

SCRIPTURE CENTRAL

https://scripturecentral.org/

Type: Magazine Article

Book of Mormon Is Special Witness

Editor(s): David O. McKay and Richard L. Evans Source: Improvement Era, Vol. 68, No. 7 (July 1965) Published by: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Page(s): 634

Abstract: This article states that members bearing testimony of the Book of Mormon as inspired by the Holy Ghost are able to touch the hearts of those who listen. Furthermore, more witnesses to the Book of Mormon are needed.

MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD

Book of Mormon Is Special Witness

• It is hoped that members of the Church will bear their witness of the truth of the restoration of the gospel at all times where proper and possible. Led by the Holy Ghost, a member bearing testimony can stir the hearts of listeners to the depths of their souls. When the time came for the heavens to open after eighteen hundred years of silence, the Lord God gave a witness which he himself had caused to be prepared. The Lord performs his work on earth by means of the acts and words of human beings. The witness provided was the result of human action inspired by God.

First he inspired Lehi to leave Jerusalem; then he inspired Nephi to obtain the brass plates; then he inspired the keeping of records of the history of the people, often by men especially called. The crowning inspiration was given to Mormon, who made an abridgment of the history of a thousand years with one hand while defending the last of his people from the assaults of the Lamanites with the other. The last prophet of this inspired line buried the abridged record in the hill, for a reason that he knew not, but which is plainly apparent to us today.

The book was brought forth by miraculous means. An angel visits a boy three times in one night. He instructs the boy annually for four years. A man, full of pride, is inspired to finance the first edition of 5,000 copies. Eleven witnesses testify that they have seen the record, three by vision and eight by earthly handling and sight. Isaiah's prophecy is literally fulfilled by the learned Professor Anthon's statement that "I cannot read a sealed book."

Finally the promise of Moroni in the last pages is that one who reads with sincere heart will know of the truth of the book by the power of the Holy Ghost.