<u>Romans 11:25</u> For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits, that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the **fullness** of the Gentiles be come in.

Mormon 2:51 And then, O ye Gentiles, how can ye stand before the power of God, except ye shall repent and turn from your evil ways!

Mormon 1:82 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; Demographic History of Jerusalem Shows population return exactly as promised

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographic history of Jerusalem

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographic history of Jerusalem#/media/File:Population of Jerusalem by ethnicity.svg

http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/demograhics.html

Demographics of Israel: Population of Israel/Palestine

(1553 - Present)

Demographics: <u>Table of Contents</u> | <u>Israelis, by Origins</u> | <u>Population of Jerusalem</u>

	1553	1800	1915	1922	1945	1967	2005	2013
	Ottoman Palestine			British Mandate		Israel		
Muslims		246,300	590,000	590,890	1,061,27 0	289,600	1,140,60 0	1,658,00
Jews		24,000	83,000	83,794	553,600	2,383,60	5,313,80 0	6,042,00

Christians/ Others		21,800	17,000	82,498	149,650	103,100	261,600	318,000
Total	205,000	275,000	689,275	757,182	1,764,52 0	2,776,30	6,990,70 0	8,018,00

Joseph Smith--how did he know?

The sign--

<u>3 Nephi 9:93</u> 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.

The big sign:

First, Last

Matthew 19:30 But many of the first shall be last, and the last first.

<u>Matthew 20:9</u> So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard said unto his steward, Call the laborers and give them their hire, beginning from the **last** unto the **first**.

Matthew 20:15 So the last shall be first, and the first last, for many are called, but few chosen.

<u>Luke 13:30</u> And, behold, there are **last** which shall be **first**, and there are **first** which shall be **last**, and shall be saved therein.

<u>1 Nephi 3:192</u> 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:

1 Nephi 3:200 And the last shall be first, and the first shall be last.

<u>1 Nephi 6:19</u> Hearken unto me, O Jacob, and Israel, my called; for I am he; I am the **first**, and I am also the **last**.

<u>Jacob 3:127</u> Graft in the branches; begin at the <u>last</u>, that they may be <u>first</u>, and that the <u>first</u> may be <u>last</u>, and dig about the trees, both old and young, the <u>first</u> and the <u>last</u>, and the <u>last</u> and the <u>first</u>, that all may be nourished once again for the <u>last</u> time.

Ether 6:13 And when these things come, bringeth to pass the scripture which saith, There are

they who were **first**, who shall be **last**; and there are they who were **last**, who shall be **first**.

<u>DC 85:14c</u> and thus they all received the light of the countenance of their lord; every man in his hour, and in his time, and in his season; beginning at the **first**, and so on unto the **last**, and from the **last** unto the **first** unto the **last**:

<u>DC 85:19b</u> tarry ye, tarry ye in this place, and call a solemn assembly, even of those who are the **first** laborers in this **last** kingdom; and let those whom they have warned in their traveling, call on the Lord, and ponder the warning in their hearts which they have received, for a little season.

Mormon's words:

- **Mormon 2:37** 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.
- 2:38 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.
- 2:39 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.
- **2:40** 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.
- 2:41 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;
- 2:42 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,
- **2:43** And also that the seed of this people may more fully believe his gospel, which shall go forth unto them from the Gentiles;
- **2:44** 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.
- **2:45** 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.
- **2:46** They were once a delightsome people, and they had Christ for their Shepherd; yea, they were led even by God, the Father.
- 2:47 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.

- 2:48 And behold, the Lord hath reserved their blessings, which they might have received in the land, for the Gentiles who shall possess the land.
- 2:49 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.
- 2:50 And also the Lord will remember the prayers of the righteous, which have been put up unto him for them.
- 2:51 And then, O ye Gentiles, how can ye stand before the power of God, except ye shall repent and turn from your evil ways!

Mark Twain in 1867

Mark Twain who visited Israel in 1867 described it like this in *Innocents Abroad*:

We traversed some miles of desolate country whose soil is rich enough but is given wholly to weeds - a silent, mournful expanse... A desolation is here that not even imagination can grace with the pomp of life and action. We reached Tabor safely... We never saw a human being on the whole route. We pressed on toward the goal of our crusade, renowned Jerusalem. The further we went the hotter the sun got and the more rocky and bare, repulsive and dreary the landscape became... There was hardly a tree or a shrub anywhere. Even the olive and the cactus, those fast friends of a worthless soil, had almost deserted the country. No landscape exists that is more tiresome to the eye than that which bounds the approaches to Jerusalem... Jerusalem is mournful, dreary and lifeless. I would not desire to live here. It is a hopeless, dreary, heartbroken land... Palestine sits in sackcloth and ashes."