

March 2020, Lesson #4
Zion the Beautiful Beckons Us On



In the Book of Revelation, in John's vision, God revealed the importance of the coming forth of His Kingdom.

Revelation 12:2 And the woman (the church) being with child, cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. (The Child being born is the Kingdom or Zion.)

The Lord has given this church a unique calling. He has called us to assist in the building up of His Kingdom here upon the earth in this last dispensation of time. He placed this task as a keystone in the beginning of the church. Building God's Kingdom is one of the main things, as church members, that we are to be primarily concerned about. Before the church was even organized God said: We are to Keep His Commandments and Build His Kingdom!

D&C 6:3a Now, as you have asked, behold, I say unto you, Keep my commandments, and seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion. (He also said it in: **D&C 10:3** and **11:3**.)

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Genesis 9:21 When men should keep all my commandments, Zion should again come on the earth, the city of Enoch which I have caught up unto myself.

D&C 81:3b I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say, but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise.

God calls for a vast army of saints to prepare themselves.

D&C 102:9a But firstly, let my army become very great, and let it be sanctified before me, that it may become fair as the sun, and clear as the moon, and that her banners may be terrible unto all nations;

D&C 102:9b that the kingdoms of this world may be constrained to acknowledge that the kingdom of Zion is in very deed the kingdom of our God and his Christ; therefore, let us become subject unto her laws.

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R. E. Davey in his book, “Kingdom of Heaven is Like,” said the immediate purpose of the church and gospel was to so change the lives of people—their attitudes, motives, desires and ideals—that they would be brought into proper relationships spiritually, socially and economically and so produce a new society, a godly society. The kingdom of God, making possible the will of God in all things, would be created on earth as it now is in heaven. His kingdom “Zion” was not to develop out of human or worldly approach, but from a divine one. This is illustrated by the Apostle Paul’s statement to the Roman saints: *“Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds.”*

The Kingdom of God “which is yet to come” is undoubtedly a concrete, definite reality—an actual society—composed of human beings who have become transformed from ordinary men of the earth into the sons of God by the transforming power of the gospel. Such a society can be built only by people who have experienced the “washing of regeneration,” by those who have obeyed from the heart.... The prime task of the church is to “seek to bring forth the kingdom of God” by changing people.

We Must Thrust in our Sickles and Go to Work, Being Humble and Full of Love

D&C 11:2b yea, whosoever will thrust in his sickle and reap, the same is called of God;

2c therefore, if you will ask of me you shall receive, if you will knock it shall be opened unto you.

3a Now, as you have asked, behold, I say unto you,

3b Keep my commandments, and seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion.

4a Behold, I speak unto you, and also to all those who have desires to bring forth and establish this work;

4b and no one can assist in this work, except he shall be humble and full of love, having faith, hope, and charity, being temperate in all things whatsoever shall be intrusted to his care.

5a Behold, I am the light and the life of the world, that speak these words;

5b therefore, give heed with your might, and then you are called. Amen.

He Calls for Us to Devote Ourselves to the Work

D&C 23:4a For thou shalt devote all thy service in Zion. And in this thou shalt have strength.

D&C 117:12 Behold, if my servants and my handmaidens, of the different organizations for good among my people, (Note added: Womens Dept., Girls work, Sunday School, Bible School, Reunion, Camps, etc.) shall continue in righteousness, they shall be blessed, even as they bless others of the household of faith.

13 Let contentions and quarrellings among you cease. Sustain each other in peace, and ye shall be blessed with my Spirit, in comforting and strengthening you for my work.

14 It is not expedient that I command you further at this time; but be ye diligent, wise, and faithful, doing all things with an eye single for the glory of your God, and for the good of his people. Thus saith the Lord. Amen.

D&C 38:9c And again I say unto you, I give unto you a commandment, that every man, both elder, priest, teacher, and also member, go to with his might, with the labor of his hands, to prepare and accomplish the things which I have commanded.

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Fred M. Smith in *The Saints Herald*, 1920, said, “I wish I could tell you some of the things I feel and know. The great concern that has stirred me at times is, ‘When that time of chaos comes, will this people be prepared to furnish the place of safety God has intended that we should?’

“If we are going to prepare this place, we must be up and doing. The time may be nearer than you think. Whether it be five years or fifty, it makes no difference to us in regard to our determination to do everything in our power to establish the things God has told us we should accomplish.... Let us get together and build Zion; let us start now; let us do something every day that will make us feel we are working toward the establishment of Zion. We need not only implore God every night as we go to our secret closets for prayer but we need to rise from our knees and say that the morning light shall come...and find us active in carrying out the thing that shall contribute to the bringing about of Zion.

“We are right at the end of this dispensation of time and if we believe prophecies concerning our day, then we know many difficult days are yet before us. God has called to us over and over to build Zion that we might have a place of safety and refuge. We have yet to come up to the higher standard needed for Zion. We are running out of time. It is time even past time for us to do this. How badly do you want Zion? Will you seek to come up to a higher plane? Will you seek a deep and personal relationship with God in the days ahead? Will you keep God first in your priorities? Will you covenant anew and keep His commandments?

“What will your answer be?”

Elder Rob Bird gave a message in 2013 at the CMRB Reunion, and this is a portion of that message. “Important choices lie before you this day and in the days ahead—choices that have eternal consequences. Use the tools I’ve provided for each of my covenant people, so you won’t be as one of the five virgins left out of the wedding feast, because of lack of obedience and preparation. Don’t ever underestimate the value of the gift of My Holy Spirit or the power of fervent prayer, or fail to treasure up and feast upon the promises found in My Word, or the strength found in obedience to my two greatest commandments.

“God’s desire is that each of us would choose wisely this day so that we will continue, to a greater degree, to be a part of this great work in these last days of the latter days. God’s Zion awaits a people in this dispensation to become one and keep His commandments, as this will ‘cause’ God to [fulfill] His Everlasting Covenant.

“Notice the tools given to us:

1. Gift of the Holy Spirit
2. Fervent Prayer
3. Treasure and Feasting on the Word of God
4. Obedience

“Read [Gen.9:21-23](#).”

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Ezekiel 38-39 (1)
A War Unlike Any Other War in World History

The Bible tells us that in the End Times, there will be another "world war," and it will be led by Russia, Iran, and a group of other nations that surround the nation of Israel. We find this prophecy in the 38th chapter of the book of Ezekiel:

Ezekiel 38:1 And the Word of the Lord came unto me, saying,
38:2 Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,
38:3 And say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal;
38:4 And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armor, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords;
38:5 Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet;
38:6 Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands; and many people with thee....
38:8 After many days thou shalt be visited; in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste; but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them.
38:9 Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee.

The Nations of Ezekiel 38:1-6	
The Ancient Nations	The Modern Nations
The land of Magog Meshech and Tubal Persia Ethiopia Libya Ashkenaz Gomer Togarmah "Many peoples with thee"	Russia Somewhere in Russia Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan Ethiopia and Sudan Libya Austria and Germany Eastern Europe Southeastern Europe - Turkey Various other nations allied to Russia

While there is slight debate among bible scholars, the above list represents the best consensus of the identity of the nations in Ezekiel 38. Suffice it to say that the main players, of which there is no doubt, are Russia, Iran, Turkey, Libya and Ethiopia. Now if we were living in the End Times, there would have to be a growing union between the biggest players in this group.

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Ezekiel 38-39 (2)
A War Unlike Any Other War in World History

A quick look at some recent headlines tells us this:

- Russia, the biggest End Times player, has already helped Iran build a nuclear reactor
- Iran has repeated over and over their desire to wipe Israel off the map
- Iran now has nuclear weapons capable of reaching Israel

What's very interesting to note here is that for the first time in 2,500 years, Russia and Iran are now working together, as partners. This event is unique in world history. Prior to this period, the nations have been at odds with each other, as follows: "Historical ties between Iran and Russia have often been contentious. For many centuries their competing drives for influence on a volatile frontier and the southward projection of Russian-based dynasties have troubled relations between the two countries. Iran lost significant swaths of territory to imperial Russia in the 19th century and suffered from Russian competition with other foreign powers to carve spheres of influence in Iran in the first half of the last century. During the Cold War, Russian-Iranian relations were influenced by the worldwide alignment of forces in a bipolar geopolitical setting. Iran, allied with the West, faced its Soviet neighbor across the East-West ideological standoff."

And yet, miraculously, in just the last 10 years or so, Russia and Iran are now buddy-buddy, with all the nuclear know-how of Russia being used to create a nuclear Iran. You will also take note that when any nation attempts to sanction Iran for all the tricks they pull it is always Russia, and China, that side with Iran against everyone else.

We are watching Bible prophecy come true in our lifetime, seeing the results each and every day in the headlines, and yet we cannot seem to either put all the pieces together, or believe that the Bible foretold all this.

About that God says this: "**Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets; Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.**" [Acts 13:40, 41](#)

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Ezekiel 38-39 (3)
A War Unlike Any Other War in World History

The Everlasting Hatred

You will also note that the vast majority of the nations in Ezekiel's list have one huge, glaring thing in common with each other—they are all Muslim nations.

In [Ezekiel 38:10](#) it says: “At the Same Time” which shows a transition, or a new idea—an evil thought—to also go to the land of “unwalled villages” which is America!

America has Always Been a Land of Unwalled Villages

[Ezekiel 38:10](#) Thus saith the Lord God; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought;

[38:11](#) And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates,
[38:12](#) To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.

[38:13](#) Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?

Transition Back: In verse 14 we see a transition back to Israel, “Therefore, son of man prophecy.”

[Ezekiel 38:14](#) Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord God; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it?

[38:15](#) And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, and great company, and a mighty army; ...

[38:18](#) And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord God, that my fury shall come up in my face.

[38:19](#) For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;

[38:20](#) So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.

[38:21](#) And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord God; every man's sword shall be against his brother.

[38:22](#) And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

[38:23](#) Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord.

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Ezekiel 38-39 (4)

Ezekiel 39 Sounds Like Atomic War: War is World-Wide, Even to the Isles of the Sea

Ezekiel 39:1 Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal;

39:2 And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel;

39:3 And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand.

39:4 Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee; I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field, to be devoured.

39:5 Thou shalt fall upon the open field; for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God.

39:6 And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles; and they shall know that I am the Lord. ...

39:17 And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord God; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh and drink blood.

39:18 Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan.

39:19 And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you.

39:20 Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord God.

39:21 And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them.

39:22 So the house of Israel shall know that I am the Lord their God from that day and forward.

Nuclear War Described in Doctrine & Covenants, Section 28

D&C 28:4a But, behold, I say unto you, that before this great day shall come, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall be turned into blood, and the stars shall fall from heaven;

28:4b and there shall be greater signs in heaven above, and in the earth beneath; and there shall be weeping and wailing among the hosts of men; and there shall be a great hailstorm sent forth to destroy the crops of the earth;

28:4c and it shall come to pass, because of the wickedness of the world, that I will take vengeance upon the wicked, for they will not repent; for the cup of mine indignation is full; for, behold, my blood shall not cleanse them if they hear me not.

28:5a Wherefore, I, the Lord God, will send forth flies upon the face of the earth, which shall take hold of the inhabitants thereof, and shall eat their flesh, and shall cause maggots to come in upon them,

28:5b and their tongues shall be stayed that they shall not utter against me, and their flesh shall fall from off their bones, and their eyes from their sockets;

28:5c and it shall come to pass that the beasts of the forest and the fowls of the air shall devour them up; and the great and abominable church, which is the whore of all the earth, shall be cast down by devouring fire, according as it is spoken by the mouth of Ezekiel the prophet, which spoke of these things, which have not come to pass, but surely must, as I live, for abomination shall not reign.

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Hymn: "Admonition"

Time is ripe, My work must hasten! Who so will, may bide the hour. Naught can harm whom God protecteth, elements confess His power. Up ye, then, to the high places I have bid you occupy! Peril waits upon the heedless, Grace upon the souls who try.

The hymns are not scripture, but many are inspired works and speak truth to us. The beginning statement in this verse, "Time is ripe," is an important statement. There is a time for things to be ripe, to come to fruition. In the meridian of time it was prophesied that Jesus would come.

Genesis 6:60 ...and the name of his Only Begotten is the son of Man, even Jesus Christ, a righteous judge, who shall come in the meridian of time.

As that time drew near, all was in place. The events surrounding that prophecy were ripe, ready to be fulfilled and it was time for the Son of God to be born into the world. The Jews, as a people, overlooked His coming.

D&C 39:1a Hearken and listen to the voice of Him who is from all eternity to all eternity, the great I AM, even Jesus Christ, the light and the life of the world; a light which shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth it not; 1b the same which came in the meridian of time unto My own, and My own received Me not;

The Jews did not understand the prophecies pertaining to their day. Let us not be like them. Hopefully we can recognize the day and time we live in. We live in the time called the Last Days.

D&C 1:1d ...and the voice of warning shall be unto all people, by the mouths of My disciples, whom I have chosen in these last days.

In our day and age, which is, "The Last Days," the words of this hymn warn us that the time is at hand for His Second Coming. Events in the world are ripe and many prophecies are being fulfilled right before our eyes. We are moving ever closer to the return of our Lord and Savior. The song reminds us that, "My work must Hasten." It is the hastening time.

D&C 135:2b The hastening time is here and greater unity than ever before is necessary if the forces of opposition are to be met;

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Also, the word “BIDE” in the second sentence is very important. Webster’s Dictionary tells us “BIDE” means:

1. Abide, Wait for, and Endure, Permanent.
2. So to “bide the hour” means we will be permanent in our waiting, not giving up, but enduring all trials, never wavering from our fixed course.

1 John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in Him; that, when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

Sometimes terrible trials do come upon us, but when that happens we are to “bide the hour” and hold steady—believing in all the promises of our God and trusting Him. He has promised to wipe all tears from our eyes and restore all things.

Psalms 23:3 He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Isaiah 58:12 And they that shall be of Thee shall build the old waste places; Thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and Thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

We even have the promise that those we have lost in death will one day soon be restored to us. What joy we have to look forward to at that great day.

D&C 108:10d And the graves of the saints shall be opened, and they shall come forth and stand on the right hand of the Lamb, when He shall stand upon Mount Zion, and upon the holy city, the New Jerusalem, and they shall sing the song of the Lamb day and night for ever and ever.

So hold firm, dear sisters, in your hour of trial, and continue to eagerly await the Second Coming of our King!

Let us look forward with joy, and wait expectantly for His return when all His Promises will be fulfilled in our lives.

Alma 17:48 For He will fulfill all His promises which He shall make unto you, for He has fulfilled His promises which He has made unto our fathers.

He is the great restorer. Just think, we have the great privilege to live in a special time, called the “Last Days;” a time when we have the opportunity to be active participants when we can witness “Zion and Christ’s Return to the earth as King of Kings.”

May we endure and abide the hour and prepare ourselves for that most glorious day.

Let us Rejoice, looking forward to that which is yet to come!!

Also See: Genesis 7:73, Omni 1:47, 1 John 3:24, John 15:1-16, D&C 28:2-3, D&C 38:1-2, D&C 33:1e-2

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Scriptures on Zion To Help Us Catch the Vision (1)

It is time we caught the vision of Zion and placed it in our hearts and minds once again. It is time to move forward and build up the cause of Zion. Time is short; the work must hasten. We must all go to with our might to accomplish this great task. God has promised us that Zion will be. Let us move forward with full confidence in Him and His Power. We have no time to lose; we must get oil in our lamps and prepare for the return of our Savior. I hope the following scriptures will help strengthen your faith in God's ability to bring about His Kingdom, and plant a desire in your hearts to be a part of His Great Work.

We Have Lost the Vision

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish.

Zion Shall Be

D&C 64:8a Behold, I say unto you that Zion shall flourish, and the glory of the Lord shall be upon her, and she shall be an ensign unto the people, and there shall come unto her out of every nation under heaven.

D&C 45:14 And it shall come to pass that the righteous shall be gathered out from among all nations, and shall come to Zion singing, with songs of everlasting joy.

D&C 28:2d Wherefore the decree hath gone forth from the Father that they shall be gathered in unto one place.

D&C 98:4e And they that have been scattered shall be gathered; and all they who have mourned shall be comforted; and all they who have given their lives for my name shall be crowned.

98:4f Therefore, let your hearts be comforted concerning Zion, for all flesh is in mine hands: be still, and know that I am God.

98:4g Zion shall not be moved out of her place, notwithstanding her children are scattered, they that remain and are pure in heart shall return and come to their inheritances; they and their children, with songs of everlasting joy; to build up the waste places of Zion. And all these things, that the prophets might be fulfilled.

98:4h And, behold, there is none other place appointed than that which I have appointed

Where Will it Be?

D&C 57:1a The land of Missouri, which is the land which I have appointed and consecrated for the gathering of the Saints:

57:1b Wherefore this is the land of promise, and the place for the city of Zion....

57:1d Behold, the place which is now called Independence, is the Center Place, and the spot for the temple is lying westward upon a lot which is not far from the courthouse.

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Scriptures on Zion To Help Us Catch the Vision (2)

A Highway Cast Up

Isaiah 35:8 And a highway shall be there; for a way shall be cast up, and it shall be called the way of holiness. The unclean shall not pass over upon it; but it shall be cast up for those who are clean, and the wayfaring men, though they are accounted fools, shall not err therein.

35:9 No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there;

35:10 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The City of Zion (1)

City of Intelligence = D&C 90:6 The glory of God is intelligence, or, in other words, light and truth; and light and truth forsaketh that evil one.

City of Righteousness = Isaiah 1:26-27 And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counselors as at the beginning; afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness the faithful city.

1:27 Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness.

Lord will Dwell There = Genesis 7:20-21 And from that time forth, there were wars, and bloodshed among them; but the Lord came and dwelt with his people, and they dwelt in righteousness.

7:21 And the fear of the Lord was upon all nations, so great was the glory of the Lord which was upon his people.

City of Great Endowment = D&C 102:3e For, behold, I have prepared a great endowment and blessing to be poured out upon them, inasmuch as they are faithful, and continue in humility before me.

City Where Spiritual Gifts Abound = 4 Nephi 1:6-7 And there were great and marvelous works wrought by the disciples of Jesus, insomuch that they did heal the sick, and raise the dead, and cause the lame to walk, and the blind to receive their sight, and the deaf to hear;

1:7 And all manner of miracles did they work among the children of men; and in nothing did they work miracles save it were in the name of Jesus.

City of Love and Happiness = 4 Nephi 1:17-19 And it came to pass that there was no contention in the land, because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people.

1:18 And there were no envyings, nor strifes, nor tumults, nor whoredoms, nor lyings, nor murders, nor any manner of lasciviousness;

1:19 And surely there could not be a happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God.

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Scriptures on Zion To Help Us Catch the Vision (3)

The City of Zion (2)

City of Peace = Isaiah 11:6-9 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

11:7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

11:8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

11:9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

City of Equality = Genesis 7:23 And the Lord called his people, Zion, because they were of one heart and of one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there were no poor among them.

City of Safety and Refuge = D&C 45:13-14 And it shall come to pass, among the wicked, that every man that will not take his sword against his neighbor, must needs flee unto Zion for safety.

45:13b And there shall be gathered unto it out of every nation under heaven; and it shall be the only people that shall not be at war one with another.

45:13c And it shall be said among the wicked, Let us not go up to battle against Zion, for the inhabitants of Zion are terrible, wherefore we cannot stand.

45:14 And it shall come to pass that the righteous shall be gathered out from among all nations, and shall come to Zion singing, with songs of everlasting joy.

Our Spiritual Condition=ZION

Romans 14:17-18 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

D&C 102:2c and Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom, otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself;

102:2d and my people must needs be chastened until they learn obedience, if it must needs be, by the things which they suffer.

D&C 140:5c Zionic conditions are no further away nor any closer than the spiritual condition of my people justifies;

140:5d but my word shall not fail, neither will my promises, for the foundation of the Lord standeth sure.

D&C 94:5c Therefore verily thus saith the Lord, Let Zion rejoice, for this is Zion, THE PURE IN HEART; therefore let Zion rejoice, while all the wicked shall mourn; ...

94:5f Nevertheless Zion shall escape if she observe to do all things whatsoever I have commanded her, but if she observe not to do whatsoever I have commanded her, I will visit her according to all her works, with sore affliction, with pestilence, with plague, with sword, with vengeance, with devouring fire.

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Scriptures on Zion To Help Us Catch the Vision (4)

D&C 108:2 Wherefore prepare ye, prepare ye, O my people; sanctify yourselves; gather ye together, O ye people of my church, upon the land of Zion, all you that have not been commanded to tarry.

108:2b Go ye out from Babylon. Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord. Call your solemn assemblies, and speak often one to another.

108:2c And let every man call upon the name of the Lord; yea, verily I say unto you again, The time has come when the voice of the Lord is unto you, Go ye out of Babylon; gather ye out from among the nations, from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

D&C 105:9b Behold, vengeance cometh speedily upon the inhabitants of the earth—a day of wrath, a day of burning, a day of desolation, of weeping, of mourning, and of lamentation--and as a whirlwind it shall come upon all the face of the earth, saith the Lord.

105:10a And upon my house shall it begin, and from my house shall it go forth, saith the Lord.

105:10b First among those among you, saith the Lord, who have professed to know my name and have not known me, and have blasphemed against me in the midst of my house, saith the Lord.

105:11a Therefore, see to it that ye trouble not yourselves concerning the affairs of my church in this place, saith the Lord.

City Hastened In Its Time

D&C 118:1a In asking of me, ye did well. I will hasten my work in its time.

D&C 85:20-21 Behold, I will hasten my work in its time; and I give unto you who are the first laborers in this last kingdom, a commandment, that you assemble yourselves together, and organize yourselves, and prepare yourselves; and sanctify yourselves;

85:20b yea, purify your hearts, and cleanse your hands and your feet before me, that I may make you clean;

85:20c that I may testify unto your Father, and your God, and my God, that you are clean from the blood of this wicked generation, that I may fulfill this promise, this great and last promise which I have made unto you, when I will.

85:21a Also, I give unto you a commandment, that ye shall continue in prayer and fasting from this time forth.

D&C 52:9f But, behold, I the Lord, will hasten the city in its time, and will crown the faithful with joy and with rejoicing. Behold, I am Jesus Christ the Son of God, and I will lift them up at the last day. Even so. Amen.

Isaiah 60 Intro: The glory of Zion.

Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

Isaiah 60:2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

Isaiah 60:3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Isaiah 60:22 A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation; I the Lord will hasten it in my time.

March 2020 Lesson #4
Study Scriptures for Consideration (1)

Luke 12:44 And now, verily I say these things unto you, that ye may know this, that the coming of the Lord is as a thief in the night.

D&C 26: 2a-3d Behold, this is wisdom in me; wherefore marvel not, for the hour cometh that I will drink of the fruit of the vine with you on the earth, and with Moroni, whom I have sent unto you to reveal the Book of Mormon, containing the fullness of my everlasting gospel; ... also John the son of Zacharias... also Elijah ... also with Joseph, and Jacob, and Isaac, and Abraham, your fathers; by whom the promises remain; and also with Michael, or Adam, the father of all, the prince of all, the ancient of days. Also with Peter, and James and John whom I have sent unto you...therefore lift up your hearts and rejoice.

Jacob 3:140 And it came to pass that the servants did go, and labor with their mights; and the Lord of the vineyard labored also with them; and they did obey the commandments of the Lord of the vineyard, in all things.

D&C 102:3e for, behold, I have prepared a great endowment and blessing to be poured out upon them, inasmuch as they are faithful, and continue in humility before me.

D&C 28:1a Listen to the voice of Jesus Christ, your Redeemer, the great I AM, whose arm of mercy hath atoned for your sins, who will gather his people even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, even as many as will hearken to my voice, and humble themselves before me, and call upon me in mighty prayer.

D&C 100:3f Therefore, let not your hearts faint, for I say not unto you as I said unto your fathers, Mine angel shall go up before you, but not my presence; but I say unto you, Mine angels shall go before you, and also my presence, and in time ye shall possess the goodly land.

Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Rev. 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

D&C 58:3c and also that you might be honored of laying the foundation, and of bearing record of the land upon which the Zion of God shall stand; and also that a feast of fat things might be prepared for the poor.

Psalms 102:13 Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion; for the time to favor her, yea, the set time, is come.

D&C 38:8b and they shall look to the poor and the needy, and administer to their relief, that they shall not suffer.

March 2020, Lesson #4
Zion the Beautiful Beckons Us On

Study Scriptures for Consideration (2)

Zechariah 14:12-13 And this shall be the plague wherewith the Lord will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

13 And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the Lord shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor.

D&C 45:13a And it shall come to pass, among the wicked, that every man that will not take his sword against his neighbor, must needs flee unto Zion for safety.

D&C 28:4c And it shall come to pass, because of the wickedness of the world, that I will take vengeance upon the wicked, for they will not repent; for the cup of mine indignation is full; for, behold, my blood shall not cleanse them if they hear me not...

D&C 28:5b And their tongues shall be stayed that they shall not utter against me, and their flesh shall fall from off their bones, and their eyes from their sockets;

Revelation 16:12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.

D&C 6:3 Behold, I say unto you, Keep my commandments, and seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion.

Luke 21:26-28 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. For the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

27 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up and lift up your heads, for the day of your redemption draweth nigh.

28 And then shall they see the Son of Man coming in a cloud, with power and great glory.

March 2020, Lesson #4
Zion the Beautiful Beckons Us On

Questions for Consideration

1. Reading Luke 12: 44, what does it mean to you that the Lord will come as a thief in the night? How can you be prepared?
2. Reading D&C 26: 2, how would you like to be in a communion service with all the great prophets and apostles of the past? How can you prepare so that you will be a part of that experience?
3. D&C 100:3f makes us a promise, so our hearts will not faint in the last days. What is that promise?
4. In Jacob 3:40, who is laboring with the servants?
5. In Isaiah 40:31, those that wait on the Lord shall what?
6. In Revelation 18:4, why do we need to come out of Babylon?
7. D&C 58:3c tells us that we will have a feast of fat things in Zion, but for who?
8. What does Zechariah 14:12-13 have in common with D&C 28:4-5?
9. What does Zechariah 14:12-13 have in common with D&C 45:13c?
10. In Revelation 16:12, who are the kings of the east and how is their way prepared?
11. In D&C 6:3, it tells us what we must do to bring forth Zion; what must we do?