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Prophets of God Bear Testimonies of the Sacred Record

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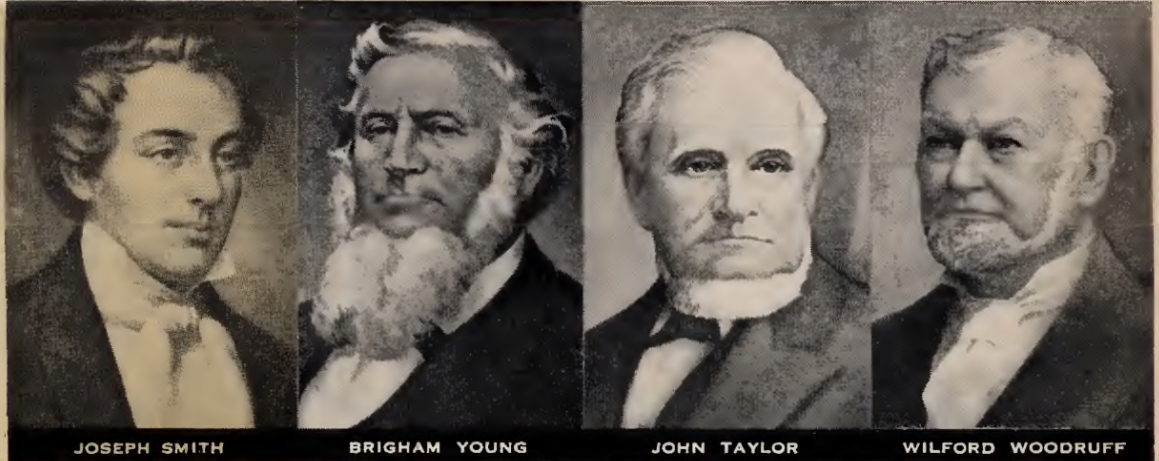
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Abstract: This article compiles the testimonies of the Book of Mormon borne by the Presidents of the Church—from the Prophet Joseph Smith through President David O. McKay.



PROPHETS OF GOD BEAR



■ These records were engraven on plates which had the appearance of gold, each plate was six inches wide and eight inches long, and not quite so thick as common tin. They were filled with engravings, in Egyptian characters, and bound together in a volume as the leaves of a book, with three rings running through the whole. The volume was something near six inches in thickness, a part of which was sealed. The characters on the unsealed part were small, and beautifully engraved. The whole book exhibited many marks of antiquity in its construction, and much skill in the art of engraving. With the records was found a curious instrument, which the ancients called “Urim and Thummim,” which consisted of two transparent stones set in the rim of a bow fastened to a breast-plate. Through the medium of the Urim and Thummim I translated the record by the gift and power of God.

—THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH

The Wentworth Letter, DHC 4:537

■ There is not another nation under heaven, in whose midst the Book of Mormon could have been brought forth. The Lord has been operating for centuries to prepare the way for the coming forth of the contents of that book from the bowels of the earth, to be published to the world, to show to the inhabitants thereof that he still lives, and that he will, in the latter days, gather his elect from the four corners of the earth.

—BRIGHAM YOUNG

J D 11:17

■ The gospel in the Book of Mormon and the gospel in the Bible both agree; the doctrines in both books

are one. The historical part differs only: the one gives the history of an Asiatic, the other of an American people.

—JOHN TAYLOR

J D 5:240

■ On my way [to my first Mormon meeting] I prayed most sincerely that the Lord would give me his Spirit, and that if these men were the servants of God I might know it, and that my heart might be prepared to receive the divine message they had to deliver.

The spirit of God rested mightily upon [Elder Zera Pulsipher], and he bore a strong testimony of the divine authenticity of the Book of Mormon and of the mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith. I believed all that he said. The spirit bore witness of its truth.

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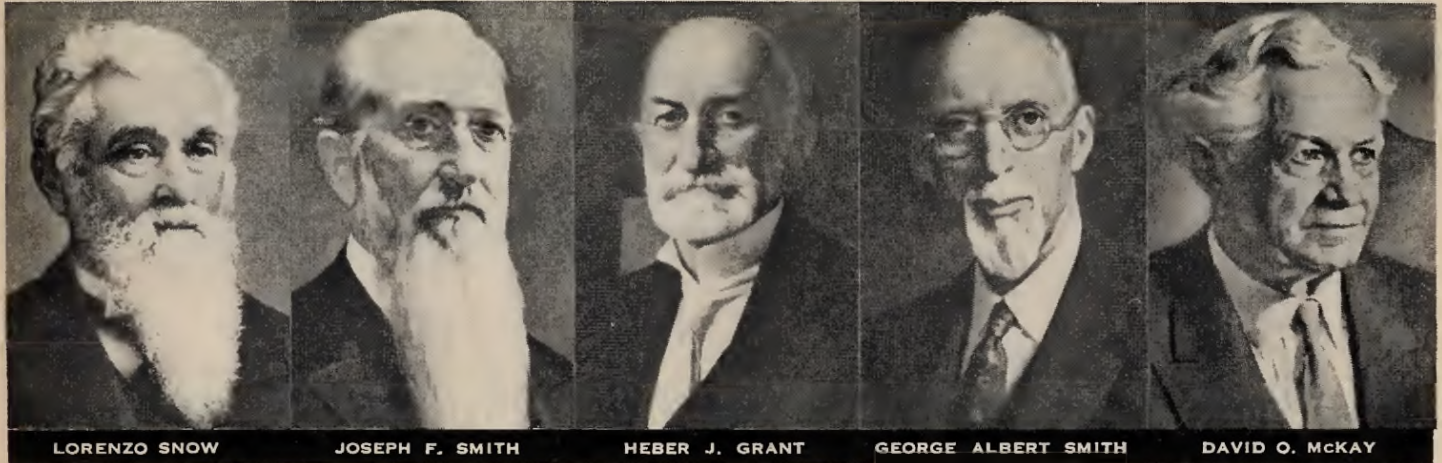
The Bible, the Book of Mormon, the book of Doctrine and Covenants contain the words of eternal life unto this generation.

—WILFORD WOODRUFF

Cowley, *Life of Wilford Woodruff*, p. 32; J D 22:335

■ When the Church was established among the Nephites . . . [the United Order] was preached by them and practised nearly two hundred years, resulting in peace, union, great prosperity, and miraculous blessings, greater than were ever experienced by any people of whom we have record. The most remarkable miracles were constantly wrought among them; their sick were healed, and in some instances their dead restored to life; these extraordinary manifestations of the approbation of God continued so long as they remained one

TESTIMONIES OF THE SACRED RECORD



in their temporal interest or were controlled in their financial matters according to the Order of Enoch.

—LORENZO SNOW

J D 16:274

■ It is one of the greatest puzzles to scientists that they are discovering in the path of ancient civilization of this continent evidences and proof of the divinity of the Book of Mormon, that they cannot dispute or gainsay.

* * * * *

The Book of Mormon [is] a book of scripture that was translated by the gift and power of God, for the voice of God declared to the three witnesses that it had been translated by the gift and power of God and that it was true.

—JOSEPH F. SMITH

J D October 26, 1867

■ I read the Book of Mormon through prayerfully, as a young man in my teens, and I became absolutely converted that it is exactly what it purports to be, namely, a record of the hand-dealings of God with many peoples that had located on the American continents before Columbus discovered America.

* * * * *

The Book of Mormon is the great, the grand, the most wonderful missionary that we have.

—HEBER J. GRANT

I E 39:660; C R April 1937

■ In the Book of Mormon, “The American volume of scripture,” the Lord has given to us information pertaining to this land upon which we dwell and called it a land favored above all other lands. I recommend that not only you Latter-day Saints read the Book of Mormon, but that our Father’s other children read it. They will find that it contains, in addition to what the Bible has said about the world, what the Lord has said about this Western Hemisphere—that this should be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles and that no king should dwell upon this land, but that he, the God of heaven, would be our King and would fortify this land against all the nations, that this should be a land of peace and happiness, on condition that we would honor the God of this earth, the Father of us all. The factor controlling the promise is that we must keep the commandments of our Heavenly Father or it cannot be realized.

—GEORGE ALBERT SMITH

C R October 1940

■ I testify to you that the Book of Mormon is truly the Word of God, that communication between earth and heaven has been opened up again, and that the true way of the Lord has been revealed to men on earth, showing the means by which all needful knowledge and blessings may be received by every true believer in Christ.

—PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY

Instructor, Oct. 1952