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The Book of Mormon

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Abstract: This article consists of a compilation of quotes about the Book of Mormon from the *Journal of Discourses*. All quotes are from former leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

make good by keeping up our correspondence with the Lord, by paying our tithing, and our fast offerings, by attending sacrament meetings, and by standing loyally by Church leaders. We may know whether we are making good as a Church member by comparing the record of any day's Church service with II Timothy 4:7.

"Making Good" as a Leader

We make good in leadership when we have for our chief aim the getting of others to do their work willingly and well; by being enthusiastic in leadership and by being habitually diligent in having every subordinate in the line of making good. A general may consistently and nobly share his meals and bed with a private, but to do the private's work puts the officer in a position of humiliation where he must confess a lack of ability to get others to do their share. One is making good in leadership no farther than he keeps in the front with aimful, enthusiastic, diligent followers near him.

Questions and Problems

1. Why is it impossible to make good by bad methods?
2. Discuss this proposition: Success in a bad cause is a miserable failure.
3. Name the three essentials to making good.
4. Show the relative rank of the Latter-day Saints under the statement, "The greater the purpose, the greater the people."
5. Give illustrations of the truth: The greater the power to follow a purpose, the higher the intelligence.
6. Discuss Emerson's statement concerning enthusiasm and achievement.
7. What are the requirements for making good as a parent?
8. When is a person making good as a citizen?
9. What must be done in order to make good as a Church member?
10. When is a person making good as a leader?

The Book Of Mormon

(Selections from the *Journal of Discourses*, by former Leaders of the Church)

"The *Book of Mormon* came to Ephraim, for Joseph Smith was a pure Ephraimite, and the *Book of Mormon* was revealed to him."—*Brigham Young*, April 8, 1855; Vol. 2, p. 269.

"Do you remember the history of the Gadiantons, as told in the *Book of Mormon*? We are surrounded by their descendants.

[The Indians.] Those loathsome, effeminate specimens of humanity, which we daily see in our midst, are their children, low, degraded, sunken to the lowest depths of human existence. We have our location amid their strongholds, where the ruins of their cities, towns, and fortifications are yet to be seen—they continue unto this day.”—*Edward Hunter*, April 6, 1853, Vol. 2, p. 37.

“No man can say that this book (laying his hand on the Bible) is true, is the word of the Lord, is the way, is the guide-board in the path, and a charter by which we may learn the will of God; and at the same time say, that the *Book of Mormon* is untrue; if he has had the privilege of reading it, or of hearing it read, and learning its doctrines. There is not a person on the face of the earth who has had the privilege of learning the gospel of Jesus Christ from these two books, who can say that one is true, and the other is false.”—*Brigham Young*, Vol. I, p. 38.

“‘Adam fell that man might be.’ Adam saw this, that the woman was overcome by the devil speaking through the serpent; and when he saw it, he was satisfied that the woman would have to be banished from his presence; he saw, also, that unless he partook of the forbidden fruit, he could never raise up posterity; therefore the truth of that saying in the *Book of Mormon* is apparent, that ‘Adam fell that man might be.’ He saw it was necessary that he should with her partake of sorrow and death and the varied effects of the fall, that he and she might be redeemed from these effects, and be restored back again to the presence of God.”—*Orson Pratt*, Vol. 1, p. 285, July 25, 1852.

“What is the use of the book in question anyway? Why, in the first place, it differs in its history from the *Bible*. The *Bible* is a history of things that took place in Asia principally, and a little of what took place in Europe and Africa. The *Book of Mormon* is a history of things in another hemisphere * * * Could the rulers of nations realize that fact, and could they only have a copy in their libraries at the cost of \$100,000, they would appropriate it for the history of the western hemisphere. * * * It is as important in its history as the *Bible*, and it is just as interesting and as necessary for men to get an understanding of the ancient history of America, as it is for them to get a understanding of the history of Asia.”—*Parley P. Pratt*, Vol. I, p 304; July 10, 1853.