

## Discussion 1

# The Vision of YHVH

(Amidst Ten and Seven Flames)

### Primary Reading:

- Revelation Chapter 1
- Zenos Chapter 1

### Passages for Comparison:

- Zenos 1:1-5 => 1 Nephi 2:46-59 (RAV) / 8:7-17 (OPV) - Wandering in Wilderness
- Zenos 1:5-13 => 5 Moses 2:5-6, 21-24, 6:19-25 - Quotes from the Torah
- Zenos 1:14-20 => Rev 1:4-10 – Shalom, from Jesus Christ
- Zenos 1:30-42 => Rev 1:12-20 – Description of YHVH
- Zenos 1:19-26 => Rev 10:9-11 => 1 Nephi 3:43-47 [11:6-7] – Eating the Scroll
- Zenos 1:27-29 => 1 Nephi 4:26-27 [15:17-18] - Scattered Israel

### Objectives:

- Notice patterns found in accounts from similar visions
- Recognize the Kabbalistic nature of this Vision

### Reading:

v. 1-5 : In the Wilderness			
Zenos	1 Nephi (Lehi)	Revelation	Discussion Ideas
<p>1:1. And in the day that I, Zenos, did find myself alone in the wilderness, being driven off course, for I did wonder many days alone;</p> <p>1:2. And it came to pass that in the day that I had lost all hope for the salvation of my life, I did pray into YHVH for the forgiveness of my sins and for the salvation of my eternal soul.</p>	<p>2:46 [8:7]. And it came to pass that as I followed him, I beheld myself that I was in a dark and dreary waste.</p> <p>2:47 [8:8]. And after I had traveled for the space of many hours in darkness, I began to pray unto the Lord that he would have mercy on me according to the multitude of his tender mercies.</p>	<p>1:9. I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.</p> <p>1:10. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,</p>	<p>Zenos's vision starts out in the wilderness, much like Lehi's vision of the tree of life. Is there significance about being in the wilderness? Is there anything interesting in that pattern?</p> <p>Is being on an isle the same as the wilderness? Or is John's vision adding a different element here?</p>
<p>1:3. Yea, and I did pour my heart out unto YHVH for my family, yea even for the sake of my wife and children, yea and for my friends and my neighbors,</p>	<p>2:53 [8:12b]. Wherefore, I began to be desirous that my family should partake of it also; for I knew that it was desirable above all other fruit.</p>	<p>(Enos) 1:12 [1:9]. Now it came to pass that when I had heard these words, I began to feel a desire for the welfare of my brethren, the Nephites;</p>	<p>Zenos prays for everyone in much the same way as what Enos does when he describes his coming to know the Lord. Is this pattern important for us to</p>

<p>1:4. Yea, and for my servants, and for the strangers that did come to dwell among us in the land, and even for those that hateth me;</p> <p>1:5 Yea, and I did pray for all mankind, that my soul might be pure before YHVH, ...</p>	<p>2:59 [8:17a]. And it came to pass that I was desirous that Laman and Lemuel should come and partake of the fruit also;</p>	<p>wherefore, I did pour out my whole soul unto God for them.</p> <p>1:17 [1:11]. ... and I prayed unto him with many long strugglings for my brethren, <b>the Lamanites.</b></p>	<p>understand?</p>
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v. 5-13 : Accepting That Which You Have			
Zenos	5 Sefer Moses	Old Testament	Discussion Ideas
<p>(1:5 ...) for the Torah doth proclaim: Hear, O Israel: YHVH is our Elohim, YHVH is Unity.</p> <p>1:6 And so too doth the Torah proclaim: And thou shalt love YHVH thy Elohim with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.</p>	<p>2:5. Hear, O Israel: YHVH is our Elohim; YHVH is unity.</p> <p>2:6. Thou shalt love YHVH, thy Elohim, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.</p>	<p><i>(Deuteronomy)</i></p> <p>6:4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord:</p> <p>6:5 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.</p>	
<p>1:7 Holy ye shall be for I, YHVH Elohim, am holy.</p>	<p>2:21. For YHVH hath said: Holy ye shall be for I, YHVH Elohim, am holy.</p>	<p><i>(Leviticus)</i></p> <p>11:44. For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy...</p>	
<p>1:8 Every man and every woman shall fear and respect <b>their Mother the earth</b>, and their Father in the Heavens, for these are the Creator, and ye, their creation, shall keep my Sabbaths; I am YHVH Elohim.</p> <p>1:9 Be not adulterers, turning unto idols, neither make unto yourselves molten gods, for I am YHVH your Elohim.</p>	<p>2:22. Every man and every woman shall fear and respect <b>their Mother the earth</b>, and their Father in the Heavens, for these are the Creator, and ye, their creation, shall keep my Sabbaths; I am YHVH thy Elohim.</p> <p>2:23. Be not adulterers, turning unto idols, neither make unto yourselves molten gods, for I am YHVH thy Elohim.</p>	<p><i>(Exodus)</i></p> <p>20:12. Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.</p> <p>20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.</p> <p>20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing ...</p>	<p>Zenos and 5 Moses both refer the commandment to Honour thy father and mother ... to the Earth and the Heavens. How does that affect the original commandment in your mind?</p> <p>Also, is Mother Earth the "celestial mother"? Or is this only one aspect of the Divine Feminine?</p>
<p>1:10 And when ye shall</p>	<p>2:24. And when ye shall</p>	<p><i>(Exodus)</i></p>	

<p>make thy peace offerings in sacrifice unto YHVH, ye shall offer it at your own will that I might find them acceptable to me.</p>	<p>make thy peace offerings in sacrifice unto YHVH, you shall offer it at your own will that I might find them acceptable to me; I am YHVH, thy Elohim.</p>	<p>25:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.</p>	
<p>1:11 And the Law doth say also: If a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him; but the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you,</p> <p>1:12 And thou shalt love them as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt, and I am YHVH, your Elohim.</p> <p>1:13 And the Law says also: Ye shall observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them; I am YHVH.</p>	<p>6:19. For YHVH hath said: If a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, thou shall not vex them; but the stranger that dwelleth with thee shall be unto thee as one born among you,</p> <p>6:20. And thou shalt love them as thyself; for thou wast a stranger in the land of Egypt; and I am YHVH, thy Elohim.</p> <p>...</p> <p>6:25. Therefore, thou shalt love YHVH, thy Elohim, and keep His obligations, and His statutes, and His ordinances, and His mitzvoth always.</p>	<p>(Leviticus) 19:33 And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him.</p> <p>19:34 But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.</p> <p>...</p> <p>19:37 Therefore shall ye observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: I am the Lord.</p>	

**v. 14-29 : Take this Scroll, and Eat It Up**

Zenos	Revelation (or 1st Nephi)	Discussion Ideas
<p>1:14. And it came to pass that after I had prayed, being prepared to return to that Elohim who did create me, I beheld that the angel of YHVH came to me saying: I am come being sent from YHVH,</p> <p>1:15. Mercy be unto thee, and shalom, from He that is, and eternally was, and shall come in the flesh;</p> <p>1:16. And from the seven malak who are cherubim which are called to stand before His throne, saying: Unto YHVH be glory and dominion forever and ever! So mote it be, Amen!</p> <p>1:17. And this they say, for when YHVH shall come with in the flesh His friends shall wound him, and shall pierce him</p>	<p>1:4. John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;</p> <p>1:5. And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,</p> <p>1:6. And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.</p> <p>1:7. Behold, he cometh with clouds;</p>	

<p>through:</p> <p>1:18. And when He shall descend from the clouds every eye shall see Him, and all the blood of man upon the earth shall wail, whether with joy in their faith or in sorrow of their sins. So mote it be, Amen!</p>	<p>and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.</p>	
<p>1:19. And it came to pass that the angel of YHVH gave unto me a scroll, saying: Take thee this scroll and eat it, for it is thy mitzvah from YHVH unto thee.</p> <p>1:20. And I took it, and I ate of it, and it was bitter, and the pain of it was bitter, yet it was also sweet, as it were honey upon my tongue.</p>	<p>10:9. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.</p> <p>10:10. And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.</p>	<p>What is this little book/scroll, and what does it mean to eat it up?</p> <p>What is sweet or bitter about it?</p> <p>And, what does it have to do with this vision?</p>
<p>1:21. And it came to pass that having eaten the scroll, when the angel of YHVH spoke, my eyes were opened and I heard as it were a loud voice, as the sound of a shofar, saying: I am Ahveh Asher Ahveh, and I have called thee and set thee apart;</p> <p>1:22. Therefore, write what I shall show unto thee; and it is for thy seed, and for thy brothers, even the seed of Joseph and of Manasseh; and of Ephraim</p> <p>1:23. And thy words shall be written down and you shall go forth and warn my people; and these words which thou shalt write, they shall be lost unto the world,</p> <p>1:24. But these words shall not be lost unto me, for I shall keep them and preserve them; and at the Last Days they shall be brought forth to teach mine Israel;</p> <p>1:25. Therefore, read these, my words, unto thy brethren and unto thy seed, and declare teshuvah in my name unto all the land that mine peoples might be spared.</p> <p>1:26. And say thou unto them: That I</p>	<p><i>(Revelation)</i></p> <p>10:11. And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.</p>	<p><i>(1 Nephi)</i></p> <p>3:41 [11:4]. And the Spirit said unto me: Believest thou that thy father saw the tree of which he hath spoken?</p> <p>3:42 [11:5]. And I said: Yea, thou knowest that I believe all the words of my father.</p> <p>3:43 [11:6a]. ¶ And when I had spoken these words, the Spirit cried with a loud voice, saying: Hosanna to the Lord, the most high God; for he is God over all the earth, yea, even above all.</p> <p>3:44 [11:6b]. And blessed art thou, Nephi, because thou believest in the Son of the most high God; wherefore, thou shalt behold the things which thou hast desired.</p> <p>3:45a [11:7a]. And behold, this thing shall be given unto thee for a sign, that after thou hast beheld the tree which bore the fruit which thy father tasted, thou shalt also behold a man descending out of heaven;</p> <p>3:45b [11:7b]. And him shall ye witness; and after ye have witnessed him, ye shall bear record that it is the Son of God.</p>

<p>shall spare them not should they come not to me in teshuvah.</p>		
<p>1:27. And I say unto thee, Zenos: That mine peoples shall reject me, and this must be that they be scattered to the four winds, that the blood of my chosen people should cover all the earth.</p> <p>1:28. And it came to pass that after the angel of YHVH had finished speaking I fell at his feet to worship him,</p> <p>1:29. And the angel of YHVH said unto me: Standest thou, and worship me not, for I am the angel of YHVH; therefore, worship Elohim in the spirit of revelation and prophecy.</p>	<p><i>(1 Nephi)</i>  4:26 [15:17b]. And he meaneth that it will not come to pass until after they are scattered by the Gentiles;</p> <p>4:27 [15:17c]. And he meaneth that it shall come by way of the Gentiles, that the Lord may show his power unto the Gentiles, for the very cause that he shall be rejected of the Jews, or of the house of Israel.</p> <p>4:28 [15:18a]. Wherefore, our father hath not spoken of our seed alone, but also of all the house of Israel, pointing to the covenant which should be fulfilled in the latter days,</p> <p>4:29 [15:18b]. Which covenant the Lord made to our father Abraham, saying: In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.</p>	

v. 30-42 : Aleph-Tav		
Zenos	Revelation	Discussion Ideas
<p>1:30. ¶ And it came to pass that as I turned to see the voice that spake unto me, the angel of YHVH was gone from before me;</p> <p>1:31. And in his place, I saw as it were ten and seven flames; and from these seven burned more brightly than the others;</p>	<p>1:12. And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;</p>	
<p>1:32. And in the midst of these I saw one who was like unto the Son of Man, clothed with in garments from His crown to his feet which touched the earth;</p> <p>1:33. And girt about the chest with a girdle of gold, his heart being anointed;</p> <p>1:34. And His eyes were full of wisdom and knowledge, as they were</p>	<p>1:13. And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.</p> <p>1:14. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;</p> <p>1:15. And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his</p>	<p>V32-38 points out all 10 sephirot from the tree of life.</p>

<p>flames of fire;</p> <p>1:35. And his <b>feet</b> were as <b>eternal glory</b>, never departing to the right nor to the left, but ever forward;</p> <p>1:36. And in his <b>right hand</b> was <b>mercy</b>, and in his <b>left judgment</b>;</p> <p>1:37. And his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength;</p> <p>1:38. And I saw as it were <b>seven stars</b> come from out of his mouth, and each of these held in their hands and in their mouths a sharp two-edged sword.</p>	<p>voice as the sound of many waters.</p> <p>1:16. And he had in his right hand <b>seven stars</b>: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.</p>	
<p>1:39. And when I saw Him, I fell back to the earth and trembled.</p> <p>1:40. ¶ And it came to pass that the angel of YHVH spoke unto me again, saying: Fear not; for what thou becometh is אַחַד Aleph-Tav; the beginning and the end, the Creator and His Creation; and in Him are the keys of sheol;</p>	<p>1:17. And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, <b>Fear not</b>; I am the first and the last:</p> <p>1:18. <b>I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore</b>, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.</p>	<p>Interesting that for Zenos, it says he has the keys of Sheol, but in John's account (after the resurrection) he adds a bit more.</p>
<p>1:41. And I shall tell thee of the vision thou hast seen, of the things which were, and that are, and shall come to pass, and thou shall <b>write</b> it;</p> <p>1:42. For the mystery of the seven flames <b>are</b> the seven angels of the seven <b>dispensations</b> which ruleth over the seven days of YHVH.</p>	<p>1:19. <b>Write</b> the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;</p> <p>1:20. The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars <b>are</b> the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven <b>churches</b>.</p>	<p>(1 Nephi 3:248-250 [14:25-26] )  But the things which thou shalt see hereafter, thou shalt not write; for the Lord God hath ordained the apostle of the Lamb of God that he should write them. And also others who have been, to them hath he shown all things, and they have <b>written</b> them; And they are sealed up, to <b>come forth</b> in their purity according to the truth which is in the Lamb, in the own due time of the Lord, unto the house of Israel.</p> <p>—</p> <p>This passage from Nephi seems to say that we should expect other prophets to have written similar things to what John record in Revelation, AND we should expect them to come forth</p>

*Discussion:*

What are your thoughts on the idea from the last few verses that the 7 churches that John writes to are the “church” (followers of Christ) from each of the 7 dispensations. Each dispensation being overseen by one of 7 angels (or “malak”)?

Zenos knows the Torah (the Law), and he recites several specific passages from the Torah. Are they just things he remembers? Do they have significance? Are they significant together? Was he just reading in that particular part of Moses that week? What are your thoughts on the selection of passages he was using to declare himself a follower of YHVH?