

February 19–25

2 Nephi 6–10

“O How Great the Goodness of Our God”



# Overview

The words of Isaiah in the Small Plates of Nephi:

- Nephi quotes Isaiah 48 and 49 then in 1 Nephi 22 he tells us what they mean
- Jacob quotes Isaiah 49:22-26; 50; 51 and teaches about them in 2 Nephi 6; 9; 10
- Nephi quotes Isaiah 2 – 14 starting in 2 Nephi 12, then explains their meaning in 2 Nephi 25

# Overview

In this lesson we will cover the following subjects from Isaiah and explained by Jacob:

- Israel forsakes the Lord and are scattered
- Christ's mortal mission
- Christ is our advocate with the Father
- The gathering of Israel to Jerusalem
- The gathering of Israel to the Americas

# Priesthood

## 2 Nephi 6:1-2

What do we know about priesthood authority among the Nephites?

Bruce R. McConkie

“It should be noted that those consecrated priests and teachers among the Nephites were not receiving offices in the lesser priesthood, for there was no Aaronic Priesthood among the Nephites from the time Lehi left Jerusalem down to the ministry of Christ among them.”  
(Mormon Doctrine, pg. 776)

# Israel Forsakes the Lord and Is Scattered

## 2 Nephi 7:1-2

What do you think Isaiah meant when he told Israel that “for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves”?

# Israel Forsakes the Lord and Is Scattered

2 Nephi 7:10-11

What does Isaiah mean by “walk in the light of... the sparks which ye have kindled”?

# Israel Forsakes the Lord and Is Scattered

## 2 Nephi 9:27-30

What's wrong with being learned?

What's wrong with being rich?

How do you think this equates with Isaiah stating that they “walk by the sparks which ye have kindled”



## Gene R. Cook

“The man goes along his own way imagining himself to be learned, leaning on his own understanding, seeking the honor and esteem of men, and feeling it is sufficient to teach and not to do....

“Still others the Lord blesses with great material blessings.... [Satan] leads one to set his heart on the things of this world. The man begins not to esteem his brethren as himself, but creates divisions, inequalities, or status distinctions among the people.” (CR, April 1982)

## Ezra Taft Benson

"The two groups who have the greatest difficulty in following the prophet are the proud who are learned and proud who are rich. The learned may feel the prophet is only inspired when he agrees with them otherwise, the prophet is just giving his opinion-speaking as a man. The rich may feel they have no need to take counsel of a lowly prophet." (1980 BYU Speeches of the Year, pg. 29)

# Israel Forsakes the Lord and Is Scattered

## 2 Nephi 9:31-39

What do you think Jacob means when he says, “to be carnally-minded is death”?

## D. Chad Richardson

“Our spirits have been clothed in mortal tabernacles. If we let desires of the flesh dominate our spirit, we become carnally minded. Jacob stated, 'To be carnally-minded is death, and to be spiritually-minded is life eternal' (2 Nephi 9:39). Abinadi taught that people who persist in their carnal nature rebel against God and give the devil power over them. Sadly, we see this captivity today among those who indulge in drugs, pornography, immorality, rage, and other sins of the flesh.

“Many of God’s commandments, including the commandments to be morally clean, to fast, to control our anger, and to obey the Word of Wisdom, help us break the power of Satan. As we willingly obey, we follow Christ in subjecting carnal desires to the will of the Spirit.” (“Book of Mormon Principles: Earthly Choices, Eternal Consequences”, Ensign, July 2004)

# Christ's Mortal Mission

2 Nephi 7:6

# Christ's Mortal Mission

## 2 Nephi 10:3-5

What was it about the Jews during Jesus' time that made them among "the more wicked part of the world"?

What is the meaning of priestcrafts?

## 2 Nephi 26:29

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.

# Christ is Our Advocate with the Father

2 Nephi 8:22

2 Nephi 7:7-9

What does Isaiah say that the Lord does that makes Him our advocate with the Father?



# Christ is Our Advocate with the Father

2 Nephi 9:5-6,8

Who is it that all mankind is subject to, and why?

If Christ had not suffered what He did then who do you think we would be subject to?

# Christ is Our Advocate with the Father

## 2 Nephi 9:11-13

Where will the spirit of the righteous be delivered from?

Where will the spirits of the wicked be delivered from?

What are we told are some characteristics of all resurrected souls?

# Christ is Our Advocate with the Father

## 2 Nephi 9:11-13

What do you think Jacob means when he states the atonement is “infinite”?

## Russell M. Nelson

"His Atonement is infinite-without an end. It was also infinite in that all humankind would be saved from never-ending death. It was infinite in terms of His immense suffering. It was infinite in time, putting an end to the preceding prototype of animal sacrifice. It was infinite in scope-it was to be done once for all.... It was infinite beyond any human scale of measurement or mortal comprehension. Jesus was the only one who could offer such an infinite atonement, since He was born of a mortal mother and an immortal Father. Because of that unique birthright, Jesus was an infinite Being." (CR, Oct. 1996)

# Christ is Our Advocate with the Father

## 2 Nephi 9:49-51

How can we arrive at the same state as Jacob, where we abhor sin and our hearts delight in righteousness?

## Joseph Smith

“We consider that God has created man with a mind capable of instruction, and a faculty which may be enlarged in proportion to the heed and diligence given to the light communicated from heaven to the intellect; and that the nearer man approaches perfection, the clearer are his views, and the greater his enjoyments, till he has overcome the evils of his life and lost every desire for sin; and like the ancients, arrives at that point of faith where he is wrapped in the power and glory of his Maker and is caught up to dwell with Him.”

(Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, pg. 51)

# Christ is Our Advocate with the Father

## 2 Nephi 10:23-25

What is it about free agency that Jacob emphasizes to help us to “cheer up [our] hearts”?

## Boyd K. Packer

"I readily confess that I would find no peace, neither happiness nor safety, in a world without repentance. I do not know what I should do if there were no way for me to erase my mistakes. The agony would be more than I could bear. It may be otherwise with you, but not with me.

"An atonement was made. Ever and always it offers amnesty from transgression and from death if we will but repent. Repentance is the escape clause in it all. Repentance is the key with which we can unlock the prison from inside. We hold that key within our hands, and agency is ours to use it." (Church News, July 13, 1996)



# The Gathering of Israel to the Americas

2 Nephi 6:6-7

What standard will the Lord establish among the Gentiles?

## Marion G. Romney

“This Church is the standard which Isaiah said the Lord would set up for the people in the latter days. This Church was given to be a light to the world and to be a standard for God's people and for the Gentiles to seek to. This Church is the ensign on the mountain spoken of by the Old Testament prophets. It is the way, the truth, and the life.” (CR, April 1961)

# The Gathering of Israel to the Americas

## 2 Nephi 10:8-10

What is the stated role of the Gentiles?

How do you think the Gentiles are filling this role?

## 1 Nephi 22:6,8

[6] Nevertheless, after they shall be 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 are 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.

[8] 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 nourished by the Gentiles and being carried in their arms and upon their shoulders.

# The Gathering of Israel to the Americas

## 2 Nephi 10:11-14

What are some of the promises to the Gentiles who are in this land?

Under what condition will this land be greatly blessed to any and all who are led to it?

# The Gathering of Israel to the Americas

## 2 Nephi 10:11-14

What are some of the promises to the Gentiles who are in this land?

Under what condition will this land be greatly blessed to any and all who are led to it?

## 1 Nephi 1:7,9

[7] Wherefore, this land is consecrated unto him whom he shall bring. And if it so be that they shall serve him according to the commandments which he hath given, it shall be a land of liberty unto them; wherefore, they shall never be brought down into captivity; if so, it shall be because of iniquity; for if iniquity shall abound cursed shall be the land for their sakes, but unto the righteous it shall be blessed forever.

[9] Wherefore, I, Lehi, have obtained a promise, that inasmuch as those whom the Lord God shall bring out of the land of Jerusalem shall keep his commandments, they shall prosper upon the face of this land; and they shall be kept from all other nations, that they may possess this land unto themselves. And if it so be that they shall keep his commandments they shall be blessed upon the face of this land, and there shall be none to molest them, nor to take away the land of their inheritance; and they shall dwell safely forever.

## Spencer W. Kimball

“But these promises, glorious though they be, desirable as they are, can come only ‘if they will but serve the God of this land who is Jesus Christ’ (Ether 2:12). There is only one way. That infallible cure is simply righteousness, obedience, Godliness, honor, and integrity. There is no other cure. Mountains of arms and ammunitions will not guarantee safety.... If we would but believe the prophets! For they have warned that if the ‘inhabitants of this land are ever brought down into captivity and enslaved, it shall be because of iniquity; for if iniquity shall abound cursed shall be the land’ (2 Nephi 1:7).” (CR, Oct. 1961)



# The Gathering of Israel to the Americas

2 Nephi 10:18-22

For whom is this land a land of inheritance?

## Joseph Fielding Smith

"There is strong presumptive evidence in the blessings given by Israel to his son Joseph, and his grandsons Ephraim and Manasseh, as recorded in Genesis, that they were to inherit a land far from Jerusalem and become a multitude of nations. Joseph was promised that his inheritance should be to the 'utmost bounds of the everlasting hills' (Genesis 49:26); that he was 'a fruitful bough by a well whose branches run over the wall' (Genesis 49:22). Moreover, he was to receive a greater inheritance than his progenitors, who were given the land of Palestine.

"The Book of Mormon is the record of the descendants of Joseph who were led across the 'great waters' to inherit this western land, which is designated as being choice above all other lands." (Doctrines of Salvation, 3:127)

# The Gathering of Israel to Jerusalem

2 Nephi 8:23-25

# The Gathering of Israel to Jerusalem

2 Nephi 6:8, 11

2 Nephi 9:2

What must the Jews do before they are again gathered in and given Jerusalem as the land of their inheritance?

## Bruce R. McConkie

“As is well known, ancient Israel was scattered among all the nations of the earth because they forsook the Lord and worshipped false gods. As is also well known, the gathering of Israel consists of receiving the truth, gaining again a true knowledge of the Redeemer, and coming back into the true fold of the Good Shepherd. In the language of the Book of Mormon, it consists of being ‘restored to the true church and fold of God,’ and then being ‘gathered’ and ‘established’ in various ‘lands of promise’ (2 Nephi 9:2). ‘When they shall come to the knowledge of their Redeemer, they shall be gathered together again to the lands of their inheritance’ (2 Nephi 6:11).” (CR, April 1977)

Next Week:

February 26–March 3

2 Nephi 11–19

"His Name Shall Be Called... The Prince  
Of Peace"

