

THE COVENANT IS WITH THE REPENTANT

(2 Nephi 12:75-100)

V75-78 Nephi takes a moment to include a parenthetical comment to his people. Since the last three chapters have railed pretty hard on the Gentiles, Nephi wants to set the record straight by warning his people off from self-righteousness or bigotry. Nephi makes it perfectly plain that all those who fail to keep the commandments will perish, Gentile or Israelite. And, some of the Gentiles will be righteous, so they will not be annihilated (v.75-76). This is because as many as are righteous, regardless of lineage, are accepted, and as many that are unrighteous are cut off, regardless of lineage (v. 77-78). Nephi's comments here echo those of Moses in Deuteronomy 9:3-5.

V79-89 Nephi prophesies that the book, spoken of in the previous chapters, will come forth first to the Gentiles, and then they will carry it to remnant of the Lehites (v. 79-80). The result is they will be apprized of the true origin (v. 81) and they will be restored to the gospel of Jesus Christ (v. 82). The result is they will rejoice in this knowledge, shed their spiritual darkness, and become a "white and delightsome people" (v. 83-84). This is describing figurative whiteness and not literal whiteness.

Accompanying the initiation of the gathering of the Lehites is the initiation of the gathering of the Jews to their promised lands (v. 85-86). Thus, the Lord will begin His final work among all nations to bring about the restoration of Israel (v. 87-88).

V85-86 As far as the Jews beginning to believe in Christ, note Nephi doesn't say they start believing that Jesus is the Christ. What they do is to start to look forward for the Messiah again. (See 2 Nephi 11:26-27).

V90-95 Nephi quotes Isaiah 11:4-9 to illustrate the final results of the Lord restoring Israel and accomplishing His work, namely the Day of the Lord (v. 88-91), which ushers in the "Millennium" (v. 92-95). Isaiah 11 is quoted in full in 2 Nephi 9:116-131.

V96-100 Here, Nephi expounds upon the quotation of Isaiah 11:9 in v. 95 to explain what it means. All of the revelations of the Lord to mankind will be made known during the Millennium (see 2 Nephi 11:131-132, 12:67-74).