



# **The Bridegroom Cometh**

*Go ye out to meet him!*

*By Frank M. Keele*

Title page 1.40

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## Introduction

Write, say or intimate that you know something about the timing of the Lord's Second Advent and it's highly likely that someone is going to respond by saying something like, "No one know when the Lord will come" as if it were an official, eternal and indisputable fact. Well, is it?

In a general conference of the church, in 1843, Joseph Smith stated:

### Joseph Smith / "he spoke in the present tense"

*"Christ says no man knoweth the day or the hour when the Son of Man cometh... Did Christ speak this as a general principle throughout all generations Oh no he spoke in the present tense no man that was then living upon the footstool of God knew the day or the hour But he did not say that there was no man throughout all generations that should not know the day or the hour. No for this would be in flat contradiction with other scripture for the prophet says that God will do nothing but what he will reveal unto his Servants the prophets consequently if it is not made known to the Prophets it will not come to pass".*  
(Joseph Smith, General Conference, April 6, 1843)

Joseph Smith shared an enlightened view of this subject, one quite different when compared to the predominant view in our day. Considering that the Prophet Joseph Smith was the great restorer and revealer of truth in these latter days, would it not be wise to align our views with what he taught?

Since "God will do nothing but what he will reveal unto his Servants the prophets", should we not more fully investigate this most important topic? After all, we live in the latter days and in the days of the hastening, do we not? In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul wrote:

## 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

*1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.*

*2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*

*3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.*

*4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.*

*5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*

*6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober*

Paul says “But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.” We as latter-day saints have access to more of God’s word than any other people on the face of the earth! As “the children of light, and the children of the day”, ought we not to find out what the prophets have taught about the Lord’s coming, should we not “watch and be sober”?

Please allow me to bear witness that what the scriptures teach about our Lord’s coming is perfectly congruent and consistent across the entirety of the standard works! What the Lord revealed in the Old and New Testaments on this subject is corroborated beyond any mortal’s ability to fully comprehend in the Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants and the Pearl of Great Price!

Even a rudimentary understanding of what the scriptures have to say on this subject, leads one to an unshakable resolve that the same God who revealed the future to Enoch, to Abraham, to Moses, to Isaiah, Ezekiel, Zachariah, Daniel, Lehi, Nephi, and Moroni, spoke to the boy prophet in the spring of 1820! Joseph

Smith was the Lord’s chosen prophet of the restoration. All the proof anyone could ever need of this truth is contained within the works and words which the Lord brought forth at his hand!

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Note: You are permitted to print a copy of the book to use as a study guide if you like. If you have questions or comments please contact me via email at [frankkeele@gmail.com](mailto:frankkeele@gmail.com). I’d love to hear from you.

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## 1..The task which may come at any time

This first chapter is intended to give the reader a snapshot of where we are presently, as well as a foretaste of some subjects that lie ahead. In it, mention is made of concepts and references that will be dealt with more methodically and in greater detail in future chapters. Hopefully, this chapter will help the reader get off to a quick start and come to appreciate where we are in relation to the Lord's coming. One thing should become absolutely clear... we are the generation of the Lord's Second Coming!

In 1987, then President of the Church, Ezra Taft Benson said to a group of seminary and institute students gathered in California...

### Ezra Taft Benson to seminary and institute

*"While our generation will be comparable in wickedness to the days of Noah, when the Lord cleansed the earth by flood, there is a major difference this time: God has saved for the final inning some of His stronger and most valiant children, who will help bear off the kingdom triumphantly. ... You are the generation that must be prepared to meet your God."*

Over 30 years have passed since President Benson gave this deceleration to seminary students that would have been 14 to 18 years old and are now 46 to 50 years old. Institute students ranging from 19 to say 27 years old would now be 51 to 59 years old. It's

rather obvious that the “generation” of which President Benson spoke is maturing rapidly...

However, this wasn't the first time Ezra Taft Benson had delivered this message. In 1979, as a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, he gave essentially the same message in a devotional talk at Brigham Young University entitled “In His Steps”, said Apostle Benson at that time:

### Ezra Taft Benson / In His Steps

*“For nearly six thousand years, God has held you in reserve to make your appearance in the final days before the Second Coming of the Lord. Every previous gospel dispensation has drifted into apostasy, but ours will not. True, there will be some individuals who will fall away; but the kingdom of God will remain intact to welcome the return of its head—even Jesus Christ. While our generation will be comparable in wickedness to the days of Noah, when the Lord cleansed the earth by flood, there is a major difference this time. It is that God has saved for the final inning some of his strongest children, who will help bear off the Kingdom triumphantly. And that is where you come in, for you are the generation that must be prepared to meet your God.”*

Though not a college student at the time, I was just 27 years old and therefore consider myself to be a part of “the generation that must be prepared to meet... God”. At the ripe old age of 66, I'm anxiously anticipating the day of our Lord's return...

Of course, we should not attempt to arbitrarily place a cutoff line on the upper end of the spectrum, my personal suspicion is that those more senior than myself will be well represented at the coming of the Bridegroom.

Knowing that we are, in fact, the generation of the Lord's Second Coming is a sobering thought. Understanding the surrounding circumstances and sequence of events leading up to the coming of the Bridegroom could be most helpful. Ezra Taft Benson was uniquely prepared and qualified to light the path ahead...

In an October 1961 general conference talk, Elder Benson shared some important insights regarding our day and the fate of the Gentiles here in America, said he:

*"The Lord has declared that before the second coming of Christ it will be necessary to "... destroy the secret works of darkness, . . ." in order to preserve the land of Zion—the Americas". (2 Nephi 10:11-16.) (Oct. general conference, 1961)*

We take a moment to review the reference given (2 Nephi 10:11-16) which reads:

## 2 Nephi 10:11-16

*11 And this land shall be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles, and there shall be no kings upon the land, who shall raise up unto the Gentiles.*

*12 And I will fortify this land against all other nations.*

*13 And he that fighteth against Zion shall perish, saith God.*

*14 For 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.*

*15 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.*

*16 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.*

Above, the Lord declares that there is to be “no kings upon the land, who shall raise up unto the Gentiles” and that “he that raiseth up a king against me” is also “he that fighteth against Zion” and “shall perish”. So when the Gentiles attempt to subvert liberty, the rule of law and the constitution which God himself established, they “shall perish”.

This keys in with Elder Benson’s statement above... “before the second coming of Christ it will be necessary to “. . . destroy the secret works of darkness, . . .” in order to preserve the land of Zion—the Americas”. The implied sequence here is that the great destruction which is to come upon the Gentiles shall lead to “the Lord, the king of heaven... be(ing) their king”, thus, we have the coming of the Bridegroom!

In other words, when the Gentiles come out in open rebellion against freedom, liberty, and the constitution, that will be the last straw, the final sign that the Lord is about to “destroy the secret works of darkness” in conjunction with his coming as the Bridegroom.

Can anyone deny that we are living a day when some of America’s highest ranking political leaders have openly promoted global governance in favor of American sovereignty? Sought to open our borders to some of the most radical, anti-American, anti-constitutional elements around the globe? Corrupted our Department of Justice at the highest levels, thinking that they would be able to hide their crimes by electing an equally corrupt candidate to the presidency? And if this weren’t enough, can anyone deny that these same lawless corruptors of the

constitution are doing all within their powers to nu-seat the people's choice for President of the United States? And if they succeed, what then? Have we reached the threshold of the Lord's patience with secret combinations in America, or will we do so very soon?

In the same conference talk from which we quoted Ezra Taft Benson above, we read:

### Ezra Taft Benson "overthrow liberty and the Constitution"

*"if the gentiles on this land reject the word of God and conspire to overthrow liberty and the Constitution, then their doom is fixed, and they ". . . shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant". (1 Nephi 14:6; 3 Nephi 21:11, 14, 21; D&C 84:114-115, 117*

*"The great destructive force which was to be turned loose on the earth and which the prophets for centuries have been calling the "abomination of desolation" is vividly described by those who saw it in vision. Ours is the first generation to realize how literally these prophecies can be fulfilled now that God, through science, has unlocked the secret to thermonuclear reaction.*

*"In the light of these prophecies there should be no doubt in the mind of any priesthood holder that the human family is headed for trouble. There are rugged days ahead. It is time for every man who wishes to do his duty to get himself prepared—physically, spiritually, and psychologically—for the task which may come at any time, as suddenly as the whirlwind".... (Oct. general conference, 1961)*

We also find this same sequence of “abomination of desolation” followed by the Second Coming in Joseph Smith Matthew, so it’s a scriptural sequence for sure, we read:

### Joseph Smith Matthew 32-33, 36

*32 And again shall the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, be fulfilled.*

*33 And immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven shall be shaken...*

*36 And, as I said before, after the tribulation of those days, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken, then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven, and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn; and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory;*

Above, Elder Benson made reference to “the task which may come at any time”. I believe this “task” has to do with fulfilling the scriptural mandate. “Behold, and lo, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.” In other words, when the “abomination of desolation” comes upon the Gentiles in America via a nuclear holocaust or by means of “thermonuclear reaction” as Elder Benson says. It will be time to complete “the task” of returning to Jackson County in the midst of “a nation meted out and trodden under foot” as Isaiah says and preparing to rendezvous with the Bridegroom. Orson Pratt stated:

### Orson Pratt / “return and possess... Missouri”

*“Well then, to return to the prophesying, when the time shall come that the Lord shall waste away this nation, he will give*

*commandment to this people to return and possess their own inheritance which they purchased some forty-four years ago in the state of Missouri". (Gerald N. Lund, The Coming of the Lord ,110.)*

In conclusion, I bear witness to and confirm the validity of Ezra Taft Benson's inspired words and teachings! In the following video segment, President Thomas S. Monson also speaks of "the tasks ahead of us" as they relate to Ezra Taft Benson's teachings...



<https://youtu.be/xqmSrBjTt1c> Or view "Monson 3" on YouTube

Again, as stated above "There are rugged days ahead. It is time for every man who wishes to do his duty to get himself prepared—physically, spiritually, and psychologically—for the task which may come at any time, as suddenly as the whirlwind" ....

May we, as the members of “a marked generation” take the time to ponder and be cognizant of our place in history, may we all do our part to “help bear off the kingdom triumphantly”!

## Addendum to chapter 1

If we can see that what Ezra Taft Benson said about the “gentiles on this land reject(ing) the word of God and conspire(ing) to overthrow liberty and the Constitution” is actually unfolding before us, and if we understand that “their doom is fixed, and they “. . . shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant”, by way of the abomination of desolation which is to be “thermonuclear” in nature... Would it not be wise to make appropriate preparations?

I’m going to say that food, water, shelter (stand in holy places) and some form of iodine supplementation would be essential in as much as it will give you the needed protection against absorbing radioactive iodine. And since the vast majority of the population is deficient in iodine and stand to benefit generally and in so many ways, why wait to get started? If you’re going to take “vitamin pills”, please make iodine your top priority!

Might I suggest that you google iodine, or watch a few YouTube videos on this topic, there’s a world of good information to be found.



## 2 Introduction to the four pillars

If you knew there was a map available, one that would chart the course ahead and take us through the opening events of the millennium, right up to the time when the earth shall receive its paradisaical glory... would you be interested in obtaining such a map? What do you think such a map would be worth to you?

Well, the truth is that there is such a map and we're going to lay a foundation for understanding this map in this chapter. As it turns out, the Lord's Second Coming, when properly understood is not just one singular event. Not just one big ball of wax if you will, rather, the Lord's Second Coming is a process and when we read any prophetic passage relevant to it, we are only viewing a single segment or a single part of that process.

The difficulty we face is one of being a bit too myopic in our view of prophecy. Any passage we might be reading, thought inspired and absolutely accurate begins to take on much more meaning as we zoom out and view it in the context of prophecy as a whole. So, the question we might ask is... what's the big picture, what perspective could we adopt that would put all latter-day prophecy in context?

This is where the concept of the four pillars of the Second Coming comes in. We start by quoting from Ezra Taft Benson who explained the Lord's coming in these terms:

## Ezra Taft Benson and the three appearances

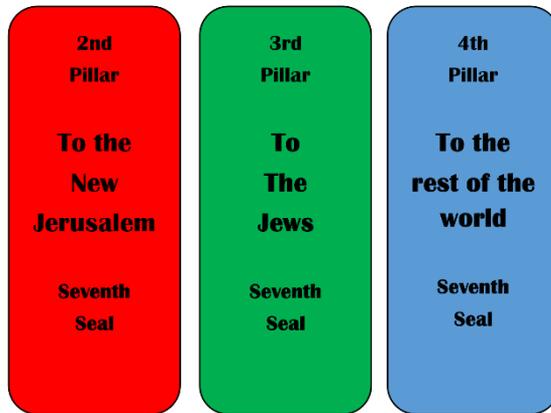
*“His first appearance will be to the righteous Saints who have gathered to the New Jerusalem. In this place of refuge they will be safe from the wrath of the Lord, which will be poured out without measure on all nations. . . .*

*The second appearance of the Lord will be to the Jews. To these beleaguered sons of Judah, surrounded by hostile Gentile armies, who again threaten to overrun Jerusalem, the Savior—their Messiah—will appear and set His feet on the Mount of Olives, “and it shall cleave in twain, and the earth shall tremble, and reel to and fro, and the heavens shall also shake. (D&C 45:48)*

*The Lord Himself will then rout the Gentile armies, decimating their forces (see Ezek.38,39). Judah will be spared, no longer to be persecuted and scattered. . . .*

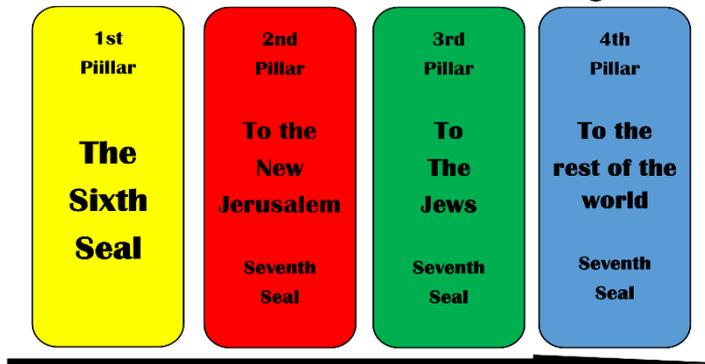
*The third appearance of Christ will be to the rest of the world. . . . All nations will see Him “in the clouds of heaven, clothed with power and great glory; with all the holy angels.” . (Ezra Taft Benson, New Era, Dec. 1980, pp. 49-50)*

Now, let us take what Ezra Taft Benson said and put it in a graphic form.



So, what do we have here? We have three distinct events, each of which relates to the word of the Lord, leading up to that time when the earth shall receive its paradisaical glory. However, there is one other element needed in order to complete the “four pillars” and is just as important in understanding prophecy as the three pillars listed above are. We are speaking of the sixth seal, the period just preceding the millennium and one well represented in scripture. We update our graphic to include this most important element of the four pillars.

#### Four Pillars of the Second Coming



Note that the updated graphic of the four pillars includes, in addition to the sixth seal an arrow denoting the direction in which the timeline of latter-day prophecy flows.

You now possess a key that is capable of unlocking the mystery of latter-day prophecy so far as sequence is concerned. Additionally, understanding sequence eventually leads to greater and greater insights into the timing of events.

Sixth seal events represented in scripture are numerous and quite easily recognized. John's description of sixth seal events found in Rev. 6:12 through chapter 7 is classic. Additionally, we have the Lord's words, spoken to his disciples on the mount of olives in the New Testament, Joseph Smith Matthew and D&C 45. To be more comprehensive, we would have to include additional passages from the Doctrine and Covenants and the Book of Mormon as well.

Truth is, in spite of the fact that Ezra Taft Benson has given us the key to understanding, as a whole, we tend to be confused when it comes to discerning the sequence of sixth and seventh seal events.

You can change that by taking the time to study prophecy across the entire standard works and then sorting out which statements relate to the sixth seal, which speaks of his first appearance, which describes his second appearance and which align with his third appearance, or alternately.... keep on reading...



### 3 The sixth seal

We start our discussion of the sixth seal by going to Rev. 6 where we read:

#### Rev. 6:12-13

*12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;*

*13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.*

Some have speculated that these events have already transpired, assuming that the phrase “when he had opened the sixth seal” indicates that it was to occur at the opening of the sixth seal. This, however, is not the case since the Lord revealed multiple times through the Prophet Joseph Smith that they were to take place in the future. See, D&C 45:42, 29:14 and 88:87.

#### Are we still in the sixth seal?

This is a question upon which there are varied opinions, however, those who claim that we are already in the seventh seal have failed the acid test, we go to D&C 29 and read:

## D&C 29:11-21

*11 For I will reveal myself from heaven with power and great glory, with all the hosts thereof, and dwell in righteousness with men on earth a thousand years, and the wicked shall not stand.*

*12 And again, verily, verily, I say unto you, and it hath gone forth in a firm decree, by the will of the Father, that mine apostles, the Twelve which were with me in my ministry at Jerusalem, shall stand at my right hand at the day of my coming in a pillar of fire, being clothed with robes of righteousness, with crowns upon their heads, in glory even as I am, to judge the whole house of Israel, even as many as have loved me and kept my commandments, and none else.*

*13 For a trump shall sound both long and loud, even as upon Mount Sinai, and all the earth shall quake, and they shall comeforth—yea, even the dead which died in me, to receive a crown of righteousness, and to be clothed upon, even as I am, to be with me, that we may be one.*

The above three verses obviously speak of seventh seal events but from verse 14 to 21 we are reading about events that are to transpire “before” the “great day” of the millennium or events that transpire in the sixth seal, we continue reading:

*14 But, behold, I say unto you that before this great day shall come the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall be turned into blood, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and there shall be greater signs in heaven above and in the earth beneath;*

*15 And there shall be weeping and wailing among the hosts of men;*

*16 And there shall be a great hailstorm sent forth to destroy the crops of the earth.*

*17 And it shall come to pass, because of the wickedness of the world, that I will take vengeance upon the wicked, for they will not repent; for the cup of mine indignation is full; for behold, my blood shall not cleanse them if they hear me not.*

*18 Wherefore, I the Lord God will send forth flies upon the face of the earth, which shall take hold of the inhabitants thereof, and shall eat their flesh, and shall cause maggots to come in upon them;*

*19 And their tongues shall be stayed that they shall not utter against me; and their flesh shall fall from off their bones, and their eyes from their sockets;*

*20 And it shall come to pass that the beasts of the forest and the fowls of the air shall devour them up.*

*21 And the great and abominable church, which is the whore of all the earth, shall be cast down by devouring fire, according as it is spoken by the mouth of Ezekiel the prophet, who spoke of these things, which have not come to pass but surely must, as I live, for abominations shall not reign.*

Those who claim we are presently in the seventh seal must be able to show us when...

1. Was the sun was darkened, the moon turned to blood, the stars fell from heaven and there were “greater signs in heaven above and in the earth beneath”.
2. Was there “a great hailstorm sent forth to destroy the crops of the earth”?

3. Did the Lord “send forth flies upon the face of the earth, which” took “hold of the inhabitants thereof, and” ate “their flesh, and” caused “maggots to come in upon them”?
4. Did the Lord stay “their tongues” that they should “not utter against” him?
5. Did “their flesh... fall from off their bones, and their eyes from their sockets”?
6. Did “the beasts of the forest and the fowls of the air... devour them up”?
7. Was “the great and abominable church...cast down by devouring fire”?

These events are all in the category of events “which have not come to pass but surely must... for abominations shall not reign”. There is much more that could be said about the events of the sixth seal. We shall surely return to this subject in future chapters. For the present we shall turn our attention to the second, third and fourth pillars of the Second Coming. These represent areas where greater gains are to be had so far as our understanding of the Lord’s millennial mission is concerned.



## 4 The Lord's first appearance

Let us begin by refreshing our memory as to what Ezra Taft Benson said of this event, we read:

*"His first appearance will be to the righteous Saints who have gathered to the New Jerusalem. In this place of refuge they will be safe from the wrath of the Lord, which will be poured out without measure on all nations. . . ." (Ezra Taft Benson, New Era, Dec. 1980, pp. 49-50)*

Two main points that we extract from this quotation is that "the righteous Saints" must be "gathered" to the area of "the New Jerusalem" before the Lord comes and that it is to be a "place of refuge" where the saints "will be safe from the wrath of the Lord, which will be poured out without measure on all nations".

In as much as the world shall be in great turmoil and commotion at this time, let us not make the mistake of minimizing the importance of participating in this gathering when the opportunity presents itself.

What do the scriptures say about this first appearance? We begin by going to Rev. 21

Rev. 21:2-4

*2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

*3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

*4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

We learn from the above that there will be a “holy city”, even a “new Jerusalem” which shall come “down from God out of heaven” and that it shall be “prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.” So this is the Lord’s coming as the “Bridegroom”, it is more involved than a simple appearing to the saints who await his coming, although the saints are also considered to be “the bride”.

This “holy city” or “new Jerusalem” which is also referenced here as “the tabernacle of God” is none other than the city of Enoch. See Moses 7:63.

Of those righteous souls who are on the earth and who shall greet the Lord, we learn that “he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God”.

Another passage that is descriptive of this appearance is the parable of the ten virgins which we know to be specific to the members of the church as well, from Matthew 25 we read:

### Matthew 25:1-13

*1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.*

2 *And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.*  
3 *They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:*  
4 *But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.*  
5 *While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.*  
6 *And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.*  
7 *Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.*  
8 *And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.*  
9 *But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.*  
10 *And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.*  
11 *Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.*  
12 *But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.*  
13 *Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.*

In as much as this parable represents the members of the church, we surmise that only about half of them will have sufficient “oil in their vessels with their lamps” and will be able to abide the day.

Interestingly, two of the features of this “parable” may also be prophetically accurate as well. And what would they be? It’s the idea that (1) when the Bridegroom comes, that darkness shall prevail and (2) that he will come at midnight.

We move on to our next first appearance passage in Joseph Smith Matthew, which will validate what we have said about the darkness and highlight the connection between the abomination of desolation and the Second Advent.

### Joseph Smith Matthew 32-36

*32 And again shall the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, be fulfilled.*

*33 And immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven shall be shaken.*

*34 Verily, I say unto you, this generation, in which these things shall be shown forth, shall not pass away until all I have told you shall be fulfilled.*

*35 Although, the days will come, that heaven and earth shall pass away; yet my words shall not pass away, but all shall be fulfilled.*

*36 And, as I said before, after the tribulation of those days, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken, then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven, and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn; and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory;*

To begin with, Joseph Smith Matthew is, from verse 32 onward, pretty much exclusively about the Lord's first appearance as the Bridegroom! It was given, according to the Lord himself "for the elect's sake". He emphasizes this point by repeating himself and saying "Behold I speak for mine elect's sake". That's because it applies specificity to them, or to us, assuming that we have sufficient oil in our lamps!

In verse 32-33 we learn that “the abomination of desolation” shall again “be fulfilled” and that “immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven shall be shaken.”... there’s our darkness! And then what happens? We get the answer in verse 36:

*36 And, as I said before, after the tribulation of those days, (the abomination of desolation) and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken, then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven, and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn; and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory;*

We pick up again at verse 38:

*38 Now learn a parable of the fig tree—When its branches are yet tender, and it begins to put forth leaves, you know that summer is nigh at hand;*

*39 So likewise, mine elect, when they shall see all these things, they shall know that he is near, even at the doors;*

We ask, what is this passage actually saying... when the elect see what things? Well, the answer appears to be, those “things” that transpired just before the Lord’s appearance which were given in verses 32-33... The abomination of desolation, the sun being darkened, the moon not giving her light, the stars falling from heaven and the powers of heaven being shaken.

So why reference the same events a second time, but in the form of a parable? Is it to give us greater understanding or to increase the accuracy of the prophecy by putting a finer point on it? Are these events to commence when “the fig tree... branches are yet tender, and it begins to put forth leaves”? What? Is the

abomination of desolation to commence in the spring of the year with these other signs following in quick succession and leading up to the coming of the Bridegroom? Exactly, we shall present further evidence of this sequence in future chapters. We now move to D&C 133 where we get yet another view of the Lord's first appearance, we read:

### D&C 133:46-56

*46 And it shall be said: Who is this that cometh down from God in heaven with dyed garments; yea, from the regions which are not known, clothed in his glorious apparel, traveling in the greatness of his strength?*

*47 And he shall say: I am he who spake in righteousness, mighty to save.*

*48 And the Lord shall be red in his apparel, and his garments like him that treadeth in the wine-vat.*

*49 And so great shall be the glory of his presence that the sun shall hide his face in shame, and the moon shall withhold its light, and the stars shall be hurled from their places.*

*50 And his voice shall be heard: I have trodden the wine-press alone, and have brought judgment upon all people; and none were with me;*

*51 And I have trampled them in my fury, and I did tread upon them in mine anger, and their blood have I sprinkled upon my garments, and stained all my raiment; for this was the day of vengeance which was in my heart.*

*52 And now the year of my redeemed is come; and they shall mention the loving kindness of their Lord, and all that he has bestowed upon them according to his goodness, and according to his loving kindness, forever and ever.*

*53 In all their afflictions he was afflicted. And the angel of his presence saved them; and in his love, and in his pity, he redeemed them, and bore them, and carried them all the days of old;*

*54 Yea, and Enoch also, and they who were with him; the prophets who were before him; and Noah also, and they who were before him; and Moses also, and they who were before him;*

*55 And from Moses to Elijah, and from Elijah to John, who were with Christ in his resurrection, and the holy apostles, with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, shall be in the presence of the Lamb.*

*56 And the graves of the saints shall be opened; and they shall come forth and stand on the right hand of the Lamb, when he shall stand upon Mount Zion, and upon the holy city, the New Jerusalem; and they shall sing the song of the Lamb, day and night forever and ever.*

In verse 49 we read that “the sun shall hide his face in shame, and the moon shall withhold its light, and the stars shall be hurled from their places,” confirming that darkness shall prevail at this time.

In verses 54-55 we learn just who “shall be in the presence of the Lamb” when he comes. We note that “Enoch also, and they who were with him” and therefore the City of Enoch is included, which is totally consistent with Rev. 21:2-4 which we quoted above.

Of course, the real give away that nails this down as his first appearance is the phrase “when he shall stand upon Mount Zion, and upon the holy city, the New Jerusalem”. Also, worth noting is the fact that this will be the first millennial time of resurrection for “the graves of the saints shall be opened; and they shall come forth and stand on the right hand of the Lamb” at this time.

Next, we go to 3 Nephi 21 where we get the Book of Mormon version of the abomination of desolation and Second Coming sequence which we read about in Joseph Smith Matthew 32-36:

### 3 Nephi 21:14-29

*14 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;*

*15 And I will cut off the cities of thy land, and throw down all thy strongholds;*

*16 And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thy land, and thou shalt have no more soothsayers;*

*17 Thy graven images I will also cut off, and thy standing images out of the midst of thee, and thou shalt no more worship the works of thy hands;*

*18 And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee; so will I destroy thy cities.*

*19 And it shall come to pass that all lyings, and deceivings, and envyings, and strifes, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, shall be done away.*

*20 For it shall come to pass, saith the Father, that at that day whosoever will not repent and come unto my Beloved Son, them will I cut off from among my people, O house of Israel;  
21 And I will execute vengeance and fury upon them, even as upon the heathen, such as they have not heard.*

It shouldn't be difficult at all to see the parallel between these verses and the abomination of desolation. The abomination of desolation is of course very bad and "vengeance and fury... even as upon the heathen, such as they have not heard" is just another description so the same event. Of course, this destruction does not apply generally to those among the Gentiles who have repented, accepted Christ and entered into the covenant previous to this great destruction, we read about them next:

*22 But if they will repent and hearken unto my words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish my church among them, and they shall come in unto the covenant and be numbered among this the remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance;  
23 And they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob, and also as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem.  
24 And then shall they assist my people that they may be gathered in, who are scattered upon all the face of the land, in unto the New Jerusalem.*

We learn in verse 22 that the Gentiles who have "come in unto the covenant" are to receive "this land for their inheritance" along with "the remnant of Jacob". As we all know, they are also the ones tasked with the responsibility of bringing this record forth and

taking it to “the remnant”, that they might “come into the covenant” as well.

We learn in verse 24 that “they”, the Gentiles, are also tasked with the assignment of “gathering in” all “who are scattered upon all the face of the land, in unto the New Jerusalem”, that is, those who accept the covenant, to the location where the heavenly New Jerusalem will descend and the earthly New Jerusalem shall be built. And then what happens? Verse 25 happens, we read:

*25 And then shall the power of heaven come down among them; and I also will be in the midst.*

Verse 25 denotes the coming of the Bridegroom. What’s especially important to understand is that this event is the key that opens the door to the exponential gathering of Israel! Verses 26-29 describe the cascade of events that follow, we read:

*26 And then shall the work of the Father commence at that day, even when this gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people. Verily I say unto you, at that day shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people, yea, even the tribes which have been lost, which the Father hath led away out of Jerusalem.*

*27 Yea, the work shall commence among all the dispersed of my people, with the Father to prepare the way whereby they may come unto me, that they may call on the Father in my name.*

*28 Yea, and then shall the work commence, with the Father among all nations in preparing the way whereby his people may be gathered home to the land of their inheritance.*

*29 And they shall go out from all nations; and they shall not go out in haste, nor go by flight, for I will go before them, saith the Father, and I will be their rearward.*

So, you may have noticed that there was a lot of “commencing” in those verses. Once we see “the power of heaven come down” and Christ “in the midst” we are in the millennial day. The Lord says in verse 26 above, “at that day shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people, yea, even the tribes which have been lost, which the Father hath led away out of Jerusalem”.

A point that we want to be sure to understand is that “commencement” day for the house of Israel is post Second Coming! Our next scriptural passage validates this point nicely, we go back to D&C 133 and read:

#### D&C 133:25-26

*25 And the Lord, even the Savior, shall stand in the midst of his people, and shall reign over all flesh.*

*26 And they who are in the north countries shall come in remembrance before the Lord; and their prophets shall hear his voice, and shall no longer stay themselves; and they shall smite the rocks, and the ice shall flow down at their presence.*

There’s just no separating the coming of the Bridegroom and the great day of the gathering of the house of Israel. As we learn from the above “even the Savior, shall stand in the midst of his people” when “they who are in the north countries shall... hear his voice, and shall no longer stay themselves... they shall smite the rocks, and the ice shall flow down at their presence.”

We close this chapter with a passage that marks an important reference point where the millennium and seventh seal is concerned, we go to Rev. 8:1-2:

### Rev. 8:1-2

*1 And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.*

*2 And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.*

Verse one marks the intersection between the sixth and seventh seals. It also intersects with each of the previous six passages used in this chapter. This is when:

*“he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God”*

*“the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage”*

*“they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory”*

*“the graves of the saints shall be opened; and they shall come forth and stand on the right hand of the Lamb”*

*“the power of heaven” shall “come down among them; and I also will be in the midst”*

*“the Lord, even the Savior... shall reign over all flesh”*

Verse one is not only the epicenter of all first appearances passages but it is also the reckoning point for measuring the timeline to the Lord’s second and third appearances!



## 5 The first shall be last and the last shall be first

Before we move on to the Lord's second appearance, we need to understand an important scriptural truth that will broaden our perspective and provide us with a basis for understanding the interplay between the Jews, the Gentiles and the rest of the house of Israel. We start by going to 1 Nephi 13 where we read:

### 1 Nephi 13:42

*42 And the time cometh that he shall manifest himself unto all nations, both unto the Jews and also unto the Gentiles; and after he has manifested himself unto the Jews and also unto the Gentiles, then he shall manifest himself unto the Gentiles and also unto the Jews, and the last shall be first, and the first shall be last.*

We learn that “the time cometh that he”, Christ that is, “shall manifest himself unto all nations”. However, that ministering is to follow a very specific and well-defined path. The ministering starts with the Jews first and the Gentile last in the meridian of time and then reverses order with the Gentiles first and the Jews last in the

fullness of times. Thus, “the last shall be first, and the first shall be last”.

That sounds simple enough at first glance but there is actually more to this process than initially meets the eye and here’s why. Shortly after the Lord’s mortal ministry and crucifixion we know that he appeared to and personally ministered among the Nephites here in America, who were also of the house of Israel. While among the Nephites he revealed the existence of “other sheep” and his intention to personally minister among them as well. In 3 Nephi 16 we read:

### 3 Nephi 16:1-3

*1 And verily, verily, I say unto you that I have other sheep, which are not of this land, neither of the land of Jerusalem, neither in any parts of that land round about whither I have been to minister.*

*2 For they of whom I speak are they who have not as yet heard my voice; neither have I at any time manifested myself unto them.*

*3 But I have received a commandment of the Father that I shall go unto them, and that they shall hear my voice, and shall be numbered among my sheep, that there may be one fold and one shepherd; therefore I go to show myself unto them.*

How many other sheepfolds he visited we cannot say but considering how widely Israel was scattered it could have been quite extensive. However, we do know of his visit among the ten tribes. From 3 Nephi 17 we read:

### 3 Nephi 17:4

*4 But now I go unto the Father, and also to show myself unto the lost tribes of Israel, for they are not lost unto the Father, for he knoweth whither he hath taken them.*

We conclude that the ministering process in the meridian of time started with the Jews and then expanded out to encompass the balance of the house of Israel, including the lost ten tribes. All of this must have been completed before the gospel message was taken to the Gentiles, otherwise, they wouldn't be last, would they?

This expanded view of how this ministering unfolded in the meridian of time gives us much greater insights as to what to expect as the process is reversed here in the fullness of times. For example, as the day of the Gentiles comes to an end, we can be sure that the Lord will minister once again among the balance of the house of Israel before he makes his appearance among the Jews at the battle of Armageddon!

The difference is that this time they, scattered Israel that is, shall gather from around the globe and "as many of the house of Israel as shall come" shall help "build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem". "And they shall go out from all nations; and they shall not go out in haste, nor go by flight, for I will go before them, saith the Father, and I will be their rearward".

The gathering of Israel and the ten tribes to America and their participation in the building of the earthly New Jerusalem are both millennial events and are prelude to the Lord's appearance to the Jews as their Messiah.



## 6 The timing of the Lord's second appearance

One question we want to answer is... How much time will have transpired between the Lord's coming as the Bridegroom and his coming to the Jews as their Messiah? As was indicated at the end of chapter three, Rev. 8:1-2 forms the point from which we measure time in the seventh seal. Essentially, John gives us a measuring stick, we read:

### Rev. 8:1-2

*1 And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.*

*2 And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.*

In Rev. chapters 5 through 8 we learn about a book sealed with seven seals, each of which represents 1000 years. As we know "one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." (See JST 2 Peter 3:8)

So John approaches these chapters from the perspective of God's time frame. In verse one above, John tells us that "there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour", so we apply the reckoning of heaven to the half hour of silence. Since there are 48 half hours in a day, we need only divide 1000 by 48 to arrive at

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20.83 which is “about” 21 years. That’s the number we are going to settle on for the half hour of silence.

Now, shifting gears, in verse 2 we learn about seven angels with seven trumpets. Chapters 8 through 11 documents both the sounding of their trumps and the associated prophetic events tied to them. Here is what we learn about the reckoning of time, from the coming of the Bridegroom to his second appearance as the Jewish Messiah in these chapters.

In chapter 9 we have the fifth angel sounding his trump and an associated event, we read:

[Rev. 9:1,5](#)

*1 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit...*

*5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man...*

*10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.*

In this same chapter and just a few verses later, we read about the sixth angel sounding his trump and the events which follow:

[Rev. 9:13-15](#)

*13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,*

*14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.*

*15 And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.*

So, during the tenure of the fifth angel we have an event lasting five months and another event following the sounding of the sixth angel lasting just over 13 months or “an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year”. We’re not going to quibble over the extra hour and a day, rounding it off to 13 months will work just fine for our purposes.

So what do we learn from these verses? Well, we can safely conclude that it has been no less than 18 months since the coming of the Bridegroom. We continue our treasure hunt for more time and discover in chapter 11 that the sixth angel is about to deliver the mother lode, we read:

### Rev. 11:2-6

*2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.*

*3 And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.*

*4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.*

*5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.*

*6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.*

When we include the additional 42 months, we come up with a total of 60 months. Although it is certainly plausible and very probable that more time has passed, one thing we know for sure. No less than five years have passed since the Lord came to his saints as the Bridegroom.

Let's take a moment and summarize what we've covered in this chapter so far. First, we've learned that when the Lord comes to his saints as the Bridegroom, the seventh seal shall open and a 21 year long countdown, the half hour of silence, shall commence. Second, we now know that there shall be a minimum passage of five years between the Lord's coming as the Bridegroom and his appearance to the Jews.

And what is the relationship between the half hour of silence and the passage of time between the Lord's first two appearances?

Well, have you ever noticed in your studies of the book of Revelation that it's a book of 7's? Seven angels, seven trumpets, seven churches, seven last plagues, seven spirits, seven vials, seven seals, seven stars, seven thunders, seven lamps of fire, seven heads, seven crowns, seven golden candlesticks, etc? Why do you think that is?

Well, it's because the number seven is symbolic of the wholeness, completeness and perfection of God's works. Has it dawned on you that the half hour of silence, being 21 years, is dividable by seven? Do you think that's a coincidence?

We know that the Lord's second appearance is at least five years after the first and that there are many events in that time frame that have no particular duration assigned to them. Balancing an allowance for additional time against the fact that the half hour of silence is divisible by seven, we're going to place the Lord's second appearance at the seven-year mark.



## 7 The Lord's second appearance

We start this chapter just as we did with chapter three, by reviewing what Ezra Taft Benson had to say about the Lord's second appearance:

*"The second appearance of the Lord will be to the Jews. To these beleaguered sons of Judah, surrounded by hostile Gentile armies, who again threaten to overrun Jerusalem, the Savior-their Messiah-will appear and set His feet on the Mount of Olives, "and it shall cleave in twain, and the earth shall tremble, and reel to and fro, and the heavens shall also shake. (D&C 45:48)*

*The Lord Himself will then rout the Gentile armies, decimating their forces (see Ezek.38,39). Judah will be spared, no longer to be persecuted and scattered. . . . (Ezra Taft Benson, New Era, Dec. 1980, pp. 49-50)*

Rev. Chapter 11 gives an up-close view of events leading up to the Lord's appearance to the Jews but omits quite a few details. However, by the time we cross reference it with a few other passages we are still presented with a fairly comprehensive picture. The following verses fall under the venue of the sixth angel and the second woe, we read:

## Rev. 11:1-14

*1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein.*

*2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.*

*3 And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.*

*4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.*

*5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.*

*6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.*

*7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.*

*8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.*

*9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.*

*10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.*

*11 And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.*

*12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.*

*13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.*

*14 The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.*

Here we have a period in which two prophets are “given power” to hold off Gog’s army of two hundred million, which they successfully do for 3 1/2 years, 42 months or 1260 days. They “have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.”

Not until “they shall have finished their testimony” shall “the beast... out of the bottomless pit... make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.” Their dead bodies lie in the streets of Jerusalem “three days and an half” when according to the text “the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.” They hear a “voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither... they ascended up to heaven in a cloud”

Note that the 3 1/2 years or 42 months, when evil is allowed to prevail, is but half of “seven”, the number that symbolizes the wholeness, completeness, and perfection of God’s works. Satan’s works on the other hand, besides being limited to what God permits, are evil, corruptible, incomplete and half-baked. For

example, even though the “two witnesses” are “overcome” and killed, they are only dead for “three days and an half”, the limit of Satan’s power, in this case before God exercises his superior power by raising them up.

“The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly”. So, lets read about the third woe or what happens when the seventh angel sounds his trump:

### Rev. 11:15-19

*15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.*

*16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,*

*17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.*

*18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.*

*19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.*

In these verses, we get some nice hints as to what the third woe is all about but not the kind of detail we would like to see. However, one thing is clear, when the dust settles following the third woe, the Lamb has vanquished his foes and is clearly in the power position, for we are told, “The kingdoms of this world are

become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ” and “thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned”.

Rewards are meted out and scores are settled for we read “thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.”

Note in verse 19 the mention of “an earthquake, and great hail”. We shall learn more about this from the next passage. We go to Ezekiel 38 and read:

### Ezekiel 38:16-23

*16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.*

*17 Thus saith the Lord God; Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring thee against them?*

*18 And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord God, that my fury shall come up in my face.*

*19 For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;*

*20 So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown*

*down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.*

*21 And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord God: every man's sword shall be against his brother.*

*22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.*

*23 Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord.*

What Ezekiel gives us here is pretty straight forward and easy to understand. In addition to telling Gog, “thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days”, the Lord informs us as to what His response will be, says he:

*“there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel; So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.”*

So we have a great earthquake as the Lord says, “at my presence” and then we are informed, “I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.”

This “overflowing rain” of “hailstones, fire, and brimstone” is apparently how Gog’s army of two hundred million shall meet their

doom, although not all of them shall be destroyed for in Ezekiel 39:2 the Lord proclaims that “I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee”. Thus, some twelve million shall survive the ordeal.

In verse 20 we are told that the shaking shall be such that “every wall shall fall to the ground”. What, “every wall”? Even the walls of the temple? Well, actually there is no clear scriptural basis for the idea that a temple shall be built in Jerusalem before Christ comes to the Jews. And since the rebuilt Jerusalem shall be an eternal city, it makes much more sense that it should be built from the ground *up* in the post Armageddon ear. Joseph Fielding Smith stated:

*“After the Jews have repented and received the Gospel, having acknowledged Jesus Christ as their Redeemer, the temple in Jerusalem will be built according to the prophecy in Ezekiel.”*  
*(Signs Of The Times, Joseph Fielding Smith 238)*

Next we go to Zechariah 14:

### Zechariah 14:1- 8, 12

*1 Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.*

*2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.*

*3 Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.*

*4 ¶ And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the*

*west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

*5 And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.*

*6 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark:*

*7 But it shall be one day which shall be known to the Lord, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.*

*8 And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be...*

*12 ¶ And this shall be the plague wherewith the Lord will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.*

We learn from verse 4 that when the Lord shall “stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east... the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south”. The Jews shall “flee to the valley” thus created “for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal”.

We learn from verse 5 that when the “Lord... shall come” and that “all the saints” shall come with him. This would, of course include

the ten tribes and the rest of Israel who had previously gathered to the New Jerusalem.

The sign given to the Nephites of the Lord's birth was "one day and a night and a day, as if it were one day and there were no night". This same sign shall repeat when the Lord comes among the Jews the second time, for we learn in verse 6 that "it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark: But it shall be one day which shall be known to the Lord, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light."

This sign is precisely the opposite of that which shall be manifest when the Lord make his first appearance as the Bridegroom when "the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven".

It appears that the intense heat from the "overflowing rain" of "fire and brimstone" which we read about in Ezekiel 38 shall be visited upon the Lambs enemies and will be such that "Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth". We now go to D&C 45 for yet another view of these events:

#### D&C 45:43-54

*43 And the remnant shall be gathered unto this place;  
44 And then they shall look for me, and, behold, I will come; and they shall see me in the clouds of heaven, clothed with power and great glory; with all the holy angels; and he that watches not for me shall be cut off.*

*45 But before the arm of the Lord shall fall, an angel shall sound his trump, and the saints that have slept shall come forth to meet me in the cloud.*

*46 Wherefore, if ye have slept in peace blessed are you; for as you now behold me and know that I am, even so shall ye come unto me and your souls shall live, and your redemption shall be perfected; and the saints shall come forth from the four quarters of the earth.*

The resurrection of which verses 45-46 speaks is the second time of resurrection since the opening of the seventh seal, the first time was when Christ came to his saints as the Bridegroom. (see D&C 133:56) Apparently, some among the saints will have passed over or died in the interim. We continue reading:

*47 Then shall the arm of the Lord fall upon the nations.*

*48 And then shall the Lord set his foot upon this mount, and it shall cleave in twain, and the earth shall tremble, and reel to and fro, and the heavens also shall shake.*

*49 And the Lord shall utter his voice, and all the ends of the earth shall hear it; and the nations of the earth shall mourn, and they that have laughed shall see their folly.*

*50 And calamity shall cover the mocker, and the scorner shall be consumed; and they that have watched for iniquity shall be hewn down and cast into the fire.*

*51 And then shall the Jews look upon me and say: What are these wounds in thine hands and in thy feet?*

*52 Then shall they know that I am the Lord; for I will say unto them: These wounds are the wounds with which I was wounded in the house of my friends. I am he who was lifted up. I am Jesus that was crucified. I am the Son of God.*

*53 And then shall they weep because of their iniquities; then shall they lament because they persecuted their king.*

*54 And then shall the heathen nations be redeemed, and they that knew no law shall have part in the first resurrection; and it shall be tolerable for them.*

We note that when “the arm of the Lord” shall “fall upon the nations” is when he shall “set his foot upon this mount, and it shall cleave in twain” causing the earth to “tremble, and reel to and fro”. So we have the element of earthquake once again.

This is also the point at which the Jews come to the realization that “Jesus” who was “crucified” is “the Son of God”... “then shall they weep because of their iniquities; then shall they lament because they persecuted their king”. Having come to the conclusion that Jesus Christ was, in fact, their promised Messiah all along, their hearts will yield and their intellects embrace the living Christ as the Messiah, yielding to the necessity of receiving the saving ordinances of the restored Gospel.

Now, reflecting back to chapter 4 where we learned that “The first shall be last and the last shall be first”. It becomes rather obvious that with the conversion of the Jews, the second part of the cycle would have been completed. Do we, therefore, conclude that the Lord’s millennial mission has been completed? Well, actually, not at all!

From the above passage we are informed that after the Lord comes to the Jews there is yet something more to be accomplished, for it says “And then shall the heathen nations be redeemed”. So following this whole first last, last first thing, which is very house of Israel centric, the Gentiles being greatly blessed with the blood of Ephraim, we have yet another wave of ministering with the heathen nations as the recipients.



## 8 And then shall the heathen nations be redeemed

Returning to Ezekiel chapter 38, we quote verses 16 and 23 which reads:

### Ezekiel 38:16, 23

*16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes...*

*23 Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord.*

So obviously, it was the Lord's intention, as he says "that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes" and that he would "be known in the eyes of many nations" that "they shall know that I am the Lord."

The heathens, having witnessed the power and majesty of the Lord in the events surrounding the battle of Armageddon shall be obliged to accept the Jewish Messiah as the all powerful God of

heaven and earth. In that acceptance lays the path to their salvation and exaltation. We go to D&C 90 where we read:

### D&C 90:9-11

*9 That through your administration they may receive the word, and through their administration the word may go forth unto the ends of the earth, unto the Gentiles first, and then, behold, and lo, they shall turn unto the Jews.*

*10 And then cometh the day when the arm of the Lord shall be revealed in power in convincing the nations, the heathen nations, the house of Joseph, of the gospel of their salvation.*

*11 For it shall come to pass in that day, that every man shall hear the fulness of the gospel in his own tongue, and in his own language, through those who are ordained unto this power, by the administration of the Comforter, shed forth upon them for the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

We find it interesting that the “Gentiles first” and then “turn unto the Jews” thing is referenced in verse 9. It’s actually an acknowledgment of the sequence of ministering we have been speaking about. Then we read, “And then cometh the day when the arm of the Lord shall be revealed in power in convincing the nations, the heathen nations, the house of Joseph, of the gospel of their salvation”.

The phrase, “the arm of the Lord shall be revealed” is a reference to D&C 45: 45, “But before the arm of the Lord shall fall”. The great associated battle of Armageddon was, in part, for the “convincing the nations, the heathen nations... of the gospel of their salvation”.

What's also noteworthy, we read that "every man shall hear the fulness of the gospel in his own tongue, and in his own language" and of course this is after the Lord has already appeared twice. So the idea that the gospel should be preached to every nation, kindred, tongue and people before the Second Coming is based on a complete misinterpretation of scripture.

Let's take a moment and summarize what we have learned about the sequence of ministering here in the fullness of times.

1- We start with the day of the Gentiles which we find ourselves in presently.

2- Next, with the coming of the Bridegroom, the great day of ministering among the balance of the house of Israel shall see fulfillment. They shall also help with the building of the New Jerusalem.

3- At this same time, the same seven years, the trials and tribulations documented in Rev. Chapters 8-11 shall unfold in the Old World and lead up to Christ appearing to the Jews as their Messiah. They shall accept the restored gospel and its ordinances of salvation.

4- Next, a great work shall take place among the heathen nations, they shall accept the Messiah and receive the gospel and its ordinances.

5- When the work of ministering among all of the nations of the earth is complete, what we have been calling the third appearance shall unfold and the earth shall receive its paradisaical glory.



## 9 The first seven years of the half hour of silence

The first seven years of the half hour of silence (or the millennium) are years of tribulation among the nations. It is the time in which the nations of the earth shall fall and when Christ's Millennial rule shall be set up. Of course, this is a process and cannot be complete until Christ makes his appearance to the Jews and defeats Gog's army. It is a time of division so far as wickedness and righteousness are concerned, for the Lord so declares in D&C section one:

### D&C 1:35-36

*35 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.*

*36 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.*

We see the same division of the wicked and the righteous illustrated in D&C 45, we read:

## D&C 45:66-70

*66 And it shall be called the New Jerusalem, a land of peace, a city of refuge, a place of safety for the saints of the Most High God;*

*67 And the glory of the Lord shall be there, and the terror of the Lord also shall be there, insomuch that the wicked will not come unto it, and it shall be called Zion.*

*68 And it shall come to pass among the wicked, that every man that will not take his sword against his neighbor must needs flee unto Zion for safety.*

*69 And there shall be gathered unto it out of every nation under heaven; and it shall be the only people that shall not be at war one with another.*

*70 And it shall be said among the wicked: Let us not go up to battle against Zion, for the inhabitants of Zion are terrible; wherefore we cannot stand.*

This time of division is also characterized as that time in which the seven angels, having seven trumps, shall sound. During this period of time, there shall be an ongoing “controversy with the nations” in which the Lord will “plead with all flesh”. From Jeremiah chapter 25 we read:

## Jeremiah 25:30-33

*30 Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The Lord shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth.*

*31 A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the Lord hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the Lord.*

*32 Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth.*

*33 And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.*

Again, this is precisely the same span of time covered in Rev. Chapters 8 through 11 as we have previously stated and is also the last week of the seventy weeks prophecy which Gabriel delivered to Daniel. In Daniel chapter nine we learn that as Daniel was petitioning the Lord in behalf of his people and “the holy mountain of my God” or Jerusalem, Gabriel appeared to him and prophesied: We go to Daniel 9:24-27.

### **Daniel 9:24-27 / And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week**

*24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.*

*25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.*

*26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.*

*27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.*

In verse 24 we are told, “Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city”. In short, these seventy weeks or 70 times 7 years are divided into two portions. The first being 69 weeks (483 years) and the second being but one week or 7 years. Note that both portions have bearing “upon the holy city” or Jerusalem and so have to do with the Lord’s two appearances to the Jews.

We note that the first 69 weeks spans from “the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem”(see Nehemiah 2:1-8) “unto the Messiah” or to the ministering of the Lord among the Jews in the meridian of time when he would “finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy” and finally “shall Messiah be cut off”.

In verse 27 we read “And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease”. Confirm what covenant for seven years, and with whom?

Well. the covenant that the Bridegroom would return and dwell with his saints and gather Israel prior to his appearance to the Jews as their Messiah, that covenant!

We also note that “in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease”.. And who is “he”? That would be none other than Gog with his army of 200 million who shall lay siege against Jerusalem for 42 months leading up to the coming of the Messiah to the Jews.

The prophecy of the “seventy weeks” not only proves the word of God to have been accurate in predicting the coming of Christ in the meridian of time, but also confirms that the passage of time between the Lord’s first two appearance will indeed be seven years!



## 10 After Armageddon

With the coming of Jesus Christ among the Jews, rapid changes will occur. Not only will they accept Jesus Christ as their long-awaited Messiah and enter into covenant with him but all nations, including the heathen nations, shall accept the new reality. From Zachariah 14 we read:

### Zachariah 14:16-21

*16 ¶ And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.*

*17 And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.*

*18 And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the Lord will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.*

*19 This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.*

*20 ¶ In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the Lord's house shall be like the bowls before the altar.*

*21 Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord of hosts: and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and seethe therein: and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts.*

From the above passage, it is clear that “all the nations which came against Jerusalem” are now subject to “the Lord of hosts” and are required to come up to Jerusalem to “worship the King” and “keep the feast of tabernacles” or do without rain. For reasons that will become more apparent in later chapters, the continued recognition of the “feast of tabernacles” will likely also serve as an annual reminder of that day when Gog and his armies were defeated, the Jews were delivered, and the heathen nations came to acknowledge Jesus Christ as the omnipotent God of creation.

At any rate, it’s very clear that the Lord governs the entire earth at this point and that resistance is futile... Zachariah also tells us of physical change in the Holy Land, we read:

### Zachariah 14:8-10

*8 And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be.*

*9 And the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and his name one.*

*10 All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin’s gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king’s winepresses...*

Ezekiel explains why Israel suffered so long and gives us a view of their circumstances after the great changes brought on by the coming of the Messiah, from Ezekiel 39 we read:

### Ezekiel 39:23-29

*23 And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: because they trespassed against me, therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies: so fell they all by the sword.*

*24 According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions have I done unto them, and hid my face from them.*

*25 Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name;*

*26 After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid.*

*27 When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations;*

*28 Then shall they know that I am the Lord their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.*

*29 Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord God.*

**Note that in verse 28 above the Lord says “I have gathered them unto their own land”. This, of course, would include the ten tribes**

receiving their long-promised inheritance in their promised land.  
From Ezekiel 37 we read:

### Ezekiel 37:21-28

*21 And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land:*

*22 And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:*

*23 Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwelling places, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God.*

*24 And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.*

*25 And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever.*

*26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.*

*27 My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

*28 And the heathen shall know that I the Lord do sanctify Israel,  
when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore.*



## 11 The Lord's third appearance

Having laid a foundation for understanding the sequence of ministering and that the great day of ministering among the house of Israel, following the day of the Gentiles, shall be millennial. And further, that this ministering among scattered Israel must be complete before Christ should appear to the Jews as their Messiah and that this sequence should be followed by continued ministering, to include the heathen nations, yea even “unto all nations”. We are prepared to discuss the true meaning of the Lord's third appearance.

Even though the ministering among the heathen nations will be millennial, it shall still be considered a great work and will require the balance of the time remaining in the half hour of silence or some fourteen years following Armageddon.

The main requirement being that the preaching, teaching, and administering of the ordinances of salvation among these nations must be completed. The building of temples and other facilities will no doubt be part of the labor to be performed.

Now, once this great preparatory work shall have been accomplished, those who remain on the earth shall be ready for what follows. It's time to delve into the scriptures and see what they teach about the Lord's third appearance. We start with D&C 77 and read:

## D&C 77:12

*12 Q. What are we to understand by the sounding of the trumpets, mentioned in the 8th chapter of Revelation?*

*A. We are to understand that as God made the world in six days, and on the seventh day he finished his work, and sanctified it, and also formed man out of the dust of the earth, even so, in the beginning of the seventh thousand years will the Lord God sanctify the earth, and complete the salvation of man, and judge all things, and shall redeem all things, except that which he hath not put into his power, when he shall have sealed all things, unto the end of all things; and the sounding of the trumpets of the seven angels are the preparing and finishing of his work, in the beginning of the seventh thousand years—the preparing of the way before the time of his coming.*

So, we learn that, “in the beginning of the seventh thousand years will the Lord God sanctify the earth, and complete the salvation of man, and judge all things, and shall redeem all things, except that which he hath not put into his power, when he shall have sealed all things, unto the end of all things” and that this is “the preparing of the way before the time of his coming”.

So which appearance is this? Will the Lord have “complete(d) the salvation of man” before He makes His appearance as the Bridegroom? If so, what of the Jews, what of the heathen nations? Will He have “complete(d) the salvation of man” before He makes His appearance to the Jews?

The obvious answer to the above questions can only be a resounding no. We, therefore, conclude that the above passage can only have reference to the third appearance and that we shall be well into the millennium before this event shall unfold. We now go to D&C 88 in order to obtain more details.

## D&C 88:95-107

*95 And there shall be silence in heaven for the space of half an hour; and immediately after shall the curtain of heaven be unfolded, as a scroll is unfolded after it is rolled up, and the face of the Lord shall be unveiled;*

*96 And the saints that are upon the earth, who are alive, shall be quickened and be caught up to meet him.*

In verse 95 we read that “there shall be silence in heaven for the space of half an hour”. If we were to go back to verse 93 we would discover that it says, “there shall appear a great sign in heaven, and all people shall see it together”. This, of course, would be the sign of the Son of Man which would have been given at his coming as the Bridegroom and so we note a leap forward in the text of some 21 years to verse 95 or the end of the half hour of silence.

We note in verse 96 that “the saints... who are alive” are “quickened and... caught up to meet him”. This quickening is a physical change that will prepare them to inhabit the paradisiacal earth.

*97 And they who have slept in their graves shall come forth, for their graves shall be opened; and they also shall be caught up to meet him in the midst of the pillar of heaven—*

*98 They are Christ's, the first fruits, they who shall descend with him first, and they who are on the earth and in their graves, who are first caught up to meet him; and all this by the voice of the sounding of the trump of the angel of God.*

In verses 97-98 we learn that at “the sounding of the trump of the angel of God” that the righteous who have “slept in their graves shall come forth... and they also shall be caught up to meet him in the midst of the pillar of heaven”. This is the third time of resurrection since the opening of the seventh seal. The first was at the coming of the Bridegroom (see D&C 133:56) and the second at

the appearance of Christ as the Jewish Messiah. (see D&C 45:45-46)

*99 And after this another angel shall sound, which is the second trump; and then cometh the redemption of those who are Christ's at his coming; who have received their part in that prison which is prepared for them, that they might receive the gospel, and be judged according to men in the flesh.*

Verse 99 teaches us that the terrestrial or those “who have received their part in that prison which is prepared for them, that they might receive the gospel, and be judged according to men in the flesh” shall be resurrected.

*100 And again, another trump shall sound, which is the third trump; and then come the spirits of men who are to be judged, and are found under condemnation;  
101 And these are the rest of the dead; and they live not again until the thousand years are ended, neither again, until the end of the earth.*

Verses 100-101 teach of the telestial who shall “be judged, and are found under condemnation” they shall “live not again until the thousand years are ended”.

*102 And another trump shall sound, which is the fourth trump, saying: There are found among those who are to remain until that great and last day, even the end, who shall remain filthy still.*

Verse 102 specifies the fate of the sons of perdition who “are found among those who are to remain until that great and last day, even the end, who shall remain filthy still”. They are not to be covered by Christ’s great atoning sacrifice but will be resurrected at the end of the thousand years if they were mortals.

*103 And another trump shall sound, which is the fifth trump, which is the fifth angel who committeth the everlasting gospel—flying through the midst of heaven, unto all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people;*

*104 And this shall be the sound of his trump, saying to all people, both in heaven and in earth, and that are under the earth—for every ear shall hear it, and every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess, while they hear the sound of the trump, saying: Fear God, and give glory to him who sitteth upon the throne, forever and ever; for the hour of his judgment is come.*

We learn in verses 103-104 of the “fifth angel”, the same who sounded his trump and “who committeth the everlasting gospel—flying through the midst of heaven, unto all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people”, (See Rev 14:6-7) shall sound his trump while “every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess” that Jesus is the Christ.

*105 And again, another angel shall sound his trump, which is the sixth angel, saying: She is fallen who made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication; she is fallen, is fallen!*

The sixth angel confirms that Babylon has fallen.

*106 And again, another angel shall sound his trump, which is the seventh angel, saying: It is finished; it is finished! The Lamb of God hath overcome and trodden the wine-press alone, even the wine-press of the fierceness of the wrath of Almighty God.*

*107 And then shall the angels be crowned with the glory of his might, and the saints shall be filled with his glory, and receive their inheritance and be made equal with him.*

Verses 106-107 speak of the seventh angel who is none other than mighty Michael himself, who declares “: It is finished; it is finished! The Lamb of God hath overcome and trodden the wine-press

alone, even the wine-press of the fierceness of the wrath of Almighty God.” Angels and men are rewarded “and... made equal with him”, even the Lord. In section 101 we get yet another view of these events.

### D&C 101:22-34

*22 Behold, it is my will, that all they who call on my name, and worship me according to mine everlasting gospel, should gather together, and stand in holy places;*

*23 And prepare for the revelation which is to come, when the veil of the covering of my temple, in my tabernacle, which hideth the earth, shall be taken off, and all flesh shall see me together.*

*24 And every corruptible thing, both of man, or of the beasts of the field, or of the fowls of the heavens, or of the fish of the sea, that dwells upon all the face of the earth, shall be consumed;*

*25 And also that of element shall melt with fervent heat; and all things shall become new, that my knowledge and glory may dwell upon all the earth.*

In verse 23 we read that “the veil... which hideth the earth, shall be taken off, and all flesh shall see me together”. This is, without doubt, the same as D&C 88:95 where we read “the curtain of heaven be unfolded, as a scroll is unfolded after it is rolled up, and the face of the Lord shall be unveiled”. We are therefore able to combine what we learn from both of these passages to gain a more comprehensive view.

In verses 24-25 we learn that “every corruptible thing... shall be consumed” and that “all things shall become new” which of course has to do with the fact that the earth and everything that remains shall become terrestrial once again or receive its paradisiacal glory.

*26 And in that day the enmity of man, and the enmity of beasts, yea, the enmity of all flesh, shall cease from before my face.*

*27 And in that day whatsoever any man shall ask, it shall be given unto him.*

*28 And in that day Satan shall not have power to tempt any man.*

*29 And there shall be no sorrow because there is no death.*

*30 In that day an infant shall not die until he is old; and his life shall be as the age of a tree;*

*31 And when he dies he shall not sleep, that is to say in the earth, but shall be changed in the twinkling of an eye, and shall be caught up, and his rest shall be glorious.*

**We learn from verses 30-31 that he who is born after the terrestrialization of the earth “shall not die until he is old” but will “be changed in the twinkling of an eye”**

*32 Yea, verily I say unto you, in that day when the Lord shall come, he shall reveal all things—*

*33 Things which have passed, and hidden things which no man knew, things of the earth, by which it was made, and the purpose and the end thereof—*

*34 Things most precious, things that are above, and things that are beneath, things that are in the earth, and upon the earth, and in heaven.*



## 12 The Abomination of Desolation on the Gentiles

In the first eleven chapters, we have endeavored to illustrate how the four pillars help us gain a much more comprehensive overview of the first 21 years of Christ's millennial reign. In this and following chapters our focus shall be to investigate various scriptural passages and prophetic quotes, that we might lay a foundation for understanding the sequence of events leading up to the Lord's first appearance as the Bridegroom.

Understanding the Abomination of Desolation, it's true nature and its relationship to the coming of the Bridegroom is essential to the saints of our day! What shall become apparent in this and other chapters is that many prophets spoke of the abomination of desolation, however, most of them didn't title it as such.

With each prophetic disclosure, more details emerge until we finally come face to face with a breathtaking view of what's coming. We start with the teachings of Ezra Taft Benson, we read:

### Ezra Taft Benson / Abomination of Desolation

*"if the gentiles on this land reject the word of God and conspire to overthrow liberty and the Constitution, then their doom is fixed, and they ". . . shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant". (1 Nephi 14:6; 3 Nephi 21:11, 14, 21; D&C 84:114-115, 117)*

*“The great destructive force which was to be turned loose on the earth and which the prophets for centuries have been calling the “abomination of desolation” is vividly described by those who saw it in vision. Ours is the first generation to realize how literally these prophecies can be fulfilled now that God, through science, has unlocked the secret to thermonuclear reaction.*

*“In the light of these prophecies there should be no doubt in the mind of any priesthood holder that the human family is headed for trouble. There are rugged days ahead. It is time for every man who wishes to do his duty to get himself prepared—physically, spiritually, and psychologically—for the task which may come at any time, as suddenly as the whirlwind”.... (Oct. general conference, 1961)*

It is hoped that the reader is familiar enough with events unfolding in our daily news to recognize that we are living in the very day when “the gentiles on this land” are “reject(ing) the word of God and conspire(ing) to overthrow liberty and the Constitution”. This fact alone should give us a sense of heightened awareness concerning our situation. Also, knowing that the abomination of desolation is thermonuclear in nature, it is hoped that the reader will see the wisdom of preparing for such. Having iodine or potassium iodide on hand as well as food, water and plan for sheltering may be essential to our survival!

In the 26th chapter of Isaiah, he speaks to the saints of our day of the necessity of sheltering “until the indignation be overpast”, says he:

### Isaiah 26:20-21

*20 Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.*

*21 For, behold, the Lord cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.*

Again, considering that the abomination of desolation shall be “thermonuclear” in nature, staying inside “until the indignation be overpast” would be wise advice indeed. Wisdom would also appear to dictate the need to have sufficient amounts of potassium iodide on hand or “vitamin pills” if you will.

We find it interesting that Isaiah uses the word “overpast”. It’s not difficult at all to see the parallel here between ancient Israel staying inside while the destroying angel passed them by and modern-day Israel, is it? Could it be that we will also be delivered on Passover and in a similar manner?

We now go to Joseph Smith Matthew in order to understand the close relationship between the abomination of desolation and the Lord’s first appearance, we read:

### Joseph Smith Matthew

*32 And again shall the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, be fulfilled.*

*33 And immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven shall be shaken...*

*36 And, as I said before, after the tribulation of those days, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken, then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven, and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn; and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory;*

There are many insights that could be extracted from this passage but the one we want to focus on for now is what happens “immediately after the tribulation of those days”!

We learn that “the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven shall be shaken” and that, “then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven... and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven.”

We, therefore, conclude that once we see the abomination of desolation unfold “the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven” cannot be far distant.



## 13 The Beast and the Whore

What we read about the beast and the whore in Rev. 17 is nothing more or less than John's version of the abomination of desolation on the Gentiles. We are blessed to have it because John gives us insights and details that we get from no other version.

In Rev. 17 we read about the beast and the whore and of the whore's judgment and burning by the beast. To the majority of those who read this narrative, the imagery and mystery surrounding it are intriguing and captivating but little understood. In this chapter, we will attempt to make the players in this prophetic drama as well as the timing more transparent. We start by reading the first six verses:

### Revelation. 17:1-6

*1 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters.*

*2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.*

*3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of*

*blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.*

*4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:*

*5 And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*

*6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.*

So the whore “sitteth upon many waters” and “was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls” and also was “drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus”.

Let’s compare this with what Nephi said about the “great and abominable church” in 1 Nephi 13, we read:

### 1 Nephi 13:1-8

*1 And it came to pass that the angel spake unto me, saying: Look! And I looked and beheld many nations and kingdoms.*

*2 And the angel said unto me: What beholdest thou? And I said: I behold many nations and kingdoms.*

*3 And he said unto me: These are the nations and kingdoms of the Gentiles.*

*4 And it came to pass that I saw among the nations of the Gentiles the formation of a great church.*

*5 And the angel said unto me: Behold the formation of a church which is most abominable above all other churches, which slayeth the saints of God, yea, and tortureth them and bindeth*

*them down, and yoketh them with a yoke of iron, and bringeth them down into captivity.*

*6 And it came to pass that I beheld this great and abominable church; and I saw the devil that he was the founder of it.*

*7 And I also saw gold, and silver, and silks, and scarlets, and fine-twined linen, and all manner of precious clothing; and I saw many harlots.*

*8 And the angel spake unto me, saying: Behold the gold, and the silver, and the silks, and the scarlets, and the fine-twined linen, and the precious clothing, and the harlots, are the desires of this great and abominable church.*

Nephi tells us that the “great and abominable church” “slayeth the saints of God, yea, and tortureth them and bindeth them down”.

John tells us that the “the great whore that sitteth upon many waters “ was “drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus “. In 1 Nephi 14:12, Nephi speaks of it as “the whore who sat upon many waters”. Virtually the same metaphor that John uses!

So we have a good match here! The “great and abominable church” that Nephi sees and “the great whore” that John sees is the very same. And why wouldn’t they be, we learn from Nephi in this same chapter that he saw many of the same events that John saw, we read:

### 1 Nephi 13:24-27

*24 And behold, the things which this apostle of the Lamb shall write are many things which thou hast seen; and behold, the remainder shalt thou see.*

*25 But the things which thou shalt see hereafter thou shalt not write; for the Lord God hath ordained the apostle of the Lamb of*

*God that he should write them.*

*26 And also others who have been, to them hath he shown all things, and they have written them; and they are sealed up to come forth in their purity, according to the truth which is in the Lamb, in the own due time of the Lord, unto the house of Israel.  
27 And I, Nephi, heard and bear record, that the name of the apostle of the Lamb was John, according to the word of the angel.*

One of the especially valuable insights we get from Nephi is that “the great whore that sitteth upon many waters” came up “among the nations of the Gentiles”. He further states that “the great mother of abominations did gather together multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the nations of the Gentiles, to fight against the Lamb of God.” It is amply clear that the “whore” John saw was among the Gentiles that Nephi speaks of! So when John is told in Rev. 17:15, that “The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues” we know that they are the nations of the Gentiles!

Understanding this connection is exceedingly significant because in the Book of Mormon we have such a huge pool of information about the Gentiles and the destruction that shall fall upon them if they do not repent.

In modern day terms we would identify this “whore” as a global cabal. This global cabal “seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations, and countries; and it bringeth to pass the destruction of all people” according to Moroni. Present day America is one of the Gentile nations Nephi speaks of and is strongly under the influence of globalism to be sure. Her strength and resources are being used to promote and uphold the objectives of this cabal. John references this global cabal in Rev. 13

where he says “and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations”.

In Rev. 17 we read about the fate of the whore:

### Rev. 17:16

*16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.*

This isn't the only passage in scripture where “fire” is associated with the fate of the Gentiles, in 1 Nephi 22 we read:

### 1 Nephi 22:13,17

*13 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...*

*17 Wherefore, he will preserve the righteous by his power, even if it so be that the fulness of his wrath must come, and the righteous be preserved, even unto the destruction of their enemies by fire. Wherefore, the righteous need not fear; for thus saith the prophet, they shall be saved, even if it so be as by fire.*

Let us now turn to more recent prophetic warnings, it was Ezra Taft Benson who said:

*“But on the other hand, if the gentiles on this land reject the word of God and conspire to overthrow liberty and the Constitution, then their doom is fixed, and they “. . . shall be cut*

*off from among my people who are of the covenant". (1 Nephi 14:6; 3 Nephi 21:11, 14, 21; D&C 84:114-115, 117)*

**Are the Gentiles “conspire(ing) to overthrow liberty and the Constitution”? They are! Ezra Taft Benson goes on to say:**

*“The great destructive force which was to be turned loose on the earth and which the prophets for centuries have been calling the “abomination of desolation” is vividly described by those who saw it in vision. Ours is the first generation to realize how literally these prophecies can be fulfilled now that God, through science, has unlocked the secret to thermonuclear reaction. (Oct. general conference, 1961)*

Here we have a rather pointed assessment as to what the fire John and Nephi refer to might be. The fact that the “abomination of desolation” is also associated with these events gives us even more information. It is in Joseph Smith Matthew where we learn that the “abomination of desolation” leads us directly into the Second Coming, we read:

### **Joseph Smith Matthew 32-33,36**

*32 And again shall the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, be fulfilled.*

*33 And immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven shall be shaken...*

*36 And, as I said before, after the tribulation of those days, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken, then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven, and then shall all the tribes of*

*the earth mourn; and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory;*

Having expounded sufficiently on the identity of the “whore”, we now turn our attention to the beast. If the “abomination of desolation” applies to the Gentiles (whore) as Ezra Taft Benson has stated and it is “thermonuclear” in nature, that narrows down the field of possible candidates for the beast. We go back to Rev. 17 in our search for more clues and read:

### Rev. 17:8,11

*8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is...*

*11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.*

Hmmm.... We apparently need to look for a nation that “was, and is not, and yet is”. Since the field of modern day nations that have considerable nuclear capabilities are few, this is not such a difficult riddle to solve after all. I’m going to say that Russia is the one nation that fits the bill. It once “was”, along with its satellites known as the mighty Soviet Union but collapsed and therefore “is not” what it used to be. However, it is once again a formidable force in the world and so it “yet is”.

But the beast doesn’t accomplish the burning of the whore by himself, we read:

## Rev. 17:15-17

*15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.*

*16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, **these shall hate the whore**, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.*

*17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.*

So to sum it up, the “ten horns” are ten nations that “shall hate the whore, and shall... agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled”. So we’re going to say that Russia shall take the lead but ten other nations shall cooperate in a coordinated nuclear attack in order to take the whore down.

And thus, we gain even more knowledge and understanding of the circumstances surrounding the abomination of desolation, which, as always, leads rather directly to the coming of the Bridegroom. We continue to follow the sequence into the next chapter:

## Rev. 18:1-4

*1 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.*

*2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.*

*3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed*

*fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.*

*4 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 verse one we read that “another angel come down from heaven, having great power” and his prominence is such that “the earth was lightened with his glory.” This verse without question denotes the coming of the Bridegroom. Note that it fits perfectly into the established sequence, shortly after the abomination of desolation.

In verses 2-3 the Lord declares that “Babylon the great is fallen” (the global cabal among the Gentiles) and then in verse 4 he speaks to scattered Israel saying, “Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”

So to conclude, in these two chapters we have the same sequence of the abomination of desolation and the coming of the Bridegroom followed by the exponential growth of the church and gathering of Israel as was noted in chapter 3.



## 14 The land shadowing with wings

In Isaiah chapter 18 we are given yet another view of the abomination of desolation and just as we were able to glean additional insights on this most important subject from John and Nephi's visions, so it is with that which Isaiah has to share. We read: **(Changes to this timing are reflected in the addendum!)**

### Isaiah 18:1-7

*1 Woe to the land shadowing with wings, which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia:*

*2 That sendeth ambassadors by the sea, even in vessels of bulrushes upon the waters, saying, Go, ye swift messengers, to a nation scattered and peeled, to a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden down, whose land the rivers have spoiled!*

*3 All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye.*

*4 For so the Lord said unto me, I will take my rest, and I will consider in my dwelling place like a clear heat upon herbs, and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.*

*5 For afore the harvest, when the bud is perfect, and the sour grape is ripening in the flower, he shall both cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks, and take away and cut down the branches.*

*6 They shall be left together unto the fowls of the mountains, and to the beasts of the earth: and the fowls shall summer upon them, and all the beasts of the earth shall winter upon them.*

*7 In that time shall the present be brought unto the Lord of hosts of a people scattered and peeled, and from a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden under foot, whose land the rivers have spoiled, to the place of the name of the Lord of hosts, the mount Zion.*

**We are blessed to have an inspired commentary on these verses by Elder Orson Pratt, who explains that the land shadowing with wings is none other than America, we read:**

### **Orson Prat on Isaiah 18**

*“Read the 18th chapter of Isaiah. Isaiah, when standing in Palestine delivering his prophecy, looked off to the south-west and saw the rivers of Ethiopia, or Africa; and after having seen these rivers in vision he also sees a land shadowing with wings away beyond the rivers of Ethiopia. What kind of a land was that, away beyond the rivers of Ethiopia, from where Isaiah stood in Palestine? Why it is a land that had the appearance of wings. You have been struck doubtless, with the great resemblance that North and South America have to the two great wings of a bird. While Isaiah was thus gazing upon a land away beyond the rivers of Ethiopia, it looked so much like the wings of a bird that he says—A land shadowing with wings, away, beyond the rivers of Ethiopia.”*

**Elder Pratt goes on to explain:**

*“Well, Isaiah, what have you to say about that land? Why, says he, there is a proclamation to be had there. How extensive, Isaiah? To all people. Hear the words of Isaiah. Says he “All ye inhabitants of the world and dwellers on the earth, see ye when*

*he lifts up an ensign on the mountains." Not on the low places of that land shadowing with wings, next to the seashore, but in the mountains. What is the nature of this ensign? It is characteristic of a standard, often spoken of by the Prophets, and called by the name of standard. Isaiah speaks of it as an ensign in a number of places. What would naturally be a standard? The kingdom of God is a standard to which the people rally and gather together. Does it affect all people, Isaiah? Yes. "All ye inhabitants of the world." What could be more extensive than that? "And dwellers on the earth, see ye when he lifts up an ensign on the mountains, and when he bloweth a trumpet hear ye."*

Here Elder Pratt explains that the latter-day kingdom is to be established in the mountains and within "the land shadowing with wings". He says "a proclamation to be had there" and it is to "All ye inhabitants of the world", says Isaiah. From this land shall the gospel go unto all nations. But there is a dark side to Isaiah's message as well. We continue with Elder Pratt's commentary:

*"What else is to take place, Isaiah? He says that a severe judgment is to take place on that land shadowing with wings. What kind of a judgment, one that is to be very severe, Isaiah? Yes, for he says—"Afore the harvest, when the bud is perfect, and the sour grape is ripening in the flower, he shall both cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks, and take away and cut own the branches. They shall be left together unto the fowls of the mountains and to the beasts of the earth; and the fowls shall summer upon them, and all the beasts of the earth shall winter upon them." When will this be, Isaiah? After this proclamation, after all the nations of the world have heard it, after the people have heard the sound of the warning message... there will be the commencement of a most terrible judgment, so much so that the people on that land will not have time to bury their dead, and the fowls shall summer upon them. Why is all this? Because they will not hearken when that sound goes to all people; they will not*

*repent of their sins; they will not receive the message that God has sent by his angel, he therefore visits them first, because they are the first to hear those glad tidings. No wonder, then, that Zion, that brings good tidings, was commanded by the ancient Prophet to get up into the high mountain."*

In the above segment Elder Pratt quotes verses 6-7 and confirms Isaiah's prophecy of judgment on America. It is to be so swift and so severe that they shall not have time to bury their dead, for "the fowls shall summer upon them, and all the beasts of the earth shall winter upon them".

This judgment, according to Elder Pratt is to come "After this proclamation, after all the nations of the world have heard it, after the people have heard the sound of the warning message."

However, what Isaiah tells us is surprisingly specific, for he gives us the precise season in which this destruction shall come upon America, says he "afore the harvest, when the bud is perfect, and the sour grape is ripening in the flower". So we conclude that the great judgment upon the Gentiles which we have been calling the abomination of desolation shall commence in the spring of the year.

And does this great destruction of which Isaiah and Elder Pratt speak lead to the Lord's Second Coming as we would expect? We continue reading his commentary:

*"Let us go a little further, and see what immediately follows this. Isaiah says—"For behold the Lord God shall come with a strong hand." What! The coming of the Lord going to take place after Zion has gone up into the mountains? Yes, that is one of the great events that will transpire, when the people of the nations are careless and indifferent, when they are eating and drinking, buying and selling, and their minds wholly swallowed up with the various occupations of life. "Behold, the Lord comes with a strong*

*hand, his arm will rule for him and he will reward his people; then the glory of the Lord will be revealed and all flesh will see it together." (Journal of Discourses, 26 vols. [London: Latter-day Saints' Book Depot, 1854-1886], 18: 183.)*

In verse 7 of Isaiah 18, we learn that "In that time" or when this great destruction comes upon America, "shall the present be brought unto the Lord of hosts of a people... to the place of the name of the Lord of hosts, the mount Zion". In other words, after the abomination of desolation is unleashed, the Lord's people shall gather to Zion for the coming of the Bridegroom.



## 15 Given to the burning flame

In chapter 7, Daniel gives us yet another view of the abomination of desolation and other events leading up to the Lord's first appearance, however, it is set within the context of historical events dating as far back as the Roman Empire which is represented in Daniel chapter 7 as "a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible". We start by reading verses 9-14:

### Daniel 7:9-14

*9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.*

*10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.*

*11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.*

*12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.*

*13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.*

*14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.*

What we're reading about in these verses is the coming of mighty Michael, Adam or "the Ancient of days" as Daniel says, when he shall come with a great assembly of the righteous to Adam Ondi Ahman. This event is of course closely associated with the coming of the Bridegroom.

The "beast" being "given to the burning flame" represents those modern-day nations, Christian nations or Gentile nations who descended from the Roman empire via the nations of Europe. We go to Orson Pratt's commentary, he explains:

### Orson Pratt explains

*"We read that the four beasts, representing the powers of the earth, will exist at the time of the coming of the Ancient of Days. And that the fourth beast, represented by the Roman Empire and the kingdoms that have grown out of it, will be "slain and his body destroyed and given to the burning flame." Here then we can read the destiny of that portion of the inhabitants of the earth constituting the fourth beast; or, in other words, the destiny of the kingdoms of Europe, who were to arise and grow out of that fourth power. We can read the final destiny of the kingdoms of Europe... that more particularly pertain to this great iron power that once so cruelly oppressed the people; its "body shall be destroyed and given to the burning flame," which signifies the nature of the judgment that will befall them... "It seems then that the body of the fourth power is to be given to the burning flame, that signifies the utter extinction of that power from the face of the earth. The heathen nations representing the other three beasts, will not then be destroyed:*

*but their lives are to be prolonged, and their dominion is to be taken away. Though their lives will be prolonged, yet they will not have power to rule and govern, only as they are permitted. If you will read from the beginning of the 36th to the end of the 39th chapters of Ezekiel, you find much said, in regard to the heathen nations. "And the heathen shall know that I am the Lord," etc. But the fourth power represents the nations of modern Christendom. They have not the privilege of the heathen, in having their lives prolonged. Why? Does the speaker mean to say that modern Christendom is more wicked than the heathen? Yes; the people of Christendom possess more light and knowledge than the heathen, and therefore, they are under the greater condemnation; for according to the light and knowledge they severally have, will they be judged. The more enlightened nations, so called, are rejecting the Gospel message which is being sent to them by divine authority; and for that reason their utter destruction is inevitable, and, as had been decreed, they must pass away. Their lives will not be prolonged. Not only the kingdoms and governments of Europe, and the western portion of Asia are to be thus visited, but also those who have grown out of these kingdoms, that have emigrated to this western hemisphere, and elsewhere. For instance, this great republic must pass away in the manner indicated unless the people repent." (Orson Pratt, Journal of discourses, vol 18, p. 335-338)*

Elder Pratt here explains that the nations of Europe and those Christian nations who descend from them (or the Gentile nations if you will) are to be "given to the burning flame". This burning is, of course, the abomination of desolation on the Gentiles and just precedes the Lord's first appearance as the Bridegroom here in America.

Elder Pratt also says, "The heathen nations representing the other three beasts, will not then be destroyed: but their lives are to be prolonged, and their dominion is to be taken away". He no doubt deduces this for verse 12 which reads:

*12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.*

So in other words, the heathen nations are not fully taken down until the Lord makes his second appearance as the Jewish Messiah, as we have discussed in previous chapters. And what of America? Elder Pratt says, "For instance, this great republic must pass away in the manner indicated unless the people repent."

So we conclude that the prophet Daniel not only foresaw the great latter-day assembly where "the Ancient of Days" shall preside and "one like the Son of man... came to the Ancient of days... And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom" but he also saw, in detail, events leading up to this great event. The abomination of desolation being one of them.



## 16 The little horn

To fully comprehend our current circumstances, it is essential that we understand just who or what the “little horn” is in Daniel chapter seven. We start by reading the first eight verses of chapter 7:

### Daniel 7:1-8

*1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.*

*2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.*

*3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.*

*4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.*

*5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.*

6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

The first three beasts are representations of the heathen nations and not of particular interest to us at this time. However, what Daniel reveals about the fourth beast helps us understand just who the “little horn” is. We shall again quote Orson Pratt, he said:

*“We read that the four beasts, representing the powers of the earth, will exist at the time of the coming of the Ancient of Days. And that the fourth beast, represented by the Roman Empire and the kingdoms that have grown out of it, will be “slain and his body destroyed and given to the burning flame.” Here then we can read the destiny of that portion of the inhabitants of the earth constituting the fourth beast; or, in other words, the destiny of the kingdoms of Europe, who were to arise and grow out of that fourth power.”*

As Elder Pratt explains “the fourth beast” is “represented by the Roman Empire and the kingdoms that have grown out of it... in other words... the kingdoms of Europe, who were to arise and grow out of that fourth power.”

So when we read Daniel 7:7 where he speaks about the fourth beast and tells us that “it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it;

and it had ten horns”, we understand that it’s “ten horns” are nations that devolved from the Roman Empire and are the nations of Europe.

We now have a key to identifying the “little horn” for Daniel says in verse 8 that “I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.”

This “little horn” is apparently a new nation who “came up among” or sprang from the nations of Europe and by whom “three of the first horns” or nations of Europe were “plucked up by the roots”. Verse 20 uses the phrase “before whom three fell”.

From what we have learned so far, it’s not too difficult to surmise that “little horn” is none other than America who did indeed spring from the nations of Europe and gained her independence by thwarting the ambitions of France, Great Britton and Spain who had established colonies along her Atlantic coast. Nephi’s version of the story goes like this:

### 1 Nephi 13:16-19

*16 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles who had gone forth out of captivity did humble themselves before the Lord; and the power of the Lord was with them.*

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

*18 And I beheld that the power of God was with them, and also that the wrath of God was upon all those that were gathered together against them to battle.*

*19 And I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles that had gone out of captivity were delivered by the power of God out of the hands of all other nations.*

Returning to Daniel 7 we read:

### Daniel 7:20-23

*20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.*

*21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;*

*22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.*

In spite of the fact that America was prospered of the Lord and gained her independence from the nations of Europe. In her role as the “Little Horn” she “made war with the saints, and prevailed against them... “Until the Ancient of days came” according to Daniel.

Since the restoration of the church, has there has been any other nation who has done more to torment and persecute the Latter-day Saints than America? No, no other nation even comes close but since the gospel was restored in America, we might say that it was a crime of opportunity.

We also note that this “horn... prevailed... Until the Ancient of days came” and where does “the Ancient of days” come to? Again, the answer is America, right?



## 17 The Prophecy of the 42 months

John speaks of events associated with a period of 42 months twice in the book of Revelation. One of those we have already covered back in chapter 6. It's that time when the Lord says he will "give power unto my two witnesses" who shall successfully hold of Gog's army of 200 million for "forty and two months" leading up to the Lord's second appearance.

The other 42 month period of which John speaks has nothing to do with the "two witnesses" whose mission is millennial but has everything to do with sixth seal events concerning "the saints", the events leading up to the abomination of desolation and the coming of the Bridegroom. We go to Rev. 13 to read what John has to say about it:

### Revelation 13:4-10

*4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?*

*5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.*

*6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.*

*7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.*

*8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

*9 If any man have an ear, let him hear.*

*10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints*

“The beast” here in one sense represents a latter-day cabal who “was given... to make war with the saints, and to overcome them”. He represents a global effort to subdue all nations for “power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.” according to John. His great prowess comes from “the dragon” or Satan “which gave power unto the beast”. Moroni tells us that it “seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations, and countries”. (see Ether chapter 8)

And so we see that the chief objectives and strategies of “the beast” go back to Satan’s pre-mortal obsession with disrupting, and destroying the freedom and agency of man. By shattering liberty, freedom, sovereignty and self-governance, he hopes to thwart God’s purposes.

According to John “the beast” is to “to continue” for “forty and two months”. During this time, it is “given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them”. So, what is the nature of this war and how is it that the saints are to be overcome?

Again, it is by destroying freedom, sovereignty, civility, the rule of law and corrupting the very institutions of liberty. It is to demolish the very foundations on which a free society may exist and the restored gospel may continue to flourish! It is for these very crimes

and atrocities that “the beast” is burned. Remember what Ezra Taft Benson said?...

### Ezra Taft Benson / Fate of “the beast”

*“if the gentiles on this land reject the word of God and conspire to overthrow liberty and the Constitution, then their doom is fixed, and they “. . . shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant”.*

*“The great destructive force which was to be turned loose on the earth and which the prophets for centuries have been calling the “abomination of desolation” is vividly described by those who saw it in vision. Ours is the first generation to realize how literally these prophecies can be fulfilled now that God, through science, has unlocked the secret to thermonuclear reaction.” (Oct. general conference, 1961)*

John says in verse 8 “And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, (the beast) whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb”. To side with the beast for the sake of gain or power or prestige or social acceptance is to commit spiritual suicide so to speak.

In modern terms, we would identify “the beast” as the global elite whose powers are concentrated in Europe and America. You know... those who are to be “given to the burning flame”.

In verse 10 John says “He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword”. Thus, we see the fate of those who align themselves with “the beast” or this global cabal which “seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations, and countries”.



## 18 Daniel and the 42 months

Both Daniel and John saw the events of the 42 months, each contributes unique elements that aid us in our understanding of this event. In Daniel chapter 7 we read:

### Daniel 7:8, 21-22

*8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things...  
21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;  
22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most high.*

In this case, the word “horn” or “little horn” represents a nation, America, the place where “the Ancient of days” shall come. However, in verse 8 Daniel tells us that “in this horn (or in America) were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things”. An obvious reference to a person. More on this later...

Note that Daniel says the “horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them”. This is the equivalent of John’s statement that “the beast” made “war with the saints, and” was “to overcome them”.

Also, note the sequence. The “horn... prevailed against them... Until the Ancient of days came”. In other words, power is given to “the horn” for a limited time and when the “Ancient of days” comes and the Second Coming unfolds, power “and judgment” is to be “given to the saints of the most high.” We continue reading in Daniel 7:

### Daniel 7:25-27

*25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.*

*26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.*

*27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.*

Note that by the time we get to verse 25 it’s no longer “the horn” or “the little horn” but “he”... “he... shall wear out the saints of the most High”. He does this by undermining the established norms and standards of society. We read that he “think(s) to change times and laws” and because the events in these three verses are to unfold in America, we conclude that the “law” he intends to “change” and corrupt is the constitution, the rule of law, justice, liberty, freedom and to destroy sovereignty in favor of globalism. It’s not hard to see that we are in the very midst of fulfilling these prophetic words presently and are therefore already in the 42 months!

By the way, as mentioned above, in this case, “he” also refers to a specific individual for “he” has “eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things” and “think(s) to change times and

laws". John also says... "and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months."

So, who is "he"? He's a powerful political leader of our day, one whom you all know, who "continues" his efforts to both undermine liberty and promote the global cabal after the election of his successor. And that my friends is when the 42 months commenced!

Daniel goes on to say that "they (the saints) shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. So "a time" = 1 year, "times" = 2 years and "the dividing of time" = ½ of a year. So in total what we have is 3 ½ years or 42 months.

In verse 26 we read "But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end". This is a reference to the great assembly where "the Ancient of Days" shall preside when the Lord makes his first appearance. At this time "the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High".

Daniel gives us a second account of the 42 months and "a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time". If you think that sounds like another reference to abomination of desolation... your right! We go to Daniel chapter 12:

### Daniel 12:1, 5-7

*1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book...*

5 ¶ Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

6 And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?

7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

In verse one we learn that Michael or Adam, the Ancient of Days, “the great prince” will “stand up... for the children of thy people”. We are told that “there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered”.

So, is the abomination of desolation actually “deliverance” so far as the righteous saints are concerned? The answer to that question is a resounding yes! Every bit as much so as the plague of the firstborn brought deliverance to Israel in the days of their Egyptian captivity!

However, the abomination of desolation is also a devilish plot among the Gentiles to destroy the righteous but “they shall fall into the pit which they digged to ensnare the people of the Lord” according to Nephi. He says “for he will not suffer that the wicked shall destroy the righteous... and the righteous be preserved, even unto the destruction of their enemies by fire... Wherefore, the righteous need not fear; for thus saith the prophet, they shall be saved, even if it so be as by fire.” See 1 Nephi 22.

In verses 5-7 we learn that Daniel is visited by three messengers, for “there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the

river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river”. The third messenger is referred to as “the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river”.

One the of the messenger on the “bank of the river” asks a question, he inquires of “the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, “How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?” So, in other words, he wants to know... What is the sign when “there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time” when “thy people shall be delivered”?

The answer he gives shows the clear connection between the fulfillment of the 42 month and the abomination of desolation. We are told that he “held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half” or 42 months, “and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished”.

So when “the power of the holy people” is scattered or freedom, liberty and the government go down, the Lord will step in and the final sequence leading to the Second Coming will unfold before the eyes of all the nations. The abomination of desolation shall be the first event of that sequence!



## 19 The Year with no Rainbow

This chapter might have been titled “For the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened” or “The final sequence”, a phrase that I’ve come to use quite often. However, “The year with no rainbow” won out because we shall be referencing two statements regarding that specific year, given by the Prophet Joseph Smith. Here they are:

### Joseph Smith, statement one

*I have asked the Lord concerning His coming, and while asking the Lord, He said, ‘In the days of Noah I set a bow in the heavens as a sign and token, that in any year that the bow should be seen, the Lord would not come, but there should be seed time and harvest during that year; but whenever you see the bow withdrawn, it shall be a token that there shall be famine, pestilence and great distress among the nations, and that the coming of the Messiah is not far distant. (Joseph Smith, Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p. 340-341)*

### Joseph Smith statement two

*So long as we see the bow in the cloud, seed time and harvest shall continue that year. When the bow shall cease, then shall*

*come famine, wars, and so forth, after which the sign of the Son of Man shall be seen in heaven. ( Joseph Smith's Commentary on the Bible, p.112.)*

Statement two is so straight forward and revealing, we conclude, in "that year. When the bow shall cease, then shall come famine, wars, and so forth, after which the sign of the Son of Man shall be seen in heaven." Wow, now that's powerful to my way of thinking! It indicates that when the stops are completely pulled out, "a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time" according to Daniel 12:1, we will be in the final sequence!

We also note the shortness of the sequence, that it is all contained within the one year. That is why I said above that this chapter could have been titled "For the elect's sake those days shall be shortened".

There are so many other insights we might be able to extrapolate from these two quotes but we shall keep it simple. The prophet says "in any year that the bow should be seen, the Lord would not come, but there should be seed time and harvest during that year".

Apparently, something will happen early in the year that shall prevent the normal activities of "seed time". Could it be that a nuclear holocaust and the resultant radioactive fallout circling the globe will curtail planting activities in that year?

What we also have here is a sequence of three events that shall precede the Lord's coming, no rainbow, no seed time and no harvest. We, therefore, conclude that he will not make his appearance until after harvest time.

Now let us apply this perspective to “the parable of the fig tree”.  
From Joseph Smith Matthew we read:

### Joseph Smith Matthew 38-40

*38 Now learn a parable of the fig tree—When its branches are yet tender, and it begins to put forth leaves, you know that summer is nigh at hand;*

*39 So likewise, mine elect, when they shall see all these things, they shall know that he is near, even at the doors;*

*40 But of that day, and hour, no one knoweth; no, not the angels of God in heaven, but my Father only.*

Note the correlation between “seed time” in Joseph Smith’s statements and the phrase “When its branches are yet tender” used here! Could “the parable of the fig tree” be the equivalent of “the year with no rainbow”?

In verse 39 we read... “when they shall see all these things”. What things? We only have to backtrack a few verses in JSM to read “And again shall the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, be fulfilled.” Oh.... That thing! The “abomination of desolation” was addressed in previous chapters where we quoted Ezra Taft Benson as saying:

### Ezra Taft Benson

*“The great destructive force which was to be turned loose on the earth and which the prophets for centuries have been calling the “abomination of desolation” is vividly described by those who saw it in vision. Ours is the first generation to realize how literally these prophecies can be fulfilled now that God, through science,*

*has unlocked the secret to thermonuclear reaction. (Oct. general conference, 1961)*

Joseph Smith speaks of “wars, and so forth, after which the sign of the Son of Man shall be seen in heaven” in statement two above which ties in nicely with another of his statements as to what we must do when this granddaddy of wars occurs, says he:

### Joseph Smith / When wars come

*“When wars come, we shall have to flee to Zion. The cry is to make haste. The last Revelation says, “Ye shall not have time to have gone over the earth, until these things come.” It will come as did the cholera, war, fires, and earthquakes; one pestilence after another, etc., until the Ancient of Days come, then judgment will be given to the Saints. (Joseph Smith, 1839-July-DHC 3:385-391)*

Let us quote the Prophet yet again on this subject:

### Joseph Smith / For without Zion

*“For without Zion, and a place of deliverance, we must fall; because the time is near when the sun will be darkened, and the moon turn to blood, and the stars fall from the heaven, and the earth reel to and fro. Then, if this is the case, and if we are not sanctified and gathered to the places God has appointed, with all our former professions and our great love for the Bible, we must fall” (Joseph Smith, Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.70)*

The saints are presently “gathered to the places God has appointed” around the globe. This process has been going on for a very long time but “without Zion, and a place of deliverance, we

must fall". We shall soon fulfill the scriptural mandate "Behold, and lo, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him" and when we arrive, then shall the "Ancient of Days come" as Joseph says above!

This whole final sequence is just barely preceded by "a time, times, and an half" (the 42 months) and then "all these things shall be finished." (Daniel 12:7) We ought to be paying close attention to what Daniel and John had to say about our day and comparing their prophecies to current events! From 1 Thessalonians 5 we read:

*4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.*

*5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*

*6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.*

I bear witness that the answers we seek concerning the coming of the bridegroom are contained within the standard works! Let us be "the children of light" and "not of the night... but let us watch and be sober."



## 20 The Seven feasts of Israel

Any attempt to understand the timing and sequence of the Lord's Second Advent would be incomplete without a basic knowledge of the seven feasts of Israel. As we shall see, the seven feasts are predictive and prophetic in nature.

We shall divide the feasts into two segments, the spring feasts and the fall feasts. To begin with, our focus shall be primarily on the former...

Leviticus chapter 23 is where Moses delivered the concept of the seven feasts to the children of Israel. These feasts are also referred to as "holy convocations". In Hebrew, the word "convocation" means "miqra" which translates as "rehearsal" and this is precisely what the feasts were. They were rehearsals for future events and thus were prophetic in their very nature.

Our Jewish friends still observe these feasts. They are Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits, Weeks, Trumpets, Atonement, and Tabernacles.

### Passover

We all know that the first Passover was the day the Lord delivered the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage. By putting the blood

of a lamb on their door frames, the firstborn of the Israelites was spared while the firstborn of the Egyptians died. The symbolism of the “blood of the lamb” and the “first born” pointed to a future date, roughly 1500 years into the future, when Christ would offer himself as the ultimate sacrifice.

Was it just coincidence that at 9:00 in the morning, the Jews were binding their Passover lamb to the altar as Christ was being nailed to the cross? Was it just some quirk of fate that at 3:00 in the afternoon, they sacrificed their lambs just as Christ died on the cross?

It was no quirk, no coincidence, no strange twist of fate, for the children of Israel had followed these same procedures for nearly one and a half millennia! Had the disciples made the connection between the first three feasts and the Lord’s crucifixion, placement in the tomb and subsequent resurrection they may have viewed what were evidently stressful events with greater understanding. Let us not make the same mistake where the fall feasts are concerned, more about that in a minute...

Let us view these events from the perspective of the Hebrew calendar. On the 14th day of the month of Nisan we have Passover, the day that the Lamb of God is sacrificed. On the very next day, the 15th day of Nisan, we have the feast of Unleavened Bread. On this day Christ laid in the tomb, a sinless and incorruptible (unleavened) sacrifice for mankind and then on the 17th day of Nisan, or Firstfruits, he was resurrected. In 1 Corinthians 15:20-23 we read:

### 1 Corinthians 15:20-23

*20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.*

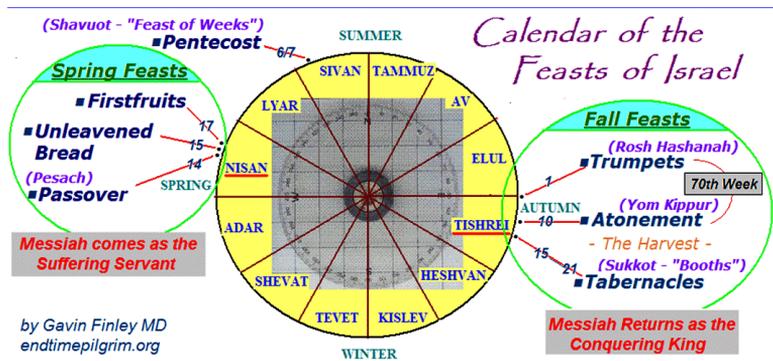
21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

The next feast following Firstfruits occurs 50 days later, it is that of Weeks but was manifest in that year as "the day of Pentecost". It was fulfilled on the seventh day of the month of Sivan. It's easy to see that these first four feasts were fulfilled in association with the Lords coming in the meridian of time and that for hundreds of years before they had served as dress rehearsals for what was to come. The following chart gives us a visual reference that is helpful in understanding the seven feasts. Special thanks to Gavin Finley for allowing us to use it here:

### Chart of the seven feasts



Understanding that the first four feasts precisely foreshadowed the Lord's ministry among the Jews, in the meridian of time, would it be a stretch to suppose that the last three feasts might be fulfilled at his Second Coming? I think not! We now move to a discussion of the fall feasts...

## The fall feasts

All three fall feasts are in the month of Tishrei on our Hebrew calendar. The Feast of Trumpets starts (ten days total) on the 1st day. That would translate to Sept 7 if we were to use the year of say, 2020 for example.

So let us suppose that it is Sept 7, 2020, and we are in attendance at the Feast of Trumpets. Where would we be exactly? Well, I'm going to say that we would be at Adam-Ondi-Ahman, but do any of us know what we're supposed to be doing? Have any of us attended a priesthood meeting where there was a rehearsal for this event?

Where's Moses when you need him or Aaron or Joshua or.... even mighty Michael? Hmmmm... Well.... Might it be that they will all be present? Could it be that the fall feasts are incorporated into what Daniel described in chapter 7 where he wrote:

### Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

*9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.*

*10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened....*

*13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.*

*14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his*

*dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.*

If this were the case, then we could suppose that the first 15 days of these proceedings, the feast of Trumpets and the feast of Atonement are preparatory to the great event. A time of heralding, a time of rejoicing, a time of judgment, the reporting of stewardships, and the gathering of keys.

Oh, and incidentally, the feast of Atonement is also associated with the fall harvest. Remember what was said in the previous chapter about the Lord appearing after harvest time? In Leviticus 23 we read:

### Leviticus 23:34,39

*34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the Lord...*

*39 Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the Lord*

From verse 34 we learn that “The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles” and in verse 39 we learn that “the fifteenth day of the seventh month” is “when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land”. So the harvest is considered to be complete just before the feast of tabernacles unfolds.

The harvest having culminated, we are now prepared for the feast of Tabernacles or Booths. I believe John gave us an ample description of this day, from Rev. 21 we read:

## Rev. 21:2-4

*2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

*3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

*4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

We've made no attempt to give the hour and the day of the Lord's appearance, however, the feast of Tabernacles will commence on Oct 3 in our example year of 2020 and run for seven days. Would that be close enough?

Surely anyone desiring to understand the Second Coming could be greatly benefited by a further study of this subject. There is so much more of interest that was not touched upon in this chapter.



## 21 And Ye Shall Posses the goodly land.

So, if the Lord's "people shall be delivered" at the time of the "abomination of desolation" as Daniel says, what exactly will that look like? To get some answers we first go section 103 of the Doctrine and Covenants where we read:

### D&C 103:15-20

*15 Behold, I say unto you, the redemption of Zion must needs come by power;*

*16 Therefore, I will raise up unto my people a man, who shall lead them like as Moses led the children of Israel.*

*17 For ye are the children of Israel, and of the seed of Abraham, and ye must needs be led out of bondage by power, and with a stretched-out arm.*

*18 And as your fathers were led at the first, even so shall the redemption of Zion be.*

*19 Therefore, let not your hearts faint, for I say not unto you as I said unto your fathers: Mine angel shall go up before you, but not my presence.*

*20 But I say unto you: Mine angels shall go up before you, and also my presence, and in time ye shall possess the goodly land.*

Here in verse 17, the Lord affirms that "ye (the members of the church) are the children of Israel, and of the seed of Abraham" and

then he says “ye must needs be led out of bondage by power, and with a stretched-out arm”. “Led out of bondage”? In need of being “delivered”? As in “and at that time thy people shall be delivered”? (See Daniel 12:1)

We don’t have to look very far to see that both the saints and the world at large are in bondage to or entangled with a global cabal. This global cabal which is empowered here in America and around the globe must be brought down in order that Christ’s millennial kingdom may come!

Next, the Lord says... “as your fathers were led at the first, even so shall the redemption of Zion be”. Here the saints are compared to the children of Israel (who were also in bondage) whom the Lord led out of Egypt and eventually to a Promised Land.

In verse 19-20 the Lord says... “for I say not unto you as I said unto your fathers: Mine angel shall go up before you, but not my presence. But I say unto you: Mine angels shall go up before you, and also my presence”.

So, in our case, the Lord will do something that he did not do when he led the children of Israel into their Promised Land. The modern-day saints shall also enjoy “my presence” as the Lord says “and... ye shall possess the goodly land”!

If the Lord is going to lead the saints to “the goodly land” and they are to enjoy his “presence”, does that mean that he shall appear to the saints or at least to our leaders in advance of our trek back? This appears to be the case for the Prophet Joseph Smith has said:

[Joseph Smith / The Son of Man will come to them](#)

*“This people will go into the Rocky Mountains; they will there build temples to the Most High. They will raise up a posterity there, and the Latter-day Saints who dwell in these mountains will stand in the flesh until the coming of the Son of Man. The Son of Man will come to them while in the Rocky Mountains.”*  
(Wilford Woodruff, Conference Report, April 1898, p. 57.)

And what conditions shall prevail when the saints commence their trek back? Will there be “famine, pestilence and great distress among the nations” as Joseph Smith has said? Such appears to be the case for it was Orson Pratt who said:

Orson Pratt / “he will give commandment to this people to return”

*“Well then, to return to the prophesying, when the time shall come that the Lord shall waste away this nation, he will give commandment to this people to return and possess their own inheritance which they purchased some forty-four years ago in the state of Missouri”. (Gerald N. Lund, The Coming of the Lord, 110.)*

So, we see that chaos shall come upon the nations in the spring of the year and that the timing will be very favorable for the saints, for it will give them the summer months in which to make the trek back to “the goodly land”, fulfilling the scriptural mandate, “The Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him”!



## 22 “And with him an hundred forty and four thousand”

Comprehending the mystery of the 144000 is critically important to our understanding the sequence of events sounding the Second Advent of our Lord. Conflicting theories on this subject abound and only serve to create even more confusion. In this chapter, we shall attempt to simplify and demystify this subject by relying heavily on the standard works and the following statement, given by the Prophet Joseph Smith:

“the selection... had already commenced”

*“I attended prayer-meeting with the quorum in the assembly room, and made some remarks respecting the hundred and forty-four thousand mentioned by John the Revelator, showing that the selection of persons to form that number had already commenced.” (HC, J SMITH 6:196)*

This statement sheds great light upon our subject because we learn that “the selection of persons to form that number had already commenced” in the days of Joseph Smith. From this precious gem we are able to conclude that:

- 1- The selection of the 144000 is apparently not to be held in abeyance for the return of the ten tribes.
- 2- Those selected are apparently not mortals since all of Joseph Smith's generation is now deceased.
- 3- If our first two conclusions are correct, then it follows that those selected could come from multiple generations and from anywhere Israel may have been scattered. This is perfectly consistent with D&C 77:10, "for they are they who are ordained out of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people".

We shall now endeavor to support our thesis by seeking further scriptural confirmation. We go first to Rev. 14 where we read:

#### Revelation 14:1-4

*1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.*

*2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:*

*3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.*

*4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.*

We learn from the above that "the hundred and forty and four thousand... were redeemed from the earth", ya even "These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb."

This ties in perfectly with 1 Cor. 15:20 where we read, “now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept”. We further learn from D&C 88:16 that “the resurrection from the dead is the redemption of the soul” and so conclude that “the hundred and forty and four thousand” are to be resurrected beings. If that be the case, it is perfectly clear how individuals sealed unto this calling in Joseph Smith’s day could come forth to fulfill the prophetic word in a future day.

In D&C 77:9 we are told that “the angel ascending from the east (In Rev. 7:2) is he to whom is given the seal of the living God over the twelve tribes of Israel” and so we conclude that the sealing of “the hundred and forty and four thousand” does not depend on any mortal authority or action.

This same “angel... crieth unto the four angels having the everlasting gospel, saying: Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.” We interpret that to mean that since some from the present dispensation (sixth seal) are also to be a part of “the hundred and forty four thousand”... the final work of sealing must be accomplished prior to the great calamities associated with the seventh seal and the seven years of tribulation. They, having been resurrected, shall be capable of ministering where mortal are not during the tribulations and shall help gather Israel to the New Jerusalem.

Conceivably, someone reading this very chapter may yet pass over and therefore qualify to be one of that number... an intriguing thought for sure! In D&C 133 we read:

### D&C 133:17-19

*17 For behold, the Lord God hath sent forth the angel crying through the midst of heaven, saying: Prepare ye the way of the*

*Lord, and make his paths straight, for the hour of his coming is nigh—*

*18 When the Lamb shall stand upon Mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand, having his Father's name written on their foreheads.*

*19 Wherefore, prepare ye for the coming of the Bridegroom; go ye, go ye out to meet him.*

Truly “the hour of his coming is nigh” and we apparently need not concern ourselves with any need of the ten tribes returning in order for it to happen! We learn from the above that “the Lamb shall stand upon Mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand”, to be fulfilled at “the coming of the Bridegroom”.

So far as their resurrection is concerned, all of those who attained this status when the Lord rose from the grave would be complete and “redeemed”. However, it may be that the balance of that number will attain the resurrection at the Second Coming. We continue reading from section 133:

### D&C 133:56

*56 And the graves of the saints shall be opened; and they shall come forth and stand on the right hand of the Lamb, when he shall stand upon Mount Zion, and upon the holy city, the New Jerusalem; and they shall sing the song of the Lamb, day and night forever and ever.*

Those of “the hundred and forty and four thousand” are “ordained unto the holy order of God, to administer the everlasting gospel” and work in tandem with “the angels to whom is given power over the nations of the earth, to bring as many as will come to the church of the Firstborn”. Their status as resurrected beings uniquely qualifies them to accomplish their mission in a time of unprecedented tumult and tribulation.

The fact that “the hundred and forty and four thousand” assist to “bring as many as will come to the church of the Firstborn” is further evidence that the preaching of the gospel shall not only continue but will actually be accelerated after the Lord’s first millennial appearance!

After all, with the appearance of “the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband” and the “new heaven and a new earth” (Rev 21:1-2) folks are going to notice... right?



## 23..Darkness shall cover the earth

The scriptural declaration that darkness shall cover the earth at the coming of the Bridegroom or at the Lord's first appearance has been mentioned previously. We bring this subject up again and dedicate a chapter to it because it keys in with and helps us determine the sequence and timing of several other critical events. We start off by returning to Joseph Smith Matthew and read:

### Joseph Smith Matthew 32-36

*32 And again shall the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, be fulfilled.*

*33 And immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven shall be shaken.*

*34 Verily, I say unto you, this generation, in which these things shall be shown forth, shall not pass away until all I have told you shall be fulfilled.*

*35 Although, the days will come, that heaven and earth shall pass away; yet my words shall not pass away, but all shall be fulfilled.*

*36 And, as I said before, after the tribulation of those days, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken, then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven, and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn; and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory;*

Verse 33 makes it abundantly clear that “immediately after the tribulation of those days”, after the abomination of desolation that is, “the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven”. We interpret “immediately” to mean very soon or within just a few months because there are other events to unfold in the interim. More about that later.

Let us not confuse this sequence with “the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall be turned into blood, and the stars shall fall from heaven”, which is a sixth seal event that also follows the abomination of desolation but shall precede the sequence in verse 33 above.

To expound a bit more, the “sun shall be darkened” and the moon being “turned into blood”, could be caused by atmospheric conditions as all blood moons are. However, “the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light” cannot be, otherwise, how shall “the sign of the Son of Man in heaven” be visible to the inhabitants of the earth? How shall we see “the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven”? We shall have more to say about this shortly.

Verses 34-35 give us important information but because they also interrupt the train of thought, they sometimes act like a Jedi mind trick of sorts and cause the reader to forget that darkness shall prevail by the time the reader gets to verse 36. It’s important to distinguish between the darkness that precedes the coming of the Bridegroom and the darkness that shall prevail when he appears!

The theme of darkness at the coming of the Bridegroom is also to be found in the parable of the ten virgins and many other scriptural passages. We go to D&C 133 and read:

[D&C 133:46-49](#)

*46 And it shall be said: Who is this that cometh down from God in heaven with dyed garments; yea, from the regions which are not known, clothed in his glorious apparel, traveling in the greatness of his strength?*

*47 And he shall say: I am he who spake in righteousness, mighty to save.*

*48 And the Lord shall be red in his apparel, and his garments like him that treadeth in the wine-vat.*

*49 And so great shall be the glory of his presence that the sun shall hide his face in shame, and the moon shall withhold its light, and the stars shall be hurled from their places.*

We note that concurrent with the darkness is that “the stars shall be hurled from their places”. In the JS Matthew passage above it said: “and the stars shall fall from heaven”. So what’s going on with the stars? Are they actually being “hurled” around or will they actually “fall from heaven”? We go to Isaiah chapter 13 and read:

#### [Isaiah 13:10-14](#)

*10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.*

*11 And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.*

*12 I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.*

*13 Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the Lord of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.*

*14 And it shall be as the chased roe, and as a sheep that no man taketh up: they shall every man turn to his own people, and flee every one into his own land.*

What we learn from the above is that, at that time when “the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine” that “the earth shall remove out of her place” and “shall be as the chased roe”. What? The earth is going to bug out such that it will appear that “the stars shall be hurled from their places” like we were jumping to light speed in a star trek movie? Well, ya... sort of...

We now turn our attention to the gathering of the “elect... from the four quarters of the earth” to see how it keys in with the darkness and the earth being removed “out of her place”. From Joseph Smith Matthew we read:

### Joseph Smith Matthew 27, 37, 44-45

*27 And now I show unto you a parable. Behold, wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together; so likewise shall mine elect be gathered from the four quarters of the earth.*

*37 And whoso treasureth up my word, shall not be deceived, for the Son of Man shall come, and he shall send his angels before him with the great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together the remainder of his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

*44 Then shall be fulfilled that which is written, that in the last days, two shall be in the field, the one shall be taken, and the other left;*

*45 Two shall be grinding at the mill, the one shall be taken, and the other left;*

In verse 27 we have this phrase, “wheresoever the carcass is” which we interpret to mean “wherever the main body of the church is”, (which is Adam Ondi Ahman in this case). That is where “mine elect” shall “be gathered from the four quarters of the earth”. So we have two elements here, the main body of the church who shall trek back to the designated location of the

coming of the Bridegroom and those that are separated by oceans etc. and who therefore cannot make the trek.

From verse 37 we learn that when “the Son of Man shall come... he shall send his angels before him with the great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together the remainder (those who cannot trek) of his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other”. Verses 44-45 are pretty much self-explanatory. We go to Mark chapter 13 to learn more:

### Mark 13:24-27

*24 ¶But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,*

*25 And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.*

*26 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.*

*27 And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.*

In this passage we have duplicate conditions as in other sources, “the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light”. It is then that they “shall... see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory”, that is, in the very midst of this darkness! It’s dark and yet it’s not atmospheric in nature because they “see the Son of man coming in the clouds”. What’s going on, where’s the sun, where’s the moon? We go to JST Luke 17 in search of more answers:

### JST Luke 17:36-39

*36 And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord, shall they be taken?*

*37 And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body is gathered; or, in other words, whithersoever the saints are gathered, thither will the eagles be gathered together; or, thither will the remainder be gathered together.*

*38 This he spake, signifying the gathering of his saints; and of angels descending and gathering the remainder unto them; the one from the bed, the other from the grinding, and the other from the field, whithersoever he listeth.*

*39 For verily there shall be new heavens, and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.*

This passage supports and clarifies what we learned in JS Matt. 27, 37, 44-45 above. The essence being...“This he spake, signifying the gathering of his saints; and of angels descending and gathering the remainder (those who cannot trek) unto them; the one from the bed, the other from the grinding, and the other from the field, whithersoever he listeth.” And all of this in the midst of darkness, right?

And then in verse 39, we read “For verily there shall be new heavens, and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.” The new earth isn’t hard to figure out in as much as “the islands shall become one land... and the earth shall be like as it was in the days before it was divided” but what about the “new heavens”? We go to Rev. 21 and read:

#### Rev. 21:1-4

*1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.*

*2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

*3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

*4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

So John sees “a new heaven and a new earth” and “the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven” for “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men”. And exactly when shall all of this activity commence? The apparent answer, the obvious answer, the only answer that fits would have to be the feast of tabernacles!

Shall earth remain in place as God remodels the whole heavens round about us? Unlikely! We read what Brigham Young had to say on this topic:

### Brigham Young / Earth returns

*“When the earth was framed and brought into existence and man was placed upon it, it was near the throne of our Father in heaven. And when man fell...the earth fell into space, and took up its abode in this planetary system, and the sun became our light....This is the glory the earth came from, and when it is glorified it will return again unto the presence of the Father, and it will dwell there, and these intelligent beings that I am looking at, if they live worthy of it, will dwell upon this earth.” (Brigham Young, JD 17:143.)*

Joseph Smith also commented on this topic in as much as he stated:

## Joseph Smith / earth “rolled back” and celestialized

*“This earth will be rolled back into the presence of God, and crowned with celestial glory.” (Joseph Smith, Teachings, p. 181)*

Try to picture the earth as it is “rolled back”, continuing to rotate and keeping time with its thousand-year journey. At the 21-year mark or the end of the half-hour of silence, it is transformed into a terrestrial sphere.

So it appears that the earth will take up residency in another part of our galaxy for a time but will eventually, by the end of the seven thousand years, complete its journey to its place of origin and Christ shall present the celestialized earth to the Father. From D&C 29 and 76 we read:

**D&C 29:22-27, 76:107**

*“And again, verily, verily, I say unto you that when the thousand years are ended... the heaven and the earth shall be consumed and pass away, and there shall be a new heaven and a new earth...But, behold, verily I say unto you, before the earth shall pass away, Michael, mine archangel, shall sound his trump, and then shall all the dead awake, for their graves shall be opened, and they shall come forth—yea, even all. And the righteous shall be gathered on my right hand unto eternal life; and the wicked on my left hand will I be ashamed to own before the Father”, for the Lord “shall deliver up the kingdom, and present it unto the Father, spotless, saying: I have overcome and have trodden the wine-press alone, even the wine-press of the fierceness of the wrath of Almighty God.”*

So it appears that at the end of the thousand year journey, Christ shall “deliver up the kingdom” or the celestialized earth “and present it unto the Father...saying I have overcome and have trodden the wine-press alone, even the wine-press of the fierceness of the wrath of Almighty God.”

The “new heaven and... new earth” mentioned here is not the same as the change which comes at the time of the Lord’s appearance as the Bridegroom, nor is it the change which shall take place when the earth receives its paradisaical glory. Rather, it is the last and final change to come upon the earth, which will occur at the very end of the millennium.



## 24.. The final sequence

The subject matter contained in chapters 12 through 22 covers a great deal of ground and a diversity of topics. What they all have in common is that they contribute to our understanding of the sequence of events leading up to the coming of the Bridegroom.

It's good to know and understand the overall perspective of the first 21 years of Christ's millennial reign but what could be more pressing and pertinent for the saints of 2019 than to understand the transition that is just ahead of us? We are, after all, the generation of the Second Coming, are we not?

Over the years I've come to use the term, "the final sequence" to denote the relatively short sequence (time wise) from the abomination of desolation to the coming of the Bridegroom. So that's what we're going to be discussing in this chapter.

If you've been paying close attention, you know that I believe we are presently in the 42 months, which just does precede the final sequence. In fact, the 42 months acts as a countdown to the final sequence! And it is surely not just coincidental that the other 42 month prophecy, the 42 month long siege of Gog's army against Jerusalem provides us with a countdown to the coming of Christ as the Jewish Messiah, right?

It appears that this sequence starts in the spring of the year, (see chap 14) we're going to say Passover and extends into the fall and

the feast of tabernacles. If this be the case then the entire process, including the feast of trumpets and the feast of atonement is just a bit less than six months. Truly, “for elect’s sake, according to the covenant, those days shall be shortened.”

Of course, the first big event is the abomination of desolation which is to be thermonuclear in nature according to Ezra Taft Benson. Reacting to the nature of the emergency and the fact that radioactive fallout will certainly follow, the Lord’s people should be prepared to follow Isaiah’s counsel, wherein he said:

### Isaiah 26:20-21

*20 Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.*

*21 For, behold, the Lord cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.*

This phase of the final sequence is but a “little moment” and precedes the journey which the saints must inevitably make before “there shall appear a great sign in heaven” which “all people shall see it together.” (the sign of the Son of Man)

We have a good, though far from an exhaustive overview of the final sequence in section 88 of the D&C, where we read:

### D&C 88:84-93

*84 Therefore, tarry ye, and labor diligently, that you may be perfected in your ministry to go forth among the Gentiles for the last time, as many as the mouth of the Lord shall name, to bind up the law and seal up the testimony, and to prepare the saints for the hour of judgment which is to come;*

*85 That their souls may escape the wrath of God, the desolation of abomination which awaits the wicked, both in this world and in the world to come. Verily, I say unto you, let those who are not the first elders continue in the vineyard until the mouth of the Lord shall call them, for their time is not yet come; their garments are not clean from the blood of this generation.*

*86 Abide ye in the liberty wherewith ye are made free; entangle not yourselves in sin, but let your hands be clean, until the Lord comes.*

*87 For not many days hence and the earth shall tremble and reel to and fro as a drunken man; and the sun shall hide his face, and shall refuse to give light; and the moon shall be bathed in blood; and the stars shall become exceedingly angry, and shall cast themselves down as a fig that falleth from off a fig tree.*

*88 And after your testimony cometh wrath and indignation upon the people.*

*89 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.*

*90 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.*

*91 And all things shall be in commotion; and surely, men's hearts shall fail them; for fear shall come upon all people.*

*92 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.*

*93 And immediately there shall appear a great sign in heaven, and all people shall see it together.*

**We learn from this passage that the Gospel is to go forth for “the last time” “among the Gentiles” in order to “bind up the law and**

seal up the testimony”, as well as to “prepare the saints for the hour of judgment which is to come; That their souls may escape the wrath of God, the desolation of abomination”.

Shortly following the desolation of abomination or “not many days hence and the earth shall tremble and reel to and fro as a drunken man; and the sun shall hide his face, and shall refuse to give light; and the moon shall be bathed in blood”. (These are sixth seal events. See Rev. 6:12-13)

So we see the close association between the “desolation of abomination” and “the sun... shall refuse to give light; and the moon shall be bathed in blood”. Following this, another succession of events unfolds. We have “the testimony of earthquakes”, and then “cometh the testimony of the voice of thunders, and the voice of lightnings, and the voice of tempests, and the voice of the waves of the sea heaving themselves beyond their bounds.”

Seeing all of these events unfold in quick succession will surely set the wicked on edge for “all things shall be in commotion; and... fear shall come upon all people”!

Next, we have angels announcing, via trumpets that “the judgment of our God is come”! And to the saints, the declaration, “Behold, and lo, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.” The pre-designated location for the rendezvous between the saints and the Bridegroom is to be Adam Ondi Ahman which is where they shall be when “there shall appear a great sign in heaven, and all people shall see it together”.

However, before this “great sign in heaven” shall appear we can expect that the Ancient of Days will come and the feasts of trumpets and atonement shall unfold.

## The vision of Wilford Woodruff

Wilford Woodruff's vision of 1835 fits nicely within the parameters of the final sequence and may give us a greater understanding of Rev. 6:12-17, we read:

*"I was in Tennessee in the year 1835, and while at the house of Abraham O. Smoot, I received a letter from Brothers Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery, requesting me to stay there, and stating that I would lose no blessing by doing so. Of course, I was satisfied. I went into a little room and sat down upon a small sofa. I was all by myself and the room was dark; and while I rejoiced in this letter and the promise made to me, I became wrapped in vision. I was like Paul; I did not know whether I was in the body or out of the body. A personage appeared to me and showed me the great scenes that should take place in the last days. One scene after another passed before me. I saw the sun darkened; I saw the moon become as blood; I saw the stars fall from heaven; I saw seven golden lamps set in the heavens, representing the various dispensations of God to man—a sign that would appear before the coming of Christ. I saw the resurrection of the dead." (Journal of Discourses, October 1881, 22:332-33.)*

*"I saw a great many signs that were presented before me, by this personage; and among the rest, there were seven lions, as of burning brass, set in the heavens. He says, "That is one of the signs that will appear in the heavens before the coming of the Son of Man. It is a sign of the various dispensations." Now, had I been an artist, on the next day I could have sat down at my table and drawn, as clearly as though I had studied them all my life, everything I saw. I went to meeting the next day, with Brother Smoot. I hardly knew where I was. I did not comprehend a being, scarcely. I was entirely overwhelmed with what I had seen the night before." (Brian H. Stuy, ed., Collected Discourses, 5*

vols. [Burbank, Calif., and Woodland Hills, Ut.: B.H.S. Publishing, 1987-1992], vol. 1, March 3rd, 1889 discourse)

We note that the “seven golden lamps set in the heavens” and “seven lions, as of burning brass, set in the heavens” of which brother Woodruff speaks were to follow the sun being darkened and the moon being turned to blood but are manifest “before the coming of Christ”. Says he:

*“One scene after another passed before me. I saw the sun darkened; I saw the moon become as blood; I saw the stars fall from heaven; I saw seven golden lamps set in the heavens, representing the various dispensations of God to man—a sign that would appear before the coming of Christ.”*

In Revelation. 6:12-17 we read:

*12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;*

*13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.*

*14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*

*15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;*

*16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:*

*17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?*

So in these verses, following “the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood” we have “the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together”. And what is the heaven departing as a scroll all about? Could it be that what Wilford Woodruff reported seeing in vision gives a clue? Such inexplicable signs in the heavens would no doubt cause even the most hardened skeptic to re-consider.

It might even cause them to “hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains” and to proclaim “to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?”

It appears that the signs following the sun being darkened and the moon being turned to blood but “before the coming of Christ” as Wilford Woodruff said, indicate to us that even at this late date the Lord is willing to warn and to show mercy to those who will take heed and repent. Joseph Smith said:

### Joseph Smith / grind it to powder

*“It is not the design of the Almighty to come upon the earth and crush it and grind it to powder”. (History of the Church, 5:336–37)*

The balance of the final sequence can best be understood by reviewing the contents of chapter 23 in which we discover the events which are concurrent with the darkness and which shall prevail across the face of the earth when the Bridegroom comes.



## 25 A parting word

My purpose for compiling this work is to share what I've learned over nearly a decade of continuous research, pondering, blogging and writing upon this most important subject. Hopefully, the materials were presented in a manner that made it easy for the reader to connect the dots so to speak.

I suppose you could say that "connecting the dots" and then attempting to present those connections in a manner that is clear and easily followed is one of my main objectives.

As was mentioned above, I've worked on expanding my comprehension and understanding of the Second Coming for nearly ten years, with an emphasis on sequence and timing. In that period of time, I've come to some wrong conclusions more than once. Such is the reality of being a weak mortal and one who is still in the process of becoming. However, the other thing I've learned is that God's word is perfect! (to the extent that it is translated correctly). Additionally, the prophetic word is consistent across the whole of the standard works and repeatedly tells the same story!

You may have noticed that the first eleven chapters are mainly aimed at presenting the overall transitional portion of the millennium or the half hour of silence. What might not be so obvious is that the next twelve chapters (12-24) are mainly focused on the last four years of the sixth seal, comprised of the 42 months and the final sequence.

Truth is, I've been thinking that the 42 months would commence in the fall of 2016 and that the coming of the Bridegroom would be in 2020 for five or more years. However, the only way to really know what would characterize the 42 months, was to wait and see.

We weren't too far into the Trump administration before it became apparent that Ezra Taft Benson's statement wherein, he said, "if the gentiles on this land reject the word of God and conspire to overthrow liberty and the Constitution" gave us the conditions that would prevail during the 42 months. Thus, Ezra Taft Benson gave us the set of circumstances that would bring about destruction or the abomination of desolation upon the Gentiles and Daniel and John's prophecy of the 42 months gave us the timing!

Now, you the reader are under no obligation to agree with my assessment of the situation. However, my hope is that you've found this book to be enlightening and thought provoking and that you will carefully consider what your own course of action should be.

One thing is for sure, the world at large is in a deep slumber, preoccupied with the daily cares and pursuits of life. For the most part they are unaware and, in many instances, indifferent to the possibility that apocalyptic events are just over the horizon. It's just as the Lord said to his disciples:

### Joseph Smith Matthew 41-43

*41 But as it was in the days of Noah, so it shall be also at the coming of the Son of Man;*

*42 For it shall be with them, as it was in the days which were before the flood; for until the day that Noah entered into the ark they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage;*

*43 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.*

This, however, should not be the case with the elect of these last days for we should be watchful and sober as Paul said:

## 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6

*4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.*

*5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*

*6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.*

My witness is that Ezra Taft Benson and Thomas S. Monson were correct, we are the generation that must “prepare to meet... God”!

From my own personal perspective, this is a time when we need to be particularly close to the spirit and humble enough to sustain and follow those whom the Lord has placed at our head! We have recently seen sweeping changes in the order of the priesthood, the manner in which we are to minister, the length and structure of our meetings and the focus on home study to name a few. Just coincidence? I think not...

In closing, may the spirit abide within you, may your witness of Christ shine brightly and may you and yours experience the joy of the saints now and when Zion comes!

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Note: You are permitted to print a copy of the book to use as a study guide if you like. If you have questions or comments please contact me via email at [frankkeele@gmail.com](mailto:frankkeele@gmail.com). I'd love to hear from you. Also, I shall surely have more to say via my blog as time passes, so consider this an invitation to pay us a visit on occasion.

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## **Addendum to The Bridegroom Cometh (June 13, 2020)**

In 1986, then President of the Church, Ezra Taft Benson, told a group of seminary and institute students in California:

“While our generation will be comparable in wickedness to the days of Noah when the Lord cleansed the earth by flood, there is a major difference this time: God has saved for the final inning some of His stronger and most valiant children, who will help bear off the kingdom triumphantly... You are the generation that must be prepared to meet your God.” (Ensign, May 1986, p. 78.)

Just last year, President Russell M. Nelson, speaking to students at Brigham Young University said:

“You are the children whom God chose to be part of His battalion during this great climax in the longstanding battle between good and evil—between truth and error. I would not be surprised if... you promised to defend His name and gospel during this world’s tumultuous winding-up scenes.”

And in April conference just passed (2020), Elder Ronald A. Rasband stated:

“We live in that time prophesied; we are the people charged with ushering in the Second Coming of Jesus Christ; we are to gather God’s children, those who will hear and embrace the truths, covenants, and promises of the everlasting gospel. President Nelson calls it “the greatest challenge, the greatest cause, and the greatest work on [the] earth today.” Of that miracle I bear my witness.”

Brothers and sisters, we are, from the youngest to the oldest among us, the generation that will usher in the Lord’s second

coming! And because of that truth, we stand today as witnesses to long-awaited signs and the fulfilling of prophecies that no previous generation was privileged to experience and understand.

We have been witnesses to all but the very last portion of the prophecy of the 42 months leading up to the coming of the Bridegroom, which leads us to the reason or the need for this addendum. It is three-fold...

- 1- To explain why I've made some adjustments to the timeline.
- 2- To add what was previously a blog post to the record of this book.
- 3- To expound upon events and signs that have manifest themselves since release 1.30 of The Bridegroom Cometh.

### **A new and adjusted interpretation of Isaiah 18:5 and it's affect on the timeline.**

I've been saying for a long time that I thought the abomination of desolation upon the Gentiles would unfold in the spring of this year based on the prophecy of the 42 months and Isaiah 18. I also said that Passover could very likely bring this to pass, but since it didn't happen at Passover, I decided that it was time to take a closer look at what Isaiah says in the 18th chapter concerning when destruction would come upon "the land shadowing with wings". (America)

If you're unfamiliar with Isaiah 18, what Orson Pratt said about it, and how I interpreted it at the time I wrote it, please read chapter 14 of The Bridegroom Cometh.

Feeling that there might be more to Isaiah's prophecy than I had previously understood, I concluded that it might be a good idea to look at verse 5 in a number of different translations.. We start with the King James version from which I reached my original conclusions.

#### King James

5 For afore the harvest, when the bud is perfect, and the sour grape is ripening in the flower, he shall both cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks, and take away and cut down the branches.

So in the King James version, this happens when "the sour grape is ripening in the flower" and to me, that meant when the grape was flowering. However, when we reference other translations we get a very different story. Let us read what a few other translations have to say about the timing...

#### New Revised Standard

5 For before the harvest, when the blossom is over and the flower becomes a ripening grape, he will cut off the shoots with pruning hooks, and the spreading branches he will hew away.

#### New International Version

5 For, before the harvest, when the blossom is gone and the flower becomes a ripening grape, he will cut off the shoots with pruning knives, and cut down and take away the spreading branches.

#### New Century Version

5 The time will come, after the flowers have bloomed and before the harvest, when new grapes will be budding and growing. The enemy will cut the plants with knives; he will cut down the vines and take them away.

#### Holman Christian Standard Bible

5 For before the harvest, when the blossoming is over and the blossom becomes a ripening grape, He will cut off the shoots with a pruning knife, and tear away and remove the branches.

So, when we take into consideration what these other translations say, we must conclude that this pruning of the wicked in “the land shadowing with wings” is “when the blossom is over and the flower becomes a ripening grape” or “after the flowers have bloomed and before the harvest, when new grapes will be budding and growing” ... which could be as late as early summer, right?

I say early summer because we need to also keep in mind that it occurs “before the harvest” and that “the fowls shall summer upon them” according to verse six. (Isaiah 18:6)

Now, for the reasons stated above, I had held the view for quite some time that the abomination of desolation would unfold in the spring of the year and likely in conjunction with Passover. And for that reason, I had felt that later dates such as inauguration day as the start of the 42 months was too late to work with Isaiah 18:5. However, that is no longer the case... inauguration day which was Jan 20, 2017, could indeed have been the start of the 42 months or 1260 days. And if we add 1260 days to inauguration day, we come up with July 3, 2020, or thereabouts and that’s a date that appears to satisfy the conditions of the prophecy in my humble opinion. We shall see...

I am still very much convinced that we are in the 42 months of which Daniel and John spoke, John wrote in Rev. 13:

5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

As of this writing, we find ourselves in unprecedented circumstances, missionary activity has been drastically encroached upon, temple functions are very limited, far from capacity and we are just starting to think about attending meetings again. All of this was abruptly brought about by something we call the COVID...

Is this what John was seeing when he said, “And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them”? Has the COVID not given the globalists unprecedented “power.. over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations”? Is this what the end of the 42 months looks like?

And we need only look back to verse 5 to see the association all of this has with the “forty and two months”, right? In verse 10 John says. “He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.”

Be patient ye saints, exercise your faith... for “he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword”, Daniels, speaking of the 42 months says it this way, “and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.” (Daniel 12:1)

**Brigham Young, Heber Kimball, and Wilford Woodruff via President Nelson**

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The Bridegroom Cometh

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By Frank M. Keele

As mentioned above, we find ourselves in a curious and very interesting condition. That is, the condition of missionary work as mentioned above, the limitations on church meetings and the condition of temples being largely closed. Concerning missionary work Brigham Young said:

“Do you think there is calamity abroad now among the people? Not much. All we have yet heard and all we have experienced is scarcely a preface to the sermon that is going to be preached. When the testimony of the Elders ceases to be given, and the Lord says to them, “Come home; I will now preach my own sermons to the nations of the earth,” (In Bowery, July 15, 1860, JD8:123) TLDP:344-45

Concerning church meetings, Heber C. Kimball said:

“the time would come when the government would stop the Saints from holding meetings. When this was done, the Lord would pour out His judgments.” (Life of Heber C. Kimball, Pg. 453)

And concerning temples, President Nelson, via an edited quote from Wilford Woodruff said:

“More than a century ago, President Wilford Woodruff foresaw conditions such as ours today, as recorded in his dedicatory prayer of the Salt Lake Temple, given in 1893. Some of you may have recently seen excerpts from this remarkable prayer on social media.

Hear these pleadings from a mighty prophet of God: “When Thy people shall not have the opportunity of entering this holy house ... and they are oppressed and in trouble, surrounded by difficulties ... and shall turn their faces towards this Thy holy house and ask Thee

for deliverance, for help, for Thy power to be extended in their behalf, we beseech Thee, to look down from Thy holy habitation in mercy ... and listen to their cries. Or when the children of Thy people, in years to come, shall be separated, through any cause, from this place, ... and they shall cry unto Thee from the depths of their affliction and sorrow to extend relief and deliverance to them, we humbly entreat Thee to ... hearken to their cries, and grant unto them the blessings for which they ask.” (April conference 2020)

So when we consider the combined witness of these three statements, it serves as evidence to me that we are in a situation or at a crossroad where we may expect both judgments on the wicked and deliverance for the saints. You of course are free to come to your own conclusions.

### **Obama and the 42 months**

*In the original release of The Bridegroom Cometh there was much said about the prophecy of the 42 months but no names were mentioned, however on Oct. 18, 2019, I posted a blog entitled “Obama and the 42 months”. It is hoped that including this version the 42 months story will help the reader see how the 42 months is being fulfilled in our day...*

I’m going to start by giving the reader a bit of personal history going clear back to 2008 and the presidential election. I remember listening to a talk given by Cleon Skousen where he mentioned Rev. 13 and the 42 months. Let’s read three verses:

5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

Because the election was underway and Obama was on TV and in the news, I wondered if the phrase “there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies” might apply. Of course, I needed to wait and see if he would go on to fulfill all of the other conditions which John mentions. It was later that I discovered that Daniel had said something very similar in chapter 7, we read:

25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

Can you see the obvious common threads here?

John says, “there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies”.

Daniel says, “he shall speak great words against the most High”.

John says, “it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them”.

Daniel says, he “shall wear out the saints of the most High”.

John says, “and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.”

Daniel says, “and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.” (42 months)

John says something that Daniel does not, “and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations” showing that he is a globalist. Is Obama a globalist?

Daniel says something that John does not, “But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end” showing us that when “the judgment shall sit” or when “the Ancient of days” or Adam comes “the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High”. (verse 27) This, of course, is a reference to the meeting which shall soon unfold at Adam Ondi Ahman.

One very important point that we want to stress here is that the trial of the saints, whatever it may be, (we’ll get to that in a moment) brings us to the tipping point. In the end, “He” has just 3 1/2 years or 42 months to do his thing because “the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy”.

This is why I say that Latter-Day Saints especially need to understand what this is all about. This person is a globalist and so his deeds affect people everywhere but it's only the Lord's elect who are invited to gather to Adam Ondi Ahman and witness the coming of the Bridegroom, which saves them from so much of the destruction and carnage which shall follow! Daniel connects for us the 42 months and the events to unfold when "the judgment shall sit", he does this for the edification and benefit of the Latter Day Saints!

So, I've been watching this situation develop now for over ten years, here are a few points to consider...

As stated above, John says, "there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies". If you were John and wanted to describe Obama, wouldn't you mention his oratorical ability and his power to persuade and corrupt?

Daniel says, "he shall... think to change times and laws". Do you remember what the theme of Obama's first presidential campaign was? It was "Change"! And looking retrospectively, we know he wanted to change the "laws" or corrupt the system, misconstrue and disavow the constitution and bring us more fully under the powers of globalism, right?

John says, "and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months." So this individual was not only to achieve great power but would "continue forty and two months". You can only "continue" something that you had previously commenced, right? I waited for several years knowing that this "continue" thing was going to unfold around election time of 2016, though I did not know exactly what it would look like but I always knew that Obama would not just step aside as was the tradition and he surely hasn't disappointed in that respect.

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By Frank M. Keele

How can he step aside, how can he or any of the cascade of co-conspirators, those who are up to their necks in corruption and treasonous acts just step aside? If they ultimately fail and justice prevails, they are all going to be toast, right?

So what is the 42 months all about and how would we characterize it? I think Daniel gave us the key when he said, “And he shall... think to change times and laws”! The 42 months is the final push of the globalists, it’s their final desperate attempt to throw out the constitution and the rule of law here in America. Likewise, they are doing all they can to maintain their power in the EU by attempting to stifle Brexit by any means possible. The unvarnished truth is that the globalist elite doesn’t care how un-democratic and lawless they have to be to accomplish their objective, it’s just whatever it takes, right?

In the end, globalism is a Satanic counterfeit of Christ’s soon to come millennial kingdom and the 42 months serves as a prophetic countdown to its demise. Have you noticed the similarities between the globalist agenda and the King men of the Book of Mormon? They just refuse to be bound by the vote or the voice of the people!

This ongoing conflict between freedom and the globalist elite escalated to what we might call fever pitch back in the fall of 2016, just as I knew it would and it is around this time that I believe the 42 months began. With the failure of their corrupt globalist candidate and the election of Donald Trump, the globalist abandoned any pretense that they believe in or are supportive of any kind of democratic process. Further, with the exposure of the globalist’s agenda worldwide, we see a great awakening of people all around the globe and with the awakening, we see a great division and the choosing of sides.

On the one hand, we have those who care for freedom, liberty, agency and the rights of the people. On the other hand, we have those who are anti-free agency, anti-freedom, anti-constitution, anti-borders, and anti-Christ. When the Lord comes, the line separating the sheep and the goats will be very sharply drawn!

Now, this whole idea that the wicked would eventually pull out all the stops in their attempts to gain ultimate power was understood by more than just Daniel and John. Modern-day prophets have understood it as well.

Ezra Taft Benson didn't label this conflict as "the 42 months", but he did understand what would happen and where this would all lead, said he:

"if the gentiles on this land reject the word of God and conspire to overthrow liberty and the Constitution, then their doom is fixed, and they ". . . shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant". (1 Nephi 14:6; 3 Nephi 21:11, 14, 21; D&C 84:114-115, 117)

"The great destructive force which was to be turned loose on the earth and which the prophets for centuries have been calling the "abomination of desolation" is vividly described by those who saw it in vision. Ours is the first generation to realize how literally these prophecies can be fulfilled now that God, through science, has unlocked the secret to thermonuclear reaction.'

"In the light of these prophecies there should be no doubt in the mind of any priesthood holder that the human family is headed for trouble. There are rugged days ahead. It is time for every man who wishes to do his duty to get himself prepared—physically, spiritually, and psychologically—for the task which may come at

any time, as suddenly as the whirlwind” .... (Oct. general conference, 1961)

Nephi saw the fiery nature of the “abomination of desolation” as well, he reveals that it is a plot to destroy the righteous and says “they shall fall into the pit which they digged to ensnare the people of the Lord”. In 1 Nephi 22 we read:

14 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.

15 For behold, saith the prophet, the time cometh speedily that Satan shall have no more power over the hearts of the children of men; for the day soon cometh that all the proud and they who do wickedly shall be as stubble; and the day cometh that they must be burned.

16 For the time soon cometh that the fulness of the wrath of God shall be poured out upon all the children of men; for he will not suffer that the wicked shall destroy the righteous.

17 Wherefore, he will preserve the righteous by his power, even if it so be that the fulness of his wrath must come, and the righteous be preserved, even unto the destruction of their enemies by fire. Wherefore, the righteous need not fear; for thus saith the prophet, they shall be saved, even if it so be as by fire.

18 Behold, my brethren, I say unto you, that these things must shortly come; yea, even blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke must come; and it must needs be upon the face of this earth; and it cometh unto men according to the flesh if it so be that they will harden their hearts against the Holy One of Israel.

The 42 months is the best scriptural evidence we have as to when the abomination of desolation will unfold, provided that we recognize when it begins. And shortly after it occurs, the saints will trek back to Zion and Christ will make his appearance to them as the Bridegroom. In Daniel chapter 12 we get yet another view of the circumstances surrounding the 42 months and the abomination of desolation, Daniel says:

1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book...

5 ¶ Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

6 And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?

7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth forever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

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By Frank M. Keele

So associated with a time when Michael (Adam) shall “stand up... for the children of thy people... there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time” and it is at this unprecedented “time of trouble” that “thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book”.

Of course, Daniel wants us to know what the sign will be when “thy people shall be delivered” and he makes it quite clear. There are three messengers that appear to him, he says, “there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river”. One of those who “stood” on “the bank of the river” asks a question of the third messenger or “the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river” and the question is, “How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?” The answer given points us once again to the 42 months which serves as a countdown. Daniel says:

“he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.”

So, when the globalist manage to “scatter the power of the holy people” via a destructive force that will bring on “a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time”, the whole thing will backfire according to Nephi for “they shall fall into the pit which they digged to ensnare the people of the Lord... for thus saith the prophet, they shall be saved, even if it so be as by fire.”

Now, let me be perfectly clear about this, if we are in the 42 months and have been since around election time of 2016, the

abomination of desolation should unfold in the spring or early summer of 2020 and given the fact that President Nelson just announced that we are going to have a “unique... memorable” and “unforgettable” general conference next spring, it should give us pause, to say the least.

Now, I’m going to say that anyone who is paying the least little bit of attention to what’s going on in the world can easily see that the gentiles are seeking to “overthrow liberty and the Constitution” as Ezra Taft Benson said they would, and that it can’t be long before “their doom is fixed, and they “. . . shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant”. Realistically it could come at any time, right?

However, it’s not going to come at just any time, it’s going to come in the Lord’s time, which according to Daniel and John is going to be at the end of the 42 months.

As I said at the beginning of this post, I’ve seen this coming for quite a long time and I’ve written about the 42 months on many occasions but this will be the first time where I’ve named names and posted it on my blog. It is hoped that I’ve presented the material in a manner that is simple and straight forward enough that all can grasp what I’m saying.

Change is in the air and great things are coming, while in Rome Italy President Nelson said:

“This is a hinge point in the history of the Church. Things are going to move forward at an accelerated pace of which this is a part. We think the Church is an old Church. It’s 189 years old. But it’s only the beginning. Just project out what the next future will be and the Church is going to have an unprecedented future. Unparalleled. We’re just building up to what’s ahead now.”

The Bridegroom Cometh

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By Frank M. Keele

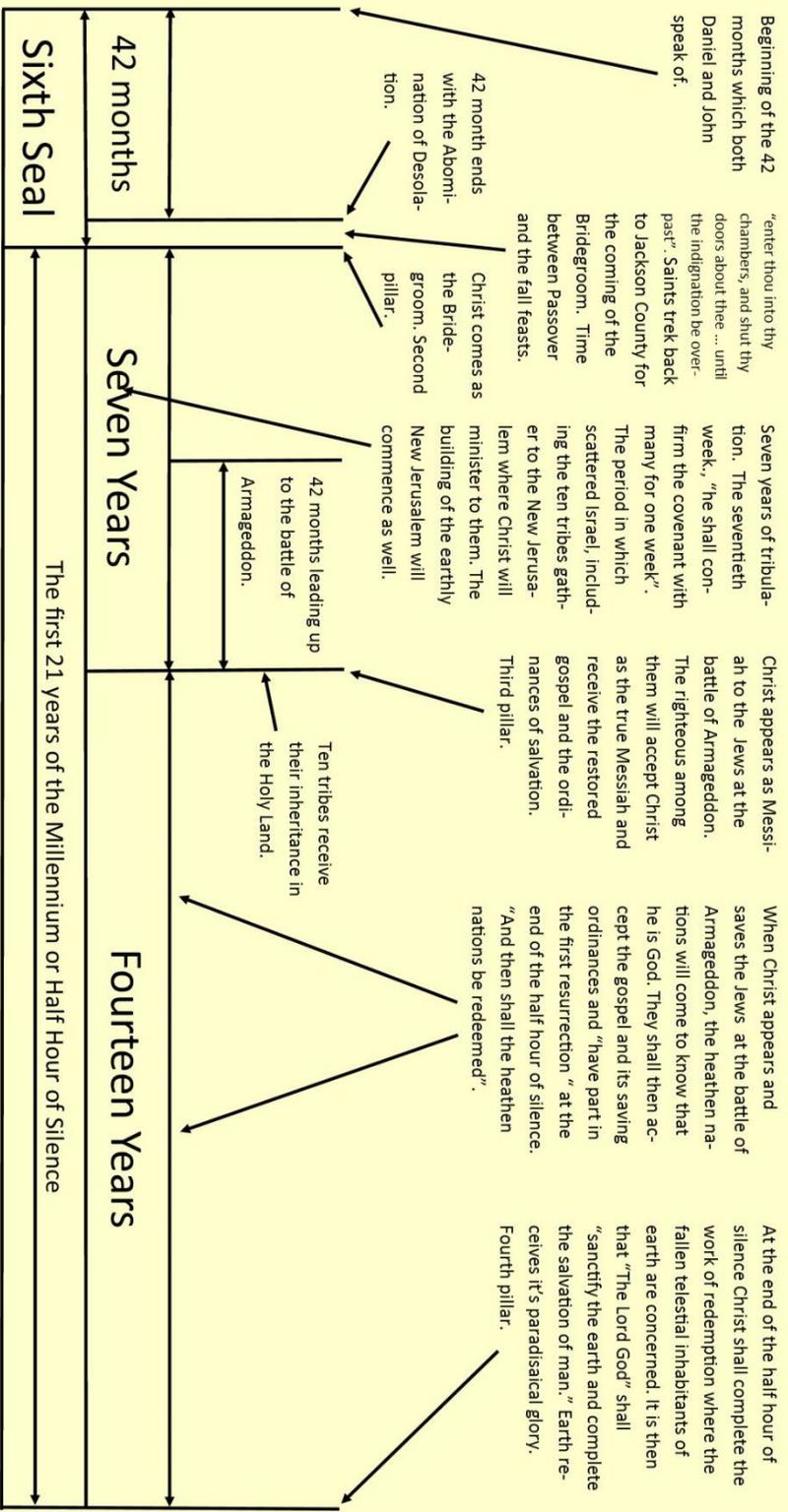
And did you notice what Elder Quentin L. Cook said in conference:

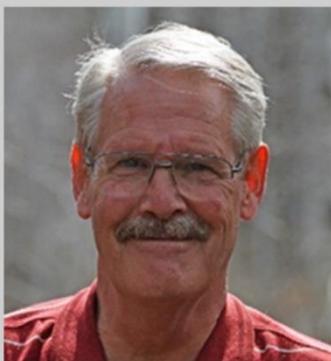
“These efforts, together with those announced during the last two years, are not isolated changes. Each of the adjustments is an integral part of an interlocking pattern to bless the Saints and prepare them to meet God.”

You, of course, are free to draw your own conclusions...

### **Conclusion**

In this addendum I’ve tried to explain why I felt the need to adjust my interpretation of Isaiah 18:5, make the more personalized version of the 42 months story a part of this record and show how the circumstances we find ourselves in relates to the winding up of the 42 months. So far as I’m able to discern, the only thing left is the taking down of the wicked Gentiles via the abomination of desolation as Ezra Taft Benson explained it.





#### About the author

*Frank M. Keele is a resident of Payson Utah. He served two years as a missionary in the Delaware Maryland mission and has gone on to serve in various callings over the years since. He considers himself to be a run of the mill active member of the church and has a deep and abiding testimony of Jesus Christ, the restored gospel, latter day scripture and the Prophet Joseph Smith.*

*When asked what qualifies him to write and blog about the Second Coming, he would likely quote the Prophet Joseph Smith who said: "... God hath not revealed anything to Joseph, but what he will make known unto the Twelve, and even the least Saint may know all things as fast as he is able to bear them. ..."* (History of the Church, 3:380; from a discourse given by Joseph Smith on June 27, 1839, in Commerce, Illinois; reported by Willard Richards.)

