

Discussion 17

The Tale of Two Churches

(The Church of the Lamb of God - vs - The Great And Abominable Church)

Primary Reading:

- 1st Nephi 3:217-231 (RAV) / 14:8-14 (OPV)
- Revelation Chapters 13 & 14

Passages for Comparison:

- Revelation 13:1 => Zenos 9:31 :: Beast rises out of sea - 6th Dispensation
- Revelation 13:2-3 => Zenos 10:3-6 :: Wounded Beast is Healed - 7th Dispensation
- Revelation 13:4-5 => Zenos 3:24-25 :: Worshiped the Beast - 1st Dispensation
- Revelation 13:6 => Zenos 6:19 :: Blaspheme in Tabernacle - 3rd Dispensation
- Revelation 13:7 => Zenos 7:23 :: Overcome Believers via War - 4th Dispensation
- Revelation 13:8-9 => Zenos 2:24 :: All Dwell in Darkness - Pre-Dispensation
- Revelation 13:10 => Zenos 9:32-33 :: Leading All Into Captivity - 6th Dispensation
- Revelation 13:11-12 => Zenos 10:7-12 :: A Second Beast, like the first - 7th Dispensation
- Revelation 13:13-14 => Zenos 3:26-28 :: Miraculous Priestcraft, Idol Worship - 1st Dispensation
- Revelation 13:15 => Zenos 4:12-13 :: Gives Life to Beast, Death to Man - 2nd Dispensation
- Revelation 13:16-18 => Zenos 6:20-22 :: The Mark, Economic Tyranny - 3rd Dispensation
- Revelation 14:1-3 => Zenos 7:1-2 :: Stand in Holy Places - 4th Dispensation
- Revelation 14:4-5 => Zenos 9:35-37 :: Walk in Teshuvah - 6th Dispensation
- Revelation 14:6-8 => Zenos 10:24-27 :: Worship the Creator - 7th Dispensation
- Revelation 14:9-13 => Zenos 6:1 :: Avoid the Wrath - 3rd Dispensation
- Revelation 14:14-20 => Zenos 10:29-36 :: The Harvest - 7th Dispensation

Objectives:

- Increase understanding of the two churches through mutual comparison
- See how the events in Revelation have been playing out over all of Earth's temporal history

Reading:

Nephi - Two Churches Only	
1st Nephi	Discussion Ideas
3:217 [14:8a]. ¶ And it came to pass that when the angel had spoken these words, he said unto me: Remember thou the covenants of the Father unto the house of Israel?	Is the great and abominable church an "organization" that can be pointed at? If there are exactly 2 churches and everyone is in the one or the other, is there a "church" or other organization that "IS" the abominable church? Does it change over time? Has it changed over time?
3:218 [14:8b]. I said unto him: Yea.	
3:219 [14:9]. And it came to pass that he said unto me: Look and behold that great and abominable church, which is the mother of abominations, whose founder is the devil.	On the same token, is it fair to say that there is one church or organization that is the church of the Lamb of God? I Nephi's day were "churches" even a thing? Until a few

<p>3:220 [14:10a]. And he said unto me: Behold, there is save two churches only:</p> <p>3:221 [14:10b]. The one is the church of the Lamb of God, and the other is the church of the devil;</p> <p>3:222 [14:10c]. Wherefore, whoso belongeth not to the church of the Lamb of God belongeth to that great church, which is the mother of abominations;</p> <p>3:223 [14:10d]. And she is the whore of all the earth.</p>	<p>hundred years ago was it even possible for there to be a unified organization for either of these two churches?</p> <p>Or is that very idea simply not what Nephi was talking about with this angel?</p> <p>So then, what are we supposed to use to recognize the two “churches”?</p>
<p>3:224 [14:11a]. ¶ And it came to pass that I looked and beheld the whore of all the earth, and she sat upon many waters;</p> <p>3:225 [14:11b]. And she had dominion over all the earth, among all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people.</p>	
<p>3:226 [14:12a]. ¶ And it came to pass that I beheld the church of the Lamb of God, and its numbers were few because of the wickedness and abominations of the whore who sat upon many waters;</p> <p>3:227 [14:12b]. Nevertheless, I beheld that the church of the Lamb, who were the saints of God, were also upon all the face of the earth;</p> <p>3:228 [14:12c]. And their dominions upon the face of the earth were small because of the wickedness of the great whore whom I saw.</p>	
<p>3:229 [14:13]. ¶ And it came to pass that I beheld that the great mother of abominations did gather together in multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the nations of the Gentiles, to fight against the Lamb of God.</p>	
<p>3:230 [14:14a]. ¶ And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth;</p> <p>3:231 [14:14b]. And they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory.</p>	

Reading - The Great and Abominable Church - the Leviathan:

13:1 :: Beast rises out of sea - 6th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>13:1. And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.</p>	<p>9:31. And it came to pass that I saw as it were the sands of the sea, and the leviathan rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the names of blasphemy;</p>	<p>Does the “beast” rise up in the 6th dispensation? We can see from the rest of this chapter that it is “in play” for all of the dispensations, why did it start the story with the 6th?</p>

13:2-3 :: Wounded Beast is Healed - 7th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>13:2. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.</p>	<p>10:3. And it came to pass that I saw as it were a great beast at the last day like unto a leopard ready to pounce, and his feet were as the feet of a bear prepared to maul, and his mouth as that of a lion waiting to devour.</p> <p>10:4. And it shall come to pass that the leviathan will give him power and great authority and fame in the world of man, his name being known for both good and evil among mankind.</p>	<p>When it says the beast “at the last day” has these characteristics, does that mean that it didn’t take on these characteristics until the last dispensation? If not, then what is the meaning we should be taking from this?</p> <p>Interestingly, in this particular passage, there is a difference between the leviathan and the beast, where in other places they are treated interchangeably in the two accounts. Do you have any thoughts on why this might be?</p>
<p>13:3. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.</p>	<p>10:5. And it shall come to pass that one of his heads shall be wounded as it were unto death;</p> <p>10:6. And his deadly wound shall be healed; and because of this all the world shall wonder after the leviathan and Lilith.</p>	<p>This event (the deadly wounding of the beast, and healing of the wound) can’t be something totally insignificant that you could miss, because it is impressive enough that it convinces the world to follow after Lilith and her leviathan. However even though it must be significant, that doesn’t mean it is going to be obvious and recognizable. What are some things that this could have been, or if its future, what might it look like?</p>

13:4-5 :: Worshiped the Beast - 1st Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
13:4. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?	3:24. And it came to pass that Lilith and Cain and all those that followed after them worshipped the leviathan, saying: Who is like unto the leviathan? 3:25. And: Who is able to make war with him?	Based on the combined wording of these two passages, it looks like “cain” and his group are the “beast”, and that they “worshipped” the leviathan. How do you “worship” the leviathan? Cain knew he was in cahoots with the Accuser, did all of his group know they were in league with a fallen angel?
13:5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months .		What’s this business about 42 months (or 3.5 years?) Is that literal, or figurative, and if it was figurative why the exact number, and if it’s symbolic, what’s the number mean?

13:6 :: Blaspheme in Tabernacle - 3rd Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
13:6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.	6:19. And the leviathan opened his mouth to blasphemy against YHVH Elohim, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven .	In the vision of the Woman and the Dragon, the leviathan opens his mouth in the 3rd dispensation and sends a flood after Shekinah. Is that related to this?

13:7 :: Overcome Believers via War - 4th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.	7:23. And it came to pass that power was given unto the leviathan and Lilith and Cain to make war with the sons and daughters of YHVH, and to overcome them;	Do you know of a time In the 4th dispensation when the beast overcame the saints of God?

13:8-9 :: All Dwell in Darkness - Pre-Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.	2:24. And all that dwell in darkness upon the earth shall worship the leviathan, and their names are not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world.	This seems to be saying that anyone who is in darkness (hasn't received the light) will be worshipping the leviathan even if they don't know it. What does it mean to “worship” the leviathan?

13:9 If any man have an ear, let him hear.		This usually means there's something important to be seen here that is not obvious. Do you see anything?
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13:10 :: Leading All Into Captivity - 6th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
13:10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.	<p>9:32. And it came to pass that he did leadeth mankind into captivity, yea and all did go into captivity;</p> <p>9:33. And vengeance was his name, saying: He that killeth by the sword must be killed by the sword!</p>	

13:11-12 :: A Second Beast, like the first - 7th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>13:11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.</p> <p>13:12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.</p>	<p>10:7. And it came to pass that I saw as it were another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as the leviathan.</p> <p>10:8. And he shall make use of all the powers of the first beast before him and shall cause the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.</p>	<p>If there were 2 beasts, and they are basically the same, why does he describe them as 2 different beasts?</p>
	<p>10:9. And here is a great secret: the great beast is the church of avaddon, and though it shall be thought destroyed in reformation, it shall even live;</p> <p>10:10. And the second beast shall be as the first, and shall teach that there is no Elohim, and great shall be his evangelists in the sight of mankind.</p> <p>10:11. And the prophets of these beasts shall serve the leviathan, and these shall come into Israel as Pride, Ego, and Sin, lusting after the things of the flesh;</p> <p>10:12. For behold, I say unto you that there are save two churches only: Israel</p>	<p>So the word "reformation" here really points the finger at the Catholic church. Is that what the Lord intended, or is it just one more way of shielding the true meaning for people who are willing to accept the first thing that fits? What other meanings could "reformation" have? And what sorts of things could be wounded by reformation?</p> <p>Is there a "church" that teaches "no Elohim"? If so, who are it's evangelists? Is there any possible way that this doesn't exist yet? Or is it too abstract to point a finger at? Can our own personal political ideologies make us blind even if such a beast was visible in plain site, if it</p>

	and the church of avaddon; and these are not the gatherings of mankind but are in them the men and women that are gathered.	was politically convenient for us to overlook it? How can we avoid the blindness that comes from our political leanings?
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13:13-14 :: Miraculous Priestcraft, Idol Worship - 1st Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
13:13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,	3:26. And: He doeth great wonders, even showering the earth with fire from the heavens,	If the beast is capable of doing miracles like calling down fire from heaven, how did Elijah outdo the priests of Baal?
13:14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live	3:27. And so did these deceive the men of the earth by his priestcrafts called miracles, 3:28. And it came to pass that Lilith and Cain went about commanding the men to make idols to worship the leviathan.	Are there deceptive miracles today? If so what are they? Is worshipping the leviathan a thing of earlier dispensations, but not really something we do anymore? Or is it something people still do?

13:15 :: Gives Life to Beast, Death to Man - 2nd Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
13:15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.	4:12. And it came to pass that there was power given to the leviathan to speak blasphemies even unto the whole earth, save it be the city in the wilderness where Shekinah did dwell; 4:13. But unto the rest of the world, death was given them that would not worship the image of the leviathan;	What protected the city of Zion in the second dispensation, when the rest of the world was subjected to the Leviathan? How did they avoid being at war with the beast? Is that something we are able to do today?

13:16-18 :: The Mark, Economic Tyranny - 3rd Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
13:16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:	6:20. And it came to pass that after the waters had subsided he caused all mankind to receive a mark upon their right hand, or in their foreheads as an oath and covenant that none might buy or sell, save they the mark, or the name of the leviathan, or the number of his name.	How is it possible that after the flood, in Noah's dispensation, the leviathan had enough power of the economies of the world that he could enforce economic tyranny?
13:17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of		What does economic tyranny look like? Is the mark literal, or

his name.

13:18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

6:21. And this mark was like unto that with which Cain had been marked by YHVH, to make a mockery of the things of Elohim.

6:22. And the mark of the leviathan is Vav Samekh Mem (666 ,וּמַי), and the name of the leviathan is Samael **who is Samyaza**.

metaphorical? Have we been marked? Can we avoid being marked if and when it is expected of us?

Is knowing the number of the beast useful? If so, how and why? If not, why did they tell us what it is?

Reading - The Church of the Lamb of God - Children of YHVH:

14:1-3 :: Stand in Holy Places - 4th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.</p> <p>14:2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:</p> <p>14:3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.</p>	<p>7:1. And it came to pass that I saw as it were the Son of Man standing upon a great mountain, and the strength of Zion with Him;</p> <p>7:2. And with Him I saw as it were one hundred forty and four thousand kaddish, these having the Holy Name of Elohim written in their foreheads.</p> <p>7:3. And it came to pass that I heard the angel of YHVH saying: Here are they that keep the commandments of Elohim, in their faith in YHVH.</p>	<p>Why does this story (of the church of the Lamb of God) start in the 4th dispensation?</p> <p>What does it mean to have the Holy Name of Elohim written on your forehead?</p> <p>Is it written on your forehead? Is this something that God does to you? Or something you go to God and ask for?</p> <p>If you have it do you know? If someone else has it, can you tell that they do?</p> <p>What's the significance of the song and why do you need the name on your forehead in order to sing it?</p>

14:4-5 :: Walk in Teshuvah - 6th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>14:4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.</p> <p>14:5 And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.</p>	<p>9:35. And it came to pass that I saw as it were they which walk in teshuvah, the kaddish no longer defiled with women, or in other words, transgressing the Torah of YHVH; for these are virgins.</p> <p>9:36. And I saw, as it were, that all they that should follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth, these were redeemed from among mankind, being the first fruits unto Elohim from the Lamb.</p> <p>9:37. And it came to pass that in their mouth was found no guile; yea, and they are without fault before the throne of Elohim.</p>	<p>Are these 144k a dream team of elite holy warriors? Or are they simply all of the genuine followers of the Lamb?</p>

14:6-8 :: Worship the Creator - 7th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>14:6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,</p>	<p>10:24. And it came to pass that I saw the angel Moroni fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,</p>	<p>Is this first verse a prophecy about the coming forth of the Book of Mormon? Or should we be watching for some other fulfillment of this prophecy?</p> <p>Has the angel yet followed after him saying that Babylon is fallen?</p>
<p>14:7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.</p>	<p>10:25. And he did call out with a loud voice, saying: Fear YHVH, and give glory to Him; for the hour of his judgment is come;</p>	
<p>14:8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.</p>	<p>10:26. Bow down and worship Him that made the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.</p> <p>10:27. And it came to pass that Uriel followed after him, saying: Sodom is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication,</p>	

14:9-13 :: Avoid the Wrath - 3rd Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>14:9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,</p>	<p>6:1. And it came to pass that I saw that Gabriel followed Michael and Metatron, saying: All those who shall worship the leviathan, receiving his mark on their forehead, or in their hand, these shall feel the wrath of YHVH poured out unto thee from the cup of his indignation;</p>	
<p>14:10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:</p>		
<p>14:11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.</p>		
<p>14:12 Here is the patience of the</p>		

saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

14:14-20 :: Harvest - 7th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>14:14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.</p>	<p>10:29. And I saw as it were a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of Man, having a golden crown (keter) upon His head, and a sharp sickle in His right hand.</p>	<p>The mention of the Crown/Keter on his head, makes me wonder how literal this passage actually is, and how much it is a kabbalistic description of something about the soul.</p>
<p>14:15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.</p>	<p>10:30. And it came to pass that Haniel came forth from out of the heavenly temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud: Thrust in thy sickle, and reap!</p> <p>10:31. And: See that the time has come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.</p>	
<p>14:16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.</p>	<p>10:32. And He that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.</p>	<p>Also I think it is interesting that we see nearly 7 angels in this chapter, but not all of the angels of the dispensations. We see Moroni and Sandalphon, but no mention of Zaphkiel. Do you have any thoughts on that?</p>
<p>14:17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.</p>	<p>10:33. And it came to pass that Sandalphon came forth from out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.</p>	
<p>14:18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.</p>	<p>10:34. And it came to pass that Moroni came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and called out with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying: Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.</p>	
<p>14:19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.</p>	<p>10:35. And it came to pass that Sandalphon thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great</p>	<p>Sandalphon is Elijah, why is he reaping?</p>

<p>14:20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.</p>	<p>winepress of the wrath of YHVH.</p> <p>10:36. And it came to pass that I saw as it were that the winepress was trodden, and blood came out of the winepress, and the winepress was full, yea and even runneth over.</p>	
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Discussion:

Those in the church of the lamb do these things:

- Stand in Holy Places
- Walk in Teshuvah
- Worship the Creator.

... do you see any other things from the reading?

Those in the church of the Leviathan do these things:

- Worship the Leviathan
- Destroy peace
- Tinker with the economy
- Walk in darkness
- Force other people into captivity
- Deceive people with miracles

... do you see any other things from the reading?

What is the author attempting to tell us about these two churches when they lay them side by side like this?