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Title: The Gathering of Israel

Revelation Question of Joseph Smith: What will happen at the second coming?

What do you learn about “*the gathering*” from each of these scripture blocks in section 29?  Share specific verses, phrases, and explanations.

v. 1-13

 This section talks about the second coming of Jesus Christ, as well as the millennium of peace that will follow it. It also talks about how the saints will be gathered together when that happens. Verse 8 mentions that “they shall be [gathered](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note8a) in unto one place upon the face of this land, to [prepare](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note8b) their hearts and be prepared in all things against the day when [tribulation](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note8c) and desolation are sent forth upon the wicked.” This is the Lord asking Jospeh Smith to get all of the members of the church together into one location before mentioning in verse 9 that the second coming is coming soon. The next few verses talk about how there will be a millennium of peace, and how the wicked will be punished.

v. 14-28

 The first part of this section talks about the things that will happen to the wicked when the second coming happens. Verses 14-21 talk about things like wailing and gnashing of teeth, beasts devouring them, and the flesh falling off their bones. In short, the wicked will not be having a good time when the savior comes again. The next part of the section talks about how the earth will be remade when the Savior comes again. Verse 24 says “For all [old](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note24a) things shall [pass away](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note24b), and all things shall become new, even the heaven and the earth.” It looks like the earth and heaven will be changed when the savior comes again and the saints are gathered.

v. 29-39

This section of verses talks a lot about agency and how it’s important to make our own choices. Verse 39 says “And it must needs be that the [devil](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note39a) should [tempt](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note39b) the children of men, or they could not be [agents](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note39c) unto themselves; for if they never should have [bitter](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note39d) they could not know the sweet.” This shows that it’s important for us to be able to choose the gospel on our own. It also mentions how the Lord made all spiritual things, as well as temporal things.

v. 40-50

 This section of verses talks about repentance and how it’s important to for us to repent before the second coming. Verse 44 says “for they cannot be redeemed from their spiritual [fall](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/29?lang=eng#note44b), because they repent not.” This shows that at the second coming, those who don’t repent can’t be saved from the fall and go to the celestial kingdom. This section also talks about the pre-existence and how it was part of God’s plan for us to have to sin and repent in order for us to know the difference between good and evil.

Provide an important teaching from Joseph Smith or Brigham Young on the gathering?

Joseph Smith said that “It is the duty of the Saints to gather together, and not to be scattered abroad. For the Lord has said that He will gather His people in one, and that He will bring them to the place where He shall give them their inheritance."

Connect in your own words this quote to the reading.

This quote is similar to the early verses of this section where talks about how the saints will be gathered together at the second coming. It talks about “Their Inheritance”, which could be talking about how the people who repent will go to heaven.

Questions (2)

Does the gathering still apply to all the saints even though there are millions of us now?

Is the gathering a physical gathering, or more of a spiritual or metaphorical gathering?