

**BKM Lesson 8:** “O How Great the Goodness of Our God” 2 Nephi 9-10 (See L8 [Study Guide](#))

**Purpose:** To help us understand our need for the Atonement of Jesus Christ and to help us learn how to receive the blessings of the Atonement. †1. Introduction

**1. Through His Atonement, Jesus Christ offers redemption from temporal death and spiritual death.**

- Read [2 Nephi 9](#). “A discourse by Jacob ... about the Atonement of Jesus Christ”. (*Lesson Manual*)
- †2. Elder Jeffrey R. Holland †3. President James E. Faust
- 2 Nephi 9:5-7, 12, 21-22. These verses summarize the Atonement. (See [Luke 22:44](#); [Mosiah 3:7](#); [D&C 19:16-19](#).)
- 2 Ne. 9:6-10. “If the flesh should rise no more our spirits must become subject to that angel who ... became the devil”.
- 2 Ne. 9:15. After the resurrection, men “must appear before the judgment-seat of the Holy One”. †4. President Faust

**According to Jacob, what are some things we must do to be “saved in the kingdom of God?”**

See [2 Ne. 9:18, 21, 23-24, 39, 41, 50-52](#)

- a. Believe in Jesus Christ, ... and come unto Him (2 Ne. 9:18, 23-24, 41).
- b. Endure the crosses of the world and despise the shame of the world (2 Ne. 9:18).

**What does it mean to endure the crosses of the world? To despise the shame of the world?**  
(See Matthew 16:24d and e JST Matt. 16:25-26; [3 Ne. 12:29-30](#).)

- c. Hearken to the voice of the Lord (2 Ne. 9:21). **How can we hear the voice of the Lord?**
- d. Repent, be baptized, and endure to the end (2 Ne. 9:23-24).
- e. Be spiritually minded (2 Ne. 9:39). (See also [Romans 8:5-8](#).) **What does it mean to be carnally minded?**

**What does it mean to be spiritually minded? How can we become more spiritually minded?**

- f. “Feast upon that which perisheth not” (2 Ne. 9:50-51).

**What are some things that never perish? How can we feast on these things?**

- g. Remember the words of God (2 Ne. 9:52).

**How does remembering God’s words help us apply the Atonement?**

- h. Pray continually and give thanks (2 Ne. 9:52). **How has praying and giving thanks helped you draw nearer to Heavenly Father and His Son?** (*Lesson Manual*)

**2. Certain attitudes and actions prevent us from receiving all the blessings of the Atonement.**

- Read [2 Nephi 9:27-38](#). “But wo unto him that has the law given, ... and that wasteth the days of his probation”!

**What are some attitudes and actions that keep us from receiving all the blessings of the Atonement?**

- a. Transgressing the commandments and wasting the days of our probation (2 Ne. 9:27).

**How might we waste the days of our probation?**

- b. Placing learning, money, and other idols above God (2 Ne. 9:28-30, 37). †5. President Gordon B. Hinckley

**How can pursuing knowledge or riches keep us from receiving all the blessings of the Atonement?**

- c. Being spiritually deaf and blind (2 Ne. 9:31-32).

**How can we open our ears and eyes to the truths of the gospel?**

- d. Being “uncircumcised of heart” (2 Ne. 9:33).

“In ancient Israel, a man who was uncircumcised was breaking a covenant with God (Genesis 17:11,14).” (*LM*)

- e. Lying and committing murders and whoredoms (2 Ne. 9:34-36). †6. President Joseph F. Smith

**3. The Lord remembers His covenants with His people.**

- 2 Nephi 10:1-2, 7-8 **What will the Lord do when His children believe in Him and repent?**

†7. Elder Boyd K. Packer

- 2 Ne. 10:22-23 The Lord remembers His covenant people. Therefore, Jacob told us to “cheer up your hearts.”

**How can we find comfort in the knowledge that the Lord remembers His covenant people?**

- 2 Ne. 10:23-24 We are free “to choose the way of everlasting death or the way of eternal life.”

**What does it mean to be reconciled to the will of God**

**Why is it important to remember, “it is only through the grace of God that [we] are saved”?**

- [2 Ne. 2: 26-27](#) **How do we choose “the way of everlasting death or the way of eternal life”?**

Next Week L9: “My Soul Delighteth in the Words of Isaiah”; See L9: [Class Member Study Guide](#). † •

## BKM 8 Quotes

### †1. **BKM Student Manual, Chapter 9 Introduction:**

“... The Book of Mormon prophet Jacob taught of the great blessings of the Atonement by describing what would happen to our body and our spirit had there been no Atonement. Jacob testified of the greatness of God, who prepared a way for our salvation. He described how the Savior tenderly comforts, pleads for, and redeems Israel. By accepting and following the Lord’s commandments, we place ourselves in a position to receive His promised blessings. Consider the impact and blessings of the Atonement in your life.”

†2. **Elder Jeffrey R. Holland:** “Jacob’s testimony was that ‘the Mighty God’ will always deliver ‘his covenant people,’ and that the Mighty God is, by his own divine declaration, the Lord Jesus Christ, the ‘Savior and . . . Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.’

“Jacob reflected on such teachings . . .

“At the heart of that covenant and the reason for such rejoicing is the atoning sacrifice of that Mighty God’ who is the Savior and Redeemer of the world” (Christ and the New Covenant [1997], 66–67).

†3. **President James E. Faust:** “We long for the ultimate blessing of the Atonement—to become one with Him, to be in His divine presence, to be called individually by name as He warmly welcomes us home with a radiant smile, beckoning us with open arms to be enfolded in His boundless love... The overwhelming message of the Atonement is the perfect love the Savior has for each and all of us. It is a love which is full of mercy, patience, grace, equity, long-suffering, and, above all, forgiving.” (“[The Atonement: Our Greatest Hope](#),” *Ensign*, Nov. 2001, 18, 20).

†4. **President James E. Faust:** “I recall a study some years ago that was made to determine what influences keep young people moving on the straight and narrow track. Of course there were several critical influences. All were important. They included the influence of parents, priesthood advisers, Young Women advisers, Scoutmasters, and peer association. But I was surprised to find that one golden thread of singular importance ran through this study. It was the belief that one day each of us would have to account for our actions to the Lord. Many believed that ‘the keeper of the gate is the Holy One of Israel; and he employeth no servant there; and there is none other way save it be by the gate; for he cannot be deceived, for the Lord God is his name’ [2 Nephi 9:41]... Feeling a personal accountability to the Savior for our actions and stewardships and responding to it provide a profound spiritual protection.” (“[Who Do You Think You Are?](#)” *New Era*, Mar. 2001, 6-7)

†5. **President Gordon B. Hinckley:** “The intellect is not the only source of knowledge. There is a promise, given under the inspiration of the Almighty, set forth in these beautiful words: ‘God shall give unto you knowledge by his holy Spirit, yea, by the unspeakable gift of the Holy Ghost

“The humanists who criticize us, the so-called intellectuals who demean us, speak only from ignorance of this manifestation. They have not heard the voice of the Spirit. They have not heard it because they have not sought after it and prepared themselves to be worthy of it. Then, supposing that knowledge comes only of reasonings and of the workings of the mind, they deny that which comes by the power of the Holy Ghost....

“Do not be trapped by the sophistry of the world, which for the most part is negative and which seldom, if ever, bears good fruit. Do not be ensnared by those clever ones whose self-appointed mission it is to demean that which is sacred, to emphasize human weakness, and undermine faith, rather than inspire strength.” (“Be Not Afraid, Only Believe” [CES fireside for young adults, Sept. 9, 2001], 4, [www.ldsces.org](http://www.ldsces.org))

†6. **President Joseph F. Smith:** “May I say to you that in reality a man cannot forget anything? He may have a lapse of memory; he may not be able to recall at the moment a thing that he knows, or words that he has spoken; he may not have the power at his will to call up these events and words; but let God Almighty touch the mainspring of the memory, and awaken recollection, and you will find then that you have not even forgotten a single idle word that you have spoken. I believe the word of God to be true, and therefore, I warn the youth of Zion, as well as those who are advanced in years, to beware of saying wicked things, of speaking evil, and taking in vain the name of sacred things and sacred beings. Guard your words, that you may not offend even man, much less offend God.” (*Gospel Doctrine*, p. 311)

†7. **Elder Boyd K. Packer:** “The discouraging idea that a mistake (or even a series of them) makes it everlastingly too late, does not come from the Lord. He has said that *if we repent*, not only will He forgive us our transgressions, but He will forget them and remember our sins no more (see Isaiah 43:25; Hebrews 8:12; 10:17; Alma 36:19; D&C 58:42).” (“[To Young Women and Men](#),” *Ensign*, May 1898, 59)

### **Recommended Reading / Videos:**

1. [BKM 8 Enrichment.pdf](#) contains more quotes and links to articles, blogs, and talks.

2. [Book of Mormon Student Manual: Religion 121-122](#), Select the link for Chapter 9.

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