

Gospel Doctrine Sunday School

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Slippery Rock Branch

Volume 4, Issue 5

Today's Word: seer

March 2, 2008

Are You:

- Obeying the Law of the Fast?
- Bearing Your Testimony Whenever Possible?

Today's Scriptures

2 Nephi 11-25

Next Week:

Lesson 10:

"He Inviteth All to Come Unto Him"

2 Nephi 26-30

&

Lesson 11:

"Press Forward with a Steadfastness in Christ"

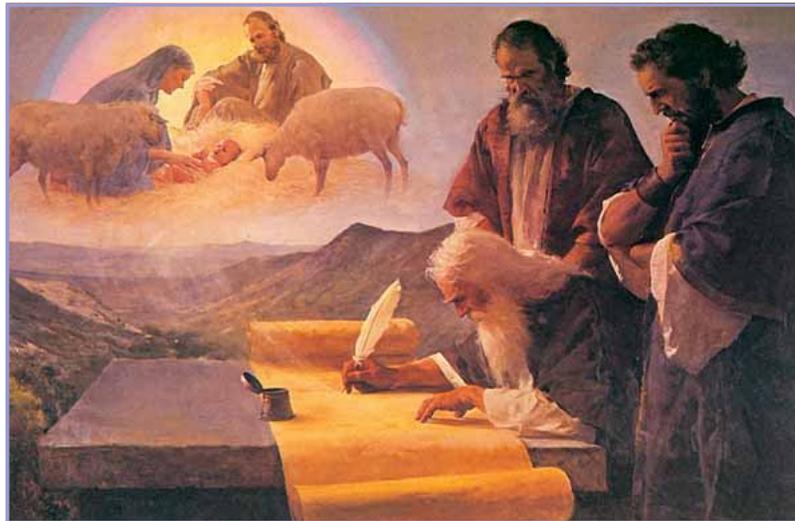
2 Nephi 31-33

NOTE:

Next 2 lessons are combined. March 16 is Branch Conference.

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Lesson 9: "My Soul Delighteth in the Words of Isaiah"



Isaiah's Testimony of the Restoration and Atonement in 2 Nephi

"Nephi reinforced Lehi's, Jacob's and his testimonies of the Redeemer by citing Isaiah's prophecies of the coming of the Messiah and the redemption of Israel in the last days. Nephi explained his purpose simply: "That I might more fully persuade them to believe in the Lord their Redeemer I did read unto them that which was written by the prophet Isaiah." (1 Ne. 19:23.) One scholar has observed that, of the 425 verses from Isaiah quoted in the Book of Mormon, 391 deal in some way with the

Questions to Ponder

- What might you do this week to comply more fully with Nephi's exhortation to worship the Lord "with all your might, mind, and strength, and your whole soul"?
- How can all temples be "mountains" for our worship?

mission or attributes of the Savior. . . . Isaiah's witness of the Lord was sure and certain. . . . He declared that the day would come when all nations would look to Israel for peace and righteous judgment. (See 2 Ne. 12:2-4.) To do that, the Lord would first set his hand to recover the remnant of Israel, raising an ensign for the nations. (See 2 Ne. 21:11-12.) The Lord would call a mighty servant, to whom the Spirit would restore wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, and knowledge. The servant's work of setting up an ensign of gathering would help to eventually usher in the Millennium. . . .

"The sign of the Lord's first coming would be that a virgin would conceive and call her child Immanuel, meaning *God with us*. The Redeemer's birth, contrary to the expectations of many, would be "for a stone of stumbling, and for a rock of offense to both the houses of Israel." (2 Ne. 18:14.) Nevertheless, it would be a great light for the people in darkness. Peace and justice would characterize his government, and his reign would be without end. (See 2 Ne. 19:2, 6-7.)

"Isaiah's testimony of the Atonement in the chapters Nephi quotes is placed in the context of his latter-day redemption of Israel. . . . Nephi knew that Isaiah's prophecies were difficult to understand for his own people, but they were valuable (see 2 Ne. 25:1-3), and he expounded them using his own prophecies in the final chapters of 2 Nephi. Nephi also understood how valuable Isaiah's prophecies would be for future readers: "I know that they shall be of great worth unto them in the last days; for in that day shall they understand them; wherefore, for their good have I written them." (2 Ne. 25:8.) (Bruce A. Van Orden, "We Prophecy of Christ: The Law of Witnesses in 2 Nephi," *Ensign*, Feb 1990, 22).