

Millennial Dawn

By Frank M. Keele

Title Page

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Introduction

We live in unprecedented times, a time when the words of the prophets both ancient and modern are unfolding before our eyes at an accelerated pace.

The prophet of our day, Russell M. Nelson, has a laser like focus on the task of preparing us for the Lord's second coming, his prophetic statements should at the very least cause us to reflect upon the events of the day and come to the obvious conclusion that we are the generation of the Lord's second coming. From his 2019 BYU devotional we read:

"You already know this. You have sung about it ever since you were toddlers. But let me clarify a distinguishing characteristic about your identity. **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, when the veil is lifted in the next life, we learn that you actually pled with our Heavenly Father to be reserved for now. I would not be surprised to learn that premortally, you loved the Lord so much that **you promised to defend His name and gospel during this world's tumultuous winding-up scenes.** One thing is certain: You are of the House of Israel and you have been sent here to help gather God's elect."

But what about those of us who are more senior, have we also received such a promise? Yes we have, in 1979 as an apostle, and again in 1986 as president of the church, Ezra Taft Benson proclaimed:

"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.)

And so we conclude that the membership of the church today, composed of both youth and seniors, constitute the generation of the Lord's second coming! The Lord has said of us, "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." (JSM v. 34) Or in other words, our generation will witness the entire process of the second coming, including all three of the Lord's grand appearances!

According to President Nelson, we are to witness the "great climax in the longstanding battle between good and evil", we are at a "hinge point in the history of the church. Things are going to move forward at an accelerated pace" and "The church is going to have an unprecedented future, unparalleled; we're just building up to what's ahead now". And he has also said:

"Our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, will perform some of His mightiest works between now and when He comes again. We will see miraculous indications that God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, preside over this Church in majesty and glory." (Sat morning, April conf. 2018)

And in April conference of 2020 President Nelson said:

"We live in the day that "our forefathers have awaited with anxious expectation." We have front-row seats to witness live what the prophet Nephi saw only in vision, that "the power of the Lamb of God" would descend "upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory."

You, my brothers and sisters, are among those men, women, and children whom Nephi saw. Think of that!"

The passage that President Nelson referenced above was 1 Ne. 14:14, we read:

14 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the

covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory.

So if verse 14 is where we were back in April of 2020... what comes next and where are we now? To get the answer we continue reading in this same chapter, we read:

15 And it came to pass that I beheld that the wrath of God was poured out upon that great and abominable church, insomuch that there were wars and rumors of wars among all the nations and kindreds of the earth.

16 And as there began to be wars and rumors of wars among all the nations which belonged to the mother of abominations, the angel spake unto me, saying: Behold, the wrath of God is upon the mother of harlots; and behold, thou seest all these things—

17 And when the day cometh that the wrath of God is poured out upon the mother of harlots, which is the great and abominable church of all the earth, whose founder is the devil, then, at that day, the work of the Father shall commence, in preparing the way for the fulfilling of his covenants, which he hath made to his people who are of the house of Israel.

And so we ask, are we seeing “wars and rumors of wars” among the nations of the gentiles where Nephi saw the great and abominable church in his vision? (1 Ne. 13:1-10) Have they increased since 2020? I think we’d have to say yes if we’re being honest with ourselves. Are the wars “among **all** the nations which belong to the mother of abominations”... not yet, not as I’m writing this introduction at least but we are seeing war in Europe aren’t we, and at a level that we have not seen since WWII, right? And the reality is that the world is closer to the possibility of nuclear war than we have ever been...

Now, what do these wars signify according to Nephi’s words? He writes, “then, at that day, the work of the Father shall commence, in preparing the way for the fulfilling of his covenants, which he hath made to his people who are of the house of Israel”, which promises just happen to be millennial by the way! And so this places us on the very brink of seeing the prophecy of

John fulfilled, who by the way, was shown to Nephi next, we continue reading:

18 And it came to pass that the angel spake unto me, saying: Look!

19 And I looked and beheld a man, and he was dressed in a white robe.

20 And the angel said unto me: Behold one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

21 Behold, he shall see and write the remainder of these things; yea, and also many things which have been.

22 And he shall also write concerning the end of the world.

23 Wherefore, the things which he shall write are just and true; and behold they are written in the book which thou beheld proceeding out of the mouth of the Jew; and at the time they proceeded out of the mouth of the Jew, or, at the time the book proceeded out of the mouth of the Jew, the things which were written were plain and pure, and most precious and easy to the understanding of all men.

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.

And so as wars increase to the point where “wars and rumors of wars (are) among all the nations and kindreds of the earth” as Nephi wrote, we can expect to see John’s prophecies of warfare fulfilled, for example, the events of Rev chapter 17, where the beast burns the whore and chapters 8 through 11 which lead up to the battle of Armageddon.

And by the way, in the first verse of Rev 8 John says, “And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of

half an hour”and so we shall finally cross the threshold of the seventh seal and find out what the half hour of silence is all about.

As I write this, are we are at a prophetic cross road and we are about to find out what Joseph Smith meant when he said, “Noah came before the flood, I have come before the fire.”

Part One - Events leading up to the coming of the Bridegroom

Chapter 1

Daniel saw the fate of America and the gentiles

In Daniel chapter seven we are given a preview of events leading up to the Lord's first appearance, we read:

Daniel 7:7-8, 11-12

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...

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.

The Four Beasts

Daniel actually saw four beasts but it was the fourth beast, representing the Roman empire and those nations which would devolve from it that was of particular interest to him. This was to include not only the nations of Europe but "those who have grown out of these kingdoms" according to Orson Pratt. We read from Elder Pratt's commentary on the subject:

Orson Pratt - The Roman empire and kingdoms that have grown out of it

“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”.

“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, and 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”. (Journal of Discourses, vol. 18, p. 339)

Another way to view and think about these nations is that they are the nations of the gentiles of which the Lord said in 3 Nephi 21:

3 Nephi 21:11

11 Therefore it shall come to pass that whosoever will not believe in my words, who am Jesus Christ, which the Father shall cause him to bring forth unto the Gentiles, and shall give unto him power that he shall bring them forth unto the Gentiles, (it shall be done even as Moses said) they shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant.

And so we conclude that the fate of Europe and America was known reaching clear back to the days of Daniel. They are to be “destroyed and given to the burning flame” leading up to the Lord’s first appearance. We also note that “the rest of the beasts” or the balance of the nations “had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.” or until the Lord makes his second appearance among the Jews at the battle of Armageddon.

Considering the circumstances that the world finds itself in presently, surely we ought to take Daniel and Elder Pratt’s warning seriously!

Chapter 2

The abomination of desolation on the gentiles.

This chapter builds upon the previous chapter, here we turn to a prophet that most of you will remember or are familiar with. This may not be a very popular subject because there are so many who don't particularly want to hear about things like the abomination of desolation etc...

However, if you're like me and are trying to establish the sequence and timing of these events, the abomination of desolation is a critical reference point in the overall sequence. We start by referencing a couple of comments from Ezra Taft Benson's 1961, Oct general conference talk, we read:

Ezra Taft Benson - Oct 1961 General Conference

"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)

And in another place in this talk he says:

"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)

"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)

So, when we think of what Elder Benson said in the light of current events, it's easy to see that we could well be, and I'm going to say that we probably are in the process of building up to nuclear conflict between the East or Russia and those who are of a similar mind and those of the West or the NATO nations and those who support them.

This is what Rev 17 is all about in my view, where the East is the beast and the west is the whore. In that exchange the whore comes out on the losing end but there's a silver lining in this case because it leads immediately to the Lord's first appearance here in America as the Bridegroom. And so we should not fear because the Lord has a perfect knowledge of what's coming and he also has the perfect solution which has been in the works going clear back to the days of Enoch.

Stand in holy places

However, there will be a short period of time when we shall be required to stand in holy places, and in order to do this we need to be both spiritually and temporally prepared. The rest is in the Lord's hands and he will surely be there for us if we are found faithful.

Chapter 3

The timing of the abomination of desolation

In the previous chapter we talked about the abomination of desolation on the gentiles as defined by Ezra Taft Benson and as I mentioned there, "if you're like me and are trying to establish the sequence and timing of these events, the abomination of desolation is a critical reference point in the overall sequence."

The fact is that the abomination of desolation on the gentiles can be found all through scripture... it's not often called the abomination of desolation but it does always have to do with the cleansing of America and just does precede the establishment of Zion or the New Jerusalem.

Today we'll look at what Isaiah had to say about it because we gain added insight and perspective in doing so... we go to Isaiah 18 and read:

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.

This chapter is speaking of America according to Orson Pratt who said:

Orson Pratt- The land shadowing with wings

"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."

Orson goes on to explain that the gospel will go forth to the world from the land shadowing with wings (America) and then he also comments on what Isaiah says about a judgment to come upon the land, says he:

"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; then the first among all the nations where the extremities of the image have sent forth one of its governments, 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.”

We have a bit of a problem with the King James translation of the above verses because it can have us thinking that things are going to heat up in the spring of the year or when the grape is in the blossom, so lets look at verses 5-6 via the English Revised Version, we read:

After the blossom, before the harvest, when the grape is growing

5 For afore the harvest, when the blossom is over, and the flower becometh a ripening grape, he shall cut off the sprigs with pruning-hooks, and the spreading branches shall he take away [and] cut down.

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

Here we come to understand that this pruning is to take place “afore the harvest” and after the “blossom is over”, when we will have a “ripening grape” but it’s not too late in the year because “the ravenous birds shall summer upon them”, right? So we could clearly be justified in saying early summer, correct?

Now, as devastating as all this sounds, Isaiah also give us the same silver lining that we spoke of in the previous chapter... in verse 7 he says:

7 In that time shall the present be brought unto the Lord of hosts (this “present” being the righteous saints) 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, (and the elect are to be brought out from among the desolation and...) to the place of the name of the Lord of hosts, the mount Zion.

So again, Zion, the New Jerusalem or God’s tabernacle comes to the rescue of the saints just as the seventh seal opens and the wars leading up to Armageddon unfold...

Chapter 4

The judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters

In the 17th chapter of Rev we have the prophecy of the beast and the whore, we read:

Rev 17:1

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:

We of the restored church are fortunate indeed to have yet another book of scripture that illuminates just who this whore who sits on many waters is, from 1 Nephi 14 we read:

1 Nephi 14:11-13 The whore resides among the gentile nations

11 And it came to pass that I looked and beheld the whore of all the earth, and she sat upon many waters; and she had dominion over all the earth, among all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people.

12 And it came to pass that I beheld the church of the Lamb of God, and its numbers were few, because of the wickedness and abominations of the whore who sat upon many waters; nevertheless, I beheld that the church of the Lamb, who were the saints of God, were also upon all the face of the earth; and their dominions upon the face of the earth were small, because of the wickedness of the great whore whom I saw.

13 And it came to pass that I beheld 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.

And so there we have our answer, “the whore of all the earth” or “the great mother of abominations” resides “among... the nations of the Gentiles” and we know what Daniel said would happen to them... “given to the burning flame”, right?

To get a hint as to who the beast is, we go to verse 8 and read:

Rev 17:8

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.

Now, keep in mind that the beast is going to burn the whore and so we are looking for a nuclear capable nation and so we ask, what nuclear capable nation “was, and is not, and yet is”? Hint, it is the same nation that was “wounded to death” and who’s “deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast” that we read about in Rev 13: 3.

Is Russia the beast?

I’m going to say that Russia is the one nation that fits the bill. It once “was”, along with it’s 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”. And additionally, Russia is presently threatening the west with the use of nuclear weapons and so what more needs to be said?

To get the details of the whore’s demise we go to verses 16-17 and read:

Rev 17:16-17

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.

And so we have the beast (Russia) and ten other nations who also “hate the whore” (the NATO nations) and God puts it into the hearts of these ten nations to “give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled” and they “make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.”

From the above passage we also conclude that the burning of the whore is by no means contrary to God’s plan because “God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will”, right? And as frightening and nu-nerving as this may sound, we must keep in mind that this whole sequence is both foreknown and according to the Lord’s plan to bring about his millennial kingdom.

As we observe the alliances formed and forming between Russia and other nations it will become more and more apparent as to who the other ten nations are... And the unfolding of this sequence my friends is what we are seeing on the word stage today!

In chapter 18 of Rev John give us a summation of just how dramatic the fall of the west would be, we read a portion:

Rev 18:2-4

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.

Those nations who have come to rely upon the whore for trade, aide and protection will suddenly find themselves in a war bent and declining world

because the nations who took it upon themselves to burn the whore will take charge.

Now, keep in mind that this burning of the whore is also the abomination of desolation on the gentiles that we have spoken of in previous chapters... and what is it that follows “immediately after the tribulation of those days”? From JS Matthew we read:

JS Matt 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;

And so again we read about the silver lining to the abomination of desolation or the Lord’s gathering of his elect to Missouri and the New Jerusalem where they will be protected as Gog gathers his warring minions in preparation for the 3 1/2 year long siege against Jerusalem.

John also says above that he “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” and he’s not talking about the elect here because they will all be safe in the New Jerusalem, right? He’s talking about those of Israel who are yet to be gathered.

And so the abomination of desolation on the gentiles serves as the marker or signal that the Lord is about to make his first appearance and that the millennial gathering of Israel is about to take place. So when Zion or the New Jerusalem is established, it will serve as a beacon to scattered Israel and they will gladly flee the warring nations (that ye receive not of her plagues) and

gather to it for the sake of their liberties and their protection. We go to D&C 45 and read:

D&C 45:66-71

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.

71 And it shall come to pass that the righteous shall be gathered out from among all nations, and shall come to Zion, singing with songs of everlasting joy.

And so the world will come to a point where there will be a division between the righteous and the wicked, from D&C 1 we read:

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.

This division will prevail leading up to the battle of Armageddon, when according to John "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever". (Rev 11:15)

Chapter 5

Warfare and the gathering of Israel

In 1 Nephi 14, Nephi was given a vision wherein he was shown the relationship between latter day wars and the gathering of Israel, from 1 Nephi 14 we read:

1 Nephi 14:15-17

15 And it came to pass that I beheld that the wrath of God was poured out upon that great and abominable church, insomuch that there were wars and rumors of wars among all the nations and kindreds of the earth.

16 And as there began to be wars and rumors of wars among all the nations which belonged to the mother of abominations, the angel spake unto me, saying: Behold, the wrath of God is upon the mother of harlots; and behold, thou seest all these things—

17 And when the day cometh that the wrath of God is poured out upon the mother of harlots, which is the great and abominable church of all the earth, whose founder is the devil, then, at that day, the work of the Father shall commence, in preparing the way for the fulfilling of his covenants, which he hath made to his people who are of the house of Israel.

This sequence of war and “the fulfilling of” the Lord’s “covenants, which he hath made to his people who are of the house of Israel” begins with the abomination of desolation on the gentiles... we read from 3 Nephi 21:

3 Nephi 21:11-21

11 Therefore it shall come to pass that whosoever will not believe in my words, who am Jesus Christ, which the Father shall cause him to bring forth unto the Gentiles, and shall give unto him power that he shall bring them forth unto the Gentiles, (it shall be done even as Moses said) they shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant.

12 And my people who are a remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles, yea, in the midst of them as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young

lion among the flocks of sheep, who, if he go through both treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver.

13 Their hand shall be lifted up upon their adversaries, and all their enemies shall be cut off.

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.

The above verses describe what is often referred to as the cleansing of America, this is where the wicked and rebellious among the gentiles who “will not believe in my words, who am Jesus Christ, which the Father shall cause him to bring forth unto the Gentiles... shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant” and the Lord will “execute vengeance and fury upon them, even as upon the heathen, such as they have not heard”.

This cutting off of the wicked from among the Lord’s “people who are of the covenant” (abomination of desolation) as we have repeatedly stated, just barely precedes the Lord’s appearance to his elect in the American Zion... we continue...

3 Nephi 21:25

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

So when the above described destruction upon the gentiles unfolds and the Lord comes down and is “in the midst” of his people, what great event unfolds? We continue reading:

3 Nephi 21:26-29

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.

The gathering described in the above passage, must, according to President Russell M. Nelson be fulfilled before the Lord will make his appearance to the Jews, said he:

Russell M. Nelson - The gathering of Israel will precede Christ appearing to the Jews

“A necessary prelude to that Second Coming is the long-awaited gathering of scattered Israel... The Lord will return to the land that He made holy by His mission there in mortality. In triumph, He will come again to Jerusalem. In

royal robes of red to symbolize His blood, which oozed from every pore, He shall return to the Holy City". (April Ensign, 2020, Preparing the World for the Savior's Second Coming)

And so we conclude that the great gathering of Israel is to precede the Lord's appearance to the Jews and will come swiftly on the heels of his appearance in the American Zion, where he "will be in the midst" of his people. This gathering of Israel is therefore millennial and is bracketed by or unfolds between the Lord's first two appearances.

Chapter 6

In the last days, Michael will deliver Israel from their troubles

The title of this chapter is taken from the heading of Daniel chapter 12 and so in this chapter we will be investigating the timing and circumstances surrounding Michael's deliverance of latter day Israel... we begin by reading the first verse:

Daniel 12:1

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.

And so there is to come a time in the last days when the Lords people will face a "time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time"... and just what is the cause or the circumstances of this unprecedented time of trouble we might ask? Well, we've made mention of it in all of the five preceding chapters, it is none other than the abomination of desolation.

You will please recall that the sun shall be darkened, the moon turned to blood, the stars fall from heaven, the powers of heaven shall be shaken and the Son of Man shall appear to his saints "immediately after the tribulation of those days", right? (see JS Matt 32-36)

And Mark (13) writes of these unprecedented times in these terms:

Mark 13:19-20

19 For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.

20 And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.

So Daniel speaks of "a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time" and Mark speaks of "affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be". Kind of sounds like Mark had just read what Daniel had to say, doesn't it? But Mark goes on to write:

Mark 13:24 -27

24 But in those days, after that tribulation, (abomination of desolation) 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.

And so when these war related calamities descend upon the nations with the abomination of desolation on the gentiles being the first great one, the elect need not fear because, "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."

Now, we need to divert here for just a moment to explain that not all of the elect will be gathered by angels, the exception being those who trek back to Missouri and who will most likely arrive there first. In JST Luke 17 the Lord explains it this way:

JST Luke 17:36-38

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.

And so the saints who trek are designated as “the body” or “the gathering of his saints” ... and “the remainder” represent those who for whatever reason, health or age or they live in Australia, etc. are to be gathered by angels.

Now, returning from our slight diversion we ask, what does this all have to do with Michael or Adam “deliver(ing) Israel from their troubles”? To answer this question we go to Daniel chapter 7 and read:

Daniel 7:9-10

9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days (Michael) 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.

In the above verses we read about Michael, who will gather together a great assembly of his posterity, Joseph Smith of this event:

“Daniel in his seventh chapter speaks of the Ancient of Days; he means the oldest man, our Father Adam, Michael, he [who] will call his children together and hold a council with them to prepare them for the coming of the Son of Man.”

And so, in preparation for “the coming of the Son of Man”, “the judgment was set, and the books were opened”. In the New International Version it says “The court was seated, and the books were

opened". Of these proceedings Joseph Smith says, "He (Adam) is the father of the human family, and presides over the spirits of all men, and all that have had the keys must stand before him in this grand council". And what happens once the business of "this grand council", which we know will take place at Adam Ondi Ahman is complete?

Well, they will cast their view towards the heavens and... we continue reading from Daniel 7:

Daniel 7:13-14

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. (Michael)

14 And there was given him (Christ) 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.

Joseph Smith explains it this way:

"The Son of Man stands before him, and there is given him glory and dominion. Adam delivers up his stewardship to Christ, that which was delivered to him as holding the keys of the universe, but retains his standing as head of the human family" (Joseph Smith, Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, 157).

And so we see that this meeting where Michael and his posterity see "one like the Son of man came(ing) with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days" is the same event that we read about in Mark 13, wherein he said:

Mark 13:24 -27

24 But in those days, after that tribulation, (abomination of desolation) 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.

And what about the righteous saints, what about the elect according to the covenant... will we be in attendance when mighty Michael calls this great assembly together? The answer is yes.... but when and how? And the answer is, when we “shall... see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory... 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” and we shall also be in attendance when Michael delivers up his stewardship to Christ when he receives “dominion, and glory, and a kingdom”.

And this is how “In the last days, Michael will deliver Israel from their troubles”. He is to preside over the unfolding events that lead to the Lord’s second coming where he presents Christ with the keys to the kingdom which he had on loan but rightfully belong to Christ... and God’s tabernacle or the New Jerusalem which shall attend his coming shall provide the elect with protection or sanctuary.

But the deliverance of “Israel from their troubles” shall also extend to those of Israel who are yet nu-gathered, for they, seeing that Christ has come and desiring to escape the insanity of global warfare and conflict shall flee to Zion. From D&C 45 we read:

D&C 45:66 - 68

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.

Chapter 7

And power was given unto him to continue forty and two months

There are two 42 month periods associated with the Lord's second coming, the first has to do with the Lord's first appearance to his saints here in the American Zion and the second has to do with his appearance to the Jews at Jerusalem. Daniel offers us great insights into the circumstances surrounding the Lord's appearance to his saints and John gives us commentary on both of these two appearances.

In the previous chapter we learned how "Michael will deliver Israel from their troubles" and in this chapter we shall attempt to show how the 42 months offers us a countdown to these events. Returning to Daniel chapter 12 we read:

Daniel 12:1

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.

Concerning this "time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time", Daniel tells us, "at that time thy people shall be delivered"... and what time is that? Well, it's at the end of the 42 months. We read verses 5-7:

Daniel 12:5-7

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 swore 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 Daniel sees three individuals, two of them are on opposing banks of a river and the third who is referred to as “the man clothed in linen” is “upon the waters of the river”. This third individual appears to be someone with great power and authority, for one of the other two poses a question to him, he asks, “How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?”

Well, what wonders? And the answer is... “when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people”...

In answer to the above question, the man clothed in linen “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**. (“a time” = one year, “times” = two years and “an half” = one half of a year) Or in other words, there is to come a time, lasting 3 1/2 years, 42 months or 1260 days when the God fearing and freedom loving of this and other nations will have lost control of their governing systems via the power of secret combinations among the nations of the gentiles. John speaks of these in Rev 13, we read:

Rev 13:7-10

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.

Here John refers to these wicked gentiles as “the beast” but we note that this beast has many of same characteristics that Daniel points us to, he is to “continue forty and two months”, he makes “war with the saints, and... overcome(s) them” and is given power over “kindreds... tongues, and nations”.

And then John points us to the fate of the wicked, power mongering, warring gentiles, he says “He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: **he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword.**” Again, the abomination of desolation on the gentiles which Ezra Taft Benson warned us about will bring about the cleansing of America in preparation of the coming of the Bridegroom and the establishment of the American Zion, even the New Jerusalem.

Above, Daniel doesn't tell us exactly who “he” is but the short answer is that it's the same wicked gentiles or the great and abominable church among the gentiles that Nephi was warned about or the anti freedom, anti constitutional, power seeking globalist among the gentiles... It's the whore of all the earth and we see them in the news daily! They are able to “scatter the power of the holy people” by corrupting the constitution, manipulating the vote, refusing to uphold the integrity of the border, destroying economic stability and failing to uphold the rule of law and I'm going to say that we are very likely already in the 42 months because this is exactly what the present administration is all about!

Chapter 8

Are we in the 42 months?

Well, if you understood the previous chapter then you have most likely have all ready figured out that I believe we are in the 42 months and so far as America is concerned it all started with the inauguration of the present administration which takes us back to Jan 20 of 2021.

It's true that the great and abominable church or the wicked gentile nations of our day extend far beyond the borders of America but let us keep in mind that the Lord's first appearance in the process of the second coming unfolds here in America, which is why the scriptures and the prophets are so focused on this land and explaining the gentile opposition to the establishment of the American Zion.

As mentioned in previous chapters, the 42 months serves as a countdown to both the demise of the whore (He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Rev 13:10) of all the earth and the coming rescue of the elect...

Daniel 12:1

“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.” Daniel 12:1

Here we make mention of July 3, 2024 or thereabouts, which is 1260 days following Jan 20, 2021 or the inauguration of the present administration... if Jan 20, 2021 was in fact the beginning of the 42 months than if follows that early July of 2024 will see the demise of the whore who Nephi and John saw.

Question: How well does early July match up with what Isaiah said about the judgment to take place on the land shadowing with wings? See chapter 3...

Chapter 9

From the abomination of desolation to the coming of Zion

We learn from JS Matthew that the elapsed time between the abomination of desolation and the sign of the Son of man is short, we read:

JS 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;

The above passage makes our point nicely but by adding Mark 13 to the mix we come to understand just how dramatic and sweeping the Lord's appearance to the elect is, we read:

Mark 13:24-27

24 But in those days, after that tribulation, (abomination of desolation) 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.

That the Lord will find it necessary to send his angels to gather the elect to one location is a very good indication of the direness of the situation and gives witness to the fact that there will be very difficult days leading up to the Lord's second appearance, which shall be to the Jews at the battle of Armageddon.

This appearance and the gathering of the elect will mark the opening of the seventh seal and the beginning of the half hour of silence, it is only the first time that the Lord will come "with power and great glory", his second appearance, to the Jews and his third appearance will also be attended "with power and great glory"!

Chapter 10

The seven feasts of Israel

To understand the possible timing and circumstances surrounding the Lord's first appearance at Adam Ondi Ahman we devote this chapter to a brief examination of the feasts of Israel.

In Leviticus chapter 23 the Lord speaks to Moses and instruct him as to what he is to teach the children of Israel concerning the seven feast which he designates as holy convocations. As it states in the chapter heading, *"Israel is to keep the Feasts of the Passover, of Unleavened Bread, of Firstfruits, of Pentecost or Weeks, of Trumpets, of the Day of Atonement, and of Tabernacles."*

The feasts are commonly divided into two segments, the spring feasts and the fall feasts. These feasts were observed for nearly 1500 years leading up to the time of the Lord's ministry among the Jews but what might not have been obvious to them was the prophetic or foreshadowing nature of the feasts.

At the conclusion of the Lord's ministry among the Jews he was crucified on Passover, lay in the tomb during Unleavened Bread and was resurrected on Firstfruits. Some seven weeks later the Feast of Pentecost or Weeks was fulfilled and so we see that the so called spring feasts saw fulfillment in association with the Lord's ministry in the meridian of time. But what about the fall feasts, what about Trumpets, Atonement and Tabernacles... when shall they see fulfillment?

Many biblical scholars believe that the fall feasts will see fulfillment in association with the Lord's second coming and I concur, however, these strictly biblical scholars, lacking the insights and teachings of modern day revelation do not understand that the Lord will first appear here in America and at a place called Adam Ondi Ahman.

And so it is only from the perspective of the restored gospel that an association between the fall feasts and the Lord's appearance at Adam Ondi Ohman might be made. Let us start by reading what Daniel says in chapter 7 about this event:

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.

We note that there is a great assembly, even "ten thousand times ten thousand" attend this preparatory gathering in which "the judgment was set, and the books were opened". Joseph Smith said of this event:

Joseph Smith

"Daniel in his seventh chapter speaks of the Ancient of Days; he means the oldest man, our Father Adam, Michael, he [who] will call his children together and hold a council with them **to prepare them for the coming of the Son of Man**...the spirits of all men, and all that have had the keys must stand before him in this grand council.

And so we ask, might this great assembly be the equivalent of the Feast of Trumpets and the Feast of Atonement and both the heralding and preparing for the Lord's expected appearance?

One thing is clear from Daniel's description, those who participate in this preparatory assembly are down on the earth as they complete their preparations when they "behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven"... and so they look to the heavens and see the Son of man approaching, right? And just what are they seeing... well, they see the Lord for sure but what we need to understand is that he is also attend by a great assembly as well for this is also his second coming, we go to Rev 21 and read:

Rev 21:2-3

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.

We learn above that "the tabernacle of God" is to be "with men" when "he will dwell with them...and be their God." And so if this is not what makes the Feast of Tabernacles so significant and spectacular, what is? And we might also note that the Feast of Tabernacles will continue to be observed by the nations even after the Lord makes his appearance to the Jews... otherwise they get no rain, right? (See Zechariah 14:16-17)

And so what makes this potential connection between Adam Ondi Ahman and the fall feasts so significant you might ask... well for one thing, we know in advance when the fall feasts are set to be observed for any given year. And so if the 42 months were to expire in early July of 2024... how long thereafter will it be before the events at Adam Ondi Ahman will unfold? If the fall feasts are the equivalent of AOA, that's a pretty easy question to answer, right?

Chapter 11

“Two great comets” or something else?

In General Conference of April 6, 1843 Joseph Smith gave us this rather comprehensive statement concerning the Lord’s coming...

Joseph Smith - General Conference, April 6, 1843

“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 liveing 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; again we find Paul 1st of Thesslonians 5th Chapter expressly points out the characters who shall not know the day nor the hour when the Son of Man cometh for says he it will come upon them as the theif or unawares. Who are they they are the children of darkness or night. But to the Saints he says ye are not of the night nor of darkness of that that day should come upon you unawares. John the revelator says 14 chap 7th verse that the hour of his judgements is come they are precursors or forerunners of the comeing of Christ. read Matthew 24 Chap and all the Prophets. He says then shall they see the Sign of the comeing of the Son of Man in the clouds of Heaven. How are we to see it Ans. As the lighting up of the morning or the dawning of the morning cometh from the east and shineth unto the west—So also is the comeing of the Son of Man. The dawning of the morning makes its appearance in the east and moves along gradually so also will the comeing of the Son of Man be. it will be small at its first appearance and gradually becomes larger untill every eye shall see it. Shall the Saints understand it Oh yes. Paul says so. Shall the wicked understand Oh no they attribute it to a natural cause. They will probably suppose it is two great comets comeing in contact with each other It will be small at first and will grow larger and larger untill it will be all

in a blaze so that every eye shall see it.” (Joseph Smith, General Conference, April 6, 1843)

I find the idea of the “two great comets” intriguing because of the nature of Daniel’s description of the second coming... 1- First he tells us about one great assembly with the Ancient of days and of the preparations they are to make for the Lord’s coming and... 2- Daniel tells us that when the preparations are complete they look up into the clouds of heavens and see the Lord coming... and we know that others, to include God’s tabernacle or the New Jerusalem will descend with him.

And so we ask the question, when the world is seeing these “two great comets coming in contact with each other” are they witnessing Michael and his assembly as one light in the heavens and Christ and his tabernacle as another light in the heavens?

Chapter 12

The final sequence

In my years of study and research on the topic of the second coming I've come to refer to the period between the abomination of desolation on the gentiles and the Lord's appearance to his saints as "the final sequence". It's that last little bit of the sixth seal and it concludes with the coming of the Bridegroom and the opening of the seventh seal or the beginning of the Millennium. We start by going to JS Matt and reading:

JS 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;

Here in JS Matt where we read about the Lord's first appearance. we also learn that "immediately after the tribulation of those days" or immediately after the Abomination of desolation on the gentiles, "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 this sequence points us to what John said about the last little bit of the sixth seal or events that just do precede the Lord's coming to his saints, we go to Rev 6 and read:

Rev 6:12-17

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?

We gain additional insights about the final sequence here from John, for example, he tells us that “the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together” and verses 14-17 make it clear that the inhabitants of the earth know the Lord’s coming is immanent for some are saying “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”, right?

And in addition to what John tells us about the final sequence we have what might be called a parallel revelation in section 88 of the Doctrine and Covenants in which we gain even greater insights, we read:

D&C 88:87-93

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.

Before moving forward we want to point out the obvious match between "the sign of the Son of Man in heaven" found in JS Matt above and verse 93 where we read that "immediately there shall appear a great sign in heaven, and all people shall see it together".

In the above passage we have a good amount of additional detail including that "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." which pretty much explains how "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; 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" knew what was coming, right?

However, the angelic deceleration we cite above has a more specific meaning to the saints because the phrase, "the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him" points to a task that they are to accomplish in the final sequence and just before angels gather the elect from the four quarters of the earth, we're talking about the trek back to Missouri. We learn more about this in D&C 103 where we read:

D&C 103:13-20

13 Behold, this is the blessing which I have promised after your tribulations, and the tribulations of your brethren—your redemption, and the redemption of your brethren, even their restoration to the land of Zion, to be established, no more to be thrown down.

14 Nevertheless, if they pollute their inheritances they shall be thrown down; for I will not spare them if they pollute their inheritances.

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.

In this revelation the Lord likens the redemption of modern day Israel to the children of Israel who were led out of captivity in Egypt and to their promised land. The Lord says in verse 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” and so it’s obvious that the Lord considers our present circumstances to be a form of bondage and that we need his help to obtain deliverance.

We note yet another comparison in verses 18-20 where we read “And as your fathers were led at the first, even so shall the redemption of Zion be. 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**. 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.” And so we have a marked difference this time around in that we are told, “Mine angels shall go up before you, and also my presence”.

And so we ask, will the Lord actually come to the saints out west and lead them back to “the goodly land”... this appears to be the case, for Joseph Smith said:

Wilford Woodruff - Conference Report

“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.)

As to the circumstances surrounding of the saints return to Missouri, Orson Pratt said:

“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.)

And of course the “waste(ing) away” of “ this nation” will no doubt be a result of the abomination of desolation on the gentiles and other factors.

And so we see that the final sequence will be filled lots of exciting and unprecedented manifestations and signs and if we are in the 42 months and I think we are, we stand on the very precipitous of a revolution that will reshape and remake the world!

Chapter 13

Joseph Smith on the future of America

To this point we have quoted a lot of scripture, the abomination of desolation on the gentiles has been a major theme and that's because it not only gives us great clues as to the timing and sequence of events but the destruction of the nations and the bringing in of righteousness which is what the dawning of the millennium is all about.

Looked at from a much broader perspective the Lord will first take the earth from it's present telestial status to that of terrestrial or in other words, the earth will receive it's paradisiacal glory and in the longer term, at the end of the thousand years he will present the earth to the father, a celestialized orb.

Now, let us take this opportunity to examine some of the statements of the prophet concerning the cleansing of America. The first two statements are related to the treatment received by the saints via the government of the United states, we read:

"While discussing the petition to congress, I prophesied by virtue of the Holy Priesthood vested in me, and in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ that if congress will not hear our petition and grant us protection, they shall be broken up as a government." (Joseph Smith DHC vol. 6 p. 116 December 16, 1843)

"I prophecy in the name of the Lord God of Israel, unless the United States redress the wrongs committed upon the Saints in the state of Missouri and punish the crimes committed by her officers that in a few years the government will be utterly overthrown and wasted, and there will not be so much as a potsherd left." (Joseph Smith DHC vol. 5 p. 394 May 18, 1843)

In the next statement the prophet gives us a more generalized view of the future and testifies that the words of the prophets shall not fail, says he:

"Be not discouraged when we tell you of perilous times, for they must shortly come, for the sword, famine, and pestilence are approaching. There

shall be great destructions upon the face of this land, for ye need not suppose that one jot or tittle of the prophecies of all the holy prophets shall fail, and there are many that remain to be fulfilled yet” (Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith, 252)

Now we come to a statement that gets much more specific, there is a sequence here, we read:

“We ought to have the building up of Zion as our greatest object. 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, until the Ancient of Days comes, then judgment will be given to the Saints. . . . The time is soon coming, when no man will have any peace but in Zion and her stakes.” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, pp 169)

The above statement is a pretty good mirror of the previous chapters...

“When wars come, (abomination of desolation etc) we shall have to flee to Zion... (Trek back to Missouri) It will come as did the cholera, war, fires, and earthquakes; one pestilence after another, until the Ancient of Days comes, then judgment will be given to the Saints.” And we note that this sequence concludes with the coming of “the ancient of Days” or the events to unfold at Adam Ondi Ahman, right? It’s a pretty good summation of “The final sequence”...

And for our final Joseph Smith quote we read:

"And now I am prepared to say by the authority of Jesus Christ, that not many years shall pass away before the United States shall present such a scene of bloodshed as has not a parallel in the history of our nation; pestilence, hail, famine, and earthquake will sweep the wicked of this generation from off the face of the land, to open and prepare the way for the return of the lost tribes of Israel from the north country." (Joseph Smith DHC vol. 1 p. 315 & 316 January 4, 1833)

Again we have a statement that not only reveals the calamitous future of the United States but also reveals at least one purpose of the cleansing... “to open and prepare the way for the return of the lost tribes of Israel from the north country” which will unfold when the Lord will return and shall “stand in the midst of his people”, from D&C 133 we read:

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.

Part Two - All things shall come together in one

Part Three - Events of the half-hour of silence

