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The Book of Mormon

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Abstract: This testimony affirms that Moroni visited Joseph Smith in his room on September 21, 1823, and, among other things, showed Joseph where the plates were hidden. After four years, Joseph received the plates and translated them.

The Book of Mormon

During the night of September 21, 1823, Joseph Smith sought the Lord in fervent prayer. The angel Moroni appeared and gave him comfort and instruction. Among other things he told the youthful supplicant of a book written upon gold plates which were deposited in a nearby hill. The following day the young man visited this place and was shown the hidden treasures by the angelic messenger. After four years of waiting, September 22, 1827, this holy record was delivered to him, and he translated it through the gift and power of God. The Book of Mormon is a "light that shineth in darkness, but the darkness comprehendeth it not." In the heart of every serious reader, it inspires faith, awakens reverence for the Almighty and devotion to righteousness, illuminates the past and reveals much that is to come. It is a holy book.

The following are a few gems taken from its sacred pages:

"And it came to pass that I, Nephi, said unto my father: I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded, for I know the Lord giveth no commandment unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them." 1 Nephi, 3:7.

"Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy." 2 Nephi, 2:25.

"For my soul delighteth in plainness; for after this manner doth the Lord God work among the children of men. For the Lord God giveth light unto the understanding; for he speaketh unto men according to their language, unto their understanding." 2 Nephi, 31:3.

"Yea, and as often as my people repent will I forgive them their trespass against me." Mosiah, 26:30.

"But behold, if ye will awake and arouse your faculties, even to an experiment upon my words, yea, even if ye can no more than desire to believe, let this desire work in you, even until ye believe in a manner that ye can give place for a portion of my words. Now, we will compare the word unto a seed. Now, if ye give place that a seed may be planted in your heart, behold if it be a true seed, or a good seed, if ye do not cast it out by your unbelief, that ye will resist the spirit of the Lord, behold it will begin to swell within your breasts; and when you feel these swelling motions, ye will begin to say within yourselves—It must needs be that this is a good seed, or that the word is good, for it beginneth to enlarge my soul; yea, it beginneth to enlighten my understanding, yea, it beginneth to be delicious to me," Alma, 32:27, 28.