

SAMPLE PAGES FROM:

THE VISION OF ALL

**Our Past, Present and Future as Fore-
told in Book of Mormon History**

Second Edition
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Temporal Parallels to Book of Mormon History

References

LEHITES

ISRAELITES

(First Gathering)

(1 Ne 2)	Lehi's people leave wicked city of Jerusalem	Moses leads children of Israel from Egypt
(1 Ne 17)	Travel through the wilderness	Travel through the wilderness
(1 Ne 18)	Arrive at a land of Promise	Arrive at the Promised Land
(Enos 1:23)	Backslidings	Backslidings
(Jarom 1:6)	Scattering	Scattering
(Omni)	Period of Darkness	Dark Ages

(Second Gathering)

(Omni 1:12,13)	King Mosiah led to Zarahemla	Columbus guided to America
(Omni 1:24)	Nephites repel Lamanites from Zarahemla	American Revolutionary War
(Msh 29)	"Reign of the judges" begins	U.S. Constitution established
(Msh 28)	Jaredite records come forth	Book of Mormon translated
(Msh 18)	Church founded by Alma the older	Joseph Smith restores church
(Msh 23,24)	Alma and his people driven and persecuted	Saints driven and persecuted
(Alma 17-26)	Sons of Mosiah preach to Lamanites; convert thousands	Early missionary labors in Europe; thousands converted
(Alma 2)	Nephite Civil War	U.S. Civil War
(Alma 30)	Korihor and his doctrines	Karl Marx and Communism
(Alma 43-62)	Nephite-Lamanite Wars	World Wars I and II
(Alma 63)	Curious men venture into unknown territory	Space exploration
(Alma 63:12)	Records sent forth throughout all the land	Book of Mormon mandated to flood the earth

(Again the Second Time)

(Hel 4,6)	Nephites become grossly wicked	Gentiles reject the fullness of gospel
(Hel 4,6)	Lamanites become the more righteous	Scattered Israel clamor for religion and freedom
(Hel)	Secret Societies gain much power	New World Order emerges
(Hel 1,4,11)	Chastening destructions come upon the Nephite	Gentiles trodden under foot
(Hel 4)	Nephites experience temporary captivity	Reign of the beast
(Hel 5,11)	Miraculous deliverance of Nephites and Lamanites	Lord makes bare his arm in delivering his people
(Hel 11:20)	Nephites build up their waste places	New Jerusalem Construction begins
(3 Ne 3)	Nephites and Lamanites gather into one body to fight off Gadianton robbers	Literal gathering of house of Israel; wicked elsewhere stirred up in iniquity
(3 Ne 6)	A highway cast up; old cities built anew	Return of ten tribes from North
(3 Ne 6)	Wicked covenant to destroy the people of the Lord	Armageddon: all nations combine against the Jews
(3 Ne 8)	Catastrophic destruction of all the wicked	Catastrophic destruction of all the wicked
(3 Ne 9,10)	Voice from heaven	Voice from heaven
(3 Ne 11)	Christ appears	Second Coming
(3,4 Ne)	Era of peace	Millennium
(4 Ne, Morm)	Final struggle between Nephites and Lamanites	Satan Loosed; Gog and Magog

Spiritual Parallels to Book of Mormon History

References

LEHITES

INDIVIDUAL

(First Gathering)

(1 Ne 1:4)	Lehi and family in a city about to be destroyed	Lost and fallen state
(1 Ne 2)	Lehi's family hearkens to Lehi's counsel	<i>Faith</i> in words of messengers of salvation
(1 Ne 2)	Lehi's family departs from Jerusalem	<i>Repentance</i> of sins
(1 Ne 16:12)	Cross river into the wilderness	<i>Baptism</i> at age eight for the remission of sins
(1 Ne 16)	Led through the wilderness by Liahona	Led by the <i>Holy Ghost</i> --First Comforter
(2 Ne 1)	Obtain land of promise	Blessings of membership
(Enos 1:22,23)	Backslidings	Adolescent apostasy
(Omni)	Period of darkness	Estrangement

(Second Gathering)

(Msh 5)	King Benjamin revitalizes the people	Born again
(Msh 28)	Jaredite records come forth	Scriptures come to life
(Msh 18)	Church founded by Alma the older	Recommitment to church
(Msh 28; Alm 17-26)	Early missionary labors	Zealous missionary experiences
(Alma 1,2,11,12,30)	Anti-Christ emergence	Combating false doctrines
(Alma 43-62)	Nephite-Lamanite wars	Wars of the flesh
(Hel)	Secret Combinations arise seeking power and gain	With prosperity comes the cancer of pride
(Hel)	Nephites severely punished	Sore chastenings of the Lord
(3 Ne 6:14)	A few members are steadfast and immovable	Proving that one is steadfast and immovable
(3 Ne 8-10)	The Lord destroys the wicked	Sanctification through the Spirit
(3 Ne 9,10)	Voice from heaven	Calling and election made sure
(3 Ne 11)	Appearance of Jesus Christ	Second Comforter
(4 Ne. 1)	Satan has no power	Satan has no power
(3 Ne 26:19)	Hear and see unspeakable things	All things revealed
(4 Ne; Morm)	Nephites sin against the light they have received	Sons of perdition sin against the Holy Ghost

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CHAPTER TWO

A Preview of the Temporal and Spiritual Parallels

So far we have developed an abstract analysis of the concept of parallels and their validity. With this foundation, the next step is to begin building a framework. Before delving into a detailed enumeration of some of the parallels, it would be good to take a brief glance at this *vision of all* as foretold in Book of Mormon history.

Temporal Parallels

An easily discernable parallel is between Christ's visit to the Nephites and the Second Coming. In both instances, great and terrible destructions of the wicked precede the Lord's appearance in His glory. The joyous and peaceful era that followed the Savior's ancient advent foreshadows the Zion civilization that will thrive during the millennium. The final battle at the end of the Book of Mormon record is a likeness to the concluding conflict that will flare at the end of millennium.

The parallels between Book of Mormon history and the latter days are not limited to the period immediately surrounding the Savior's coming. Turning back to the books of Omni and Mosiah, we find reflections of the birth of the American nation. The emphasis on American history is fitting, for the United States of America is "the Lords' base of operations in these latter days" -- the beacon set upon a hill.¹¹

Not only has the gospel gone forth from her borders to the nations of the earth, but the hallowed principles of her government have inspired leaders of numerous other nations to adopt similar institutions. Whether or not the Christian inhabitants of this land have amply fulfilled their duty to be the saviors of men, it is nonetheless a nation of manifest destiny, and the Lord has been able to bring about many mighty works through her. (D&C 103:9; 3 Ne. 16:15; D&C 98:5,6.)

The parallels go on. Just as the Holy Ghost inspired Columbus to sail for America, the Lord guided King Mosiah (I) through the wilderness to a new land, Zarahemla. (Omni 1:12,13.) Shortly after that, the Lord strengthened the Nephites so they could repel the armies of the jealous and angry Lamanites, who came against them from their former land. (Omni 1:24; Mosiah 1:13.) This mirrors that time when the Lord extended his arm in blessing the American Colonizers with a miraculous victory against tremendous odds, winning their independence from their mother country. In this same general period of Nephite history, king Mosiah (2) set up a new system of government, which parallels the inspired document brought forth by our Founding Fathers: the Constitution of the United States. (Mosiah 29.) The six most fundamental principles of the Constitution¹² can be identified in that Nephite system of the reign of the judges.

Second Coming and the following millennium will be the highlight of their history. Likewise, the height of individual progression is to receive the second comforter (a personal manifestation of Jesus Christ) and have one's "calling and election [made] sure." (2 Pet. 1:10.)

Before this blessed state can be realized, evil must be completely overcome. This is true for nations as well as individuals. The battles between the Lamanites and the Nephites, for example, might exemplify a person's inner struggles between the will of the flesh and the will of the spirit. The subtle infiltration of secret combinations into the government of a nation epitomizes the cancerous effect that pride can have on an individual.¹⁷

Now that we have considered parallels toward the final stages of national and spiritual progression, let's consider some other parallels toward the beginning stages. Temporal histories portray important pivotal elements of a person's commencement in the paths of righteousness. The account of the children of Israel's exodus from Egypt (which parallels the Lehite exodus) embodies the principles of faith, repentance, baptism by immersion for the remission of sins, and receiving the guiding gift of the Holy Ghost. Moses led a humbled people out of Egypt through the waters of the Red Sea, and all the pursuing Egyptians were drowned. This departure and cleansing represents the principle of repentance and the ordinance of baptism. (1 Cor. 10:1,2.) The Lord sent a pillar of fire by night and a cloud by day to lead the children of Israel to the promised land. This symbolizes the guiding gift of the Holy Ghost.

After finally arriving in the promised land, the children of Israel eventually apostatized from the Lord. They were then scattered upon the face of the earth. Similarly, many pass through a personal period of rebellion, sometimes estranging themselves from the Lord -- commonly in adolescent years.

The apostasy of the house of Israel was not permanent. In these latter days the

Lord is now setting his hand a second time to recover his covenant people. As they turn their hearts once more toward God they are being gathered back into his fold. Likewise, as a wayward individual turns to the Lord, the Lord will be abundantly merciful to him too. Salvation is still extended to him.

The process of restoration, through which the Israelite and Lehite nations passed, bears likeness to that which individuals who are reborn of the Spirit experience. Scriptures coming forth among these two nations resemble the new-found love of the word of God that reborn individuals acquire. Next, the extensive missionary labors undertaken by both these nations reflect the missionary zeal that marks truly converted individuals, especially early after their rebirth. The rigors of the trials of the flesh and of the spirit with which an individual wrestles, are portrayed in national conflicts. This completes a brief overview of the spiritual parallels.

The Interrelationship of Temporal (National) and Spiritual (Individual) Parallels

Spiritual parallels are one more means by which the Lord points individuals toward salvation and illuminates the path that leads there. The spiritual progression of His children is a most basic element of the Father's eternal plan. Should we be surprised, then, to see God's loving arm manifest in shaping the events of nations so that they model that progression? Isaiah wrote, "O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand." (Isa. 64:8.) If God can influence the life of an individual without infringing his agency, couldn't He also mold the events of nations without encroaching on agency even one iota? In the past, our unchanging God has utilized "many signs, and wonders, and types, and shadows..." all of which were designed to "show unto" the people "concerning his coming." (Mosiah 3:15.) The patterns established by the Lehite

CHAPTER FIVE

First Gathering of the House of Israel

The history in the beginning of the Book of Mormon (First Nephi through Omni), holds many similarities to the first gathering of the House of Israel as well as to their later apostasy from the Lord. The story of the captive children of Israel's deliverance from Egypt and their prolonged journey through the wilderness to the promised land, followed by their gradual apostasy and eventual scattering is a familiar one. The Lehites were also delivered from a wicked city, journeyed through a wilderness, and were led to a promised land. They too became stiffnecked after many years of prosperity and entered into a period of relative darkness.

Establishment of a Covenant Land and People

The similarities between the Lehites' and Israelites' deliverance and their journeys through the wilderness to a promised land are extensive. Nephi apparently not only understood these similarities but wanted us to notice them as well. In a single chapter (First Nephi 17) he lays out many common elements. Appendix B presents many of these.

The Book of Mormon history begins with the Lord commanding the prophet Lehi to "take his family and depart into the wilderness" to escape the pending destruction of Jerusalem. (1 Ne. 2:2.) When the Lord called Lehi, "there came a *pillar of fire* and dwelt upon a rock before him; and he saw and heard much." (1 Ne. 1:6.) Shortly after that, while pondering upon these things, he "saw *God* sitting upon his throne." (1 Ne. 1:8; Alma 36:22.) These things are reminiscent of Moses' experience with the burning bush. He too beheld the face of God, and the Lord similarly commanded him to deliver the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage. (Exo. 3:2-8.)

Another likeness we find is that both the Lehites' and the Israelites' crossing a body of water marked their entrance into the wilderness. (1 Ne. 16:12; 17:8,14; compare Neh. 9:11.)²⁸ It was the river Laman in the Lehi's case and the Red Sea for the Israelites.

Once in the wilderness, the Lord provided miraculous means for both groups to survive. He fed the children of Israel with manna, and he caused water to come forth from a rock that they "might quench their thirst." (1 Ne. 17:28,29; compare Neh. 9:15.) He enabled Lehi's people to live upon raw meat,

²⁸Lehites' later crossing of the ocean also carries somewhat of a parallel to the children of Israel's crossing the Red Sea. In both cases, the Lord showed forth his miraculous power to enable his people to cross a formidable body of water.

CHAPTER NINE

Second Gathering of the Individual

Looking further in the Israelites' progression (as paralleled in Lehite history), we find great hope. Even though they apostatized anciently, when the time comes that they repent, they will be gathered again to their lands of promise, and the covenants made to their fathers will all be fulfilled. (Deut. 30:1-6.) The Lord declared, "...Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee, O house of Israel." (1 Ne. 21:15 = Isa. 49:15.) Similarly, though individuals may fall away, the Lord will not forget them, and when they turn their hearts back to him, he will be merciful and lead them to the greatest of blessings. The most fundamental theme of scriptural history and prophecy is restoration--just as repentance is the underlying principle of individual salvation. (D&C 6:9.) Furthermore, the process involved in redeeming nations seems to correspond closely to steps that an individual needs to take for personal redemption.

A Mighty Change of Heart

So far we have considered the spiritual applications of the history in First Nephi through Omni. In the books of Jarom and Omni was the account of the Nephites' decline that seemed to parallel the apostasy of the House of Israel. Proceeding into the book of Mosiah, we see the likeness of a reawakening. Several events apparently contain important personal applications: the rebirth of the people through the instrumentality of king Benjamin, the coming forth of the Jaredite records, Alma's establishment of the church of God, the persecutions of the saints, and the missionary fervor recorded toward the end of the book of Mosiah and the beginning of the book of Alma. Each of these seems to apply particularly to that period in an individual's life when he experiences a mighty change of heart--or "conversion."

Born Again

Reflecting back on the great spiritual transformation that took place among the Nephite people during this period, Alma the younger said, "Behold, He [the Lord] *changed their hearts*; yea, he *awakened them* out of a deep sleep, and they awoke unto God. Behold they were in