

THE BOOK OF MORMON
2 Nephi 10-11, 25-26

Introduction

2 Nephi 10:3

The word “Christ” is revealed; (Hebrew) Anointed One (BD 633)

“It was over 40 years after Lehi left Jerusalem that his son Jacob was visited by an angel who told him, for the first time in the Book of Mormon, that the Savior would be called Christ (2 Nephi 10:3). That name is used very frequently thereafter, for a total of 315 times in the Book of Mormon. The name Jesus is not introduced in the Book of Mormon until 2 Nephi 25:19, also more than 40 years after Lehi’s departure from Jerusalem... Beginning with this first reference, the name Jesus is found in common usage in the Book of Mormon, and it appears a total of 161 times.” (Kent P. Jackson, *Ensign*, February 2000, pg. 23)

The Jews were the more wicked part of the world — Christ took the most difficult missionary assignment

2 Nephi 10:4

(Mormon 4:12)

“I prophesy, in the name of the Lord God of Israel, anguish and wrath and tribulation and the withdrawing of the Spirit of God from the earth await this generation, until they are visited with utter desolation. This generation is as corrupt as the generation of the Jews that crucified Christ; and if He were here today, and should preach the same doctrine He did then, they would put Him to death.” (Joseph Smith, *TPJS*, pg. 328)

2 Nephi 10:5

Priestcraft is declared as the reason for the crucifixion of Christ.

2 Nephi 26:29-30 - “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.

Behold, the Lord hath forbidden this thing; wherefore, the Lord God hath given a commandment that all men should have charity, which charity is love...

“Priestcraft is the sin committed by the combination of a good act—such as preaching or teaching the gospel—and a bad motive. The act may be good and visible, but the sin is in the motive. On earth, the wrong motive may be known only to the actor, but in heaven it is always known to God.” (Dallin H. Oaks, *Pure in Heart*, pg. 16)

2 Nephi 10:6

1. destructions
2. famines
3. pestilences
4. bloodshed
5. scattered

1 Nephi 19:13-14 - “And as for those who are at Jerusalem, saith the prophet, they shall (6) be scourged by all people, because they crucify the God of Israel, and turn their hearts aside, rejecting signs and wonders, and the power and glory of the God of Israel. And because they turn their hearts aside, saith the prophet, and have despised the Holy One of Israel, they shall (7) wander in the flesh, and (8) perish, and (9) become a hiss and a byword, and be (10) hated among all nations.

2 Nephi 10:7

When... Then...

BOM Lesson 7 (Isaiah)

“It is not the place of gathering that will save the scattered remnants, but the message of salvation that comes to them in their Redeemer’s name... Salvation is not in a place but in a person. It is in Christ.” (Bruce R. McConkie, *Millennial Messiah*, pg. 200)

2 Nephi 10:8

Gathering always denotes to the House of the Lord

“What was the object of gathering the Jews, or the people of God in any age of the world?... The main object was to build unto the Lord a house whereby He could reveal unto His people the ordinances of His house and the glories of His kingdom, and teach the people the way of salvation; for there are certain ordinances and principles that, when they are taught and practiced, must be done in a place or house built for that purpose.

It was the design of the councils of heaven before the world was, that the principles and laws of the priesthood should be predicated upon the gathering of the people in every age of the world. Jesus did everything to gather the people, and they would not be gathered, and He therefore poured out curses upon them. Ordinances instituted in the heavens before the foundation of the world, in the priesthood, for the salvation of men, are not to be altered or changed. All must be saved on the same principles.

It is for the same purpose that God gathers together His people in the last days, to build unto the Lord a house to prepare them for the ordinances and endowments, washings and anointings, etc....

Why gather the people together in this place? For the same purpose that Jesus wanted to gather the Jews—to receive the ordinances, the blessings, and glories that God has in store for His Saints.” (Joseph Smith, *HC*, 5:423-424, 427)

Matthew 23:37-38 – “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.”

Alma 26:5 - “ Behold, the field was ripe, and blessed are ye, for ye did thrust in the sickle, and did reap with your might, yea, all the day long did ye labor; and behold the number of your sheaves! And they shall be gathered into the garners, that they are not wasted.”

“When the Lord directs us to ‘bring many souls unto me,’ this means bringing them all the way into the garner of the Church-not simply dropping them off just outside the door.... Clearly, when we baptize, our eyes should gaze beyond the baptismal font to the Holy Temple. The great garner into which the ‘sheaves’ should be finally gathered is the Holy Temple!” (Neal A. Maxwell, *Neal A. Maxwell Quote Book*, pg. 213)

2 Nephi 10:9

Nursing (Latin) = Foster

2 Nephi 10:16

“In this war all who do not stand forth courageously and valiantly are by that fact alone aiding the cause of the enemy. “They who are not for me are against me, saith our God.” (2 Nephi 10:16)

We are either for the Church or we are against it. We either take its part or we take the consequences. We cannot survive spiritually with one foot in the Church and the other in the world. We must make the choice. It is either the Church or the world. There is no middle ground. And the Lord loves a courageous man who fights openly and boldly in his army.” (Bruce R. McConkie, *Ensign*, November 1974, pg. 34)

2 Nephi 11

It would naturally flow that if one desires to bring another to the Messiah that he would quote references about the Messiah - - therefore, ISAIAH!

Note: If you put together all the verses of Isaiah quoted in the Book of Mormon, it would be the 4th largest book. Alma, Mosiah, 3 Nephi, and then - Isaiah

Nephi’s 5 Reasons to Cite Isaiah

1. My soul delighteth in his words (11:2)

BOM Lesson 7 (Isaiah)

2. I liken his words unto my people (11:2)

1 Nephi 19:23 - “And I did read many things unto them which were written in the books of Moses; but that I might more fully persuade them to believe in the Lord their Redeemer I did read unto them that which was written by the prophet Isaiah; for I did liken all scriptures unto us, that it might be for our profit and learning.”

3. To prove unto them that my words are true (11:3)

4. By the words of three, I will establish my word, [Nephi, Isaiah, Jacob] (11:3)

This is likened unto the three witnesses of the Book of Mormon – Oliver, David and Martin.

“I am suggesting that Nephi, Jacob, and Isaiah are three early types and shadows of Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, and Martin Harris—witnesses positioned right at the front of the book where Oliver, David, and Martin (who in spite of their later difficulties remained true to their testimony) would later be positioned. But Nephi, Jacob, and Isaiah bore a very special witness—they testified of the divinity of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, he who would be the central, commanding, presiding figure throughout the Book of Mormon.” (Jeffery R. Holland, *Ensign*, January 1996, pg. 14)

5. I will prove unto my people the truth of the coming of Christ (11:4)

6. That whoso of my people shall see these words may lift up their hearts and rejoice for all men (11:8)

Jacob 4:5 - “Behold, they believed in Christ and worshiped the Father in his name, and also we worship the Father in his name. And for this intent we keep the law of Moses, it pointing our souls to him; and for this cause it is sanctified unto us for righteousness, even as it was accounted unto Abraham in the wilderness to be obedient unto the commands of God in offering up his son Isaac, which is a similitude of God and his Only Begotten Son.”

Alma 34:13-14 - “Therefore, it is expedient that there should be a great and last sacrifice, and then shall there be, or it is expedient there should be, a stop to the shedding of blood; then shall the law of Moses be fulfilled; yea, it shall be all fulfilled, every jot and tittle, and none shall have passed away. And behold, this is the whole meaning of the law, every whit pointing to that great and last sacrifice; and that great and last sacrifice will be the Son of God, yea, infinite and eternal.”

2 Nephi 12:2a – “Comparison with the King James Bible in English shows that there are differences in more than half of the 433 verses of Isaiah quoted in the Book of Mormon, while about 200 verses have the same wording as KJV.”

Handout - 7 Reasons to Study and Read Isaiah

2 Nephi 25

Handout - Nephi's 5 Way to Better Understand Isaiah

Notes - Bruce R. McConkie, *Ensign*, Ten Keys to Understanding Isaiah, October 1973, pg. 78-83

“The Book of Mormon is a book of scripture. It is another testament of Jesus Christ. It is written in biblical language, the language of the prophets.

For the most part, it is in easy-flowing New Testament language, with such words as spake for spoke, unto for to, with and it came to pass, with thus and thou and thine.

You will not read many pages into it until you catch the cadence of that language and the narrative will be easy to understand. As a matter of fact, most teenagers readily understand the narrative of the Book of Mormon.

Then, just as you settle in to move comfortably along, you will meet a barrier. The style of the language changes to Old Testament prophecy style. For, interspersed in the narrative, are chapters reciting the prophecies of the Old Testament prophet Isaiah. They loom as a barrier, like a roadblock or a checkpoint beyond which the casual reader, one with idle curiosity, generally will not go.

BOM Lesson 7 (Isaiah)

You, too, may be tempted to stop there, but do not do it! Do not stop reading! Move forward through those difficult-to-understand chapters of Old Testament prophecy, even if you understand very little of it. Move on, if all you do is skim and merely glean an impression here and there. Move on, if all you do is look at the words.

The Book of Mormon, another testament of Jesus Christ, will verify the Old and the New Testaments. Perhaps only after you read the Book of Mormon and return to the Bible will you notice that the Lord quotes Isaiah seven times in the New Testament; in addition, the Apostles quote Isaiah forty more times. One day you may revere these prophetic words of Isaiah in both books. The Lord had a purpose in preserving the prophecies of Isaiah in the Book of Mormon, notwithstanding they become a barrier to the casual reader.

Those who never move beyond the Isaiah chapters miss the personal treasures to be gathered along the way.” (Boyd K. Packer, *Ensign*, May 1986, pg. 61)

2 Nephi 25:9

God will not destroy his children until they have been sufficiently warned first!

“When those ancient kingdoms and peoples became wicked and corrupt, when they turned away from all that was virtuous and holy, the Lord raised up prophets to warn them; and these prophets, though perhaps unpopular in the eyes of those with whom they dwelt, warned these nations and cities of the judgments that would overtake them. What followed the warnings of these prophets? Read of the fall of the mighty cities of Thebes, Nineveh, Memphis, Tyre and Sidon, Babylon the Great, and Jerusalem itself. All these great and mighty cities and nations were warned by the servants of God of the judgments that would overtake them. Did the inhabitants of those cities believe the words of the prophets? They did not. But did those words come to pass? They did; and those cities were laid waste and their inhabitants destroyed.” (Wilford Woodruff, *Collected Discourses*, 1:242)

“There seems to be no end to the Savior’s desire to lead us to safety. And there is constancy in the way He shows us the path. He calls by more than one means so that it will reach those willing to accept it. And those means always include sending the message by the mouths of His prophets whenever people have qualified to have the prophets of God among them. Those authorized servants are always charged with warning the people, telling them the way to safety.

...In our time, we have been warned with counsel of where to find safety... One of the keys to recognizing those warnings is that they are repeated... One of the ways we may know that the warning is from the Lord is that the law of witnesses, authorized witnesses, has been invoked. When the words of prophets seem repetitive, that should rivet our attention and fill our hearts...

...Looking for the path to safety in the counsel of prophets makes sense to those with strong faith.” (Henry B. Eyring, *Ensign*, May 1997, pg. 24–25)

“I will first send them my word, offering them deliverance from sin, and warning them of my justice, which shall certainly overtake them if they reject it, and I will destroy them from off the face of the earth, thus preventing their increase, and I will raise up another seed.” (John Taylor, *JD*, 19:159)

2 Nephi 25:10

(2 Nephi 6:8)

August 9, 587 BC - Tradition date for the destruction of Jerusalem (Babylon)

2 Nephi 25:11

537 BC - Israel return to Jerusalem under Ezra and Nehemiah

520 BC - Israel builds a temple

2 Nephi 25:12

April 6, 1 BC - Birth of Jesus Christ (D&C 20:1; Harold B. Lee, *CR*, April 1973, pg. 4; Spencer W. Kimball, *CR*, April 1980, pg. 77)

2 Nephi 25:13

34 AD - Death of Jesus Christ (3 Nephi 8:5)

BOM Lesson 7 (Isaiah)

healing in his wings denotes that there is power in his extremities (Malachi 4:2)

2 Nephi 25:14

August 9, 72 AD - Tradition date for the destruction of Jerusalem (Rome) 72 AD

2 Nephi 25:15-16

Until... When... Then...

(D&C 45:48-54)

“You have a great future and destiny before you and you cannot avoid fulfilling it; you are the royal chosen seed, and the God of your father’s house has kept you distinct as a nation for eighteen hundred years, under all the oppression of the whole Gentile world. You may not wait until you believe on Jesus of Nazareth, but when you meet with Shiloh your king, you will know him; your destiny is marked out, you cannot avoid it. It is true that after you return and gather your nation home, and rebuild your City and Temple, that the Gentiles may gather together their armies to go against you to battle, to take you a prey and to take you as a spoil, which they will do, for the words of your prophets must be fulfilled; but when this affliction comes, the living God, that led Moses through the wilderness, will deliver you, and your Shiloh will come and stand in your midst and will fight your battles; and you will know him, and the afflictions of the Jews will be at an end, while the destruction of the Gentiles will be so great that it will take the whole house of Israel who are gathered about Jerusalem, seven months to bury the dead of their enemies, and the weapons of war will last them seven years for fuel, so that they need not go to any forest for wood. These are tremendous sayings—who can bear them? Nevertheless they are true, and will be fulfilled, according to the sayings of Ezekiel, Zechariah, and other prophets. Though the heavens and the earth pass away, not one jot or tittle will fall unfulfilled.” (Wilford Woodruff; Matthias F. Cowley, *Wilford Woodruff, His Life and Labors*, pg. 509-510)

“The gathering of Israel is first spiritual and second temporal. It is spiritual in that the lost sheep of Israel are first ‘restored to the true church and fold of God,’ meaning that they come to a true knowledge of the God of Israel, accept the gospel which he has restored in latter-days, and join The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is temporal in that these converts are then ‘gathered home to the lands of their inheritance, and . . . established in all their lands of promise’, meaning that the house of Joseph will be established in America, the house of Judah in Palestine, and that the Lost Tribes will come to Ephraim in America to receive their blessings in due course.” (Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, pg. 305)

Scattering (spiritual)

1. Reject Messiah
2. Reject His Mouthpiece
3. Reject the Word of God
4. Reject Covenants

Gathering (spiritual)

1. Accept Christ
2. Accept Prophets
3. Accept the Book of Mormon
4. Accept Covenants

Consequence (temporal)

Lose your promise land

Consequence (temporal)

Obtain your promise land

“And the Lord will set his hand again the second time to restore his people from their lost and fallen state. Wherefore, he will proceed to do a marvelous work and a wonder among the children of men.” (Spencer W. Kimball, *TSWK*, pg. 438)

“Now, what is the instrument that God designed to convince the world that Jesus is the Christ, that Joseph Smith is His prophet, and that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is true. It is that scripture which is the keystone of our religion. It is the most correct book which, if men will abide by its precepts, will get them closer to God than any other book. It is the Book of Mormon.” (Ezra Taft Benson, *Ensign*, May 1987, pg. 85)

2 Nephi 25:17

BOM Lesson 7 (Isaiah)

“The Lord has decreed that his work would be established. He called it a ‘marvelous work and a wonder,’ even before the organization of the Church... More than seven hundred years before the birth of Jesus Christ the Lord spoke through Isaiah of the coming forth of the Book of Mormon and the restoration of the Gospel. Isaiah, by prophecy, spoke of the restoration of the new and everlasting covenant and the Lord performing a ‘marvelous work and a wonder...’” (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Church History and Modern Revelation*, 1:28, 33)

Notes - Bruce R. McConkie, *New Witness for the Articles of Faith*, Modern Israelite Myths, pg. 518-521

Notes - Israel: The Scattering and Gathering

Notes - D&C 133:26-31 - Bruce R. McConkie, *Ensign*, May 1977, pg. 115-118)

2 Nephi 25:18

A False Messiah in the Meridian of Time

Jesus Barabbas (Hebrew) = Jehovah Saves/Son of the Father - Political Zealot chosen to represent the Jewish “Hope”

2 Nephi 25:19

The word “Jesus” is revealed; (Hebrew) Jehovah Saves (BD)

“It was over 40 years after Lehi left Jerusalem that his son Jacob was visited by an angel who told him, for the first time in the Book of Mormon, that the Savior would be called Christ (2 Nephi 10:3). That name is used very frequently thereafter, for a total of 315 times in the Book of Mormon. The name Jesus is not introduced in the Book of Mormon until 2 Nephi 25:19, also more than 40 years after Lehi’s departure from Jerusalem... Beginning with this first reference, the name Jesus is found in common usage in the Book of Mormon, and it appears a total of 161 times.” (Kent P. Jackson, *Ensign*, February 2000, pg. 23)

2 Nephi 25:23

(Helaman 14:15-18)

“What does ‘all we can do’ mean? It certainly does not mean perfect obedience, since no mortal achieves that; nor does it even really imply ‘doing our best’, since no human being truly does his best all the time. ‘All we can do’ simply means following the plain gospel road of exercising faith in the savior, striving to keep the commandments, and repenting of sins whenever we fall short.” (Bruce D. Porter, *King of Kings*, pg. 136)

2 Nephi 25:26

[NOTE: Brother Read’s favorite scripture]

“Sometimes I think that we fear too much to link all of our teaching to the foundation of gospel truths. Too often, perhaps, we teach children to obey a law or a principle because our family expects that obedience. They might observe another truth in order to please a neighbor or a bishop, and another for yet some other reason. When we teach an eternal truth to our children and don’t explain it in the context of a firm testimony of the Savior, we miss the power of the example of the greatest teacher the world has ever known.

Likewise, many of us have attained a level of obedience in which we consistently keep the letter of the law; we commit no grievous sins. As we look about us, we see that we do no worse than the next family, and we feel satisfied, comfortable. We are compatible with others on our plateau partway up the mountain. We like this scenic ledge where we have all the ‘do’s and don’ts’ under control. We need to learn—and then teach—that we are obedient to the laws and principles of the gospel because of our belief, our knowledge, our testimony, and our faith in Jesus Christ.” (Jack H Goaslind, *Ensign*, November 1995, pg. 10)

“Now, my beloved brethren and sisters, let us read the Book of Mormon and be convinced that Jesus is the Christ. Let us continually reread the Book of Mormon so that we might more fully come to Christ, be

BOM Lesson 7 (Isaiah)

committed to Him, centered in Him, and consumed in Him.”Ezra Taft Benson, *Ensign* November 1987, pg. 85)

“There is nothing we could do of grater importance than to have fortified in our individual lives an unshakeable conviction that Jesus is the Christ, the living Son of the living God. That is the purpose of the coming forth of this remarkable and wonderful book. May I suggest that you read it again and take a pencil, a red one if you have one, and put a little check mark every time there is a reference to Jesus Christ in that book. And there will come to you a very real conviction as you do so that this is in very deed another witness for Christ.” (Gordon B. Hinckley, *CN*, May 4, 1996)

A young lady bought and read a book. Laying it aside, she made the mental notation that it was the dullest book she had ever read. Not long after that she met a young man, and in the course of time their friendship grew into love. One night she said, ‘I have a book in my library which was written by a man whose name is exactly like yours.

Isn’t that a coincidence?’

‘I think not,’ he replied.

‘Why not?’

‘For the simple reason that I wrote the book.’

That night, after she returned home, the young woman took the book from the shelf and read it from beginning to end. This time she found it to be the most fascinating book she had ever read. The secret — she knew and loved the author.

It’s the same with the scriptures. To enjoy them we have to know and love the author.