

# Prophecies of Christ

in the Holy Bible and Book of Mormon

## SONG: PICTURE A CHRISTMAS

### NARRATOR

We are children of a Heavenly Father and Heavenly Mother, created in their image, with a divine destiny to become like them—eternal and filled with love. This plan was created in the beginning.

Our first Earthly parents, Adam and Eve, chose to fall from immortality and the presence of God so we could be born and experience agency. Their transgression resulted in two deaths: mortal death, separation from our bodies; and spiritual death, separation from our Heavenly Parents and everyone we love.

Without a full understanding, Adam and Eve feared these deaths sealed their fate.

But when Adam and Eve demonstrated their obedience to our Father, they were taught, by an angel, that a savior would be provided for them and their posterity. This messiah would save us from mortal death by resurrection, and he would save us from spiritual death through his atonement.

The scriptures tell us Eve rejoiced when she heard this, and said...

### EVE

Were it not for our transgression we never should have had seed, and never should have known good and evil, and the joy of our redemption, and the eternal life which God giveth unto all the obedient. (*Moses 5:11*)

And the Messiah cometh in the fullness of time, that he may redeem the children of men from the fall. (*Moses 5:26*)

### NARRATOR

This is the legacy and the promise of mankind. Long after Adam and Eve, the Lord continued to teach their children of his plan, and the savior who would make it all possible, through the words of his prophets.

Isaiah taught us that Christ would be born of a virgin, and that kings would come to the brightness of his rising.

### ISAIAH

The Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (*Isaiah 7:14*).

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. (*Isaiah 9:6*)

And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. (*Isaiah 60:3*)

#### NARRATOR

Micah foretold the very place of the savior's birth in Bethlehem.

#### MICAH

But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be a ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. (*Micah 5:2*)

#### NARRATOR

Jeremiah promised that Christ would come from the royal line of David.

#### JEREMIAH

In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. (*Jeremiah 33:15*)

#### NARRATOR

Our Heavenly Father is mindful of all of his children, and also spoke to prophets in the ancient Americas, and taught them of the coming of our savior.

Nephi, son of Lehi, was given a vision, and became a literal witness to the condescension of Christ.

#### NEPHI

And it came to pass that I looked and beheld the great city of Jerusalem, and also other cities. And I beheld the city of Nazareth; and in the city of Nazareth I beheld a virgin, and she was exceedingly fair and white. And it came to pass that I saw the heavens open; and an angel came down and stood before me; and he said unto me: (*1 Nephi 11: 13-14*)

#### ANGEL

Nephi, what beholdest thou? (*1 Nephi 11: 14*)

NEPHI

And I said unto him: A virgin, most beautiful and fair above all other virgins. (*1 Nephi 11: 15*)

ANGEL

Knowest thou the condescension of God? (*1 Nephi 11: 16*)

NEPHI

And I said unto him: I know that he loveth his children; nevertheless, I do not know the meaning of all things. (*1 Nephi 11: 17*)

ANGEL

Behold, the virgin whom thou seest is the mother of the Son of God, after the manner of the flesh. (*1 Nephi 11: 18*)

NEPHI

And it came to pass that I beheld that she was carried away in the Spirit; and after she had been carried away in the Spirit for the space of a time the angel spake unto me, saying: (*1 Nephi 11: 19*)

ANGEL

Look! (*1 Nephi 11: 19*)

NEPHI

And I looked and beheld the virgin again, bearing a child in her arms. (*1 Nephi 11: 20*)

ANGEL

Behold the Lamb of God, yea, even the Son of the Eternal Father! (*1 Nephi 11: 21*)

NARRATOR

The Book of Mormon prophets all bore record of the same Christ prophesied of in the Bible.

Abinadi, before being executed for speaking against an apostate and wicked king, shone with such power and authority, he could not be stopped from sharing his final testimony.

ABINADI

For behold, did not Moses prophesy unto them concerning the coming of the Messiah, and that God should redeem his people? Yea, and even all the prophets who have prophesied ever since the world began—have they not spoken more or less concerning these things? (*Mosiah 13:33*)

NARRATOR

But just as Israel fell under the brutal control of Rome, in the America's, those who believed in Christ were also threatened by evil men who sought to destroy them.

Samuel the Lamanite stood on a high city wall and declared that only five years remained before the birth of Christ, and that great signs would accompany his coming.

#### SAMUEL THE LAMANITE

Behold, I give unto you a sign; for five years more cometh, and behold, then cometh the Son of God to redeem all those who shall believe on his name.

And behold, this will I give unto you for a sign at the time of his coming; for behold, there shall be great lights in heaven, insomuch that in the night before he cometh there shall be no darkness, insomuch that it shall appear unto man as if it was day.

Therefore, there shall be one day and a night and a day, as if it were one day and there were no night; and this shall be unto you for a sign; for ye shall know of the rising of the sun and also of its setting; therefore they shall know of a surety that there shall be two days and a night; nevertheless the night shall not be darkened; and it shall be the night before he is born.

And behold, there shall a new star arise, such an one as ye never have beheld; and this also shall be a sign unto you.

And behold this is not all, there shall be many signs and wonders in heaven.

And it shall come to pass that ye shall all be amazed, and wonder, insomuch that ye shall fall to the earth. (*Helaman 14:2-7*)

#### NARRATOR

But most people did not believe Samuel and tried to cast him down from the wall with stones and arrows. God protected him, and neither stones nor arrows could touch him.

#### SONG: SAMUEL TELLS OF THE BABY JESUS

#### NARRATOR

Meanwhile, in Nazareth of Galilee, a virgin named Mary was visited by the angel Gabriel, who revealed to her that she would be the vessel to bring the messiah into this world. Through her, the promise of redemption given to Adam and Eve would be fulfilled. And like Eve, she rejoiced in

the power and the love of her savior.

MARY

My soul doth magnify the Lord,

And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree.

He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy;

As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.  
(*Luke 1:46-55*)

NARRATOR

But in the America's, the situation for the believers became increasingly dire. Many people said the words of Samuel the Lamanite would not be fulfilled, and that the time had passed. They claimed that the believers' faith and joy had been in vain. They set apart a day that all those who believed in the prophesies of Christ would be put to death except the sign promised by Samuel the Lamanite should come to pass.

Nephi, son of Nephi, was among these believers, and he bowed himself to the earth and prayed that his people would be saved from annihilation at the hands of the Gadianton robbers.

Just as Israel prayed to be saved from oppression at the hands of Rome.

And just as we pray to be delivered from death and destruction at the hands of the enemy of mankind.

SONG: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

NARRATOR

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.  
(*Luke 2: 1, 3-5*)

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And it came to pass that [Nephi] cried mightily unto the Lord all that day; and behold, the voice of the Lord came unto him, saying:

Lift up your head and be of good cheer; for behold, the time is at hand, and on this night shall the sign be given, and on the morrow come I into the world, to show unto the world that I will fulfill all that which I have caused to be spoken by the mouth of my holy prophets.

Behold, I come unto my own, to fulfill all things which I have made known unto the children of men from the foundation of the world, and to do the will, both of the Father and of the Son—of the Father because of me, and of the Son because of my flesh. And behold, the time is at hand, and this night shall the sign be given. (*3 Nephi 1:12-14*)

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And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that [Mary] should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. (*Luke 2: 6-7*)

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And it came to pass that the words which came unto Nephi were fulfilled, according as they had been spoken; for behold, at the going down of the sun there was no darkness; and the people began to be astonished because there was no darkness when the night came.

And it came to pass that there was no darkness in all that night, but it was as light as though it was mid-day. And it came to pass that the sun did rise in the morning again, according to its proper order; and they knew that it was the day that the Lord should be born, because of the sign which had been given.

And it had come to pass, yea, all things, every whit, according to the words of the prophets.

And it came to pass also that a new star did appear, according to the word. *(3 Nephi 1: 15, 19-21)*

### SONG: O HOLY NIGHT

#### NARRATOR

...[The Wise Men] departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. *(Matthew 2: 9-10)*

#### WISE MEN

Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. *(Matthew 2:2)*

#### NARRATOR

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. *(Matthew 2:11)*

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As prophesied by Samuel the Lamanite, Jesus Christ was born in five years time, a new star appeared, and the night did not darken.

As prophesied by Abinadi, he was the messiah.

As prophesied by Nephi Son of Lehi, his condescension came to pass.

As prophesied by Jeremiah, he was of the royal line of David.

As prophesied by Micah, the miracle occurred in the small town of Bethlehem.

As prophesied by Isaiah, kings came to the light of his rising.

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And as prophesied by Mary and Eve, Jesus Christ fulfilled the great plan of redemption, conquering our mortal and spiritual death, and bringing the salvation promised to us by our Heavenly Parents.

SONGS: ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH, JOY TO THE WORLD

PICTURE A CHRISTMAS by Pat Graham  
(with additional verses written by Christine Tyler)

*Picture a stable in Judea.  
Picture a sacred, silent night.  
And can you hear  
The angels near  
And see the star so bright?*

*Picture the kind and gentle Joseph.  
Picture the mother, Mary, fair.  
And can you see  
So rev'rently  
The shepherds kneeling there?*

*Picture the little baby Jesus.  
Think of his life and words so dear.  
Sing praise to him,  
Remember him,  
As you picture Christmas this year.*

*\*\*\*additional verses\*\*\**

*Picture the saints of Zarahemla.  
Picture five years of hope steadfast.  
Though wicked men  
Did threaten them  
And said the time had passed.*

*Picture a righteous man named Nephi.  
Picture his people praying so  
The sign would come,  
And everyone  
Would know the Lord was born.*

*Picture a night that saw no darkness.  
Think of the miracle of Light  
Who bore the fall  
To save us all  
As you picture Christmas tonight.*