

## The Day of Deception

Revelation 16:12-15

### God's Plan for Mankind

Mankind would become subject unto God

2 Nephi 6:10-11 “that all men might become subject unto him.”

Moroni 9:28 “until all things shall become subject unto him,”

John 8:12 “I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness,”

1 Peter 3:22 “angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.”

Prepare a way that Mankind could escape Death & Hell

2 Nephi 6:24-25 “who prepareth a way for our escape from the grasp of this awful monster;”

Mosiah 8:81 “the sting of death is swallowed up in Christ.”

Isaiah 25:8 “He will swallow up death in victory;”

Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name...”

Romans 1:16 “for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;”

1 Corinthians 15:26 “The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.”

1 Corinthians 15:55-7 “O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?”

2 Timothy 1:10 “the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death,”

Titus 2:11 “For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,”

Hebrews 2:14-15 “through death he might destroy him that had the power of death,”

Hebrews 5:9 “he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”

Revelation 1:17-8 “I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”

We were given the freedom of “Choice”

2 Nephi 1:94-125 “the Lord God gave unto man, that he should act for himself.”

### Satan's Plan for Mankind

2 Nephi 6:57-61 “O that cunning plan of the evil one!”

Genesis 3:1

Now the **serpent** was more **subtil** than any **beast** of the field which the Lord God had **made**. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

**Serpent** (fiery)

Strong's number: 5175; Hebrew: nachash

Pronunciation: naw-khawsh' from 5172; a snake (from its hiss): -- serpent.

Strong's number: 5172; Hebrew: nachash

Pronunciation: naw-khash' a primitive root; properly, to hiss, i.e. whisper a (magic) spell; generally, to prognosticate: --X certainly, divine, enchanter, (use) X enchantment, learn by experience, X indeed, diligently observe.

**Subtil** (crafty)

Strong's number: 6175; Hebrew: `aruwm

Pronunciation: aw-room' passive participle of 6191; cunning (usually in a bad sense): -- crafty, prudent, subtil.

Strong's number: 6191; Hebrew: `aram

Pronunciation: aw-ram' a primitive root; properly, to be (or make) bare; but used only in the derivative sense (through the idea perhaps of smoothness) to be cunning (usually in a bad sense): --X very, beware, take crafty [counsel], be prudent, deal subtilly.

**Beast** (a living creature)

Strong's number: 2416; Hebrew: chay

Pronunciation: khah'-ee from 2421; alive; hence, raw (flesh); fresh (plant, water, year), strong; also (as noun, especially in the feminine singular and masculine plural) life (or living thing), whether literally or figuratively: -+ age, alive, appetite, (wild) beast, company, congregation, life(-time), live(-ly), living (creature, thing), maintenance, + merry, multitude, + (be) old, quick, raw, running, springing, troop.

Strong's number: 2421; Hebrew: chayah

Pronunciation: khaw-yaw' a primitive root [compare 2331, 2421]; to live, whether literally or figuratively; causatively, to revive: -keep (leave, make) alive, X certainly, give (promise) life, (let, suffer to) live, nourish up, preserve (alive), quicken, recover, repair, restore (to life), revive, (X God) save (alive, life, lives), X surely, be whole.

**Made** (to be)

Strong's number: 6213; Hebrew: `asah

Pronunciation: aw-saw' a primitive root; to do or make, in the broadest sense and widest application (as follows): --accomplish, advance, appoint, apt, be at, become, bear, bestow, bring forth, bruise, be busy, X certainly, have the charge of, commit, deal (with), deck, + displease, do, (ready) dress(-ed), (put in) execute(-ion), exercise, fashion, + feast, [fight-]ing man, + finish, fit, fly, follow, fulfill, furnish, gather, get, go about, govern, grant, great, + hinder, hold ([a feast]), X indeed, + be industrious, + journey, keep, labour, maintain, make, be meet, observe, be occupied, offer, + officer, pare, bring (come) to pass, perform, practise, prepare, procure, provide, put, requite, X sacrifice, serve, set, shew, X sin, spend, X surely, take, X thoroughly, trim, X very, + vex, be [warr-]ior, work(-man), yield, use.

Genesis 3:2-5 "ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."

Mankind would become subject unto Satan through "Deception"

2 Nephi 6:20-23 "and to remain with the father of lies, in misery, like unto himself;"

2 Nephi 11:93-4 "Yea, and he leadeth them by the neck with a flaxen cord,"

Moroni 7:15-6 "For after this manner doth the devil work,"

Matthew 24:4-5 "Take heed that no man deceive you."

Matthew 24:11, 24 "if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

Luke 22:31 "Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:"

John 8:44 "for he is a liar, and the father of it.

1 Corinthians 3:18-9 "For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness."

2 Corinthians 11:3 "as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty,

2 Corinthians 11:14-5 "for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."

Revelation 20:3, 7-8 "that he should deceive the nations no more,"

## Prophecy Concerning the “Last Days” - Revelation 16:12-14

The Revelation of Jesus Christ to the Apostle John: “A Commentary” by Apostle Don McIndoo  
(Ref: paragraphs 6 thru 17; pages 69 thru 72)

6. Tuesday morning found Apostle Jay Moser and myself in our hotel room in Danli, Honduras. We were beginning the day with prayer, when a knock came at our door. It was Brother Tommy Gill, and he told us we needed to go down to the lobby and watch the TV. As we did so, those terrible scenes of the devastation of September 11<sup>th</sup> were indelibly imprinted upon my mind. I cried bitter tears as I contemplated the possible withdrawal of one of God’s great promises to America: *“And this land shall be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles: and there shall be no kings upon the land, who shall raise up unto the Gentiles. And I will fortify this land against all other nations;”* (2 Nephi 7:18-19)

7. In shock I watched a man free-falling after he had leaped from one of the devastated towers. He seemed to fall forever, and as I closed my eyes to remove the image from my sight, I heard a voice speak to my mind, as clearly as if it had been audible: “Revelation Sixteen, Verse Twelve”. That is all I heard, but I could sit there no longer without going to our room to read this passage:

*“And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.”*

8. It seems no coincidence to me that when the sixth trumpet of Chapter Nine sounded and the *“four angels which are bound in the River Euphrates”* were loosed, a great horde swept out of Central Asia. First they conquered the nations east of the Euphrates and adopted their Muslim religion. Then Iraq and Syria fell before their onslaught, and they established their capital in Baghdad. This area west of the Euphrates was the Christian Byzantine Empire, the Eastern Orthodox Church, which was to shortly fall before the Muslim armies.

9. From whence came these fanatical warriors of Islam? It is the historian, Gibbon, who gives answer: *“...a powerful and independent people, (who) were scattered over the desert from China to the River Oxus.”* Today this river is known as the Amu Darya. To identify these people by name, they are the Uzbeks, Turkmen, Tadhiks and Afghanis the United States is either allied with or fighting in its present war against terrorism.

10. Again the boundary between East and West is to be breached, and the “way is to be prepared” for the “kings of the east.” It is important to establish the meaning of this expression, “the kings of the east” in biblical terms. When the Lord revealed through the prophet, Isaiah, “Calling a ravenous bird from the east...” (Isaiah 46:11), He referred to Cyrus, King of Persia (present day Iran). When He revealed through His prophet, Ezekiel, “I will deliver thee to the men of the east” (Ezekiel 25:4), He was speaking of the king of the Babylonians (present day Iraq). So I need not suppose this reference to “the kings of the east” refers to China, India or Japan; rather, it signifies the same eastern kings we find in a biblical context.

11. I believe the historicist, Spicer, correctly wrote back in 1917, “The index finger of prophecy points, therefore, to this region of the eastern Mediterranean as the pivotal point in the closing history of the nations.”





Note: This map has been inserted as a teaching aid and is not part of the quoted commentary.

12. These nations of the east have all become followers of Mohammed. While Muslim nations may no longer be interested in geographical conquest as they were a thousand years ago, every Muslim nation, as well as the U.S. and the nations of Europe, has schools and/or clerics that teach “radical Islamic” doctrines. Consider the remark of one such cleric made to his followers three days before Christmas, 2002: “It is the duty of every good Muslim to kill Christians.” His teaching resulted in the death of three girls in a Pakistani Christian church during a Christmas service. Is such violence an anomaly, uncharacteristic of Islam?

13. From the pen of the Prophet as written in the Koran, in the chapter entitled “Women”, we read, “You to whom the Scriptures were given! Believe in that which we have revealed, confirming your own scriptures, before we obliterate your faces and turn them backward, or lay Our curse on you as We laid it on the Sabbath-breakers. Those that deny Our revelations We will burn in Hell-fire. No sooner will their skins be consumed than We shall give them other skins, so that they may truly taste Our scourge.” (pp. 362, 363)

14. Sayce writes, “The sword, says Mohammed, is the Key of heaven and of hell; a drop of blood shed in the cause of God, a night spent in arms, is of more avail than two months of fasting and prayer.”

15. As I sit at my desk writing this late in the year 2003, it is difficult to predict what events will take place in the future. We presently find the United States, with but a few allies, still struggling against terrorists in Afghanistan while engaged in a deadly war with Iraq, the nation presently identified with the River Euphrates. Their objective is to break and remove the power of her despotic ruler which, as yet, has not been accomplished. After six months the intensity of the guerrilla warfare and terrorism is steadily increasing. Only God knows how such a war will affect our Muslim allies, who are even now coming under the gun of terrorism. And no one can estimate how these events will affect the ever-growing “radical” Islamic movement. Even now, every American, Christian and Jew is target for extremists among radical Muslims.

16. In Verse Twelve of Chapter Sixteen we read of the coming, or perhaps the present, confrontation between the “kings of the east” and the western world. Verses Thirteen and fourteen are most interesting and should be very important to our thought today.

*“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”*

17. These verses speak of an evil spirit of deception that will affect the whole world in the end times, calling “unto the kings of the earth and the whole world, to gather them to the battle of the great day of God Almighty.” Why are these spirits likened unto frogs? Because frogs, such as those in the plague sent upon Egypt, can be pervasively present throughout the world. Likewise, frogs are venomous; hence, this deception shall be deadly. From whence comes this deception? Verse Thirteen tells us that it proceeds from three sources:

a. From the mouth of the dragon: This refers to Satan, and he is deceiving the world, yes, especially the Christian world, with the enticements of false and pagan religions. In today’s paper there was an explanation of the attraction of Buddhism to many in our nation: “...the source of power for humans is within, not in some distant god, and there is no reliance on faith...” Who would be a more likely author of such thought than Satan? It is he who is promoting the increased worldliness, violence and hatred that are so rampant throughout the world today.

b. From the mouth of the beast: This is Roman Catholicism under the direction of the Papacy. They are laboring with all their might against the inroads of evangelical Christianity. They would also deceive the nations with the enticement of the ecumenical movement, one united Christian church in the latter day. Does that ever sound familiar to a believer in the Book of Mormon! They sponsored the teachings which have led to the false doctrines of the “rapture”

and the “antichrist” of the latter day, diverting the attention of millions from the beast described in Revelation Thirteen.

c. From the mouth of the false prophet: This is the first mention of this individual. He is thought by many commentators to be Mohammed, the arch enemy of both Judaism and Christianity. Think of the numbers of former Christians that now proudly wear their new names of Islam. It is presently the fastest growing religion in the United States. What think you, are not the radical Muslim forces in the Middle East striving to bring both Israel and the world to the brink of war?

## **The Book of Mormon & Modern Day Conditions**

2 Nephi 12:1-41

(The following quotes are from “The Closing of the American Mind” by Allan Bloom, Professor in the Committee on social Thought and College and co-director of the John M. Olin Center for Inquiry into the Theory and Practice of Democracy at the University of Chicago)

### **Openness & Relativism**

Addressing those from all walks of life in America who have been indoctrinated and do espouse the “openness” and “relativism” doctrine:

*They are unified only in their relativism and in their allegiance to equality the modern replacement for the inalienable natural rights that used to be the traditional American grounds for a free society.*

*What right, they ask, do I or anyone else have to say one is better than the others?*

*The purpose of their education is not to make them scholars but to provide them with a moral virtue-openness.*

*When asked, If you had been a British administrator in India, would you have let the natives under your governance burn the widow at the funeral of a man who had died? they either remain silent or reply that the British should never have been there in the first place. It is not that they know very much about other nations, or about their own.*

Referring to the wording in the Declaration of Independence.

*The recent education of openness has rejected all that. It pays no attention to natural rights or the historical origins of our regime, which are now thought to have been essentially flawed and regressive.*

*There is no enemy other than the man who is not open to everything.*

*From the earliest beginnings of liberal thought there was a tendency in the direction of indiscriminate freedom...there was a conscious, if covert, effort to weaken religious beliefs, partly by assigning-as a result of a great epistemological effort-religion to the realm of opinion as opposed to knowledge.*

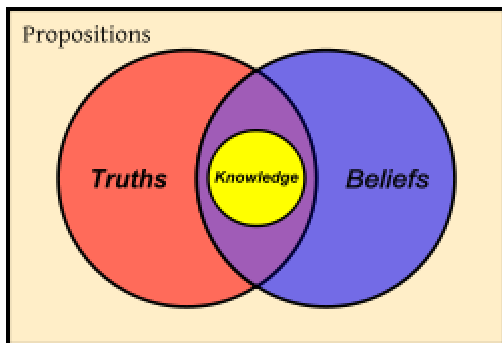
*But the right to freedom of religion belonged to the realm of knowledge. Such rights are not matters of opinion. ...The insatiable appetite for freedom to live as one pleases thrives on this aspect of modern democratic thought. In the end it begins to appear that full freedom can be attained only when there is no such knowledge at all.*



**Epistemology** or **theory of knowledge** is the branch of [philosophy](#) that studies the nature, methods, limitations, and validity of [knowledge](#) and [belief](#).

The term "epistemology" is based on the [Greek](#) words "[επιστήμη](#) or [episteme](#)" (knowledge or science) and "[λόγος](#) or [logos](#)" (reason).<sup>[1]</sup> It was introduced into English by the Scottish philosopher [James Frederick Ferrier](#) (1808-1864).<sup>[2]</sup>

Much of the debate in this field has focused on [analyzing](#) the nature of knowledge and how it relates to similar notions such as [truth](#), [belief](#), and [justification](#). It also deals with the means of production of knowledge, as well as skepticism about different knowledge claims. In other words, epistemology primarily addresses the following questions: "What is knowledge?", "How is knowledge acquired?", and "What do people know?".



According to [Plato](#), knowledge is a subset of that which is both true and believed

Absolutes (Truths – John 8:31-32)

*“To their way of thinking there should be no tolerance for the intolerant”*

*“There are no absolutes, freedom is absolute”.*

Concerning the teaching methods and intents in our educational system in America today:

*“The intention is not so much to teach the students about other times and places as to make them aware of the fact that their preferences are only that-accidents of their time and place. Their beliefs do not entitle them as individuals, or collectively as a nation, to think they are superior to anyone else.”*

*“...the Constitution does not promise respect for blacks, whites, yellows, Catholics, Protestants, or Jews. It guaranties the protection of the rights of individual human beings. ...The upshot of all this for the education of young Americans I that they know much less about American history and those who were held to be its heroes.”*

*“Practically all that young Americans have today is an insubstantial awareness that there are many cultures, accompanied by a saccharine moral drawn from that awareness: We should all get along. Why fight?”*

*“...for relativism has extinguished the real motive of education, the search for a good life.”*

*“Our openness means we do not need others.”*

Ether 3:96-102

Wherefore, O ye Gentiles, it is wisdom in God that these things should be shewn unto you, that thereby ye may repent of your sins, and suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain, and the work, yea, even the work of destruction come upon you;

Modern Liberalism and its interpretation and impact on the foundation laid by our Founding Fathers.

*Openness was designed to provide a respectable place for these “groups” or “minorities-to wrest respect from those who were not disposed to give it-and to weaken the sense of superiority of the dominant majority...Much of the intellectual machinery of twentieth-century American political thought and social science was constructed for the purposes of making an assault on that majority. ...In particular, the intellectual minority expected to enhance its status, presenting itself as the defender and spokesman of all the others.*

*This reversal of the founding intention with respect to minorities is most striking. For the Founders, minorities are in general bad things, ...The Founders wished to achieve a national majority concerning the fundamental rights and then prevent the majority from using its power to overturn those fundamental rights. In twentieth-century social science, however, the common good disappears and along with it the negative view of minorities. The very idea of majority-now understood to be selfish interest-is done away with in order to protect the minorities. This breaks the delicate balance between majority and minority in Constitutional thought. In such a perspective, where there is no common good, minorities are no longer problematic, and the protection of them emerges as the central function of government. Where this leads is apparent in, for example, Robert Dahl’s “A Preface to Democratic Theory”. Groups or individuals who really care, as opposed to those who have lukewarm feelings, deserve special attention or special rights for their “intensity” or commitment,” the new political validation, which replaces reason. The Founding Fathers wished to reduce and defang fanaticism, whereas Dahl encourages it.*

### **Transcript of Declaration of Independence In Congress, July 4, 1776.**

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.



## Major Religions of the World Ranked by Number of Adherents

(Sizes shown are *approximate estimates*, and are here mainly for the purpose of ordering the groups, not providing a definitive number. This list is sociological/statistical in perspective.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <a href="#">Christianity</a> : 2.1 billion                             | 11. <a href="#">Spiritism</a> : 15 million                |
| 2. <a href="#">Islam</a> : 1.5 billion                                    | 12. <a href="#">Judaism</a> : 14 million                  |
| 3. <a href="#">Secular/Nonreligious/Agnostic/Atheist</a> :<br>1.1 billion | 13. <a href="#">Baha'i</a> : 7 million                    |
| 4. <a href="#">Hinduism</a> : 900 million                                 | 14. <a href="#">Jainism</a> : 4.2 million                 |
| 5. <a href="#">Chinese traditional religion</a> : 394 million             | 15. <a href="#">Shinto</a> : 4 million                    |
| 6. <a href="#">Buddhism</a> : 376 million                                 | 16. <a href="#">Cao Dai</a> : 4 million                   |
| 7. <a href="#">primal-indigenous</a> : 300 million                        | 17. <a href="#">Zoroastrianism</a> : 2.6 million          |
| 8. <a href="#">African Traditional &amp; Diasporic</a> : 100<br>million   | 18. <a href="#">Tenrikyo</a> : 2 million                  |
| 9. <a href="#">Sikhism</a> : 23 million                                   | 19. <a href="#">Neo-Paganism</a> : 1 million              |
| 10. <a href="#">Juche</a> : 19 million                                    | 20. <a href="#">Unitarian-Universalism</a> : 800 thousand |
|   | 21. <a href="#">Rastafarianism</a> : 600 thousand         |
|   | 22. <a href="#">Scientology</a> : 500 thousand            |

### Top Ten ORGANIZED Religions in the United States, 2001 (self-identification, ARIS)

[Nonreligious, Atheist, Agnostic have been dropped from this list.]

Religion	2001 Est. Adult Pop.	2004 Est. Total Pop.	% of U.S. Pop., 2001
Christianity	159,030,000	224,437,959	76.5%
Judaism	2,831,000	3,995,371	1.3%
Islam	1,104,000	1,558,068	0.5%
Buddhism	1,082,000	1,527,019	0.5%
Hinduism	766,000	1,081,051	0.4%
Unitarian Universalist	629,000	887,703	0.3%
Wiccan/Pagan/Druid	307,000	433,267	0.1%
Spiritualist	116,000	163,710	0.05%
Native American Religion	103,000	145,363	0.05%
Baha'i	84,000	118,549	0.04%

**Top Twenty Religions in the United States, 2001  
(self-identification, ARIS)**

<b>Religion</b>	<b>1990 Est. Adult Pop.</b>	<b>2001 Est. ADULT Pop.</b>	<b>2004 Est. Total Pop.</b>	<b>% of U.S. Pop., 2000</b>	<b>% Change 1990 - 2000</b>
Christianity	151,225,000	159,030,000	224,437,959	76.5%	+5%
Nonreligious/Secular	13,116,000	27,539,000	38,865,604	13.2%	+110%
Judaism	3,137,000	2,831,000	3,995,371	1.3%	-10%
Islam	527,000	1,104,000	1,558,068	0.5%	+109%
Buddhism	401,000	1,082,000	1,527,019	0.5%	+170%
Agnostic	1,186,000	991,000	1,398,592	0.5%	-16%
Atheist		902,000	1,272,986	0.4%	
Hinduism	227,000	766,000	1,081,051	0.4%	+237%
Unitarian Universalist	502,000	629,000	887,703	0.3%	+25%
Wiccan/Pagan/Druid		307,000	433,267	0.1%	
Spiritualist		116,000	163,710	0.05%	
Native American Religion	47,000	103,000	145,363	0.05%	+119%
Baha'i	28,000	84,000	118,549	0.04%	+200%
New Age	20,000	68,000	95,968	0.03%	+240%
Sikhism	13,000	57,000	80,444	0.03%	+338%
Scientology	45,000	55,000	77,621	0.02%	+22%
Humanist	29,000	49,000	69,153	0.02%	+69%
Deity (Deist)	6,000	49,000	69,153	0.02%	+717%
Taoist	23,000	40,000	56,452	0.02%	+74%
Eckankar	18,000	26,000	36,694	0.01%	+44%

The largest, most comprehensive surveys on religious identification were done in sociologists Barry A. Kosmin, Seymour P. Lachman and associates at the Graduate School of the City University of New York. Their first major study was done in 1990: the National Survey of Religious Identification (NSRI). This scientific **nationwide survey of 113,000 Americans** asked about religious preference, along with other questions. They followed this up, with even more sophisticated methodology and more questions, with the American Religious Identity Survey (ARIS) **conducted in 2001, with a sample size of 50,000 Americans.**