

President,

Your question has been on my mind for a few weeks previous to your text, so here is how and why I have come to believe as I do, which is: it will not get better until Christ comes again. The Church and the leadership will not fail, but the members determine the fate of themselves. God commands without compulsion, He Forbids without force, and Restricts without repudiation. The choice is ours to change our character or not. We sin against ourselves, not against God

I am of the opinion that the second law of thermodynamics or entropy is a law that governs this temporal existence, both physically and spiritually. This law would state that all things go from a state of order to a state of dis-order without an outside energy infused just to maintain the status quo. The scriptures are a historical witness showing or teaching that spiritual entropy exists, in all humanity as well as in those who have accepted the Gospel and Church membership throughout the past.

Because of this; there are many “dispensations” as the doctrines of the Gospel, ordinances and covenants are changed or ignored (D&C 1:1-17). This demands a restoration or opening of the heavens revealing truths necessary to re-introduce the Gospel and begin anew a gospel ‘dispensation’. Yet, each dispensation has failed because of spiritual entropy. All of world history, and all current events are just the chronicles of the war that rages between the establishment of Zion, the Kingdom of God on earth, and Babylon the earthly kingdom of the devil.

Adam begins Humanity with the Gospel, but they have fallen by the time of Enoch. Enoch was a reset and the Lord took him and his city off the earth because of wickedness, leaving those who rejected the Gospel for a second chance with Noah.

Noah was another reset because of wickedness and ‘the Lord shut the door of the Ark’ (not Noah) there are limits to opportunities when knowledge is received, the earth begins anew with 8 righteous people, but spiritual entropy prevails by the time of Abraham. Abraham became another reset as he taught the Gospel and the covenants to his posterity before they embraced the idolatrous fleshpots of Egypt.

Moses reset the Gospel standard for the Children of Israel, which they rejected by their own free will and choice receiving the lesser law.

The Assyrians take Israel captive because they rejected the Lord in 722 b.c.

Babylon takes Juda captive for the same reason in 588 b.c. (Why? see: Isa 3:8-9) And after their return under Cyrus, Judah is again controlled by the Greeks and Romans because they rejected the prophets, and covenants of their temple.

Christ weeps over Jerusalem because he tried to gather them to the Gospel and they would not, even though they had the scriptures, the testimonies of the prophets as well as the witness of the miracles and teachings as proof. Judah was later scattered by the Romans, the temple destroyed, and sacrifice ended, all because of their rejection of God. The Promised Land of The Book of Mormon, like ancient Israel, is also under the deed restrictions from the Lord for their freedom and prosperity. 2 Ne. 1:7; 10:19-20 along with 3 Nephi 21:4-6; Ether 2:7-12; 8:20-26.

The Book of Mormon is the pattern of the Last Days and the events that lead up to the coming of Christ, the destructions, earthquakes, signs on earth and in the heavens are prophesized to be present at the Second Coming for the same reasons: the rejection of God. The patterns in 3 Nephi: *was as it will be*. The Second Coming will be a reset of the Gospel, not that it will be lost, just ignored by most. Sadly, The Book of Mormon is a ‘prophetic history’ that will become a ‘historical prophecy’ as the D&C warns “take heed lest you become as the Nephites of old”.

Where there is no law there is no punishment, and they that sin against the greater light receive the greater condemnation. Those that do not have the gospel cannot sin against the gospel, judged only according to the light they have. One cannot be disobedient until he covenants to be obedient. The Lord is bound when we do what he says, and he is bound to the promise that we will have rain in due season and that our flocks and herds will increase, but when we, as Latter-day Saints, do not as he says, we have no promise. It will rain on the righteous as well as the wicked and those who know and understand the gospel control the weather so to speak. The protection and prosperity for the nation, will lay in the promises of God made to the righteous. Just as it might have been for Sodom and Gomorrah if only 10 righteous could have been found. According to Jacob (2 Ne. 9) only those who have the Gospel and laws of God, can sin and sin well. The righteous are those repenting and the wicked are those who are not, member or non-member.

The goal of every prophet since Adam to the present day has been to establish a Zion people and every prophet has failed in that goal except Enoch and Melchizedek, and each of them, with their converts of ‘pure in heart’, were taken off the earth because of the wickedness that surrounded them as the ‘destructions were made sure’ to come.

There are those that think, that when Christ comes a second time it is because there is a Zion People prepared, but that is not the testimony of scripture. He comes again because there *isn't* a Zion people. His coming is the “reset event” that opens the millennium as it did in 4 Nephi, just as His appearance and visit ‘reset’ the Gospel to a spiritually entropic Nephite nation in Bountiful. We learn that after the destruction He said to the Nephites that only the ‘more righteous part of the people were spared’ *not* the righteous, but the best of the worst, and the first thing He told them was to “repent”.

Nephi warns of the latter-day apostasy among the believers, or people of Zion, by making this statement:

21. And others will he pacify, and lull them away into carnal security, that they will say: All is well in Zion; yea, Zion prospereth, all is well—and thus the devil cheateth their souls, and leadeth them away carefully down to hell.
24. Therefore, wo be unto him that is at ease in Zion!
25. Wo be unto him that crieth: All is well! (see: 2 Ne. 28:21-32)

Its not a sin to be imperfect, nor is it a sin to be ignorant in gospel knowledge, the sin is thinking we are not (imperfect or ignorant). The beginning of this chapter (2 Ne. 28) The Lord through Nephi, speaks first of other churches, then he moves into the latter-day accepted sins and philosophies and then he directs his aim at those who know the gospel, those in Zion (saying

“and others”) beginning in verse 21 to the end of that chapter. He then turns his attention to non-believers in Chapter 29.

The anti-Christ philosophies of Korihor in Alma 30 are not only rampant in the world but have gained a foothold among the youth, and seasoned adults of the Church. There is a ‘secular world view’ and a ‘scriptural world view’. Korihor propagates the first and condemns the second. The scriptural world view will have the work and glory of God foremost in all choices and actions, because the work and glory of God, ‘was, is, and always be’, His work and glory. Spiritual Entropy is at work if we do not have an eye single to the glory of God. This scriptural world view is something Christ taught about when He said, ‘you are for me or against me’, there are only two churches, the ‘Church of Christ and the church of the Devil’. The definition of God is the ‘motivating force in your life’ and Christ stated that there are two masters of motivation, “God or mammon”, as we covenant each week to “always remember Him”. Moroni in Chapter Seven of his book, taught that it is easy to tell if ‘someone’ or ‘something’ comes from God or not. If a person, their teachings and goals don’t increase our faith in Christ causing us to believe in Him then it comes not from God, likewise Moroni continued, that if a “thing” a philosophy, belief, goal, political platform, laws, etc. etc. does not increase our faith in Christ, it (this thing) can only come from Satan.

The book of Judges in the Old Testament explains the cause of spiritual entropy as there rose up a generation that “knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel (Judges 2:10,11, see also chapters 3:6-7, 12; 4:1; 6:1... This is seen in the Book of Mormon also as Alma the younger explains in Alma 26:1. Testimonies are not genetic, and the Gospel is new to every generation. Even among the believers we see that when active parents see their children seduced by current political evils, the seasoned faith of the parents begins to fail, 3 Ne. 1:29-30. The Lord explains that it is the lack of the ‘infused’ knowledge that causes the youth to sin in D&C 68:31 as He says that our ‘children are growing up in wickedness; *they also seek not earnestly the riches of eternity*’ This was a major concern for the Lord when the Children of Israel were about to enter the Promised Land. He turns his focus to the youth of Israel, as he did with Adam (Moses 6:57-58). Moses explains how to infuse the needed energy to combat the spiritual entropy that will be in every generation. In Deut. 6:1-7, the Lord says that families should be talking about the Gospel all the time. The Judgements of those who know and reject God’s law is seen in Chapter 32 of Deuteronomy, and the promise to those who will turn to God is seen in 2 Chron. 7:13-14.

Every parable taught by Christ is focused on those who have received and know the gospel. The parable of the sower and the types of soil is also explained by Lehi in his dream in 1 Ne. 8, as Lehi lists the same four groups of people as does Christ. Each character making their way to the tree of life, some receiving the fruit and remain while others partaking and then move with great effort to the great and spacious buildings of Babylon.

The ‘abomination of desolation’ spoken of in Daniel and the two ‘abominations of desolations’ in Joseph Smith Matthew 24 are proof that spiritual entropy is at work within the ranks even today as this description is the lead up to the Second Coming. The first multiple message of the Last Days is ‘be not deceived’ by the world and its teachings as well as the deception of the “elect” from within. The greatest threat to a culture is always the culture itself. The Lord

explains that in this world of wickedness the greatest threat against our testimony is not from the outside. In Mosiah 27:13, He says:

“...This is my church, and I will establish it; and nothing shall overthrow it, save it is the transgression of my people.”

We don't need to be worried about the 'anti-Mormons' or any other religions that seek to destroy the Church, not even the internet. Because of spiritual entropy, we need to be saved from ourselves. An apathetic spiritual world view, in any venue (political or economic etc.) is the first step toward apostasy.

The Abomination of Desolation of the Last Days is caused by the rejection of the Gospel by those who know it. This dispensation of the Fullness of Times is no exception. Speaking of the destructions that are to come upon the earth in the last days that lead up to the Second coming the Lord makes a sobering and terrible prophecy: This passage is not what is called an: “if and then” clause prophecy, but a ‘more sure’ word prophecy.

24. Behold, vengeance cometh speedily upon the inhabitants of the earth, a day of wrath, a day of burning, a day of desolation, of weeping, of mourning, and of lamentation; and as a whirlwind it shall come upon all the face of the earth, saith the Lord.

25. And *upon my house shall it begin, and from my house shall it go forth*, saith the Lord;

26. First among those among you, saith the Lord, *who have professed to know my name and have not known me, and have blasphemed against me in the midst of my house*, saith the Lord. (D&C 112:24-26)

Many members have a ‘belief in their belief’. Members reject God by not living up to the covenants they have made in the temple, is professing to know Him, but not know Him. To ‘blaspheme’ or to ‘take the name of the Lord in vain’ is to make a covenant in the name of the Lord, and then knowingly and willingly be disobedient to those covenantal laws. This is the “Abomination that causes Desolation” taking lightly eternal covenants that have been made brings every dispensation to a violent end. Christ in Matthew 24 states that the violent end will come again by earthquakes, wars, pestilence and death, in the last days and for the same reasons. The priesthood will always remain, as did Nephi and a ‘few’ righteous that were spared to welcome Christ. As it was with the translation of Enoch and Melchizedek with their people before the destructions came, so will it be when Christ comes again as the worthy righteous will be caught up to meet and be with him (D&C 45).

You can always tell where the masses are going but never where the individual is going. This is the ‘rule of the remnant’ as only a ‘remnant will be spared’ Lehi says that the righteous group that made it to the Tree of Life were ‘few’ as does Moroni. Even Christ said that ‘few find their way through the gate’. Isaiah is told (Isa. 6) that only 10% of Israel will listen to his message as Elijah is told in 1 Kings 19:18, believing that no one was listening to him, that there is a remnant of 7,000 that heard his message. Who they are, where they are, will never be known, but one thing we do know for sure, is that they are there and they are listening.

We can't blame the lack of testimony totally on the youth, because the outside energy that needs to be infused into them must come from the parents in Zion. You cannot have the 'sons of Helaman' without the parents, and especially the mothers of the stripling warriors. It is not the responsibility of the Church to provide testimonies or spiritual experiences (we try to help) for young or old, but only to provide all that is necessary for each individual to have their own spiritual experiences and discover their own relationship with their God and Savior. This is done through all that the Church offers. The Church is an energy aid in the struggle of spiritual entropy. This 'energy aid' we can accept or reject, but to deny ourselves or our children from that spiritual energy, is like throwing our children off the deck of the Ark into the flood waters of wickedness without a life preserver. Every parent needs to become, with the aid of the Church, that extra energy that is needed to overcome spiritual entropy, rather than contribute to spiritual decay by our apathy. It is always the "rising generation" that make the changes, (in every discipline) and what they are taught (a secular world view or scriptural world view) determines the destination that will be achieved.