

January 24–30

Moses 7

“The Lord Called His People Zion”



Enoch Preaches the Gospel

Moses 7:1,9-12

Why did Enoch refrain from teaching the gospel to the Canaanites?

Moses 6:57-60

57 Wherefore teach it unto your children, that all men, everywhere, must repent, or they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God, for no unclean thing can dwell there, or dwell in his presence; for, in the language of Adam, Man of Holiness is his name, and the name of his Only Begotten is the Son of Man, even Jesus Christ, a righteous Judge, who shall come in the meridian of time.

58 Therefore I give unto you a commandment, to teach these things freely unto your children, saying:

59 That by reason of transgression cometh the fall, which fall bringeth death, and inasmuch as ye were born into the world by water, and blood, and the spirit, which I have made, and so became of dust a living soul, even so ye must be born again into the kingdom of heaven, of water, and of the Spirit, and be cleansed by blood, even the blood of mine Only Begotten; that ye might be sanctified from all sin, and enjoy the words of eternal life in this world, and eternal life in the world to come, even immortal glory;

60 For by the water ye keep the commandment; by the Spirit ye are justified, and by the blood ye are sanctified;

Enoch Preachs the Gospel

Moses 7:7-8,15,22

Why did Enoch refrain from teaching the gospel to the Canaanites?

We have several examples of people in Old Testament times who are cursed by the Lord:

It seems that the people of Canaan were cursed for destroying the people of Shum

Cain was cursed for murdering Abel (Gen. 4:11-12)

Lamech was cursed for murdering for the oath's sake (Moses 5:52)

And in verse 15 it states that all the people that fought against God were cursed

Enoch and Zion

Moses 7:13,16-21

They did “the Lord [call] his people Zion”?

What did the Lord promise Enoch about the people Zion”?

D. Todd Christofferson

"Zion is Zion because of the character, attributes, and faithfulness of her citizens. Remember, 'the Lord called his people Zion, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there was no poor among them.' If we would establish Zion in our homes, branches, wards, and stakes, we must rise to this standard. It will be necessary (1) to become unified in one heart and one mind; (2) to become, individually and collectively, a holy people; and (3) to care for the poor and needy with such effectiveness that we eliminate poverty among us. We cannot wait until Zion comes for these things to happen—Zion will come only as they happen." (CR, Oct. 2008)

Keith B. McMullin

"The ancient prophet Enoch labored many years to bring his people to this state of righteousness. Like our day, they also lived in a time of wickedness, wars, and bloodshed. But the righteous people responded. 'And the Lord called his people Zion, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there was no poor among them.'

"Take special note of the word because in this scripture. Zion is established and flourishes because of the God-inspired lives and labors of its citizens. Zion comes not as a gift but because virtuous covenant people are drawn together and build it.... Gathered in the Lord's appointed way, Latter-day Saints conscientiously strive to bring forth Zion as the 'kingdom of our God and his Christ,' preparatory to the Lord's Second Coming." (CR, Oct. 2002)

Brigham Young

"I live and walk in Zion every day, and so do thousands of others in this Church and kingdom, they carry Zion with them, they have one of their own, and it is increasing, growing, and spreading continually. Suppose it spreads from heart to heart, from neighborhood to neighborhood, from city to city, and from nation to nation, how long would it be before the earth would become revolutionized." (JD, 1:5-6)

Virginia H. Pearce

"The people of the city of Enoch are remembered by us as so good—so incredibly good—that the whole city was taken up into heaven. But if we read carefully we see that the city of Zion was taken up into heaven 'in process of time.' Just like the pioneers, just like you and me, it must have been a process of walking forward, step by step, over a long period of time." (CR, April 1997)

Joseph Smith

“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. But we consider that this is a station to which no man ever arrived in a moment.” (TPJS, pg. 51)

The Lord Weeps Because of wickedness

Moses 7:28-31

Why is Enoch so surprised that God is weeping?

The Lord Weeps

Moses 7:32-33,36-37

Why was the Lord weeping?

Marion D. Hanks

"God, from whom all blessings come, asked of his children only that they should love each other and choose him, their Father.

"But as in our day, many neither sought the Lord nor had love for each other, and when God foresaw the suffering that would inevitably follow this self-willed, rebellious course of sin, he wept. That, he told Enoch, was what he had to cry about." (CR, April 1980)

The Lord Weeps

Moses 7:38-40

How long will those who repent in the spirit prison be in torment?

Why are they in torment?

George Q. Cannon

"Those millions of spirits who had thus committed sin and iniquity until it could be borne no longer, until the earth groaned under their wickedness,... were swept away from the face of the earth, and consigned to a place of torment, or to a prison. In this prison they were immured, doubtless in utter darkness—in the condition that is so expressly described by the Savior Himself, when upon the earth—in outer darkness, where there is weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth, a place of torment, where they were kept until the Savior Himself came in the flesh, and proclaimed unto the children of men the Gospel of life and salvation." (JD, 26:77)

1 Peter 3:18-20

18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

Enoch Perceives the Yearnings of the Earth

Moses 7:48-50

Why is the earth weary and in pain?

What should we focus on to truly help the earth, “the mother of men”?

Spencer W. Kimball

"I have traveled much in various assignments over the years, and when I pass through the lovely countryside or fly over the vast and beautiful expanses of our globe, I compare these beauties with many of the dark and miserable practices of men, and I have the feeling that the good earth can hardly bear our presence upon it....

"The Brethren constantly cry out against that which is intolerable in the sight of the Lord: against pollution of mind, body, and our surroundings; against vulgarity, stealing, lying, pride, and blasphemy; against fornication, adultery, homosexuality, and all other abuses of the sacred power to create; against murder and all that is like unto it; against all manner of desecration." ("The False Gods We Worship," Ensign, June 1976)

Orson Pratt

"The earth itself has groaned under the load of sin and corruption which has been upon its face.... But the time will come, when it will be sanctified. We are living near that period of time. It is for this purpose you have come to these mountains. It is for this purpose you have received the spirit of truth, the Holy Ghost, the comforter, to sanctify you, and prepare you to take part in this great work of the latter days, which God has decreed from the beginning should come to pass in its time and season." (JD, 21:205)

Events Leading to the Second Coming and Millennium

Moses 7:61-62-66

What does the Lord say about the wickedness that will be prevalent in the last days?

But what does the Lord promise concerning those who seek after Him in the last days?

L. Aldin Porter

"The Lord, of course, saw our day. He saw the devastating effects of transgression. And He prophesied that He would provide protection for His people. He spoke to Enoch of the last days—the days of wickedness and vengeance—and He said,... 'Truth will I send forth out of the earth'? To do what? 'To bear testimony of mine Only Begotten.'

"The Book of Mormon was compiled and translated for our day. It came forth out of the earth as was prophesied to bless and guide the lives of the people of this day. It came in a day and time as the Lord knew it would when the dislocations caused by wickedness would be very intense." (CR, April 2001)

Ezra Taft Benson

"The Book of Mormon is the instrument that God designed to sweep the earth as with a flood, to gather out [His] elect.' This sacred volume of scripture needs to become more central in our preaching, our teaching, and our missionary work." (CR, Oct. 1988)

Events Leading to the Second Coming and Millennium

Moses 7:63,64-65

John Taylor

"Enoch was caught up to heaven and his Zion with him. And we are told in latter revelation in relation to these matters that a Zion will be built up in our day; that great trouble will overtake the inhabitants of the earth; and that when the time arrives, the Zion that was caught up will descend, and the Zion that will be organized here will ascend, both possessed of the same spirit, their peoples having been preserved by the power of God according to His purposes and as His children, to take part in the events of the latter days. We are told that when the people of these two Zions meet, they will fall on each others' necks, and embrace and kiss each other." (JD, 25:303)

Events Leading to the Second Coming and Millennium

Moses 7:67-69

Next Week:

January 31–February 6

Genesis 6–11; Moses 8

“Noah Found Grace in the Eyes of the Lord”

