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## Prophecy and History I

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**Abstract:** This series of study guides contains several lessons that address the Book of Mormon and prophecy. It also deals with the Book of Mormon as fulfillment of ancient prophecy, prophecies in the Book of Mormon that have been fulfilled, are now being fulfilled, and others that have not yet been fulfilled. Furthermore, it looks at prophecies dealing with the American Indian, the United States, and the Latter-day Saints. The first part covers "the Book of Mormon as a fulfillment of ancient prophecy," "of prophecies within itself," and "of modern prophecy."

# PROPHECY AND HISTORY

A Study for the Advanced Senior Class M. I. A., 1924-25

Prophecy—The Book of Mormon

## INTRODUCTION

The second part of the course of study consists of twelve lessons, the titles of which are as follows:

(1) The Book of Mormon as a Fulfilment of Ancient Prophecy; (2) Of Prophecies within Itself; (3) Of Modern Prophecy; (4) Prophecies in the Book of Mormon Already Fulfiled; (5) Being Fulfiled; (6) Yet to be Fulfiled; (7) Prophecies in the Book of Mormon with Promises to the Individual; (8) With Promises to Communities or Nations; (9) Prophecies in the Book of Mormon not Found in Other Scripture; (10) Of Most Vital Interest to the Indian; (11) Of Most Vital Interest to Our Nation; (12) Of Most Vital Interest to Us as Latter-day Saints.

It is hoped that the members of the class, as a rule, will at least read the special references with a view of being prepared on the "Questions and Problems." Bringing the book most needed, and also the *Improvement Era* or *Young Woman's Journal*, to the class will greatly aid in making the lessons instructive and interesting. *To the text and its explanation* is a good class slogan.

The teacher who prepares and teaches a lesson is entitled to some self-effort on the part of the members of the class, and in cases of special assignments to individuals the acceptance becomes a pledge to do ones best.

The questions and problems are so presented that each may be disposed of within five minutes.

## Lesson XIII—The Book of Mormon as a Fulfilment of Ancient Prophecy

### I. SPECIAL REFERENCES FOR CLASS STUDY.

1. Pearl of Great Prices, Moses 7, about 3,000 B. C.
2. Bible, Psalms 85:11, about 1,000 B. C.
3. Isaiah 29:11, about 750 B. C.
4. Isaiah 45:8, about 750 B. C.
5. Ezekiel 37:15-20, about 560 B. C.

### II. QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS.

1. (a) How does the prediction recorded in Moses 7:62 point to the coming forth of the Book of Mormon? (b) By whom was the prophecy made? (c) About how long was it made before its fulfilment?
2. How did we get the prophecy recorded in Moses 7:62? (See Pearl of Great Price, title to chapter one.)
3. Quote Psalm 85:11. Name the author and give approximate date of his writings.

4. Which of the events in the bringing forth of the Book of Mormon fulfilled the prophecy, "Righteousness will I send down from Heaven?"
5. (a) Quote Isaiah 29:11. (b) Name the man who literally fulfilled this prophecy recorded therein. (c) Relate or read the circumstances of the historical incident. See *History of the Church*, Vol. 1, p. 20.
6. Discuss Isaiah 45:8 under the following heads: (a) The author, (b) The time, (c) The part of the prophecy fulfilled by the visit of the Angel Moroni, (d) The part fulfilled by the delivery of the plates to Joseph Smith.
7. In the light of *The Articles of Faith*, by Elder James E. Talmage, of the Council of the Twelve, pages 276-277, 1924 edition, explain the prophecy made more than 2,500 years ago by the prophet Ezekiel and recorded in Ezekiel 37:15-20.

Lesson XIV—The Book of Mormon as a Fulfilment of Prophecies within Itself.

I. SPECIAL REFERENCES FOR CLASS STUDY.

1. II Nephi 3:11-12; 2. II Nephi 27:6-24; 3. II Nephi 29:6-10.
4. Mormon 8:14, 16, 25, 26; 5. Moroni 10:4, 28.

II. QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS.

1. (a) Read to the class II Nephi 3:11-12. (b) Tell about when, and also by whom, the prophecy was first uttered; and how it came to be in the Nephite records, and what part of the prophecy has been fulfilled since the Book of Mormon was published.
2. Read the testimonies and the names of the three and the eight testators who fulfilled the prophecy recorded in II Nephi 27:13-14.
3. Quote from memory or read the prophecy contained in the Book of Mormon which was fulfilled by the anti-Mormon cry "Joe Smith's Golden Bible," or "The Mormon Bible." (II Nephi 29:6-10.)
5. Discuss the prophecy or promise recorded in Moroni 10:4: (a) The time, (b) The author, (c) The stream of personal testimony concerning its fulfilment.

Lesson XV—The Book of Mormon as a Fulfilment of Modern Prophecy.

I. SPECIAL REFERENCES FOR CLASS STUDY.

1. Doctrine & Covenants 3:17; 2. Doctrine & Covenants 3:18; 3. Doctrine & Covenants 5:15; 4. Doctrine & Covenants 5:23, 24;

II. QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS.

1. Show that the publication of the Book of Mormon in the Hawaiian language is a partial fulfilment of the prediction recorded in Doc. & Cov. 3:17, 18.
2. Show how the teaching of English to the Indians in the Government schools is making it possible for the Book of Mormon to become a complete fulfilment of the prophecy in Doctrine & Covenants 3:18.
3. How does the unshaken testimony of the three witnesses provide for a continuance of the fulfilment of the prophecy recorded in the Doc. & Cov. 5:15?
4. Correlate Doc. & Cov. 5:24 with the following:

Testimony of the Book of Mormon, given at Clarkston, Utah, by Martin Harris, 1875 (July)—"Brethren, I believe there is an angel here to hear what I tell you, and you shall never forget what I say. The prophet Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery,

David Whitmer and myself went into a little grove to pray to obtain a promise that we should behold the plates with our natural eyes that we might testify of it to the world. We prayed a time or two and at length an angel stood before David and Oliver and showed them the plates, but behold, I had gone by myself to pray and in my deepest distress I asked the Prophet Joseph to kneel down with me and pray for me that I may also see the plates. He did so, and immediately the angel stood before me and said, 'Look.' When I gazed upon him I fell to the earth, but I stood on my feet again and saw the angel turn the golden leaves over, and I said, 'That is enough, my Lord, and my God.' Then I heard the voice of God say, 'The Book translated from those plates is true and translated correctly.' " (See *Improvement Era*, September, 1923, pp. 980-1.)

Discuss the following statement:

"The Divine Authenticity of no other book is as well attested by human testimony as is that of the Book of Mormon."

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## The Bird

The bird sings out his very best  
 When on the tree, or in the nest;  
 When perched upon a lofty pine,  
 Or nestled 'mid a leafy vine.  
 When soaring high from human sight  
 He sings with all his main, and might,  
 He sings not to be heard of men,  
 Or, that he may be praised by them.  
 He sings because he's made to sing  
 By Him, who gave him voice and wing.

If perched upon a steeple high,  
 Or, on a bough where men pass by,  
 Or, on a stately, swaying tree,  
 Or, on a shrub they do not see.  
 He poses, with the same good grace  
 At every time, and every place;  
 Not just where he is seen of men  
 That he may be admired by them,  
 But just because he is a bird;  
 No matter whether seen or heard.

O would that I were like the bird  
 Caring not who saw, nor heard,  
 Just so that I well filled the place  
 God gave to me. And by his grace  
 Simply and truly, just to be  
 Whatever he designed in me.  
 If by my act, my word, my song,  
 Some others have been helped along  
 And made more happy and less sad,  
 Through my weak efforts, I am glad.

But let me not exalted be,  
 Just so that men may hear and see  
 The little things I do and say,  
 Things which, like bubbles, pass away.  
 But let me be just like the bird  
 Singing on, though unseen, unheard.

*Logan, Utah.*

SAMUEL B. MITTON.