

Can a Nonmember Make it to Heaven?

“A question: Is it correct to say that if adults of the age of accountability are not a baptized member in our Church they will not go to heaven.”

Group Comments: I say Yes because that is between them & God. Based on Romans 10:9-10 "Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

then a couple verses down in Rm 10:13 it says, "For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

John 6:44 "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day."

It doesn't say "those who join a church(denomination here)" will be saved. When I got baptised into the Church of Christ I knew out of the latter day saint congregations this one IS the truth that followed/ follows JosephSmith jr. & what Jesus taught, however I also know others whom aren't with the Church of Christ or maybe not with ANY denomination ,but would still confess & believe Jesus is lord & died & raised again as i quoted in romans 10:9-10 , that they do have the free salvation & it's between them & God.

Group Comments: Dennis, I have heard this question before, many times. It comes down to Authority of the Priesthood doing the Baptism, the definition of heaven, and our enduring to the end of our lives with charity and perfection, keeping all the commandments of God, spreading the fullness of the Gospel. And of course the Grace and Judgement of God who sees and know all things. Their are of course scriptures to answer this question.

First of all, yes we believe we belong to the “true Church of Christ”, and we also believe there are churches of man as well as the church of the devil also known as the “Abominable Church”.

III Nephi 12 : 13, 20-23 13 And they who were baptized in the name of Jesus, were called the **Church of Christ**...**20** For if a church be called in **Moses' name, then it be Moses' church**; or if it be **called in the name of a man, then it be the church of a man**; but if it be **called in my name, then** it is **my church**, **if** it so be that they are built upon **my gospel**.**21** Verily I say unto you, that ye are built upon my gospel; therefore ye shall call whatsoever things ye do call in my name; therefore if ye call upon the Father, for the church, if it be in my name, the Father will hear you; **22** And **if** it so be **that the church is built upon my gospel, then will the Father shew forth his own works in it**; **23** But if it be not built upon my gospel, and is **built upon the works of men**, or upon the **works of the devil**, verily I say unto you, They have joy in their works for a season, and by and by the end cometh, and they are hewn down and cast into the fire, from whence there is no return;

I would say that most of us that have read or heard the gospel of salvation in the scriptures have thought about this very question. In them, The Lord clearly lays out our responsibility for eternal life:

Matthew 7:14 “Because **strait is the gate, and narrow is the way**, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”

2 Nephi 13: 8-13 8 And now, I would ask of you, my beloved brethren, wherein the Lamb of God did fulfill all righteousness in being **baptized by water**? Know ye not that he was holy? 9 But notwithstanding he being holy, he sheweth unto the children of men, that according to the flesh, he humbleth himself before the Father, and witnesseth unto the Father that he would be obedient unto him in keeping his commandments; 10 Wherefore, after he was baptized with water, the Holy Ghost descended upon him in the form of a dove. 11 And again: It sheweth unto the children of men the **straightness of the path, and the narrowness of the gate, by which they should enter**, he having set the example before them. 12 And he said unto the children of men, Follow thou me. 13 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, **can we follow Jesus, save we shall be willing to keep the commandments of the Father?**

Galatians 3:26 -29 For ye are **all the children of God** by faith in Christ Jesus. **27**For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. **28**There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for **ye are all one in Christ Jesus**. **29**And if ye *be* Christ's, then are ye **Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise**.

3 Nephi 12: 29-30 29 And it shall come to pass, that **whoso repenteth and is baptized in my name, shall be filled; and if he endureth to the end, behold, him will I hold guiltless before my Father**, at that day when I shall stand to judge the world. 30 And **he that endureth not unto the end, the same is he that is also hewn down and cast into the fire**, from whence they can no more return, because of the justice of the Father: and this is the word which he hath given unto the children of men.

Mark 16:16 He that believeth **and is baptized shall be saved**; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

John 3: 3-4 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God. **4**Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? **5**Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God**.

“Unless a man has been born again of **water and Spirit**, he will not enter into the kingdom of the heavens.” These words have tied faith to the **necessity of baptism**. Accordingly; **all thereafter who became believers were baptized**. So it was, too, that Paul, when he believed, was baptized. Tertullian (c. 198, W),3.676.

But there is no other [way] than this: to become acquainted with this Christ; to be **washed in the fountain** spoken of by Isaiah for the remission of sins; and for the rest, **to live sinless lives**. Justin Martyr (c. 160, B), 1.217.

Requirement to be Baptize By Someone with Authority

1 Tim 5:22 Lay hands **suddenly on no man**, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

John 20: 22-23 And when he had said this, he breathed on *them*, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: **23 Whose soever sins ye remit**, they are remitted unto them; *and* whose soever *sins* ye retain, they are retained.

Those who are called antichrists cannot administer the grace of saving baptism Water sanctified in the church by the prayer of the priest washes away sins. . . . By the regeneration of baptism, they may then come to the promise of Christ. **Sins are not remitted except in the baptism of the church.** . . . If there is anyone who says that the grace of baptism with heretics, he must first show and prove that the church is among them. Seventh Council of Carthage (c. 256, W), 5.567.

Since in baptism, every person has his own sins remitted, the Lord proves and declares in His Gospel that **sins can only be put away by those who have the Holy Spirit.** Cyprian (c. 250, W), 5.400

Mi 6:2-3 2 Behold, elders, priests, and teachers were baptized; and **they were not baptized, save they brought forth fruit meet that they were worthy of it;** neither did they receive any unto baptism, save they came forth with a broken heart and a contrite spirit, and witnessed unto the church that they truly repented of all their sins. 3 And **none were received unto baptism, save they took upon them the name of Christ**, having a determination to serve him to the end.

3 Nephi 5: 21-27 21 And the Lord said unto him, **I give unto you power that ye shall baptize this people**, when I am again ascended into heaven. 22 And again the Lord called others, and said unto them likewise; and **He gave unto them power to baptize.** 23 And he said unto them, On this wise shall ye baptize; and there shall be no disputations among you. 24 Verily I say unto you, that whoso repenteth of his sins through your words, and desireth to be baptized in my name, on this wise shall ye baptize them: Behold, ye shall go down and stand in the water, and in my name shall ye baptize them. 25 And now behold, these are the words which ye shall say, calling them by name, saying: **Having authority given me of Jesus Christ**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. 26 And then shall ye immerse them in the water, and come forth again out of the water. 27 And after this manner shall ye baptize in my name,... 39 And again I say unto you, Ye must repent, and become as a little child, and be baptized in my name, or ye can in no wise receive these things. 40 And again I say unto you, Ye **must repent, and be baptized in my name, and become as a little child, or ye can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God.** 41 Verily, verily I say unto you, that **this is my doctrine;** and whoso buildeth upon this, buildeth upon my rock; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against them.

So we see, the just by these few examples given here, the gospel of salvation is clear and uncompromising. Even so, the short answer to our question is that I don't know of *any* Church

of Christ minister that believes **only** our baptized members will be in heaven. So then how do we reconcile Christ's very strict doctrine?

There were Followers of Christ prior to the Restoral of Christ's Church

Mor 4:33-36; 45-50 And no one need say, They shall not come, for they surely shall, for the Lord hath spoken it; for out of the earth shall they come, by the hand of the Lord, and none can stay it; **34** And **it shall come** in a day when it shall be said that miracles are done away; and it shall come even as if one should speak from the dead. **35** And it shall come in a day when the blood of the saints shall cry unto the Lord, because of secret combinations and the works of darkness; **36** Yea, it shall come in a day when the **power of God** shall be denied, and **churches become defiled**, and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts; yea, even in a day when leaders of churches, and teachers, in the pride of their hearts, even to the envying of them who belong to their churches;... **45** Behold, the Lord hath shewn unto me great and marvelous things concerning that which must shortly come at that day when these things shall come forth among you. **46** Behold, I speak unto you as if ye were present, and yet ye are not. **47** But behold, Jesus Christ hath shewn you unto me, and I know your doing; and I know that ye do walk in the pride of your hearts. **48** **And there are none, save a few only, which do not lift themselves up in the pride of their hearts,** unto the wearing of very fine apparel, unto envying, and strifes, and malice, and persecutions, and all manner of iniquity; **49** **And your churches, yea, even every one, have become polluted because of the pride of your hearts.** **50** For behold, ye do love money, and your substance, and your fine apparel, and the adorning of your churches, more than ye love the poor and the needy, the sick and the afflicted.

2 Nephi 12:3-6,12-17 **3** For it shall come to **pass in that day**, that the **churches** which are built up, and not unto the Lord, when the one shall say unto the other, Behold, I, I am the Lord's; and the other shall say, I, I am the Lord's. **4** And thus shall every one say, that hath built up **churches**, and not unto the Lord; **5** And they shall contend one with another; and their priests shall contend one with another; and they shall teach with their learning, and deny the Holy Ghost, which giveth utterance. **6** And they **deny the power of God**,.... **12** Yea, and there shall be many which shall teach after this manner, false, and vain, and foolish doctrines, and shall be puffed up in their hearts, and shall seek deep to hide their counsels from the Lord; and their works shall be in the dark; and the blood of the saints shall cry from the ground against them. **13** Yea, they have **all gone out of the way; they have become corrupted.** **14** Because of **pride**, and because of false teachers, and false doctrine, their churches have become corrupted; and their churches are lifted up; because of pride, they are puffed up. **15** They rob the poor, because of their fine sanctuaries; they rob the poor, because of their fine clothing; and they persecute the meek, and the poor in heart; because in their pride, they are puffed up. **16** They wear stiff necks and high heads; yea, and because of pride, and wickedness, and abominations, and whoredoms, they have all gone astray, **save it be a few, which are the humble followers of Christ;** **17** Nevertheless, they are led, that in many instances they do err, because they are taught by the **precepts of men**.

Are there Exceptions to Christ's strict rules?

(Small Children and the Ignorant)

[Mosiah 1: 119-124](#) For the natural man is an enemy to God, and has been, from the fall of Adam, and will be, for ever and ever; 120 But if he yields to the enticings of the Holy Spirit, and putteth off the natural man, and becometh a saint, **through the atonement of Christ**, the Lord, and becometh as a child, submissive, meek, humble, patient, full of love, willing to submit to all things which the Lord seeth fit to inflict upon him, even as a child doth submit to his father. 121 And moreover, I say unto you, that the **time shall come, when the knowledge of a Savior shall spread throughout every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.** 122 And behold, when that time cometh, none shall be found blameless before God, except it be little children, only through repentance and faith on the name of the Lord God Omnipotent; 123 And even at this time, when thou shalt have taught thy people the things which the Lord thy God hath commanded thee, even then are they found no more blameless in the sight of God, only according to the words which I have spoken unto thee. 124 And now, I have spoken the words which the Lord God hath commanded me.

[Matt 18: 2-5](#) And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and **become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.** Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

[Moroni 8: 9-11](#) Behold, I came into the world not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance; the whole need no physician, but they that are sick; wherefore **little children are whole**, for they are **not capable of committing sin**; wherefore the curse of Adam is taken from them in me, that it hath no power over them; and the law of circumcision is done away in me. And after this manner did the Holy Ghost manifest the word of God unto me; wherefore my beloved son, I know that it is solemn mockery before God, that ye should baptize little children. Behold I say unto you, that this thing shall ye teach, repentance and baptism unto they which are accountable and capable of committing sin; yea, teach parents that they must repent and be baptized, and humble themselves as their little children, and they shall all be saved with their little children: and their little children need no repentance, neither baptism.... Behold, I speak with boldness, having authority from God; and I fear not what man can do; for perfect love casteth out all fear; and **I am filled with charity**, which is everlasting love; **wherefore all children are alike unto me**; wherefore **I love little children with a perfect love; and they are all alike**, and partakers of salvation.

[Moroni 8:25-29](#) For behold that all little children are alive in Christ, and **also all they that are without the law**. For the power of redemption cometh on all they that have **no law**; wherefore, he that is not condemned, or he that is under no condemnation, **can not repent; and unto such baptism availeth nothing.** But it is mockery before God, denying the mercies of Christ, and the

power of his Holy Spirit, and putting trust in dead works. Behold, my son, this thing had not ought to be; for repentance is unto them that are under condemnation, and under the curse of a broken law.

[Mos 8:58-62](#) And these are those who have part in **the first resurrection**; and these are they that have **died before Christ came, in their ignorance, not having salvation declared unto them.** **59** And thus the Lord bringeth about the restoration of these; and they have a part in the first resurrection, or have eternal life, being redeemed by the Lord. **60** And little children also have eternal life. **61** But behold, and fear, and tremble before God; for ye had ought to tremble: for the Lord redeemeth none such that **rebelleth against him, and dieth in their sins**; **62** Yea, even **all those that have perished in their sins ever since the world began**, that have **willfully rebelled against God**, that have **known the commandments of God, and would not keep them**; these are they that have no part in the first resurrection.

[Alma 15:56](#) Yea, and **I know that good and evil have come before all men**; or he that **knoweth not good from evil is blameless**; but he that knoweth good and evil, to him it is given according to his desires; whether he desireth good or evil, life or death, joy or remorse of conscience.

[Mos 1:107-109](#) For behold, and also his blood atoneth for the sins of those who have fallen by the transgression of Adam, who have died, not knowing the will of God concerning them, or who have **ignorantly sinned**. **108** But wo, wo unto him **who knoweth that he rebelleth against God; for salvation cometh to none such, except it be through repentance and faith on the Lord Jesus Christ**. **109** And the Lord God hath sent his holy prophets among all the children of men to declare these things to every kindred, nation, and tongue, that thereby whosoever should believe that Christ should come, the same might receive remission of their sins, and rejoice with exceeding great joy, even as though he had already come among them.... **121** And moreover, I say unto you, that **the time shall come**, when the knowledge of a Savior shall spread throughout every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. **122** And behold, when **that time cometh, none shall be found blameless before God**, except it be little children, only through repentance and faith on the name of the Lord God Omnipotent; **123** And **even at this time**, when **thou shalt have taught thy people the things which the Lord thy God hath commanded thee**, even then are **they found no more blameless in the sight of God**, only according to the words which I have spoken unto thee.

[3 Nephi 3:19-20](#) And thus in the commencement of the thirtieth year, the people having been delivered up for the space of a long time, to be carried about by the temptations of the devil whithersoever he desired to carry them, and to do whatsoever iniquity he desired they should; and thus in the commencement of this, the thirtieth year, they were in a state of awful wickedness. **20** Now they **did not sin ignorantly**, for they **knew the will of God concerning them**, for it had been taught unto them; therefore **they did willfully rebel** against God.

I think we would all agree that if someone didn't know they were doing something wrong, it would be unjust to punish them. In most of the world, we have exceptions in our own court for the mentally challenged or for someone who is very young.

[2 Nephi 6:47-56](#) And he suffereth this, that the resurrection might pass upon all men, that all might stand before him at the great and judgment day. And he commandeth **all men that they must repent, and be baptized in his name, having perfect faith in the Holy One of Israel, or they cannot be saved in the kingdom of God. And if they will not repent and believe in his name, and be baptized in his name, and endure to the end, they must be damned;** For the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, hath spoken it; Wherefore, he hath given a law; and **where there is no law given there is no punishment;** And where there is no punishment, there is no condemnation; And where there is no condemnation, the mercies of the Holy One of Israel have claim upon them, because of the atonement: For they are delivered by the power of him: for the atonement satisfieth the demands of his justice upon all those who have not the law given to them, that they are delivered from that awful monster, death and hell, and the devil, and the lake of fire and brimstone, which is endless torment; And they are restored to that God who gave them breath, which is the Holy One of Israel. But wo unto him that hath the law given; yea, that hath all the commandments of God, like unto us, and that transgresseth them, and that wasteth the days of his probation; for awful is his state!

None are truly Ignorant of Gross Sin

[Gen 3: 5, 7, 10](#) For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, **knowing good and evil**... And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons....And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, **because I was naked;** and I hid myself.

[Moroni 7:14](#) For behold, the **Spirit of Christ is given to every man, that they may know good from evil;** wherefore I shew unto you the way to judge: for everything which inviteth to do good, and to persuade to believe in Christ, is sent forth by the power and gift of Christ;
[1 Tim1:12-14](#) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; **13** Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because **I did it ignorantly in unbelief.** **14** And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

[Rom 1: 18-25- 2:2; 2:5-9,13-16; 3:9-10, 20](#) For the **wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men,** who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is **manifest in them;** for God hath **shewed it unto them.** For the **invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God,** they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the

lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the **creature more than the Creator**, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto **vile affections**: for **even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature**: And **likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly**, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; **Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful**: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them. Therefore **thou art inexcusable, O man**, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. But we are sure that the **judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things**.. But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man **according to his deeds**: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are **contentious**, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;... (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified. For when the Gentiles, **which have not the law**, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, **having not the law**, are a law unto themselves: **Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness**, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;) In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.... What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are **all under sin**; As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:... Therefore by the **deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin**.

[II Peter 3 : 3-7](#) Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this **they willingly are ignorant of**, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, **reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men**.

So we see that all mankind is given the divine law of the knowledge of good and evil. By this can be sure that heaven is not a place for murderers, thieves or those who commit whoredoms. Mankind is not free to sin.

[Alma 7:17-23](#) Now I would that ye should remember, that inasmuch as the Lamanites have not kept the commandments of God, they have been cut off from the presence of the Lord. **18** Now we see that the word of the Lord hath been verified in this thing, and the Lamanites have been cut off from his presence, from the beginning of their transgressions in the land. **19** Nevertheless I say unto you, that it shall be **more tolerable for them in the day of judgment than for you**, if ye remain in your sins; **20** Yea, and even more tolerable for them in this life, than for you, except ye repent, for there are many promises which are extended to the Lamanites: **21** For it is **because of the traditions of their fathers that causeth them to remain in their state of ignorance**; therefore the **Lord will be merciful unto them**, and prolong their existence in the land. **22** And at some period of time they will be brought to believe in his word, and to know of the incorrectness of the traditions of their fathers; **23** And **many of them will be saved**, for the Lord will be merciful unto all who call on his name.

[Luke 12 : 47-48](#) And that servant, which **knew his lord's will**, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But **he that knew not**, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be **beaten with few stripes**. For unto **whomsoever much is given of him shall be much required**: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

Since we are Judged According to the Level of our Understanding, Is it Good to Have Knowledge?

Although more is expected as our understanding is increased, from many scriptural examples we can see that the Kingdom of God is far easier to achieve as knowledge is increased. After all, how can be a follower of Christ without hearing of Him through the word of God?

[1 Nephi 4:17-19, 33](#) And at that day shall the remnant of our seed know that they are of the house of Israel, and that they are the covenant people of the Lord; And then shall they **know and come to the knowledge of their forefathers, and also to the knowledge of the gospel of their Redeemer**, which was ministered unto their fathers by him; Wherefore, they shall come to the knowledge of their Redeemer, and the **very points of his doctrine, that they may know how to come unto him and be saved**...And after that they are restored, they shall no more confounded neither shall they be scattered again.

[Alma 9 : 15-21](#) And now Alma began to expound these things unto him, saying, It is given unto many to know the mysteries of God; Nevertheless they are laid under a strict command, that they shall not impart only according to the portion of his word, which he doth grant unto the

children of men; according to the heed and diligence which they give unto him; And therefore he that will harden his heart, the same receiveth the lesser portion of the word; And he that will not harden his heart, to him is given the greater portion of the word, until it is given unto him to know the mysteries of God, until they know them in full; And they that will **harden their hearts, to them is given the lesser portion of the word, until they know nothing concerning his mysteries; And then they are taken captive by the devil, and led by his will down to destruction.** Now this is what is meant by the chains of hell; and Amulek hath spoken plainly concerning death, and being raised from this mortality to a state of immortality, and being brought before the bar of God, to be **judged according to our works.**

[Alma 14 : 80-89, 93; 102-104](#) And now I ask, What great blessings hath he bestowed upon us? Can ye tell? Behold, I answer for you; for our brethren, the Lamanites, were in darkness, yea, even in the darkest abyss; but behold, how many of them are brought to behold the marvelous light of God! And this is the blessing which hath been bestowed upon us, that we have been made instruments in the hands of God, to bring about this great work. Behold, **thousands of them do rejoice, and have been brought into the fold of God.** Behold, the field was ripe, and blessed are ye, for ye did thrust in the sickle, and did reap with your mights, yea, all the day long did ye labor; And behold the number of your sheaves, and they shall be gathered into the garners, that they are not wasted; yea, they shall **not be beaten down by the storm, at the last day;** Yea, neither shall they be harrowed up by the whirlwinds; but when the storm cometh, they shall be gathered together in their place, that the storm can not penetrate to them; yea, neither shall they be driven with fierce winds, whithersoever the enemy listeth to carry them. But behold, they are in the hands of the Lord of the harvest, and they are his; and **he will raise them up at the last day.** Blessed be the name of our God; let us sing to his praise, yea, let us give thanks to his holy name, for he doth work righteousness for ever. **For if we had not come up out of the land of Zarahemla, these our dearly beloved brethren, which have so dearly beloved us, would still have been racked with hatred against us, yea, and they would also have been strangers to God...**Behold, **how many thousands of our brethren hath he loosed from the pains of hell;** and they are brought to sing redeeming love; and this because of the power of his word which is in us; therefore have we not great reason to rejoice?.. Yea, he that repenteth and exerciseth faith, and bringeth forth good works, and prayeth continually without ceasing: unto such it is **given to know the mysteries of God;** yea, unto such it shall be given to reveal things which never have been revealed; Yea, and **it shall be given unto such, to bring thousands of souls to repentance, even as it hath been given unto us to bring these our brethren to repentance.**

[2 Nephi 11: 25-31](#) 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 that 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 anymore for another Messiah, then, at that time, the day will come that it must needs be expedient that they should believe these things, And the Lord will set his hand again the second time to **restore his people from their lost and fallen state**. Wherefore, he will proceed to do a marvelous work, and a wonder among the children of men. Wherefore, he shall bring forth his words unto them, which words shall judge them at the last day; For they shall be given them for the **purpose of convincing them of the true Messiah**, who was rejected by them;

[2 Nephi 2: 19-31](#) Wherefore, the fruit of my loins shall write; and the fruit of the loins of Judah shall write; And that which shall be written by the fruit of my loins, and also that which shall be written by the fruit of the loins of Judah, shall grow together, Unto the **confounding of false doctrines, and laying down of contentions, and establishing peace among the fruit of thy loins**, And bringing them to the knowledge of their fathers in the latter days; And also to the knowledge of my covenants, saith the Lord. And out of weakness he shall be made strong, in that day when my work shall commence among all my people, unto the restoring thee, O house of Israel, saith the Lord. And thus prophesied Joseph, saying: Behold, that seer will the Lord bless; And they that seek to destroy him, shall be confounded: For this promise, of which I have obtained of the Lord, of the fruit of thy loins, shall be fulfilled. Behold, **I am sure of the fulfilling of this promise**. And his name shall be called after me; and it shall be after the name of his father. And he shall be like unto me; for the thing which the Lord shall bring forth by his hand, **by the power of the Lord shall bring my people unto salvation**;