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THE BOOK OF  
MORMON  
=  
THE KEYSTONE

**II NEPHI**

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**The  
Book of Mormon**



**The  
Keystone  
of Our  
Religion**

## LESSONS FROM II NEPHI

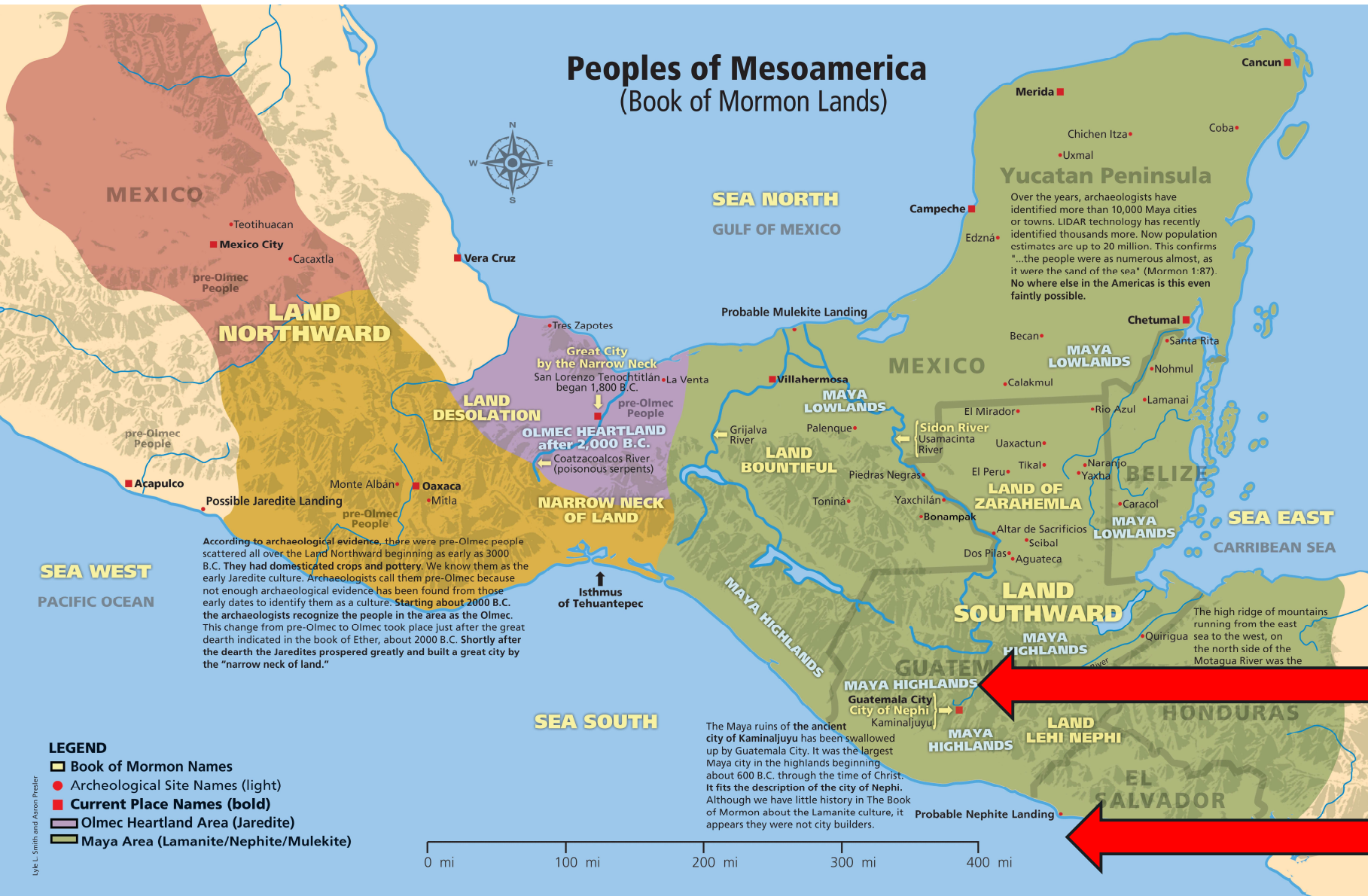
- Lehi teaches/prophesies – 4 sons, Zoram, Jacob, Joseph, Sons of Ishmael
- Lehi dies
- Nephi's Psalm
- Brothers rebel against Nephi
- Nephi warned to escape into wilderness
- The journeys of the Nephites
- Nephi includes a sermon by Jacob
- Nephi includes more references from Isaiah with explanations

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## Summary

- 15 chapters; 1172 verses
- Unabridged from the Small Plates of Nephi
- Covers ~ 42 years (588BC – 546BC)
- Begins at original landing spot, also Land / City of Nephi
- Written by Nephi
- Recorded 30 years after leaving Jerusalem

# Peoples of Mesoamerica (Book of Mormon Lands)

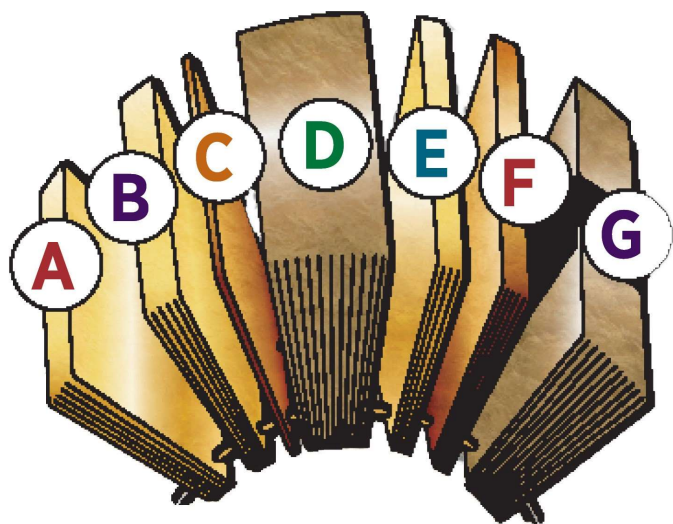


City of  
Nephi

Landing

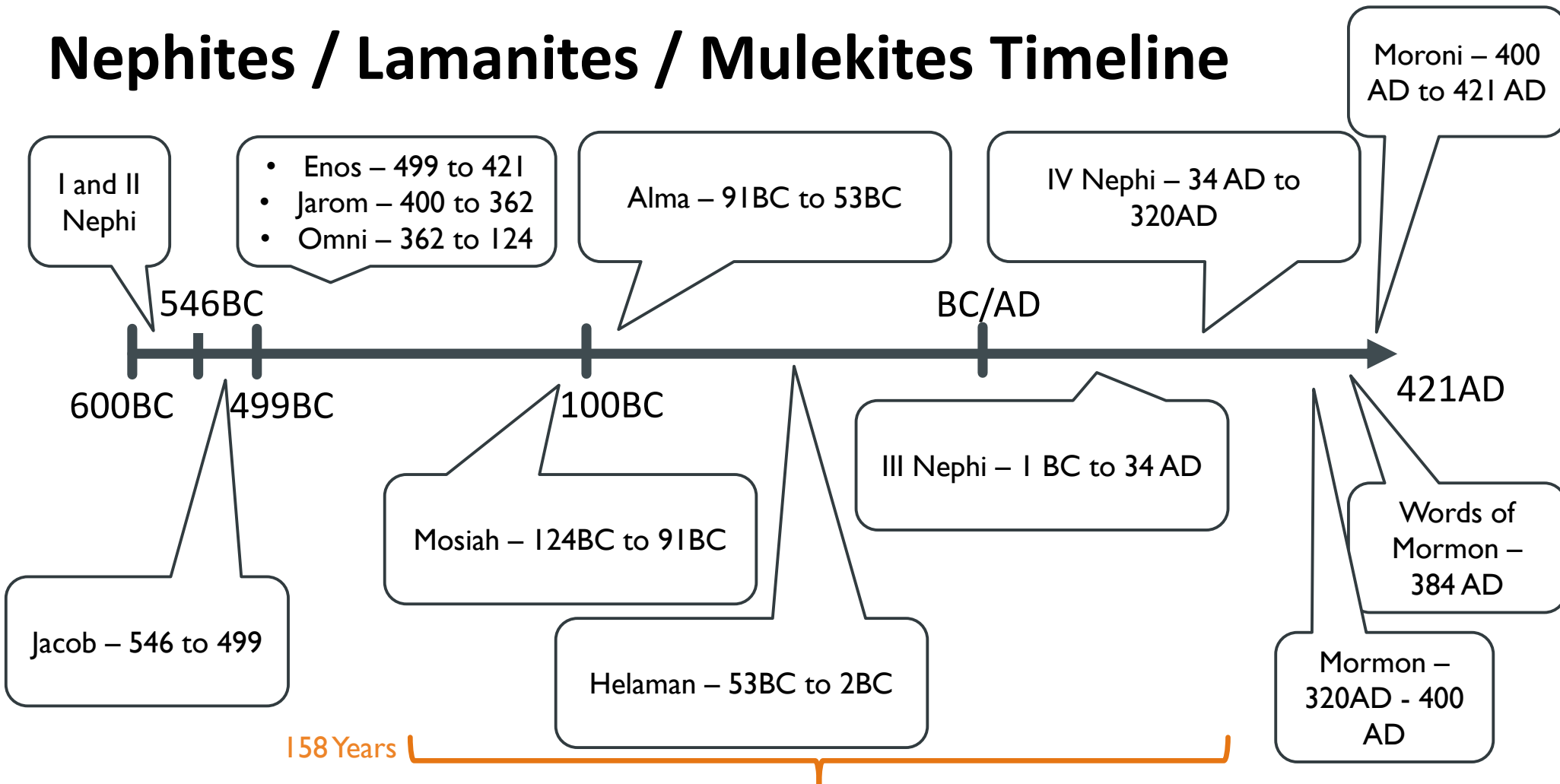
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# THE RECORDS INCLUDED IN THE PLATES



- A – Lost abridgement
- B – Small plates of Nephi (unabridged)
- C – Words of Mormon
- D – Large plates of Nephi (abridged)
- E – 24 Gold Plates (abridged)
- F – Moroni's writing
- G – Sealed Portion

# Nephites / Lamanites / Mulekites Timeline



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## II Nephi – Chapter Overview

1. Lehi sharing wisdom with his sons, Zoram
2. Lehi shares with Joseph ; quotes Joseph of Egypt
3. Lehi finishes his instruction to descendants, dies; Nephi's Psalm
4. The big split - Origin of Nephites & Lamanites
5. Jacob quoting Isaiah
6. Jacob explaining Isaiah quotes
7. Jacob continues his teaching the next day
8. Nephi quotes Isaiah
9. Nephi quotes Isaiah
10. Nephi quotes Isaiah
11. Nephi commentary on Isaiah
12. Nephi prophecies and expounds
13. Nephi teaches on the doctrine of Christ (Chapters 13 – 15)

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# DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

1:4 For, behold, said he, I have seen a vision, in which **I know that Jerusalem is destroyed;**

1:5 And had we remained in Jerusalem, we should also have perished.



***Fall of Jerusalem – 586BC***



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## PROPHECIES AND PROMISES (II N I:1-25)

- I have seen Jerusalem's destruction in vision, and we have obtained a land of promise.
- This land is consecrated to those who the Lord leads to it.
- If the inhabitants of this land keep the commandments, it will be a land of liberty unto them; failure to keep the commandments will bring captivity.
- This land has been kept from other nations, as a place of inheritance.
- Blessing will follow those who keep the commandments.
- Unbelief and rejection of Christ will lead the judgement of God.
- Other nations will come into the land, take away the inheritances, and initiate violence.

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## FATHERLY COUNSEL (II N I:26-58)

- Awake and arise, hear the words of a dying parent, who is redeemed of the Lord and encircled by his love.
- Keep the commandments, and don't let your hard hearts lead to the cursing of the Lord coming upon you.
- Don't become cursed; keeping the commandments will lead to prosperity in the land.
- Put on the armor of righteousness, and arise from the dusty darkness.
- Don't rebel against Nephi : he has been an instrument in the hands of God.
- I fear that Laman and Lemuel will again rebel against Nephi, at their own eternal peril.
- Nephi's sharpness has been nothing less than the truth, which you have taken to be so hard.
- The power of God is with Nephi, and the Spirit gives him commandments.
- Lehi counsels all of his sons and sons-in-law to pay heed to Nephi, that they may all be blessed.
- To Zoram, Lehi gives the blessing of Nephi, and promises that Nephi and Zoram's posterities may both be secure in this land.

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# AWAKE AND ARISE

- Vrs 27 – **Awake**
- Vrs 27 – Awake from a deep sleep; **shake off the awful chains of sin**
- Vrs 28 – Arise from the dust
- Vrs 36 – Arise from the dust and be men!
- Vrs 36 – **Be determined**
- Vrs 38 – Awake, put on the armor of righteousness
- Vrs 39 – Shake off the chains of sin, arise from the dust

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# OPPOSITION IN ALL THINGS – CHOOSE WISELY!

- MUST be an opposition in all things (vrs 81)
- God created all things
- Forbidden fruit in opposition to the tree of life
- God gave to man that he should act for himself; enticed by both
- God and the devil
- Life became a probationary state (vrs 108 ; II N 7:40-44)
- Adam fell that men might be, and men are, that they might have joy
- Men are free to act for themselves – choose liberty and eternal life or captivity and death

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## LEHI'S GUIDANCE TO THE SONS

- **Laman and Lemuel** – pleaded with them to not rebel against God and to listen to the words of Nephi
- **L&L, Sons of Ishmael, Sam** – if they would listen to Nephi they would not perish (II N 1:52-54+)
- **Zoram** – true friend to Nephi, will be blessed like him
- **Jacob** – Firstborn in the wilderness; he will dwell in safety with Nephi and his days will be spent serving the Lord; he will be saved because of his belief in the Messiah
- **Joseph** – Lastborn in the wilderness; still young; inherit the land with his brothers if keep the commandments; shared prophecy of prior Joseph

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## PROPHECY OF JOSEPH OF EGYPT (II N 2:1-44)

- Lehi a descendant of Joseph of Egypt (Manasseh)
- God had promised his descendants would be a righteous branch (vrs 7,8)
- Joseph knew of Moses and how he would deliver the Israelites (vrs 15)
- Choice seer different from Moses (vrs 17)
- Writings of Joseph & Judah will grow together (vrs 19-23)
  - Confounding false doctrine
  - Ending contention
  - Establishing peace
  - Knowledge of their fathers in the latter days; knowledge of the covenants of God

## II NEPHI 2 CHIASTIC STRUCTURE

- Center points of the chiasm / chapter are verses 22, 23
- Bringing them to the knowledge of their fathers in the latter days,
- And also to the knowledge of My covenants, saith the Lord

2 Nephi 2: Lehi's Blessing to Young Joseph

| Verse # | Text   |
|---------|--|
| 1       | A speak  |
| 3       | B thy brethren   |
| 4       | C Joseph   |
|         | D may the Lord bless thee  |
|         | E thy seed shall not be utterly destroyed                            |
| 6       | F covenants  |
|         | G Joseph   |
|         | H Joseph   |
| 8       | I remembered in the covenants  |
| 9       | J unto them  |
|         | K in the latter days   |
| 10      | L a seer shall the Lord my God raise up which shall be a choice seer |
|         | unto the fruit of my loins   |
| 11      | M Thus saith the Lord unto me  |
| 15      | N Moses  |
| 16      | O I have said I would raise up                                       |
| 17      | P Moses  |
|         | Q power  |
| 20      | R bring forth my word  |
| 21      | S fruit of thy loins   |
|         | T confounding  |
|         | U bringing them to the knowledge of their fathers                    |
|         | U' and also to the knowledge of my covenants                         |
|         | T' confounded  |
| 27      | S' fruit of thy loins  |
| 30      | R' the thing which the Lord shall bring forth                        |
|         | Q' power   |
| 31      | P' Moses   |
| 32      | O' the Lord hath said I will raise up                                |
|         | N' Moses   |
| 36      | M' the Lord said unto me also  |
|         | L' I will raise up unto the fruit of thy loins and I will            |
|         | make for him a spokesman   |
| 40      | K' after many generations have gone                                  |
|         | J' by them   |
| 43      | I' remembering of my covenant  |
| 44      | H' Joseph  |
|         | G' my father   |
| 45      | F' covenant  |
|         | E' thy seed shall not be destroyed                                   |
| 48      | D' blessed art thou  |
|         | C' Joseph  |
| 49      | B' thy brother   |
| 49      | A' spoken  |

Figure 1. The chiasmic center point (U & U') emphasizes the covenant made to the seed of Joseph of Egypt.

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## LEHI PROPHESED TO HIS SONS/GRANDKIDS (3:1-21)

- **Laman's kids** – God will continue to show mercy to your seed (vrs 13)
- **Lemuel's kids** – Not be utterly destroyed, will still be blessed (vrs 16)
- **Sons of Ishmael and children** – Nephi didn't record
- **Sam** – your descendants numbered with Nephi's and blessed (19-21)
  - Only son to not head a tribe – Jacob 1:13; Mormon 1:8



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## LEHI DIES

3:22 And it came to pass after my father Lehi had spoken unto all his household, according to the feelings of his heart, and the Spirit of the Lord which was in him, he waxed old.

3:23 And it came to pass that he died, and was buried.

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## NEPHI'S PSALM (II NEPHI 3:29-66)

**How to resist  
temptation –  
vrs 42-53**

- 29 - Ponder on the Scriptures
- 31 – O wretched man that I am (temptations and sins)
- 34,35 – Trust in God
- 42 - I've seen great things, so why should I be sad and give in to sorrow?
- 47 – Why do I let in the enemy of my soul?
- 56 – God, put your robe of righteousness on me
- 61 – I will trust thee forever
- 65 – God is the Rock of my righteousness

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## DEPARTING INTO THE WILDERNESS – II N 4



- Laman & Lemuel don't want Nephi to lead; plot to kill him
- Nephi warned to depart
- Those who fled: Nephi, Zoram, Sam, Jacob, Joseph, Sisters & families
- Took with them: Brass plates, sword of Laban, Liahona
- Establish land and city of Nephi
- Built a temple; made small plates

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# CITY OF NEPHI

- Many days journey from First Inheritance (including in the wilderness)
- Named the place Nephi
- Took their tents and everything else they could transport
- Grew crops; raised flocks
- Made other swords like Sword of Laban for defense
- Built buildings (wood and metal)
- Built a temple like Solomon's

# Peoples of Mesoamerica (Book of Mormon Lands)



City of  
Nephi

Landing

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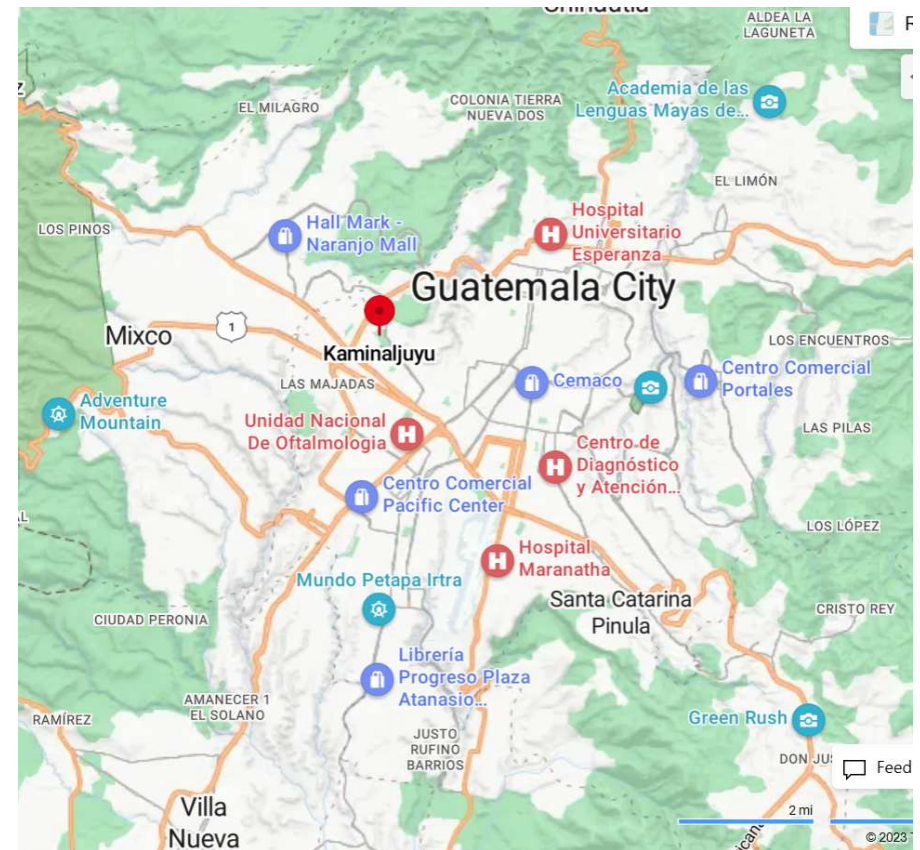
## KAMINALJUYU – CITY OF NEPHI?

- Fits the right location for a Mesoamerican archaeology model
- Fits the right timeline
- Fits other markers
  - Close to the headwaters of two major rivers (Grijalva and Usumacinta)
  - Nearby options for other referenced cities – Shilom, Shemlon
  - Mosiah 5:33; 7:16
  - Could be Frutal and Solano



# KAMINALJUYU

- The known parts of Kaminaljuyu lie on a broad plain beneath **roughly the western third of modern Guatemala City**. Soils are rich because of frequent volcanic eruptions; volcanic ash in the form of hardened tuff reaches depths of several hundred meters in and around Kaminaljuyu, and deep clefts or barrancos mark the landscape.
- There are many mysteries, in addition to size and scale, that likely will remain unanswered about Kaminaljuyu. **These questions are mainly about the role of the city as the greatest of the Southern Maya area (SMA)** in Preclassic times, particularly during the Miraflores period, c. **400–100 BC**.<sup>[7]</sup> The SMA is long believed to have been seminal in the development of Maya civilization.



Wikipedia

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## WHO WERE THE LAMANITES?

- Those who stayed behind – Laman, Lemuel, Sons of Ishmael
- Became an idle people, full of mischief and subtlety
- Hunted in the wilderness, darker skin
- Hearts were hardened
- Cursed because of their iniquity; Nephites told NOT to intermarry so as to avoid God's curses as well
- Will be a scourge to the Nephites whenever they forget the Lord
- Possibly intermarried with other natives



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## BOM PEOPLES ONLY INHABITANTS?

- “Latter Day Saints have commonly believed that all native Americans... are Lamanites. Simply stated they are not. Many tribes carry little or no evidence of ties with Israel. The Book of Mormon does not claim to be the history of all native Americans.” ~ Frank Frye
- “The descendants of Lehi were never the only people on the continent.” ~ Hugh Nibley

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# NEPHI MAKES THE SMALL PLATES

- II Nephi 4:43-50
- Also, ordains Jacob and Joseph to be priests and teachers of the people
- (No more mention of Joseph's ministry after this)
- By 560BC, they had already had wars and contentions with the Lamanites

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# ISAIAH IN THE BOOK OF MORMON

- Isaiah 48 & 49 – I Nephi 6 & 7 - Nephi to his brothers
- Isaiah 49:22 to 51:2 – II Nephi 5 - Jacob in a Sermon
- Isaiah 2 to 14 – II Nephi 8, 9, 10 – Nephi quoting
- Isaiah 29:6-32 & 11:4-9 – II Nephi 11, 12 – Nephi quoting
- Isaiah 52:7-10 & 53 – Mosiah 7 & 8 – Abinadi quoting
- Isaiah 52 – III Nephi 7 & 9 – Jesus quoting and explaining
- Isaiah 54 – III Nephi 10 – Jesus quoting

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# JACOB'S SERMONS QUOTED BY NEPHI

- II Nephi 5 & 6 – Jacob's first sermon
- II Nephi 7 – Jacob's second sermon



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## II NEPHI 5

1. II Nephi 5:1-9 – Jacob Talks About His Calling & Purpose For Speaking
2. II Nephi 5:10-15 – Jacob teaches Isaiah's Words May Be Likened Unto You
3. II Nephi 5:16-21 – Jacob Quotes Isaiah 49:22-23
4. II Nephi 5:22-40 – Jacob covers Jerusalem's Captivity, Jesus' Ministry & Second Coming
5. II Nephi 5:41-45 – Jacob Quoting Isaiah 49:24-26
6. II Nephi 5:46-69 – Jacob Quotes Isaiah 50
7. II Nephi 5:70-111 – Jacob Quoting Isaiah 51
8. II Nephi 5:112-114 – Jacob Quotes Isaiah 52:1-2

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# NEPHI THE PROTECTOR

2 Nephi 5:3 And having been consecrated by my brother, Nephi, unto whom ye look as a king or a **protector**, and on whom ye depend for safety

Jacob 1:10 The people having loved Nephi exceedingly, he having been a great **protector** for them, having wielded the sword of Laban in their defense, and having labored in all his days for their welfare; wherefore, the people were desirous to retain in remembrance his name

- Only times that protector appears in Scripture

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## JACOB TAUGHT LEHI'S MESSAGE

11 N 5:7 For I have exhorted you with all diligence; and I have taught you the words of my father;

8 And I have spoken unto you concerning all things which are written from the creation of the world.

9 And now, behold, I would speak unto you concerning things which are, and which are to come;

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## ISAIAH'S WORDS APPLY TO YOU (NEPHITES)

11 N 5:10 Wherefore, I will read you the words of Isaiah.

11 And they are the words which my brother has desired that I should speak unto you.

12 And I speak them unto you for your sakes, that ye may learn and glorify the name of your God.

13 And now the words which I shall read, are they which Isaiah spake concerning all the house of Israel;

14 Wherefore, **they may be likened unto you; for ye are of the house of Israel.**



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## II NEPHI 5:22-40

1. The inhabitants of Jerusalem have been slain and “carried away captive.” (v. 22)
2. They will return again (v. 23)
3. Jesus Christ will manifest himself to Israel in the flesh (v. 24)
4. They will scourge him and crucify him (v. 25) – told by an angel
5. They will be scattered, smitten and afflicted (v. 26-27)
6. When they know their Redeemer, they will be gathered together again (v. 29)
7. The Gentiles will be saved, if they repent and don’t fight against Zion (v. 30-31)
8. The Messiah will recover his people a second time (v. 36)
9. The Messiah will show himself unto them in power; enemies destroyed (v. 37-38)
10. They will know that the Lord is God, the Holy One of Israel (v. 40)

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## II NEPHI 6 – FIRST SERMON FINISHED UP

1. II Nephi 6:1-5 – Why He Quoted Isaiah 49:22 to 52:2 in II Nephi 5
2. II Nephi 6:6-24 – Death, Resurrection, the Fall, Atonement
3. II Nephi 6:25-33 – Resurrection
4. II Nephi 6:34-44 – The Judgment
5. II Nephi 6:45-50 – The Path to Salvation
6. II Nephi 6:51-56 – Those Who Know the Law vs. Those Who Do Not
7. II Nephi 6:57-64 – The Learned & Rich
8. II Nephi 6:65-74 – Sources of Woe & Carnal Thinking
9. II Nephi 6:75-106 – Come Unto the Lord

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# SOME MAJOR POINTS FROM JACOB'S SERMON

- How to reconcile vrs 6 & 7 – We're all going to die but in our bodies we will see God?
- Jesus died for ALL men (brings Resurrection for all) – vrs 10
- Jesus came to save ALL men (if they listen to Him) – vrs 45
- Transgression -> Fall -> Infinite Atonement -> Resurrection (vrs 10-15)
- Body and Spirit will be resurrected (vrs 26-31 ; Body in the grave; Spirit in hell or paradise)
- Will have perfect knowledge – of our sin or of His robe of righteousness (vrs 33-35)
- Atonement covers those without the law (vrs 54)
- Sources of woe – vrs 57 - 74

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# TWO GATES – WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE?



II Nephi 6:81-85  
Helaman 2:25,26



The keeper of the gate

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# JACOB'S SECOND SERMON – II NEPHI 7

- II Nephi 7:1-4 – Some Will Perish; Some Will Know Christ
- 7:5-9 – Christ Will Be Crucified By The Jews
- 7:10-13 – Israel Scattered, Then Gathered
- 7:14-18 – Gentiles Will Be Blessed
- 7:19-25 – Christ As King Of Zion In This Land
- 7:26-29 – Gentiles Blessed; Numbered Among Israel
- 7:30-35 – This Is A Choice Land For Our Children
- 7:36-39 – Other Groups Led to Other Lands
- 7:40-44 – Agency, Grace, Atonement

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## SOME MAJOR POINTS FROM JACOB'S 2<sup>ND</sup> SERMON

- There is no other nation that would crucify their God – vrs 7
- This is a “land of liberty” and will have no kings – vrs 18
- Gentiles will be blessed – vrs 29
- Isles of the sea; others led out from House of Israel – vrs 34-38
- You are free to choose - Reconcile yourselves to God – vrs 40,41
- Only saved by grace – vrs 42
- Raised by death because of resurrection; raised from EVERLASTING death by the atonement – vrs 43

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# FOREKNOWLEDGE OF THE MESSIAH

- Moses foretold of Christ's coming – Deut 18:15-19
- Moses lifted up brass serpent as symbol of Christ's crucifixion – Numbers 21:6-9
- His virgin birth and name Immanuel – Isaiah 7:14
- His birth in Bethlehem – Micah 5:2
- His royal lineage – Jeremiah 23:5
- His intro from one crying in the wilderness – Isaiah 40:3
- His coming riding on an ass – Zec 9:9
- Be called Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace – Isa 9:6
- Called the Messiah – Daniel 9:25
- Preaching to the meek and broken hearted – Isaiah 61:1
- Feed the flock like a shepherd – Isa 40
- Open the eyes of the blind – Isa 35:5
- Be sold for 30 pieces of silver – Zec 11:12
- Hands and feet be pierced – Psalms 22

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## II NEPHI 8 – NEPHI TRANSITIONS

- II Nephi 8: 1-16 Nephi transitioning after Jacob's sermons
- Nephi's going to quote more of Isaiah and apply it to his people
- Isaiah saw the Messiah; so did Nephi and Jacob (vrs 3,4)
  - 3 different witnesses to the Nephites of the coming Messiah
  - Also, foretelling of the 3 witnesses to the BoM in the future?
- Let's look closer at a few passages from this section



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## NEPHI PROVES TO HIS PEOPLE

- *11 Nephi 8:7 Behold, my soul delighteth in proving unto my people the truth of the coming of Christ:*
- *8 For, for this end hath the law of Moses been given:*
- *9 And all things which have been given of God from the beginning of the world, unto man, are the typifying of him.*
- Law of Moses given to point the way to Christ
- All revelation has been a type and shadow of Jesus – Luke 24

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# THE COVENANT DELIVERS FROM DEATH

- *11 Nephi 8:10 And also, my soul delighteth in the covenants of the Lord which he hath made to our fathers;*
- *11 Yea, my soul delighteth in his **grace**, and his **justice**, and **power**, and **mercy**, in the great and eternal plan of **deliverance from death**.*
- Jesus = the great and eternal plan of deliverance from death
- He demonstrates and balances between – grace, justice, power, mercy

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# CHRIST MUST COME OR WE'RE ALL DOOMED

- *11 Nephi 8:12 And my soul delighteth in proving unto my people, that save Christ should come, all men must perish.*
- *13 For if there be no Christ, there be no God; and if there be no God, we are not, for there could have been no creation.*
- *14 But there is a God, and he is Christ; and he cometh in the fullness of his own time.*

- No Christ = No God
- No God = No Creation
- No Creation = No Us



**Christ is fully God**

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# ISAIAH IN THE BOOK OF MORMON

- Isaiah 48 & 49 – I Nephi 6 & 7 - Nephi to his brothers
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- Isaiah 29:6-32 & 11:4-9 – II Nephi 11, 12 – Nephi quoting
- Isaiah 52:7-10 & 53 – Mosiah 7 & 8 – Abinadi quoting
- Isaiah 52 – III Nephi 7 & 9 – Jesus quoting and explaining
- Isaiah 54 – III Nephi 10 – Jesus quoting

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# ISAIAH IN II NEPHI

- II Nephi 8
  - II Nephi 8:17-38 – Nephi Quotes Isaiah 2: Prophecy of Zion & Day of the Lord
  - II Nephi 8:39-65 – Nephi Quotes Isaiah 3: Prophecy of Coming Judgment
  - II Nephi 8:66-70 – Nephi Quotes Isaiah 4: Prophecy of the Branch of Yahweh
  - II Nephi 8:71-100 – Nephi Quotes Isaiah 5: Prophecy of the Vineyard of Yahweh

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# ISAIAH IN II NEPHI

- II Nephi 9
  - II Nephi 9:1-13 – Isaiah 6: Isaiah's Call to Ministry
  - II Nephi 9:14-38 – Isaiah 7: Israel/Syrian Alliance & Sign Of A Child to Come
  - II Nephi 9:39-60 – Isaiah 8: Isaiah's Son & Assyrian Invasion
  - II Nephi 9:61-81 – Isaiah 9: A Child is Born & Israel/Syrian Alliance
  - II Nephi 9:82-115 – Isaiah 10: Judgment Upon Israel, Jerusalem & Assyria
  - II Nephi 9:116-131 – Isaiah 11: Zion, The Root of Jesse, Israel Gathered
  - II Nephi 9:132-137 – Isaiah 12: In Zion, They Will Praise & Trust in God

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# ISAIAH IN II NEPHI

- II Nephi 10 Quoted Isaiah 13 & 14
  - Isaiah 13:1 to 14:23 regarding God's judgment on Babylon
  - Isaiah 14:24-27 is about God's judgment on Assyria
  - Isaiah 14:28-32 regarding God's judgment on Philistia

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## WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM II NEPHI 10 THAT COULD BE APPLIED TO OUR LIVES?

- **God is sovereign over every nation on the earth.** They are subject to his judgment. Nothing is outside his control. This would apply to the nation I happen to live in, wherever I find myself. As a nation, we'll answer for our sins. Perhaps a country thinks they're a superpower and not subject to him, but that's not true. As a nation, the prouder and more boastful we become, the closer we are to judgment.
- **God was telling Judah not to rely on alliances with other nations, but instead to rely on, and trust in, Yahweh.** Sometimes a nation thinks they'll be alright because they have treaties with nations of great power. Instead, we should be thinking about how much the country we live in believes in God, loves God, worships God.



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## WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM II NEPHI 10 THAT COULD BE APPLIED TO OUR LIVES?

- When a nation doesn't submit to God's will, who will answer the call to be a prophet, like Isaiah did, and cry out against wickedness in high places? Or is the country we live in going to simply experience the consequences of its decisions and let God's judgment take its course?

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# NEPHI'S COMMENTS ON ISAIAH

## Major sections of II Nephi II

1. II Nephi II:1-10 – To Understand Isaiah, Learn About Prophecy & Ways of Jews
2. II Nephi II:11-37 -- Nephi's Prophecy About Isaiah's Fulfillment
3. II Nephi II:38-57 – Life That Is In Jesus & The Deadness of the Mosaic Law
4. II Nephi II:58-79 – Nephi's Prophecy: Christ's Appearance to the Nephites
5. II Nephi II:80-94 – Nephi's Prophecy: The Gentiles In The Last Days
6. II Nephi II:95-115 – Nephi: How God Works Among People
7. II Nephi II:116-160 – Nephi: Isaiah 29:6-32 & Added Revelation

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## TO UNDERSTAND ISAIAH

- II Nephi 11:2 For behold, Isaiah spake many things which were hard for many of my people to understand; for they know not concerning the manner of prophesying among the Jews.
- 3 For I, Nephi, have not taught them many things concerning the manner of the Jews; for their works were works of darkness, and their doings were doings of abomination.
- Words of Isaiah will be understood in the last days ; will be of great worth then – one reason why Nephi included (vrs 14)

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## DESTRUCTION IS ALWAYS FORETOLD

- II Nephi 11:15 And as one generation hath been destroyed among the Jews, because of iniquity, even so have they been destroyed from generation to generation, according to their iniquities;
- 16 And never hath any of them been destroyed, save it were foretold them by the prophets of the Lord.
- 17 Wherefore, it hath been told them concerning the destruction which should come upon them, immediately after my father left Jerusalem;
- 18 Nevertheless, they hardened their hearts; and according to my prophecy, **they have been destroyed**, save it be those which are carried away captive into Babylon.

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# FUTURE OF THE JEWS ; COMING OF JESUS

- Jews will be restored to Land of Jerusalem again
- Jesus will come; they will reject Him; they will crucify Him
- He will rise again after 3 days; those who believe will be saved
- Jews scattered again (AD 70)
- The Lord will restore His people a second time
- He will do a marvelous work and a wonder among the children of men
- His words will go forth to convince them that the Messiah has already come
- II N II:19-36

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## ONLY ONE WAY TO BE SAVED

- *II N 11:39 Yea, behold, I say unto you, that as these things are true, and as the Lord God liveth, there is none other name given under heaven, save it be this Jesus Christ of which I have spoken, whereby man can be saved*
- Only one way!
- “Buddha had a great compassion for suffering humanity. Greece had a religion of beauty. Judaism had a lofty idea of God. And many of the teachings of Jesus can be found in Confucianism. All these religions of mankind and their founders advanced many good principles, but the difference between these leaders and the Christ is that these leaders must remain in the tomb until Jesus says, “Come forth.”

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## “AFTER ALL THAT WE CAN DO” ← Misunderstood?

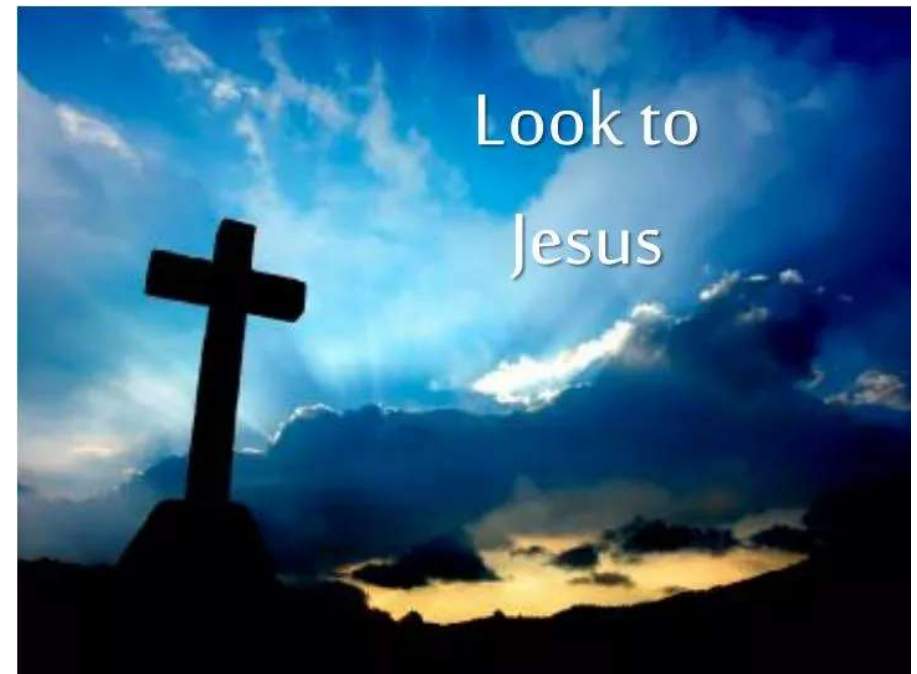
*11 N 11:44 For we know that it is by grace that we are saved, **after all we can do**.*

- What is the context of this statement?
- Who is the we? Nephi, other record keepers, his people
- 1 Believe in Christ vs 2 Reconciled to God – 1 is salvation; 2 is keeping the law of Moses
- Salvation does NOT come by keeping the law of Moses
- After can't be individual chronology – if it were, where does grace apply BEFORE we've done all we can do; how do we know we've done ALL?

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# THE LAW IS DEAD ; LOOK TO CHRIST

- The law is deadness (vrs 50)
- Only keep until Jesus comes (57)
- Talk of Christ; rejoice in Christ; preach of Christ; prophesy of Christ –  
**Why?**
- So that they will know to what source to look for remission of sins (vrs 48)
- Salvation story has always been the same - Jesus





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# NEPHI SEES THE FUTURE OF HIS PEOPLE

- Painful to see the future for his people (vrs 60)
  - Great wars and contentions coming
- Nephi sees great destruction for his descendants (vrs 61-71)
- Jesus will visit this land (vrs 73) ; 3,4 generations will live in righteousness and then speedy destruction (IV Nephi)
- “For the reward of their pride and foolishness, they shall reap destruction” (vrs 75)

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## NEPHI SEES THE GENTILES

- 11 Nephi 11:89 And it shall come to pass, that those who have dwindled in unbelief, shall be smitten by the hand of the Gentiles.
- 90 And the Gentiles are lifted up in the pride of their eyes, and have stumbled, because of the greatness of their stumbling block, that they have built up many churches;
- 91 Nevertheless they put down the power and the miracles of God, and preach up unto themselves, their own wisdom, and their own learning, that they may get gain, and grind upon the face of the poor;
- 92 And there are many churches built up which cause envyings, and strifes, and malice;
- 93 And there are also secret combinations, even as in times of old, according to the combinations of the devil, for he is the foundation of all these things; yea, the foundation of murder, and works of darkness;

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## FLAXEN CORD -> STRONG CORDS

- II Nephi II: 94 Yea, and he leadeth them by the neck with a flaxen cord, until he bindeth them with his strong cords for ever.
- A Spanish proverb reads: “Habits are at first cobwebs, then cables.”



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# BOM TEACHES AGAINST PREDESTINATION

- 11 Nephi 11: 96 He doeth not anything save it be for the benefit of the world; for he loveth the world, even that he layeth down his own life, that he may draw all men unto him.
- 97 Wherefore, he commandeth none that they shall not partake of his salvation.
- 98 Behold, doth he cry unto any, saying, Depart from me?
- 99 Behold, I say unto you, Nay; but he saith, Come unto me all ye ends of the earth, buy milk and honey, without money and without price.
- 102 Hath he commanded any that they should not partake of his salvation?
- 103 Behold, I say unto you, Nay; but he hath given it free for all men; and he hath commanded his people that they should persuade all men to repentance.

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# NO PRIESTCRAFT

- II Nephi 11: 106 He commandeth that there shall be no priestcrafts; for, behold,
- **priestcrafts** are that men preach and set themselves up for a light unto the world, that they may get gain, and praise of the world;
- but they seek not the welfare of Zion.

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# HOW WE SHOULD LIVE...AND SHOULDN'T LIVE

- 11 Nephi 11: 107 ... all men **should have charity**, which charity is love.
- 108 And except they should have charity, they were nothing: wherefore, if they should have charity, they would not suffer the laborer in Zion to perish.
- 109 But the laborer in Zion shall **labor for Zion**; for if they labor for money, they shall perish.
- 110 And, again, the Lord God hath commanded that men should **not murder**; that they should **not lie**; that they should **not steal**; that they should **not take the name of the Lord their God in vain**; that they should **not envy**; that they should **not have malice**; that they should **not contend one with another**; that they should **not commit whoredoms**; and that they should do none of these things;

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# EQUALITY FOR ALL AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS



- II Nephi 11: 113 And he inviteth them all to come unto him, and partake of his goodness;
- 114 And he denieth none that come unto him, black and white, bond and free, male and female;
- 115 And he remembereth the heathen, and all are alike unto God, both Jew and Gentile.

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## EMPTY SOULS IN THE LAST DAYS

- II Nephi 11: 119 Yea, it shall be unto them even as unto a hungry man, which dreameth, and behold he eateth, but he awaketh and **his soul is empty**;

