

Isaiah Chapter 11/ 2 Nephi 21

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

1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;

3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord; and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears.

4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

There are four things that you need to understand in this chapter: the stem of Jesse, the rod, the branch and the root of Jesse.

Stem of Jesse: D&C 113:1-2

1 Who is the Stem of Jesse spoken of in the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th verses of the 11th chapter of Isaiah?

2 Verily thus saith the Lord: It is Christ.

Rod: D&C 113:3-4

3 What is the rod spoken of in the first verse of the 11th chapter of Isaiah, that should come of the Stem of Jesse?

4 Behold, thus saith the Lord: It is a servant in the hands of Christ, who is partly a descendant of Jesse as well as of Ephraim, or of the house of Joseph, on whom there is laid much power.

This scripture is a reference to the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Branch:

‘Behold the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.’ (Jer. 23:3–6.) That is to say, the King who shall reign personally upon the earth during the Millennium shall be the Branch who grew out of the house of David. He shall execute judgment and justice in all the earth because he is the Lord Jehovah, even him whom we call Christ.

Root: D&C 113:5-6

5 What is the root of Jesse spoken of in the 10th verse of the 11th chapter?

6 Behold, thus saith the Lord, it is a descendant of Jesse, as well as of Joseph, unto whom rightly belongs the priesthood, and the keys of the kingdom, for an ensign, and for the gathering of my people in the last days.

We have discussed in previous chapters of Isaiah that Joseph Smith is to return and be lifted up from the ground (ie. Roots) as an ensign to call the ten tribes home. This event of Joseph Smith being resurrected as an ensign and the ten tribes returning is THE marvelous work and a wonder. “When the lost tribes come...it will be a most wonderful sight and marvelous thing when they do come to Zion” (President Joseph Fielding Smith, Doctrines of Salvation). It is important to note that when that quote was given the church was already global and he used the word when, meaning it was yet a future event. Missionary global work is NOT the marvelous work and a wonder. It is imperative to understand these events for the Savior said, “for it shall deceive almost the very elect.” So let us break down a crucial quote from Joseph Smith. “The Savior said when these tribulations should take place [Matthew 24], it should be committed to a man who should be a witness over the whole world: the keys of knowledge, power and revelations should be revealed to a witness who should hold the testimony to the world. It has always been my province [responsibility]... Just at the time when some men think that I have no right to the keys of the Priesthood- just at that time I have the greatest right.” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.364)

There will come a point in time when Joseph Smith is resurrected that a large portion of the church will not accept him or the teachings he brings with him. A careful reading of Joseph’s last dream of the barn is suggested. Joseph Smith says here at that moment, he is the man who holds the keys.

Continuing the quote, “All the testimony is that the Lord in the last days would commit the keys of the Priesthood to a witness over all people. Has the Gospel of the kingdom commenced in the last days? And will God take it from the man until He takes it him Himself?” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.364-65)

Some might suggest that the Lord took the keys from Joseph when Joseph died and therefore Joseph no longer holds the keys of this dispensation but rather the acting president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints holds the keys when Joseph comes back. However this is false. I draw your attention to the hymn “Praise to the Man”, hymn #27, which was written after Joseph Smith was martyred and which is acting scripture in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. “Praise to [Joseph Smith] who communed with Jehovah, Jesus anointed that prophet and seer, blessed to open the last dispensation, kings SHALL extol him and nations revere. Great is his glory and endless his Priesthood ever and ever the keys he will hold. Faithful and true he will enter his kingdom, crowned in the midst of the prophets of old.” When will Joseph Smith be crowned among the prophets of old? When will the keys be taken from Joseph Smith? The same event- Adam-on-di-ahman.

Continuing quote: “I have read it precisely as the words flowed from the lips of Jesus Christ. John the Revelator saw an angel flying through the midst of heaven, having the everlasting

Gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth.” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.365)

Joseph Smith has now identified himself as this angel.

“The scripture is ready to be fulfilled...” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.365)

Joseph Smith has identified himself as this angel and then says this prophecy is ready to be fulfilled, meaning a future event. At this point in time, 1844, the Book of Mormon was already published (Moroni), and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Days Saints is already restored and missionary work had already commenced. So when would event happen? Joseph explains as he continues,

“...when great wars, famines, pestilence, great distress, judgments, etc. are ready to be poured out on the inhabitants of the earth.” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.365)

We learned in the previous chapter of Isaiah that the Lord doesn't go on the offense until AFTER the events at Adam-ondi-ahman. So Joseph identifies the time period that this is to happen as the time period of the modern day Assyrian which coincides with everything we just learned. The sickness sweeps the land, then the Assyrian (scourge) covers the earth. The Lord then raises up his ensign, who is Joseph Smith, who hisses forth and calls the ten tribes home. New Jerusalem is built as the Assyrian gets closer and closer to the New Jerusalem. The final meeting at Adam-ondi-ahman takes place (“the anointing”) and the Lord then goes on the offense pouring out the things listed above upon the inhabitants of the earth.

“John saw the angel having the holy Priesthood, who should preach the everlasting Gospel to all nations. God had an angel- a special messenger- ordained and prepared for that purpose in the last days.” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.365)

Once again, Joseph Smith is identifying himself as this angel.

“Woe, woe be to that man or set of men who lift up their hands against God and His witness in these last days: for they shall deceive almost the very chosen ones!” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.365)

Joseph Smith is paraphrasing 3 Nephi 21:11 “Therefore it shall come to pass that whosoever will not believe in my words, who am Jesus Christ, which the Father shall cause [Joseph Smith] to bring forth unto the Gentiles, and shall give unto [Joseph Smith] power that [Joseph Smith] shall bring them forth unto the Gentiles, (it shall be done even as Moses said) they shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant.” Who are the covenant people? The very elect, the very chosen ones.

“President Brigham Young [and many other church leaders] affirmed the place of the Prophet Smith in bring to pass the purposes of this dispensation.”

If you want more on this specific subject, check out my video “Joseph to Return.”

6 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 fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

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.

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

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.

2 Nephi 21:6–9. Peace through Knowledge of the Lord

Isaiah prophesied of the great millennial day when peace and love would cover the earth (see 2 Nephi 21:6–9). When that day comes, “the enmity of man, and the enmity of beasts, yea, the enmity of all flesh, shall cease” (D&C 101:26)

2 Nephi 21:9. “The Earth Shall Be Full of the Knowledge of the Lord”

Elder Dallin H. Oaks taught that the outpouring of knowledge from the heavens includes a knowledge of God's ways, an increase in the presence of the Holy Ghost, and an understanding of the doctrine of the priesthood:

“In our day we are experiencing an explosion of knowledge about the world and its people. But the people of the world are not experiencing a comparable expansion of knowledge about God and his plan for his children. On that subject, what the world needs is not more scholarship and technology but more righteousness and revelation.

“I long for the day prophesied by Isaiah when ‘the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord’ (Isaiah 11:9; 2 Nephi 21:9). In an inspired utterance, the Prophet Joseph Smith described the Lord's ‘pouring down knowledge from heaven upon the heads of the Latter-day Saints’ (D&C 121:33). This will not happen for those whose ‘hearts are set so much upon the things of this world, and aspire to the honors of men’ (121:35). Those who fail to learn and use ‘principles of righteousness’ (121:36) will be left to themselves to kick against those in authority, ‘to persecute the saints, and to fight against God’ (121:38). In contrast, the Lord makes this great promise to the faithful:

“The doctrine of the priesthood shall distil upon thy soul as the dews from heaven.

“The Holy Ghost shall be thy constant companion, and thy scepter an unchanging scepter of righteousness and truth; and thy dominion shall be an everlasting dominion, and without compulsory means it shall flow unto thee forever and ever’ (D&C 121:45–46)” (in Conference Report, Apr. 1989, 38–39; or Ensign, May 1989, 30).

(13-59) Isaiah 11:9. “The Earth Shall Be Full of the Knowledge of the Lord”

The sacred knowledge of God will prevail on earth (see Smith, Teachings, p. 93), truth from which no one can hide. Elder Orson Pratt wrote: “The knowledge of God will then cover the earth as the waters cover the mighty deep. There will be no place of ignorance, no place of

darkness, no place for those that will not serve God. Why? Because Jesus, the Great Creator, and also the Great Redeemer, will be himself on the earth, and his holy angels will be on the earth, and all the resurrected Saints that have died in former dispensations will all come forth, and they will be on the earth. What a happy earth this creation will be, when this purifying process shall come, and the earth be filled with the knowledge of God as the waters cover the great deep! What a change! Travel, then, from one end of the earth to another, you can find no wicked man, no drunken man, no man to blaspheme the name of the Great Creator, no one to lay hold on his neighbor's goods, and steal them, no one to commit whoredoms—for all who commit whoredoms will be thrust down to hell, saith the Lord God Almighty, and all persons who commit sin will be speedily visited by the judgments of the Almighty!" (In Journal of Discourses, 21:325.)

The promises of revelation for this great era are outlined in the Doctrine and Covenants (see D&C 101:32–34).

These verses and this time period refer to the time period after the Great and Dreadful day of the Lord for it isn't until after this day that the earth is full of knowledge. Joseph Smith explained that when John the Revelator saw that the earth was turned to a sea of glass, he was referring to the world being full of knowledge. And the world was full of knowledge because:

D&C 130:9

9 This earth, in its sanctified and immortal state, will be made like unto crystal and will be a Urim and Thummim to the inhabitants who dwell thereon, whereby all things pertaining to an inferior kingdom, or all kingdoms of a lower order, will be manifest to those who dwell on it; and this earth will be Christ's.

The world isn't turned into this state until The Great and Dreadful Day which doesn't happen until years after Adam-on-di-ahman and years after the Battle of Armageddon in Old Jerusalem.

10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek; and his crest shall be glorious.

We have already identified who the root of Jesse is. The manual says "this root shall stand for an ensign of the people." The root clearly is the ensign, they are synonymous.

11 And it shall come to pass in that day that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

12 And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

13 The envy of Ephraim also shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.

14 But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines towards the west; they shall spoil them of the east together; they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them.

15 And the Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind he shall shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dry shod.

16 And there shall be a highway for the remnant of his people which shall be left, from Assyria, like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

There are a lot of erroneous interpretations of these verses. Instead of explaining this is not talking about, I will simply explain what it is talking about and let you judge for yourself. Joseph Smith is the ensign. The ensign that he lifts here is not the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, but rather the Church of the Firstborn and the New Jerusalem. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints is the fishers, it is the first time the Lord has set his hand to recover his people. The Lord here is describing the second time, the upgrade. Joseph Smith is raised as an ensign in New Jerusalem and will call the ten tribes home. This event is described in D&C 133:26-34:

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

27 And an highway shall be cast up in the midst of the great deep.

28 Their enemies shall become a prey unto them,

29 And in the barren deserts there shall come forth pools of living water; and the parched ground shall no longer be a thirsty land.

30 And they shall bring forth their rich treasures unto the children of Ephraim, my servants.

31 And the boundaries of the everlasting hills shall tremble at their presence.

32 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.

33 And they shall be filled with songs of everlasting joy.

34 Behold, this is the blessing of the everlasting God upon the tribes of Israel, and the richer blessing upon the head of Ephraim and his fellows.

Jeremiah described this event in Jeremiah 16:14-15:

14 ¶ Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that it shall no more be said, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

15 But, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them: and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers.

Isaiah describes this event in verses 15 and 16 above.

Jeremiah described what happens after the ten tribes return in Jeremiah 16:16:

16 Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.

Isaiah describes that same event in verse 11 above. The hunters which are being sent out are the Lord in his second time recovering the remnant of his people. The hunters are the 144,000 whose job it is to bring people into the Church of the Firstborn. The Church of the Firstborn is this ensign. If that ensign, the Church of the Firstborn, is not first raised, the 144,000 have no church to bring people into. Orson Pratt describes this series of events in many locations: the ten tribes returning as a body, 144,000 being chosen out of all the tribes, the 144,000 then being perfected and purified as silver, and then being sent out to gather the elect one last time.

Joseph Smith explained the difference between the first time (ie. Fishing) and the second time (ie. Hunting). " 'Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a net that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind, which when it was full they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.' For the work of this pattern, behold the seed of Joseph, spreading forth the Gospel net upon the face of the earth, gathering of every kind, that the good may be saved in vessels prepared for that purpose, and the angels will take care of the bad. So shall it be at the end of the world—the angels shall come forth and sever the wicked from among the just, and cast them into the furnace of fire, and there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.102)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and its missionaries are fishers. They cast the net out (tracting) and see what comes up. They gather the good to the church and drop the bad investigators. The “angels” or 144,000 are hunters. Hunters go for specific targets. Their job is to go specifically to the elect and bring them into the Church of the Firstborn. Unlike the fishers, these 144,000 have both the power to seal people up to salvation as well as cast them into the furnace of fire (seal them unto damnation). During the process of the 144,000 going off and preaching in the world , the enmity between Judah and Ephraim will be healed. During this time period the work in Old Jerusalem will commence including the famous “two prophets” etc.