

THE SCRIPTURES OF CHRISTMAS

Selected
and
Formatted
by

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Introduction

In reality, of course, the scriptures of Christmas encompass the entirety of the revealed scriptures, for they all testify of the Son of God and His love of and mission for mankind. Here a few were selected to emphasize the birth of the Savior, including prophecies of that great event. Brief mention is made of the grand premortal council in which the Son was chosen and commissioned by the Father, His suffering in mortality, our responsibility, and the final consummation when He will present the kingdom, spotless, to the Father.

Passages are printed verbatim from scriptures both ancient (Bible, Book of Mormon, Abraham, and Moses) and modern (The Doctrine and Covenants). Verse numbers have been omitted for clarity. The text was formatted to show the parallelism that permeates all of the scriptures. Parallel elements are similarly indented, and capital letter labels have been added to guide the eye in most of those passages which show the inverted parallel order known as chiasmus. Insights are gained by comparing parallel elements (i.e. A and A', B and B'). The central element often is the point of emphasis of the chiasm.

The world may be searched in vain to find a message more beautiful, or language more sublime. It speaks to and comforts our souls. It carries our poor hearts to new heights of hope and peace and love. God's greatest gift to His children is couched in the greatest words known to them.

It is my witness to all who may read these words that I know that the Lord Jesus Christ lives! He knows and loves each one of us with an unquenchable love.

The Lamb who was born a humble babe in the humblest of circumstances, witnessed by the shepherds, will yet come again, this time in glory, witnessed by the angels, to reign personally upon the earth.

D. Lynn Johnson
Christmas 1989, revised 1990, 2023

THE SCRIPTURES OF CHRISTMAS

In the beginning was the Word,
 and the Word was with God,
 and the Word was God.
 The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made by him;
 and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In him was life;
 and the life
 was the light of men.
 And the light shineth
 in darkness; and
 the darkness
 comprehended it not.[1]

(John 1:1-5)

A Now the Lord had shown unto me, Abraham, the intelligences that were organized before the world was;
 and among all these there were many of the noble and great ones;

B And God saw these souls that they were good,

C and he stood in the midst of them,

D and he said: These I will make my rulers; [2]

C' for he stood among those that were spirits,

B' and he saw that they were good;

A' and he said unto me: Abraham, thou art one of them; thou wast chosen before thou wast born.

And there stood one among them that was like unto God, and he said unto those who were with him:

We will go down, for there is space there, and

we will take of these materials, and

we will make an earth whereon these may dwell;

And we will prove them herewith, to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God
 shall command them;

And they who keep their first estate

shall be added upon;

and they who keep not their first estate

shall not have glory in the same kingdom with those who keep their first estate;

and they who keep their second estate

shall have glory added upon their heads for ever and ever.

And the Lord said:

Whom shall I send?

And one answered like unto the Son of Man:

Here am I, send me.

(Abraham 3:22-27)

Behold, my Beloved Son, which was my Beloved and Chosen from the beginning, said unto me--Father, thy
 will be done, and the glory be thine forever. (Moses 4:2)

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign;

Behold, a virgin
shall conceive, and
bear a son, and
shall call his name Immanuel.

Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

(Isaiah 7:14-15)

For unto us a child is born,

unto us a son is given:

and the government shall be upon his shoulder:

and his name shall be called

Wonderful,
Counsellor,
The mighty God,
The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.

Of the increase

of his government

and peace

there shall be no end,

upon the throne of David, and

upon his kingdom,

to order it, and

to establish it

with judgment and

with justice

from henceforth

even for ever.

(Isaiah 9:6-7)

And when I had spoken these words, the Spirit cried with a loud voice, saying:

Hosannah to the Lord, the most high God;

for he is God over all the earth,

yea, even above all.

And blessed art thou, Nephi,

because thou believest in the Son of

the most high God;

wherefore, thou shalt behold the things which thou hast desired.

A And behold this thing shall be given unto thee for a sign, that after thou hast beheld the tree which bore the fruit which thy father tasted,

thou shalt also behold a man descending out of heaven, and

him

shall ye witness; and

after ye have witnessed

him

ye shall bear record that it is the Son of God.

B And it came to pass that the Spirit said unto me:

Look!

And I looked

and beheld a tree; and it was like unto the tree which my father had seen;
and the beauty thereof
was far beyond, yea, exceeding of all beauty;
and the whiteness thereof
did exceed the whiteness of the driven snow.

And it came to pass after I had seen the tree, I said unto the Spirit:

I behold thou hast shown unto me the tree which is precious above all.

And he said unto me:

What desirest thou?

And I said unto him: To know the interpretation thereof--for I spake unto him as a man speaketh; for I beheld that he was in the form of a man; yet nevertheless, I knew that it was the Spirit of the Lord; and he spake unto me as a man speaketh with another.

And it came to pass that he said unto me:

Look!

And I looked as if to look upon him,
and I saw him not; for he had gone from before my presence.

C And it came to pass that I looked

and beheld the great city of Jerusalem, and also other cities.

And I beheld the city of Nazareth; and in the city of Nazareth

I beheld a virgin, and she was exceedingly fair and white.

And it came to pass that I saw

the heavens open; and an angel came down and stood before me; and he said unto me: Nephi, what beholdest thou? And I said unto him: A virgin, most beautiful and fair above all other virgins.

D And he said unto me: Knowest thou the condescension of God?

E And I said unto him: I know that he loveth his children;

D' nevertheless, I do not know the meaning of all things.

C' And he said unto me:

Behold, the virgin whom thou seest is the mother of the Son of God, after the manner of the flesh. And it came to pass that I beheld that she was carried away in the Spirit; and after she had been carried away in the Spirit for the space of a time

the angel spake unto me, saying:

Look!

And I looked

and beheld the virgin again, bearing a child in her arms.

And the angel said unto me:

Behold the Lamb of God, yea, even the Son of the Eternal Father!

B' Knowest thou the meaning of the tree which thy father saw?

And I answered him, saying: Yea, it is the love of God, which sheddeth itself abroad in the hearts of the children of men;

wherefore, it is the most desirable above all things.

And he spake unto me,

saying:

Yea, and the most joyous to the soul.

A' And after he had said these words, he said unto me:

Look!

And I looked,

and I beheld the Son of God going forth among the children of men;

and I saw many fall down at his feet and worship him. (1 Nephi 11:6-24)

And now it came to pass that Samuel, the Lamanite, did prophesy a great many more things which cannot be written. And behold, he said unto them: Behold, I give unto you a sign; for five years more cometh, and behold,

A then cometh the Son of God to redeem all those who shall believe on his name.

B And behold, this will I give unto you for a sign at the time of his coming;

C for behold, there shall be great lights in heaven,

D insomuch that in the night before he cometh

E there shall be no darkness, insomuch that it shall appear unto man as if it was day.

F Therefore, there shall be one day and a night and a day, as if it were one day and there were no night;

G and this shall be unto you for a sign;

F' for ye shall know of the rising of the sun and also of its setting; therefore they shall know of a surety that there shall be two days and a night;

E' nevertheless the night shall not be darkened;

D' and it shall be the night before he is born.

C' And behold, there shall a new star arise, such an one as ye never have beheld;

B' and this also shall be a sign unto you. And behold this is not all, there shall be many signs and wonders in heaven. And it shall come to pass that ye shall all be amazed, and wonder, insomuch that ye shall fall to the earth.

A' And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall believe on the Son of God, the same shall have everlasting life.

And behold, thus hath the Lord commanded me, by his angel,

that I should come and tell this thing unto you;

yea, he hath commanded

that I should prophesy these things unto you;

(Helaman 14:1-9)

There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

A And they had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years.

B And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course, according to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord.

- C And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense. And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.
- D And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.
- E But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard;
- F and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness;
- G and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.
- G' And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.
- F' And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years.
- E' And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.
- D' And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.
- C' And the people waited for Zacharias, and marvelled that he tarried so long in the temple. And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: for he beckoned unto them, and remained speechless.
- B' And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house.
- A' And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived, and hid herself five months, saying, Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.
- A And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.
- B And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
- C And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb,

D and bring forth a son,
and shalt call his name JESUS.
He shall be great,
and shall be called the Son of the Highest:

E and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever;
and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

D' Then said Mary unto the angel,
How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
And the angel answered and said unto her,
The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and
the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee:
therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the
Son of God.

C' And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the
sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible.

B' And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.

A' And the angel departed from her.

And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; And entered into
the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.

And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary,
the babe leaped in her womb;
and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost:
And she spake out with a loud voice, and said,
Blessed art thou among women, and
blessed is the fruit of thy womb.
And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears,
the babe leaped in my womb for joy.
And blessed is she that believed:
for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the
Lord.

And Mary said,
My soul doth magnify the Lord, and
my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden:
for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath done to me great things;
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.
He hath shewed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seats,
and exalted them of low degree.
He hath filled the hungry with good things;
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He hath holpen his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy; as he spake
to our fathers,
to Abraham, and
to his seed for ever.

And Mary abode with her about three months, and returned to her own house.

Now Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son. And her neighbours and her cousins heard how the Lord had shewed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her.

And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child;
and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father.

And his mother answered and said, Not so;
but he shall be called John.

And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name. And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called.

And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying,
His name is John.
And they marvelled all.

And his mouth was opened immediately,
and his tongue loosed,
and he spake, and praised God.

And fear came on all that dwelt round about them:
and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judaea.
And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying,
What manner of child shall this be!
And the hand of the Lord was with him.

And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying,

A Blessed be the Lord God of Israel;
for he hath visited
and redeemed his people,

B And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;

C As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

D That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;

E To perform the mercy
promised to our fathers,

F and to remember his holy covenant;

E' The oath
which he sware to our father Abraham,

D' That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies
might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our
life.

C' And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of
the Lord to prepare his ways;

B' To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

A' Through the tender mercy of our God;
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,
To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.
(Luke 1:5-80)

And it came to pass that in the commencement of the ninety and second year, behold, the prophecies of the prophets began to be fulfilled more fully; for there began to be greater signs and greater miracles wrought among the people.

A But there were some who began to say

B that the time was past
for the words to be fulfilled, which were spoken by Samuel, the Lamanite.

A And they began to rejoice over their brethren, saying:

B Behold the time is past,
and the words of Samuel are not fulfilled;

C therefore, your joy and your faith concerning this thing hath been vain.

D And it came to pass that they did make a great uproar throughout the land;

E and the people who believed began to be very sorrowful, lest by any means those things which had been spoken might not come to pass.

D' But behold, they did watch steadfastly for that day and that night and that day which should be as one day as if there were no night,

C' that they might know that their faith had not been vain.

B' Now it came to pass that there was a day set apart by the unbelievers, that all those who believed in those traditions should be put to death
except the sign should come to pass, which had been given by Samuel the prophet.

A' Now it came to pass that when Nephi, the son of Nephi, saw this wickedness of his people, his heart was exceedingly sorrowful.

And it came to pass that he went out and bowed himself down upon the earth,
and cried mightily to his God in behalf of his people,
yea, those who were about to be destroyed because of their faith in the tradition of their fathers.
And it came to pass that he cried mightily unto the Lord, all that day;

and behold, the voice of the Lord came unto him, saying:

Lift up your head and be of good cheer;
for behold, the time is at hand, and on this night shall the sign be given,
and on the morrow come I into the world,
to show unto the world that I will fulfill all that
which I have caused to be spoken by the mouth of my holy prophets.

Behold, I come unto my own,
to fulfill all things
which I have made known unto the children of men from the foundation of the
world, and
to do the will, both
of the Father and
of the Son--
of the Father
because of me, and
of the Son
because of my flesh.

And behold, the time is at hand, and this night shall the sign be given.

- A And it came to pass that the words which came unto Nephi were fulfilled, according as they had been spoken;
- B for behold, at the going down of the sun
there was no darkness;
and the people began to be astonished because
there was no darkness
when the night came.
- C And there were many, who had not believed the words of the prophets,
who fell to the earth and became as if they were dead,
for they knew
that the great plan of destruction which they had laid for those who believed
in the words of the prophets had been frustrated;
for the sign which had been given was already at hand.
And they began to know
that the Son of God must shortly appear; yea, in fine,
- C' all the people upon the face of the whole earth from
the west to
the east, both in
the land north and in
the land south,
were so exceedingly astonished that they fell to the earth.
For they knew
that the prophets had testified of these things for many years,
and that the sign which had been given was already at hand;
and they began to fear because of their iniquity and their unbelief.
- B' And it came to pass
that there was no darkness in all that night, but it was as light as though it was mid-day.
And it came to pass
that the sun did rise in the morning again, according to its proper order;
and they knew that it was the day that the Lord should be born, because of the sign which
had been given.
And it had come to pass,
yea, all things, every whit, according to the words of the prophets.
And it came to pass also
that a new star did appear,

A' according to the word. (3 Nephi 1:4-21)

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went

to be taxed,

every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth,

into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house
and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

A And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

B And she brought forth her firstborn son,

C and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room
for them in the inn.

D And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

E a And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,
 b and the glory of the Lord shone round about them:
 c and they were sore afraid.

F And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

G For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

F' And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

E' a And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
 b Glory to God in the highest,
 c and on earth peace, good will toward men.[3]

D' And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

C' And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

B' And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

A' But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. (Luke 2:1-20)

A Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise:

B When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

C Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

D But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

E And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

D' Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

C' Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife.

B' And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son:

A' and he called his name JESUS.

(Matthew 1:18-25, John Breck, The Shape of Biblical Literature)

And the Word

was made flesh, and

dwelt among us,

(and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,)

full of grace and truth.

(John 1:14)

And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

A And when the days of her purification

according to the law of Moses were accomplished,

they brought him to Jerusalem,

to present him to the Lord;

(As it is written in the law of the Lord,

Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;)

And to offer a sacrifice

according to that which is said in the law of the Lord,

A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.

B And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout,

waiting for the consolation of Israel:

and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost,

that he should not see death,

before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother,

Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

B' And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; and she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

- A' And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth. (Luke 2:21-39)

- A Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews?

B for we have seen his star in the east,

C and are come to worship him.

D When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

E And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

E' And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

D' Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

C' And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

B' When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

- A' And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts;
gold, and
frankincense, and
myrrh.

And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. And when they were departed, behold,

- A the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying,
Arise,

and take the young child and his mother,
and flee into Egypt,

and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

When he arose,

he took the young child and his mother
by night, and departed into Egypt:

And was there until the death of Herod:

that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,
Out of Egypt have I called my son.

- B Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men,
was exceeding wroth, and
sent forth, and
slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under,
according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

B' Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,
 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel
 weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

A' But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying,
 Arise,
 and take the young child and his mother,
 and go into the land of Israel:
 for they are dead which sought the young child's life.
 And he arose,
 and took the young child and his mother,
 and came into the land of Israel.
 But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father
 Herod, he was afraid to go thither:
 notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the
 parts of Galilee: And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth:
 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be
 called a Nazarene. (Matthew 2:1-23)

A And the child
 grew, and
 waxed strong in spirit,
 filled with wisdom:
 and the grace of God was upon him.

B Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year
 at the feast of the passover.
 And when he was twelve years old,
 they went up to Jerusalem
 after the custom of the feast.
 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned,

C the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But
 they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey;

D and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

E And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

F And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting
 in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.
 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

E' And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why
 hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

D' And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me?

C' wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?[4] And they understood not the saying
 which he spake unto them.

B' And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept
 all these sayings in her heart.

A' And Jesus increased in
 wisdom and
 stature, and in
 favour with God and man.

(Luke 2:40-52)

- A Verily, thus saith the Lord: It shall come to pass that every soul who
 forsaketh his sins and
 cometh unto me, and
 calleth on my name, and
 obeyeth my voice, and
 keepeth my commandments,
 shall see my face and know
- B that I am; And
 that I am the true light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world; And
 that I am
 in
 the Father, and
 the Father
 in
 me, and the Father and I are one--
- The Father
 because he gave me of his fulness,
 and the Son because I was in the world
 and made flesh my tabernacle,
 and dwelt among the sons of men.
 I was in the world
 and received of
 my Father, and the works of him were plainly manifest.
- C And John saw and bore record
 of the fulness
 of my glory,
 and the fulness
 of John's record is hereafter to be revealed.
- a i And he bore record, saying:
- ii I saw his glory,
- iii that he was in the beginning,
 before the world was;
- Therefore, in the beginning
 the Word
 was,
 for he
 was
 the Word, even
 the messenger of salvation--
 The light and
 the Redeemer of the world;
 the Spirit of truth, [5]
- iv who came into the world, because the world was made by him,
- b i and in him was the life of men
 and the light of men.
- ii The worlds were made
- iii by him;

b' i men were made by him;
 ii all things were made
 iii by him, and
 through him, and
 of him.

a' i And I, John, bear record that
 ii I beheld his glory,
 iii as the glory of the Only Begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth,
 even the Spirit of truth,
 iv which came and dwelt in the flesh, and dwelt among us.

D And I, John, saw that
 he received not of the fulness at the first,
 but received grace for grace;
 And he received not of the fulness at first,
 but continued from grace to grace, until he received a fulness;
 And thus he was called the Son of God,
 because he received not of the fulness at the first.

E And I, John, bear record, and lo,
 the heavens were opened,
 and the Holy Ghost
 descended upon him
 in the form of a dove,
 and sat upon him,
 and there came a voice out of heaven saying: This is my beloved Son.

D' And I, John, bear record that
 he received a fulness of the glory of the Father;
 And he received all power, both in heaven and on earth,
 and the glory of the Father was with him, for he dwelt in him.

C' And it shall come to pass, that if you are faithful you shall receive the fulness of the record of John. [6]

B' I give unto you these sayings that you may understand and
 know how to worship, and
 know what you worship, [7]

A' that you may come unto the Father in my name,
 and in due time receive of his fulness.

For if you keep my commandments
 you shall receive of his fulness,
 and be glorified in me as I am in the Father;
 therefore, I say unto you, you shall receive grace for grace.

(Doctrine and Covenants 93:1-20)

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

(John 13:34-35)

- A And he shall go forth, suffering pains and afflictions and temptations of every kind;
and this that the word might be fulfilled which saith he will take upon him the pains and the
sicknesses of his people.
And he will take upon him death, that he may loose the bands of death which bind his people;
- B and he will take upon him their infirmities,
- C that his bowels may be filled with mercy,
- D according to the flesh,
- E that he may know
- D' according to the flesh
- C' how to succor his people
- B' according to their infirmities.
- A' Now the Spirit knoweth all things; nevertheless the Son of God suffereth according to the flesh
that he might take upon him the sins of his people, that he might blot out their transgressions
according to the power of his deliverance; (Alma 7:11-13)

And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall
pray. And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed,[8] and to be very heavy;
And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch. And he went forward
a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said,
Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but
what thou wilt.

(Mark 14:32-36)

And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down
to the ground.

(Luke 22:44)

For behold, I, God, have suffered these things for all, that they might not suffer if they would repent; but if they
would not repent they must suffer even as I; which suffering caused myself, even God, the greatest of all, to
tremble because of pain, and to bleed at every pore, and to suffer both body and spirit, and would that I might
not drink the bitter cup, and shrink. Nevertheless, glory be to the Father, and I partook and finished my
preparations unto the children of men.

(Doctrine and Covenants 19:16-19)

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My
God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

(Matthew 27:46)

And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having
said thus, he gave up the ghost.

(Luke 23:46)

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it...And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

(Matthew 28:1-6)

A God, who
 at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past
 unto the fathers
 by the prophets,

Hath
 in these last days spoken
 unto us
 by his Son,
 whom he hath appointed heir of all things,
 by whom also he made the worlds;
 Who being the brightness of his glory,
 and the express image of his person,
 and upholding all things by the word of his power,
 when he had by himself purged our sins,
 sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;
 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a
 more excellent name than they...

And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith,
 And let all the angels of God worship him...

But unto the Son he saith,

Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever:
 a sceptre of
 righteousness is
 the sceptre of
 thy kingdom.

Thou hast
 loved righteousness, and
 hated iniquity;
 therefore God,
 even thy God,
 hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning
 hast laid
 the foundation of the earth;
 and the heavens
 are the works of thine hands:
 They shall perish;
 but thou remainest;
 and they all shall wax old
 as doth a garment;
 And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up,
 and they shall be changed:
 but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail...

But one in a certain place testified, saying,

What is man,
that thou art mindful of him?
or the son of man,
that thou visitest him?

Thou madest him a little lower than the angels;
thou crownedst him with glory and honour,
and didst set him over the works of thy hands:
Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet.
For in that he put all in subjection under him,
he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels
for the suffering of death,
crowned with glory and honour;
that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

B For it became him,
for whom are all things, and
by whom are all things,
in bringing many sons unto glory,
to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

C For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one:

D for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying,
I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing
praise unto thee.

And again, I will put my trust in him.

And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me.

E Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself
likewise took part of the same;

F that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is,
the devil;

F And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to
bondage.

E' For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of
Abraham.

D' Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren,

C' that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make
reconciliation for the sins of the people.

B' For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

A' a Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling,

b consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; who was faithful to him
that appointed him,

- c as also Moses was faithful in all his house.
- d For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour
- e than the house.
- e' For every house
- d' is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.
- c' And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;
- b' But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we,
- a' if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end. (Hebrews 1:1-3:6)

- A Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
- B As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:
- C But as he which hath called you is holy,
- D so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;[9]
- D' Because it is written, Be ye holy;
- C' for I am holy.
- B' And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear: forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;
- A' But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:
Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,
Who by him do believe in God,
that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory;
that your faith and hope might be in God. (1 Peter 1:13-25)

...until the fulness of times,

- A when Christ shall have subdued all enemies under his feet,
- B and shall have perfected his work;
- C When he shall deliver up the kingdom,
- C' and present it unto the Father,
- B' spotless, saying:

- A' I have overcome and have trodden the wine-press alone, even the wine-press of the fierceness of the wrath of Almighty God. Then shall he be crowned with the crown of his glory, to sit on the throne of his power to reign forever and ever.
(Doctrine and Covenants 76:106-108)

And while we meditated upon these things, the Lord touched the eyes of our understandings and they were opened, and the glory of the Lord shone round about.

- A And we beheld the glory of the Son,
on the right hand of the Father,
and received of his fulness;
And saw the holy angels, and them who are sanctified before his throne, worshiping God,
and the Lamb, who worship him forever and ever.

- B And now, after the many testimonies
which have been given of him,
this is the testimony, last of all,
which we give of him:
That he lives!

- A' For we saw him,
even on the right hand of God;
and we heard the voice bearing record that he is the Only Begotten of the Father--that by him,
and through him, and of him, the worlds are and were created,
and the inhabitants thereof are begotten sons and daughters unto God.
(Doctrine and Covenants 76:19-24)

Notes

1. NIV – The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
2. Rulers are kings and queens, exalted husbands and wives in the hereafter.
3. The declaration in the c in E' is to overcome the fear expressed in the c of E.
4. NIV – “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”
5. Word = Spirit of truth (A = A')
6. C is an extract from the record of John, the fulness of which is to be revealed subsequently (C').
7. “What you worship” is in B to D', which means that A tells us how to worship.
8. “Imagine, Jehovah, the Creator of this and other worlds, ‘astonished’! Jesus knew cognitively what He must do, but not experientially. He had never personally known the exquisite and exacting process of an atonement before. Thus, when the agony came in its fulness, it was so much, much worse than even He with his unique intellect had ever imagined!” (Neal A. Maxwell, Ensign, May 1985, 72-73)
9. *conversation*, Greek *anastrophé*: behavior, conduct. NIV – But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;