

How Art Thou Fallen



Isaiah 14:3–17 · This week: A Marvellous Work and a Wonder, Isaiah 13–14; 22; 24–30; 35

In the manual: **Come, Follow Me lesson 39, “A Marvellous Work and a Wonder,” on Gospel Library**

START

Isaiah wrote a song for the day the proud king of Babylon would fall. In it, people stare at the fallen king and ask, “Is this the man that made the earth to tremble?”

READ TOGETHER

Babylon was one of the greatest cities in the world, and chapter 13 says it would one day stand empty. Today it is a field of ruins in Iraq. In chapter 14, Isaiah’s words reach past the king to Lucifer, the angel who rebelled against God and was cast out (Doctrine and Covenants 76:25–26).

ISAIAH 14:3

³And it shall come to pass in the day that the LORD shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve,

ISAIAH 14:12–15

¹²How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

¹³For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. ¹⁵Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

WHAT IT TEACHES

Count how many times Lucifer says “I will” in verses 13 and 14. There are five. He wanted to climb above the stars of God and sit where God sits. Verse 15 answers all five, and he goes down to the pit.

The Book of Moses tells what Lucifer was after. In the council in heaven, Satan asked the Father to give him his honor. Jesus Christ said the Father’s will should be done and the glory should be the Father’s forever (Moses 4:1–2). He kept to that all the way to Gethsemane, where he prayed, “not my will, but thine, be done” (Luke 22:42).

President Ezra Taft Benson taught that pride pits our will against God’s. “When we direct our pride toward God, it is in the spirit of ‘my will and not thine be done.’”

President Ezra Taft Benson, “Beware of Pride,” General conference, April 1989

Verse 3 holds a promise for everyone that pride has hurt. The Lord will give “rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear.” Babylon’s pride came down, and with the Lord’s help ours can too.

TALK ABOUT IT

Pride says “I will” in small ways, like refusing to say sorry or needing to win every argument. Where do you notice it in yourself, and what would “not my will, but thine” look like there?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Lucifer said “I will” and fell. Jesus Christ said “not my will, but thine,” and the Father raised him up.

A Sure Foundation



Isaiah 22:20–24; 28:14–20 · This week: A Marvellous Work and a Wonder, Isaiah 13–14; 22; 24–30; 35

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START

Isaiah describes a bed too short to stretch out on, with a blanket too narrow to wrap up in (Isaiah 28:20). He says that is what it feels like to trust the wrong thing when trouble comes.

READ TOGETHER

Jerusalem’s leaders were afraid of Assyria, the great army of their day. Instead of asking the Lord, they looked to Egypt for protection (Isaiah 30:1–2). Isaiah called their plan a refuge of lies (Isaiah 28:15).

ISAIAH 28:16–17

¹⁶Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

¹⁷Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.

ISAIAH 22:22–23

²²And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. ²³And I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father’s house.

WHAT IT TEACHES

The Lord answers their fear with a stone. It is “a tried stone,” one that has been tested, and “a precious corner stone.” Builders set the corner stone first and line up every other stone with it. The

Apostle Peter quoted this verse and said the stone is Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:6–7).

In verse 17, hail sweeps away the refuge of lies. Centuries later, Helaman told his sons to build on the rock of our Redeemer, so that when the devil sends his hail and his mighty storm, they cannot fall. He called that rock “a sure foundation,” the same words Isaiah used (Helaman 5:12).

Chapter 22 gives one more picture of the Savior. The Lord gives a faithful servant named Eliakim the key of the house of David and fastens him “as a nail in a sure place.” The nail here is a strong peg driven into a wall, and verse 24 says the whole family hung its cups and jars on him. In Revelation, the risen Savior says he holds the key of David (Revelation 3:7).

TALK ABOUT IT

When people are scared, what do they lean on besides the Lord, the way Jerusalem leaned on Egypt? What does it look like for our family to build on Jesus Christ?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Everything else we lean on comes up short, like a bed too small to stretch out on. Jesus Christ is a sure foundation.

Refuge from the Storm



Isaiah 25:1–9; 26:19 · This week: A Marvellous Work and a Wonder, Isaiah 13–14; 22; 24–30; 35

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START

Isaiah compares the Lord to a shelter in a storm and to shade on a hot day. Then he promises that death itself will be swallowed up.

READ TOGETHER

Isaiah 24–27 looks ahead to the last days, when the Lord will reign in Zion (Isaiah 24:23). In the middle of those chapters, Isaiah stops to praise God for what he will do (Isaiah 25:1).

ISAIAH 25:4

⁴For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

ISAIAH 25:8–9

⁸He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it. ⁹And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

ISAIAH 26:19

¹⁹Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

WHAT IT TEACHES

In a dry land, a storm could flatten a tent, and the noon sun could make a person sick. Verse 4 says the

Lord has been “a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat” for the poor and the needy. The storm still comes in this verse. The Lord is the shelter his people run to while it lasts.

Verse 6 describes a feast on the mountain for “all people,” and verse 8 tells what the Lord will do there. He will swallow up death and wipe the tears from every face. Paul quoted this verse when he wrote about the Resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:54–57). John saw the tears wiped away in his vision of the new earth (Revelation 21:4).

Isaiah 26:19 makes the promise personal. “Thy dead men shall live.” Because Jesus Christ rose from the dead, everyone who has died will rise too (1 Corinthians 15:22). The people we miss will live again.

TALK ABOUT IT

When have you been glad for shelter in a storm or shade on a hot day? Is there someone our family misses who has died, and what does Isaiah 25:8 promise about them?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Isaiah promised, “He will swallow up death in victory.” Jesus Christ kept that promise when he rose from the tomb.

A Bulging Wall

Isaiah 29:13; 30:8–21 · This week: A Marvellous Work and a Wonder, Isaiah 13–14; 22; 24–30; 35

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START

Isaiah describes a tall wall with a crack in it. The crack bulges out a little more each day, and then the whole wall falls at once (Isaiah 30:13).

READ TOGETHER

The people of Judah still offered sacrifices and said their prayers (Isaiah 1:11–15). Isaiah saw that their hearts were drifting away from the Lord, and he warned them while the crack was still small.

ISAIAH 29:13

¹³ Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:

ISAIAH 30:10

¹⁰ Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophecy deceits:

ISAIAH 30:13–15

¹³ Therefore this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking cometh suddenly at an instant.
¹⁴ And he shall break it as the breaking of the potters' vessel that is broken in pieces; he shall not spare: so that there shall not be found in the bursting of it a sherd to take fire from the hearth, or to take water withal out of the pit. ¹⁵ For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.

WHAT IT TEACHES

Isaiah 29:13 names the first warning sign. People can say the right words to God while their hearts wander somewhere else. From the outside, that kind of crack is hard to see.

Chapter 30 names a second sign. The people told the prophets, “speak unto us smooth things.” They wanted to hear only what they already liked. The Lord kept sending warnings anyway, because he loved them.

When the wall falls in verse 14, it shatters like a clay pot, with no piece left big enough to carry a coal from the fire. Then verse 15 gives the way back. “In returning and rest shall ye be saved.” Returning to the Lord is what repentance means, and verse 18 says he waits “that he may be gracious unto you.”

Verse 21 promises that those who return will hear a voice behind them saying, “This is the way, walk ye in it.” The Holy Ghost is that voice for us when we start to drift.

TALK ABOUT IT

What are small signs that a heart is drifting from the Lord, even when a person keeps doing the outward things? What helps our family notice a crack while it is still small?

TAKE TO CHURCH

The Lord warns us while the crack is small, and he waits for us to come back so he can be gracious to us.

A Marvellous Work



Isaiah 24:5; 29:13–14 · This week: A Marvellous Work and a Wonder, Isaiah 13–14; 22; 24–30; 35

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START

In the spring of 1820, a fourteen-year-old boy went into the woods to pray. The answer he received included words from Isaiah 29.

READ TOGETHER

Isaiah saw a time when people would break “the everlasting covenant” (Isaiah 24:5). In Doctrine and Covenants 1:15, the Lord uses almost the same words to describe the world before the Restoration.

ISAIAH 24:5

⁵The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.

ISAIAH 29:13–14

¹³Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:

¹⁴Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.

WHAT IT TEACHES

When Jesus Christ spoke to Joseph Smith in the grove, he described the religion of that day with words from verse 13. People drew near to God

with their lips, but their hearts were far from him (Joseph Smith’s account).

Verse 14 is the Lord’s answer. He would do “a marvellous work and a wonder.” In 1829 the Lord told Joseph Smith’s father that this marvelous work was about to come forth (Doctrine and Covenants 4:1). The Restoration brought back the priesthood, the Book of Mormon, temples, and living prophets.

In 2020, for the 200th anniversary of the First Vision, the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles wrote a proclamation to the world. “We gladly declare that the promised Restoration goes forward through continuing revelation.”

The First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “The Restoration of the Fulness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ: A Bicentennial Proclamation to the World,” April 2020

TALK ABOUT IT

Isaiah called the Restoration “a marvellous work and a wonder.” Which part of it are you most thankful for, and why?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Isaiah saw “a marvellous work and a wonder” more than 2,500 years before it began with a boy’s prayer in 1820.

Out of the Dust



Isaiah 29:4–24 · This week: A Marvellous Work and a Wonder, Isaiah 13–14; 22; 24–30; 35

In the manual: **Come, Follow Me lesson 39, “A Marvellous Work and a Wonder,” on Gospel Library**

START

Isaiah describes a voice that speaks “out of the ground” and a book that a learned man cannot read.

READ TOGETHER

Nephi saw his own people in verse 4. Their record would be buried, and in the last days their words would speak out of the dust (2 Nephi 26:15–16). Moroni buried the gold plates in a hill, and Joseph Smith received them there on September 22, 1827.

ISAIAH 29:11–12

11 And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed: **12** And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.

ISAIAH 29:18

18 And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness.

WHAT IT TEACHES

In 1828, Martin Harris showed a scholar in New York City some writing copied off the plates. The scholar, Charles Anthon, asked him to bring the plates. Martin said part of them were sealed, and Anthon said he could not read a sealed

book (Joseph Smith’s account). The learned man in verse 11 says almost the same thing.

Verse 12 gives the book to someone who says, “I am not learned.” Joseph Smith had little schooling. He translated the Book of Mormon by the gift and power of God.

Then verse 18 says “the deaf” will “hear the words of the book.” People who had never heard the Savior’s voice would find it in the Book of Mormon. It was written to show the whole world that Jesus is the Christ.

Verse 24 ends the chapter with a promise for anyone who has wandered. “They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding.”

TALK ABOUT IT

The Lord gave the book to someone who said, “I am not learned.” What does that tell you about what the Lord can do through you?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Isaiah saw the Book of Mormon speak “out of the ground” more than a thousand years before Moroni buried the plates.

Blossom as the Rose



Isaiah 30:26; 35:1–10 · This week: A Marvellous Work and a Wonder, Isaiah 13–14; 22; 24–30; 35

In the manual: **Come, Follow Me lesson 39, “A Marvellous Work and a Wonder,” on Gospel Library**

START

Isaiah 35 begins in a dry desert and ends on a highway full of people singing on their way home.

READ TOGETHER

Chapter 34 ends with a land burned and empty. Right after it, chapter 35 shows the Lord bringing a wilderness back to life.

ISAIAH 35:1

¹The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

ISAIAH 35:3–6

³Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you. ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. ⁶Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

WHAT IT TEACHES

Verses 5 and 6 list what happens when God comes to save his people. The blind see, the deaf hear, the lame leap, and those who could not speak sing. When John the Baptist sent messengers to ask Jesus if he was the one they were waiting for, Jesus answered by pointing to these same signs (Matthew 11:2–5).

The Lord also heals what no one can see. In chapter 30, he “bindeth up the breach of his people, and

healeth the stroke of their wound.” In the King James Version, *breach* is also the word for the cracked wall in Isaiah 30:13, from Thursday’s lesson. The Lord can mend what our own choices have broken.

Sister Amy A. Wright bore this testimony in general conference. “I testify that there is nothing in your life that is broken that is beyond the curative, redeeming, and enabling power of Jesus Christ.”

Sister Amy A. Wright, “Christ Heals That Which Is Broken,” General conference, April 2022

Verse 3 gives us our part. “Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.” The Lord often does his healing through people who help each other up, and verse 10 ends with the ransomed coming home “with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads.”

TALK ABOUT IT

Whose hands feel weak right now, in our family or among our friends? What is one thing we could do this week to help strengthen them?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Jesus Christ heals what is broken. Isaiah 35 shows him turning a desert into a garden, and he asks us to strengthen the weak hands along the way.