

NEPHI SPEAKS TO FUTURE GENERATIONS

2 Nephi 28-33

And now, behold, my brethren, I have spoken unto you, according as the Spirit hath constrained me; wherefore, I know that they must surely come to pass. 2

AA And the things which shall be written out of the book shall be of great worth unto the children of men, and especially unto our seed, which is a remnant of the house of Israel. 3

BB For it shall come to pass in that day that
the churches which are built up, and not unto the Lord,
when the one shall say unto the other:
Behold, I, I am the Lord's;
and the others shall say:
I, I am the Lord's;
and thus shall every one say
that hath built up churches, and not unto the Lord--4
And they shall contend one with another;
and their priests shall contend one with another,
and they shall teach with their learning,
and deny the Holy Ghost,
which giveth utterance. 5
And they deny the power of God, the Holy One of Israel;
and they say unto the people: Hearken unto us, and hear ye our precept;
for behold there is no God today,
for the Lord and the Redeemer hath done his work,
and he hath given his power unto men; 6
Behold, hearken ye unto my precept;
if they shall say there is a miracle wrought by the hand of the Lord, believe it not;
for this day he is not a God of miracles; he hath done his work. 7

CC A Yea, and there shall be many which shall say:

B Eat,
drink, and
be merry,

C for tomorrow we die;

D and it shall be well with us. 8

A And there shall also be many which shall say:

B Eat,
drink, and
be merry;
nevertheless, fear God--he will justify in committing a little sin; yea,
lie a little,
take the advantage of one because of his words,
dig a pit for thy neighbor;
there is no harm in this;
and do all these things,

C for tomorrow we die;

D and if it so be that we are guilty, God will beat us with a few stripes, and at last we shall be saved in the kingdom of God. 9

- DD A Yea, and there shall be many which shall teach after this manner, false and vain and foolish doctrines,
- B and shall be puffed up in their hearts, and shall seek deep to hide their counsels from the Lord; and their works shall be in the dark. 10 And the blood of the saints shall cry from the ground against them. 11
- C Yea, they have all gone out of the way; they have become corrupted. 12 Because of pride, and because of false teachers, and false doctrine, their churches have become corrupted,
- D and their churches are lifted up;
- E because of pride they are puffed up. 13
- F They rob the poor
- G because of their fine sanctuaries;
- F they rob the poor
- G because of their fine clothing;
- F and they persecute the meek and the poor in heart,
- E because in their pride they are puffed up. 14
- D They wear stiff necks and high heads;
- C yea, and because of pride, and wickedness, and abominations, and whoredoms, they have all gone astray save it be a few, who are the humble followers of Christ; nevertheless, they are led, that in many instances they do err because they are taught by the precepts of men. 15
- B O the wise, and the learned, and the rich, that are puffed up in the pride of their hearts,
- A and all those who preach false doctrines, and all those who commit whoredoms, and pervert the right way of the Lord,
- EE wo, wo, wo be unto them, saith the Lord God Almighty, for they shall be thrust down to hell! 16
- FF Wo unto them that turn aside the just for a thing of naught and revile against that which is good, and say that it is of no worth![1] For the day shall come that the Lord God will speedily visit the inhabitants of the earth; and in that day that they are fully ripe in iniquity they shall perish. 17
- EE But behold, if the inhabitants of the earth shall repent of their wickedness and abominations they shall not be destroyed, saith the Lord of Hosts. 18

- DD But behold, that great and abominable church, the whore of all the earth,
 must tumble to the earth, and great must be the fall thereof. 19
 For the kingdom of the devil must shake,
 and they which belong to it
 must needs be stirred up unto repentance,
 or the devil will grasp them with his everlasting chains,
 and they be stirred up to anger,
 and perish; 20
 For behold, at that day shall he rage
 in the hearts of the children of men,
 and stir them up to anger against that which is good. 21
- CC A And others will he pacify, and lull them away into carnal security, that they will say: All is well in Zion;
 yea, Zion prospereth, all is well--
- B and thus the devil cheateth their souls, and leadeth them away carefully down to hell.[2] 22
- C And behold, others he flattereth away,
- D and telleth them there is no hell;
- E and he saith unto them:
- D I am no devil, for there is none--
- C and thus he whispereth in their ears,
- B until he grasps them with his awful chains,
 from whence there is no deliverance. 23
 Yea, they are grasped with death, and hell;
 and death,
 and hell,
 and the devil,
 and all that have been seized therewith
 must stand before the throne of God, and be judged according to their works,
 from whence they must go into the place prepared for them, even a lake of fire and brimstone,
 which is endless torment. 24
- A Therefore, wo be unto him that is at ease in Zion! 25
 Wo be unto him that crieth: All is well! 26
- BB A Yea, wo be unto him that hearkeneth unto the precepts of men, and denieth the power of God, and the
 gift of the Holy Ghost! 27
- B Yea, wo be unto him that saith: We have received, and we need no more! 28
- C And in fine, wo unto all those who tremble,
- D and are angry because of
- E the truth of God!
- F For behold, he that is built upon the rock receiveth
- E it
- D with gladness;
- C and he that is built upon a sandy foundation trembleth lest he shall fall. 29

- B Wo be unto him that shall say: We have received the word of God, and we need no more of the word of God, for we have enough! 30
- AA For behold, thus saith the Lord God: I will give unto the children of men
 line upon line,
 precept upon precept,
 here a little and there a little;
 and blessed are those who
 hearken unto my precepts, and
 lend an ear unto my counsel,
 for they shall learn wisdom;
 for unto him that receiveth
 I will give more; and
 from them that shall say, We have enough,
 from them shall be taken away even that which they
 have. 31
- A Cursed is he that
 putteth his trust in man, or
 maketh flesh his arm, or shall
 hearken unto the precepts of men,
 save their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost. 32
- A Wo be unto the Gentiles,
 saith the Lord God of Hosts!
 For notwithstanding I shall lengthen out mine arm unto them from day to day,
 they will deny me;
 nevertheless, I will be merciful unto them, saith the Lord God,
 if they will repent and come unto me;
 for mine arm is lengthened out all the day long,
 saith the Lord God of Hosts. 29:1
- B But behold, there shall be many--at that day when I shall proceed to do a marvelous work among
 them,
 - that I may remember my covenants which I have made unto the children of men,
 - that I may set my hand again the second time to recover my people, which are of the house
 of Israel; 2 And also,
 - that I may remember the promises which I have made unto thee, Nephi, and also unto thy
 father, that I would remember your seed;
- C and that the words of your seed should proceed forth out of my mouth unto your seed; and my
 words shall hiss forth unto the ends of the earth, for a standard unto my people, which are of
 the house of Israel; 3 And because my words shall hiss forth--
- D many of the Gentiles shall say: A Bible! A Bible! We have got a Bible, and there
 cannot be any more Bible. 4
- E But thus saith the Lord God: O fools, they shall have a Bible;
- F and it shall proceed forth from the Jews, mine ancient covenant people.
- G And what thank they the Jews for the Bible which they receive from
 them?
- H Yea, what do the Gentiles mean? Do they remember
 the travails, and
 the labors, and
 the pains of the Jews,
- I and their diligence unto me, in bringing forth salvation unto
 the Gentiles? 5

H O ye Gentiles, have ye remembered the Jews, mine ancient covenant people?

G Nay; but ye
have cursed them, and
have hated them, and
have not sought to recover them.

F But behold, I will return all these things upon your own heads; for I the Lord have not forgotten my people. 6

E Thou fool,

D that shall say: A Bible, we have got a Bible, and we need no more Bible. Have ye obtained a Bible save it were by the Jews? 7

- C a i Know ye not that there are more nations than one?
- ii Know ye not that I, the Lord your God, have created all men, and that I remember those who are upon the isles of the sea;
- iii and that I rule in the heavens above and in the earth beneath;
- iv and I bring forth my word unto the children of men, yea, even upon all the nations of the earth? 8
- v Wherefore murmur ye, because that ye shall receive more of my word?
- iv Know ye not that the testimony of two nations is a witness unto you that
- iii I am God,
- ii that I remember one nation like unto another?
- i Wherefore, I speak the same words unto one nation like unto another. And when the two nations shall run together the testimony of the two nations shall run together also. 9
- b i And I do this that I may prove unto many that I am the same
yesterday,
today, and
forever;
- ii and that I speak forth my words according to mine own pleasure.
- ii And because that I have spoken one word ye need not suppose that I cannot speak another;
- i for my work is not yet finished;
neither shall it be until the end of man,
neither from that time henceforth and forever. 10
- c Wherefore, because that ye have a Bible ye need not suppose that it contains all my words; neither need ye suppose that I have not caused more to be written. 11

- d For I command all men, both
in the east and
in the west, and
in the north, and
in the south, and
in the islands of the sea,
that they shall write the words which I speak unto them;
- c for out of the books which shall be written I will judge the world, every man
according to their works, according to that which is written. 12
- b For behold, I shall speak unto the Jews
and they shall write it;
and I shall also speak unto the Nephites
and they shall write it;
and I shall also speak unto the other tribes of the house of Israel, which I have led
away,
and they shall write it;
and I shall also speak unto all nations of the earth
and they shall write it. 13
- a And it shall come to pass that
the Jews
shall have the words of
the Nephites, and
the Nephites
shall have the words of
the Jews;
and the Nephites and the Jews
shall have the words of
the lost tribes of Israel; and
the lost tribes of Israel
shall have the words of
the Nephites and the Jews. 14
- B a₁ And it shall come to pass that my people, which are of the house of Israel,
a₂ shall be gathered home unto the lands of their possessions;
b and my word
c also shall be gathered in one. And I will show unto them that fight against
b my word
a₁ and against my people, who are of the house of Israel,
a₂ that I am God, and that I covenanted with Abraham that I would remember his seed
forever. 30:1
- A And now behold, my beloved brethren, I would speak unto you; for I, Nephi, would not suffer that ye
should suppose that ye are more righteous than the Gentiles shall be. For behold, except ye shall keep
the commandments of God
ye shall all likewise perish;
and because of the words which have been spoken ye need not suppose that the Gentiles
are utterly destroyed. 2
For behold, I say unto you that as many of the Gentiles
as will repent
are the covenant people of the Lord;
and as many of the Jews
as will not repent
shall be cast off;

for the Lord covenanteth with none save it be with them that repent and believe in his Son, who is the Holy One of Israel. 3

- B And now, I would prophesy somewhat more concerning the Jews and the Gentiles. For after the book of which I have spoken shall come forth, and be written unto the Gentiles, and sealed up again unto the Lord, there shall be many which shall believe the words which are written; and they shall carry them forth unto the remnant of our seed. 4 And then shall the remnant of our seed know concerning us, how that we came out from Jerusalem, and that they are descendants of the Jews. 5
- C And the gospel of Jesus Christ shall be declared among them;
wherefore, they shall be restored unto the knowledge of their fathers,
- C and also to the knowledge of Jesus Christ,
which was had among their fathers. 6
- B And then shall they rejoice; for they shall know that it is a blessing unto them from the hand of God; and their scales of darkness shall begin to fall from their eyes; and many generations shall not pass away among them, save they shall be a pure and delightsome people. 7
- A And it shall come to pass that the Jews which are scattered also shall begin to believe in Christ; and they shall begin to gather in upon the face of the land; and as many as shall believe in Christ shall also become a delightsome people. 8
- A a And it shall come to pass that the Lord God shall commence his work among all nations,
kindreds,
tongues, and
people,
to bring about the restoration of his people upon the earth. 9
- b₁ And with righteousness shall the Lord God judge the poor,
- b₂ and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth.
- c And he shall smite the earth
with the rod of his mouth;
and with the breath of his lips
shall he slay the wicked. 10
- c 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. 11
- b₁ And righteousness shall be
the girdle of his loins,
and faithfulness
the girdle of his reins. 12
- b₂ And then shall the wolf 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. 13
And the cow and the bear shall feed;
their young ones shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 14
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.[3] 15

a 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. 16

B Wherefore, the things of all nations shall be made known; yea, all things shall be made known

C unto the children of men. 17

D There is nothing which is secret
save it shall be revealed;
there is no work of darkness
save it shall be made manifest in the light;[4] and
there is nothing which is sealed upon the earth
save it shall be loosed. 18
Wherefore, all things which have been revealed

C unto the children of men

B shall at that day be revealed;

A and Satan shall have power over the hearts of the children of men no more, for a long time.

And now, my beloved brethren,

I make an end of my sayings. 31:1

And now I, Nephi, make an end of my prophesying
unto you, my beloved brethren.

And I cannot write but a few things, which I know must surely come to pass;
neither can I write but a few of the words of my brother Jacob. 2

Wherefore, the things which I have written sufficeth me,

save it be a few words which I must speak concerning the doctrine of Christ;

wherefore, I shall speak unto you plainly,

according to the plainness of my prophesying. 3

For my soul delighteth in plainness;

for after this manner doth the Lord God work among the children of men.

For the Lord God giveth light

unto the understanding;

for he speaketh unto men according to their language,

unto their understanding. 4

Wherefore, I would that ye should remember that I have spoken unto you concerning that prophet which the Lord showed unto me, that should baptize the Lamb of God, which should take away the sins of the world.

And now, if the Lamb of God,

he being holy,

should have need to be baptized by water,

to fulfil all righteousness,

O then, how much more need have we,

being unholy,

to be baptized, yea, even by water! 6

And now, I would ask of you, my beloved brethren, wherein the Lamb of God

did fulfil all righteousness

in being baptized by water? 7

Know ye not that he was holy?

But notwithstanding he being holy,

A he showeth unto the children of men that,

B according to the flesh he humbleth himself before the Father, and witnesseth unto the Father

C that he would be obedient unto him in keeping his commandments. 8

- D Wherefore, after he was baptized with water
- E the Holy Ghost descended upon him in the form of a dove. 9
- F And again, it showeth unto the children of men the straitness of the path, and the narrowness of the gate, by which they should enter, he having set the example before them. 10
- A And he said unto the children of men:
- B Follow thou me.
- C Wherefore, my beloved brethren, can we follow Jesus save we shall be willing to keep the commandments of the Father? 11
- D And the Father said:
Repent ye, repent ye, and be baptized in the name of my Beloved Son. 12
And also, the voice of the Son came unto me, saying:
He that is baptized in my name,
- E to him will the Father give the Holy Ghost, like unto me;
- F wherefore, follow me, and do the things which ye have seen me do. 13
- A a Wherefore, my beloved brethren,
- b I know that if ye shall follow the Son, with full purpose of heart,
- c acting no hypocrisy and no deception before God,
but with real intent,
repenting of your sins,
- d witnessing unto the Father that ye are willing to take upon you the name of Christ,
by baptism--yea, by following your Lord and your Savior down into the water,
according to his word,
- e behold, then shall ye receive the Holy Ghost; yea, then cometh the baptism
of fire and of the Holy Ghost;
- f and then can ye speak with the tongue of angels, and shout praises unto
the Holy One of Israel. 14
- a But, behold, my beloved brethren,
- b thus came the voice of the Son unto me, saying:
- c After ye have repented of your sins,
- d and witnessed unto the Father that ye are willing to keep my commandments, by
the baptism of water,
- e and have received the baptism of fire and of the Holy Ghost,
- f and can speak with a new tongue, yea, even with the tongue of angels,
- g and after this should deny me, it would have been better for you
that ye had not known me. 15
- B And I heard a voice from the Father, saying:
Yea, the words of my Beloved are true and faithful. He that endureth to the end, the same
shall be saved. 16

- B a And now, my beloved brethren, I know by this that unless a man shall endure to the end, in following the example of the Son of the living God, he cannot be saved. 17
- b Wherefore, do the things which I have told you I have seen that your Lord and your Redeemer should do; for, for this cause have they been shown unto me,
- c that ye might know the gate by which ye should enter.
- c For the gate by which ye should enter is
- b repentance and baptism by water;
and then cometh a remission of your sins by fire and by the Holy Ghost. 18
And then are ye in this strait and narrow path which leads to eternal life;
yea,
ye have entered in by the gate;
ye have done according to the commandments of the Father and the Son; and
ye have received the Holy Ghost,
which witnesses of the Father and the Son, unto the fulfilling of the promise which he hath made, that if ye entered in by the way ye should receive. 19
- a And now, my beloved brethren, after ye have gotten into this strait and narrow path, I would ask if all is done? Behold, I say unto you, Nay;
for ye have not come thus far
save it were by the word of Christ with unshaken faith in him, relying wholly upon the merits of him who is mighty to save. 20
Wherefore, ye must press forward
with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men.
Wherefore, if ye shall press forward,
feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end,
behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life. 21
- A And now, behold, my beloved brethren, this is the way;
and there is none other way nor name given under heaven whereby man can be saved in the kingdom of God.
And now, behold, this is the doctrine of Christ,
and the only and true doctrine
of the Father, and
of the Son, and
of the Holy Ghost,
which is one God, without end. Amen. 32:1
- A And now, behold, my beloved brethren, I suppose that ye ponder somewhat in your hearts concerning that which ye should do after ye have entered in by the way. But, behold, why do ye ponder these things in your hearts? 2
- B Do ye not remember that I said unto you that after ye had received the Holy Ghost ye could speak with the tongue of angels?
And now, how could ye speak with the tongue of angels
save it were by the Holy Ghost? 3 Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost;
- C wherefore, they speak
the words of Christ.
Wherefore, I said unto you, feast upon
the words of Christ;
for behold,
the words of Christ

- D will tell you all things what ye should do. 4
- E Wherefore, now after I have spoken these words, if ye cannot understand them it will be because ye ask not, neither do ye knock; wherefore, ye are not brought into the light, but must perish in the dark. 5
- B For behold, again I say unto you that if ye will enter in by the way, and receive the Holy Ghost,
- D it will show unto you all things what ye should do. 6
- C Behold, this is the doctrine of Christ, and there will be no more doctrine given until after he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh. And when he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh,
- D the things which he shall say unto you shall ye observe to do. 7
- E And now I, Nephi, cannot say more; the Spirit stoppeth mine utterance, and I am left to mourn because of the unbelief, and the wickedness, and the ignorance, and the stiffneckedness of men; for they will not search knowledge, nor understand great knowledge, when it is given unto them in plainness, even as plain as word can be. 8
- A And now, my beloved brethren, I perceive that ye ponder still in your hearts; and it grieveth me that I must speak concerning this thing.
- A For if ye would hearken unto the Spirit which teacheth a man to pray
- B ye would know that ye must pray;
- C for the evil spirit teacheth not a man to pray,
- C but teacheth him that he must not pray. 9
- B But behold, I say unto you that ye must pray always, and not faint;
- A that ye must not perform any thing unto the Lord save in the first place ye shall pray unto the Father in the name of Christ, that he will consecrate thy performance unto thee, that thy performance may be for the welfare of thy soul. 33:1
- A And now I, Nephi, cannot write all the things which were taught among my people; neither am I mighty in writing, like unto speaking; for when a man speaketh by the power of the Holy Ghost the power of the Holy Ghost carrieth it unto the hearts of the children of men. 2
- B But behold, there are many that harden their hearts against the Holy Spirit, that it hath no place in them; wherefore, they cast many things away which are written and esteem them as things of naught. 3
- But I, Nephi, have written what I have written, and I esteem it as of great worth, and especially unto my people. For I pray continually for them by day, and mine eyes water my pillow by night, because of them; and I cry unto my God in faith,

and I know that he will hear my cry. 4 And I know that the Lord God will consecrate my prayers for the gain of my people.

C And the words which I have written in weakness will be made strong unto them; for it persuadeth them to do good; it maketh known unto them of their fathers; and it speaketh of Jesus, and persuadeth them to believe in him,

D and to endure to the end,

E which is life eternal. 5

F And it speaketh harshly against sin, according to the plainness of the truth; wherefore, no man will be angry at the words which I have written save he shall be of the spirit of the devil. 6

G I glory in plainness;
I glory in truth;
I glory in my Jesus,

H for he hath redeemed my soul from hell. 7

G I have charity for my people,
and great faith in Christ that I shall meet many souls spotless at his judgment-seat. 8
I have charity for the Jew--
I say Jew, because I mean them from whence I came. 9
I also have charity for the Gentiles.

F But behold, for none of these can I hope except they shall be reconciled unto Christ, and enter into the narrow gate, and walk in the strait path

E which leads to life,

D and continue in the path until the end of the day of probation. 10

C And now, my beloved brethren,
and also Jew,
and all ye ends of the earth,
hearken unto these words and believe in Christ;
and if ye believe not in these words
believe in Christ.
And if ye shall believe in Christ
ye will believe in these words,
for they are the words of Christ, and he hath given them unto me;
and they teach all men that they should do good. 11

B And if they are not the words of Christ, judge ye--for Christ will show unto you, with power and great glory, that they are his words, at the last day; and you and I shall stand face to face before his bar; and ye shall know that I have been commanded of him to write these things,

A notwithstanding my weakness. 12

B And I pray the Father in the name of Christ that many of us, if not all, may be saved in his kingdom at that great and last day. 13

C And now, my beloved brethren,
 all those who are of the house of Israel,
 and all ye ends of the earth,
 I speak unto you as the voice of one crying from the dust:
 Farewell until that great day shall come. 14
 And you that will not
 partake of the goodness of God, and
 respect
 the words of the Jews, and also
 my words, and
 the words which shall proceed forth out of the mouth of the Lamb
 of God,
 behold, I bid you an everlasting farewell,
 for these words shall condemn you at the last day. 15 For
 what I seal on earth, shall be brought against you at the
 judgment bar; for thus hath the Lord commanded me, and
 I must obey. Amen.

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1. 2 Nephi 28:16. DWP.
 2. 2 Nephi 28:21. See DWP for an alternative rendition of this verse.
 3. Note the differences between 9-14 here and 2 Nephi 21:4-8. The current form shows a list of seven "and" elements, indicating spiritual perfection (Bullinger).
 4. 2 Nephi 30:17. DWP.