

Learning 'Zion' from the Book of Mormon...Part 2

Answering a Plea for Help

At the meeting

Attendee question: “why 3 Nephi 9/10 (LDS 3 Nephi 21) contradicts the group discussion regarding Zion.” (paraphrased)

Response (opinion) that “those events already happened,” and Book of Mormon scripture was dismissed.

We disagree.

After the meeting

An email with a seeming desperate plea:

“...It is not difficult to look back in recent years and see the declining participation in the (elders meetings) and other activities sponsored by the (restoration leadership).

It has become increasingly difficult to fill the quorums so that they can operate effectively.

We could spend hours, or even days postulating on the reason behind this decline. Perhaps life has become busier than in times past? Perhaps it seems to some that the CRE has drifted away from the purpose for which it was formed?

Whatever the reason may be, the fact remains that, much like the Restoration Branches themselves, **if we continue on our current path, we will continue to dwindle into obscurity....”**

How can the Restoration Turn this Around?

Teach the Book of Mormon

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Teach the Book of Mormon instead of Tradition

The Book of Mormon Teaches:

- Jesus IS God. He is the Creator.
- God took on Flesh becoming Jesus. Jesus, God, Holy Ghost one.
- Only One 'Level of Salvation' Exists
- Salvation comes because of Repentance from Sin.
- Repentance occurs ONLY in The Day of this Life.
- Covenants with Abraham lead to Zion
- We are the Gentiles of the Book of Mormon.

But What Does the Church Teach?

- Three Gods. Jesus and God and Holy Ghost are separate Beings.
- God did not become Jesus, but Sent Jesus because he Gave God the Honor.
- Infinite Levels of Salvation Exist.
- Salvation comes by works, better works =higher reward.
- A Prison House exists after this life for repentance.
- Covenants with Enoch lead to Zion.
- We are Israel.

How can the Restoration Turn this Around?

Teach the Book of Mormon instead of Tradition

The Book of Mormon Teaches:

- Gentiles are temporary Stewards of the Book of Mormon.
- The Gospel will be Taken from the Gentiles for rejecting God, and given back to the House of Israel
- Gentiles will face God's fierce judgment.
- The New Jerusalem (Earthly city) is not built until the Remnant of Joseph in this Land return to Christ.
- (After) Jesus Establishes his church among Gentiles.
- Repentant Gentiles assist Joseph's Remnant building New Jerusalem.
- Jerusalem of Old Re-established.
- Gospel goes to the world

But What Does the Church Teach?

- We own the Gospel as the church persists to the end of time.
- We become Israel by joining the church.
- Baptism is for church membership.
- This church of Gentiles builds Zion.
- Enoch City comes to Zion in Independence.
- The world is excluded unless you join 'the church', (Alfred White's ring of fire around Zion.)

How can the Restoration Turn this Around?

Teach the Book of Mormon instead of Tradition

The Book of Mormon Teaches:

- God Gave Gentiles the Book of Mormon to know to come to Jesus by repentance.
- Jesus gave His doctrine in the Book of Mormon. He never said it would be added to again or changed.
- The church are those who have repented of sin.

But What Does the Church Teach?

- God Gave us (Israel) the Book of Mormon because we are going to build Zion.
- All these above are New Doctrines-- came from Gentile men (Baptism for dead, polygamy, temple ordinances, multiple gods, multiple levels of salvation, etc.)
- The church are those who align with a story about Joseph Smith.

Bottom Line:

You teach a Zion and Doctrine that will never exist.

The 'Zion' that will exist is taught in the Book of Mormon.

Jesus Teaches the words leading to Zion.

Recovery means:

Recognize the truth of the Book of Mormon.

Change your message to teach the Book of Mormon.

Six Suggested Steps to Recovery

1. Teach we are the Gentiles. The Gentiles must learn true repentance from Sin.

The Book of Mormon Teaches who we are

Title Page 1

Intro: THE BOOK OF MORMON An account written by the hand of Mormon upon plates taken from the plates of Nephi.....

2 Written to the Lamanites which are a remnant of the house of Israel,
And also to Jew and Gentile.

.....

4 Written and sealed up and hid up unto the Lord, that they might not be destroyed, To come forth by the gift and power of God, unto the interpretation thereof;

Sealed by the hand of Moroni and hid up unto the Lord To come forth in due time by the way of Gentile,



the interpretation thereof by the gift of God ...

We who first received the Book of Mormon.... Are GENTILES.

Important to realize we are Not Israel.

We won't understand the message of the Book of Mormon if we don't realize we are the GENTILES of whom it speaks.

When the Book of Mormon speaks of Israel or Remnants of Israel, we are NOT Them.

Nephi called Immigrants from England Gentiles

- [1 Nephi 3:151](#) / [LDS: 1 Nephi 13:15](#)

*And I beheld the **Spirit of the Lord**, that it was upon the **Gentiles**, that they did prosper and obtain the land for their inheritance; And I beheld that they were white and exceeding fair and beautiful, like unto my people before that they were slain.*

- [1 Nephi 3:153](#) / [LDS: 1 Nephi 13:17](#)

*And I beheld that their **mother Gentiles** were **gathered together upon the waters**, and upon the land also, to battle against them;*

We who first received the Book of Mormon.... Are GENTILES.

Why do some call ourselves 'Israel?'

Book of Mormon teaches:

Gentiles will be '**numbered among**' Israel, but don't become Israel.

[3 Nephi 7:38](#) / [LDS: 3 Nephi 16:13](#)

'But if the **Gentiles will repent** and return unto Me, ' saith the Father, 'Behold, **they shall be numbered among My people, O house of Israel;**

Six Suggested Steps to Recovery

1. Teach we are the Gentiles. The Gentiles must learn true repentance from Sin.
2. Teach we are only temporary Stewards over the Gospel

The Gospel will be Taken. Why? For Rejecting the Book of Mormon

[3 Nephi 7:34-36](#) / [LDS: 3 Nephi 16:10](#)

"And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you: '

At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against My gospel,

And shall reject the fullness of My gospel,

And shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations and above all the people of the whole earth,

And if they shall do all these things,

And shall reject the fullness of My gospel,

Behold, ' saith the Father, 'I will bring the fullness of My gospel from among them;

And then will I remember My covenant which I have made unto My people, O house of Israel,

And I will bring My gospel unto them;

Six Suggested Steps to Recovery

1. Teach we are the Gentiles. The Gentiles must learn true repentance from Sin.
2. Teach we are only temporary Stewards over the Gospel
3. Teach The Gospel returns to Joseph's remnant. They will have power over the Gentiles who rejected the Fullness of Jesus Gospel.

3 Nephi 9 Overview—These are JESUS WORDS

Jesus Takes the Gospel back to the Remnant.

Remnant believe in Christ again. They receive the New Jerusalem (Earthly.)

- They will have power over the Gentiles.
- Repentant Gentiles assist Josephs Remnant

The Gospel returns to the Jews and all of House of Israel.

Old Jerusalem becomes a Holy City also.

3 Nephi 9 Explains what happens. These are JESUS WORDS

The Remnant believe in Christ again. They will have power over the Gentiles.

[3 Nephi 9:49](#) / [LDS: 3 Nephi 20:13](#)then shall **the remnants** which shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the earth be gathered in - from the east and from the west, and from the south and from the north; And **they shall be brought to the knowledge of the Lord their God who hath redeemed them;**

50 And the Father hath commanded Me that I should give unto you this land for your inheritance.

51 "And I say unto you **that if the Gentiles do not repent** after the blessing which they shall receive after that they have scattered My people, **Then shall ye which are a remnant of the house of Jacob go forth among them;**

52 And ye shall be in the midst of them, which shall be many; **And ye shall be among them, as a lion among the beasts of the forest, and as a young lion among the flocks of sheep, Who, if he goeth through, both treadeth down and teareth in pieces, And none can deliver.**

Six Suggested Steps to Recovery

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3. Teach The Gospel returns to Joseph's remnant. They will have power over the Gentiles who rejected the Fullness of Jesus Gospel.
4. Realize God's Fierce Anger is upon the Gentiles.

3 Nephi 9:56 / LDS: 3 Nephi 20:20

And it shall come to pass, saith the Father,

'that **the sword of My justice shalt hang over them at that day;**

And except they repent, it shall fall upon them, saith the Father,

yea, even upon all the nations of the Gentiles.

3 Nephi 9:101 / LDS: 3 Nephi 21:15

"Yea, **wo be unto the Gentiles, except they repent.**

For **it shall come to pass** in that day, ' saith the Father,

That I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee,

And I will destroy thy chariots,

And I will cut off the cities of thy land

And throw down all thy strongholds.

Gentile Warning of Repentance stated Plainly.

[1 Nephi 3:210](#) / [LDS: 1 Nephi 14:5](#)

And it came to pass that the angel spake unto me, Nephi, saying: "Thou hast beheld that **if the Gentiles repent, it shall be well with them;**

[2 Nephi 12:77](#) / [LDS: 2 Nephi 30:2](#)

For behold I say unto you, **As many of the Gentiles as will repent are the covenant people of the Lord;** And as many of the Jews as will not **repent** shall be cast off;

[3 Nephi 7:38](#) / [LDS: 3 Nephi 16:13](#)

'**But if the Gentiles will repent and return unto Me,** ' saith the Father, '**Behold, they shall be numbered among My people, O house of Israel;**

[3 Nephi 9:51](#) / [LDS: 3 Nephi 20:16](#)

"And I say unto you that **if the Gentiles do not repent** after the blessing which they shall receive after that they have scattered My people, Then shall ye which are a remnant of the house of Jacob go forth among them;

[3 Nephi 9:56](#) / [LDS: 3 Nephi 20:20](#)

"And it shall come to pass, ' saith the Father, '**that the sword of My justice shalt hang over them at that day; And except they repent,** it shall fall upon them, ' saith the Father, 'yea, even upon all the nations of the **Gentiles.**'

Gentile Warning (continued)

[3 Nephi 9:101](#) / LDS: [3 Nephi 21:15](#)

"Yea, **wo be unto the Gentiles, except they repent!** 'For it shall come to pass in that day, ' saith the Father, 'That I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, And I will destroy thy chariots, And I will cut off the cities of thy land And throw down all thy strongholds.

[3 Nephi 14:2](#) / LDS: [3 Nephi 30:2](#)

"Turn, all ye **Gentiles**, from your wicked ways! And **repent of your evil doings** - of your lyings and deceivings, and your whoredoms, and of your secret abominations, and your idolatries, and of your murders, and your priestcrafts, and your envyings, and your strifes, and from all your wickedness and abominations –

[Mormon 2:51](#) / LDS: [Mormon 5:22](#)

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

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3. Teach The Gospel returns to Joseph's remnant. They will have power over the Gentiles who rejected the Fullness of Jesus Gospel.
4. Realize God's Fierce Anger is upon the Gentiles.
5. Realize it is the Remnant who has the promise to build the New Jerusalem (Earthly city that Jesus Comes to)

The Remnant Receive the New Jerusalem.
Jesus is in the Midst. (Enoch never mentioned)

[3 Nephi 9:57](#) / [LDS: 3 Nephi 20:21](#)

And it shall come to pass that I will establish My people, O house of Israel.

58 And behold, **this people will I establish in this land, unto the fulfilling of the covenant which I made with your father Jacob, And it shall be a New Jerusalem.**

59 And the powers of heaven shall be **in the midst of this people,**
Yea, even I will be in the midst of you.



Why is Jesus in the Midst?

This begins Jesus time of ministry called **'The Second Time.'** **This is the purpose of the New Jerusalem**

Isaiah, Nephi speak of this. (but alas, the Restoration does NOT).

Jesus sends out a few who teach His gospel to the world. Jesus manages this work.

Parable of the Olive Tree teaches this.

This restores the natural fruit in the vineyard.

Notice: for natural fruit, the wild branches are removed completely. This is the Gentile Influence on the gospel. It brought fruit, but none of it was good.

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4. Realize God's Fierce Anger is upon the Gentiles.
5. Realize it is the Remnant who has the promise to build the New Jerusalem (Earthly city that Jesus Comes to)
6. Realize Repentant Gentiles (hopefully that is us) ASSIST Joseph's Remnant