

Elijah and the Fullness of the Gentiles

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In 2014 I wrote the following as an introduction to a book I have yet to publish. The content of the introduction is relevant to the subject of this paper and I begin this paper with this excerpt:

“Early one morning in October of 2010 the ocean withdrew from the beaches of Indonesia without warning. The sky was clear and the weather beautiful. Unsuspecting tourists and locals stared in amazement as boats were drawn to sea or grounded and fish flopped helplessly in the wet sand.

Along the horizon, a white line formed moving rapidly toward shore. Native residents familiar with ancestral warnings knew the exposed beach was a sign to run quickly for higher ground. Those consumed with fascination and curiosity stood still as a series of enormous waves approached. Crashing on the beach with shocking velocity, the waves killed many on impact, drawing living and dead out to sea in the waves retreat.

Formal warnings from government meteorologists arrived too late to save many people. One government official, having warned of a tsunami threat seven years earlier, was awakened by an earthquake and intuitively knew a tsunami would likely follow. His warning was impossible to circulate broadly and went mostly unheeded. Precious time to evacuate was lost. Hundreds perished and were swept away to watery graves or lie lifeless on the ground.

Those native to the coastlines were saved by lessons passed down from their ancestors. Forefathers witnessed this

phenomenon earlier and warned their children of the possible threat. Locals were taught to react quickly and run for higher ground when they saw the ocean casually withdraw. That information was more important to their survival than what they knew about quantum physics, advanced mathematics, or meteorology. A simple lesson from the fathers taken seriously preserved the lives of many natives.

Prophecy in Holy Scripture has the ability to warn of dry beach moments before they happen. Like an “early warning system” for an approaching tsunami, lessons we learn from prophetic fathers may preserve us from swiftly approaching events carrying in their wake deadly consequences. Learning lessons from prophecy might be the lifesaving difference between standing passively while danger swiftly approaches, and quickly running to the safety of higher, holier ground.

The testimonies of past prophets rarely received popular acclaim or broad acceptance by the masses. Only those with “ears to hear” benefit from the message the Lord delivers through His prophets. Belief in the testimony of prophets frequently determines whether or not people survive impending events temporally and spiritually. I am not a prophet, but a student of scripture who tries to hear the testimony of prophets and the Holy Spirit speak unfiltered and unimpeded by conventional wisdom and academic opinion . . .” (*The Rise of the Davidic King*, A. Scott Roderick, introduction).

It is one thing to see the ocean tide withdrawing from the shore as a sign of impending disaster. The warnings of early Indonesian fathers are of little benefit to an English speaking tourist receiving warnings from a native of Indonesia in the native language.

References this paper draws upon are primarily the language of Christ and His servants. One becomes conversant in this language if they

prayerfully immerse themselves in scripture study. When two people speaking the same language converse with one another the conversation resonates because they understand one another and both are edified by God's holy spirit.¹ When they don't speak the same language, the holy spirit may still intervene to do the heavy lifting by enlightening and edifying both parties. It is possible the Savior may join the conversation anonymously but presently, like the road to Emmaus.² Let's begin our stroll down the road and see who joins us.

The Confluence of Economic, Political, and Prophetic Events

In our linear thoughts, we may conclude these three subjects are separate, unrelated from one another. In a "red pill, blue pill" ***Matrix*** moment consider the possibility economic and political events are symptomatic of prophetic outcomes. Do these categories function independently (blue pill, random, blissful ignorance) or are economic and

¹ "Verily I say unto you, he that is ordained of me and sent forth to preach the word of truth by the Comforter, in the spirit of truth, does he preach it by the spirit of truth or some other way? And if by some other way, it is not of God. And again, he that receives the word of truth, does he receive it by the spirit of truth or some other way? If it be some other way, it is not of God. Therefore, why is it that you cannot understand and know that ***he that receives the word by the spirit of truth, receives it as it is preached by the spirit of truth? Wherefore, he that preaches and he that receives, understand one another, and both are edified and rejoice together. And that which does not edify is not of God, and is darkness.*** That which is of God is light, and he that receives light and continues in God receives more light, and that light grows brighter and brighter until the perfect day" (RE T&C 36:4, emphasis added).

² "Truly I say unto you, whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven, and whatever you shall set loose on earth shall be set loose in Heaven. Again, I say unto you that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, that they may not ask amiss, it shall be done for them of my Father who is in Heaven; ***for where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them***" (RE Matthew 9:14, also Luke 14:2-4, emphasis added).

political manifestations consequential due to painful prophetic realities (red pill).

From a professional perspective I've studied economics and politics to determine their impact on financial markets. Simultaneously I studied the words of prophets. My initial efforts provided a means of support for my family. The second fed my spirit and provides context for understanding the world around us. I wanted to be like the Indonesian fathers protecting their family from complacency as prophetic events approach with tsunami like consequences.

I believe unequivocally Joseph Smith is a prophet of God. In Kirtland, Ohio in 1833, Joseph Smith wrote a letter to N.C. Saxton, an editor, detailing how the Lord's offer of covenant blessed those who received it and led to disastrous effects when rejected or ignored.³ It appears from Joseph Smith's perspective secular events are directly correlated to how people respond to the Lord's covenant.

The letter was not a product of Joseph Smith's random reflections on covenant history. When Mr. Saxton edited content from Joseph's letter, Joseph warned editor Saxton he [Joseph] was commanded by the Lord to have the letter published in its entirety.

Kirtland 12th Feby. 1833

Dear sir

I was somewhat disappointed on receiving my paper with only a part of my letter inserted in it. The letter which I wrote you for publication *I wrote by the commandment of God, and I am quite anxious to have it all laid before the public for it is of importance to them,* But I have no clame upon you, neither do I wish to urge you beyond that which is reasonable to do it. I have only to appeal to your extended geneorsity to all religious societies that claim that Christ has come in the flesh and also *tell you what will be the consequen[c]es of a neglect to publish it*— some parts of the letter were

³Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Joseph Fielding Smith, pp.13-18, emphasis added.

very severe upon the wickedness of sectarianism— I acknowledge and the truth, remember is hard and severe against all iniquity and wickedness, *but this is no reason why it should not be published but the very reason why it should*, It lays the axe at the root of the tree and I long to see many of the sturdy oaks which I have long cumbered the ground fall prostrate. I now say unto you that *if you wish to clear your garments from the blood of you[r] readers I exhort you to publish that letter entire but if not the sin be upon your head—*

Accept sir the good wishes and tender regard of your unworthy servant—
Joseph Smith Jr⁴

Joseph Smith's letter to Noah Saxton was a warning from God to the gentiles. What was Joseph Smith commanded to say about the gentiles?

“Thus after this chosen family had rejected Christ and His proposals, the heralds of salvation said to them, “Lo we turn unto the Gentiles”; and *the Gentiles received the covenant*, and were grafted in from whence the chosen family were broken off; *but the Gentiles have not continued in the goodness of God, but have departed from the faith that was once delivered to the Saints, and have broken the covenant in which their fathers were established; and have become high-minded, and have not feared; therefore, **but few of them will be gathered with the chosen family***. Have not the pride, high-mindedness, and unbelief of the Gentiles, provoked the Holy One of Israel to withdraw His Holy Spirit from them, and *send forth His judgments to scourge them for their wickedness?* This is certainly the case” (TPJS. p.15, emphasis added).

The scourging Joseph Smith warned would befall the gentiles is not the only place this warning was issued. The Lord more specifically targeted the gentiles of His church in the following warning.

“And *your minds* [saints] in times past have been darkened because of unbelief, and because you have treated lightly the things you have received, which vanity and unbelief have *brought the whole*

⁴ *Personal Writings of Joseph Smith*, Dean C. Jesse, pp.299-300

*church under condemnation. And this condemnation rests upon the children of Zion, even all, and they shall remain under this condemnation until they repent and remember the new covenant, even the Book of Mormon, and the former commandments which I have given them, not only to say but to do according to that which I have written, that **they may bring forth fruit meet for their Father's kingdom**. Otherwise, there remains a scourge and a judgment to be poured out upon the children of Zion, for shall the children of the kingdom pollute my holy land? Verily, verily I say unto you, nay” (RE T&C 82:20, emphasis added).*

By their own admission, prominent leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints acknowledge the Lord has never rescinded this condemnation.

“Along with other General Authorities, I [Dallin H. Oaks] have a clear recollection of the General Authority temple meeting on March 5, 1987. For a year President Benson had been stressing the reading of the Book of Mormon. Repeatedly he had quoted these verses from the Doctrine and Covenants, including the Lord’s statement that the Saints’ conduct had “brought the whole church under condemnation” (D&C 84:55).

In that temple meeting, President Benson reread those statements and declared, “*This condemnation has not been lifted, nor will it be until we repent*” (remarks by President Ezra Taft Benson, General Authority Temple Meeting, Thursday, 5 March 1987). He also repeated his declaration of a year earlier that, in our day, the Lord has inspired his servant to reemphasize the Book of Mormon to get the Church out from under condemnation (see *Ensign*, May 1986, p. 78).

Along with others, I felt the impact of this declaration of condemnation. As I studied the subject, I was relieved to find that the serious consequences of this condemnation need not be permanent. The use of this term elsewhere in modern revelation suggests that it refers to a punishment or a penalty, not to a permanent banishment (e.g., D&C 82:3). In fact, the words President Benson quoted invite the Saints to repent of their deficiencies so the condemnation can be

removed . . . One reason stands out above all the rest. Expressly and by implication, President Benson has affirmed that *this subject is the most important of all. I believe that it was the neglect—the “treating lightly”—of this subject that brought the early Church under condemnation. I believe it is the neglect of this subject that has continued the condemnation in our own day.* Though supremely important, this subject is so simple that it is easy for us to neglect it in favor of other things” (*Another Testament of Jesus Christ*, Dallin H. Oaks, June 6, 1993, emphasis added).

From President Ezra Taft Benson’s acknowledgement of the Lord’s condemnation on the church until now, ***there has been no revelation from the Lord declaring the condemnation removed.*** Reading the Book of Mormon is important, but not enough to remove the condemnation. We are required to follow the precepts taught in the book and “*bring forth fruit meet for their Father’s kingdom.*” There has been no indication those requirements are fulfilled.

It is true the Lord offers the contingency of repenting and turning to Him as the sole means of removing the condemnation. While this option remains, prophecies of the Restoration and the Book of Mormon provide little support of this outcome. As the Lord’s offer of covenant to the gentiles began with Joseph Smith and the Restoration, the Lord revealed through Joseph Smith the gentile fullness would end with the revelation of the fullness of the gospel. The fullness of the gentiles concludes when the gentiles reject additional revelation because the revelation contradicts prevailing precepts, narratives and false traditions perpetuated in prior days.

“And when that day shall come shall a remnant [Israel] be scattered among all nations; but they [Israel] shall be gathered again, but *they shall remain until the times of the gentiles be fulfilled.* And in that day [when the days of the gentiles is fulfilled] shall be heard of wars and rumors of wars, and the whole earth shall be in commotion. And men’s hearts shall fail them and shall say that Christ delays his coming until the end of the world, and the love of men shall wax cold and iniquity shall abound. *And when the times of*

*the gentiles is come in, a light shall break forth among them [gentiles] that sit in darkness, and it shall be the fullness of my gospel, **but they receive it not**, for they perceive not the light and they turn their hearts from me **because of the precepts of men.***

*And in that generation shall the times of the gentiles be fulfilled. And there shall be men standing in that generation that shall not pass until they shall see *an overflowing scourge, for a desolating sickness shall cover the land.* But my disciples shall stand in holy places and shall not be moved; but among the wicked, men shall lift up their voices, and curse God, and die. And there shall be earthquakes also in diverse places and many desolations. Yet men will harden their hearts against me, and they will take up the sword one against another and they will kill one another” (RE T&C 31:6-7, emphasis added).*

The gospel fullness revealed by the Lord in the last days concludes the Lord’s offer of covenant to the gentiles. Like the days of Lehi, there will be those who receive it and those who do not. Lehi and a small number fled Jerusalem to save their lives. The same is true of in last days. We know this from the Lord’s revelations to Nephi, the son of Lehi. Nephi recorded what the Lord made known to him of our day.

*“And it shall come to pass that *if the gentiles shall hearken unto the Lamb of God in that day that he shall manifest himself unto them **in word and also in power, in very deed**, unto the taking away of their stumbling blocks, and harden not their hearts against the Lamb of God, they shall be numbered among the seed of thy father.* Yea, they shall be numbered among the house of Israel; and they shall be a blessed people upon the promised land for ever. They shall be no more brought down into captivity, and the house of Israel shall no more be confounded. And that great pit which hath been digged for them by that great and abominable church — which was founded by the Devil and his children, that he might lead away the souls of men down to hell — yea, that great pit which hath been digged for the destruction of men shall be filled by those who digged it, *unto their utter destruction*, saith the Lamb of God, not the destruction of the soul,*

save it be the casting of it into that hell which hath no end. For behold, this is according to the captivity of the Devil, and also according to the justice of God, upon all those who will work wickedness and abomination before him” (RE 1 Nephi 3:25, emphasis added).

The Lord has not as yet removed gentile stumbling blocks or manifest Himself unto the gentiles in word, power and deed. These events remain to be fulfilled among the gentiles. While the gentiles move swiftly toward the Lord’s manifestation of Himself, there are gentiles busy digging a “great pit” for the faithful by the “great and abominable church,” to lead the souls of man down to hell. When the Lord manifests Himself in word, power, and deed, these events confront those that prepare a pit for the faithful, the “great and abominable church.” Nephi witnessed the convergence of prophetic events and explained its importance to the gentiles.

“And it came to pass that the angel spake unto me, Nephi, saying, Thou hast beheld that *if the gentiles repent, it shall be well with them*; and thou also knowest concerning the covenants of the Lord unto the house of Israel. And thou also hast heard that *whoso repenteth not must perish*. Therefore, woe be unto the gentiles if it so be that they harden their hearts against the Lamb of God. *For the time cometh, saith the Lamb of God, that I will work a great and a marvelous work among the children of men, a work which shall be everlasting, either on the one hand or on the other, either to the convincing of them unto peace and life eternal, or unto the deliverance of them to the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds, unto their being brought down into captivity and also unto destruction, both temporally and spiritually, according to the captivity of the Devil of which I have spoken*” (RE 1 Nephi 3:26, emphasis added).

The time when the Lord manifests Himself to the gentiles in word, power and deed is the time the Lord removes all stumbling blocks from the gentiles. It is the time the Lord does a “great and marvelous work” convincing the gentiles of peace and eternal life or delivers them to the “hardness of their hearts and blindness of their minds. For the unrepentant it leads them into captivity and destruction, both temporally and spiritually. In effect they fall into the pit they dug for those who

repent. Of those gentiles whom Joseph Smith spoke of in his letter to Noah Saxton, he wrote the following:

“The plain fact is this, ***the power of God begins to fall upon the nations, and the light of the latter-day glory begins to break forth through the dark atmosphere of sectarian wickedness, and their iniquity rolls up into view, and the nations of the Gentiles are like the waves of the sea, casting up mire and dirt, or all in commotion, and they are hastily preparing to act the part allotted them, when the Lord rebukes the nations, when He shall rule them with a rod of iron, and break them in pieces like a potter's vessel.*** The Lord declared to His servants, some eighteen months since, that He was then withdrawing His Spirit from the earth; and we can see that such is the fact, for not only the churches are dwindling away, but there are no conversions, or but very few: and this is not all, ***the governments of the earth are thrown into confusion and division; and Destruction, to the eye of the spiritual beholder, seems to be written by the finger of an invisible hand, in large capitals, upon almost every thing we behold***” (Smith Jr., Joseph. Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith (p. 14). Deseret Book Company. Kindle Edition”).

When the “latter-day glory,” or power of God in word, power and deed falls upon gentile nations the light of truth exposes sin and wickedness. The gentiles who welcome the Lord’s manifestation of power will, as Nephi said, be “convinced of peace and life eternal.” The gentiles resisting the power of God and rejecting repentance, attempt to cover their sins when the light of truth exposes them. Nephi sees the exact time when the tables turn against the unrepentant gentiles and witnesses two groups the power of the Lord falls upon. The unrepentant are numerically superior but the repentant are endowed with superior power with modest numbers.

“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. 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* [1st group], *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. And it came to pass that I beheld that the great mother of abominations did gather together in multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the nations of the gentiles, **to fight against the Lamb of God**. 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 [1st group, repentant gentiles] and upon the covenant people of the Lord [2nd group, Israel], *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***” (RE 1 Nephi 3:28, emphasis added).

The whore of all the earth had dominion in all nations because of their wickedness and abominations. The saints of God were among the same nations but their dominions were small. As multitudes gathered to fight against the Lamb of God and His people, the power of the Lamb descends from Heaven upon the saints of the church of the Lamb [repentant gentiles] and upon the covenant people of the Lord [Israel].

If we are to understand how the Lord’s power arms His people with righteousness and the power of God in great glory, we must understand how the Lord accomplished this in the past. Enter the Spirit of Elijah and the Priesthood of the Father’s.

“Secondly, the Spirit of Elijah is represented by Enoch who, *when the Earth was threatened with violence and men were to be destroyed because of the wickedness upon the face of the earth, was able to gather people into a city of peace and to have the Lord come to their city of peace and remove them from the coming violence and destruction*. Enoch is a type of the Spirit of Elijah, because *it is the Spirit of Elijah that ascends into Heaven **to prefigure the return of the Spirit of Messiah in the last day. The Spirit of Elijah is needed to gather a people to a place that God will acknowledge, will visit, and will shield from the coming violence at the destruction of the world***. And so Enoch becomes the great type of the Spirit of Elijah,

although the name of Elijah is associated with a man who lived later. (Elijah would likewise ascend in the fiery chariot into Heaven. He duplicated, among a hardened people in a fallen world, the same achievement as Enoch accomplished; albeit, *Enoch did so with a city, and Elijah did it as a solitary figure.*) ***It will be Elijah and his spirit that, in the last days, will likewise prepare a city for salvation and preservation . . .*** Whether the light now offered will achieve anything more than came in Joseph's time remains an unanswered question. The Lord cannot force anyone to receive Him; He can only offer. *We must accept. This generation is now facing a crossroads in which it is possible to continue the work and move forward. Moving forward successfully, however, will require an acceptance of the Spirit of Elijah.* This time, the Spirit of Elijah is not coming to prepare a people to ascend *into* Heaven, but ***instead to prepare a people so that those who come will not utterly destroy them. There must be a people prepared to endure the burning that will come.*** Just as Enoch's people were prepared, shielded, and then worthy to ascend (so as to avoid destruction by the flood), ***the Spirit of Elijah must prepare people to endure the day that shall burn the wicked as stubble. The Spirit of Elijah will gather people to a place of peace, to be the only people who are not at war one with another (see T&C 31:15). They must be people willing to accept the Lord's teachings and allow those teachings to govern their daily walk — with each other and with God. Being eager to receive commandments, not a few, and also revelations from the Lord is what the people of Zion must necessarily be willing to do.***⁴ (A Glossary of Gospel Terms, Elias, Elijah and Messiah, pp.635-637, emphasis added).

Nephi saw the church of the Lamb and Israel, are “armed with righteousness and the power of God in great glory.” We learn how these groups became “armed with righteousness” and receive “the power of God in great glory” by looking at someone who sought after and obtained the same blessings. When we see how he accomplished this we learn how the Lord bestows these great blessing upon the groups Nephi saw in the last days.

“In the land of the Chaldeans, at the residence of my father, I, Abraham, saw that it was needful for me to obtain another place of residence. And finding there was greater happiness, and peace, and

rest for me, *I sought for the blessings of the Fathers* and the right whereunto I should be ordained to administer the same. *Having been myself a follower of righteousness, desiring also to be one who possessed great knowledge, and to be a greater follower of righteousness, and to possess a greater knowledge*, and to be a Father of many nations, a prince of peace, and *desiring to receive instructions and to keep the commandments of God, I became a rightful heir, a high priest, holding the right belonging to the Fathers*. It was conferred upon me from the Fathers: it came down from the Fathers, from the beginning of time, yea, even from the beginning (or before the foundations of the earth) to the present time, even the right of the firstborn (or the first man — who is Adam — or first Father) *through the Fathers unto me. I sought for my appointment unto the Priesthood according to the appointment of God unto the Fathers concerning the seed*” (RE T&C 145, Abraham 1:1, emphasis added).

Abraham followed righteousness before he sought for the right of the patriarchal Fathers. His motivation was to fulfill his desires to attain a level of knowledge greater than he previously attained and practice greater righteousness. In order to do so he became a rightful heir and high priest in the order of the Fathers. It was passed down from the patriarchal Fathers from before the foundation of the world. Reception of this priesthood brings greater happiness, peace and rest for Abraham and gave him the right to ordain others to this priesthood. The priesthood is essential to preserving the people from God’s judgments to befall the wicked. It delivered the city of Enoch and Noah from the flood. As the Glossary states,

“the Spirit of Elijah is not coming to prepare a people to ascend *into* Heaven, but instead *to prepare a people so that those who come will not utterly destroy them. There must be a people prepared to endure the burning that will come . . . the Spirit of Elijah must prepare people to endure the day that shall burn the wicked as stubble. The Spirit of Elijah will gather people to a place of peace, to*

be the only people who are not at war one with another (see T&C 31:15). They must be people willing to accept the Lord’s teachings and allow those teachings to govern their daily walk — with each other and with God. Being eager to receive commandments, not a few, and also revelations from the Lord is what the people of Zion must necessarily be willing to do”

The power of the Lord descending from Heaven upon the “church of the Lamb of God and the Lord’s covenant people is the means by which the Lord empowered Abraham to obtain greater knowledge or “the power of God in great glory,” [the glory of God is intelligence or light and truth, RE T&C 93:11] which is “greater knowledge.” Receiving this priesthood is essential to becoming “armed with righteousness” and a practitioner of greater righteousness. It is the means by which repentant souls gather to a peaceful land, sealing the souls of their ancestors into the family of God in the last days.⁵

Included in the greater knowledge was instruction in traversing through the stars and planets. Using means provided to him by the Lord, Abraham was able to see the heavens and receive instruction from the Lord. Isaiah referred to this type of experience in the last days when he wrote:

“The word that Isaiah, the son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem; and it shall come to pass *in the last days*, when the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and ***all nations shall***

⁵ “Our ancestors, our kindred dead— ***they need to be redeemed***. They all have an interest in you and your life. And the work that is being done needs to be done. But the gulf that needs to be bridged through the work of Elijah, in the words of Joseph Smith, is “to form a bond or a connection.” And of course, now ***who is the last one who lived on the earth, not to hold the sealing power, but to ascend to heaven and to draw together heaven and earth by his ascent, representing the opening of that way through which Zion above and Zion below will be connected with one another— who was the last guy as a mortal man to have walked this path?*** Because when the Lord comes, He’s coming with an entourage. And ***the path needs to be opened beforehand. And the path, once it’s opened, allows men on the earth to be prepared for the coming again of those who are Zion above.*** Well, Elijah answers, because ***Elijah is the one who made that connection***” (15: *Jacob’s Ladder podcast*, Denver Snuffer Jr., 4/22/2018, emphasis added).

flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, ***and he will teach us of his ways and we will walk in his paths.***⁶ For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations and shall rebuke many people. And they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore” (RE Isaiah 1:5, emphasis added).

Those ascending to the Lord’s house at the top of the mountains receive instruction from the Lord and His servants in how to walk in the Heavens as the Savior does. With His guidance we learn to ascend to the throne of the Father and renew our relationship with Him.

For us to ascend to celestial heights we begin by gaining greater knowledge of the place we desire to ascend to prior to our ascent. With regard to the ascent of man to higher kingdoms, Joseph Smith said:

“. . . but the conditions of God’s kingdom are such, that ***all who are made partakers of that glory, are under the necessity of learning something respecting it previous to their enter into it***” (TPJS., p.51, emphasis added).

⁶ “The mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths.” ***[The paths of God are in the heavens. If you are going to learn to walk in His paths you are going to have to learn to walk in the heavens.]*** For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.” ***The ensign Isaiah prophesied refers to a zodiacal map, or to the constellations overhead. This is a depiction of the heavens themselves. The ensign to be reared will tell those in Zion how to walk in the paths of God, through the heavens, back into God’s presence. Zion will be a connection between heaven and earth, where those living will learn the ways of the God of Jacob. They will walk in His paths. Heaven and earth will be connected.*** The stairway connecting the two will be opened. The heavens and the earth will be reunited. This will happen in the top of the mountains” (Snuffer, Denver. Preserving the Restoration . Mill Creek Press. Kindle Edition, emphasis added)

Knowledge necessary for ascending to the Lord's paths is only obtained in two ways. One is in the Lord's temple at the mountain top in the last days. It may also be obtained from one who has made the ascent and given the Lord's direction and permission to instruct others.⁷ When the Holy Order, and Spirit of Elijah return it involves more than laying on of hands. It includes a righteous man and woman, husbands and wives receiving sacred knowledge withheld from the wicked and profane. It is the introduction to divinely practiced patriarchy requiring both father and mother.

⁷ "And Melchizedek, King of Salem, brought forth bread and wine. And he broke bread and blessed it. And he blessed the wine, **he being the priest of the Most High God**. And he gave to Abram. And he blessed him and said, Blessed Abram, you are a man of the Most High God, possessor of Heaven and earth. And blessed is the name of the Most High God, who has delivered your enemies into your hand. And Abram gave him tithes of all he had taken. And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the people and take the goods to yourself. And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lifted up my hand unto the Lord, the Most High God, the possessor of Heaven and earth, and have sworn that I will not take of you, from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, I have made Abram rich, save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me — Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion. And Melchizedek lifted up his voice and blessed Abram. Now **Melchizedek was a man of faith who wrought righteousness. And when a child, he feared God, and stopped the mouths of lions, and quenched the violence of fire. And thus, having been approved of God, he was ordained a high priest after the Order of the covenant which God made with Enoch, it being after the Order of the Son of God, which Order came not by man, nor the will of men, neither by father nor mother, neither by beginning of days nor end of years, but of God**. And it was delivered unto **men by the calling of his own voice, according to his own will, unto as many as believed on his name**" (RE Genesis 7:14-18, emphasis added).

"When a people are "chosen" by the Lord, He generally endows them with specific gifts or blessings. Whether they are ancient or modern, in the Old World or New, **they are almost always given a specific set of gifts as part of a covenant**. These covenant-based gifts generally include the following, in no particular order: -A Promised Land. - Self-government. -**Sacred space with sacred artifacts**. -Angelic visitors. -"Signs" of His presence. -Sacred records which expand through a growing body of revelation. -Ordinances . . . When people are chosen they are given sacred space and equipped with sacred artifacts. They receive Temples, into which are placed sacred symbols of His presence. The Ark of the Covenant, for example, was placed inside the Holy of Holies. The Mercy Seat was the symbol of God's very presence. **Other sacred artifacts which God has entrusted to His people at various times in history include the garment of Adam, the Urim and Thummim, Seer Stones, stone tablets, Aaron's Rod, the Sword of Laban, the Liahona, and gold plates to name a few better known examples. These physical symbols of spiritual power and connection to God were given as a sign of God's favor and presence with His chosen people. When they are lost, the people can know they have lost favor and no longer enjoy His presence**" (Snuffer Jr., Denver C.. Come, Let Us Adore Him . Kindle Edition, emphasis added).

“Therefore, when the Holy Order returns, those who are initiated will be given more than just the laying on of hands. It will include men and women, as husband and wife. ***They will be given understanding of things which the world cannot know because it is forbidden for the profane to obtain what God decrees for the righteous alone to maintain in holiness.*** The unholy are excluded from this knowledge” (The Teachings of Denver C. Snuffer Jr. Readers Edition Series), Kindle Edition, emphasis added).

At the time the Spirit of Elijah and Holy Order return, those anticipating its return question how it returns when they feel unworthy and ill-prepared to share in the Restoration experience. It is unlikely anyone could or should feel worthy to receive the tender mercies of the Lord. The Lord prepared means for us to receive the blessings gradually and then in full. We may be unworthy to receive them all at the beginning. However, the Lord established terms for qualifying for these blessings. They are simple and easily attainable. If we receive His servant through whom He offers these blessings we satisfy the terms set by the Lord.

“In the fullest sense, this is talking about the Holy Order, which requires both a patriarch and a matriarch, together, to be part of the organization of righteousness (which is the government of God, which is the kingdom of God). So how is the residue of unnamed and unnumbered people regarded as being righteous? [with those qualifying with patriarchal Father’s] ***Well, Christ explained that and defined how you include others within the status of righteousness (that those who are called to these positions were given) as equals.*** This is Christ speaking: *He who receives you, receives me.* And he who receives me, receives him who sent me. ***He that receives a prophet, in the name of a prophet, shall receive a prophet’s reward.*** And he that receives a righteous man, in the name of a righteous man, shall receive a righteous man’s reward. And whoever

shall give [a] drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of a disciple, truly I say unto you, he shall by no means lose his reward. (Matthew 5:8 RE) ***This has been true since the beginning. It has always been the rule that when you receive and acknowledge a prophet, in the name of a prophet, you receive a prophet's reward*** (Righteousness, Denver Snuffer, Jr., p.2, emphasis added).

From the beginning of the world, the Lord determined righteousness by how people receive His servants and messengers. When the Holy Order and the Spirit of Elijah return, those accepting the Lord's servants qualify as righteous. Not that they are of themselves righteous, but because they receive grace from Christ through obedience to the servants and give diligent heed to the servants message, the Lord considers them righteous.

“And now I say unto you, who shall declare his generation? Behold, I say unto you that when his soul has been made an offering for sin, he shall see his seed. And now what say ye? And who shall be his seed? Behold, I say unto you that ***whosoever has heard the words of the prophets, yea, all the holy prophets who have prophesied concerning the coming of the Lord, I say unto you that all those who have hearkened unto their words, and believed that the Lord would redeem his people, and have looked forward to that day for a remission of their sins, I say unto you that these are his seed, or they are heirs of the kingdom of God.*** For these are they whose sins he hath borne; these are they for whom he has died, to redeem them from their transgressions. And now, are they not his seed? Yea, and are not the prophets, every one that has opened his mouth to prophesy that has not fallen into transgression? (I mean ***all the holy prophets ever since the world began.***) I say unto you that ***they are his seed.*** And these are they who have published peace, who have brought good tidings of good, who have published salvation and said unto Zion, Thy God reigneth. And oh how beautiful upon the mountains were their feet. And again, how beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those that art still publishing peace. And again, how beautiful upon the mountains are the

feet of those who shall hereafter publish peace, yea, ***from this time henceforth and for ever***" (RE Mosiah 8:8, emphasis added).

Those heeding the words of a prophet are adopted children of the servant and his wife. Through the couple [dispensation head], those heeding the servants words are joined to the family of God the Father and His Spouse and the Savior, Jesus Christ, and His Wife.⁸ All mankind are saved through the Atonement of Jesus Christ and delivered from their sins, and Christ, by proxy, extends His grace through His servants to those taught and accepting His messengers.

The profundity of the system God instituted is under appreciated. As mortals, we have difficulty thinking beyond this realm of existence. We have been in a state of progressive ascension for many cycles prior to our birth.⁹ Through our earlier experiences we progressed and ascended prior

⁸ ***"The Holy Order did not return with the ordinations in June 1831. It was not accomplished when the three witnesses ordained the quorum of the twelve. There is something far greater within the Holy Order. It includes the right of dominion over all creation, or the same right originally given to Adam that belonged to God. The right of dominion over this creation is why God is God. In essence, the Holy Order is to create of flesh and blood a living, mortal surrogate for the Father and Mother. Cain fell, Able was murdered, and the right passed to Seth. Seth stands next in the line followed in turn by Enos, Cainan, Mahalaleel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech and then Noah. All these lived before the flood. Noah alone remained on earth with his family. His son Shem inherited the Holy Order. Shem was a great high priest after the Order of the Son of God. Shem obtained the right of dominion, and was referred to as a "king." He also held the right to preach righteousness and was referred to as a "priest." Melchizedek is a new name given to him and means "king and priest." That new name was then also adopted as the name for the Holy Order itself"*** (The Holy Order, Denver Snuffer Jr., p.10, emphasis added).

⁹ "Why does God have such foreknowledge? It's not based upon conjecture. ***It's based upon proof.*** It's not based upon merely hope; ***it's based upon the knowledge of God,*** because He's not asking lead to do what He knows only iron can accomplish. Therefore, ***He chooses a suitable instrument based upon His foreknowledge, "prepared from the foundation of the world."*** And what is God's foreknowledge known? On account of their ***"exceeding faith and good works in the first place"***— that is, ***before the foundation of this world. Long ago, on some other rung of this ladder— long ago a great while in the past: "In the first place, [they were] left to choose good or evil; therefore they having chosen good, and exercising exceedingly great faith, are called with a holy calling, yea, with that holy calling which was prepared with, and according to, a preparatory redemption for such"*** (Alma 13:3). You have to redeem them in order to have them reclaimed, so that ***they can come back and perform what they need to do.***

"There has been a preparatory redemption. They have chosen what's right. And the game's afoot, and you're in it, and you're here, and this is now, and you have the opportunity on account of your own ***"being left to choose between good and evil,"*** having the opportunity to choose good. And at this moment you have the opportunity to exercise exceedingly faith. And you have the opportunity at this moment to be identified and proven by God, so that ***His foreknowledge of you hereafter includes within it a record of your exceeding faith and good works.*** "And

to coming here in differing degrees. In Lectures on Faith it stresses only those who become exactly what Christ is may qualify as saved beings. Our transformation began before our birth and continues long after we leave this cycle. Only then are we saved beings as Christ and the Father are.

“And what constitutes the real difference between a saved person and one not saved is the difference in the degree of their faith — ***one’s faith has become perfect enough to lay hold upon eternal life and the other’s has not.*** But to be a little more particular, let us ask: Where shall we find a prototype ***into whose likeness we may be assimilated, in order that we may be made partakers of life and salvation?*** Or in other words, where shall we find a saved being? For if we can find a saved being, we may ascertain without much difficulty ***what all others must be in order to be saved — they must be like that individual or they cannot be saved.*** We think that it will not be a matter of dispute that two beings who are unlike each other cannot both be saved, for whatever constitutes the salvation of one will constitute the salvation of every creature which will be saved. And if we find one saved being in all existence, ***we may see what all others must be or else not be saved.*** We ask, then: Where is the prototype? Or where is the saved being? We conclude as to the answer of this question there will be no dispute among those who believe the Bible that ***it is Christ.*** All will agree in this, that he is the prototype or standard of salvation, or in other words, that he is a saved being. And if we should continue our interrogation, and ask how it is that he is saved, the answer would be, *because he is a just and holy being.* And if he were anything different from what he is he would not be saved, for his salvation depends on his being precisely what he is ***and nothing else.*** For if it were possible for him to change in the least degree, so sure he would fail of salvation and lose all his dominion,

thus they have been called to this holy calling on account of their faith, while others would reject the Spirit of God on account of the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds, while, if it had not been for this they might have had as great privilege as their brethren” (Alma 13:4). You may only achieve a limited amount of grace in this life, but that limited amount of grace ***you must hold fast to. You cannot receive more if you will not receive what’s offered now. And if you’ll receive what’s offered now, you’ll be added upon***” (15: Jacob’s Ladder Podcast, Denver Snuffer Jr., 4/22/2018).

power, authority, and glory, which constitutes salvation. For salvation consists in the glory, authority, majesty, power, and dominion which Jehovah possesses, and in nothing else, and no being can possess it **but himself or one like him**. Thus says John in his first epistle, 3:2,3 [1 John 1:13]: Behold, **now we are the sons of God**, and it doth not appear what we shall be; but we know that when he shall appear **we shall be like him**, for we shall see him as he is. And any man that has this hope in him purifies himself, even as he is pure. Why purify himself as he is pure? Because if they do not, **they cannot be like him**" (RE T&C 110, Lectures on Faith, Lecture Seventh, verse 9, emphasis added).

There have been many in scripture who became similar to the Savior in differing degrees, but none precisely as He is. Our transformation into the image of the Father and Son includes attaining to the attributes of both male and female into one union. When God created man in His image, they were two parts, male and female.¹⁰ By uniting the male attribute of knowledge with the female attribute of wisdom you achieve the attributes and image of God.¹¹ Together the two are prepared to experience the

¹⁰ ". . . And I, God, said unto my Only Begotten, who was with me from the beginning, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And it was so. And I, God, said, Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. **And I, God, created man in my own image, in the image of my Only Begotten created I him. Male and female created I them. And I, God, blessed them**" (RE Genesis 2:8, emphasis added).

". . . In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; **in the image of his own body, male and female, created he them, and blessed them, and called their name Adam in the day when they were created and became living souls in the land, upon the footstool of God**" (RE Genesis 3:14, emphasis added).

"The context of the words, created he [God] him [man], **is immediately clarified to refer to both the male and female and not just the male: created he him; male and female created he them**. The English translation follows the masculine pronoun implied in Hebrew. Therefore, looking at it in the Hebrew language, **there were two persons described, and only one of them was male**. It could be translated: created they [the Gods] them [the man and woman], male and female. The words, So God created man in his own image, affirms two points: **First, the plurality of God. Second, that plurality is a couple that includes both a male and a female. Man is created in God's image, and that image is a couple—a man and a woman. This is not figurative language. It is literally describing mankind having two sexes, and that is Godlike, or what God's image is**" (Our Divine Parents, Denver Snuffer Jr., p.3, emphasis added).

¹¹ "The Father and the Son are masculine and, therefore, **personified by the word knowledge**. The Mother as well as the Son's companion are feminine **and personified by the word wisdom**. These personifications reflect an eternal truth about these two parts of the one true God. **Knowledge (masculine) initiates; Wisdom (feminine) receives, guides, and tempers. Knowledge can be dangerous unless it is informed by wisdom. Wisdom provides guidance and counsel to channel what comes from knowledge. These are eternal attributes, part of what it means to be a male or a female. Creation begins with the active initiative of knowledge, but order and harmony for the creation requires wisdom. Balance between them is required for an orderly creation to exist**" (Our Divine Parents, Denver Snuffer Jr., p.5, emphasis added).

nurture and admonition required to advance the immortality and eternal life of man.

This is the Holy Order whereby a prophet and his wife approach the Lord, receive the Spirit of Elijah, and begin their introduction to the Holy Order of Heaven. In the last days this is accomplished when Elijah returns to open the conduit between Heaven and Earth and mortals interact with immortal Father's and Mother's, receiving "*greater*" knowledge withheld from those who profane in their attempts to imitate the Holy Order.

“. . . although the earthly tabernacle is laid down and dissolved, they shall rise again to dwell in everlasting burnings in immortal glory, not to sorrow, suffer, or die any more; but they shall be heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. What is it? ***To inherit the same power, the same glory and the same exaltation, until you arrive at the station of a God, and ascend the throne of eternal power, the same as those who have gone before.*** What did Jesus do? Why; I do the things I saw my Father do when worlds came rolling into existence. My Father worked out his kingdom with fear and trembling, and ***I must do the same; and when I get my kingdom, I shall present it to my Father, so that he may obtain kingdom upon kingdom, and it will exalt him in glory. He will then take a higher exaltation, and I will take his place, and thereby become exalted myself.*** So that Jesus treads in the tracks of his Father, and inherits what God did before; and God is thus glorified and exalted ***in the salvation and exaltation of all his children.*** It is plain beyond disputation, and you thus learn some of the first principles of the Gospel, about which so much hath been said.

When you climb up a ladder, you must begin at the bottom, and ascend step by step, until you arrive at the top; and ***so it is with the principles of the Gospel***—you must begin with the first, and go on until you learn ***all the principles of exaltation.*** But it will be a great while ***after you have passed through the veil*** before you will have learned them. ***It is not all to be comprehended in this world;*** it will be a great work to learn our salvation and exaltation ***even beyond the***

grave” (Smith Jr., Joseph. Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith (pp. 397-398). Deseret Book Company. Kindle Edition, emphasis added).

It was a great work before our birth and continues a great work after we leave mortality.

Our work began before we arrived here on earth and if faithful here, continues into future cycles following our continued efforts to ascend while here.¹² We are limited only by our reluctance to give diligent heed to knowledge God offers through His servants and personal whisperings of His Spirit. There can be no patriarchy without a matriarch. The Patriarchal Order involves both man and woman, husband and wife, knowledge tempered by wisdom. This is the introduction to greater knowledge Abraham sought. If he became heir to this Patriarchal Order and receive the right to ordain others to it, Abraham with Sarah receive greater knowledge and practice greater righteousness unattainable outside the marriage covenant.¹³ The ordinance of marriage does not qualify a couple for these blessings. After their union the male and female must unite and become as one in the eyes of God.

“Nevertheless, neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. For as the woman is of the man,

¹² “And there stood one among them that was like unto God, and he said unto those who were with him, We will go down, for there is space there, and we will take of these materials and we will make an earth whereon these may dwell. And we will prove them herewith to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them. And they who keep their first estate shall be added upon, and they who keep not their first estate shall not have glory in the same kingdom with those who keep their first estate; and **they who keep their second estate shall have glory added upon their heads for ever and ever**” (RE T&C 145, Abraham 6:2, emphasis added).

¹³ “And they who **are not sanctified through the law which I have given unto you**, even the law of Christ, must inherit another kingdom, even that of a terrestrial Kingdom or that of a telestial kingdom. For he that is not able to abide the law of a celestial kingdom, cannot abide a celestial glory, and he who cannot abide the law of a terrestrial Kingdom, cannot abide a terrestrial glory. He who cannot abide the law of a telestial kingdom cannot abide a telestial glory. Therefore, **he is not meet for a kingdom of glory; therefore, he must abide a kingdom which is not a kingdom of glory**” (RE T&C 86:3, emphasis added).

even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God” (RE 1 Corinthians 1:44, emphasis added).

The knowledge of the man and wisdom of the woman combined form the attributes of God. Knowledge separate from wisdom may be dangerous.¹⁴ Combined with the wisdom of Heavenly Mother, the knowledge of the Father is used wisely to provide balance and order to God’s creations. Balance and order, (or equality) is the foundation upon which Zion must be established.

“Zion and the New Jerusalem are a place, occupied by covenant people, and *not something an individual can be or become* [the Holy Order involves a patriarch and matriarch]. People who gather there *will all need to be individually redeemed, individually penitent, individually connected to God, but will only belong to the community if they belong to the covenant and are of one heart and one mind* and have all things in common between and among them” (RE T&C 175:47, emphasis added).

The “one heart, one mind” occurs when a couple combine their knowledge and wisdom in Christ and receive the “mind of the Father” or Spirit of God.¹⁵ This conforms their relationship and family direction to the will and pattern of God.

“And all those who keep his commandments shall grow up from grace to grace and become heirs of the Heavenly kingdom and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ, *possessing the same mind, being transformed into the same image or likeness, even the express image of him who fills all in all: being filled with the fullness of his glory, and*

¹⁴ “Knowledge (masculine) initiates, Wisdom (feminine) receives, guides and tempers. **Knowledge can be dangerous unless it is informed by wisdom. Wisdom provides guidance and counsel to channel what comes from knowledge. These are eternal attributes, part of what it means to be a male or a female. Creation begins with the active initiative of knowledge, but order and harmony for the creation requires wisdom. Balance between them is required for an orderly creation to exist**” (Our Divine Parents, Denver Snuffer Jr., p.5, emphasis added).

¹⁵ “. . . As the Son partakes of the fullness of the Father through the spirit, **so the saints are, by the same spirit, to be partakers of the same fullness, to enjoy the same glory, for as the Father and the Son are one, so in like manner the saints are to be one in them: through the love of the Father, the mediation of Jesus Christ, and the gift of the holy spirit they are to be heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ**” (RE T&C 110, Lectures on Faith, Lecture 5:3, emphasis added).

become one in him, even as the Father, Son, and holy spirit are one” (RE T&C 110, Lectures on Faith, Lecture fifth :2, emphasis added).

Zion and the New Jerusalem are occupied by those who enter the Holy Order, and redeemed through the Atonement of Jesus Christ. They become united with the Father and Mother, and the Savior and His consort. A family of righteous Fathers and Mothers devoted to equality in all things with no compulsion.¹⁶

Greater Knowledge

The greatest knowledge we obtain is *pure knowledge* or knowledge of that which is pure or Godly. The purest knowledge anyone may obtain is knowledge of God.

*“The greatest “key” to unlock truth is “pure knowledge, which shall greatly enlarge the soul.” This is how the Brother of Jared was able to pierce the veil. “And because of the knowledge of this man he could not be kept from beholding within the veil[.]” (Ether 3:19.) **It was the pursuit of “greater knowledge” that led Abraham to find God**” (The Holy Order, Denver Snuffer Jr., p.2, emphasis added).*

There is no greater knowledge than knowledge revealed by God to mankind. Greater knowledge is hidden from profane and evil speakers. It is reserved for those who cherish and guard it.¹⁷ Pure knowledge blesses the recipient but condemns those ill prepared to receive it.

¹⁶ “No power or influence can or ought to be maintained by virtue of the priesthood; only by persuasion, by long-suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned, by kindness and pure knowledge, which shall greatly enlarge the soul; without hypocrisy and without guile; reproving betimes with sharpness when moved upon by the holy ghost, and then showing forth afterward an increase of love toward him whom you have reprov’d (lest he esteem you to be his enemy), that he may know that your faithfulness is stronger than the cords of death; your bowels also being full of charity toward all men, and to the household of faith; and virtue garnish your thoughts unceasingly. Then shall your confidence wax strong in the presence of God, and the doctrines of the Priesthood shall distill upon your soul as the dews from heaven. The holy ghost shall be your constant companion, and your scepter an unchanging scepter of righteousness and truth, and your dominion shall be an everlasting dominion, **and without compulsory means it shall flow unto you for ever and ever**” (RE T&C 139:6, emphasis added).

¹⁷ “And now Alma began to expound these things unto him, saying, It is given unto many to know the mysteries of God; nevertheless, **they are laid under a strict command that they shall not impart** — only according to the

Nephi saw the Church of the Lamb of God and the covenant people “*armed with righteousness and the power of God in great glory.*” It’s important to understand the meaning when God’s power is manifest in great glory. Great glory is acquainted with intelligence, light, truth, or knowledge and understanding.

“*The glory of God is intelligence, or in other words, light and truth*” (T&C 93:11), and is obtained by obedience to law. The word glory refers to intelligence — or knowledge and understanding. “God says this is His work and [His] glory: to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man (Genesis 1:7) — that mankind returns to His presence and with Him partakes of eternal life and exaltation. ***Since His glory is intelligence, He shares it with us. Glory is shared intelligence***” (*A Glossary of Gospel Terms*, p.665, emphasis added).

The groups Nephi saw receiving the power of God in great glory or revelations given them is intelligence, or light and truth. Light and truth is granted by obedience to the laws of God. Intelligence or knowledge enables its possessor to avoid deception and arm themselves with righteousness because of their knowledge. This endowment of knowledge from God is associated with the Holy Order and the Spirit of Elijah.

“Now for Elijah. ***The spirit, power, and calling of Elijah is, that ye have power to hold the key of the revelations, ordinances, oracles, powers and endowments of the fulness of the Melchizedek Priesthood and of the kingdom of God on the earth; and to receive, obtain, and perform all the ordinances belonging to the kingdom of God***, even the children, and the hearts of the children unto the fathers, even those who are in heaven” (Smith Jr., Joseph. Teachings of the Prophet

portion of his word which he doth grant unto the children of men, ***according to the heed and diligence which they give unto him.*** And therefore, he that will harden his heart, the same receiveth the lesser portion of the word. And ***he that will not harden his heart, to him is given the greater portion of the word, until it is given unto him to know the mysteries of God, until they know them in full.*** And they that will harden their hearts, to them is given the lesser portion of the word ***until they know nothing concerning his mysteries;*** and then they are taken captive by the Devil and led by his will down to destruction. ***Now this is what is meant by the chains of hell***” (RE Alma 9:3, emphasis added).

Joseph Smith (p. 386). Deseret Book Company. Kindle Edition, emphasis added).

For Zion and the New Jerusalem to be established, the empowerment witnessed by Nephi of the Church of the Lamb of God and the covenant people, is the result of the Spirit of Elijah and Holy Order's restoration.

“Joseph wanted power in the priesthood so Zion could be established in a New Jerusalem on earth. This was the priesthood Enoch used to move mountains and control rivers. As the revised version of Genesis reported, Melchizedek and “every one being ordained after this order and calling should have power, by faith, to break mountains, to divide the seas, to dry up waters, to turn them out of their course; To put at defiance the armies of nations, to divide the earth, to break every band, to stand in the presence of God; **to do all things according to his will, according to his command,** subdue principalities and powers; and **this by the will of the Son of God which was from before the foundation of the world.**” **This authority was necessary for Zion to be protected from destruction by the world”** (*The Holy Order*, Denver Snuffer, Jr., p.34, emphasis added).

Power in the Priesthood is faith and knowledge. Joseph Smith tied Priesthood power to knowledge when he said:

“A man is saved no faster than he gets knowledge, for if he does not get knowledge, he will be brought into captivity by some evil power in the other world, as **evil spirits will have more knowledge, and consequently more power than many men who are on the earth. Hence it needs revelation to assist us, and give us knowledge of the things of God”** (Smith Jr., Joseph. Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith (p. 248). Deseret Book Company. Kindle Edition, emphasis added).

Knowledge is a product of obedience. The Spirit of Elijah restoring the keys of the Holy Order is essential to establishing Zion and the New Jerusalem. That is why God, through Malachi foretold in the last days

Elijah would arrive again to save a portion of the world from a destructive curse by sealing the hearts of the children to Patriarchal Fathers.

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet ***before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.*** And ***he shall seal the heart of the Fathers to the children and the heart of the children to their Fathers,*** lest I come and smite the earth with a curse” (RE Malachi 1:12, emphasis added).

Elijah saves a portion of the world from a divine curse when he, in concert with John the Beloved open a conduit between Heaven and Earth.¹⁸ through which Heavenly ministrants descend to prepare the righteous to join those of the Holy Order in Heaven.

The opening of the conduit between Heaven and Earth is the initial work preparing two kingdoms of God to become united in one. Through this conduit the “Powers of Heaven,” (immortal Patriarchal Fathers) are introduced to their mortal descendants on earth in preparation for the Second Coming of Christ when righteous Patriarchs arrive with Him.

The Patriarchal Fathers stand on seven different levels and are sent by God to prepare mortals for their introduction to the Holy Order.

¹⁸ Here, then, we have finally arrived at Elijah’s significance ***as the one who must first return.*** He was not the last one living who held the sealing power, though he did in fact possess it. Instead, ***he is vital as the last one to make the ascent from earth to heaven.*** He rose up through the fiery corridor, and went to God’s presence. ***He joined the —fathers in heaven who are to return.*** He last opened the way by his physical ascent. ***He will be the first to physically descend through the fiery corridor to return from heaven to dwell again on earth.*** His return will not be made in a temporary opening. We’ve had plenty of those. ***His return will open a permanent, fixed stairway between the —fathers in heaven and those who are prepared for the return of Zion.*** Zion will be overshadowed by the Lord’s glory [Glory of God is intelligence or light and truth]. ***The fiery corridor, or pillar of fire, or ladder to heaven, or conduit into heaven, or chariot of fire, will be opened by Elijah’s descent. It will remain over Zion and will be visible there. It will not be temporary. It will be the place from which the first preparations for the Second Coming begin.*** At that location ***a small group will be prepared to endure this opening. They, and those called to join with them, will escape being —utterly wasted at the unveiling of our Lord in glory at His return.*** It is Elijah who will restore the hearts of the fathers to the children or, in other words, ***he will reestablish the lost corridor between heaven and earth that connects those in heaven and earth***” (*The Mission of Elijah Reconsidered*, Denver Snuffer Jr., pp.28-29, emphasis added).

“There is within the structure of the afterlife, different rungs on Jacob’s ladder. And they leak through in our scriptures, though Joseph never bothers parsing them. And whether you are talking about an angel, or an archangel, or a principality, or a power, or a dominion, or a throne, or a Cherubim, or a Seraphim– it doesn’t matter which one you are referring to, it is appropriate to refer to any and all of them as “Powers.” The “Powers of Heaven.” Whatever rung these ministers may be upon, they are all “Powers.” So *I want to suggest to you, that the real definition of priesthood is an association between mankind, on the one hand, and those on the other side of the veil, on the other hand. And the real definition of priesthood is the connection between– a fellowship between– the “Powers of Heaven,” on the one hand, and you, on the other . . .* I want to turn to Doctrine and Covenants Section 132 and take a look at that because in here we then run into a brief description of some of that “Powers” that exist. This is in *Doctrine and Covenants* 132:19, and it’s about in the middle of that verse. It says you come forth in the first resurrection to inherit, and here are the words: **“Thrones, kingdoms, principalities, and powers, dominions, all heights and depths—”** *Those are, in fact, referring to different steps in the process of rising up to the place where God is.* This is telling you something about the map to the afterlife. This is telling you something about how there is a hierarchy that is organized there, and you proceed, as Joseph said, from one step to the next. When you begin to climb a ladder, you always begin at the bottom, and you go step-by-step until you reach the top.

In any event, the ranking goes: angels, and then archangels, and then principalities, and then powers, and then dominions, and then thrones, and then Cherubim, and then Seraphim– the Seraphim being those who dwell in everlasting burnings, the glorious ones, the ones who are flaming . . . However, this is suggesting a much more complex afterlife, in which literally ***the ascent is by degrees as you move upward.*** As Joseph said, and I read that in Boise, it’ll be a great time after we have crossed through the veil before we will have learned all that needs to be learned in order to qualify for our salvation and exaltation . . . Well, let’s go to Moses 7:27: “Enoch beheld angels descending out of heaven, bearing testimony of the Father and Son; and the Holy Ghost fell on many, and ***they were caught up by the***

powers of heaven into Zion.” There they show up again. “The powers of heaven” – plural, in the same verse *where it’s talking about angels descending*. This is the kind of thing that is littered throughout the scriptures if you have the eyes to see it. Because there is actually a structure there.

There are within what we regard as priesthood two brotherhoods or two fellowships. One is between men or women. It is a fellowship that exists among us here, on this side. There is a second one. There is a second fellowship– that exists with us to the other side. And on that other side, there is a fellowship or a priesthood. And by and large, when the scriptures speak about priesthood having authority, priesthood having power, that is *connected by a mortal with a fellowship that extends into the immortal, to the other side. It’s a relationship with “the Powers of Heaven”* (15: Jacob’s Ladder Podcast, Denver Snuffer Jr., 4/22/2018).

The *Powers of Heaven* are angels sent from God to form a priesthood or fellowship between mortals and immortals. The Powers are Patriarchal Father’s with their Matriarchs who pass through the conduit opened by Elijah. They instruct and assist heirs of salvation who qualified prior to this Earth’s creation to receive the Holy Order so they and those who receive them are preserved when God’s judgments fall upon the wicked and thereafter lead souls in their ascent up the initial levels of the seven levels leading to the Father’s throne. In the process of interacting with their mortal apprentices their hearts are knit together as they unite through the “mind of the Father” and form Zion, where they

inherit the Earth. Through this process, Malachi’s prophecy of Elijah is fulfilled.

Knowledge given to the faithful when Patriarchal ministers instruct chosen vessels from God to deliver greater knowledge to those on Earth is the “*power of God in great glory*” Nephi saw God’s power fall upon the *Church of the Lamb of God and the Lord’s covenant people.*” The endowment

of knowledge given to the faithful allows the groups to live more righteously and advance through the seven rungs of Jacob's ladder.

The Fathers act as ministering angels delivering the words of Christ by expounding scripture.

“As I have pointed out in recent talks, ***if you were to be taught by an angel of God it would be a lesson in the scriptures.*** (See, e.g., JS-H 1: 36-41.) The day the Lord was resurrected He spent the better part of the day expounding the scriptures to two of His followers. (Luke 24: 13-32.)

I teach from the scriptures because they contain everything needed to support, explain, justify and make clear those doctrines which are needed for your salvation. Even the deepest of material I've given to you is anchored in the scriptures.

If angels and our Lord all found the scriptures a sufficient text to use in teaching truths, then we should look there, searching deeply for any truths we want to learn. We shouldn't move our attention away from the scriptures to learn what is needed for salvation and exaltation. No matter how much a topic glitters and begs you to notice it, the scriptures should form a shield to keep away what is unnecessary and save you from unreliable error.

The more exotic the “spiritual” information, the more important it is to find a home in the scriptures. ***This is because if it cannot be found there, then it does not belong to Christ's Gospel*** (*Scripture Blogpost, Denver Snuffer Jr., November 16, 2013, emphasis added*).

There are logical reasons for the Fathers to deliver their message through scripture. They are the authors of scriptures both in our current position as well as those that have been withheld. The scriptures contain the accounts of the ascensions of the Fathers and they are uniquely qualified to explain their experience as they participated in the process. The earth is to be flooded with truth in the last days and that truth harmonizes what we currently have through reception of what we yet lack.

“. . . And ***righteousness will I send down out of Heaven. Truth will I send forth out of the earth to bear testimony of my Only Begotten, his resurrection from the dead, yea, and also the resurrection of all men.*** And ***righteousness and truth will I cause to sweep the earth as with a flood, to gather out my own elect from the four quarters of the earth*** unto a place which I shall prepare, a holy city, that my people may gird up their loins and be looking forth for the time of my coming. For there shall be my tabernacle, and it shall be called Zion, a New Jerusalem. And the Lord said unto Enoch, ***Then shall you and all your city meet them there, and we will receive them into our bosom.*** And they shall see us, and we will fall upon their necks, and they shall fall upon our necks, and we will kiss each other; and there shall be my abode. And it shall be Zion which shall come forth out of all the creations which I have made, and for the space of a thousand years shall the earth rest” (RE Genesis 4:22, emphasis added).

The righteousness the Church of the Lamb of God and the covenant people descends from Heaven. Truth from the Earth are the scriptures that sweep the earth like a flood and gathers the elect from the four corners of the Earth.

Heavenly Mothers Role in the Last Days

When the full history of this Earth is recorded, we will see the role of Heavenly Mother in every moment. The events in consideration are future. With the continuation of the Restoration in the last days, we catch glimpses of the Mothers role. In “*Our Divine Parents,*” we learn the greatest attribute of Heavenly Mother.

“Our scriptures speak carefully about the existence and importance of a Heavenly Mother: ***a Divine Female whose greatest attribute is to bestow wisdom upon the whole of this creation***” (*Our Divine Parents*, Denver Snuffer Jr., p.1, emphasis added).

According to Joseph Smith the Spirit of Elijah holds keys to the fullness of the Melchizedek Priesthood.

“Now for Elijah. ***The spirit, power, and calling of Elijah is, that ye have power to hold the key of the revelations, ordinances, oracles, powers and endowments of the fulness of the Melchizedek Priesthood and of the kingdom of God on the earth***” (TPJS., 386, emphasis added).

The key of revelation involves dispensing the knowledge of Heavenly Father to this creation wisely. Heavenly Mother is responsible for determining when Her children are prepared to receive greater light and truth. She shares a literal connection to Her children and is able to discern when knowledge is dispensed to them.¹⁹

When Elijah opens the conduit between Heaven and Earth, the key of revelation floods the earth with revealed knowledge. At the bottom of the conduit is placed a regulating mechanism to dispense revelation to Her children. John the Beloved is given responsibility for directing that flow at the direction of Heavenly Mother. John the Beloved has been involved with Heavenly Mother since the crucifixion of Her Son, Jesus the Christ.

John the Beloved is an “*Elias*” in the last days responsible for the restoration of all things and gathering of Israel.²⁰ The Spirit of Elias

¹⁹ “There is something primal, unavoidable and universal ***in the connection between children and mothers***. Life begins in her arms and at her breast. Approaching death always brings the beginning of life, and therefore ***motherhood, back into focus. This primal connection is one reason why acknowledging the Heavenly Mother has proven overwhelming, even a burden for some societies. As soon as they are aware of Her, they focus veneration and worship on Her alone***” (Our Divine Parents, Denver Snuffer jr., p.29, emphasis added).

²⁰ “Question: *What are we to understand by the little book which was eaten by John, as mentioned in the 10th chapter of Revelation [Rev. 3:13]?*”

Answer: We are to understand that it was a mission and an ordinance for him to ***gather the tribes of Israel***. Behold, this is Elias who, as it is written, ***must come and restore all things***” (RE T&C 74:14, emphasis added).

precedes the Spirit of Elijah and as an Aaronic priesthood²¹ function prepares sons and daughters of God for a greater work.²²

When our Lord was raised up on the cross He gazed upon His mother, Mary and uttered the words,

Woman, behold thy son!

Then saith he to the disciple [John the Beloved], Behold, thy mother! And from ***that hour that disciple took her unto his own home*** (RE John 10:13, Testimony of Saint John 11:16).

John the Beloved was granted power over death and is the only disciple who lived as long as Mary, the Mother of the Son of God. Like John the Beloved, Mary was taken into Heaven without experiencing death and returned to the throne from which She condescended prior to the Savior's birth.²³ From the crucifixion of Jesus to this day, Mary shared a unique bond with the Beloved and is in a position to mentor and prepare John the Beloved for the Elias role he plays in the last days. Under the direction of Heavenly Mother, ***John the Beloved dispenses the Father's knowledge according to the Wisdom of Heavenly Mother.*** It is for this reason John the Beloved is positioned at the bottom of the conduit to ***"restore all things and gather Israel."***

John the Beloved and Elijah are translated beings acting as ministering angels, ministering to those who are *"heirs of salvation"*²⁴ and

²¹ "The spirit of Elias is to prepare the way for a greater revelation of God, which is the Priesthood of Elias, or the Priesthood that Aaron was ordained unto. And when God sends a man into the world ***to prepare for a greater work, holding the keys of the power of Elias,*** it was called the doctrine of Elias, even from the early ages of the world" (Smith Jr., Joseph. Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith (p. 385). Deseret Book Company. Kindle Edition).

²² "That person who holds the keys of Elias hath a preparatory work" (Smith Jr., Joseph. Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith (p. 386). Deseret Book Company. Kindle Edition).

²³ ***"Did Mary also attain to the resurrection?"*** Protestants dismiss the Catholic veneration of Mary. But it may just be that Catholics have preserved something of value about her that ought not be ignored. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: ***"The Most Blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven, where she already shares in the glory of her Son's Resurrection, anticipating the resurrection of all members of His Body"*** (*"Our Divine Parents,* Denver Snuffer Jr., p.19).

²⁴ "And the Lord said unto me, John, my beloved, what do you desire? For if you shall ask what you will, it shall be granted unto you. And I said unto him, Lord, give unto me power over death, that I may live and bring souls unto you. And the Lord said unto me, Verily, verily I say unto you, because you desired this, ***you shall tarry until I come in my glory, and shall prophesy before nations, kindreds, tongues, and people.***

“*chosen vessels.*”²⁵ These men are actively engaged in calling men to repentance and doing the work of fulfilling the covenants of the Father vicariously through righteous men and women to whom they deliver the words of Christ. The work of mortal salvation is accomplished by flesh and blood mortals who receive the glory of God or light and truth from those who faithfully served Him during their mortal probation.

What is the Coming Flood of Truth

Joseph Smith included in his description of the Spirit of Elijah the key to revelation. This key involves the Patriarchal Fathers because they recorded their revelations from God and the revelations became scripture for those mortal descendants following after.

The library of scripture we currently possess was altered and redacted. It is Satan’s intent to lie, mislead, distract and misdirect the children of God from the path of ascension. The scriptures and ordinances

And for this cause the Lord said unto Peter, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to you? For he desired of me that he might bring souls unto me, but you desired that you might speedily come unto me in my kingdom. I say unto you, Peter, this was a good desire, but my beloved has desired that he might do more, or **a greater work yet among men, than what he has before done; yea, he has undertaken a greater work. Therefore, I will make him as flaming fire and a ministering angel. He shall minister for those who shall be heirs of salvation who dwell on the earth,** and I will make you to minister for him and for your brother James [Jacob]. And unto you three I will give this power and the keys of this ministry until I come. Verily I say unto you, you shall both have according to your desires, for you both joy in that which you have desired” (RE Joseph Smith History 13:18-19, emphasis added).

²⁵ “And because he hath done this, my beloved brethren, hath miracles ceased? Behold, I say unto you, nay; neither have angels ceased to minister unto the children of men. For behold, they are subject unto him, to minister according to the word of his command, shewing themselves unto them of strong faith and a firm mind in every form of godliness. **And the office of their ministry is to call men unto repentance, and to fulfill and to do the work of the covenants of the Father which he hath made unto the children of men, to prepare the way among the children of men by declaring the word of Christ unto the chosen vessels of the Lord, that they may bear testimony of him; and by so doing, the Lord God prepareth the way that the residue of men may have faith in Christ, that the holy ghost may have place in their hearts, according to the power thereof; and after this manner bringeth to pass the Father the covenants which he hath made unto the children of men.** And Christ hath said, If ye will have faith in me, ye shall have power to do whatsoever thing is expedient in me. And he hath said, Repent, all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me, and be baptized in my name, and have faith in me, that ye may be saved” (RE Moroni 7:6, emphasis added).

“Anyone and everyone to whom Christ ministers as the Second Comforter, as well as anyone who has received a visit from an angelic messenger.¹ Angels minister to “chosen vessels” or mortal messengers, as the Three Nephites did with Mormon and Moroni. **These vessels then testify and bear testimony so that the way is prepared that the residue of men may have faith in Christ** (Moroni 7:6)” (*A Glossary of Gospel Terms, Chosen Vessels*, p.606).

are tools given to us, like a road map, guiding mankind in their journey back to God. Altering the records and ordinances leaves the children of men wandering in mists of darkness as in Lehi's dream of the Tree of Life.²⁶

The coming of Elijah in the last days rectifies all the mischief Satan performed since this Earth's beginning. When Elijah opens the conduit between Heaven and Earth it intensifies the efforts of evil as well as new light and knowledge pouring out upon the children of men.

“ . . . The heavens are open for business. But hell is eager to jump into that same track. ***When you've opened up a conduit for spiritual communication, that conduit can be just as compromised by the evil as it can be used by the good, the pure, and the true.*** Therefore, try the spirits. Test them” (*Discernment 3 Podcast*, Denver Snuffer Jr., January 20, 2019, emphasis added).

Prior to Enoch witnessing a flood of truth sweeping the earth, he foretold when hell on earth is unleashed. This is concurrent with Elijah opening the conduit.

“And Enoch wept and cried unto the Lord again, saying, When shall the earth rest? And Enoch beheld the Son of Man ascend up unto the Father, and he called unto the Lord, saying, Will you not come again upon the earth? For inasmuch as you are God, and I know you, and you have sworn unto me and commanded me that I should ask in the name of your Only Begotten, ***you have made me,***

²⁶ “And I beheld a rod of iron [word], and it extended along the bank of the river ***and led to the tree by which I stood.*** And I also beheld a straight and narrow path [deed] which came along by the rod of iron, ***even to the tree by which I stood;*** and it also led by the head of the fountain unto a large and spacious field, as if it had been a world. And I saw numberless concourses of people, many of whom were pressing forward that they might obtain the path which led unto the tree by which I stood. And it came to pass that ***they did come forth and commenced in the path which led to the tree. And it came to pass that there arose a mist of darkness, yea, even an exceeding great mist of darkness, insomuch that they who had commenced in the path did lose their way, that they wandered off and were lost.*** And it came to pass that I beheld others pressing forward, and they came forth and ***caught hold of the end of the rod of iron; and they did press forward through the mists of darkness, clinging to the rod of iron, even until they did come forth and partook of the fruit of the tree.*** And ***after they had partaken of the fruit of the tree,*** they did cast their eyes about as if they were ashamed” (RE 1 Nephi 2:10, emphasis added).

and given unto me a right to your throne, and not of myself, but through your own grace. Wherefore, I ask you if you will not come again on the earth. And the Lord said unto Enoch, As I live, ***even so will I come in the last days, in the days of wickedness and vengeance,*** to fulfill the oath which I have made unto you concerning the children of Noah. And the day shall come that the earth shall rest. ***But before that day, the heavens shall be darkened, and a veil of darkness shall cover the earth; and the heavens shall shake, and also the earth. And great tribulations shall be among the children of men, but my people will I preserve . . .***” (RE Genesis 4:22, emphasis added).

Prior to the millennial reign of Christ a veil of darkness covers the earth and great tribulations befall the children of men. As Enoch saw “*righteousness and truth sweep the earth as with a flood,*” Satan counters the Lord’s efforts with his own flood.

“ . . . And ***the serpent casts out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.*** And the earth helps the woman, and the earth opens her mouth and swallows up the flood which the dragon casts out of his mouth. Therefore, the dragon was angry with the woman, and ***went to make war with the remnant of her seed, who keep the commandments of God and have also the testimony of Jesus Christ***” (RE Revelation 4:5, emphasis added).

The serpent is Satan and when he opens his mouth, what pours out is lies and deception. The Savior exposed Satan as the father of lies:

“ . . . You are of your father the Devil, and the lusts of your father you will do. ***He was a murderer from the beginning and stood not in the truth because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own, for he is a liar and the father of it***” (RE John 6:15, emphasis added).

And from the Testimony of Saint John:

“ . . . Your father is the accuser, and you share the envy and rebellion of your father. ***He was a rebellious destroyer from the***

beginning, and fought against the truth, because he prefers lies. When he spreads a lie, he advances his agenda. He is the source of deceit in this fallen world” (RE T&C 171, Testimony of Saint John 6:19, emphasis added).

Two floods sweep the earth in the last days. Because Satan knows his time is short he unleashes a flood of lies in an attempt to counter the flood of righteousness and truth the Savior sends to sweep the earth and gather His elect from the four quarters of the earth.

Prophecies foretell the role scriptures play in flooding the earth with truth. Joseph of Egypt describes these events and how the Lord facilitates the growing together of scripture.

“And again, a seer will I raise up out of the fruit of your [Joseph’s] loins. And unto him will I give power to bring forth my word unto the seed of your loins — and not to the bringing forth my word only, says the Lord, but ***to the convincing them of my word which shall have already gone forth among them in the last days.*** Wherefore, the fruit of your loins shall write, and the fruit of the loins of Judah shall write; and that which shall be written by the fruit of your loins and also that which shall be written by the fruit of the loins of Judah ***shall grow together unto the confounding of false doctrines, and laying down of contentions, and establishing peace among the fruit of your loins, and bringing them to the knowledge of their fathers in the latter days, and also to the knowledge of my covenants, says the Lord.*** And out of weakness he [Joseph Smith] shall be made strong in that day ***when my work shall go forth among all my people, which shall restore them who are of the house of Israel in the last days***” (RE Genesis 12:39, emphasis added).

In the day the Lord’s elect are convinced of all truth sent to Earth by the Lord, they arrive at this conclusion by His words “*growing together*” to dispel false doctrines, lay down contentions, establish peace among the seed of Joseph of Egypt and bringing Israel to a knowledge of their Fathers [Elijah] and the Lord’s covenants with the Fathers.

Nephi saw the day when all would be convinced of the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ.

“And it came to pass that I beheld the remnant of the seed of my brethren and also the book of the Lamb of God which had proceeded forth from the mouth of the Jew, that it came forth from the gentiles unto the remnant of the seed of my brethren. ***And after it had come forth unto them, I beheld other books which came forth by the power of the Lamb from the gentiles unto them, unto the convincing of the gentiles, and the remnant of the seed of my brethren, and also the Jews who were scattered upon all the face of the earth, that the records of the prophets and of the twelve apostles of the Lamb are true.*** And the angel spake unto me, saying, ***These last records which thou hast seen among the gentiles shall establish the truth of the first, which are of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, and shall make known the plain and precious things which have been taken away from them, and shall make known to all kindreds, tongues, and people that the Lamb of God is the Son of the Eternal Father and the Savior of the world, and that all men must come unto him or they cannot be saved.*** And they must come according to the words which shall be established by the mouth of the Lamb; and the words of the Lamb shall be made known in the records of thy seed, as well as in the records of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. Wherefore, they both shall be established in one, for there is one God and one Shepherd over all the earth. 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” (RE 1 Nephi 3:24, emphasis added).

Nephi sees the record of Joseph and the Bible coming from the Jews to combine with “*other books.*” The combination of records “*convince*” gentiles, the seed of Joseph and the Jews [Israel] the original records are true. They testify Jesus is the Son of God and Savior of the world and that all men must come to Him to be saved. They must come to Him according to His words He reveals in the last days.

The “Other Books”

In addition to the Bible and Book of Mormon, there many records to be revealed in the flood of truth foretold by Enoch. Appropriately, John the Beloved is the keeper of those records and at the direction of She who “*dispenses wisdom throughout the creation,*” John the Beloved works in concert with the Elijah and the Patriarchal Fathers to restore all that’s been lost or withheld.

“And it came to pass that the angel spake unto me, saying, Look. And I looked and beheld a man, and he was dressed in a white robe; and the angel said unto me, ***Behold one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. Behold, he shall see and write the remainder of these things, yea, and also many things which have been; and he shall also write concerning the end of the world.*** 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. ***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. 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. And also others who have been, to them hath he [John the Beloved] shewn 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.***

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 . . .*** (RE 1 Nephi 3:30-31, emphasis added).

John the Beloved ministers to “*heirs of salvation,*” and is the keeper of sacred records. He has custody of his own writings and the writings of others he showed prophetic events and gave commandments to write,

submitting their records to him. This is a reason John is the “*Elias*” assigned by the Lord to restore all things and gather Israel.²⁷

The “*due time of the Lord*” is the scriptural designation pointing to the time the records are brought to light by John the Beloved and a mortal “*heir of salvation*,” the dispensation head through which these records pass. Nephi was shown the due time of the Lord and said the following concerning it.

“And it shall come to pass that the Lord God shall bring forth unto you the words of a book, and they shall be the words of them which have slumbered [Patriarchal Fathers]. ***And behold, the book shall be sealed, and in the book shall be a revelation from God, from the beginning of the world to the ending thereof. Wherefore, because of the things which are sealed up, the things which are sealed shall not be delivered in the day of the wickedness and abominations of the people; wherefore, the book shall be kept from them.*** But the book shall be delivered unto a man, and he shall deliver the words of the book, which are the words of those who have slumbered in the dust, and he shall deliver these words unto another. *But the words which are sealed he shall not deliver, neither shall he deliver the book, for the book shall be sealed by the power of God, and the revelation which was sealed shall be kept in the book until the own due time of the Lord,* that they may come forth; for behold, ***they reveal all things from the foundation of the world unto the end thereof. And the day cometh that the words of the book which were sealed shall be read upon the housetops, and they shall be read by the power of Christ. And all things shall be revealed unto the children of men which ever have been among the children of men, and which ever will be, even unto the end of the earth . . .*** For the Lord God hath said that the words of the faithful [Patriarchal Fathers] should speak as if it were from the dead. Wherefore, the Lord God will proceed to bring forth the words

²⁷ “Question: *What are we to understand by the little book which was eaten by John, as mentioned in the 10th chapter of Revelation [Rev. 3:13]?*”

Answer: We are to understand **that it was a mission and an ordinance for him to gather the tribes of Israel. Behold, this is Elias who, as it is written, must come and restore all things**” (RE T&C 74:14, emphasis added).

of the book; **and in the mouth of as many witnesses as seemeth him good** will he establish his word; and woe be unto him that rejecteth the word of God . . . Then shall the Lord God say unto him, The learned shall not read them, for they have rejected them, and **I am able to do mine own work**; wherefore, thou shalt read the words which I shall give unto thee. **Touch not the things which are sealed, for I will bring them forth in mine own due time**, for I will show unto the children of men that **I am able to do mine own work**. Wherefore, when thou hast read the words which I have commanded thee, and obtained the witnesses which I have promised unto thee, then shalt thou seal up the book again and hide it up unto me, **that I may preserve the words which thou hast not read, until I shall see fit in mine own wisdom to reveal all things unto the children of men**. For behold, I am God, and I am a God of miracles, and I will shew unto the world that I am the same yesterday, today, and for ever, and I work not among the children of men **save it be according to their faith**” (RE 2 Nephi 11:19-20, emphasis added).

The Lord sealed the portion of the Book of Mormon not contained in the current record. It is His intention to perform a miracle in the last days or “*due time of the Lord*” to judge the gentiles when the sealed portion comes to light. The Savior, in His ministry to the Nephites explains the role the sealed portion plays when the fullness of the gentiles arrives.

“And now it came to pass that when Jesus had told these things, he expounded them unto the multitude. **And he did expound all things unto them, both great and small**. And he saith, These scriptures which ye had not with you, the Father commanded that I should give unto you, for it was wisdom in him that **they should be given unto future generations**. **And he did expound all things, even from the beginning until the time that he should come in his glory — yea, even all things which should come upon the face of the earth**, even until the elements should melt with fervent heat, and the earth should be wrapped together as a scroll, and the heavens and the earth should pass away, and **even unto the great and last day when all people, and all kindreds, and all nations and tongues shall stand before God to be judged of their works, whether they be good or**

whether they be evil; if they be good, to the resurrection of everlasting life, and if they be evil, to the resurrection of damnation — being on a parallel, the one on the one hand and the other on the other hand, according to the mercy, and the justice, and the holiness which is in Christ, who was before the world began.

And now ***there cannot be written in this book even an hundredth part of the things which Jesus did truly teach unto the people. But behold, the plates of Nephi do contain the more part of the things which he taught the people.*** And these things have I written, which are a lesser part of the things which he taught the people, and ***I have written them to the intent that they may be brought again unto this people from the gentiles, according to the words which Jesus hath spoken.*** And when they [Lehi's descendants] shall have received this, which is expedient that they should have first to try their faith, ***and if it should so be that they shall believe these things, then shall the greater things be made manifest unto them.*** And if it so be that they will not believe these things, ***then shall the greater things be withheld from them unto their condemnation.*** Behold, I were about to write them all, which were engraven upon the plates of Nephi, but the Lord forbid it, saying, I will try the faith of my people.” (RE 3 Nephi 11:6, 12:1, emphasis added).

The gentiles carry the lesser portion of the Book of Mormon to descendants of Lehi as a test to see if they accept a portion of the record of Joseph. If they receive it, the sealed portion is given them, the gentile dispensation ends and the dispensation of Israel begins with the gathering of descendants of Joseph.²⁸

²⁸ “And when that day shall come shall a remnant be scattered among all nations; ***but they shall be gathered again, but they shall remain until the times of the gentiles be fulfilled***” (RE T&C 31:6).

“For I desire not, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own eyes. ***That blindness, in part, has happened to Israel until the fullness of the gentiles has come in. Then all Israel shall be saved,*** as it is written: There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob. For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sin” (RE Romans 1:56, emphasis added).

Armed with Righteousness, A God of Miracles

The Savior declared to Nephi that He would bring the sealed portion of the Book of Mormon in His due time. The Lord, in His declaration said He is a God of miracles and proclaims when the sealed portion is delivered in the “*due time of the Lord*” it will be done miraculously. The miracle bringing the sealed portion to light is according to the faith of the Lord’s people in that day.

The people exercising faith in the last days are those of the Church of the Lamb of God [repentant gentiles] and the Lord’s covenant people [Israel]. Those groups receive the “*power of God in great glory*” and are armed with righteousness.²⁹ These groups are people following the Abrahamic pattern because they attain greater faith, knowledge, and righteousness.³⁰ The Abrahamic pattern leads to the rights belonging to the Patriarchal Fathers. Righteousness is the only means by which the “*Powers of Heaven*” may be controlled or handled.

“ . . . that they do not learn this one lesson — that the rights of the Priesthood are inseparably connected with the Powers of Heaven [Patriarchal Fathers] and that ***the Powers of Heaven cannot be controlled nor handled, only upon the principles of righteousness . . .***” (RE T&C 139:5, emphasis added).

The Church of the Lamb of God and the Covenant people connect to the Fathers in Heaven becoming endowed with the keys Elijah delivers through the conduit between Heaven and Earth. They are keys delivered to Enoch by God and passed down through the Patriarchal Fathers.

²⁹ “ . . . 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**” (RE 1 Nephi 3:28, emphasis added).

³⁰ “Having been myself a follower of righteousness, ***desiring also to be one who possessed great knowledge, and to be a greater follower of righteousness, and to possess a greater knowledge***, and to be a Father of many nations, a prince of peace, and desiring to receive instructions and to keep the commandments of God, I became a rightful heir, a high priest, holding ***the right belonging to the Fathers***” (RE T&C 145, Abraham 1:1, emphasis added).

“ . . . And thus, having been approved of God [Melchizedek], he was ordained a high priest after the Order of ***the covenant which God made with Enoch, it being after the Order of the Son of God***, which Order came not by man, nor the will of men, neither by father nor mother, neither by beginning of days nor end of years, but of God. And ***it was delivered unto men by the calling of his own voice, according to his own will, unto as many as believed on his name.***

For God, having sworn unto Enoch and unto his seed with an oath by himself ***that everyone being ordained after this Order and calling should have power, by faith, to break mountains, to divide the seas, to dry up waters, to turn them out of their course, to put at defiance the armies of nations, to divide the earth, to break every band, to stand in the presence of God, to do all things according to his will, according to his command subdue principalities and powers; and this by the will of the Son of God which was from before the foundation of the world.*** And men having this faith, coming up unto this Order of God, were translated and taken up into Heaven” (RE Genesis 7:18-19, emphasis added).

The Priesthood of Enoch was passed down from Adam through the Fathers. Adam, in the beginning, prophesied the Priesthood from the beginning of the Earth will be present at the end of the world as well.

“ . . . And a book of remembrance was kept, in which was recorded in the language of Adam, for it was given unto as many as called upon God to write by the spirit of inspiration. And ***by them their children were taught to read and write, having a language which was pure and undefiled. Now this same Priesthood which was in the beginning shall be in the end of the world also*** (now this prophecy Adam spoke as he was moved upon by the holy ghost) . . .” (RE Genesis 3:14, emphasis added).

The Priesthood restored to mankind by Elijah endows and empowers the Lord’s people in the last days. Moses’ deliverance of Israel from Egyptian bondage displays how the Lord empowers and supports those receiving this Priesthood. The events from Moses’ day became seminal to the Jewish religion as evidence God was with them. As seminal as those events are to the

Jews, the latter-day events transcend that which was done in the days of Moses. Joseph Smith said:

“Much has been said and done of late by the general government in relation to the Indians (Lamanites) within the territorial limits of the United States. One of the most important points in the faith of the Church of the Latter-day Saints, through the fullness of the everlasting Gospel, is the gathering of Israel (of whom the Lamanites constitute a part) that happy time when Jacob shall go up to the house of the Lord, to worship Him in spirit and in truth, to live in holiness; when the Lord will restore His judges as at the first, and His counselors as at the beginning; when every man may sit under his own vine and fig tree, and there will be none to molest or make afraid; when He will turn to them a pure language, and the earth will be filled with sacred knowledge, as the waters cover the great deep; *when it shall no longer be said, the Lord lives that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt, **but the Lord lives that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither He has driven them. That day is one, all important to all men.*** In view of its importance, together with all that the prophets have said about it before us, we feel like dropping a few ideas in connection with the official statements from the government concerning the Indians. In speaking of the gathering, we mean to be understood as speaking of it ***according to scripture, the gathering of the elect of the Lord out of every nation on earth, and bringing them to the place of the Lord of Hosts, when the city of righteousness shall be built,*** and where the people shall be of one heart and one mind, when the Savior comes: yea, where the people shall walk with ***God like Enoch, and be free from sin.*** The word of the Lord is precious; and ***when we read that the veil spread over all nations will be destroyed, and the pure in heart see God, and reign with Him a thousand years on earth, we want all honest men to have a chance to gather and build up a city of from all the lands whither He has driven them. That day is one, all important to all men***” (Smith Jr., Joseph. Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith (pp. 104-105). Deseret Book Company. Kindle Edition, emphasis added).

The power of God manifest in the last days begins when Elijah opens the conduit between Heaven and Earth. The Priesthood of the Father's, the Priesthood of Enoch, the Holy Order, the Priesthood after the Order of the Son of God, the Melchizedek Priesthood, (all synonymous) descends to empower the Church of the Lamb of God and Israel with the power of God in great glory.

The events that bring Israel from the North to gather to the New Jerusalem³¹ and Zion is miraculous in two regards. It will be miraculous because of the display of God's power and because of the faith of the righteous given their small numbers.

“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.*** 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. And it came to pass that I beheld that the great mother of abominations ***did gather together in multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the***

³¹ “ . . . And he shall utter his voice out of Zion and he shall speak from Jerusalem, and his voice shall be heard among all people and it shall be a voice as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder which shall break down the mountains, and the valleys shall not be found. He shall command the great deep, and it shall be driven back into the north countries and the islands shall become one land, and the land of Jerusalem and the land of Zion shall be turned back into their own place, and the earth shall be like as it was in the days before it was divided. And the Lord, even the Savior, shall stand in the midst of his people and shall reign over all flesh. ***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, and a highway shall be cast up in the midst of the great deep.*** Their enemies shall become a prey unto them, and in the barren deserts there shall come forth pools of living water and the parched ground shall no longer be a thirsty land. And they shall bring forth their rich treasures unto the children of Ephraim, my servants, and the boundaries of the everlasting hills shall tremble at their presence, ***and there shall they fall down and be crowned with glory, even in Zion, by the hands of the servants of the Lord, even the children of Ephraim,*** and they shall be filled with songs of everlasting joy. Behold, this is the blessing of the everlasting God upon the heads of the tribes of Israel, and ***the richer blessing upon the head of Ephraim and his fellows.*** And they also of ***the tribe of Judah, after their pain, shall be sanctified in holiness before the Lord, to dwell in his presence day and night, for ever and ever***” (RE T&C 58:3, emphasis added).

nations of the gentiles, to fight against the Lamb of God” (RE 1 Nephi 3:28, emphasis added).

In most encounters between the Lord and the enemies of His covenant people, the numbers are virtually always David vs. Goliath in scope. This is the Lord’s preferred way so no mortal dare take credit for the Lord’s work when He performs it.

One encouraging reference suggests some gentiles rise to the occasion of required righteousness. It is when they approach the level of righteousness exemplified by the brother of Jared.

“ . . . For the Lord said unto me, They shall not go forth unto the gentiles *until the day that they shall repent of their iniquity and become clean before the Lord. And in that day that they shall exercise faith in me, saith the Lord, even as the brother of Jared did, that they may become sanctified in me, then will I manifest unto them the things which the brother of Jared saw, even to the unfolding unto them all my revelations*, saith Jesus Christ, the Son of God the Father of the heavens, and of the earth, and all things that in them are.

And he that will contend against the word of the Lord, let him be accursed. And he that shall deny these things, let him be accursed. For unto them will I shew no greater things, saith Jesus Christ . . . *Come unto me, O ye gentiles, and I will shew unto you the greater things, the knowledge which is hid up because of unbelief. Come unto me, O ye house of Israel, and it shall be made manifest unto you how great things the Father hath laid up for you from the foundation of the world; and it hath not come unto you because of unbelief. Behold, when ye shall rend that veil of unbelief which doth cause you to remain in your awful state of wickedness, and hardness of heart, and blindness of mind, then shall the great and marvelous things which have been hid up from the foundation of the world from you — yea, when ye shall call upon the Father in my name with a broken heart and a contrite spirit — then shall ye know that the Father hath remembered the covenant which he made unto your*

[Patriarchal] fathers, O house of Israel. And then shall my revelations which I have caused to be written by my servant John be unfolded in the eyes of all the people. Remember, when ye see these things, ye shall know that the time is at hand that they shall be made manifest in very deed. Therefore, **when ye shall receive this record, ye may know that the work of the Father has commenced upon all the face of the land. Therefore, repent, all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me, and believe in my gospel, and be baptized in my name. For he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned. And signs shall follow them that believe in my name. And blessed is he that is found faithful unto my name at the last day, for he shall be lifted up to dwell in the kingdom prepared for him from the foundation of the world. And behold, it is I that hath spoken it. Amen**" (RE Ether 1:17-19, emphasis added).

