Questions and Answers - Meaning of Prison in III Nephi
Author(s): Joseph F. Smith
Source: Improvement Era, Vol. 8, No. 3 (January 1905), pp. 226.
Published by: Young Men’s Mutual Improvement Association
to that central place, impelled by a great desire to be near the sacred center of their land, in their great affliction. This travel would require considerable time, and with fresh additions to the crowd, the subject of the great changes of the land would come up for renewed discussion. Add to this, the fact that these people were of Israelitish descent, and, therefore, given to long periods of mourning over great calamities, and the difficulty is entirely overcome. Furthermore, it was doubtless the design of Messiah that people from all parts of the various Nephite lands would be witnesses of his appearance. Therefore, an impelling desire and a considerable length of time would be absolutely necessary to bring about this great assemblage.

**Meaning of Prison in III Nephi 12: 25, 26.**

What are we to understand by the prison spoken of in III Nephi 12: 26?

The prison referred to in Messiah's instructions, as recorded in III Nephi 12: 25, 26, may be a real or a figurative one, according to the interpretation placed upon the passage. In either case, the meaning is, that it is better to settle difficulties with the one concerned, than to allow the law to intervene.

**Luke 22: 35-38 Explained.**

What is the meaning of the passage in Luke 22: 35-38?

The incident related by Luke occurred just before Christ's crucifixion. It will be remembered that in the early part of his ministry he had instructed his servants to go out without purse or scrip or change of clothing. That was when his ministry was to be accomplished, and the test was to be put to the Jews peacefully whether or not they would accept the Savior through his own preaching and that of his disciples, but they rejected him. He saw the war, bloodshed and misery that would follow this rejection. Therefore, he warned them to expect the old regime to continue no longer, but be prepared for war and hardship. A similar warning is given in Matthew 24: 16-20. Reference is doubtless made to the siege and suffering endured by the Jews soon after Christ's crucifixion, ending in the destruction of Jerusalem, in 70