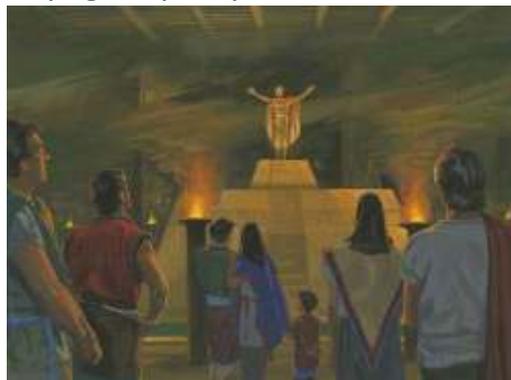


Isaiah 58

[Isaiah 58:1-4](#) Cry aloud, spare not, **lift up thy voice like a trumpet**, and **shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins**. Yet **they seek me daily**, and **delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness**, and **forsook not the ordinance of their God**: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; **they take delight in approaching to God**. Wherefore **have we fasted, say they**, and **thou seest not?** wherefore have **we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge?** Behold, **in the day of your fast ye find pleasure**, and exact all your labours. Behold, **ye fast for strife and debate**, and to **smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day**, to make your voice to be heard on high.

[Isaiah 56 : 11](#) Yea, **they are greedy dogs** which can never have enough, and they are **shepherds** that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one **for his gain**, from his quarter.

[Alma 16:89-91](#) And they did worship after a manner which Alma and his brethren had never beheld; for they had a place built up in the center of their synagogue, a place for standing, which was high above the head; and the top thereof would only admit one person. Therefore, whosoever desired to worship, must go forth and stand upon the top thereof, and stretch forth his hands towards heaven; and cry with a loud voice, saying: Holy, holy, God; we believe that thou art God, and we believe that thou art holy, and that thou wast a spirit, and that thou art a spirit, and that thou wilt be a spirit for ever. Holy God, we believe that thou hast separated **us from our brethren**; and we do not believe in the tradition of our brethren, which was handed down to them by the childishness of their fathers; but **we believe that thou hast elected us to be thy holy children**;



Are there any similarities between the Zoremite's in Alma and the Jews of Israel that God addresses in Isaiah 58:1-4? Or, similarities between Christianity today and these Jews?

[Isaiah 58:5](#) **Is it such a fast that I have chosen?** a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? **wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?**

[Matthew 6 : 6](#) And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

[Matthew 6:16-18](#) Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the **hypocrites**, of a **sad countenance**: for they **disfigure their faces**, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

[Isaiah 58:6-7](#) **Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?**

[Matthew 18 : 26-30](#) The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and **cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.**

[Alma 5 : 41](#) And see that ye have **faith, hope, and charity**, and then **ye will always abound in good works;**

[Ether 5 : 29](#) Behold, I will shew unto the Gentiles their weakness, and I will shew unto them that **faith, hope, and charity**, bringeth unto me the **fountain of all righteousness.**

[II Nephi 7 : 7](#) And there is **none other nation** on earth that would **crucify their God**. For should the mighty miracles be wrought

among other nations, they would repent, and know that he be their God; But because of **priestcrafts and iniquities**, they at Jerusalem will stiffen their necks against him, that he be crucified.



Did not the Jews miss the whole point in the Plan of Salvation? What is the purpose of fasting? What is the stereotype we have today of the Jewish business man?

[Isaiah 58:8-9](#) **Then** shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and **thy righteousness shall go before thee**; the **glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward**. **Then** shalt thou call, and the **LORD shall answer**; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, **Here I am**. If thou take away from the midst of thee the **yoke**, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity;

[James 4 : 3](#) **ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.**

“To be liberal and merciful is more acceptable to God than mere fasting, which, without them, is vain and hypocritical.” [Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary](#)

“**The putting forth of the finger** - That is, if you cease to contemn and despise others; if you cease to point at them the finger of scorn.” “**speaking vanity; 'The injurious speech.'**” [Barnes' Notes on the Bible](#)

[Isaiah 58:10-11](#) And **if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then** shall thy light rise in obscurity, and **thy darkness** be as the **noon day**: And the **LORD shall guide thee continually**, and **satisfy thy soul in drought**, and make **fat thy bones**: and **thou shalt be like a watered garden**, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

[I Nephi 3 : 68](#) And it came to pass that I beheld that the rod of iron, which my father had seen, was the word of God, which led to the **fountain of living waters**, or to the tree of life; which waters are a **representation of the love of God**;

[Isaiah 58:12](#) And **they** that shall be **of thee shall build the old waste places**: thou shalt raise up the **foundations of many generations**; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

[Isaiah 52:9-](#) Break forth into joy, sing together, ye **waste places of Jerusalem**: for the LORD hath comforted his people, **he hath redeemed Jerusalem**. The LORD hath **made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations**; and all the ends of the earth shall **see the salvation of our God**. Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD. For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the LORD will go before you; and the God of Israel will be your reward....[III Nephi 10 : 2](#) and also, as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem;

[Isaiah 58:13-14](#) **If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call** the **sabbath a delight**, the holy of the LORD, **honourable**; and shalt **honour him**, not doing **thine own ways**, nor finding thine **own pleasure**, nor speaking thine own words: **Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD**; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the **heritage of Jacob** thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

[Galatians 3 : 29](#) And if ye be Christ's, then are ye **Abraham's seed**, and heirs according to the promise.

From our youth, was going to church a “delight”?