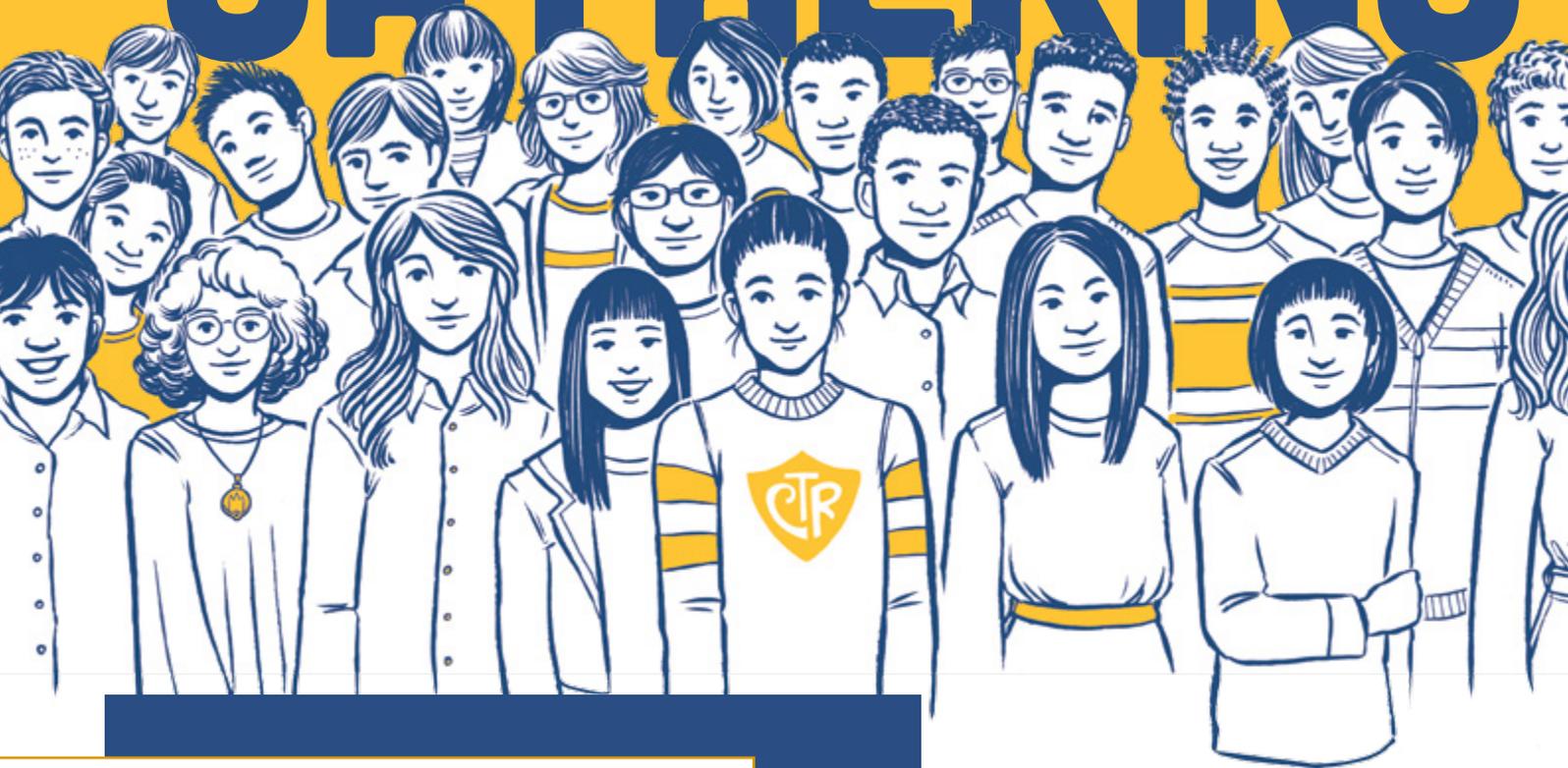


12 FACTS about the GATHERING



Prophesied thousands of years ago, it's the greatest work on earth today.

The tenth article of faith says, “We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes.” So, what does it actually mean?

This question is especially relevant since President Russell M. Nelson has challenged youth to “enlist in the youth battalion of the Lord to help gather Israel” because the gathering is “the greatest challenge, the greatest cause, and the greatest work on earth today” (“Hope of Israel” [worldwide youth devotional, June 3, 2018], 8, 13, HopeofIsrael.ChurchofJesusChrist.org).

Here are 12 facts about the gathering, with some background to help you see how the gathering fits into the gospel—and how you fit into the gathering.

THE COVENANT

1

God made a covenant with Abraham, promising him that:

- A.** He would have numerous posterity (see *Genesis 17:4–7*).
- B.** His seed would have the gospel and the priesthood (see *Abraham 1:18*).
- C.** All the earth would be blessed through his seed (see *Genesis 18:18*).

2

This covenant was passed down through Abraham's son Isaac and Isaac's son Jacob, who was also called Israel, (see *Genesis 26:3–4; 28:13–15*).

- A.** Israel had 12 sons: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Joseph, and Benjamin (see *Genesis 29–30*).



How You Are Helping

“Anytime you do *anything* that helps *anyone*—on either side of the veil—take a step toward making covenants with God and receiving their essential baptismal and temple ordinances, you are helping to gather Israel.”

President Russell M. Nelson, “Hope of Israel” (worldwide youth devotional, June 3, 2018), 19, HopeofIsrael.ChurchofJesusChrist.org.

THE GATHERING

6

Both ancient and modern prophets, from Enoch to Joseph Smith, have foretold that the Lord’s covenant people would be gathered again in a future day—first spiritually and then temporally (see *1 Nephi 15:12–16; 19:16*).

7

The gathering is a prelude to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (see *Moses 7:61–65*).

8

The gathering is part of the Restoration and has priesthood keys associated with it, which were restored when Moses delivered them to Joseph Smith (see *Doctrine and Covenants 110:11*).

9

Though the Lord’s people may sometimes be asked to gather to a particular place, people today generally are gathered when they accept the gospel, receive ordinances, and make covenants (see *Doctrine and Covenants 84:2*).

10

All people can be gathered to Israel, either by direct descent or by adoption, which happens when they are baptized and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

11

Those who have been baptized can later receive a patriarchal blessing, which declares their lineage in a tribe of Israel.

12

The Book of Mormon is written to “the remnant of the house of Israel” and to “the Jew and Gentile” (*Book of Mormon title page*) and is a sign that God is fulfilling His covenant to gather Israel in the last days (see *3 Nephi 21*), as well as a major instrument of that gathering.



Ancient and modern prophets foretold of the gathering.



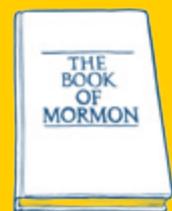
The gathering is a prelude to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.



Restored priesthood keys are associated with the gathering.



Generally we are gathered spiritually when we accept the gospel. Patriarchal blessings declare our lineage.



The Book of Mormon is a sign that God is fulfilling His covenant to gather Israel.

More on the Gathering

For more information, see:

- Russell M. Nelson, “The Gathering of Scattered Israel,” Oct. 2006 general conference (*Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2006, 79–81).
- Russell M. Nelson, “The Book of Mormon, the Gathering of Israel, and the Second Coming,” *Ensign*, July 2014, 26.
- Guide to the Scriptures, “Israel,” scriptures.ChurchofJesusChrist.org.
- “Abrahamic Covenant,” topics.ChurchofJesusChrist.org.