

## Isaiah in the Book of Mormon

Val Brinkerhoff / Endnote 43 in the book, *The Remnant Awakens*

The great Prophet Isaiah saw our day 3000 years ago. He is quoted more by Christ, Peter, Paul, John, and Book of Mormon prophets - than any other. We are told to search Isaiah ten times in scripture, three times in the Book of Mormon alone (3 Ne. 20:11, 23:1-3 & Mor. 8:23). Ninety percent of Isaiah's 66 chapters center on latter-day "Israel" – the Saints (mainly of Ephraim). That is why one third of them are included in the Book of Mormon, the book written to mostly the remnant of Jacob (the Lamanites), and to Jews and Gentiles. In order, they include Isaiah chapters 48-52, 2-14, 29, and 53-54. There are a total of 21 Isaiah chapters in the Book of Mormon (partial or full chapters), with 52 added verses, making up total of 433 Isaiah verses, 199 of which are identical to the KJV of the Bible. A total of 234 of them are modified in the Book of Mormon. Their order and a summary of their content is included at the conclusion of this endnote, including a summary of the first five Isaiah chapters and their focus on the Lord's lead servant, potentially John the Beloved.

*The Lord's Last-days Lead Servant* It is noteworthy that the first chapters of Isaiah that Nephi quotes early on in the Book of Mormon are chapters 48 and 49 (1 Ne. chapters 20 and 21). They address corruption in ancient Jerusalem *as a type for our day, and at the time Lehi and family left this capital city*. Laman and Lemuel had complained that the people of Jerusalem, the capital city, were good. Nephi revealed otherwise. And of great significance is that they clearly address the Lord's last-days servant, sent to prepare the way before our Lord's return. In chapter 48, the Lord calls him "*Mine hand,*" "*my right hand*" and that "*the Lord hath loved him*" (verses 13 & 14). They help identify him. He may be the Lord's "*beloved*" Son, as was Christ a beloved son of His Father. Isaiah states that He [the Lord] has "*called him [the servant] to declare*" and "*brought him*" to make His way [the Lord's way] prosperous (verse 15). This Davidic or bloodline servant (through king David) then speaks to us, stating "*the Lord God, and his Spirit, hath sent me*" (verse 16). Because of trouble in our day (like Lehi's day), He is (1) sent to *gather Israel*, (2) *prepare the way* before the Lord as His "*elias,*" and (3) to *restore all things* (see D&C 77:9&14). This particular servant (named in verse 14) continues to address us in the first four of these five initial Isaiah chapters in the Book of Mormon. There are other "*servants*" as well, like Joseph the Indian Prophet, the three translated disciples, the 144,000, and others (see Jacob 5:70).

In the next chapter, 1 Nephi 21 (chap. 49 of Isaiah), the Lord, the Prophet Isaiah, and the servant each speak to us, to scattered Israel, and specifically to the scattered *remnant of Jacob* on this Promised Land, our Native American brothers and sisters. In verse 1, this servant speaks directly to us today (according to A. Gileadi, R. Smith, and this author [VB]). He states, "*Hearken, O ye house of Israel, all ye that are broken off and are driven out because of the wickedness of the pastors of my people...the Lord hath called me [the lead servant] from the womb; the from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name.*" He adds, "*he [Christ] hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me*" (verse 2). Few are aware of the last-days lead servant John, and the Lamanite servant Joseph and their missions. They are sent of the Lord to prepare the way before Him. They have been "*hid*" until their missions unfold. In Verse 5, we read that "*his [the Lord's] servant [is] to bring Jacob again to him.*" In V. 6, the Lord adds that "*my servant [will]...restore the preserved of Israel*" and he will be "*a light to the Gentiles.*" In V. 8, the Lord tells the lead servant that He will, "*preserve thee my servant for a covenant of the people.*"

**Breakdown of the first five Isaiah chapters in the Book of Mormon.** \* means the servant speaks...

1. 1 Nephi 20 – *Isaiah 48* / The Lord introduces His Servant to us. He states, Hearken and hear this, O house of Jacob, who are called by the name of Israel . . . I Am the first, and I am the last . . .

The Lord utilized him as His "**hand**" in laying "*the foundations of the earth*" - the creation (v. 13)

The Lord said His "**right hand** *hath spanned the heaven*" (v. 13)

The "**Lord** *hath loved him*" (v. 14)

The Lord said "*I have called him*" (v. 15)

The Lord said "*I have brought him*" (v. 15)

\*The "*Lord God, and his Spirit, hath sent me*" (vs. 16-17)

\*And "*thus saith the Lord . . . I have sent him*" (v. 17)

2. 1 Nephi 21 – *Isaiah 49* / The Servant speaks to us directly "because of the wickedness of the pastors of my people . . . listen . . . unto me . . .

\*The Lord "*hath called me from the womb*" (v. 1)

\*The Lord "*he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword*" (v. 2)

\*The Lord, "*in the shadow of his hand he hath hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me*" (v. 2)

\*The Lord "*said unto: Thou art my servant in whom I will be glorified*" (v. 3)

\**Then I said, I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for naught and in vain; surely my judgment is with the Lord, and my work with my God*" (v. 4)

\*"*And now, saith the Lord – that formed me from the womb that I should be his servant to bring Jacob again*

to him” (v. 5)

\*“And he said: It is a light thing that thou shouldst be **my servant** to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to **restore** the preserved of Israel (v. 6)

\*The Lord said, “I will preserve **thee** , and give **thee my servant** for a **covenant** of the people” (v. 8)

\*Thus saith the Lord God: Behold, I will lift up mine **hand** to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people” (v. 22)

3. 2 Nephi 7 – Isaiah 50 / The Servant again speaks to us directly . . .

\*“The Lord God hath **given me** the tongue of the learned, that I should know **how to speak a word** . . . he waketh morning by morning. **He waketh mine ear** to hear as the learned” (v. 4)

\*The Lord “is near, and **he justifieth me**” (v. 8)

\*“Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of his **servant**” (v. 10)

4 & 5. 2 Nephi 8 – Isaiah 51-52 / The Lord again speaks to us . . .

“Hearken unto me, ye that know **righteousness**” (v. 1 & 7)

“Mine “**arm shall judge the people**” (v. 5 & 9)

“**Awake, awake! Put on strength, O arm of the Lord**; awake as in the ancient days. Art thou not **he** that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon? Art thou not **he** who hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep; that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?” (v. 9)

“And I have put my words **in thy mouth**, and have covered **thee** in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion: Behold, thou art my people” (v. 16)

“*Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem*, which hast drunk at the hand of the Lord the cup of his fury—thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling wrung out” (v. 17)

“*Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion*; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean” (v. 24)

The identity, mission, and 70 names of the Lord’s lead last-days servant is detailed in the author’s book, *Awake and Arise*, [www.digitalegend.com](http://www.digitalegend.com) Note the 21 chapters of Isaiah in the Book of Mormon below and their order and content, the **first five** of which address God’s lead servant, potentially His **son** sent into the corrupted vineyard (Mat. 21:37; D&C 101:55-61). In the first four of these five initial Isaiah chapters this lead servant speaks directly to us today!

### 21 Book of Mormon Isaiah Chapters: What are they Teaching in this Order?

- \*Isaiah 48 (1 Ne. 20) Corruption of last-days Israel. Christ introduces the lead *servant* to us. The *servant speaks to us* today.
- \*Isaiah 49 (1 Ne. 21) Christ empowers the *servant* after his rejected, that he might restore the people for a new Exodus. *He speaks to us*.
- \*Isaiah 50 (2 Ne. 7) The *servant* meets opposition from many among his own people, their light is only sparks. *He speaks to us again*.
- \*Isaiah 51 (2 Ne. 8) Christ awakens & empowers the *servant* as His “arm” of righteousness, to deliver the remnant on a new Exodus.
- Isaiah 52 (2 Ne. 8) The *servant*, the watchman, and the awakened 144,000 help restore Zion in the new Exodus.
  
- Isaiah 2 (2 Ne. 12) The latter-day restoration of Zion and old Jerusalem contrasts that of God’s judgment upon the world.
- Isaiah 3 (2 Ne. 13) Food and water disappear, captivity comes by foreign armies, as our country and others collapse.
- Isaiah 4 (2 Ne. 14) Natural disasters and war lead to many men dying. The preserved have their names written in the Book of Life.
- Isaiah 5 (2 Ne. 15) God’s vineyard is judged & burned, the hedge removed for foreign invasion – a covenant curse.
- Isaiah 6 (2 Ne. 16) Isaiah ascends to heaven, receives mission, is sent back to warn us. Only a tenth will remain.
- Isaiah 7 (2 Ne. 17) World power rises, invades this and other lands, a result of covenant curses.
- Isaiah 8 (2 Ne. 18) Invaders enter this land as a great “river” or “flood.” There is hope for those who are repentant & turn to Christ.
- Isaiah 9 (2 Ne. 19) The people and their leaders are in darkness. God calls and empowers His servant as a light to the remnant.
- Isaiah 10 (2 Ne. 20) Punishment comes upon Ephraimite Gentiles here by way of the Lord’s left “arm” – the evil tyrant.
- Isaiah 11 (2 Ne. 21) The call & rise of the servant, an Ensign to the remnant, a Branch with authoritative bloodline (see D&C 113).
- Isaiah 12 (2 Ne. 22) The righteous worship and praise God following the tribulation and deliverance.
- Isaiah 13 (2 Ne. 23) Babylon here thrown down by foreign army (like Sodom & Gomorrah), via the Lord’s left arm (Assyrian alliance)
- Isaiah 14 (2 Ne. 24) King of Assyria conquers and humbles the proud, there is compassion upon the repentant.
- Isaiah 29 (2 Ne. 27) Idolatry abounds, leaders have covered heads, academic learning overturned by unsealed book of Isaiah.
- Isaiah 53 (Mos. 14) Christ Atoned for us – the remnant, His Bride. He is the Lamb of God and the King of kings over Zion.
- Isaiah 54 (3 Ne. 22) The Father fulfills His covenant with the remnant through Christ, His servant, and the righteousness of the people..

**Note** The first 3 of 40 scriptures given the Prophet Joseph Smith by Moroni on Rosh Hashanah of 1823 also have the theme as the first Isaiah books found in the Book of Mormon - that of a coming servant to help deliver the righteous prior to the Lord’s return. They include: (1) Mal. 3:1, (2) Mal. 4:2, and (3) Isa. 11 (see the Lord’s clarification on it in D&C 113). The 2<sup>nd</sup> of 6 later Book of Mormon scriptures (#36 of the 40) was 2 Ne. 3:24, another servant sent into the Lord’s last-days vineyard, *a future Native American Prophet* (see Elder Spencer W. Kimball, Oct. 1947, Gen. Conf. Address).

**3 Nephi, Chapter 22 / Isaiah 54** - *Hope after the judgment and tribulations* – spiritual re-translation (JM)

*You have only been forsaken for a moment. But now you shall rise up and be **an instrument** in the Lord's hands.*

1 And then shall that which is written come to pass: Sing, O barren, you that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, you that did not travail with child; for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord.

2 Enlarge the place of your tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of your habitations; spare not, lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes;

3 For you shall break forth on the right hand and on the left, and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

4 Fear not, for you shall not be disappointed; neither be confused, for you shall not be embarrassed; for you shall forget the shame of your youth, and shall not remember the poor treatment of your youth, and shall not remember the hard conditions when I was not with you.

5 For thy maker, thy husband, the Lord of Hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel—the God of the whole earth shall he be called.

6 For the Lord hath called you as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when you were rejected, saith thy God.

7 For a small moment have I forsaken you, but with great mercies will I gather you. (House of Israel)

8 In a little wrath I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on you, saith the Lord thy Redeemer.

9 For this, the waters of Noah unto me, for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with you.

10 For the nations shall depart and the small countries be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on you.

11 O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted! Behold, I will lay your stones with fair colors, and lay the foundations with sapphires.

12 And I will make your windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all your borders of pleasant stones.

13 And all your children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of your children.

14 In righteousness shall you be established; you shall be far from oppression for you shall not fear, and from terror for it shall not come near you.

15 You see, they shall surely gather together against you, not by me; whosoever shall gather together against you shall fall for your sake.

16 Look, I have created the blacksmith that blows the coals in the fire, and that brings forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy.

17 No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; and every tongue that shall revile against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.