

## Power of the Lamb

(v. 1.00)

President Russell M. Nelson

*“We live in the day that “our forefathers have awaited with anxious expectation.”<sup>1</sup> We have front-row seats to witness live what the prophet Nephi saw only in vision, that “the power of the Lamb of God” would descend “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.”<sup>2</sup>*

*You, my brothers and sisters, are among those men, women, and children whom Nephi saw. Think of that!*

*Regardless of where you live or what your circumstances are, the Lord Jesus Christ is your Savior, and God’s prophet Joseph Smith is your prophet. He was foreordained before the foundation of the earth to be the prophet of this last dispensation, when “nothing shall be withheld”<sup>3</sup> from the Saints. Revelation continues to flow from the Lord during this ongoing process of restoration.”*

(Hear Him, Apr 2020 Sunday Morning Session)

President Russell M. Nelson

*“As you study your scriptures during the next six months, I encourage you to make a list of all that the Lord has promised He will do for covenant Israel. I think you will be astounded! Ponder these promises. Talk about them with your family and friends. Then live and watch for these promises to be fulfilled in your own life.”*

(Let God Prevail, Oct 2020 Sunday Morning Session)

Those visions from Nephi are recorded in 1 Nephi 14, let’s go through it:

1 Nephi 14: 8-17

8 And it came to pass that when the angel had spoken these words, he said unto me:

***Rememberest thou the covenants of the Father unto the house of Israel?*** I said unto him, Yea.

A “covenant” according to “True to the faith”:

**Covenant:** covenant is a sacred agreement between God and a person or group of people. God sets *specific conditions*, and He **promises** to bless us as we obey those *conditions*. When we choose not to keep **covenants**, we cannot receive the blessings, and in some instances we suffer a penalty as a consequence of our disobedience

Covenants are always received by ordinances performed by one in authority. Those “specific conditions” mentioned are the commandments, or the “thou shalt”. One will always receive the blessings from obeying a commandment, however, one receives additional specific blessings when obeying commandments (in some cases the same commandments) after accepting the covenant via ordinance by one who is authorized. For example, I can be living the Law of Health and receiving those blessings tied to it, but I will not receive the Gift of the Holy Ghost until I additionally accept covenants through baptism, etc. If I have accepted the covenants through the ordinance of baptism and then broke the Law of Health, I not only forfeit the blessings tied to living the Law of Health, I also forfeit the blessings tied to keeping that covenant, in this case the Holy Ghost.

With this understanding it should be clear to see just how much President Nelson has been laser focused in on this time period, especially as we continue in 1 Nephi 14:

9 And it came to pass that he said unto me: Look, and behold that great and abominable church, which is the mother of abominations, whose founder is the devil.

10 And he said unto me: Behold there are save two churches only; the one is the church of the Lamb of God, and the other is the church of the devil; wherefore, whoso belongeth not to the church of the Lamb of God belongeth to that great church, which is the mother of abominations; and she is the whore of all the earth.

11 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.

I’ve seen many “well educated” people erroneously claim things about this division, specifically that a lot of well-intended non-members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will make up and constitute a large section of “the Church of the Lamb.” Almost always they use a single story from the New Testament (fun fact, “testament” means “covenant”) to “prove” their point. The problem? They are using the story in the New Testament erroneously to be able to erroneously misinterpret the scriptures here in 1 Nephi 14, and no, a double negative doesn’t somehow make a positive. They purport that there were “Christians” who were not a part of Christ’s church and Christ had no qualms with them. This is simply put an ignorant understanding.

In the New Testament Student Manual we read:

### **Mark 9:38–40. “He That Is Not against Us Is on Our Part” (see also Luke 9:49–50)**

Some people have wondered how to reconcile the Savior’s statement, “He that is not against us is on our part” (Mark 9:40), with His statement, “He that is not with me is against me” (Matthew 12:30). These sayings can be understood by examining the context in which each was made. In the situation recorded in Matthew 12, the Pharisees said that the Savior cast out devils by the power of the devil. The Savior declared that He cast out devils by the power of God and that the Pharisees could not take a neutral

position concerning Him: “He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad” (Matthew 12:30; see the commentary for Matthew 12:30).

The situation recorded in Mark 9:38–40 was different. Instead of Pharisees expressing their lack of belief in Jesus’s power, a man who clearly believed in Jesus was casting out devils. However, the Apostle John expressed concern about the man: “Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbad him, because he followeth not us” (Mark 9:38).

Elder Bruce R. McConkie suggested reasons for John’s concern by explaining that the man “was not one of the inner circle of disciples who traveled, ate, slept, and communed continually with the Master. Luke has it: ‘He followeth not with us’ [Luke 9:49; italics added]; that is, he is not one of our traveling companions. But from our Lord’s *reply it is evident that he was a member of the kingdom, a legal administrator who was acting in the authority of the priesthood and the power of faith*. Either he was unknown to John who therefore erroneously supposed him to be without authority or else John falsely supposed that the power to cast out devils was limited to the Twelve and did not extend to all faithful priesthood holders. It is quite possible that the one casting out devils was a seventy [see Luke 10:1, 17]” (Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 1:417).

*The Savior’s answer to John, recorded in Mark 9:40, reassured John and the Twelve that the man was a disciple with authority, though not an Apostle.*

There will only be two churches, and as Brother Hyrum Andrus correctly explained (NEPHI’S PROPHECY OF THE LAST DAYS, Part ONE), the Church of the Lamb is the righteous element within The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This is not a “larger group than we realize, consisting of all sorts of Christian denominations”- it is a righteous group, the righteous element within The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Period. ☺

12 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.

We need to take a moment to realize that these events could not have possibly happened pre WWII, pre The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints going global. Before that time period the policy of the church was for all converts to immigrate to USA. We need to grasp this or we might not understand the next points of reference!

13 And it came to pass that I beheld that the great mother of abominations did gather together multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the nations of the Gentiles, *to fight against the Lamb of God*.

Has this happened for the Saints of The Lamb worldwide post the church going global? It has not. President Nelson also warned of this time period shortly to come:

*“The time is coming when those who do not obey the Lord will be separated from those who do (see Doctrine and Covenants 86:1–7). Our safest insurance is to continue to be worthy of*

*admission to His holy house... We have great cause for concern. But we do not need to let our fears displace our faith. We can combat those fears by strengthening our faith.*

*Why do we need such resilient faith? Because difficult days are ahead. Rarely in the future will it be easy or popular to be a faithful Latter-day Saint. Each of us will be tested. The Apostle Paul warned that in the latter days, those who diligently follow the Lord “shall suffer persecution” (2 Timothy 3:12). That very persecution can either crush you into silent weakness or motivate you to be more exemplary and courageous in your daily lives... Do whatever it takes to strengthen your faith in Jesus Christ by increasing your understanding of the doctrine taught in His restored Church and by relentlessly seeking truth. Anchored in pure doctrine, you will be able to step forward with faith and dogged persistence and cheerfully do all that lies in your power to fulfill the purposes of the Lord. You will have days when you will be discouraged. So pray for courage not to give up! Sadly, some whom you thought were your friends will betray you. And some things will simply seem unfair.” (President Nelson, The Future of the Church: Preparing the World for the Savior’s Second Coming, Ensign, April 2020)*

After the warfare of Zion begins, most likely as a direct result of the warfare against Zion, we are given the next verse:

*14 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.*

Let’s take a moment to stop and read what Elder Orson Pratt had to say about this, after reading the above set of scriptures in 1 Nephi 14, this is what Elder Orson Pratt taught:

*“...What is it that is going to increase righteousness and the power of God upon the Saints that are scattered abroad upon the face of the earth? It is the increase of righteousness here at headquarters; and as branches of the great vine of the same Church, they will feel the influence of the same Spirit, even before the intelligence can reach them by letter. When you reform and turn away from your sins—when you practice righteousness here, the Saints of God abroad feel stirred up to do the same things, and the Spirit of the Lord rests upon them the same as it does upon the people here, only not to the same extent, because you live at head quarters, at the fountainhead, and you have a greater experience; therefore, your experience, righteousness, and faithfulness, entitle you to more choice gifts than those that have not the same experience.*

*The power of God will rest upon the Saints of these valleys **first**, and then upon the Saints in all the world, just in proportion to their righteousness. The Lord is going to increase power **here among the people**. Have we any dangerous circumstances to pass through that render it necessary that more power should be made manifest? Have we got to bear testimony to kings and to the rulers of the earth at the present time? No, we are not called to do this; but those who*

**are in the nations abroad may have this to do.”** (JD 6:30, Testimony of God's Servants Faithfully Borne to the Nations—Gentile Opposition—Judgments of God—Redemption of Zion)

Finishing our 1 Nephi 14 read:

15 And it came to pass that I beheld that the wrath of God was poured out upon that great and abominable church, insomuch that there were wars and rumors of wars among all the nations and kindreds of the earth.

16 And as there began to be wars and rumors of wars among all the nations **which belonged to the mother of abominations** the angel spake unto me, saying: Behold, the wrath of God is upon the mother of harlots; and behold, thou seest all these things—

17 **And when the day cometh that the wrath of God is poured out upon the mother of harlots**, which is the great and abominable church of all the earth, whose founder is the devil, **then, at that day**, the work of the Father shall commence, in **preparing the way for the fulfilling of his covenants, which he hath made to his people who are of the house of Israel.**

Let's take a moment to hear/read what Brother Hyrum Andrus had to say about this:

*“Now in addition to Nephi and to Abinadi, the Savior himself discusses this in III Nephi chapter 16 where in verse 18 you have this statement where he is talking about Zion “Thy watchmen shall lift up thy voice; with the voice together shall they sing, for they shall see eye to eye when the Lord shall bring again Zion.” Then he goes on and in verse 20 says “The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of God.” He says the same thing also in 3 Nephi 20:35. What does it mean to “make bare his arm in the eyes of all nations”? Let me give you an example. He did this kind of thing once, anciently. There was once a nation where the Lord made bare his arm and manifest his power in great judgments and plagues and manifest his glory as a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. What was that nation? The answer is, Egypt. And with power he brought forth and delivered his people out of Egypt. Let me put it this way: There are going to be little Egypts all over the earth in the last days. There will be people in Germany, France, Italy, England, the countries of the world, and when this era of warfare takes place and the mother of abominations gathers multitudes from among the Gentiles to fight against Zion, then Nephi says, “I beheld the power of God in great glory descend upon the saints of the Lamb, upon the covenant people of the Lord.” And where were these people? They were in these various countries of the earth where the Church has been established--and where, by the way, there are now temples, temples not only for the work for the dead and for the facilitating of the basic ordinances of the gospel to the Saints, but temples where they can retreat and where they can be given spiritual direction, and through the sacred ordinances of which the powers of the Spirit will be developed in their midst. As those powers are developed and the Lord steps in to preserve them, then the ensign of Zion will be raised among all people. These people will be preserved by the glory and power of the Lord. In the meantime in the whole scenario, Zion will be the first group here in America to be cleansed. The end result of this cleansing is going to be the establishment of the Lord's*

kingdom, the establishment of Zion with glory and with power, the cleansing of America and the establishment of the Lord's program. And then as warfare is made against the outlying areas of Zion, then the Lord will begin to gather his people. He will say, "Don't go in haste, no reason. I'm going to go before you, and I will be your rearward"--3 Nephi 20 and 21. "And you go out slowly and gather as many people as you can to go with you." Why? Because if they stay behind, what's the other alternative? What was the alternative that Nephi saw? If they reject this, they will be brought down into judgment both spiritually and temporally. That is the general picture. Nephi sees that, and he explains here, going back to verse 10 of 1 Nephi 22, "and I would, my brethren, that ye should know"--now, you've got to know this; this is an important point--"that all kindreds of the earth cannot be blessed...." The forces of iniquity and the powers of unrighteousness are such that all nations of the earth cannot be blessed, "unless he shall make bare his arm in the eyes of the nations." And how is he going to do it? Through his people who are in their midst and where the glory and power is made manifest to preserve them. Then he goes on, "Wherefore, the Lord God will proceed to make bare his arm in the eyes of all the nations, in bringing about his covenants and his gospel unto those who are of the house of Israel." Remember we read 1 Nephi 14, verse 17, where he says that in this era of warfare he is going to perform a preparatory work. That preparatory work in the era of warfare prepares for the gathering of Israel and will be the cleansing of the Saints and the cleansing of America. Then he will begin the great world gathering that's foretold in the scriptures. He says, "Wherefore, he will bring them again out of captivity, and they shall be gathered together to the lands of their inheritance; and they shall be brought out of obscurity and out of darkness; and they shall know that the Lord is their Savior and their Redeemer, the Mighty One of Israel." (1 Ne 22:12) This is a time when his arm is made bare, and they know it! "And the blood of that great and abominable church, which is the whore of all the earth, shall turn upon their own heads; for they shall war among themselves, and the sword of their own hands shall fall upon their own heads, and they shall be drunken with their own blood. And every nation which shall war against thee, O house of Israel, shall be turned one against another, and they shall fall into the pit which they digged to ensnare the people of the Lord." And all that fight against Zion shall be destroyed, and that great whore, who hath perverted the right ways of the Lord, yea, that great and abominable church, shall tumble to the dust and great shall be the fall of it. For behold, saith the prophet, the time cometh speedily that Satan shall have no more power over the hearts of the children of men; for the day soon cometh that all the proud and they who do wickedly shall be as stubble; and the day cometh that they must be burned." (1 Ne 22:15-15) Now, is that a glorious picture? It's a rough one, isn't it? Does that indicate that Zion is going to simply sit on the side and watch it? No. Zion is going to be involved; this is a warfare against Zion. This is the era of warfare against Zion. All right, let's read Nephi's explanation further. He says, "For the time soon cometh that the fulness of the wrath of God shall be poured out upon all the children of men; for he will not suffer that the wicked shall destroy the righteous. 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." Behold, my brethren, I say unto you, that these things must shortly come; yea, even blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke must come; and it must needs be upon the face of this earth, and it cometh unto

men according to the flesh if it so be that they will harden their hearts against the Holy One of Israel. For behold, the righteous shall not perish; for the time surely must come that all they who fight against Zion shall be cut off. And the Lord will surely prepare a way for his people unto the fulfilling of the words of Moses," where he talks about if they reject Christ, then they will finally be cut off. (1 Ne 22:18-19) Then he goes on and speaks of the ushering in of the Millennial kingdom. Let me ask you to just read that for yourself. But let's turn to another explanation on this whole theme. This is 2 Nephi 6 where Jacob comes back to the same theme. He talks about it--I want to get into it in relation to the Isaiah passages tomorrow evening, so I only want to give you part of it now. Let's turn to verse 13: "Wherefore, they that fight against Zion and the covenant people of the Lord shall lick up the dust of their feet; and the people of the Lord shall not be ashamed. For the people of the Lord are they who wait for him; for they still wait for the coming of the Messiah. And behold, according to the words of the prophet, the Messiah will set himself again the second time to recover them; wherefore, he will manifest himself unto them in power and great glory." This is a real power situation. He goes on to say, "Unto the destruction of their enemies, when that day cometh when they shall believe in him; and none will he destroy that believe in him. "And they that believe not in him shall be destroyed, both by fire, and by tempest, and by earthquakes, and by bloodsheds, and by pestilence, and by famine. And they shall know that the Lord is God, the Holy One of Israel." Now, pay particular attention to verse 16 and 17: "For shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered?" Now, that's a question. Who is the prey? Zion. So he asks the question, "For shall the prey"--Zion--"be taken from the mighty and the lawful captive delivered? But thus saith the Lord: Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered; for the Mighty God shall deliver his covenant people. For thus saith the Lord: I will contend with them that contendeth with thee--And I will feed them that oppress thee, with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood as with sweet wine; and all flesh shall know that I the Lord am thy Savior and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob. "Now, can you see the general picture. This is the Book of Mormon, my brothers and sisters. To many of us, there are two sealed books. One is the sealed portion of the Book of Mormon. And the other is this thing from which I've been reading. That's true! I don't want to be negative on that, but ask yourself if you understand the era of warfare against Zion. It's a sealed record to many of us. Now, let me turn finally to Christ's explanations. Nephi gives us the basic theme. It's amplified by his brother, Jacob. And when the Savior comes to the Nephites, he really blossoms the picture out and teaches it in some detail, all the record of which we don't have because Mormon was told not to write the full thing. Nevertheless he explained it in detail. Why? Because this is the day when Israel is going to be redeemed. This is the day when those people among the Nephites to whom he was speaking, their posterity, were going to come in and build the New Jerusalem. So he told them about it. And he told them in detail what would take place. The Savior gives significant, highly significant explanations. Let's turn to some of them. The prophetic picture in 3 Nephi begins about 3 Nephi 16. There he is talking about the Gentiles, and again he is saying some rather unsavory things about them if they don't repent. He always leaves the door open. If they will repent, then fine, he has his arms wide open, ready to receive them. But if they don't repent, then this is another ballgame. In 3 Nephi 16:10: "And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you: At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall be lifted up in

*the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all the people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischief's, and all manner of hypocrisy, and murders, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and of secret abominations; and if they shall do all those things, and shall reject the fulness of my gospel, behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fulness of my gospel from among them." **Now, are we somewhere near that picture today?** He goes on in verse 11 and 12 and says, "And then will I remember **my covenant which I have made unto my people, O house of Israel,** and I will bring my gospel unto them. And I will show unto thee, O house of Israel, that the Gentiles shall not have power over you." He's going to break the power of the Gentiles, and they will not have power over the Indian people. He goes on to say, "And I will remember **my covenant unto you, O house of Israel,** and ye shall come unto the knowledge of the fulness of my gospel." But then he clarifies, "But if the Gentiles will repent and return unto me, saith the Father, behold they shall be numbered among my people, O house of Israel," they shall be numbered among the people of the Lord. And he says, "And I will not suffer my people, who are of the house of Israel, to go through among them and tread them down, saith the Father. But if they will not turn unto me, and hearken unto my voice, I will suffer them, yea, I will suffer my people, O house of Israel, that they shall go through among them, and shall tread them down, and they shall be as salt that hath lost its savor, which is thenceforth good for nothing but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of my people, O house of Israel." He goes on to talk about the fulfillment of the **Lord's covenants at that time.**"*

(NEPHI'S PROPHECY OF THE LAST DAYS, Part 2)

Going back to President Nelson's talk at the very start, he referenced 1 Nephi 14, but then referenced Doctrine and Covenants 121 verse 27 and then referenced Doctrine and Covenants 121 verse 28. The chapter subheading for those verses reads: "Glorious revelations promised those who endure valiantly" What are these glorious revelations and when are they to come?

### **Doctrine and Covenants 121:**

26 God shall give unto you knowledge by his Holy Spirit, yea, by the unspeakable gift of the Holy Ghost, that has not been revealed since the world was until now;

27 Which our forefathers have awaited with anxious expectation to be revealed in the last times, which their minds were pointed to by the angels, as held in reserve for the fulness of their glory;

28 A time to come in the which nothing shall be withheld, whether there be one God or many gods, they shall be manifest.

29 All thrones and dominions, principalities and powers, shall be revealed and set forth upon all who have endured valiantly for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

30 And also, if there be bounds set to the heavens or to the seas, or to the dry land, or to the sun, moon, or stars—

31 All the times of their revolutions, all the appointed days, months, and years, and all the days of their days, months, and years, and all their glories, laws, and set times, shall be revealed in the days of the dispensation of the fulness of times—

32 According to that which was ordained in the midst of the Council of the Eternal God of all other gods before this world was, that should be reserved unto the finishing and the end thereof, when every man shall enter into his eternal presence and into his immortal rest.

### **Doctrine and Covenants 121:26–33. “God shall give unto you knowledge”**

The Prophet Joseph Smith taught: “The dispensation of the fullness of times will bring to light the things that have been revealed in all former dispensations; also other things that have not been before revealed” (Teachings: Joseph Smith, 510–11). And on another occasion he wrote that this dispensation is “a day in which God has begun to make manifest and set in order in His Church those things which have been, and those things which the ancient prophets and wise men desired to see but died without beholding them; a day in which those things begin to be made manifest, which have been hid from before the foundation of the world, and which Jehovah has promised should be made known in His own due time unto His servants, to prepare the earth for the return of His glory, even a celestial glory, and a kingdom of Priests and kings to God and the Lamb, forever, on Mount Zion” (Teachings: Joseph Smith, 510).

This outpouring of knowledge began at the beginning of the Restoration and will continue into the Millennium, when “the Lord ... shall reveal all things” (D&C 101:32) and “nothing shall be withheld” (D&C 121:28). Elder Bruce R. McConkie (1915–1985) of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles described the knowledge that will be revealed during the Millennium:

“We have the fulness of the everlasting gospel, meaning that we have all that is needed to gain the fulness of salvation. We have every truth, doctrine, and principle, every rite, power, and ordinance—all that is needed—to gain exaltation in the highest heaven of the celestial world. But we do not know all things. ...

“All things are to be revealed in the millennial day. The sealed part of the Book of Mormon will come forth; the brass plates will be translated; the writings of Adam and Enoch and Noah and Abraham and prophets without number will be revealed. We shall learn a thousand times more about the earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus than we now know. We shall learn great mysteries of the kingdom that were not even known to those of old who walked and talked with the Eternal One. We shall learn the details of the creation and the origin of man. ... Nothing in or on or over the earth will be withheld from human [knowledge], for eventually man, if he is to be as his Maker, must know all things” (The Millennial Messiah: The Second Coming of the Son of Man [1982], 675–77).

**Joseph Smith taught:**

*“The spirit of Elias is first, Elijah second, and Messiah last. Elias is a forerunner to prepare the way, and the spirit and power of Elijah is to come after, holding the keys of power, building the Temple to the cap stone, placing the seals of the Melchisedec priesthood upon the house of*

*Israel, and making all things ready, then Messiah comes to his temple, which is last of all. Messiah is above the spirit and power of Elijah for he made the world, and was that spiritual rock unto Moses in the Wilderness. Elijah was to come and prepare the way and build up the kingdom, before the coming of the great day of the Lord, although the spirit of Elias might begin it.”* History, 1838–1856, volume E-1 [1 July 1843–30 April 1844]

So how do we know the Spirit of Elijah is fulfilled and we are moving into Messiah?

### **Doctrine and Covenants 128:**

17 ... Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: And he shall turn 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.

18 I might have rendered a plainer translation to this, but it is sufficiently plain to suit my purpose as it stands. It is sufficient to know, in this case, that the earth will be smitten with a curse unless there is a welding link of some kind or other between the fathers and the children, upon some subject or other—and behold what is that subject? It is the baptism for the dead. For we without them cannot be made perfect; neither can they without us be made perfect. Neither can they nor we be made perfect without those who have died in the gospel also; for it is necessary in the ushering in of the dispensation of the fulness of times, which dispensation is now *beginning* to usher in, that a whole and complete and perfect union, and welding together of dispensations, and keys, and powers, and glories should take place, and be revealed from the days of Adam even to the present time. *And not only this, but those things which never have been revealed from the foundation of the world, but have been kept hid from the wise and prudent shall be revealed unto babes and sucklings in this, the dispensation of the fulness of times.*

The revealing of this knowledge appears to be directly connected to the fulfillment of the Spirit of Elijah, which connects perfectly with the macro last-day timeline as this revealing occurs after the veil of unbelief is rent and directly before the New Jerusalem (see paper “Faith as the Brother of Jared”). But something else said here should prick our attention- what I have highlighted directly above in blue (with white words) should sound familiar to us, where have we heard it?

President Nelson said in last April 2021 conference opening remarks:

“This last year has been one for the record books. No doubt we have each learned things we did not know previously. Some lessons that I knew before have been written on my heart in new and instructive ways.

For example, I know for sure that the Lord directs the affairs of His Church. He said, “I will show [you] that I am able to do mine own work.”<sup>1</sup>”

[His footnote he provided takes us to 2 Nephi 27:](#)

## **2 Nephi 27:**

21 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.

23 For behold, I am God; and I am a God of miracles; and I will show unto the world that I am the same yesterday, today, and forever; and I work not among the children of men save it be according to their faith.

24 And again it shall come to pass that the Lord shall say unto him that shall read the words that shall be delivered him:

25 Forasmuch as this people draw near unto me with their mouth, and with their lips do honor me, but have removed their hearts far from me, and their fear towards me is taught by the precepts of men—

26 Therefore, I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people, yea, a marvelous work and a wonder, **for the wisdom of their wise and learned shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent shall be hid.**

29 And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity and out of darkness.

33 Therefore, thus saith the Lord, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob: Jacob shall not now be ashamed, neither shall his face now wax pale.

34 **But when he seeth his children, the work of my hands, in the midst of him, they shall sanctify my name, and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and shall fear the God of Israel.**

[I'd recommend watching or reading my Joseph Smith to Return Continued if you are confused about what is happening in these verses.](#)

[From this reading:](#)

- [1. We had the Spirit of Elias \(missionary work\)](#)
- [2. We are in the Spirit of Elijah](#)
- [3. This time frame ends and phases into Spirit of Messiah](#)
- [4. Before that happens, the Saints in the America's have to be armed with the Power of the Lamb, which is directly tied to rending the veil of unbelief and Joseph Smith's return \(which also ties directly into the Spirit of Elijah\)](#)
- [5. When this takes place the sealed portion will be revealed, and the redemption of Zion will take place on the backs of, as Doctrine and Covenants 101 teaches \(Parable of the Nobleman and the](#)

Olive Trees), “the young and middle aged”, or as D&C 128 says, “babes and sucklings of this generation,” or as 2 Nephi 27 says “his children”.

6. This will signal that the time of the Spirit of Elijah is ending and the Spirit of Messiah is not far distant

7. The Saints worldwide will then be likewise armed with the power of the Lamb

8. When the dragon sees he can’t get the child (New Jerusalem) he goes after “the remnant”, those members worldwide who are not in the New Jerusalem (JST Revelation 12)

9. **There will be safety and deliverance in the temples** as the Saints are armed with that power of the Lamb

10. There will be a worldwide gathering into the New Jerusalem

And most importantly... Our prophet, President Nelson has said that we alive are those who will live to see these events. Brothers and Sisters, we are living in the time period sought after by all the Holy Prophets since the world began- the not too distant future in which we will have “the dispensation of the fullness of times” where all things shall be made one. We can make the choice to rend the veil of unbelief now, we can make the choice to humble ourselves now, we can make the choice to stand in holy places and be not moved now, so that tomorrow when the warfare begins we will be able to face the trials of the world with dogged persistence. I echo the words of our prophet, do all you can to strengthen your testimony of Jesus Christ by deepening your understanding of the doctrine taught in His restored church- stop increasing your doubts by rehearsing them with other doubters! Be not faithless, but believing. I know Jesus Christ lives. I know that Joseph Smith is our prophet of this the last and greatest dispensation and I know Joseph Smith’s open return is not far distant. I know that Joseph Smith will prepare us for Christ’s return, which is also not far distant. Learn the doctrine, learn the promises made to the House of Israel, look to the rock from whence you were hewn and be still and watch for the miracles of God to unfold, in the name of Jesus Christ, amen!