

February 26–March 3: 2 Nephi 11–19,
"His Name Shall Be Called... The Prince Of Peace"
March 4–10: 2 Nephi 20–25, "We Rejoice in Christ"
Part 2



The Gathering of Israel

2 Nephi 25:17

The Gathering of Israel

Isa 2:2-3

What do you think is meant by “the mountain of the Lords house”?

What do you think is meant by “out of Zion shall go forth the law”?

Gordon B. Hinckley

“Ever since the Salt Lake Temple was dedicated, we have interpreted that scripture from Isaiah, repeated again in Micah as applying to this sacred house of the Lord. And of this place, since the day of its dedication, an ever-increasing number from across the world have said in effect, ‘Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that He might teach us of His ways, that we might walk in His paths.’”

“I believe and testify that it is the mission of this Church to stand as an ensign to the nations and a light to the world. We have had placed upon us a great, all-encompassing mandate from which we cannot shrink nor turn aside. We accept that mandate and are determined to fulfill it, and with the help of God we shall do it.” (CR, Oct. 2003)

Harold B. Lee

"I have often wondered what that expression meant, that out of Zion shall go forth the law. Years ago I went with the brethren to the Idaho Falls Temple, and I heard in that inspired prayer of the First Presidency a definition of the meaning of that term "out of Zion shall go forth the law." Note what they said: "We thank thee that thou hast revealed to us that those who gave us our constitutional form of government were men wise in thy sight and that thou didst raise them up for the very purpose of putting forth that sacred document [the Constitution of the United States] (see D&C 101)."
("The Way to Eternal Life," Ensign, Nov. 1971)

Harold B. Lee

"With regard to the political turmoil among the nations, we would earnestly pray that if this and other nations would be constrained to live by and adopt governmental systems where civil and political liberties are secure, we could then hopefully look for the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy of the prophets Isaiah... 'that out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.' When that day comes, the blessings and freedoms of the free world will then be realized." (CR, Oct. 1972)

The Gathering of Israel

2 Nephi 21:10-14

What is the 'root of Jesse' mentioned in verse 10?

What is the promise to the gentiles if they seek the established ensign?

What is the ensign that Israel will gather to?

When the Jews are gathered from the four corners of the earth, where will they gather together?

What do you think is meant by, “they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines”?

D&C 113:5-6

5 What is the root of Jesse spoken of in the 10th verse of the 11th chapter?

6 Behold, thus saith the Lord, it is a descendant of Jesse, as well as of Joseph, unto whom rightly belongs the priesthood, and the keys of the kingdom, for an ensign, and for the gathering of my people in the last days.

John Taylor

"We certainly have a work to perform on the earth, and God our Father has selected us for that purpose. He raised up Joseph Smith and other men, and conferred the holy Priesthood upon them and today they are found organized as Elders, High Priests, Seventies, the Twelve, etc., by whom the Lord expects to lift up a standard to the nations, and an ensign to the people. And notwithstanding the calculations and plans of the world, we are told that when this standard is lifted up, the Gentiles shall seek unto it, 'and his rest shall be glorious.'" (JD, 23:333)

Bruce R. McConkie

"When Isaiah promised that the Lord would 'set up an ensign for the nations' and gather the dispersed of Israel, the ensign, the standard, the divine flag around which all men should rally was to be the holy gospel."
(The Millennial Messiah, pg.106)

Ezra Taft Benson

"This miracle of the return of the Jews was to be one of the events to precede Christ's second coming, and the scriptures are very clear with reference to this fact. Isaiah said that they shall gather 'the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth' and 'set them in their own land' (Isa 14:1), that they will 'build the old waste,' and 'repair the waste cities' (Isa 61:4)." (CR, April 1950)

Orson F. Whitney

“We recognize the fulfillment of that prophecy in the founding of this Church by Joseph Smith, a lineal descendant of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, who thus lifted the Ensign for the gathering of their descendants from their long dispersion among the nations. But a part of the fulfillment rests with the Gentiles. Their steamships, their railroads, their means of rapid transit and communication -- these are ‘the shoulders of the Philistines,’ upon which the children of Ephraim have been and are being brought to the West, to the land of Zion.” (CR, Oct. 1919)

The Gathering of Israel

2 Nephi 15:26-29

LeGrand Richards

“In fixing the time of the great gathering, Isaiah seemed to indicate that it would take place in the day of the railroad train and the airplane...

“Since there were neither trains nor airplanes in that day, Isaiah could hardly have mentioned them by name. However, he seems to have described them in unmistakable words. How better could ‘their horses’ hoofs be counted like flint, and their wheels like a whirlwind’ than in the modern train? How better could ‘their roaring... be like a lion’ than in the roar of the airplane? Trains and airplanes do not stop for night. Therefore, was not Isaiah justified in saying: ‘none shall slumber nor sleep; neither shall the girdle of their loins be loosed, nor the latchet of their shoes be broken’? With this manner of transportation the Lord can really ‘hiss unto them from the end of the earth,’ that “‘hey shall come with speed swiftly.’ Indicating that Isaiah must have foreseen the airplane, he stated: ‘Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows’ (Isaiah 60:8)?” (Israel! Do You Know?, pg. 182)

The Gathering of Israel

2 Nephi 14:2-6

2 Nephi 21:6-9

What is the reason for all this peace and tranquility?

James E. Faust

"Advances in communication and travel during this last century have hastened the pace at which the word of the Lord goes out from Zion. I feel much like Isaiah, who spoke of our time, when 'the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.' I believe that this marvelous outpouring of knowledge has heightened our ability to take the Lord's saving message to the world, 'that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations' (Luke 24:47)." (CR, April 1999)

The Gathering of Israel

2 Nephi 25:28-29

Next Week:

March 11–17

2 Nephi 26–30

"A Marvelous Work and a Wonder"

