

JACOB SAW HIS REDEEMER

(2 Nephi 8:1-16)

V1 Nephi lets the reader know that the preceding sermon was just a sample of Jacob's preaching.

V2-16 After including a couple of chapters of Isaiah in Jacob's sermon, Nephi decides to add some more Isaiah because his "soul delights in his words" (v. 2). Why does his soul delight in these words? Because he can liken them to his people and because Isaiah also has seen Christ the Redeemer (v.3), as have Nephi and Jacob (v. 4). He wants his descendants to know these two things (v. 4).

V7-12 Nephi starts each refrain with "my soul delights in." as a clear rhetorical marker. Given these two points of interest we should be looking for material related to them in the subsequent chapters of Isaiah quoted by Nephi.

Nephi closes the introduction by stating those of his descendants who read this should lift up their heads and rejoice, as should all men, because all people can liken them to themselves (v. 15-16). The reader of these chapters of Isaiah should rejoice over the same two points that delight Nephi, that Christ is the Redeemer and they are covenant Israel.

V13-14 This verse is something of a restate of Lehi's argument in 2 Nephi 1:81-84, but its primary intention is to parallel the Law of Moses references to "all things...from the beginning of the world". Also, the Creation and divine Creatorship of the Lord is a pivotal subject of Isaiah. 40-47.