

# Lecture and Colloquium 6

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## “Awakening to an Awful Sense of Your Situation”

—Book of Mormon Types of Our Day

1. Isaiah Prophecies Conspiratorial Powers
2. God’s People of the Covenant Are Asleep
3. Kingmen and Freemen in a Nation Divided
4. A People of God Is Ripening for Destruction
5. Moroni Sees the Gentiles Repeat the Pattern
6. The Lord Intervenes to Cleanse Humanity
7. A Warrior–Savior Delivers God’s People

### Conclusion

Ancient Conspiracies Typify Endtime Ones

## 1. Isaiah Prophecies Conspiratorial Powers

### **Workers in the Dark—Isaiah 29:15**

Woe to those who contrive  
to hide their schemes from Jehovah!  
**They work in the dark**, thinking,  
Who will see us? Who will know?

### **Murderous Schemes—Isaiah 59:7–8**

Their feet rush after evil;  
they hasten to shed innocent blood.  
Their thoughts are preoccupied with mischief;  
**havoc and disaster follow in their wake.**  
They are unacquainted with the way of perfection;  
integrity is not within their bounds.  
They have made crooked their paths;  
none who treads them knows peace.

### **Lying Accusations—Isaiah 32:7**

Rogues scheme by malevolent means  
and insidious devices to ruin the poor,  
and **with false slogans and accusations**  
**to denounce the needy.**

### **False Narratives—Isaiah 59:3**

Your palms are defiled with blood,

your fingers with iniquity;  
**your lips speak guile,**  
**your tongue utters duplicity.**

#### **Abandonment of Justice—Isaiah 59:15–16**

When integrity is lacking,  
they who shun evil become a prey.  
**Jehovah saw that there was no justice,**  
and it displeased him.  
When he saw it, he wondered  
why there was no man, no one who would intervene.

#### **Leaders Take People Captive—Isaiah 52:5**

What have I here? says Jehovah.  
**My people are taken over without price;**  
those who govern them  
act presumptuously, says Jehovah,  
and my name is constantly abused all the day.

#### **Jehovah Is a Sanctuary—Isaiah 8:12–14**

Do not call a conspiracy  
all that these people call a conspiracy;  
be not afraid or awed  
by the thing they fear.  
But **sanctify Jehovah of Hosts,**  
**making him your fear, him your awe.**  
And [to you] he will be a sanctuary.

## 2. God's People of the Covenant Are Asleep

#### **All Ten Virgins Fall Asleep—Matthew 25:1–6**

Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. **While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.** And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

#### **Waking to the Day of the Lord—Doctrine & Covenants 133:8–10**

Send forth the elders of my church unto the nations which are afar off; unto the islands of the sea; send forth unto foreign lands; call upon all nations, **first upon the Gentiles, and then upon the Jews.** And behold, and lo, this shall be their cry, and the voice of the Lord unto all people: Go ye forth unto the land of Zion, that the borders of my people may be enlarged, and that her stakes may be strengthened, and that Zion may go forth unto the regions round about. Yea, let the cry go forth among all people: **Awake and arise and go forth to meet the Bridegroom;** behold and lo, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. **Prepare yourselves for the great day of the Lord.**

### **Enemies within the Nation—Doctrine & Covenants 38:28–30**

I say unto you **that the enemy in the secret chambers seeketh your lives**. Ye hear of wars in far countries, and you say that there will soon be great wars in far countries, but ye know not the hearts of men in your own land. I tell you these things because of your prayers; wherefore, treasure up wisdom in your bosoms, lest the wickedness of men reveal these things unto you by their wickedness, in a manner which shall speak in your ears with a voice louder than that which shall shake the earth; but **if ye are prepared ye shall not fear**.

### **All Profoundly Slumber—Isaiah 29:10**

**Jehovah has poured out on you**

**a spirit of deep sleep:**

he has shut your eyes, the prophets;

he has covered your heads, the seers.

### **Blind and Unaware Watchmen—Isaiah 56:10–12**

Their watchmen are altogether blind and unaware;

all of them are but dumb watchdogs unable to bark,

**lolling seers fond of slumber.**

Gluttonous dogs, and insatiable,

such indeed are insensible shepherds.

They are all diverted to their own way,

every one after his own advantage.

Come, [they say,] let us get wine

and have our fill of liquor.

**For tomorrow will be like today, only far better!**

### **A Covenant with Death—Isaiah 28:14–15**

Hear the word of Jehovah, you scoffers

who preside over these people in Jerusalem.

You have supposed, by taking refuge in deception

and hiding behind falsehoods,

**to have covenanted with Death,**

or reached an understanding with Sheol, that,

should a flooding scourge sweep through [the earth],

it shall not reach you.

## **3. Kingmen and Freemen in a Nation Divided**

### **The Nephites' Kingmen and Freemen—Alma 51:5–6**

Those who were desirous that Pahoran should be dethroned from the judgment-seat **were called king-men**, for they were desirous that the law should be altered in a manner to overthrow the free government and to establish a king over the land. And those who were desirous that Pahoran should remain chief judge over the land took upon them the name of freemen; and thus was the division among them, for **the freemen had sworn or covenanted to maintain their rights and the privileges of their religion by a free government**.

### **Murder of the Chief Judge—Helaman 1:9**

When those people who were desirous that he [Paanchi] should be their governor saw that he was condemned unto death, therefore they were angry, and behold, they sent forth one Kishkumen, even to the judgment-seat of Pahoran, and **murdered Pahoran as he sat upon the judgment-seat.**

### **Gadianton's Secret Band—Helaman 2:4–5**

For **there was one Gadianton, who was exceedingly expert in many words, and also in his craft, to carry on the secret work of murder and of robbery;** therefore he became the leader of the band of Kishkumen. Therefore he did flatter them, and also Kishkumen, that if they would place him in the judgment-seat he would grant unto those who belonged to his band that they should be placed in power and authority among the people; therefore Kishkumen sought to destroy Helaman.

### **The Chief Judge Is Murdered—Helaman 6:15–17**

Behold, **Cezoram was murdered by an unknown hand as he sat upon the judgment-seat.** And it came to pass that in the same year, that his son, who had been appointed by the people in his stead, was also murdered. And thus ended the sixty and sixth year. And in the commencement of the sixty and seventh year the people began to grow exceedingly wicked again. For behold, the Lord had blessed them so long with the riches of the world that they had not been stirred up to anger, to wars, nor to bloodshed; therefore they began to set their hearts upon their riches; yea, they began to seek to get gain that they might be lifted up one above another; therefore **they began to commit secret murders, and to rob and to plunder, that they might get gain.**

### **Secret Oaths and Covenants—Helaman 6:21–23**

Satan did stir up the hearts of the more part of the Nephites, insomuch that they did unite with those bands of robbers, and **did enter into their covenants and their oaths, that they would protect and preserve one another in whatsoever difficult circumstances they should be placed,** that they should not suffer for their murders, and their plunderings, and their stealings. And it came to pass that they did have their signs, yea, their secret signs, and their secret words; and this that they might distinguish a brother who had entered into the covenant, that whatsoever wickedness his brother should do he should not be injured by his brother, nor by those who did belong to his band, who had taken this covenant. And thus they might murder, and plunder, and steal, and commit whoredoms and all manner of wickedness, **contrary to the laws of their country and also the laws of their God.**

## **4. A People of God Is Ripening for Destruction**

### **Secret Combinations Overspread the Land—Helaman 6:38–40**

And it came to pass . . . that the Nephites did build them up and support them, beginning at the more wicked part of them, until they had overspread all the land of the Nephites, and had seduced the more part of the righteous until they had come down to believe in their works and partake of their spoils, and to join with them in their secret murders and combinations.

And thus **they did obtain the sole management of the government**, insomuch that they did trample under their feet and smite and rend and turn their backs upon the poor and the meek, and the humble followers of God. And thus we see that they were in an awful state, and ripening for an everlasting destruction.

#### **Robbers Usurp Power and Authority—Helaman 7:4–6**

Seeing the people in a state of such awful wickedness, and those **Gadianton robbers filling the judgment-seats—having usurped the power and authority of the land**; laying aside the commandments of God, and not in the least aright before him; doing no justice unto the children of men; Condemning the righteous because of their righteousness; letting the guilty and the wicked go unpunished because of their money; and moreover to be held in office at the head of government, to rule and do according to their wills, **that they might get gain and glory of the world**, and, moreover, that they might the more easily commit adultery, and steal, and kill, and do according to their own wills—Now this great iniquity had come upon the Nephites, in the space of not many years.

#### **Men of God Testify of Wickedness—3 Nephi 6:20–21, 23**

There began to be **men inspired from heaven and sent forth, standing among the people in all the land, preaching and testifying boldly of the sins and iniquities of the people**, and testifying unto them concerning the redemption which the Lord would make for his people, or in other words, the resurrection of Christ; and they did testify boldly of his death and sufferings. Now there were many of the people who were exceedingly angry because of those who testified of these things; and **those who were angry were chiefly the chief judges, and they who had been high priests and lawyers**; yea, all those who were lawyers were angry with those who testified of these things. . . . Now there were many of those who testified of the things pertaining to Christ who testified boldly, who were taken and put to death secretly by the judges, that the knowledge of their death came not unto the governor of the land until after their death.

#### **A Secret Combination of Former Believers—3 Nephi 6:27–30**

Now it came to pass that those judges had many friends and kindreds; and the remainder, yea, even almost all the lawyers and the high priests, did gather themselves together, and unite with the kindreds of those judges who were to be tried according to the law. And **they did enter into a covenant one with another, yea, even into that covenant which was given by them of old, which covenant was given and administered by the devil, to combine against all righteousness**. Therefore they did combine against the people of the Lord, and enter into a covenant to destroy them, and to deliver those who were guilty of murder from the grasp of justice, which was about to be administered according to the law. And they did set at defiance the law and the rights of their country; and **they did covenant one with another to destroy the governor, and to establish a king over the land, that the land should no more be at liberty**.

#### **A Nation Disintegrates—3 Nephi 7:1–6**

In this same year, yea, the thirtieth year, **they did destroy upon the judgment-seat, yea, did murder the chief judge of the land**. And the people were divided one against another; and they did separate one from another into tribes, every man according to his family and his kindred and friends; and thus they did destroy the government of the land. And every tribe did appoint a chief or a leader over them; and thus they became tribes and leaders of tribes. Now behold, there was

no man among them save he had much family and many kindreds and friends; therefore their tribes became exceedingly great. Now all this was done, and there were no wars as yet among them; and all this iniquity had come upon the people because they did yield themselves unto the power of Satan. And **the regulations of the government were destroyed, because of the secret combination of the friends and kindreds of those who murdered the prophets.**

#### **The Promised Land Is Cursed—Alma 37:30–31**

They murdered all the prophets of the Lord who came among them to declare unto them concerning their iniquities; and the blood of those whom they murdered did cry unto the Lord their God for vengeance upon those who were their murderers; and thus the judgments of God did come upon these workers of darkness and secret combinations. Yea, **and cursed be the land forever and ever unto those workers of darkness and secret combinations, even unto destruction,** except they repent before they are fully ripe.

## 5. Moroni Sees the Gentiles Repeat the Pattern

#### **The Gentiles' Pride Is Their Downfall—Mormon 8:35–37**

**Jesus Christ hath shown you unto me, and I know your doing.** And I know that ye do walk in the pride of your hearts; and there are none save a few only who do not lift themselves up in the pride of their hearts, unto the wearing of very fine apparel, unto envying, and strifes, and malice, and persecutions, and all manner of iniquities; and your churches, yea, even **every one, have become polluted because of the pride of your hearts.** For behold, ye do love money, and your substance, and your fine apparel, and the adorning of your churches, more than ye love the poor and the needy, the sick and the afflicted. . . .

#### **Church Members Pollute the Church—Mormon 8:38–40**

O ye pollutions, ye hypocrites, ye teachers, who sell yourselves for that which will canker, **why have ye polluted the holy church of God?** Why are ye ashamed to take upon you the name of Christ? Why do ye not think that greater is the value of an endless happiness than that misery which never dies—because of the praise of the world? Why do ye adorn yourselves with that which hath no life, and yet suffer the hungry, and the needy, and the naked, and the sick and the afflicted to pass by you, and notice them not? Yea, **why do ye build up your secret abominations to get gain,** and cause that widows should mourn before the Lord, and also orphans to mourn before the Lord, and also the blood of their fathers and their husbands to cry unto the Lord from the ground, for vengeance upon your heads.

#### **Great Wickedness Among the Gentiles—Mormon 8:27–31**

And it shall come **in a day when the blood of saints shall cry unto the Lord, because of secret combinations and the works of darkness.** Yea, it shall come in a day when the power of God shall be denied, and churches become defiled and be lifted up in the pride of their hearts; yea, even in a day when leaders of churches and teachers shall rise in the pride of their hearts, even to the envying of them who belong to their churches. Yea, it shall come in a day when there shall be heard of fires, and tempests, and vapors of smoke in foreign lands; And there shall also be heard of wars, rumors of wars, and earthquakes in divers places. Yea, it shall come in a day when there shall be great pollutions upon the face of the earth; **there shall be murders, and robbing, and lying, and deceivings, and whoredoms, and all manner of abominations.**

### **Attempts to Set up a King in the Land—2 Nephi 10:14–16**

**He that raiseth up a king against me shall perish**, for I, the Lord, the king of heaven, will be their king, and I will be a light unto them forever, that hear my words. Wherefore, for this cause, that my covenants may be fulfilled which I have made unto the children of men, that I will do unto them while they are in the flesh, **I must needs destroy the secret works of darkness, and of murders, and of abominations**. Wherefore, he that fighteth against Zion, both Jew and Gentile, both bond and free, both male and female, shall perish; for they are they who are the whore of all the earth; for they who are not for me are against me, saith our God.

### **A Secret Combination Becomes Apparent—Ether 8:24–25**

Wherefore the Lord commandeth you, when ye shall see these things come among you **that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation, because of this secret combination which shall be among you**; or wo be unto it, because of the blood of them who have been slain; for they cry from the dust for vengeance upon it, and also upon those who built it up. For it cometh to pass that whoso buildeth it up **seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations, and countries**; and it bringeth to pass the destruction of all people, for it is built up by the devil, who is the father of all lies; even that same liar who beguiled our first parents, yea, even that same liar who hath caused man to commit murder from the beginning.

### **Are the Gentiles the Third Nation to Perish?—Ether 8:21–23**

And they have caused the destruction of this people of whom I am now speaking, and also the destruction of the people of Nephi. And **whatsoever nation shall uphold such secret combinations, to get power and gain, until they shall spread over the nation, behold, they shall be destroyed**; for the Lord will not suffer that the blood of his saints, which shall be shed by them, shall always cry unto him from the ground for vengeance upon them and yet he avenge them not. Wherefore, O ye Gentiles, it is wisdom in God that these things should be shown unto you, that thereby ye may repent of your sins, and **suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain—and the work, yea, even the work of destruction come upon you**.

## **6. The Lord Intervenes to Cleanse Humanity**

### **The Devil's Great and Abominable Church—2 Nephi 6:12**

Blessed are the Gentiles, they of whom the prophet has written; for behold, if it so be that they shall repent and fight not against Zion, and **do not unite themselves to that great and abominable church**, they shall be saved.

### **Combined Powers of Darkness—Doctrine & Covenants 38:11–13**

For all flesh is corrupted before me; and **the powers of darkness prevail upon the earth**, among the children of men, in the presence of all the hosts of heaven—Which causeth silence to reign, and all eternity is pained, and the angels are waiting the great command to reap down the earth, to gather the tares that they may be burned; and, behold, **the enemy is combined**. And now I show unto you a mystery, a thing which is had in secret chambers, **to bring to pass even your destruction in process of time**, and ye knew it not.

### **Peace Is Taken from the Earth—Doctrine & Covenants 1:34–36**

I the Lord am willing to make these things known unto all flesh; For I am no respecter of persons, and will that all men shall know that the day speedily cometh; the hour is not yet, but is nigh at hand, when **peace shall be taken from the earth, and the devil shall have power over his own dominion**. And also the Lord shall have power over his saints, and shall reign in their midst, and shall come down in judgment upon Idumea, or the world.

### **All Who Fight against Zion Are Destroyed—1 Nephi 22:13–14**

And the blood of that great and abominable church, which is the whore of all the earth, shall turn upon their own heads; for **they shall war among themselves**, and the sword of their own hands shall fall upon their own heads, and they shall be drunken with their own blood. And every nation which shall war against thee, O house of Israel, shall be turned one against another, and **they shall fall into the pit which they digged to ensnare the people of the Lord**. And all that fight against Zion shall be destroyed, and that great whore, who hath perverted the right ways of the Lord, yea, that great and abominable church, shall tumble to the dust and great shall be the fall of it.

### **All Things Are in Commotion—Doctrine & Covenants 88:89–92**

For after your testimony cometh the testimony of earthquakes, that shall cause groanings in the midst of her, and men shall fall upon the ground and shall not be able to stand. And also cometh the testimony of the voice of thunderings, and the voice of lightnings, and the voice of tempests, and the voice of the waves of the sea heaving themselves beyond their bounds. And **all things shall be in commotion; and surely, men's hearts shall fail them**; for fear shall come upon all people. And angels shall fly through the midst of heaven, crying with a loud voice, sounding the trump of God, saying: Prepare ye, prepare ye, O inhabitants of the earth; for the judgment of our God is come. Behold, and lo, **the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him**.

## **7. A Warrior–Savior Delivers God's People**

### **The Arm of Jehovah Awakes—Isaiah 51:9**

**Awake, arise; clothe yourself with power,**

**O arm of Jehovah!**

Bestir yourself, as in ancient times,

as in generations of old.

Was it not you who carved up Rahab,

you who slew the dragon?

### **A Righteous Warrior from the East—Isaiah 41:2–3**

Who has raised up **Righteousness** from the east,

calling him to [the place of] his foot?

**Who has delivered nations to him,**

**toppled their rulers,**

rendering them as dust to his sword,

as driven stubble to his bow?

He puts them to flight, passing on unhindered

by paths his feet have never trod.



### **A Savior Delivers Egypt's Covenanters—Isaiah 19:19–20**

In that day there shall be an altar [erected] to Jehovah in the midst of the land of Egypt and a monument to Jehovah at its border. They shall serve as a sign and testimony of Jehovah of Hosts in the land of Egypt: when they cry out to Jehovah because of the oppressors, **he will send them a savior, who will take up their cause and deliver them.**

### **The Oppressors Eat Their Own Flesh—Isaiah 49:25–26**

The warrior's spoil shall indeed be taken from him,

and **the tyrant's captives escape free:**

I myself will contend with your contenders,

and I will deliver your children.

**I will feed your oppressors with their own flesh;**

they shall be drunk with their own blood as with wine.

### **Zion Awakes and Arises with Power—Isaiah 52:1–3**

**Awake, arise; clothe yourself with power, O Zion!**

Put on your robes of glory, O Jerusalem, holy city.

No more shall the uncircumcised and defiled enter you.

Shake yourself free, rise from the dust;

sit enthroned, O Jerusalem.

Loose yourself from the bands around your neck,

O captive Daughter of Zion.

Thus says Jehovah: **You were sold without price,**

**and you shall be redeemed without money.**

## Summary

### **1. Isaiah Prophecies Conspiratorial Powers**

Jehovah pronounces a curse on workers of darkness among his endtime people  
They think he doesn't see them as they attempt to hide their schemes from him  
Their ways are crooked, they have lost their integrity, and they know no peace  
Their machinations are bent on evil, they shed innocent blood and cause havoc  
They falsely accuse and denounce the poor and malevolently seek to ruin them  
They speak guilefully and with deception, and they have blood on their hands  
The innocent become a prey when integrity is lacking and justice is abandoned  
It displeases Jehovah to see a lack of justice and that no one cares to intervene  
Jehovah's people are taken over wholesale by foul-mouthed dictatorial leaders  
Jehovah counsels his elect not to fear them or their conspiracies but to fear him  
If his elect sanctify Jehovah he will be a sanctuary to them when others perish

### **2. God's People of the Covenant Are Asleep**

As typified by the wise and foolish virgins, God's people have all fallen asleep  
In the middle of the night a cry goes forth to wake the ten virgins up from sleep  
The elders of the church must call on the Gentiles first and then upon the Jews

They must cry, Awake and arise and go to meet the Bridegroom who is coming  
They must tell them to prepare for the Day of the Lord and go out to meet him  
Their enemies seek their lives in secret but if they are prepared they won't fear  
It is in a time of impending war in far countries and of wickedness among men  
It occurs when God's people are in a deep sleep and the prophets' eyes are shut  
It happens when their watchmen slumber and are altogether blind and unaware  
It happens when they are diverted their own way and seek their own advantage  
Those who preside over the people scoff at the truth and hide behind falsehoods  
They make a covenant with death and assume to escape God's flooding scourge

### **3. Kingmen and Freemen in a Nation Divided**

Book of Mormon types depict how a nation divides into kingmen and freemen  
The kingmen want the law to be changed so as to overthrow a free government  
They stir up trouble for the elected chief judge and succeed in assassinating him  
They form a secret combination and conduct secret murders and embezzlement  
After having been blessed a long time the people set their hearts on their riches  
Their secret murders and murder of the chief judge testify of their wickedness  
Their objective is to rob and plunder the people so they can get power and gain  
The more wicked part of the people unites with the bands of robbers' objective  
They make oaths and covenants to protect against their being brought to justice  
They want to do all kinds of wickedness against the laws of God and of country

### **4. A People of God Is Ripening for Destruction**

The Nephite' secret combination succeeds in taking over the entire government  
Many righteous are seduced to believe in their works and partake of their spoils  
They trample on the poor and needy and oppress the humble followers of God  
Usurping the authority of the land the Gadianon robbers fill the judgment seats  
They incriminate the righteous and acquit the guilty for the sake of their money  
Their desire is to get gain and glory of the world and get away with doing evil  
Men inspired from heaven testify boldly of the sins and iniquities of the people  
Many judges, high priests, and lawyers become angry with those who so testify  
These "whistleblowers" and those testifying of Christ they secretly put to death  
Their judges, lawyers, and high priests unite together into a secret combination  
They set at defiance the laws and rights of the land and seek to destroy liberty  
They covenant to destroy the chief judge and establish a king over all the land  
After they murder the chief judge, the government's regulations are destroyed  
Upon their killing the prophets, God's judgments follow and the land is cursed

### **5. Moroni Sees the Gentiles Repeat the Pattern**

Moroni sees in vision that God's endtime people of the Gentiles walk in pride  
They love money, possessions, and fine clothes more than the poor and needy  
They are full of all kinds of iniquities and their churches have become polluted  
Their hypocrite teachers sell themselves for money and the praise of the world  
Their worldliness and neglect of the needy has polluted the holy church of God  
By corrupt business practices to make money they deprive the poor and naked

The blood of saints will cry to the Lord for vengeance on the works of darkness  
Church leaders will rise up in the pride of their hearts and envy their members  
Murders, lies, robbings, deceptions, and whoredoms will characterize the time  
Wars, rumors of wars, earthquakes and great pollutions will prevail in that day  
The workers of darkness and abominations attempt to set up a king in the land  
They are the whore of the earth that fights against Zion whom God will destroy  
They aspire to destroy the freedom of all lands, nations, countries, and peoples  
God's endtime people of the Gentiles awake to an awful sense of their situation  
As they caused the destruction of two people before them, so they will do again  
Whatever nation upholds secret combinations till they overrun it God destroys  
It is wisdom to show the Gentiles these things so they may repent of their sins

## **6. The Lord Intervenes to Cleanse Humanity**

God's people of the Gentiles who repent and don't fight against Zion are saved  
Darkness prevails on the earth and the enemy is combined to destroy the saints  
The angels wait to reap down the earth so the tares may be gathered and burned  
Peace will be taken from the earth and the devil will have power over his own  
The Lord will have power over his saints and subject the world to his judgment  
The nations and peoples of the great whore will turn and war with one another  
Those who dug a pit to ensnare the people of the Lord will fall in it themselves  
The great and abominable church will tumble into dust and great will be its fall  
After the testimony of God's servants comes the testimony of natural disasters  
All things will be in commotion and men's hearts will fail them because of fear  
Angels will declare God's judgment and herald the coming of the Bridegroom

## **7. A Warrior-Savior Delivers God's People**

Jehovah's empowering his **arm** leads to a new exodus of God's people to Zion  
Jehovah raises up the man Righteousness and gives him power over the nations  
Nations and rulers become as dust to his sword and as driven stubble to his bow  
Jehovah sends a savior who delivers Egypt's oppressed people who cry to him  
Jehovah delivers Zion's captives from the power of the Assyrian warrior-tyrant  
Zion's oppressors will eat their own flesh and grow drunk with their own blood  
Jehovah's people were sold without price and will be redeemed without money  
Zion will awake and arise from the dust clothed with power and robes of glory

## **Conclusion**

The workers of darkness are responsible for an absence of justice among God's endtime people.  
They put his people into bondage and shed innocent blood. Jehovah counsels his people not to  
fear them but to find sanctuary in him.

Like the Ten Virgins, God's endtime people and their leaders have fallen asleep. They are to  
wake up and arise and minister in their callings. God's Day of Judgment is upon them and they  
must go out and meet the Bridegroom.

Book of Mormon types of secret combinations to get power and gain depict how history will repeat itself among God's endtime people of the Gentiles. Secret murders and assassination of the chief judge show that day has arrived.

Gadianton robbers' uniting against freedom and taking over the government are signs God's judgments are at hand. Secret combinations of persons in the church with those in government testify of their consummate wickedness.

By seeking to overthrow freedom and establish a king in the land, the endtime Gentiles follow the pattern of two previous peoples whom God destroyed. Their corrupt practices and neglect of the needy pollute the church of God.

Peace will be taken from the earth and all things will be in commotion. Those who seek to destroy the saints will perish. God's people who repent and don't join the great and abominable church will live to meet the Bridegroom.

Jehovah intervenes in humanity's affairs by raising up his endtime servant in a time of pervasive wickedness. The servant delivers God's people who were taken captive by the forces of evil and orchestrates their exodus to Zion.

## Lecture and Colloquium 6—Questions & Answers

### **From Joe:**

What relation does the end-time servant have to the two prophets spoken of in Revelation 11? It seems some of the powers and sufferings associated with the end-time servant are similar to those of the two prophets.

### **Answer:**

The two prophets spoken of have different missions to perform than God's end-time servant. However, they and also the 144,000 servants of God, suffer in the course of preparing for and fulfilling their end-time roles according to the terms of the Davidic Covenant. All who belong in this spiritual category are endowed with similar divine powers.

Their roles are eloquently described in the book *Visions of Glory*, where these servants of God are shown to form an integral part of the "Fellowship of the Suffering of Christ" that identifies those who restore the house of Israel. Their parity covenant is beautifully described in Doctrine & Covenants 88:133 as follows:

"Art thou a brother or brethren? I salute you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, in token or remembrance of the everlasting covenant, in which covenant I receive you to fellowship, in a determination that is fixed, immovable, and unchangeable, to be your friend and brother through the grace of God in the bonds of love, to walk in all the commandments of God blameless, in thanksgiving, forever and ever. Amen."

### **From Eric:**

In the olive tree allegory, there are four branches taken from the tame olive tree and planted in the nethermost parts of the vineyard (Jacob 5:20, 23–25). In verses 39 and 40 it appears that three had been overcome by their wild tree hosts and one had withered and died. I understand that three of the branches are the house of Israel, lost tribes, and Lehi's descendants. Who was the fourth branch? The Jaredites? Some other dispersed group that was completely destroyed?

**Answer:**

As confirmed in Isaiah 19:24–25, there are three olive tree transplants, representing three groups of people—the Jews, Israel's Ten Tribes, and the Lamanites. What you assume is a fourth branch is a reference to the third.

**From Alisha:**

Do the Sinai, Davidic, and Abrahamic Covenants apply to all people? They originally applied only to the people whom God named, correct? God gave Joseph Smith certain sure promises. Do any of those promises apply to Latter-day Saints?

**Answer:**

All covenants God makes are eternal. Because people break them doesn't mean the covenants themselves are annulled. The consequences of breaking God's covenants nevertheless continue down the generations in the form of covenant curses or misfortunes. On the other hand, God's covenants can be renewed at any time by those who wish to enter into a covenant with God and enjoy its blessings upon them and their posterity down the generations.

Of the three covenants you mention—the Sinai, Davidic, and Abrahamic Covenants—only the Abrahamic Covenant is initiated by God himself directly with those who attain the level of righteousness Israel's patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob attained. The Father makes this unconditional covenant with all who fulfill the covenants' conditions—that is, with all who “do the works of Abraham,” who magnify their priesthoods in their personal and collective ministries, and who keep the terms of the Davidic Covenant.

The temple covenants the prophet Joseph Smith restored form necessary elements of the Davidic Covenant. To see temple covenants in that light changes the dynamics of the temple endowment and informs us of the divine promises we may secure for ourselves and our posterities in this life as well as in the next.

With Israel's exile and assimilation among the nations of the world, all nations qualified for entering into or renewing God's covenants. In that way, God turned the evil of Israel's anciently breaking his covenants to the good of the entire world, as Paul also notes in Romans 11:12. Of all peoples on the earth today, Latter-day Saints have the opportunity to take full advantage of all the covenants God has made from the beginning.

**From Terry:**

Can you tell me if this prophecy by Nephi has an equivalent in Isaiah?

In 2 Nephi:13–14, it says he that fighteth against Zion and he that raiseth up a king against him

shall perish. Is this the same group and same purpose—to frustrate the work of the Lord?

2 Nephi:15 says that for the Lord's covenants to be fulfilled he must destroy their secret works of darkness, and of murders, and of abominations. Does this happen at the time they try to roadblock the establishment of Zion by raising up a king or totalitarian rule to the Gentiles?

We see in the Book of Mormon that the secret works of darkness were destroyed by Lachoneus prior to the coming of Christ. This was at a time the Gadianton were trying to take complete control of the government. Is there any confirmation of this in the Book of Isaiah?

**Answer:**

The passages you quote from 2 Nephi are part of a chiasmic structure in which attempts to set up a king in the land parallel man's secret works of darkness. When we see these things start to occur is also the time the Gentiles' spiritual kings and queens go forth to restore the house of Israel.

Two scriptures in Isaiah relate to your question. Both speak of the time immediately preceding the coming of the Lord to reign on the earth. The first is Isaiah 19:4 about the nation of "Egypt," whose name acts as a codename of end-time America: "Then will I deliver the Egyptians [read Americans] into the hand of a cruel master; a harsh ruler will subject them, says the Lord, Jehovah of Hosts."

The second scripture addresses God's end-time people: "Thus says my Lord Jehovah: At first my people went down to Egypt to sojourn there. Then the Assyrians subjected them for nothing. And now, what have I here? says Jehovah. My people are taken over without price; those who govern them act presumptuously, says Jehovah, and my name is constantly abused all the day long" (Isaiah 52:4-5).

The Lord allows these evils to overtake the nation of his people on account of their collective guilt and also to test his people—whether they will repent of their iniquities or harden their hearts. Those of his people who rebel against him and end up fighting against Zion nevertheless cannot impede the progress of those who repent who take on the task of restoring the house of Israel.

From the time God empowers his end-time servant, a great reversal of circumstances begins between the wicked and the righteous of the earth. As you become more familiar with the prophecies of Isaiah, you will begin to see a beautiful harmony appear between them and the Book of Mormon as all scriptural and prophetic pieces fall into place. Many Book of Mormon types such as you have cited then repeat themselves and fulfill the words of Isaiah.

**From Amber:**

I am reading your book, *Isaiah Decoded*. I love it so much! It is so fascinating and relatable to our day. I have a question about the Lord's end-time servant. Do you think that possibly President Trump is God's end-time servant or one of them? A lot of what Isaiah says about the end-time servant seems like it could be fulfilled through President Trump. Also, I can't remember where I read in scripture that the end-time servant of the Lord would be the son of Christ and his mother's name Mary. (Maybe you could recall where this is stated?) But I found it

interesting when I looked up President Trump genealogy that his mother's name is Mary and his father's name is Fredrick Christ Trump. So interesting! Just curious what your thoughts might be on this subject with your incredible insight.

**Answer:**

There exist different spiritual genres of people and servants of God according to their individual desires for service in his kingdom, their premortal callings, and their talents and propensities. Rabbis have already identified President Trump with Cyrus king of Persia. One could posit that he would fall into that category of rulers.

More explicit connections such as those you suggest, if indeed they are true, could provide additional confirmations of the president's mission on this earth. However, the president is not God's end-time servant spoken of by Isaiah and the prophets according to the many additional attributes and perfections he will exemplify in his life. God's end-time servant will follow many scriptural patterns no one else except Christ has to that degree thus far as he embodies the qualities and attributes of many biblical heroes according to Isaiah.

**From Debora:**

Do you understand whether righteous individuals will be removed or translated before the days of tribulation?

**Answer:**

Please listen to Lecture and Colloquium 5 for a fuller discussion of this topic.

**From David:**

In your book, *Endtime Prophecy*, if I understand what you're saying correctly, in Chapter 4 you write that the prophecy Joseph Smith makes about Elijah's coming to "restore all things" is actually referring to the Davidic servant. And because the Davidic servant is an Elias, does that infer also that the prophet Elijah will be the one to appear to the Davidic king and reveal or seal the fullness of the priesthood upon him?

**Answer:**

You are correct in your first conclusion and very possibly correct in your second. We shall have to wait and see. One thing is sure, all things end-time will follow the patterns of the past. That is one way you can distinguish what is of God from Satan's counterfeits that are already happening.

**From John:**

I am learning so much from Brother Gileadi. My studies of your books and other sources bring me to ask about many gatherings and exoduses:

- 1) A gathering of the Ten Tribes from the north countries to Zion.
- 2) A gathering of the Lamanites from across the world.
- 3) A gathering of the Saints from their home countries to Zion.
- 4) A gathering of the Jews to Jerusalem.
- 5) A last gathering by the 144,000 of those who are left of the righteous across the earth.
- 6) A gathering of Israel by the latter-day David.

I have two questions: with which gathering is the latter-day David involved, and which gathering will be greater than Israel's gathering out of Egypt?

**Answer:**

The answer to your questions is that all the gatherings you have listed, in fact, comprise one great gathering of God's elect by the 144,000 servants of God that occurs simultaneously across the world. It is initiated by God's end-time servant David immediately before the Lord's coming to reign on the earth. It takes the form of an end-time exodus out of Babylon resembling Israel's ancient exodus out of Egypt and wandering in the wilderness to the Promised Land.

**From Lorrie:**

A friend of mine, who considers herself an eschatologist, has said many times from what she has studied that we will see two plagues before we are called to gather to places of safety.

Revelation 18:4 says, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, 'Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.'" In the chapter heading, it reads that the Saints are called out of Babylon lest they partake of her sins.

However, the scripture in Revelation 18:4 came to me this week about the Lord's gathering his people before the plagues are poured out. Does Isaiah make a clear delineation as to when the Lord gathers his people out of Babylon? Will it be prior to all the plagues, some of the plagues, or just the last one? It's unclear to me.

D&C 97:25 25 says, "Nevertheless, Zion shall escape if she observe to do all things whatsoever I have commanded her."

And Psalms 91:2–10 says, "I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.' Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. If you say, 'The Lord is my refuge,' and you make the Most High your dwelling, no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent."

**Answer:**

According to Isaiah, the call to physically exit Babylon comes with the Lord's end-time servant's announcing the coming of the Lord in Isaiah 48:20–21. Nephi also quotes this passage in 2 Nephi 20:20–21. It speaks of the house of Israel's exodus out of Babylon, or the world, that is patterned after Israel's ancient exodus out of bondage in Egypt and wandering in the wilderness to the Promised Land. It says,

Go forth out of Babylon, flee from Chaldea!

Make this announcement with resounding voice;



broadcast it to the end of the earth.

Say, Jehovah has redeemed his servant Jacob.  
They thirsted not when he led them through arid places:  
he caused water to flow for them from the rock;  
he cleaved the rock and water gushed out.

In that case, the worst of the plagues may not be upon us until then, while current ones could serve as a warning or forewarning.

**From Rachel:**

Lecture 5 was absolutely invigorating to my soul. Thank you.

I have a question: Can Isaiah 22:23–24 be a link to the fullness of the gospel and the second token of the Melchizedek priesthood and its name at the veil, pointing to the priesthood after the holy order of God, the doctrine of translation, etc.? Is that the purpose for which we come to the veil, to be endowed with power in order to perform a proxy savior role under the terms of the Davidic Covenant?

**Answer:**

That is correct!

The passage in full states, “In that day I will commission my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah: I will clothe him with your robe and bind your girdle on him; I will appoint him your jurisdiction. And he will be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. I will invest him with the keys of the house of David: when he opens none shall shut, when he shuts none shall open. I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place, and he will be a throne of glory to the house of his father. Upon him shall be hung all the glory of his father’s house: his descendants and posterity, including all the lesser vessels, from ordinary bowls to the most common containers. In that day, says Jehovah of Hosts, the nail that was fastened in a sure place shall be removed. It shall be dislodged and fall, and the burden hanging on it cut off. Jehovah has spoken it” (Isaiah 22:20–25).

In this passage, Eliakim, who replaces Shebna, is a type of God’s end-time servant. The Lord endows his end-time servant with the sealing power when he serves as a proxy savior to the house of Israel under the terms of the Davidic Covenant in order to obtain their temporal salvation or physical restoration. Additional end-time servants of God, who assist in restoring the house of Israel—such as the 144,000 servants mentioned in the Book of Revelation—follow the same pattern. All function as kings and queens under the terms of the Davidic covenant and as priests and priestesses according to the Holy Order of God.