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## Questions from the Field

Editor(s): John A. Widtsoe

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**Abstract:** This article answers the question “Did Jesus appear to the people on the American continent before or after his ascension?” 3 Nephi 11:12 and 10:18 indicate he appeared after his final ascension in Palestine.

## QUESTIONS FROM THE FIELD

*Did Jesus appear to the people on the American continent before or after His Ascension?*

The "Ascension" of Jesus usually refers to the final ascension of Christ in Palestine, forty days after His resurrection. (Mark 16: 19; Luke 24: 51).

There may have been other ascensions, for, although He said to Mary in the garden: "Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father" which is in heaven, He was touched by several of His followers. (John 20: 20, 27). This has led to the belief, and a very probable one, that Jesus met with His disciples after having ascended to His Father in heaven immediately following His resurrection to report the completion of His mission. There may have been several such ascensions, but the Ascension is always understood to mean His final disappearance from the physical view of His disciples in Judea.

The Book of Mormon predicts clearly that Jesus would visit the American continent after the ascension.

"And it came to pass that when Jesus had spoken these words the whole multitude fell to the earth; for they remembered that it had been prophesied among them that Christ should show himself unto them after his *ascension* into heaven." (3 Nephi 11: 12; see also 3 Nephi 10: 18).

Unless the Book of Mormon refers to an ascension preceding the final one, which is not likely, it may be held that Jesus appeared to the people of the American continent after His final ascension in Palestine.

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## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Branch Conference:** Of the Carlisle Branch, Newcastle District, held on March 24th. A spirit of good-will was manifest. President Weston R. Clark, Elders Rulon S. Scoville and Eldon P. Darley were the speakers.

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**Releases and Departures:** The following missionaries have been honorably released and have sailed for their homes in America: Alma Faron Spackman—Liverpool and Welsh Districts—released April 2nd, sailed from Southampton aboard the *Republic* on April 12th; Robert Dell Buchanan—Sheffield and London Districts—released on March 21st, and Heber J. Matkin—Birmingham District—released on March 21st, sailed from Cherbourg aboard the *President Harding* on April 26th; Elder Ralph V. Chisholm—London District and Liverpool office—released November 13th, and Sister Mary R. Booth—Armenian Mission—recently released, sailed aboard the *Republic* from Southampton on April 12th.