

## CHAPTER 25

*Nephi glories in plainness—Isaiah's prophecies will be understood in the last days—The Jews will return from Babylon, crucify the Messiah, and be scattered and scourged—They will be restored when they believe in the Messiah—He will first come six hundred years after Lehi left Jerusalem—The Nephites keep the law of Moses and believe in Christ, who is the Holy One of Israel. About 559–545 B.C.*

1 Now I, Nephi, do speak somewhat concerning the words which I have written, which have been spoken by the mouth of Isaiah. For behold, Isaiah spake many things which were <sup>a</sup>hard for many of my people to understand; for they know not concerning the manner of prophesying among the Jews.

2 For I, Nephi, have not taught them many things concerning the manner of the Jews; for their <sup>a</sup>works were works of darkness, and their doings were doings of abominations.

3 Wherefore, I write unto my people, unto all those that shall receive hereafter these things which I write, <sup>a</sup>that they may know the judgments of God, that they come upon all nations, according to the word which he hath spoken.

4 Wherefore, hearken, O my people, which are of the house of Israel, and give ear unto my words; for because the words of Isaiah are not plain unto you, nevertheless they are plain unto all those that are filled with the <sup>a</sup>spirit of <sup>b</sup>prophecy. But I give unto you a <sup>c</sup>prophecy, according to the spirit which is in me; wherefore I shall prophesy according to the <sup>d</sup>plainness which hath been with me from the time that I came out from Jerusalem with my father; for behold, my soul delighteth in <sup>e</sup>plainness unto my people, that they may learn.

5 Yea, and my soul delighteth in the words of <sup>a</sup>Isaiah, for I came out from Jerusalem, and mine eyes hath beheld the things of the <sup>b</sup>Jews, and I know that the Jews do <sup>c</sup>understand the things of the prophets, and there is none other people that understand the things which were spoken unto the Jews like unto them, save it be that they are taught after the manner of the things of the Jews.

6 But behold, I, Nephi, have not taught my children after the manner of the Jews; but behold, I, of myself, have dwelt at Jerusalem, wherefore I know concerning the regions round about; and I have made mention unto my children concerning the judgments of God, which <sup>a</sup>hath come to pass among the Jews, unto my children, according to all that which Isaiah hath spoken, and I do not write them.

7 But behold, I proceed with mine own prophecy, according to my <sup>a</sup>plainness; in the which I <sup>b</sup>know that no man can err; nevertheless, in the days that the prophecies of Isaiah shall be fulfilled men shall know of a surety, at the times when they shall come to pass.

8 Wherefore, they are of <sup>a</sup>worth unto the children of men, and he that supposeth that they are not, unto them will I speak particularly, and confine the words unto mine <sup>b</sup>own people; for I know that they shall be of great worth unto them in the <sup>c</sup>last days; for in that day shall they understand them; wherefore, for their good have I written them.

9 And as one generation hath been <sup>a</sup>destroyed among the Jews because of iniquity, even so have they been destroyed from generation to generation according to their iniquities; and never hath any of them been destroyed save it were <sup>b</sup>foretold them by the prophets of the Lord.

10 Wherefore, it hath been told them concerning the destruction which should come upon them, immediately after my father left <sup>a</sup>Jerusalem; nevertheless, they <sup>b</sup>hardened their hearts; and according to my prophecy they have been destroyed, save it be those which are <sup>c</sup>carried away <sup>d</sup>captive into Babylon.

11 And now this I speak because of the <sup>a</sup>spirit which is in me. And notwithstanding they have been carried away they shall return again, and possess the land of Jerusalem; wherefore, they shall be <sup>b</sup>restored again to the <sup>c</sup>land of their inheritance.

12 But, behold, they shall have <sup>a</sup>wars, and rumors of wars; and when the day cometh that the <sup>b</sup>Only Begotten of the Father, yea, even the Father of heaven and of earth, shall <sup>c</sup>manifest himself unto them in the flesh, behold, they will reject him, because of their iniquities, and the hardness of their hearts, and the stiffness of their necks.

13 Behold, they will <sup>a</sup>crucify him; and after he is laid in a <sup>b</sup>sepulchre for the space of <sup>c</sup>three days he shall <sup>d</sup>rise from the dead, with healing in his wings; and all those who shall believe on his name shall be saved in the kingdom of God. Wherefore, my soul delighteth to prophesy concerning him, for I have <sup>e</sup>seen his day, and my heart doth magnify his holy name.

14 And behold it shall come to pass that after the <sup>a</sup>Messiah hath risen from the dead, and hath manifested himself unto his people, unto as many as will believe on his name, behold, Jerusalem shall be <sup>b</sup>destroyed again; for <sup>c</sup>wo unto them that fight against God and the people of his <sup>d</sup>church.

15 Wherefore, the <sup>a</sup>Jews shall be <sup>b</sup>scattered among all nations; yea, and also <sup>c</sup>Babylon shall be destroyed; wherefore, the Jews shall be scattered by other nations.

16 And after they have been <sup>a</sup>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 <sup>b</sup>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 <sup>c</sup>clean hands, and look not forward any more for <sup>d</sup>another Messiah, then, at that time, the day will come that it must needs be expedient that they should believe these things.

17 And the Lord will set his hand again the second time to <sup>a</sup>restore his people from their lost and fallen state. Wherefore, he will proceed to do a <sup>b</sup>marvelous work and a wonder among the children of men.

18 Wherefore, he shall bring forth <sup>a</sup>his <sup>b</sup>words unto them, which words shall <sup>c</sup>judge them at the last day, for they shall be given them for the purpose of <sup>d</sup>convincing them of the true Messiah, who was rejected by them; and unto the convincing of them that they need not look forward any more for a Messiah to come, for there should not any come, save it should be a <sup>e</sup>false Messiah which should deceive the people; for there is save one <sup>f</sup>Messiah spoken of by the prophets, and that Messiah is he who should be rejected of the Jews.

19 For according to the words of the prophets, the <sup>a</sup>Messiah cometh in <sup>b</sup>six hundred years from the time that my father left Jerusalem; and according to the words of the prophets, and also the word of the <sup>c</sup>angel of God, his <sup>d</sup>name shall be Jesus Christ, the <sup>e</sup>Son of God.

20 And now, my brethren, I have spoken plainly that ye cannot err. And as the Lord God liveth that <sup>a</sup>brought Israel up out of the land of Egypt, and gave unto Moses power that he should <sup>b</sup>heal the nations after they had been bitten by the poisonous serpents, if they would cast their eyes unto the <sup>c</sup>serpent which he did raise up before them, and also gave him power that he should smite the <sup>d</sup>rock and the water should come forth; yea, behold I say unto you, that as these things are <sup>e</sup>true, and as the Lord God liveth, there is none other <sup>f</sup>name given under heaven save it be this Jesus Christ, of which I have spoken, whereby man can be saved.

21 Wherefore, for this cause hath the Lord God promised unto me that these things which I <sup>a</sup>write shall be kept and preserved, and handed down unto my seed, from generation to generation, that the promise may be fulfilled unto Joseph, that his seed should never <sup>b</sup>perish as long as the earth should stand.

22 Wherefore, these things shall go from generation to generation as long as the earth shall stand; and they shall go according to the will and pleasure of God; and the nations who shall possess them shall be <sup>a</sup>judged of them according to the words which are written.

23 For we labor diligently to write, to <sup>a</sup>persuade our children, and also our brethren, to believe in Christ, and to be reconciled to God; for we know that it is by <sup>b</sup>grace that we are saved, after all we can <sup>c</sup>do.

24 And, notwithstanding we believe in Christ, we <sup>a</sup>keep the law of Moses, and look forward with steadfastness unto Christ, until the law shall be fulfilled.

25 For, for this end was the <sup>a</sup>law given; wherefore the law hath become <sup>b</sup>dead unto us, and we are made alive in Christ because of our faith; yet we keep the law because of the commandments.

26 And we <sup>a</sup>talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we <sup>b</sup>prophecy of Christ, and we write according to our prophecies, that our <sup>c</sup>children may know to what source they may look for a <sup>d</sup>remission of their sins.

27 Wherefore, we speak concerning the law that our children may know the deadness of the law; and they, by knowing the deadness of the law, may look forward unto that life which is in Christ, and know for what end the law was given. And after the law is fulfilled in Christ, that they need not harden their hearts against him when the law ought to be done away.

28 And now behold, my people, ye are a <sup>a</sup>stiffnecked people; wherefore, I have spoken plainly unto you, that ye cannot misunderstand. And the words which I have spoken shall stand as a <sup>b</sup>testimony against you; for they are sufficient to <sup>c</sup>teach any man the <sup>d</sup>right way; for the right way is to believe in Christ and deny him not; for by denying him ye also deny the prophets and the law.

29 And now behold, I say unto you that the right way is to believe in Christ, and deny him not; and Christ is the Holy One of Israel; wherefore ye must bow down before him, and <sup>a</sup>worship him with all your <sup>b</sup>might, mind, and strength, and your whole soul; and if ye do this ye shall in nowise be cast out.

30 And, inasmuch as it shall be expedient, ye must keep the <sup>a</sup>performances and <sup>b</sup>ordinances of God until the law shall be fulfilled which was given unto Moses.