

The Coming of the Lord

A look into LDS theology about future events

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/62792449/Coming-of-the-Lord>

<http://archive.org/details/improvementera>

Chapter 1 - A Look at Prophecy

page 1 - Britain's king broadcast a message of hope [the message was actually a quote of the poem "The Gate of the Year", by Minnie Louise Haskins. The poem caught the public attention and the popular imagination when Queen Elizabeth handed a copy to her husband, King George VI, and he quoted it in his 1939 Christmas broadcast to the British Empire].

page 2 - LDS prophets are once more predicting [I don't see any predictions].

page 7-8 - sign of the rainbow. When withdrawn it is a token of famine and pestilence (reference to History of the Church, volume 6, page 254). D&C 29:17-20 describes the state of the wicked.

page 12 - we don't need more prophets to speak, just more ears to listen.

Chapter 2 - How Soon the End?

page 15 - rainbow was a sign that Jesus would not return that year (reference to History of the Church, volume 6, page 254)

page 18 - last 6,000 years. Israel is being gathered to land of Zion, Jews to Jerusalem.

page 19 - Ezra Taft said that the rise of communism as an evil power is a sign of Christ's imminent return. There is mention of an excellent sermon in the Improvement Era, June 1966, page 499 called "Signs of the Lord's Coming" [volume 69, no 6 at <http://archive.org/details/improvementera6907unse>]. File download is called lds-improvement-era-june-1966.pdf and .txt

page 20 - it is said that the Savior comes tomorrow. Saturday is the sixth day. He thinks the Lord will come on the morning of the Sabbath; seventh day of earth's temporal existence.

page 22 - we are near the close of earth's 6,000 year history. The word Idumea is equated to the world.

page 23 - the temple would be reared in New Jerusalem before Jesus comes (D&C 84: 4-5). Reference to History of the Church, volume 6, page 58 for a Joseph Smith prophecy.

page 25 - gathering from various nations to Zion.

page 26 - the LDS Church still looks to the fulfillment of the prophecy to rear the temple in New Jerusalem in Jackson County, Missouri. There is a reference to General Conference, October 1967, Elder Hugh B. Brown. [source is <http://archive.org/details/conferencereport1967sa>. But the report does not say anything about Jackson County or the New Jerusalem.

page 27 - prophecy about going to the Rocky Mountains. The Son of Man will come to them while in the Rocky Mountains. Many thousands will see Jesus visit the Zion of God here in the mountains of Israel [Utah. There is a reference to Wilford Woodruff, Conference Report, April 1898, p. 57]. [lds-conference-report-april-1898-rocky-mountains.pdf](#)

"This people will go into the Rocky Mountains; they will there build temples to the Most High. They will raise up a posterity there, and the Latter-day Saints who dwell in these mountains will stand in the flesh until the coming of the Son of Man. The Son of Man will come to them while in the Rocky Mountains."

"I never expected to see the Rocky Mountains when I listened to that man's voice, but I have, and do today. I will say here that I shall not live to see it, you may not live to see it; but these thousands of Latter-day Saint children that belong to the Sabbath schools, I believe many of them will stand in the flesh when the Lord Jesus Christ visits the Zion of God here in the mountains of Israel".

page 28-29 - times of Gentiles ended in 1967 when Israel captured remainder of Jerusalem.

page 30 - the angels are reaping down the fields.

page 32 - until 1893 there were no angels reaping down the fields in judgment. Sign of the birth of Christ in the last night of the 5 years in 3 Nephi 1:1-20 [need to verify].

Chapter 3 - A Cry of War

page 35 - civil war with South Carolina marked the beginning of the end.

page 38 - Lorenzo Snow said that hundreds of thousands would seek the protection of the LDS Church [reference to Journal of Discourses, volume 14, p. 309, Jan 14 1872]. The European nations would be wasted before the Second Coming of Christ. Their cities would be burned until their land is laid desolate [reference to Orson Pratt, Journal of Discourses, volume 20, page 150-151, March 9, 1879]. There is mention of a vague prophecy which was apparently fulfilled - banks of the Rhine [reference to Orson Hyde, Millennial Star, vol 24, p. 274, May 3, 1862].

page 40 - peace taken from the earth and the devil has power over his dominion in 1831.

page 42-43 - the Lord would not disappoint Zion and Babylon with famine and pestilence. In the upcoming chaos and catastrophes, the LDS missionaries would be called home. Kimball and Brigham Young taught that the calling home would be a literal event. This doctrine was also taught by Orson Pratt.

page 43 - earthquakes are the voice of the Lord crying repentance.

page 44 - Joseph Smith said that safety would only be found in Zion and her stakes [reference is to History of the Church, vol 3, pp. 390-391]. He is said to have received a revelation that The City of New Jerusalem would be a place of refuge and safety for the LDS [I cannot find this revelation].

page 45 - comparison is made to God as a hen gathering her chicks [but it is applied to all nations, not just Israel when Jesus quoted it].

page 46 - the Lord uses terror, famine, and pestilence to cause people to remember him.

page 46 - Heavenly Father became a God by obedience to law [reference to Melvin J. Ballard, Conference Report, Oct 1923, p. 31].

Chapter 4 - The United States in Prophecy

page 47 - the land now called America was preferred above all others, but this requires a people choice above all other peoples - only those who would serve God and keep his commandments.

page 48 - the commandment to the angels to reap down the earth was given 45 years ago [reference to Journal of Discourses, Woodruff, vol 18, p. 128, Oct 8, 1875].

page 51 - the land of Zion is Jackson County, site of the New Jerusalem.

page 52 - great apostasy of the church in Kirtland in 1837 [not specified].
Zion was left temporarily in the hands of enemies.

page 52-54 - the United States government will be destroyed in the future. Coming
destruction of this nation.

page 55 - two great and prosperous nations inhabited this continent of North and
South America [not central?].

page 56-57 - constitution by a thread. In a Conference Report, it is said to be
an urban legend [?].

page 59 - the constitution of the United States would be severely threatened.

page 63 - the coming terror to the United States would open and prepare the way
for the return of the lost tribes of Israel from the north country
[reference to History of the Church, vol 1, pp. 315-316, Jan 4, 1833].

page 68 - the United States is still a land choice above all others, a land of
peace and liberty, as long as its people serve the God of the land,
Jesus Christ.

Chapter 5 - Upon My House Shall It Begin

page 70 - the saints in Jackson County must live up to their covenants if they
are to possess the land of Zion. The saints were driven from Jackson
County on account of apostasy (transgression).

page 71 - judgment to first begin on LDS Church [reference to Joseph F. Smith,
Conference Report, April 1880, p. 6].

page 73-74 - Salt Lake City would become a wicked city.

page 74 - a ratio of 6/10 or 3/4 of the population following God would suspend
the curse and judgments of God [what ratio of the people in the USA
serve Jesus Christ? - see page 68].

page 76 - LDS did not heed the words of God so they were once again drive from
their homes; apostasy - driven from Missouri [reference to D&C 103:1-10].

page 76-77 - LDS will suffer in the future if they are not faithful [Journal of
Discourses, p. 70, May 8 1874].

page 77 - those in the church who are not obedient will be made to suffer the wrath of Almighty God.

page 80 - if the majority of LDS will be faithful then they will not suffer [Pratt, Journal of Discourses, vol. 15, p. 362, March 9 1873].

page 81 - natural calamities are sent by God for our good.

Chapter 6 - Refuge in the Midst of Terror

page 84 - the United States government will be brought to collapse. Gathering to Zion before the judgment comes. Gathering of his people [reference to D&C 115:5-6].

page 85 - gathering of people to one place is a commandment [Joseph F. Smith, Journal of Discourses, vol. 19, p. 192, Sep 30 1877].

This teaching of the gathering was contradicted by two key teachings of the LDS Church:

“Another sign of the times is the gathering of the faithful (see D&C 133:4). In the early years of this last dispensation, a gathering to Zion involved various locations in the United States: to Kirtland, to Missouri, to Nauvoo, and to the tops of the mountains. Always these were gatherings to prospective temples. With the creation of stakes and the construction of temples in most nations with sizeable populations of the faithful, the current commandment is not to gather to one place but to gather in stakes in our own homelands” (Preparation for the Second Coming, April 2004 General Conference, Dallin H. Oaks).

“What a marvelous thing it is, my brethren and sisters, to have such a great legacy. Now those days are past. There is no more serious persecution; there is no more gathering to Zion” (Ensign, August 1997, News of the Church, President Gordon B. Hinckley).

But this prophecy to gather to the city of New Jerusalem (to be built by the Latter-day Saints in Jackson County, Missouri) is also recorded in the Pearl of Great Price. *“And righteousness will I send down out of heaven; and truth will I send forth out of the earth, to bear testimony of mine Only Begotten; his resurrection from the dead; yea, and also the resurrection of all men; and righteousness and truth will I cause to sweep the earth as with a flood, to gather out mine elect from the four quarters of the earth, unto a place which I shall prepare, an Holy City, that my people may gird up their loins, and be looking forth for the time of my coming; for there shall be my tabernacle, and it shall be called Zion, a New Jerusalem”* (Moses 7:62).

page 86 - Zion is the pure in heart.

page 86-87 - the City of New Jerusalem will become a place of refuge from the wrath and judgments of God [reference to D&C 45:66-67, History of the Church, vol. 1, p. 315, Jan 4 1833].

page 87 - thousands of LDS were drive out from the location of the city of Zion in Jackson County due to their unwillingness to keep the commandments of God [today's LDS put most of the blame on the non-Mormons of Missouri instead of their own apostasy]. There is no other place for the city of Zion except in Jackson County [reference to D&C 101:17-20].

page 88 - stakes will be places of refuge from future calamities.

page 88-89 - prophecy about the Rocky Mountains [History of the Church, vol. 5, p. 85, Aug 6 1842].

page 89-90 - Jesus will return to the Rocky Mountains [Conference Report, April 1898, p. 57].

page 90 - the Rocky Mountains was a place for the Lord to hide his people [teaching by Brigham Young]. This teaching is further supported again on page 91 - Conference Report, October 1922, p. 59, Elder Ballard].

page 92 - refuge in Zion AND her stakes [History of the Church, vol. 3, p. 390, July 2 1839].

page 95 - the future places of safety will be revealed by the First Presidency.

page 96-97 - the day will come when millions of Americans will come to the LDS for food [reference to Journal of Discourses, vol 5. page 10, July 5 1857].

page 97 - future time of calamity when the Gentiles would come to America for safety.

Chapter 7 - Faces Eastward

[the next several chapters talk about the Mormons returning to Jackson Country from their current home in Utah]

page 99 - the city of New Jerusalem in Jackson County.

page 106-107- the Mormons were driven out of Missouri due to transgression. They were not watchful. Zion's Camp (Army) is yet future.

page 109 - the Lord will lead the Mormons back to Jackson County with the cloud by day and the fire by night. They will strike terror in the inhabitants of the surrounding land in their journey.

page 110 - by the time the Mormons arrive in Missouri, the land will be practically deserted.

page 113 - the man like Moses is an LDS President. A great prophet will be raised to lead the people back to Jackson County. Only the worthy will return to build up New Jerusalem.

page 115-116 - the failure of the Latter-day Saints to keep the Law of Consecration caused them to be expelled.

page 116 - those who return to Jackson County must live the Law of Consecration. Zion can only be built up by the Law of Consecration, not the law of tithing.

Chapter 8 - A Land of Peace - A City of Refuge

page 120 - City of New Jerusalem must exist for LDS to prepare the world for the Second Coming.

page 121 - there will be no decay (no degradation) of the Temple in New Jerusalem. The New Jerusalem in Jackson County will be caught up to heaven after the 1,000 millennium period. Other cities will descend again on the new earth.

page 124 - other cities will be erected too. The design of the city of New Jerusalem is already known by revelation. The city must be built before the Savior returns [I have never seen this design mentioned in the LDS Church teaching manuals].

page 125 - a wall will surround the New Jerusalem. It will have gates too.

page 126 - in some future time, the people will have torn to shreds the Constitution of the United States [it is not clear what this means - possibly anarchy].

page 130 - in place of the Law of Consecration, the Lord instituted the law of tithing. The man who steadies the ark of God to be killed [reference to D&C 85:7-8. The identity of this man is not mentioned].

page 131 - one called of God who shall fall by the shaft of death (see p. 130).

page 134 - the First Presidency puts to rest speculation concerning he who is to fall by the shaft of death [no - they don't identify the person]. The "one mighty and strong" is not any President of the Church - past, present or future [but the 1981 Book of Mormon has a footnote in 2 Nephi 3 that this person is Joseph Smith. Obvious that the editor never received the correct teaching].

page 135 - pillar like cloud to hover over the temple spot. The temple complex would have 24 compartments.

page 137 - animal sacrifices will resume in the temple. All records in western continent of the hill would be transferred to the sacred temple.

page 139 - Lorenzo Snow saw Jesus in the Salt Lake City temple. The Latter-day Saints look to Missouri with eager eyes.

Chapter 9 - The Hour Approaches

page 141 - the city's construction shows the Lord's coming is near [it is October 2012 now and the Saints do not believe the coming is near because there is no construction. It might help if Americans can elect a Mormon president].

page 143 - stone cut of the mountains.

page 145 - a literal kingdom.

page 148 - theocracy.

page 151 - Lamanites will be re-civilized.

page 153 - Lamanites will help build the spectacular city of New Jerusalem in Jackson County. They would also dedicate the most beautiful temple in the world.

page 153 - Elder Kimball spoke of when members of the church would work side-by-side with the Lamanites to accomplish great works. Those who feed and clothe the Lamanites and see to their wants, as our President has said, they shall be blessed and prosper [reference to Wilford Woodruff, Journal of Discourses, volume 9, p. 222, July 15 1855. How do Latter-day Saints determine which Native American Indians are Lamanites and which are not?].

page 155 - the Native American Indians to become a powerful force again.

page 156 - final missionary push is to the Lamanites so they can be gathered into the New Jerusalem.

page 158 - members of the church, most of the tribe of Ephraim. Keys are with Ephraim [<http://www.gotquestions.org/tribe-of-Ephraim.html> has an interesting note about Ephraim and the ten tribes].

page 159 - the Ten Lost Tribes.

page 162 - many members of the church are of Ephraim. The Ten Lost Tribes will come with their prophets and bring the records of God's dealing with them.

page 163 - some living at the time will read the records of the Lost Tribes. There is a danger to have a figurative interpretation instead of a literal one.

page 164 - the great day of the coming of the Lost Tribes. They would come after the New Jerusalem is built. A cloud by day and fire by night would signify the glory of the Lord which would rest upon the Temple in the New Jerusalem. After this glory, a commotion of the Ten Lost Tribes from the north will be heard.

page 165 - this [the above] can be seen from statements of the Lord and the prophets; this will be one of the great events in history. Those of the Lost Tribes will come to the temple in New Jerusalem to get their endowments. They will bring sacred records of God's dealing with them.

page 166 - after this time [the above] signs are that the world is nearing the end of its telestial state.

page 167 - Ancient of Days is Adam [reference to History of the Church, volume 3, p. 386-387, July 2 1839].

page 168 - Daviess County is Spring Hill, or Adam-Ondi-Ahman. This is where Adam lived in mortality.

page 168-169 - a great priesthood council is to happen before Christ's return.

page 170 - this great meeting of the priesthood in Northern Missouri is a clear and definite sign that the end of the world is approaching. Thief in the night analogy - many Latter-day Saints will not know of this secret meeting.

page 171 - this meeting will occur after the church returns to Missouri to claim the land of Zion. Before Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed, Lot was sent into their midst to warn them.

page 172 - a major mission of the LDS Church is to warn of God's coming judgment.

page 172-173 - the last missionary call will involve the 144,000 [reference to D&C 77:11].

page 174 - three Nephite disciples. It is unclear if the calling of the 144,000 will occur before or after the council in Daviess County but Joseph Smith said it had already commenced [reference to History of the Church, volume 6, p. 196, Feb 4 1844].

page 175 - summary of the 5 great signs signalling the coming of the Lord

- a) the establishment of God's kingdom.
- b) the blossoming of the Lamanite people.
- c) the return of the Ten Lost Tribes.
- d) the great priesthood meeting in Northern Missouri.
- e) then the last call of the 144,000 missionaries [male priesthood holders].

[The author Lund should have included the building of New Jerusalem, the Temple, and the 24-building complex in this brief summary].

Chapter 10 - The House of Judah

page 177 - mention of three signs. One sign being the rise of an evil power.

page 178 - promised land for Abraham and their posterity [LDS theology has Ephraim inheriting America].

page 180 - scattering of the royal tribe (Judah).

page 181 - on October 24 1841, Orson Hyde dedicated Jerusalem for the return of the Jews.

page 182 - prophetic nature of Elder Hyde's prayer [many predicated there would be a Second World War. Would that make them prophets? Now is October 10 2012. I predict there will be war in the Middle East after the November elections in the United States - the main parties being Israel and Iran. I also predict a war involving China in the future. Am I doing this based on a prophetic nature?]

page 183 - "Strangely enough when the State of Israel was reborn in 1948, it was a nation of 600,000, the same number which the Bible reports that Moses led out of bondage in Egypt".

[The author is clearly mistaken. Read Numbers chapter 1.

"Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, after their families, by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their polls; from twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel: thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies ... Even all they that were numbered were six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty. But the Levites after the tribe of their fathers were not numbered among them".

Women and children (under 20) did not go to war. So obviously we have a larger population than 600,000 Israelites].

page 183 - gathering of Jews to their ancient homeland [was the tribe of Judah to inherit all of the land of Israel?].

page 184 - six million of the tribe of Judah lost their lives in Germany [only of the tribe of Judah and no other tribe?]. The return of the Jews to Palestine after World War 2 goes unnoticed by the Christian world [who is he kidding? The Balfour Declaration after World War 1 destined a homeland for them. And Christians believed that Jesus would return to Israel one day ... with Jews returned from their exile].

page 185 - Joseph Smith's prophecy that the temple would be rebuilt before Jesus returns [reference to History of the Church, volume 5, p. 337, April 6 1843]. Mention is made of the folly of William Miller's false prediction of the return of Christ [these are the Seventh-day Adventists]. Wilford Woodruff also says Jesus will not come until after Jews build their temple [reference to Journal of Discourses, volume 18, p. 111, September 12 1875].

page 186 - the above is called a prophecy of President Woodruff.

page 187 - the prophets (Joseph Smith, Wilford Woodruff, Orson Hyde, and others) spoke of a time when temple would be constructed once more [it is a prophecy].

page 189 - future war with Gog/Magog.

page 190 - this is Armageddon [reference is made to the 3 unclean spirits and the kings of the earth in Revelation 16:13. But the book makes no mention of an appearance of the Beast and the False Prophet].

page 191 - the whole earth will be shaken by the earthquake after Jerusalem's seige.

Chapter 11 - The End -- And the Beginning

page 198 - our Elder Brother Jesus. Firstborn in the spirit world. Only begotten in the flesh.

page 200 - we are now in earth's telestial glory. LDS are living in the 11th hour.

page 201 - firstfruits are caught up to be with the celestial beings. Return of the City of Enoch after the Millennium.

page 204 - after 6,000 years Christ will personally reign upon the earth.

page 205 - the rebellious and the wicked will be swept off the earth.

page 206-207 - only those living a telestial law will be removed in preparation for the Millennium. Those living a terrestrial and celestial law will live on earth during the Millennium.

page 207-208 - Joseph Smith said that Jesus Christ and the saints will probably not live on earth during the Millennium.

page 208 - there will be wicked men on earth during the Millennium.

page 209-210 - thousand of temples will be built.

page 212- people will drift away from the Law of Consecration in the Millennium.

page 213- the war at the end of the Millennium is the Battle of Gog and Magog [reference to History of the Church, volume 5, p. 298, March 1843]. There is also a Battle of Gog and Magog before the Second Coming of Christ. Gog is a symbol of evil [not a literal person].

page 213 - the beloved city will be encompassed by Satan [which city?].

page 214 - the 1,000 millennial period is a terrestrial order. After the Millennium, the earth will become the residence of those who kept the celestial law.

page 215 - the terrestrials will be moved to another planet.

Chapter 12 - Anxiety? ... Or Anticipation?

page 219 - the Lord predicted the building of the New Jerusalem [where?].

page 221 - the angels of heaven already loosed to reap down the earth during this talk [looks like a reference to Revelation 14:15].

page 223 - in the future, history may talk about the marvellous return to Jackson County or the tremendous faith of those who built New Jerusalem.

page 223-224 - Wilford Woodruff had a dream - he saw the temple in Missouri under construction. Even the angels came with supplies.

page 224 - Lorenzo Snow said many will be living in Jackson County to assist in building the temple. They would invite Jesus to their houses as he was invited when he was here [reference to Deseret News, June 15 1901, p. 1. When was Jesus invited to people's homes in Jackson County in the past?].

page 224 - a vast cloud of dust would signal the arrival of the Ten Tribes. The people of Ephraim, who journeyed over the plains from the west, would introduce themselves to the Ten Tribes who travelled over the plains from the north [are there only Ephraimites in the LDS Church? What of Manasseh? Are these Ten Tribes coming over plains from Canada or over the Great Lakes?. Where are the Ten Tribes right now in 2012?]

page 229 - you must accept the divine mission of Joseph Smith if you want to be prepared for the Second Coming.

page 230 - you may not like what comes from the authority of the church.

page 230 - speaking about the coming of the Lord, "If the emotions one feels as he contemplates the foreboding days ahead are primarily fearful, then perhaps what is needed is a serious evaluation of one's personal relationship with Jesus Christ" [what does it mean to have a personal relationship with Jesus?].

THE END