

Isaiah Chapter 9/2 Nephi 19

Isaiah's Words, [Old Testament/Book of Mormon Student Manual](#), [Micah's Additions](#)

1 Nevertheless, the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun, and the land of Naphtali, and afterwards did more grievously afflict by the way of the Red Sea beyond Jordan in Galilee of the nations.

2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

Verse one and two with dualism in mind refers to a period of vexation starting lightly and then becoming more grievous. The area hit with spiritual (or possible physical) darkness will see a great light, that light is the Savior. Do we know of a time period where this could coincide? Yes. The Lord stated clearly that Missouri would pay for how it treated the Saints. This spiritual darkness was said to have been punished in the civil war where Missouri was hit harder than most during the war. But we also know of times when there will be physical darkness that will cross over the land of Missouri. The total solar eclipse of 2016 cast a shadow over Missouri then in 2024 another solar eclipse is to cast another shadow that will cross over Missouri as well. It very well could be said of the people who dwell in the intersection of the cross points of these eclipses that they "dwell in shadow." Even though the vexation will get intense in this area, a light is promised to break forth in that location- which is to be the New Jerusalem. Another thing important to recognize is that people missed the first appearance of the Savior because they were looking for the Savior in Jerusalem, not the land of shadow, "does anything good come from Nazareth?" This enabled many anti-Christ's to easily trick people. Likewise in our day the Lord, the light, is promised to first dwell among the Saints in the New Jerusalem. Many in the world, once again, are looking to Israel for the Savior's second coming which is once again making it very easy for anti-Christ's to trick the gullible, for, "does anything good come from Jackson County, Missouri?"

3 Thou hast multiplied the nation, and increased the joy—they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

This is the time period of New Jerusalem's expansion as a nation, our joy increasing as the tent is enlarged, inhabiting the desolate cities.

4 For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor.

5 For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

We know that the New Jerusalem and the return of the ten tribes is to be what finally breaks the yoke of the Assyrian which is the rod of oppression. This time period is described in multiple locations throughout the Book of Mormon- two examples are:

1 Nephi 22:17

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

2 Nephi 30:10

10 For the time speedily cometh that the Lord God shall cause a great division among the people, and the wicked will he destroy; and he will spare his people, yea, even if it so be that he must destroy the wicked by fire.

(13-53) Isaiah 9:5. “Every Battle ... Shall Be with Burning”

The prophet wrote in this chapter of Christ’s coming as “a great light” (v. 2), His first appearance, and as a “burning” (v. 5), the cleansing and destruction by fire that will accompany His coming in glory (see Isaiah 9:5b).

Isaiah 9:5b: This “burning” is to be the cleansing of the earth by fire prior to the setting up of the messianic kingdom.

The footnotes of Isaiah 9:5b take you to D&C 64:23 “For he that is tithed shall not be burned”

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called, Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

The woman as we discussed in previous chapters is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and the child she gives birth to is the Kingdom of God, the New Jerusalem, the Church of the Firstborn, and the government will be upon it and it shall be called wonderful etc.

7 Of the increase of government and peace there is no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will perform this.

In verse 6 we learn that the kingdom of God is birthed and in verse 7 it then says that government, that kingdom, increases. And the increase doesn’t end until eventually all thrones are cast down, all other forms of government are eventually destroyed. Daniel 7:13-14:

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

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

The important word that many LDS members overlook here is the word “should.” When the meetings in Adam-oni-ahman occur and the kingdom is eventually handed to the Lord there, there will still be nations and kingdoms throughout the world. This is not the Lord coming in glory and unveiling his face which is the end of all telestial people. The Lord here is given the

kingdom and is promised that all nations should serve him. The increase of the government will continue until, as Daniel says, "I beheld until the thrones were cast down."

8 The Lord sent his word unto Jacob and it hath lighted upon Israel.

9 And all the people shall know, even Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria, that say in the pride and stoutness of heart:

With dualism we know that Ephraim is Judah and we also know chronologically speaking the next thing that happens is the 144,000 being sent out with a focus on scattered Israel and Old Jerusalem. The Lord here is sending his word and light, the 144,000, to old Jerusalem.

10 The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones; the sycamores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars.

The footnotes here take you to 1 Kings 5, the chapter heading of this is "Solomon solicits and gains Hiram's help in getting timber to build the temple—The Israelites hew stones and cut timber for the temple." This is when the temple in Old Jerusalem is built and finalized.

11 Therefore the Lord shall set up the adversaries of Rezin against him, and join his enemies together;

12 The Syrians before and the Philistines behind; and they shall devour Israel with open mouth. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

13 For the people turneth not unto him that smiteth them, neither do they seek the Lord of Hosts.

Despite the fact that there are prophets in their midst and the temple is being rebuilt, the Jews turn not unto the Lord, neither do they seek the Lord of Hosts. Once the sacrifices commence in the newly built temple in Jerusalem this will anger the modern day Syrian nation and modern day Philistine nation and they will go to war against Jerusalem. Despite this, the Lord will have compassion if Jerusalem repents.

14 Therefore will the Lord cut off from Israel head and tail, branch and rush in one day.

15 The ancient, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail.

16 For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed.

17 Therefore the Lord shall have no joy in their young men, neither shall have mercy on their fatherless and widows; for every one of them is a hypocrite and an evildoer, and every mouth speaketh folly. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

18 For wickedness burneth as the fire; it shall devour the briers and thorns, and shall kindle in the thickets of the forests, and they shall mount up like the lifting up of smoke.

19 Through the wrath of the Lord of Hosts is the land darkened, and the people shall be as the fuel of the fire; no man shall spare his brother.

20 And he shall snatch on the right hand and be hungry; and he shall eat on the left hand and they shall not be satisfied; they shall eat every man the flesh of his own arm—

21 Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh; they together shall be against Judah. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

These events described here are the events to take place in the Old Jerusalem surrounding the Mount of Olives. When the army of Gog will come up to Jerusalem to be destroyed. These armies will be brought there “partly through the aid of false religionists working miracles that so many people join in this unholy alliance (see Revelation 13:11–15; 19:20). Elder Orson Pratt taught that “so great will be the darkness resting upon Christendom, and so great the bonds of priestcraft with which they will be bound, that they will not understand, and they will be given up to the hardness of their hearts. Then will be fulfilled that saying, That the day shall come when the Lord shall have power over his Saints, and the Devil shall have power over his own dominion. He will give them up to the power of the Devil, and he will have power over them, and he will carry them about as chaff before a whirlwind. He will gather up millions upon millions of people into the valleys around about Jerusalem in order to destroy the Jews after they have gathered. How will the Devil do this? He will perform miracles to do it. The Bible says the kings of the earth and the great ones will be deceived by these false miracles. It says there shall be three unclean spirits that shall go forth working miracles, and they are spirits of devils. Where do they go? To the kings of the earth; and what will they do? Gather them up to battle unto the great day of God Almighty. Where? Into the valley of Armageddon.” (In Journal of Discourses, 7:189.)

In verses 15 and 16 of Isaiah, it is referring to anti-Christ and false prophets and generals that are leading the armies that will be cut off. There will be “three unclean spirits that shall go forth working miracles” – this tells us that there will be at least 3 anti-Christ/false prophets. In verse 21 of Isaiah there are three different groups that are identified that are all murdering each other, most likely all lead by their own anti-Christ/false prophet/generals. The Lord will be represented in the Old Jerusalem with members of the 144,000 as a 4th party. We talk often of two specifically but there will be many others with them. Speaking of the two specifically, “their miraculous power seems to be the force preventing Gog and his army from succeeding in annihilating Israel. Elder Parley P. Pratt wrote: “John, in the eleventh chapter of Revelation, gives us many more particulars concerning this same event. He informs us that after the city and temple are rebuilt by the Jews, the Gentiles will tread it under foot forty and two months, during which time there will be two prophets continually prophesying and working mighty miracles. And it seems that the Gentile army shall be hindered from utterly destroying and overthrowing the city, while these two prophets continue.” (A Voice of Warning, p. 33.)

Isaiah called these prophets “two sons” and said they were the only hope of deliverance for Israel because they would be “full of the fury of the Lord” (JST, Isaiah 51:19–20; see also JST, Isaiah 51:17–18).

John showed that eventually the two prophets will be captured and killed by the opposing army, and their bodies will be left in the streets of Jerusalem for “three days and an half” as the forces

of evil engage in a great celebration over their death (Revelation 11:9; see also Revelation 11:7–8, 10).

“That level of spiritual debauchery is shown forth by the fact that the wicked not only slay the prophets of God, but boast of their deeds and glory in them. Such people, as the Jaredites and Nephites before them, are ripened in iniquity and are ready for that destruction and burning which shall cleanse the vineyard of corruption when Jesus descends with his chariots of fire.” (McConkie, *Doctrinal New Testament Commentary*, 3:510.)

During the “three days and an half” that the prophets lie dead in the streets, the army will ravage the city of Jerusalem and the remaining population of Israel (Revelation 11:9). Elder Pratt explained: “After a struggle of three years and a half, they [Gog’s army] will at length succeed in destroying these two prophets and then overrunning much of the city; they will send gifts to each other because of the death of the two prophets, and in the meantime will not allow their dead bodies to be put in graves, but will suffer them to lie in the streets of Jerusalem three days and a half, during which time the armies of the Gentiles, consisting of many kindreds, tongues, and nations, passing through the city, plundering the Jews, will see their dead bodies lying in the street.” (*Voice of Warning*, p. 33.)

Zechariah says that only one-third of the nation of Israel will survive this final extremity when the “city [Jerusalem] shall be taken, and the houses rifled [looted], and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity” (Zechariah 14:2; see also Zechariah 13:8–9; 14:1).

“His [Christ’s] next appearance [after coming to his temple] will be among the distressed and nearly vanquished sons of Judah. At the crisis of their fate, when the hostile troops of several nations are ravaging the city and all the horrors of war are overwhelming the people of Jerusalem, he will set his feet upon the Mount of Olives, which will cleave and part asunder at his touch. Attended by a host from heaven, he will overthrow and destroy the combined armies of the Gentiles, and appear to the worshipping Jews as the mighty Deliverer and Conquerer so long expected by their race; and while love, gratitude, awe, and admiration swell their bosoms, the Deliverer will show them the tokens of his crucifixion and disclose himself as Jesus of Nazareth, whom they had reviled and whom their fathers put to death. Then will unbelief depart from their souls, and ‘the blindness in part which has happened unto Israel’ be removed.” (“The Second Advent,” *Millennial Star*, 10 Sept. 1859, pp. 582–83.)

During the Lord’s fury upon the army of Gog...the armies of Gog will turn upon each other, perhaps in the panic and confusion of the great earthquake (see Ezekiel 38:21; Zechariah 14:13).

The Ezekiel and Zechariah verses listed above as well as Isaiah verses 19–20 above all refer to the same time period where the three different groups tear apart each other in the streets: the wicked Jews from Jerusalem, the wicked Gentile nation and the wicked Arab nations. It is also pointed out in verses 17 and 18 that there will be no mercy in this day. In multiple locations in the Book of Mormon and Isaiah the Lord warns that these unrighteous elements and the heathens will be consumed together. The manual further explains:

The judgments of the Lord upon the armies of Gog is known in the scriptures as the great day of the Lord's "sacrifice" (see Isaiah 34:5–6; Ezekiel 39:17–22), the Lord's "controversy with the nations" (Jeremiah 25:31), the "supper of the great God" (Revelation 19:17; see also Revelation 19:18–21), and "the great winepress of the wrath of God" (Revelation 14:19; see also Revelation 19:15; D&C 133:48–51).

Note, that one of the descriptions of this day is NOT "the Great and Dreadful Day" for it is not on this day. The Great and Dreadful Day, the unveiling of the Lord's face globally does not occur until many years after this event.

So great will be the devastation that for seven years Israel will be able to live off the spoils of war left behind (see Ezekiel 39:8–10). It will take seven months to bury the dead, and thereafter burial teams will search out the remaining bodies in an attempt to cleanse the land (see Ezekiel 39:11–16).