard, according to the manifestations of the spirit, which had testified of things to come. Therefore, **I write unto you gentiles,** and also unto you, house of Israel, when the work shall commence, that ye shall be about to prepare to return to the land of your inheritance. Yea, behold, I write unto all the ends of the earth, yea, unto you, twelve tribes of Israel, which shall be judged according to your works by the twelve whom Jesus chose to be his disciples in the land of Jerusalem. And I write also unto the remnant of this people, who shall also be judged by the twelve whom Jesus

chose in this land. And they shall be judged by the other twelve whom Jesus chose in the land of Jerusalem. And these things do the spirit manifest unto me; therefore, I write unto you all. And for this cause I write unto you, that ye may know that ye must all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, yea, every soul who belongs to the whole human family of Adam, and ye must stand to be judged of your works, whether they be good or evil; and also that ye may believe the gospel of Jesus Christ, which ye shall have among you; and also that the Jews, the covenant people of the Lord, shall have other witness, besides him whom they saw and heard, that Jesus whom they slew was the very Christ and the very God. And I would that I could persuade all ye ends of the earth to repent and prepare to stand before the judgment seat of Christ. (Morm. 1:12)

And now behold, I, Mormon, do not desire to harrow up the souls of men in casting before them such an awful scene of blood and carnage as was laid before mine eyes. But I, knowing that these things must surely be made known, and that all things which are hid must be revealed upon the housetops, and also that a knowledge of these things must come unto the remnant of this people, and **also unto the gentiles which the Lord hath said should scatter this people** — and this people should be counted as naught among them — therefore I write a small abridgement, daring not to give a full account of the things which I have seen, because of the commandment which I have received, and also that ye might not have too great sorrow because of the wickedness of this people. (Morm. 2:5)

And now behold, this I speak unto their seed, **and also to the gentiles who have care for the house of Israel, that realize and know from whence their blessings come.** For I know that such will sorrow for the calamity of the house of Israel, yea, they will sorrow for the destruction of this people. They will sorrow that this people had not repented, that they might have been clasped in the arms of Jesus. Now these things are written unto the remnant of the house of Jacob, and they are written after this manner because it is known of God that wickedness will not bring them forth unto them. And they are to be hid up unto the Lord, that they may come forth in his own due time. And this is the commandment which I have received. And behold, they shall come forth according to the commandment of the Lord, when he shall see fit in his wisdom. And behold, they shall go unto the unbelieving of the Jews. And for this intent shall they go, that they may be persuaded that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God; that the Father may bring about, through his Most Beloved, his great and eternal purpose in restoring the Jews, or all the house of Israel, to the land of their inheritance which the Lord their God hath given them, unto the fulfilling of his covenant; and also that the seed of this people may more fully believe his **gospel which shall go forth unto them from the gentiles.** For this people shall be scattered, and shall become a dark, a filthy, and a loathsome people, beyond the description of that which ever hath been amongst us, yea, even that which hath been among the Lamanites, and this because of their unbelief and idolatry. For behold, the spirit of the Lord hath already ceased to strive with their fathers, and they are without Christ and God in the world, and they are driven about as chaff before the wind. They were once a delightsome people, and they had Christ for their shepherd. Yea, they were led even by God the Father. But now behold, they are led about by Satan, even as chaff is driven before the wind, or as a vessel is tossed about upon the waves without

sail or anchor, or without anything wherewith to steer her; and even as she is, so are they. And behold, the Lord hath reserved **their blessing**, which **they might have received in the land, for the gentiles who shall possess the land**. But behold, **it shall come to pass that they shall be driven and scattered by the gentiles**. And after they have been driven and scattered by the gentiles, behold, then will the Lord remember the covenant which he made unto Abraham and unto all the house of Israel. And also the Lord will remember the prayers of the righteous which have been put up unto him for them. (Morm. 2:6)

And then, O ye gentiles, how can ye stand before the power of God except ye shall repent and turn from your evil ways? Know ye not that ye are in the hands of God? Know ye not that he hath all power, and at his great command the earth shall be rolled together as a scroll? **Therefore, repent ye, and humble yourselves before him, lest he shall come out in justice against you, lest a remnant of the seed of Jacob shall go forth among you as a lion and tear you in pieces, and there is none to deliver.** (Morm. 2:7)

And now behold, I would speak somewhat unto the remnant of this people who are spared, if it so be that God may give unto them my words, that they may know of the things of their fathers. Yea, I speak unto you, ye remnant of the house of Israel, and these are the words which I speak: Know ye that ye are of the house of Israel. Know ye that ye must come unto repentance, or ye cannot be saved. Know ye that ye must lay down your weapons of war, and delight no more in the shedding of blood, and take them not again, save it be that God shall command you. Know ye that ye must come to the knowledge of your fathers, and repent of all your sins and iniquities, and believe in Jesus Christ — that he is the Son of God, and that he was slain by the Jews, and by the power of the Father he hath risen again, whereby he hath gained the victory over the grave; and also in him is the sting of death swallowed up. And he bringeth to pass the resurrection of the dead, whereby man must be raised to stand before his judgment seat. And he hath brought to pass the redemption of the world, whereby he that is found guiltless before him at the judgment day hath it given unto them to dwell in the presence of God in his kingdom, to sing ceaseless praises with the choirs above unto the Father, and unto the Son, and unto the holy ghost, which are one God, in a state of happiness which hath no end. Therefore, repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus, and lay hold upon the gospel of Christ which shall be set before you, **not only in this record, but also in the record which shall come unto the gentiles from the Jews, which record shall come from the gentiles unto you.** For behold, this is written for the intent that ye may believe that. And if ye believe that, ye will believe this also. And if ye believe this, ye will know concerning your fathers, and also the marvelous works which were wrought by the power of God among them. And ye will also know that ye are a remnant of the seed of Jacob. Therefore, ye are numbered among the people of the first covenant. And if it so be that ye believe in Christ and are baptized, first with water, then with fire and with the holy ghost, following the example of our Savior according to that which he hath commanded us, it shall be well with you in the day of judgment. Amen. (Morm. 3:5)

MORONI TAUGHT:

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 fullness of his wrath shall come upon them. And the fullness of his wrath cometh upon them **when they are ripened in iniquity**. For behold, **this is a land which is choice above all other lands**. Wherefore, he that doth possess it shall serve God or shall be swept off, for it is the everlasting decree of God. And it is not until the fullness of iniquity among the children of the land that they are swept off. And **this cometh unto you, O ye gentiles, that ye may know the decrees of God, that ye may repent and not continue in your iniquities until the fullness be come, that ye may not bring down the fullness of the wrath of God upon you as the inhabitants of the land hath hitherto done**. Behold, this is a choice land; and whatsoever nation shall possess it shall be free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations under Heaven if they will but serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ, who has been manifested by the things which we have written. (Ether 1:7)

And now, after that they have all dwindled in unbelief and there is none save it be the Lamanites — and they have rejected the gospel of Christ — therefore I am commanded that I should hide them up again in the earth. Behold, I have written upon these plates the very things which the brother of Jared saw. And there never was greater things made manifest than that which was made manifest unto the brother of Jared. Wherefore, the Lord hath commanded me to write them, and I have written them. And he commanded me that I should seal them up. And he also hath commanded that I should seal up the interpretation thereof; wherefore, I have sealed up the interpreters according to the commandment of the Lord. For the Lord said unto me, **They shall not go forth unto the gentiles until the day that they shall repent of their iniquity and become clean before the Lord. And in that day that they shall exercise faith in me**, saith the Lord, even as the brother of Jared did, that they may become sanctified in me, then will I manifest unto them the things which the brother of Jared saw, even to the unfolding unto them all my revelations, saith Jesus Christ, the Son of God the Father of the heavens, and of the earth, and all things that in them are. (Ether 1:17)

He that will not believe my words will not believe me, that I am. And he that will not believe me will not believe the Father who sent me. For behold, I am the Father. I am the light, and the life, and the truth of the world. **Come unto me, O ye gentiles, and I will shew unto you the greater things, the knowledge which is hid up because of unbelief.** Come unto me, O ye house of Israel, and it shall be made manifest unto you how great things the Father hath laid up for you from the foundation of the world; and it hath not come unto you because of unbelief. Behold, when ye shall rend that veil of unbelief which doth cause you to remain in your awful state of wickedness, and hardness of heart, and blindness of mind, then shall the great and marvelous things which have been hid up from the foundation of the world from you — yea, when ye shall call upon the Father in my name with a broken heart and a contrite spirit — then shall ye know that the Father hath remembered the covenant which he made unto your fathers, O house of Israel. And then shall my revelations which I have caused to be written by my servant John be **unfolded in the eyes of all the people**. Remember, **when ye see these things**, ye shall know that the time is at hand that they shall be made **manifest in very deed**.

Therefore, when ye shall receive this record, ye may know that the work of the Father has commenced upon all the face of the land. Therefore, repent, all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me, and believe in my gospel, and be baptized in my name. For he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned. And signs shall follow them that believe in my name. And blessed is he that is found faithful unto my name at the last day, for he shall be lifted up to dwell in the kingdom prepared for him from the foundation of the world. And behold, it is I that hath spoken it. Amen. (Ether 1:19)

And now I, Moroni, do not write the manner of their oaths and **combinations**, for it hath been made known unto me that **they are had among all people**; and they are had among the Lamanites. And **they have caused the destruction of this people of whom I am now speaking, and also the destruction of the people of Nephi**. And whatsoever nation shall uphold such secret **combinations**, to get power and gain, until they shall spread over the nation, **behold, they shall be destroyed**; for the Lord will not suffer that the blood of his saints which shall be shed by them shall always cry unto him from the ground for vengeance upon them and yet he avenge them not. Wherefore, O ye gentiles, it is wisdom in God that these things should be shewn unto you, that thereby ye may repent of your sins and suffer not that these murderous **combinations shall get above you** — which are built up to get power and gain — and the work, yea, even the work of destruction come upon you, yea, even the sword of the justice of the eternal God shall fall upon you to your overthrow and destruction if ye shall suffer these things to be. Wherefore, the Lord commandeth you, when ye shall see these things come among you, that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation **because of this secret combination which shall be among you**; or woe be unto it because of the blood of them who have been slain, for they cry from the dust for vengeance upon it, and also upon those who build it up. (Ether 3:18)

Behold, it was the faith of Alma and Amulek that caused the prison to tumble to the earth. Behold, it was the faith of Nephi and Lehi that wrought the change upon the Lamanites, that they were baptized with fire and with the holy ghost. Behold, it was the faith of Ammon and his brethren which wrought so great a miracle among the Lamanites. Yea, and even all they which wrought miracles wrought them by faith, even those who were before Christ, and also them which were after. And it was by faith that the three disciples obtained a promise that they should not taste of death, and they obtained not the promise until after their faith. And neither at any time hath any wrought miracles until after their faith; wherefore, they first believed in the Son of God. And there were many whose faith was so exceeding strong, even before Christ came, who could not be kept from within the veil, but truly saw with their eyes the things which they had beheld with an eye of faith; and they were glad. And behold, we have seen in this record that one of these was the brother of Jared, for so great was his faith in God that when God put forth his finger, he could not hide it from the sight of the brother of Jared because of his word which he had spoken unto him, which word he had obtained by faith. And after the brother of Jared had beheld the finger of the Lord because of the promise which the brother of Jared had obtained by faith, the Lord could not withhold anything from his sight; wherefore, he shewed him all things, for he could no longer be kept without the veil. And it is by faith that my fathers have obtained

the promise that these things should come unto their brethren through the gentiles. Therefore, the Lord hath commanded me, yea, even Jesus Christ. (Ether 5:3)

And I said unto him, **Lord, the gentiles will mock at these things** because of our weakness in writing; for Lord, thou hast made us mighty in word by faith, but thou hast not made us mighty in writing. For thou hast made all this people that they could speak much because of the holy ghost, which thou hast given them. And thou hast made us that we could write but little because of the awkwardness of our hands. Behold, thou hast not made us mighty in writing like unto the brother of Jared, for thou madest him that the things which he wrote were mighty, even as thou art, unto the overpowering of man to read them. Thou hast also made our words powerful and great, even that we cannot write them. Wherefore, when we write, we behold our weakness and stumble because of the placing of our words. And **I fear lest the gentiles shall mock at our words.** (Ether 5:4)

And when I had said this, the Lord spake unto me, saying, Fools mock, but they shall mourn. And my grace is sufficient for the meek, that they shall take no advantage of your weakness. And if men come unto me, I will shew unto them their weakness. I give unto men weakness, that they may be humble. And my grace is sufficient for all men that humble themselves before me; for if they humble themselves before me and have faith in me, then will I make weak things become strong unto them. Behold, **I will shew unto the gentiles their weakness.** And I will shew unto them that faith, hope, and charity bringeth unto me, the fountain of all righteousness. (Ether 5:5)

And I, Moroni, having heard these words, was comforted, and said, O Lord, thy righteous will be done, for I know that thou workest unto the children of men according to their faith. For the brother of Jared said unto the mountain Zerin, Remove — and it was removed. And if he had not had faith, it would not have moved. Wherefore, thou workest after men have faith. For thus did thou manifest thyself unto thy disciples; for after they had faith and did speak in thy name, thou didst shew thyself unto them in great power. And I also remember that thou hast said that thou hast prepared a house for man, yea, even among the mansions of thy Father, in the which man might have a more excellent hope. Wherefore, man must hope, or he cannot receive an inheritance in the place which thou hast prepared. And again I remember that thou hast said that thou hast loved the world, even unto the laying down of thy life for the world, that thou mightest take it again, to prepare a place for the children of men. And now I know that this love which thou hast had for the children of men is charity. Wherefore, **except men shall have charity, they cannot inherit** that place which thou hast prepared in the mansions of thy Father. Wherefore, I know by this thing which **thou hast said that if the gentiles have not charity because of our weakness, that thou wilt prove them and take away their talent,** yea, even that which they have received, and give unto them who shall have more abundantly. (Ether 5:6)

And it came to pass that I prayed unto the Lord that he would give unto the gentiles grace, that they might have charity. And it came to pass that the Lord said unto me, If they have not charity, it mattereth not unto thee. Thou hast been faithful; wherefore, thy garments shall be made clean. And

because thou hast seen thy weakness, thou shalt be made strong, even unto the sitting down in the place which I have prepared in the mansions of my Father. (Ether 5:7)

And now **I, Moroni, bid farewell unto the gentiles**, yea, and also unto my brethren, whom I love, until we shall meet before the judgment seat of Christ, where all men shall know that my garments are not spotted with your blood. And then shall ye know that I have seen Jesus, and that he hath talked with me face to face, and that he told me in plain humility, even as a man telleth another, in mine own language, concerning these things. And only a few have I written because of my weakness in writing. And now **I would commend you to seek this Jesus** of whom the prophets and apostles have written, that the grace of God the Father, and also the Lord Jesus Christ, and the holy ghost, which beareth record of them, may be and abide in you for ever. Amen. (Ether 5:8)

THEN, MORONI DEDICATES THE BOOK:

From the Dedication, or Title Page, the last page of the plates.

THE BOOK OF MORMON

AN ACCOUNT WRITTEN BY THE HAND OF MORMON UPON PLATES TAKEN FROM THE PLATES OF NEPHI

Wherefore, it is an abridgment of the record of the people of Nephi, and also of the Lamanites; **written to** the Lamanites which are a remnant of the house of Israel **and also** to Jew and gentile; written by way of commandment, and also by the spirit of prophecy and of revelation. Written, and sealed, and hid up unto the Lord, that they might not be destroyed; to come forth by the gift and power of God unto the interpretation thereof; sealed up by the hand of Moroni and hid up unto the Lord, **to come forth in due time by the way of gentile**; the interpretation thereof by the gift of God.

An abridgment taken from The Book of Ether also, which is a record of the people of Jared, which were scattered at the time the Lord confounded the language of the people when they were building a tower to get to Heaven: which is to shew unto the remnant of the house of Israel how great things the Lord hath done for their fathers, and that they may know the covenants of the Lord, that they are not cast off for ever. And also to the convincing of the Jew and gentile that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God, manifesting himself unto all nations. And now if there be fault, it be the mistake of men; wherefore, condemn not the things of God, that ye may be found spotless at the judgment seat of Christ.