



HOPE FOR ISRAEL

Fourth in a Series on the Last Dispensation of Time

A Message from the Quorum of Twelve Apostles

Hope is defined as a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen. The Church of Jesus Christ has a genuine and *unique LOVE and HOPE* for Israel and is fully certain great events (things) will happen on Israel's behalf. When The Church of Jesus Christ refers to Israel we are not only referencing the nation of Israel and the predominant indigenous people of that nation, the lineage of Judah, but also the entire house of Israel. The entire house of Israel is comprised of all the descendants of the twelve tribes of Jacob who was renamed Israel (Genesis 32:28).

In previous articles from the Quorum of Twelve Apostles we have identified that when the Peaceful Reign occurs one of the results from establishing this peaceful kingdom is the restoration and gathering of the House of Israel (1 Nephi 22:11-12 and Jeremiah 16:15). The Church of Jesus Christ has for over the past 150 years been blessed with an understanding of the importance of bringing the Gospel to the Indigenous peoples in the Americas (Native Americans), many of whom are descendants of Joseph of Egypt (Son of Jacob). The Church of Jesus Christ has been given understanding of the holy scriptures by the Spirit of God that the restoration of Joseph is the first step in the restoration of the entire House of Israel.

The first step toward the restoration of Israel is by the knowledge and conversion of the descendants of Joseph to the fullness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ when the Gentiles shall sin against HIS gospel. (III Nephi 16:10-12). God will work in a powerful manner to the convincing the descendants of Joseph of His pure and unadulterated Gospel and will employ His servant, the Choice Seer, to the convincing of the words that have gone forth (II Nephi 3:11). We of The Church of Jesus Christ are blessed in understanding that the believing Gentiles shall assist the remnant of Jacob on the lands of the Americas to build a city which shall be called the New Jerusalem. (III Nephi 21:23-24).

The blessings of God to the House of Israel do NOT stop at the establishment of the New Jerusalem in the Americas. The House of Israel is part of the lineage of Abraham therefore they inherit the promises made to Abraham. The covenants made to Abraham from God were great and everlasting – including the prophesy of Christ coming into the world as his posterity. One of several references is found in Genesis 17:7 “And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.” Throughout the Scriptures, God has spoken through His Holy Prophets that he would gather again the House of Israel. One such scripture is found in Jeremiah 31:10 “Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.”

Our HOPE for Israel is the express understanding that all the tribes of Israel will be gathered to not only their lands of their inheritance but also, and most importantly, they will serve God by accepting Jesus Christ as the Messiah and savior of the world. The Holy Bible and Book of Mormon are replete with references to the gathering of the House of Israel as the gathering will be one of the greatest events in the Last Dispensation of Time before Jesus Christ returns to earth and time stops and eternity begins.

A partial listing of the highlights of the restoration of the entire House of Israel are as follows (note these are not presented in sequential order):

1. As the pure and unadulterated Gospel of Jesus Christ is brought to the descendants of Joseph and the Peaceful Reign is established God commences to recover the entire House of Israel *“And then shall the work of the Father commence at that day, even when this gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people. Verily I say unto you, at that day shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people, yea, even the tribes which have been lost, which the Father hath led away out of Jerusalem. (III Nephi 21: 26)*
2. The lost tribes of Israel are NOT lost, their exact location is known to God *“But now I go unto the Father, and also to show myself unto the lost tribes of Israel, for they are not lost unto the Father, for he knoweth whither he hath taken them.” (III Nephi 17:4)*
 - Many of the tribe of Judah will acknowledge Jesus as the Christ, be converted to Him and He will write His law in their inward parts and He will remember their sin no more (Zechariah 13:6 and Jeremiah 31:31-34). This **fact** is also found in II Nephi 25:15-16 *“Wherefore, the Jews shall be scattered among all nations; yea, and also Babylon shall be destroyed; wherefore, the Jews shall be scattered by other nations. And after they have been scattered, and the Lord God hath scourged them by other nations for the space of many generations, yea, even down from generation to generation until they shall be persuaded to believe in Christ, the Son of God, and the atonement, which is infinite for all mankind - and when that day shall come that they shall believe in Christ, and worship the Father in his name, with pure hearts and clean hands, and look not forward any more for another Messiah, then, at that time, the day will come that it must needs be expedient that they should believe these things.”*
3. All the tribes of Israel (who follow Christ) will be gathered together, to accept and worship Jesus Christ and dwell in peace with one another. (Isiah 11:12-13 and Ezekiel 37:21-23)
4. Jerusalem (in the land of Israel) will be rebuilt unto the house of Israel (Ether 13: 5).
5. All tribes of Israel will be represented in the New Jerusalem to be built while in the flesh in the Americas (with the assistance of the believing Gentiles). The House of Israel gathered in the old Jerusalem will be able to travel to the New Jerusalem in the Americas as a highway will be prepared for the remnant of God’s chosen people. (Isaiah 11:16 and Isaiah 35:8-10)
6. Israel and the believing Gentiles they inherit will be NEVER more confounded as it states in III Nephi 22:1-5, *“And then shall that which is written come to pass: Sing, O*



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barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child; for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord. Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thy habitations; spare not, lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes; For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left, and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles and make the desolate cities to be inhabited. Fear not, for thou shalt not be ashamed; neither be thou confounded, for thou shalt not be put to shame; for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more. For thy maker, thy husband, the Lord of Hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel - the God of the whole earth shall he be called."

There is a great Hope for Israel as stated throughout the scriptures in the Holy Bible and the Book of Mormon. The Church of Jesus Christ eagerly awaits the return of the entire House of Israel to Jesus Christ as depicted in Romans 11:15 *"For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?"* In conclusion, The Church of Jesus Christ is certain on the Hope for Israel and that all these expectations and events will occur as our Lord Jesus Christ stated *"heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away"*. (Matthew 24:35, Mark 13:31 and Luke 21:33).

In the Love of God,
The Quorum of Twelve Apostles