

## 1. Is the gathering of Israel different from the restoration of the 10 Lost Tribes? How will the 10 Lost Tribes be gathered in the latter days?

D&C 110:11

After this vision closed, the heavens were again opened unto us; and Moses appeared before us, and committed unto us the keys of the gathering of Israel from the four parts of the earth, and the leading of the ten tribes from the land of the north.

Jeremiah 31:6-8

For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God.

For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.

Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: a great company shall return thither.

Elder James E. Talmage, Conference Report, October 1916

I have found elders in Israel who would tell me that the predictions relating to the Lost Tribes are to be explained in this figurative manner—that the gathering of those tribes is already well advanced and that there is no hiding place whereto God has led them, from which they shall come forth, led by their prophets to receive their blessings here at the hands of gathered Ephraim, the gathered portions that have been scattered among the nations. Yea, let God be true, and doubt we not his word, though it makes the opinions of men appear to be lies. The tribes shall come; they are not lost unto the Lord; they shall be brought forth as hath been predicted; and I say unto you there are those now living—aye, some here present—who shall live to read the records of the Lost Tribes of Israel, which shall be made one with the record of the Jews, or the Holy Bible, and the record of the Nephites, or the Book of Mormon, even as the Lord hath predicted; and those records, which the tribes lost to man but yet to be found again shall bring, shall tell of the visit of the resurrected Christ to them, after He had manifested Himself to the Nephites upon this continent. For, as not one jot or tittle of the Law has been permitted to fail, so surely no jot or tittle of the Gospel shall go unfulfilled.

Article of Faith 10

We believe in the **literal** gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes

Elder Joseph Fielding Smith, Signs of the Times, pp. 41-42

A lot of people have the idea that these tribes that are lost are not lost at all; they are just coming in among us all the time. They are NOT coming in among us all the time. We are gathering scattered Israel, but THOSE tribes have not yet come. They will come when the Lord gets

ready...He (The Lord) has also made it very clear and definite that these lost people are separate and apart from the 'scattered' Israelites now being gathered out.

Elder Bruce R. McConkie, *Millennial Messiah*, pp.319-326

Thus it is that we see why the revelations speak of the gathering of Israel from the four parts of the earth into the Church and kingdom of God on earth, and also of the leading of the Ten Tribes from the land of the north back again to their promised Canaan. The gathering of Israel is one thing, the return of the Ten Tribes to a specified place is another; Again there is a distinction between Israel as a whole and the Ten Tribes who are the dominant portion of Jacob's seed. All scripture comes by the power of the Holy Ghost and is verily true. When special and unusual language is used, there is a reason. Holy writ is not idle chatter; it is the mind and will of the Lord; it says what he wants said. And so it now behooves us to learn why it is one thing to gather Israel from the four parts of the earth and yet another to lead the Ten Tribes from the land of the north.

1. Are there any questions in the chat about the difference between the gathering of scattered Israel and the return of the ten tribes as a body?
2. If you were confused about this originally, what confused you specifically?
3. If you were confused, what specifically helped make sense of this?
4. Why do you think there are now people in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, that don't believe in the literal return of the ten tribes as a body?
5. Has a prophet of God ever said or taught anything other than this? Has an apostle or a scholar ever taught anything other than this? What's the difference? How much weight should be given to scholars vs prophets?

**2. Who are the 10 Lost Tribes? What is their ethnicity? Are they descendants of the original people who were lost during the Assyrian conquest? What language will they speak? How will they communicate with us?**

Example of the people of Mulek as an example of how this union of the 10 Lost Tribes will occur. see Omni 1:14-19. They didn't speak the same language, so Mosiah caused them to be taught in his language. He also taught them the word of the Lord.

The scriptures are clear that they were NOT mixed with Gentile people or nations. See Jacob 5:41-42. Therefore, we can assume that their cultural ethnicity and identity will be relatively uniform. They too will have to adopt the culture of Zion and the kingdom of God (hence why there were a number of mentions this past general conference about the culture of Christ and a Zion society).

1. Are there any questions about the ethnicity of the ten tribes specifically?

2. Will these returned ten tribes be majority literal Israel descendants or adopted?
3. The people being identified in their patriarchal blessings as being from the ten tribes, are they majority adopted or are they pure blooded?
4. Why is that easy to prove?
5. Is there a difference identified in the gospel, between a literal descendant and an adopted member of Israel, once someone joins the church?

### **3. Are the people of the 10 Lost Tribes translated beings?**

Perhaps there are some translated beings among this group, but there is no scriptural evidence to suggest that these people were like those of the city of Enoch (translated and taken into heaven). This has not been revealed to us. If there are translated beings among them, then they would have had to be translated after Christ's resurrection in the meridian of time.

1. Are there any question about the 10 tribes NOT being translated beings?
2. Where did this question come from? Who's teaching this?
3. What's the difference between the 144k and the returned ten tribes as a body?
4. Where/when will this translation event occur with regards to the 144k? Has it ever been talked about or preached occurring anywhere else by prophets of God?

### **4. What tribes of Israel will the 10 Lost Tribes be composed of?**

Northern Kingdom-Reuben, Gad, Issachar, Simeon, Levi, Napthali, Zebulun, Dan, Asher

Southern Kingdom-Judah, Benjamin

Tribe of Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) have already been gathered to a great extent in these latter days.

1. Are there any questions with regards to which tribes will make up the ten tribes as a body?
2. How large of a body will this be? Will patriarchal blessings ever make up a number large enough to fulfill the prophecies surrounding them?
3. What are some prophecies about them that might give us an idea of just how many of them there are?
4. Are these prophecies meant to be understood as hyperbolic? Have prophets just exaggerated it? What does believing that do to ones faith and prove about the individual?
5. Have prophecies from the Lord through prophets ever been hyperbolic? Is there a single recorded case of that?

## **5. What do we know about the scattering of the 10 Lost Tribes? What does their scattering tell us about their restoration?**

Zechariah 2:6

Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the LORD: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the LORD.

Jeremiah 16:14-15

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;

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.

Elder Bruce R. McConkie, Millennial Messiah, 319-326

We are also aware that the Ten Tribes were first taken as a body into Assyria; that they went out from Assyria, northward, in a body, under prophetic guidance; and that they were then splintered and driven and scattered into all places and among all peoples. These Ten Tribes, no matter where they are located, are in nations and places known in the days of Isaiah and Jeremiah and the ancient prophets as the north countries. Hence, their return to Palestine at least will be from the land of the north.

4 Esdras 13:40-47

“These are the ten tribes which were led away captive out of their own land in the days of Josiah [Hoshea] the king, which (tribes) Salmanassar the king of the Assyrians led away captive; he carried them across the [Euphrates] River, and (thus) they were transported into another land. But they took this counsel among themselves, that they would leave the multitude of the heathen, and go forth into a land further distant, where the human race had never dwelt, there at least to keep their statutes which they had not kept in their own land. And they entered by the narrow passages of the river Euphrates. For the Most High then wrought wonders for them, and stayed the springs of the River until they were passed over. And through that country there was a great way to go, (a journey) of a year and a half; and that region was called Arzaeth. There they have dwelt until the last times.”

Elder Erastus Snow JD 23:299

But Esdras tells us that Israel after they were led into captivity, planted in the far east of the Assyrian Empire, took counsel among themselves and began to repent, and they said among themselves in council: Let us call upon the Lord and see if he will not lead us into a country where we may dwell together, and keep the commandments and judgments which he gave unto our fathers, which we never kept in our own land. And God heard their prayers, and the Lord led them and they journeyed, a year and a-half's journey to what he called the north country, and God divided the waters before them, and he planted them in a land by themselves.

1. Are there any questions about scattering of the 10 tribes?
2. Why did the Lord scatter them and why did the Lord lead a group out as a body?

## **6. What events must occur before the 10 Lost Tribes are restored?**

Isaiah 11:11-12

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.

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.

3 Nephi 21:22-26

But if they will repent and hearken unto my words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish my church among them, and they shall come in unto the covenant and be numbered among this the remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance;

23 And they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob, and also as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem.

24 And then shall they assist my people that they may be gathered in, who are scattered upon all the face of the land, in unto the New Jerusalem.

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

26 And then shall the work of the Father commence at that day, even when this gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people. Verily I say unto you, at that day shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people, yea, even the tribes which have been lost, which the Father hath led away out of Jerusalem.

Joseph Smith, History of the Church, 1:315

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

Orson Pratt JD 18:7

[A]fter Zion is built in Jackson County, and after the Temple is built upon that spot of ground where the cornerstone was laid in 1831; after the glory of God in the form of a cloud by day shall rest upon that Temple, and by night the shining of a flaming fire will fill the whole heavens round about; after every dwelling place upon Mount Zion shall be clothed upon as with a pillar of fire by night, and a cloud by day, about that period of time, the ten tribes will be heard of,

away in the north, a great company, as Jeremiah says, coming down from the northern regions, coming to sing in the height of the latter-day Zion.

1. Are there any questions regarding what make take place before the ten tribes will return?
2. Is anyone brave enough to try to throw up some points of reference in the chat?
3. Will the New Jerusalem be built after the events at the Mt of Olives or after the Great and Dreadful day? Has a prophet of God ever taught this doctrine differently, that is that the Lord will first come to New Jerusalem?
4. Can you think of any other events that need to happen before the ten tribes are identified and return?
5. If these events need to happen before the identifying and return of the ten tribes, what does that tell us about those “identified” via a patriarchal blessing?

## **7. How will the 10 Lost Tribes be restored?**

D&C 133:23-32

23 He shall command the great deep, and it shall be driven back into the north countries, and the islands shall become one land;

24 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.

25 And the Lord, even the Savior, shall stand in the midst of his people, and shall reign over all flesh.

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

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.

1. Are there any questions about the restoration of the ten tribes?

2. Is there a difference between the restoration of the ten tribes to God and the restoration of the ten tribes back the lands of Palestine?

3. When do both of those take place?