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## The Doctrine of Inspired Ones as Set Forth in the Book of Mormon

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# Guide Lessons.

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## LESSON I.

### Theology and Testimony.

FIRST WEEK IN JUNE.

#### THE DOCTRINE OF INSPIRED ONES AS SET FORTH IN THE BOOK OF MORMON.

“And I looked and beheld a man among the Gentiles who was separated from the seed of my brethren by the many waters; and I beheld the Spirit of God, that it came down and wrought upon the man; and he went forth upon the many waters, even unto the seed of my brethren, who were in the promised land.

“And it came to pass that I beheld the Spirit of God, that it wrought upon other Gentiles; and they went forth out of captivity, upon the many waters.

“And it came to pass that I beheld many multitudes of the Gentiles upon the land of promise; and I beheld the wrath of God, that it was upon the seed of my brethren; and they were scattered before the Gentiles, and were smitten.” (I. Nephi 13: 12, 13, 144.)

All real Christians believe that God holds within his hands the destinies of the nations and the world; many people believe that the United States constitution was divinely inspired, because they have watched its course and growth among the nations. On this point the Latter-day Saints can have no doubt, and surely in all sacred literature there is no other place where the faith of God directing the course of nations is stated in a more entirely positive way than in the passages already quoted.

The Book of Mormon tells us that the Spirit of God wrought upon the man, who was Columbus, and he went forth upon the mighty waters to the seed of Nephi's brethren; a statement showing that when the due time of the Lord came for this continent, folded in darkness for many centuries, to be brought into the lime-light, it was done.

There were many centuries between the Christian Era and the discovery of America, when on both continents civilization all but perished from the earth, when the world, whose earlier maps indicated that they had known of a continent beyond the great seas, gave no further evidence of such knowledge. Nevertheless, in the Lord's time that knowledge was again revealed, in this latter time, in all its fulness.

And yet, our Father in heaven works on natural principles. He took a man to whom no doubt it was natural to ponder over these things, from the most forward nation of Europe, for Italian civilization was in advance of that of other countries at that time, and led him to another nation moving rapidly towards the fulness of its power, and there he obtained the political and financial backing necessary for his great venture.

How forcefully has this item of history been brought to our minds in these days; for while England reminds us that America is her daughter, of her laws and her speech an heir; and Fraace, of Lafayette and Rochambeau; Italy tells us that an Italian discovered America, and she now wants America to discover Italy. In line with the significance of that fact the chief executive of our nation made special provision in his program in Italy for a visit to Genoa, and while there placed a wreath upon the statue of Columbus.

As it was with Columbus and the Pilgrims, it has been, no doubt, with other men and with other groups of men. We have no doubt about this matter, as it affected Lehi and his little colony, nor have we doubts about the inspiration of Jared and his brethren. We recall the finding of the Liahona and its effective work, and are reminded that both the barges of the Jaredites and the ship that Nephi built were builded under the inspiration of the Lord of hosts, and the latter was really a submarine.

It certainly should not be difficult for Latter-day Saints to conclude that men and groups of men, in all ages, have been inspired that his righteous purposes might be fulfilled. How marvelous the translation of the English Bible, under the supervision of King James, and the preserving of the Mook of Mormon in the Hill Cumorah! May we not pause here for an instant to consider how important a translation of the Bible of such signal excellence is to the world at this time; for no other language in the civilized world is as widely spoken as the English language, and the extent to which it is destined to serve the children of men no one can foresee. Truly James Russell Lowell was right when he characterized the English language as the best product of the confusion of tongues.

The flood-tide of invention, since 1830, from the railroad on the one hand, to the automobile and the flying machine on the other, all bear evidence of the fact that God is inspiring men to do these things that shall eventually lead to the consummation of all things in righteousness.

Thomas A. Edison and John M. Browning, each by original nature no doubt, had strong inclinations to seek after the highly specialized type of knowledge which their inventions reveal, but each, no doubt, has been inspired by the Lord to do the thing that he has done,

And thus we move on, and thus God continues to work on natural principles for the consummation of his will. The late war reveals no brighter spot, perhaps, than the spectacle of the smitten Turk, who must surely relinquish his land to God's ancient covenant people, the Jews.

QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS.

1. Relate the story of the discovery of America as it is set forth in the Book of Mormon.
2. Show that while God inspires men to great achievements, he works on entirely natural principles.
3. Show that our Father in heaven is a great economist in operating thus.
4. To what Spanish monarch did Columbus make his appeal for political and financial backing?
5. What events of recent history had caused the Italians, French and English to remind us of our connection with them?
6. How does this desire for co-operation make for international good will?
7. Give evidence that in all ages God inspired men and groups of men to do the acts that have made for growth and advancement in the world.
8. Explain how an expert translation of the Bible preserves the Bible for humanity.
9. Why is the expert translation of the English Bible of prime importance at the present time?

LESSON II.

Work and Business.

SECOND WEEK IN JUNE.

LESSON III.

Genealogy.

THIRD WEEK IN JUNE.

SURNAMES DERIVED FROM TRADES AND OCCUPATIONS.

*Teachers' Outlines. (Chap. 16 in Surname Book.)*

The Anglo-Saxons were the farmers and trades-people. Surnames from trades are originally Anglo-Saxon.

Surnames derived from:

- (a) The farmer and his helps.
- (b) Builders and carpenters, etc.