

Class 02

Book of Mormon Class

Living Hope Congregation, Independence, MO.

Last week—Whose Heart?



House of Israel

Jews

Lamanites

Nephites

Gentiles

All Groups presented with God....







Ancient Israel? - HARDENED HEARTS TO GOD!

The Jews? - HARDENED HEARTS TO GOD!

The Lamanites? - HARDENED HEARTS TO GOD!

The Nephites? - - HARDENED HEARTS TO GOD!

The Gentiles? - - HARDENED HEARTS TO GOD!





Ancient Israel? - GIVEN A CHANCE TO REPENT

The Jews? - GIVEN A CHANCE TO REPENT

The Lamanites? - GIVEN A CHANCE TO REPENT

The Nephites? - - GIVEN A CHANCE TO REPENT

The Gentiles? - - GIVEN A CHANCE TO REPENT

Lehi warns Laman/Lemuel

2 Nephi 1

31 My heart hath been weighed down with sorrow from time to time, for I have feared lest for the hardness of your hearts, lest the Lord your God should come out in <u>the fullness of His wrath</u> upon you – that ye be <u>cut off and destroyed forever</u>.

32 <u>Or that a cursing should come upon you for the space of many generations</u>. And ye are <u>visited by sword and by famine</u>. <u>And are hated and are led according to the will and captivity of the devil</u>.

33 "O my sons, that these things might not come upon you. But that ye might be a choice and a favored people of the Lord!

Lehi Offers Blessing to Lamans Children

2 Nephi 3

6 Wherefore, after my father had made an end of speaking concerning the prophecies of Joseph, he called the children of Laman, his sons and his daughters, and saith unto them:

Lehi Offers Blessing to Lamans Children

2 Nephi 3 10 "But behold, my sons and my daughters, I cannot go down to my grave save I should leave a blessing upon you;

11 For behold, I know that if ye are brought up in the right way that ye should go, ye will not depart from it;

Lehi Offers Blessing to Laman's Children

2 Nephi 3 12 Wherefore, if ye are cursed, <u>behold</u>, <u>I leave</u> <u>my blessing upon you that the cursing may be</u> <u>taken from you and be answered upon the</u> <u>heads of your parents</u>;

13 Wherefore, <u>because of my blessing, the</u> Lord God will not suffer that ye shall perish; Wherefore, He will be merciful unto you and unto your seed forever."

The Afikomen..



The Afikomen..

Based on the Mishnah in Pesahim 119b, the **afikoman** is a substitute for the **Passover sacrifice**, which was the last thing eaten at the **Passover** meal



See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Afikoman

The Afikomen..

Based on the Mishnah in Pesahim 119b, the **afikoman** is a substitute for the **Passover sacrifice**, which was the last thing eaten at the **Passover** meal



For any kids at the table, though, it's a game: after the meal, they're sent running to hunt for the hidden afikomen. It's sort of like hide-and-seek, but with religious significance. The kids bring it back to the table and everyone shares a bite — sometimes after giving the child who found it a small reward, like a piece of candy.

See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Afikoman

What about the Afikomen?



3 pieces are taken out...the middle one is broken and that piece is wrapped in a napkin before being hidden.

Found by the children, shared with the family

By tradition, No other food is eaten after the Afikomen

--The Jews do not depart from Christ after their return

Lehi Symbolizes the Afikomen in his Blessing

The <u>Children</u> of Laman and Lemuel Find Christ.

This is the event that begins the change.

This is what the Book of Mormon teaches.

<u>The CHANGE BEGINS WHEN THE LAMANITES</u> <u>FIND CHRIST AND THEIR HEARTS CHANGE.</u>



What Happened?



Ancient Israel? 1500 BC-750 BC - SUFFERED SCATTERING The Nephites? - -400 AD... GENOCIDE

The Jews? 600 BC - 1948 AD - CAST OUT, WANDERERS, HOLOCAUST

The Lamanites? 1500 AD....AMERICAN HOLOCAUST, EVENTUALLY HERDED TO RESERVATIONS, LOSS OF IDENTITY

HERDED IN RESERVATIONS, LUSS OF IDENTITY

The Gentiles? 2??? - - There is no plot twist...Prophetic forecast: **SUFFER WORSE THAN ALL**

OULTRY MARDE INAN ALL

The record of the Book of Mormon...

- Josephs lineage....what were they known for?
- Book of Mormon writers were hand picked—for us.
- Some of These men could command mountains and oceans.
- Typographical errors and even a few changes occurred, but put back to original in recent RCE edition.
- The word was not tampered by culture or time like the Bible
- Errors were NOT in doctrine.
- We were given a standard.
- AND WE WERE GIVEN A WARNING...

King Benjamin Taught

Mosiah 1:

7 I say unto you my sons, were it not for these things which have been kept and preserved by the hand of God, that we might read and understand of His mysteries and have His commandments always before our eyes, That even our fathers would have dwindled in unbelief;

8 And we should have been like unto our brethren, <u>the Lamanites, which</u> <u>know nothing concerning these things</u>, Or even do not believe them when they are taught them, because of the traditions of their fathers which are not correct.

9 "O my sons, <u>I would that ye should remember that these sayings are true</u>, and also that these records are true,

Mormon Wrote

Mormon 4

21 Yea, it shall be brought out of the earth,

And it shall shine forth out of darkness and come unto the knowledge of the people,

And it shall be done by the power of God;

And if there be faults, they be faults of a man.

22 But behold, we know no fault;

Nevertheless, God knoweth all things; Therefore, he that condemneth, let him beware lest he shall be in danger of hell fire.



8 And now if there be fault, it be the mistake of men;

<u>Wherefore, condemn not the things of God, that ye may be found</u> spotless at the judgment seat of Christ. Moroni

Nephi begins...

<u>1 Nephi 1</u>

2 And <u>I know that the record which I make to be true.</u>And I make it with mine own hand.And I make it according to my knowledge.

Nephi ends...

<u>2 Nephi 15</u> 11 And now my beloved brethren, and also Jew and all ye ends of the earth, Hearken unto these words and believe in Christ; And if ye believe not in these words, believe in Christ;

<u>12 And if ye shall believe in Christ, ye will believe in these words,</u> for they are the words of Christ and He hath given them unto me; And they teach all men that they should do good.

13 <u>And if they are not the words of Christ, judge ye</u>, For Christ will show unto you with power and great glory that they are His words at the last day;

Mormon writes...

3 Nephi 2

94 Therefore, I have made my record of these things according to the record of Nephi which was engraven on the plates which were called the plates of Nephi;

95 And behold, I do make the record on plates which I have made with mine own hands.

101 And <u>I know the record which I make to be a just and a true record;</u> Nevertheless, there are many things which, according to our language, we are not able to write;

Warning to all....

2 Nephi 12:33

And in fine,

wo unto all they that tremble and are angry because of the truth of <u>God.</u>

2 Nephi 15:6

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.

Warning to all....

Ether 1:102

And he that will contend against the word of the Lord,

let him be accursed;

And he that shall deny these things,

let him be **accursed**;

For unto them will I show no greater things, saith Jesus Christ, For I Am He which speaketh.

THIS RECORD BECOMES THE STANDARD

2 Nephi 12:44

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;

This record was to guide us....

DC 83:8b And this <u>condemnation</u> resteth upon the children of Zion, <u>even all</u>;

and they shall remain under this condemnation

until they repent and remember the new covenant even

the Book of Mormon

and the former commandments which I have given them, not only to say, but to do according to that which I have written,

These things NEVER come without warning.

But were the Gentiles warned???

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Just saw this yesterday....
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Omitted words from DC 5, contained in the Book of Commandments.

It is a warning to the Gentiles.....

Before 'Doctrine and Covenants'

Was a smaller book, called 'The Book of Commandments'

Book of Commandments -1829-Words Missing from DC 5

5 And thus, if the people of this generation <u>harden not their hearts</u>, I will work a reformation among them,

and I will put down all lyings, and deceivings, and priestcrafts, and envyings,

and strifes, and idolatries, and sorceries,

and all manner of iniquities.

And I will establish my church, like unto the church which was taught by my disciples in the days of old.

Book of Commandments -1829-Words Missing from DC 5

6 And now <u>if this generation do harden their hearts</u> against <u>my word</u>,

behold I will deliver them up unto satan,

for he reigneth and hath much power at this time,

for he hath got great hold upon the hearts of the people of this generation:

and not far from the iniquities of Sodom and Gomorrah

<u>do they come at this time:</u>

and behold the sword of justice hangeth over their heads,

and if they persist in the hardness of their hearts,

the time cometh that it must fall upon them.

https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/book-of-commandments-1833/15

The Gentiles were warned....

2 Nephi 12

50 O ye Gentiles, have ye remembered the Jews, Mine ancient covenant people?

51 Nay! but ye have cursed them and have hated them and have not sought to recover them;

52 But behold, <u>I will return all these things upon your own heads.</u> <u>For I, the Lord, hath not forgotten My people.</u> <u>Before Gentile Conquest, Lamanite</u> <u>Descendants Enjoyed Longevity</u>

- Commonly lived to be 100 years and over
- Ate squash, meat, drank water.
- No sugar or bad oils.
- Culture was pro-fasting.





Since the Gentile Conquest....

Native American General Population Now...

- In the end of 1500s estimated 20-50 million Americans killed by Europeans and their diseases.
- Today they have shortest life span
- Now given the food of the Gentiles.
- Highest rate of diabetes on the planet.
- Consumed the rations given by their conquerors.
 - Fry bread was food of oppression and suffering.
- Forced identity separation.
- Largely without God and lacking moral boundaries.
- Left Dwindling in unbelief...dwindling in life.

Now....dwindling physically/spiritually



What is the promise?



- All have a promise
- Here is how it plays out....
- THEIR CHILDREN'S HEARTS CHANGE TO CHRIST
- THEN THEY COME BACK TO CHRIST
- Grafting meant to be gathered 'Spiritually' and then 'Physically'
- THEY ARE REUNITED WITH THE WORDS OF THEIR FATHERS
- THEY ARE REUNITED WITH THE GOD OF THEIR FATHERS.

His purpose in Restoring Israel??

<u>1 Nephi 7</u>

24 And they shall be brought out of obscurity and out of darkness;

25 And <u>they shall know that the Lord is their Savior</u> and their Redeemer, the Mighty One of Israel.





42 That the Father may bring about through His most Beloved His great and eternal purpose in the 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;



43 And also that the seed of this people may more fully believe His gospel which shall go forth unto them from the Gentiles.



44 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;



45 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.



46 They were once a delightsome people and <u>they</u> <u>had Christ for their Shepherd, yea, they were led,</u> <u>even by God the Father;</u>



47 But now behold, <u>they are led about by Satan, even</u> <u>as chaff is driven before the wind</u>, 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.



48 And behold, the Lord hath reserved their blessing, which they might have received in the land, for the Gentiles which shall possess the land.

49 But behold, it shall come to pass that they shall be driven and scattered by the Gentiles; <u>And after that</u> <u>they have been driven and scattered by the Gentiles,</u> <u>Behold, then will the Lord remember the covenant</u> <u>which He made unto Abraham and unto all the house</u> <u>of Israel;</u>

50 And also <u>the Lord will remember the prayers of</u> <u>the righteous which hath been put up unto Him for</u> <u>them</u>.

51 And then, O ye Gentiles, how can ye stand before the power of God except ye shall repent and turn from your evil ways?

The Promise and Process explained by 'Grafting'

1 Nephi 4:16

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 that the Messiah hath manifested Himself in body unto the children of

<u>men</u>,

Then shall the fullness of the gospel of the Messiah come unto the Gentiles,

And from the Gentiles unto the remnant of our seed.

Remember, the words were written to....

The Gentiles yes, but primarily the Lamanites....

Title Page 1:2

Written to the Lamanites

which are a remnant of the house of Israel,

And also to Jew and Gentile.

Remember, the words were written to....

The Gentiles yes, but primarily the Lamanites....

Jarom 1:2 And as these plates are small. And as these things are written for the intent of the benefit of our brethren the Lamanites, Wherefore, it must needs be that I write a little....

Remember, the words were written to....

The Gentiles yes, but primarily the Lamanites....

Moroni 1:4

Wherefore, I write a few more things, contrary to that which I had supposed.

For I had supposed not to have written any more.

But I write a <u>few more things that perhaps they may</u> <u>be of worth unto my brethren the Lamanites in</u> <u>some future day,</u> according to the will of the Lord.

Each has a covenant

- Jews
- House of Israel
- Lamanites
- Gentiles

Jews...

• They <u>Come to Christ First</u>.....<u>then</u> they believe these things.



Jews...The Book of Mormon tells the Sequence

2 Nephi 11:27

And when that day shall come that they shall believe in Christ,

And worship the Father in His name with pure hearts and clean hands,

And look not forward anymore for another Messiah –

<u>And then at that time</u>, the day will come that it must needs be expedient that they should **believe these things**.



Jews...The Book of Mormon tells the Sequence

2 Nephi 11

28 <u>And the Lord will set His hand again the second time</u> to restore His people from their lost and fallen state;

29 Wherefore, He will proceed to do a marvelous work and a wonder among the children of men.

30 Wherefore, <u>He shall bring forth His words unto them</u>, which words shall judge them at the last day,



Learning from Lamanites long ago

- THEIR HEARTS CHANGED
- The King exclaimed:

"What shall I do that I may have this eternal life of which thou hast spoken? Yea, what shall I do <u>that I may be born of God</u>,

having this wicked spirit rooted out of my breast and receive his Spirit,

that I may be filled with joy,

that I may not be cast off at the last day?"

- THEIR HEARTS CHANGED
- The King exclaimed:

 "O Lord, have mercy according to Thy abundant mercy which Thou hast had upon the people of Nephi, have upon me and my people!"

- THEIR HEARTS CHANGED
- The Queen exclaimed:
 - "O blessed Jesus who has saved me from an awful hell! O blessed God, have mercy on this people!"

- THEIR HEARTS CHANGED
- The King exclaimed:

O God, Aaron hath told me that there is a God;

And if there is a God and if Thou art God, wilt Thou make Thyself known unto me?

And I will **give away all my sins to know Thee** and that I may be raised from the dead and be saved at the last day!"

THEIR HEARTS CHANGED

Murderers exclaimed:

108 And it came to pass that they all did begin to cry unto the voice of Him which had shook the earth; <u>Yea, they did cry even until the cloud of darkness was dispersed.</u>

109 And it came to pass that when they cast their eyes about and saw that the cloud of darkness was dispersed from overshadowing them, And behold, they saw that they were encircled about, yea, every soul, by a pillar of fire;

THEIR HEARTS CHANGED

Murderers exclaimed:

111 And behold, the Holy Spirit of God did come down from heaven and did enter into their hearts, <u>And they were filled as if with fire</u>; And they could speak forth marvelous words.

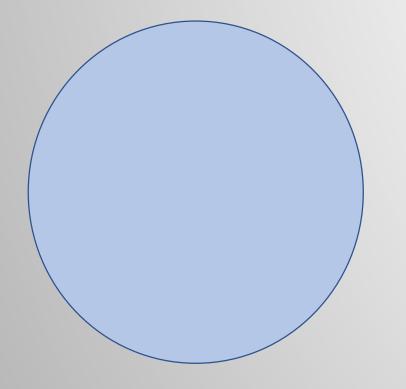
112 And it came to pass that there came a voice unto them, yea, a pleasant voice, as if it were a whisper, saying: "<u>Peace, peace be unto</u> you because of your faith in My Well-Beloved which was from the foundation of the world."

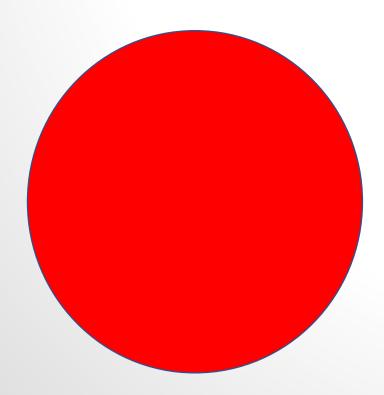
The Broad Conversion Begins....

114 And there were <u>about three hundred souls which saw and heard</u> <u>these things</u>; And they were bid to go forth and marvel not, neither should they doubt.

115 And it came to pass that <u>they did go forth and did minister unto</u> <u>the people</u>, Declaring <u>throughout all the regions round about all the</u> <u>things which they had heard and seen</u>, <u>Insomuch that the more part of the Lamanites were convinced of</u> <u>them because of the greatness of the evidences which they had</u> <u>received</u>;

Two Circles





Don't be persuaded just by what someone says is true, even Al.....

A.I. can be wrong....

Al potentially gives what Gentiles Love

• Knowledge....

Al potentially gives what Gentiles Love

• Knowledge....

 But can't give the Holy Ghost, which brings wisdom and understanding