



Type: Magazine Article

Book of Mormon Studies

Editor(s): John A. Widtsoe

Source: *The Latter-Day Saints' Millennial Star*, Vol. 91, No. 21 (23 May 1929)

Published by: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Page(s): 325–326

Abstract: This is a series of articles intended for Relief Society course study. It discusses the importance of the Book of Mormon, its coming forth (i.e., the translation, the witnesses, the publication, Joseph Smith), brief overview of its contents, and explains the text from 1 Nephi 1 through Alma 58. Each article features several questions that are helpful in synthesizing and applying the Book of Mormon to daily life.

for Zion must know and understand that we must keep that influence and that power which comes from God in our hearts, the light of His Spirit burning in our souls. It is illustrated in what Brother Harris said last night in the Priesthood meeting, and what we have often heard, respecting what President Brigham Young told Brother Karl G. Maeser when he sent him to take charge of the Brigham Young Academy at Provo. President Young said: "Brother Maeser, I don't want you to try to teach even the multiplication tables without the Spirit and influence of the power of God."

You brethren, you sisters—sisters of the Relief Society, those at the head of it, and the sisters of the Primary, and the Young Ladies—you brethren in all the quorums of the Priesthood, let us get this into our hearts, minds and souls, that we are charged with the responsibility to oversee some portion of the work of the Lord. Get this into our hearts, that by the Spirit of the Living God, and only by that power and Spirit, can this work grow and prosper and be established. That power and Spirit does not come from the wisdom of man. It pertains to the glory of God, which is intelligence, the kind of intelligence which forsaketh that evil one. May we keep that, my brethren and sisters, in our minds firmly; get it rooted in our hearts and souls; and then work in humility, in faith, and He will increase our power, by which means, as I have read to you, we will be helped to go from grace to grace until we become filled with that Spirit to the fulness of power and glory, filled with the Spirit of power which forsakes that evil one to walk in the light of God's countenance, to His glory and honour. By that influence and power, and by none other, will this work prosper and His kingdom come.

The Lord bless us all, I pray, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

RELIEF SOCIETY

BOOK OF MORMON STUDIES

For the first lesson in June

THE WORDS CONTAINED in these chapters—Third Nephi, chapters 15 to 22—are words of truth and life that give joy to the souls of honest men. In reading this account who can fail to see mentally the great love and compassion and mercy of the Christ? Who cannot visualize the multitude in tears? Who cannot in a weak human way feel the deep sorrow of the Christ for the weakness and wickedness of the people, for whose sins He groaned within Himself?

One picture alone, however, more than justifies the existence of the Book of Mormon—that of Jesus blessing the children of the Nephites while angels from heaven encircled them.

Can you not appreciate the helplessness of the writer when

words failed him and he uttered: "The eye hath never seen, neither hath the ear heard, before, so great and marvelous things as we saw and heard Jesus speak unto the Father; And no tongue can speak, neither can there be written by any man, neither can the hearts of men conceive so great and marvelous things as we both saw and heard Jesus speak; and no one can conceive of the joy which filled our souls at the time we heard him pray for us unto the Father."

Even weak humans may experience inexpressible joy. What language of earth then could convey the communion of God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ?

QUESTIONS

1. Why was the Saviour able to tell more to the people of Nephi than He was to the people on the Eastern hemisphere? Who were the "other sheep" referred to by Him?

2. Why was the Gospel to be taken from them? Discuss this in connection with Third Nephi 16: 9-10.

3. To whom was the Sacrament administered by the Saviour and His Disciples? Can Priests righteously partake of the Sacrament for the people? Why must each individual covenant in this respect with the Lord Himself?

4. How did the works of the Saviour on the Western continent compare with those in the East? Why was he able to do more?

5. The coming forth of the sacred record is foreshadowed in chapter twenty-one. Discuss it, and the conditions under which it was to come forth.

6. How do the frequent Biblical quotations in the Book of Mormon corroborate both the Bible and the Book of Mormon?

R. L. E.

WORD OF WISDOM LESSONS (No. 6)

For the third lesson in June

NOTE: Necessarily, because of limited space, these lessons are brief. If possible, go to your libraries for books on food and health; read and study the subjects discussed therein and report on them in class. Any reliable books on food and health should be used for reference and study.

Those who wish to purchase worthwhile books on the subject, will find any of those referred to in the lessons reliable and not too expensive. A good magazine, *New Health*, edited by Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane, is heartily endorsed and recommended. A good pamphlet issued by the Ministry of Health on the subject: "Diet in Relation to Normal Nutrition," may be purchased for 3d. by sending to His Majesty's Stationery Office, Kingsway, London.

Your further study of this subject is urged for your own benefit.

THE PLANT KINGDOM—THE FRUITS OF THE EARTH

The Body as a House or an Engine. The most intricate mechanism known to man is his own body which houses his immortal spirit. It may be likened unto a house composed of simple yet varied and indispensable building materials. If any