

Lesson 12

Ether 6–15

The following assignments include various learning activities, such as questions, lists, essays, charts, comparisons, contrasts, and surveys. To receive credit for this lesson, you must complete the number of assignments indicated below and submit them to your institute instructor or administrator. You may submit your work either electronically or on paper, handwritten or typed.

Each lesson should take approximately 60–90 minutes to complete, the same amount of time you would typically spend in a weekly institute class. Since reading the scripture block listed in the lesson heading is expected of all institute students prior to class, the estimated time for each assignment does not include the time you need to spend reading the scripture block.

Complete any two of assignments 1, 3, and 4 and any one of the remaining assignments:

1. Ether 6. Journey to the Promised Land

- a. The Jaredites “commend[ed] themselves unto the Lord their God” and arrived safely in the promised land (Ether 6:4). Read the institute student manual commentary “Ether 6:4–9: The Jaredites Commended Themselves to the Lord” (page 369). Write a brief explanation of what it means to “commend” yourself to the Lord and what personal attributes someone would possess to successfully commend themselves unto the Lord for life.
- b. From Ether 6:1–12, write a paragraph comparing the Jaredite journey across the sea with our journey through mortality into the kingdom of God (our promised land). List what each of the following items might represent:
 - Stones (verse 2) =
 - Food (verse 4) =
 - Furious winds (verse 5) =
 - Mountainous waves and depths of the sea (verse 6) =
 - Vessels (verse 7) =
- c. Read Ether 6:14–30 and Mosiah 29:16–24. Write one or two paragraphs about the advantages and disadvantages of a monarchy.

2. Ether 7:23–27; 9:28–31. Prophets Warn the Wicked

Read Ether 7:23–27; 9:28–31 and the student manual commentary “Ether 7:23–27; 9:28–31: Prophets and Their Messages Are Frequently Rejected” (page 371). Describe in writing the similarities and differences between these two accounts. Write answers to the following questions:

- Why do prophets proclaim messages that are unpopular to some people?
- What leads some people to accept or reject a prophet’s warnings?
- What are some examples of warnings from our prophet today?

3. Ether 8; 9:26–27; 10:33. Consequences of Secret Combinations

Read Ether 8; 9:26–27; 10:33; Helaman 6:21–26, 30, 37–40. From your reading, respond to the following questions. Give references to where the answers are found. For additional help, see the student manual commentary “Helaman 6:18–40: The Evils of Secret Combinations” (pages 271–72).

- What are the goals and purposes of secret combinations?
- Who is the originator of secret combinations?
- What makes secret combinations dangerous to our society and our way of life?
- How does secrecy give power to these organizations?
- What will happen to nations that allow secret combinations to flourish?
- Why are these combinations able to exist and grow?
- Why would we be wise to be aware of secret combinations in the world today?

4. Ether 12. Faith

- a. Read Ether 12. As you read, make a list of five or more statements of doctrine or truths that you find and the verse each truth is in. For example: Faith is an anchor to our souls (verse 4).

- b. Read Ether 12:6, 12–21 and the student manual commentary “Ether 12:6: ‘The Trial of Your Faith’” (pages 376–77). Then complete the following:
- c. List three examples Moroni gave of how the “witness” or miracle came “after the trial of [their] faith.”
 - In what ways is the story related by President Gordon B. Hinckley (1910–2008) an illustration of the principle taught in Ether 12:6?
- d. Write a paragraph that contains important principles about faith that you would want your family to know and understand.
- e. Read Ether 12:23–27 and write responses to the following questions:
 - Why do you think the Lord gives us weaknesses?
 - How can we eventually overcome those weaknesses and become strong?

5. Ether 13. The New Jerusalem

Imagine that you have been asked to write an article for a children’s encyclopedia. Your topic is the city of New Jerusalem. Use Ether 13:1–12 and the student manual commentary “Ether 13:1–12: New Jerusalem” (pages 379–80) to help you write a three-paragraph article on the New Jerusalem that an eleven-year-old could understand.

6. Ether 14–15. The Destruction of the Jaredites

In Ether 13:20–21 the prophet Ether prophesied that unless Coriantumr would repent, “every soul should be destroyed save it were Coriantumr.” Ether 14–15 documents the fulfillment of Ether’s prophecy. Read Ether 14:25; 15:19 and write your answer to the following questions:

- Why did the people destroy each other?
- What is the value of following the counsel of prophets immediately rather than eventually? (see Ether 15:1–7).