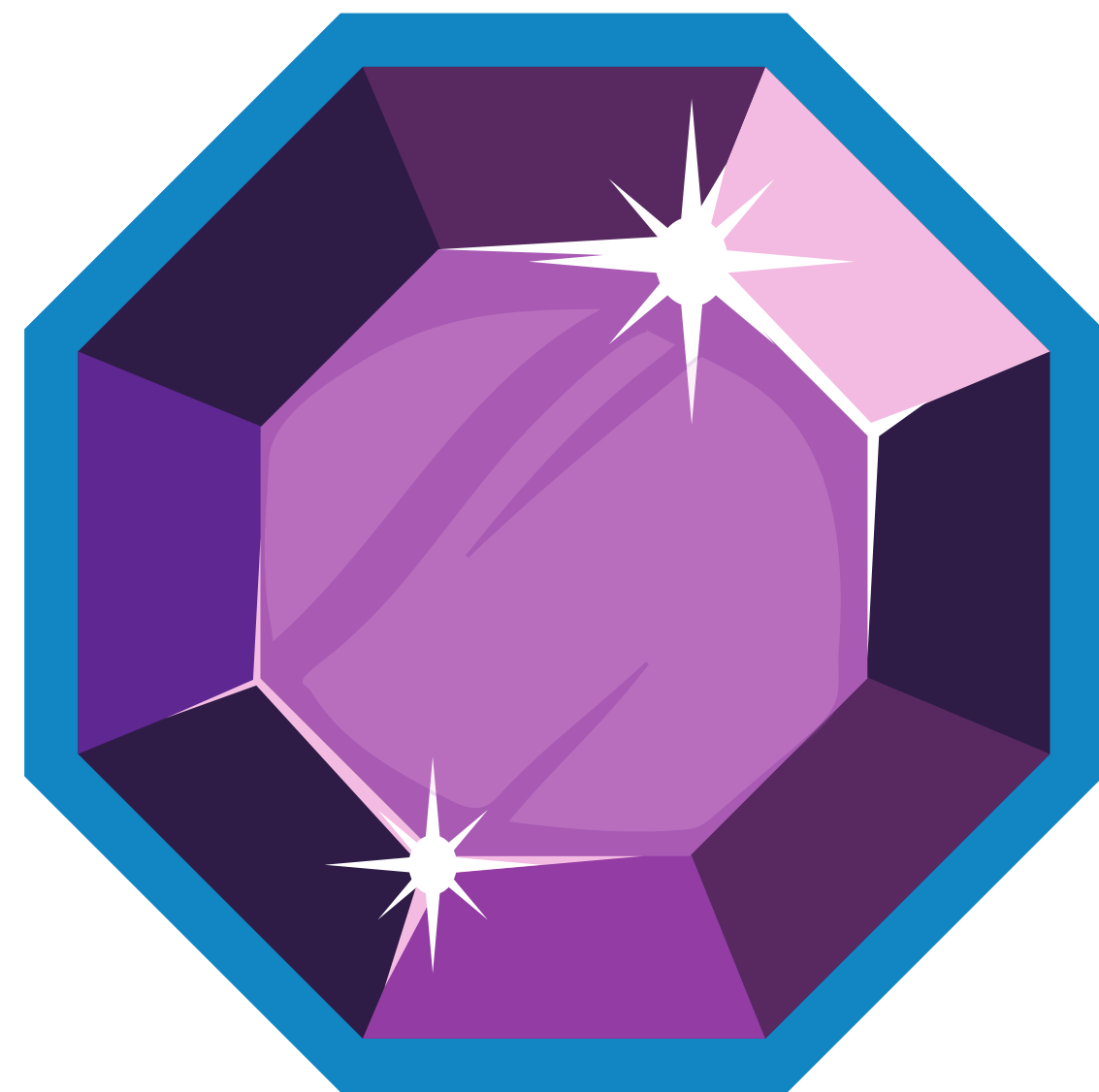
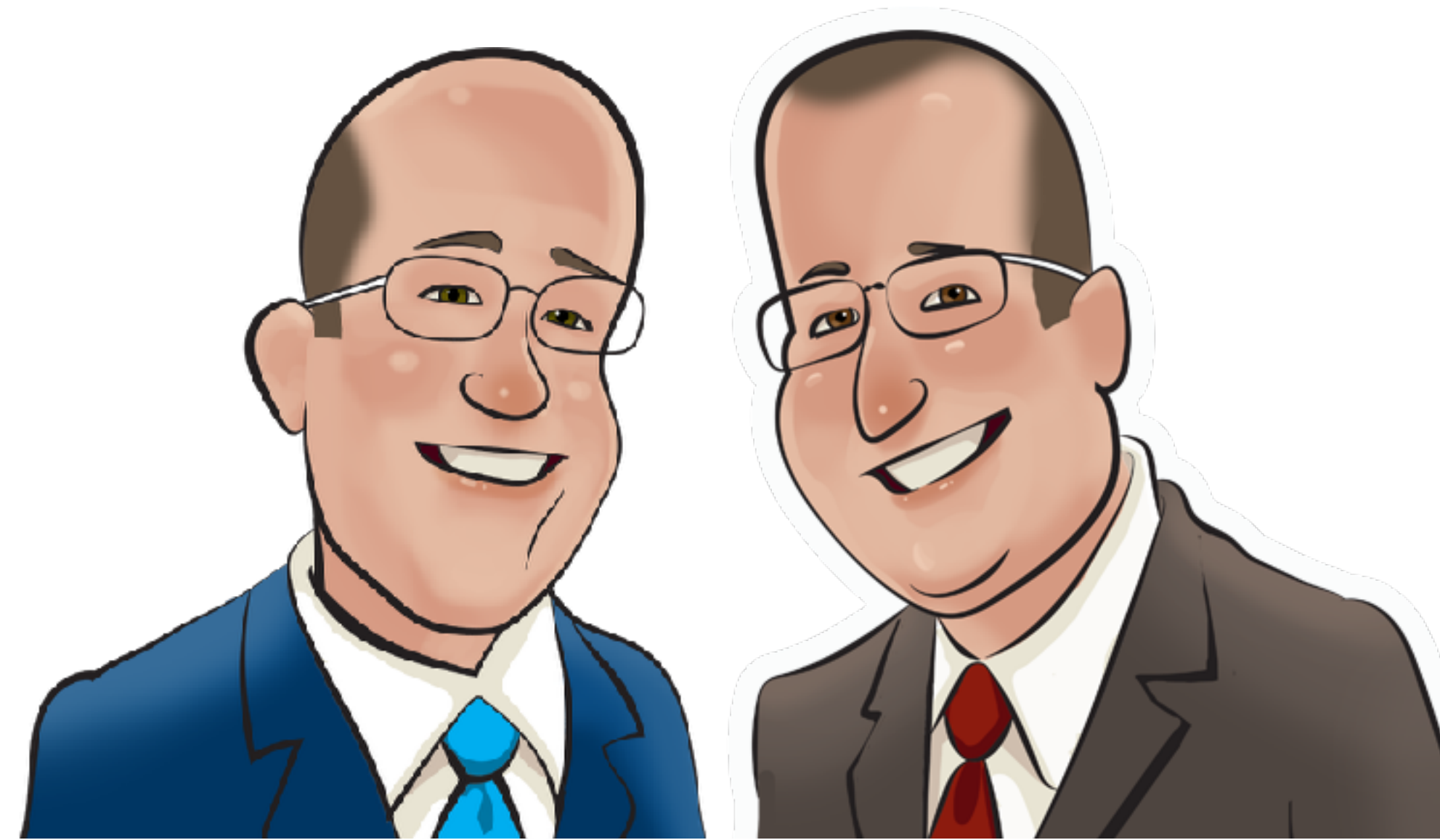
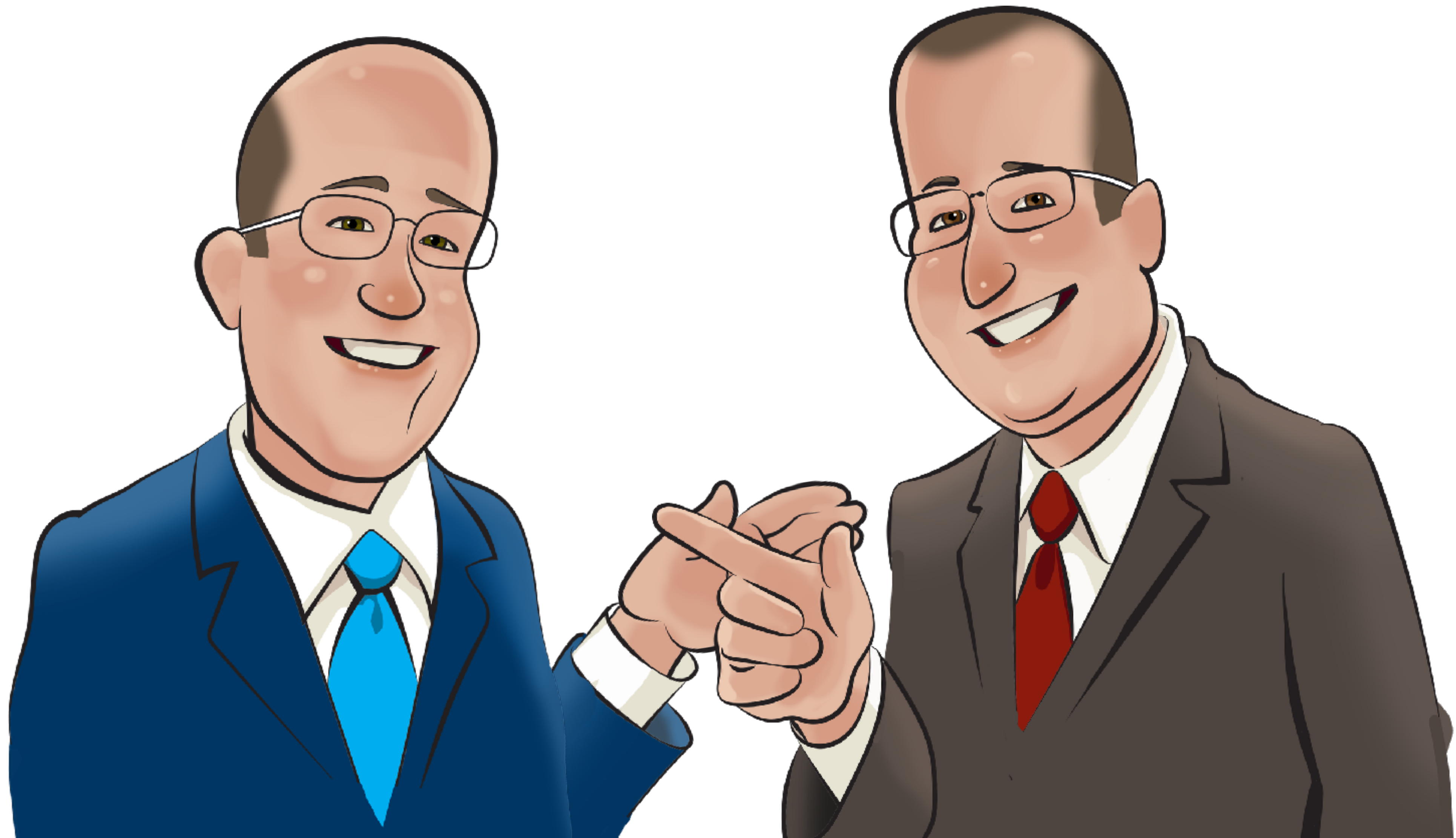


Episode 40



# Scripture GEMS

*October 19-25, 2020:* **3 Nephi 27-4 Nephi 1**





and utter marvelous things; and the things which they did utter were <sup>b</sup>forbidden that there should not any man write them.

17 And it came to pass that the <sup>a</sup>disciples whom Jesus had chosen began <sup>b</sup>from that time forth to <sup>c</sup>baptize and to teach as many as did come unto them; and as many as were baptized in the name of Jesus were filled with the Holy Ghost.

18 And many of them saw and heard unspeakable things, which are <sup>a</sup>not lawful to be written.

19 And they taught, and did <sup>a</sup>minister one to another; and they had <sup>b</sup>all things <sup>c</sup>common among them, every man dealing justly, one with another.

20 And it came to pass that they did do all things even as Jesus had commanded them.

21 And they who were baptized in the name of Jesus were called the <sup>a</sup>church of Christ.

### CHAPTER 27

*Jesus commands them to call the Church in His name—His mission and atoning sacrifice constitute His gospel—Men are commanded to repent and be baptized that they may be sanctified by the Holy Ghost—They are to be even as Jesus is. About A.D. 34–35.*

AND it came to pass that as the disciples of Jesus were journeying and were preaching the things which they had both heard and seen, and were baptizing in the name of Jesus, it came to pass that the disciples were gathered together and were <sup>a</sup>united in <sup>b</sup>mighty prayer and <sup>c</sup>fasting.

2 And Jesus again <sup>a</sup>showed himself unto them, for they were praying

unto the Father in his name; and Jesus came and stood in the midst of them, and said unto them: What will ye that I shall give unto you?

3 And they said unto him: Lord, we will that thou wouldst tell us the <sup>a</sup>name whereby we shall call this church; for there are disputations among the people concerning this matter.

4 And the Lord said unto them: Verily, verily, I say unto you, why is it that the people should murmur and dispute because of this thing?

5 Have they not read the scriptures, which say ye must take upon you the <sup>a</sup>name of Christ, which is my name? For by this name shall ye be called at the last day;

6 And whoso taketh upon him my name, and <sup>a</sup>endureth to the end, the same shall be saved at the last day.

7 Therefore, whatsoever ye shall do, ye shall do it in my name; therefore ye shall call the church in my name; and ye shall call upon the Father in my name that he will bless the church for my sake.

8 And how be it <sup>a</sup>my <sup>b</sup>church save it be called in my name? For if a church be called in Moses' name then it be Moses' church; or if it be called in the name of a man then it be the church of a man; but if it be called in my name then it is my church, if it so be that they are built upon my gospel.

9 Verily I say unto you, that ye are built upon my gospel; therefore ye shall call whatsoever things ye do call, in my name; therefore if ye call upon the Father, for the church, if it be in my name the Father will hear you;

10 And if it so be that the church

Jesus Appears to the 12 and Names His Church

is built upon my gospel then will the Father show forth his own works in it.

11 But if it be not built upon my gospel, and is built upon the works of men, or upon the works of the devil, verily I say unto you they have joy in their works for a season, and by and by the end cometh, and they are <sup>a</sup>hewn down and cast into the <sup>b</sup>fire, from whence there is no return.

12 For their works do <sup>a</sup>follow them, for it is because of their works that they are hewn down; therefore remember the things that I have told you

13 <sup>a</sup>my <sup>b</sup>church shall be called in my name, whosoever shall call upon the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, in unity, and in the name of my Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, shall be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and shall be called in my name, and shall be saved at the last day.

14 And whoso shall call upon the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and shall be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and shall be called in my name, and shall be saved at the last day, whether they be good or whether they be evil—

15 And for this cause have I been <sup>a</sup>lifted up; therefore, according to the power of the Father I will draw all men unto me, that they may be judged according to their <sup>b</sup>works.

16 And it shall come to pass, that

whoso <sup>a</sup>repenteth and is baptized in my <sup>b</sup>name shall be filled; and if he <sup>c</sup>endureth to the end, behold, him will I hold guiltless before my Father at that day when I shall stand to judge the world.

17 And he that endureth not unto the end, the same is he that is also hewn down and cast into the fire, from whence they can no more return, because of the <sup>a</sup>justice of the Father.

18 And this is the word which he hath given unto the children of men. And for this cause he fulfilleth the words which he hath given, and he <sup>a</sup>fulfilleth all his words.

19 <sup>a</sup>no unclean thing can enter into his kingdom; therefore whoso shall enter into his <sup>b</sup>rest save he who have <sup>c</sup>washed their robes in my blood, because of the repentance of them, and the repentance of them, and their faithfulness unto the end.

20 This is the commandment: that ye shall do unto me and be <sup>b</sup>baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, that ye may be <sup>c</sup>sanctified by the reception of the Holy Ghost, that ye may stand <sup>a</sup>spotless before me at the last day.

21 Verily, verily, I say unto you, this is my <sup>a</sup>gospel; and ye know the things that ye must <sup>b</sup>do in my church; for the works which ye have seen me do that shall ye also do; for that which ye have seen me do even that shall ye do;

Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?  
(1 Cor. 1:12-13)

The Gospel of Jesus Christ

16b 3 Ne. 27:23.

17a 3 Ne. 19:4 (4-12);

TG Church.

27 1a D&C 29:6; 84:1.

3a D&C 1:1; 20:1.

5a TG Jesus Christ, Taking

11a Jacob 5:46; 6:7;

Alma 5:52;

D&C 132:13.

b TG Hell.

d John 6:44;

2 Ne. 9:5;

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e TG Jesus Christ, Judge.

TG Rest.

c Rev. 1:5 (1-6); 7:14;

1 Ne. 12:10;

Alma 5:21 (21-27);





**“Even earlier, in AD 34, our resurrected Lord gave similar instruction to members of His Church when He visited them in the Americas. At that time He said:**

**“Ye shall call the church in my name. ...**

**“And how be it my church save it be called in my name? For if a church be called in Moses’ name then it be Moses’ church; or if it be called in the name of a man then it be the church of a man; but if it be called in my name then it is my church.”**

**Thus, the name of the Church is not negotiable. When the Savior clearly states what the name of His Church should be and even precedes His declaration with, “Thus shall my church be called,” He is serious. And if we allow nicknames to be used or adopt or even sponsor those nicknames ourselves, He is offended.”**

*(General Conference, Oct. 2018 Pres. Russel M. Nelson)*



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17 And it came to pass that the <sup>a</sup>disciples whom Jesus had chosen began <sup>b</sup>from that time forth to <sup>c</sup>baptize and to teach as many as did come unto them; and as many as were baptized in the name of Jesus were filled with the Holy Ghost.

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4 And the Lord said unto them: Verily, verily, I say unto you, why is it that the people should murmur and dispute because of this thing?

5 Have they not read the scriptures, which say ye must take upon you the <sup>a</sup>name of Christ, which is my name? For by this name shall ye be called at the last day;

6 And whoso taketh upon him my name, and <sup>a</sup>endureth to the end, the same shall be saved at the last day.

7 Therefore, whatsoever ye shall do, ye shall do it in my name; therefore ye shall call the church in my name; and ye shall call upon the Father in my name that he will bless the church for my sake.

8 And how be it <sup>a</sup>my <sup>b</sup>church save it be called in my name? For if a church be called in Moses' name then it be Moses' church; or if it be called in the name of a man then it be the church of a man; but if it be called in my name then it is my church, if it so be that they are built upon my gospel.

9 Verily I say unto you, that ye are built upon my gospel; therefore ye shall call whatsoever things ye do call, in my name; therefore if ye call upon the Father, for the church, if it be in my name the Father will hear you:

10 And if it so be that the church

## Jesus Appears to the 12 and Names His Church

is built upon my gospel then will the Father show forth his own works in it.

11 But if it be not built upon my gospel, and is built upon the works of men, or upon the works of the devil, verily I say unto you they have joy in their works for a season, and by and by the end cometh, and they are <sup>a</sup>hewn down and cast into the <sup>b</sup>fire, from whence there is no return.

12 For their works do <sup>a</sup>follow them, for it is because of their works that they are hewn down; therefore remember the things that I have told you.

13 Behold I have given unto you my <sup>a</sup>gospel, and this is the gospel which I have given unto you—that I came into the world to do the <sup>b</sup>will of my Father, because my Father sent me.

14 And my Father sent me that I might be <sup>a</sup>lifted up upon the <sup>b</sup>cross; and after that I had been lifted up upon the <sup>c</sup>cross, that I might <sup>d</sup>draw all men unto me, that as I have been lifted up by men even so should men be lifted up by the Father, to stand before me, to be <sup>e</sup>judged of their works, whether they be good or whether they be evil—

15 And for this cause have I been <sup>a</sup>lifted up; therefore, according to the power of the Father I will draw all men unto me, that they may be judged according to their <sup>b</sup>works.

16 And it shall come to pass, that

whoso <sup>a</sup>repenteth and is baptized in my <sup>b</sup>name shall be filled; and if he <sup>c</sup>endureth to the end, behold, him will I hold guiltless before my Father at that day when I shall stand to judge the world.

17 And he that endureth not unto the end, the same is he that is also hewn down and cast into the fire, from whence they can no more return, because of the <sup>a</sup>justice of the Father.

18 And this is the word which he hath given unto the children of men. And for this cause he fulfilleth the words which he hath given, and he lieth not, but fulfilleth all his words.

19 And <sup>a</sup>no unclean thing can enter into his kingdom; therefore nothing entereth into his <sup>b</sup>rest save it be those who have <sup>c</sup>washed their garments in my blood, because of their faith, and the repentance of all their sins, and their faithfulness unto the end.

20 Now this is the commandment: Repent, all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me and be <sup>b</sup>baptized in my name, that ye may be <sup>c</sup>sanctified by the reception of the Holy Ghost, that ye may stand <sup>a</sup>spotless before me at the last day.

21 Verily, verily, I say unto you, this is my <sup>a</sup>gospel; and ye know the things that ye must <sup>b</sup>do in my church; for the works which ye have seen me do that shall ye also do; for that which ye have seen me do even that shall ye do;

## The Gospel of Jesus Christ

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Alma 5:21 (21–27);



22 Therefore, if ye do these things blessed are ye, for ye shall be lifted up at the last day.

23 <sup>a</sup>Write the things which ye have seen and heard, save it be those which are <sup>b</sup>forbidden.

24 Write the works of this people, which shall be, even as hath been written, of that which hath been.

25 For behold, out of the books which have been written, and which shall be written, shall this people be <sup>a</sup>judged, for by them shall their <sup>b</sup>works be known unto men.

26 And behold, all things are <sup>a</sup>written by the Father; therefore out of the books which shall be written shall the world be judged.

27 And know ye that <sup>a</sup>ye shall be <sup>b</sup>judges of this people, according to the judgment which I shall give unto you, which shall be just. Therefore, what <sup>c</sup>manner of men ought ye to be? Verily I say unto you, even <sup>a</sup>as I am.

28 And now I <sup>a</sup>go unto the Father. And verily I say unto you, whatsoever things ye shall ask the Father in my name shall be given unto you.

29 Therefore, <sup>a</sup>ask, and ye shall receive; knock, and it shall be opened unto you; for he that asketh, receiveth; and unto him that knocketh, it shall be opened.

30 And now, behold, my joy is great, even unto fulness, because of you, and also this generation; yea, and even the Father rejoiceth, and also all the holy angels, because of you and this generation; for <sup>a</sup>none of them are lost.

31 Behold, I would that ye should

understand; for I mean them who are <sup>a</sup>now alive of <sup>b</sup>this generation; and none of them are lost; and in them I have fulness of <sup>c</sup>joy.

32 But behold, it <sup>a</sup>sorroweth me because of the <sup>b</sup>fourth generation from this generation, for they are led away captive by him even as was the <sup>c</sup>son of perdition; for they will sell me for silver and for gold, and for that which <sup>d</sup>moth doth corrupt and which thieves can break through and steal. And in that day will I visit them, even in turning their works upon their own heads.

33 And it came to pass that when Jesus had ended these sayings he said unto his disciples: Enter ye in at the <sup>a</sup>strait gate; for strait is the gate, and narrow is the way that leads to life, and few there be that find it; but wide is the gate, and broad the way which leads to death, and many there be that travel therein, until the night cometh, wherein no man can work.

## CHAPTER 28

*Nine of the twelve disciples desire and are promised an inheritance in Christ's kingdom when they die—The Three Nephites desire and are given power over death so as to remain on the earth until Jesus comes again—They are translated and see things not lawful to utter, and they are now ministering among men. About A.D. 34–35.*

AND it came to pass when Jesus had said these words, he spake unto his disciples, one by one, saying unto them: What is it that ye <sup>a</sup>desire of

## Promises and Encouragement Jesus Grants the Requests of the 12 and Departs

me, after that I am gone to the Father?

2 And they all spake, save it were three, saying: We desire that after we have lived unto the age of man, that our ministry, wherein thou hast called us, may have an end, that we may speedily come unto thee in thy kingdom.

3 And he said unto them: Blessed are ye because ye desired this thing of me; therefore, after that ye are <sup>a</sup>seventy and two years old ye shall come unto me in my <sup>b</sup>kingdom; and with me ye shall find <sup>c</sup>rest.

4 And when he had spoken unto them, he turned himself unto the three, and said unto them: What will ye that I should do unto you, when I am gone unto the Father?

5 And they sorrowed in their hearts, for they durst not speak unto him the thing which they desired.

6 And he said unto them: Behold, I <sup>a</sup>know your thoughts, and ye have desired the thing which <sup>b</sup>John, my beloved, who was with me in my ministry, before that I was lifted up by the Jews, desired of me.

7 Therefore, more blessed are ye, for ye shall <sup>a</sup>never taste of <sup>b</sup>death; but ye shall live to behold all the doings of the Father unto the children of men, even until all things shall be fulfilled according to the will of the Father, when I shall come in my glory with the <sup>c</sup>powers of heaven.

8 And ye shall never endure the pains of death; but when I shall come in my glory ye shall be changed in the twinkling of an eye from <sup>a</sup>mortality to <sup>b</sup>immortality;

and then shall ye be blessed in the kingdom of my Father.

9 And again, ye shall not have pain while ye shall dwell in the flesh, neither sorrow save it be for the <sup>a</sup>sins of the world; and all this will I do because of the thing which ye have desired of me, for ye have desired that ye might <sup>b</sup>bring the souls of men unto me, while the world shall stand.

10 And for this cause ye shall have <sup>a</sup>fulness of joy; and ye shall sit down in the kingdom of my Father; yea, your joy shall be full, even as the Father hath given me fulness of joy; and ye shall be even as I am, and I am even as the Father; and the Father and I are <sup>b</sup>one;

11 And the <sup>a</sup>Holy Ghost beareth record of the Father and me; and the Father giveth the Holy Ghost unto the children of men, because of me.

12 And it came to pass that when Jesus had spoken these words, he touched every one of them with his finger save it were the <sup>a</sup>three who were to tarry, and then he departed.

13 And behold, the heavens were opened, and they were <sup>a</sup>caught up into heaven, and saw and heard unspeakable things.

14 And it was <sup>a</sup>forbidden them that they should utter; neither was it given unto them <sup>b</sup>power that they could utter the things which they saw and heard;

15 And whether they were in the body or out of the body, they could not tell; for it did seem unto them like a <sup>a</sup>transfiguration of them, that

3a 4 Ne. 1:14.

b TG Election.

c TG Rest.

TG Mortality.

b TG Immortality.

9a 4 Ne. 1:44.

Morm. 7:7;

D&C 20:28.

11a 2 Ne. 31:18 (17–21).





**“There is in the Book of Mormon a statement in which the Lord says, ‘Behold this is the gospel, which I have given unto you,’ and then he describes his gospel. (See 3 Nephi 27:13–18.) It is a simple story of a world to which a Savior has been sent whom men may accept or reject, but who is, nevertheless, the Messiah.**

**“That simple story is the very thing, of course, the world cannot accept, and it is so simple that some may even be offended inwardly at times by the so-called simplicity of the gospel. ...**

**“... There are those who may share some of our beliefs and values, but for whom the restoration of the gospel is a stumblingblock they cannot get over the top of. But to most of mankind, what we proclaim is ‘foolishness’”**

*(Elder Neal A. Maxwell , “For the Power Is in Them” [1970], 47–48).*



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9a 4 Ne. 1:44.

Morm. 7:7;

D&C 20:28.

11a 2 Ne. 31:18 (17–21).



they were changed from this body of flesh into an immortal state, that they could behold the things of God.

16 But it came to pass that they did again minister upon the face of the earth; nevertheless they did not minister of the things which they had heard and seen, because of the commandment which was given them in heaven.

17 And now, whether they were mortal or immortal, from the day of their transfiguration, I know not;

18 But this much I know, according to the record which hath been given—they did go forth upon the face of the land, and did minister unto all the people, uniting as many to the church as would believe in their preaching; baptizing them, and as many as were baptized did receive the Holy Ghost.

19 And they were cast into prison by them who did not belong to the church. And the prisons could not hold them, for they were rent in twain.

20 And they were cast down into the earth; but they did smite the earth with the word of God, inasmuch that by his power they were delivered out of the depths of the earth; and therefore they could not dig pits sufficient to hold them.

21 And thrice they were cast into a furnace and received no harm.

22 And twice were they cast into a den of wild beasts; and behold they did play with the beasts as a child with a suckling lamb, and received no harm.

23 And it came to pass that thus they did go forth among all the people of Nephi, and did preach the gospel of Christ unto all people upon the face of the land; and

they were converted unto the Lord, and were united unto the church of Christ, and thus the people of that generation were blessed, according to the word of Jesus.

24 And now I, Mormon, make an end of speaking concerning these things for a time.

25 Behold, I was about to write the names of those who were never to taste of death, but the Lord forbade; therefore I write them not, for they are hid from the world.

26 But behold, I have seen them, and they have ministered unto me.

27 And behold they will be among the Gentiles, and the Gentiles shall know them not.

28 They will also be among the Jews, and the Jews shall know them not.

29 And it shall come to pass, when the Lord seeth fit in his wisdom that they shall minister unto all the scattered tribes of Israel, and unto all nations, kindreds, tongues and people, and shall bring out of them unto Jesus many souls, that their desire may be fulfilled, and also because of the convincing power of God which is in them.

30 And they are as the angels of God, and if they shall pray unto the Father in the name of Jesus they can show themselves unto whatsoever man it seemeth them good.

31 Therefore, great and marvelous works shall be wrought by them, before the great and coming day when all people must surely stand before the judgment-seat of Christ;

32 Yea even among the Gentiles shall there be a great and marvelous work wrought by them, before that judgment day.

33 And if ye had all the scriptures which give an account of all the

marvelous works of Christ, ye would, according to the words of Christ, know that these things must surely come.

34 And wo be unto him that will not hearken unto the words of Jesus, and also to them whom he hath chosen and sent among them; for whoso receiveth not the words of Jesus and the words of those whom he hath sent receiveth not him; and therefore he will not receive them at the last day;

35 And it would be better for them if they had not been born. For do ye suppose that ye can get rid of the justice of an offended God, who hath been trampled under feet of men, that thereby salvation might come?

36 And now behold, as I spake concerning those whom the Lord hath chosen, yea, even three who were caught up into the heavens, that I knew not whether they were cleansed from mortality to immortality—

37 But behold, since I wrote, I have inquired of the Lord, and he hath made it manifest unto me that there must needs be a change wrought upon their bodies, or else it needs be that they must taste of death;

38 Therefore, that they might not taste of death there was a change wrought upon their bodies, that they might not suffer pain nor sorrow save it were for the sins of the world.

39 Now this change was not equal to that which shall take place at the last day; but there was a change wrought upon them, insomuch that Satan could have no power over them, that he could not tempt them; and they were sanctified in the flesh, that they were holy, and

that the powers of the earth could not hold them.

40 And in this state they were to remain until the judgment day of Christ; and at that day they were to receive a greater change, and to be received into the kingdom of the Father to go no more out, but to dwell with God eternally in the heavens.

CHAPTER 29

The coming forth of the Book of Mormon is a sign that the Lord has commenced to gather Israel and fulfill His covenants—Those who reject His latter-day revelations and gifts will be cursed. About A.D. 34-35.

AND now behold, I say unto you that when the Lord shall see fit, in his wisdom, that these sayings shall come unto the Gentiles according to his word, then ye may know that the covenant which the Father hath made with the children of Israel, concerning their restoration to the lands of their inheritance, is already beginning to be fulfilled.

2 And ye may know that the words of the Lord, which have been spoken by the holy prophets, shall all be fulfilled; and ye need not say that the Lord delays his coming unto the children of Israel.

3 And ye need not imagine in your hearts that the words which have been spoken are vain, for behold, the Lord will remember his covenant which he hath made unto his people of the house of Israel.

4 And when ye shall see these sayings coming forth among you, then ye need not any longer spurn at the doings of the Lord, for the sword of his justice is in his right hand;

Mormon Writes of the Three Disciples

19a Acts 16:26; Alma 14:27 (26, 28).

22a Dan. 6:16 (16-27); 4 Ne. 1:33

29a TG Israel, Scattering of Israel, Ten Lost

34a Ether 4:8 (8-12).

Mortality.

b Ezek. 20:37;



**Transfiguration is “the condition of persons who are temporarily changed in appearance and nature—that is, lifted to a higher spiritual level—so that they can endure the presence and glory of heavenly beings” (Guide to the Scriptures, “Transfiguration,” scriptures.lds.org; see also D&C 67:11; Moses 1:11). The scriptures tell of people who have been transfigured, including Moses (see Moses 1:9–11); Jesus Christ, Peter, James, and John (see Matthew 17:1–8); and Joseph Smith (see Joseph Smith—History 1:14–20).**



**Translated beings are “persons who are changed so that they do not experience pain or death until their resurrection to immortality” (Guide to the Scriptures, “Translated Beings,” scriptures.lds.org; see also 3 Nephi 28:7–9, 20–22, 37–40). Their purpose is to bring souls to Christ (see 3 Nephi 28:9). The scriptures contain accounts of people who have been translated, including Enoch (see Genesis 5:24; Hebrews 11:5), Moses (see Alma 45:19), Elijah (see 2 Kings 2:11), and John the Beloved (see John 21:22–23; D&C 7).**



they were changed from this body of flesh into an immortal state, that they could behold the things of God.

16 But it came to pass that they did again minister upon the face of the earth; nevertheless they did not minister of the things which they had heard and seen, because of the commandment which was given them in heaven.

17 And now, whether they were mortal or immortal, from the day of their transfiguration, I know not;

18 But this much I know, according to the record which hath been given—they did go forth upon the face of the land, and did minister unto all the people, uniting as many to the church as would believe in their preaching; baptizing them, and as many as were baptized did receive the Holy Ghost.

19 And they were cast into prison by them who did not belong to the church. And the <sup>a</sup>prisons could not hold them, for they were rent in twain.

20 And they were cast down into the earth; but they did smite the earth with the word of God, inso-much that by his <sup>a</sup>power they were delivered out of the depths of the earth; and therefore they could not dig pits sufficient to hold them.

21 And thrice they were cast into a <sup>a</sup>furnace and received no harm.

22 And twice were they cast into a <sup>a</sup>den of wild beasts; and behold they did play with the beasts as a child with a suckling lamb, and received no harm.

23 And it came to pass that thus they did go forth among all the people of Nephi, and did preach the <sup>a</sup>gospel of Christ unto all people upon the face of the land; and

they were converted unto the Lord, and were united unto the church of Christ, and thus the people of <sup>b</sup>that generation were blessed, according to the word of Jesus.

24 And now I, <sup>a</sup>Mormon, make an end of speaking concerning these things for a time.

25 Behold, I was about to write the <sup>a</sup>names of those who were never to taste of death, but the Lord forbade; therefore I write them not, for they are hid from the world.

26 But behold, <sup>a</sup>I have seen them, and they have ministered unto me.

27 And behold they will be <sup>a</sup>among the Gentiles, and the Gentiles shall know them not.

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AND now behold, I say unto you that when the Lord shall see fit, in his wisdom, that these sayings shall <sup>a</sup>come unto the Gentiles according to his word, then ye may know that the <sup>b</sup>covenant which the Father hath made with the children of Israel, concerning their restoration to the <sup>c</sup>lands of their inheritance, is already beginning to be fulfilled.

2 And ye may know that the words of the Lord, which have been spoken by the holy prophets, shall all be fulfilled; and ye need not say that the Lord <sup>a</sup>delays his coming unto the children of Israel.

3 And ye need not imagine in your hearts that the words which have been spoken are vain, for behold, the Lord will remember his covenant which he hath made unto his people of the house of Israel.

4 And when ye shall see these sayings coming forth among you, then ye need not any longer spurn at the doings of the Lord, for the <sup>a</sup>sword of his <sup>b</sup>justice is in his right hand;

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The Book of Mormon as a Signal of Covenant Fulfillment



and behold, at that day, if ye shall spurn at his doings he will cause that it shall soon overtake you.

5 <sup>a</sup>Wo unto him that <sup>b</sup>spurneth at the doings of the Lord; yea, wo unto him that shall <sup>c</sup>deny the Christ and his works!

6 Yea, <sup>a</sup>wo unto him that shall deny the revelations of the Lord, and that shall say the Lord no longer worketh by revelation, or by prophecy, or by <sup>b</sup>gifts, or by tongues, or by healings, or by the power of the Holy Ghost!

7 Yea, and wo unto him that shall say at that day, to get <sup>a</sup>gain, that there can be <sup>b</sup>no miracle wrought by Jesus Christ; for he that doeth this shall become <sup>c</sup>like unto the son of perdition, for whom there was no mercy, according to the word of Christ!

8 Yea, and ye need not any longer <sup>a</sup>hiss, nor <sup>b</sup>spurn, nor make game of the <sup>c</sup>Jews, nor any of the remnant of the house of Israel; for behold, the Lord remembereth his covenant unto them, and he will do unto them according to that which he hath sworn.

9 Therefore ye need not suppose that ye can turn the right hand of the Lord unto the left, that he may not execute judgment unto the ful-

filling of the covenant which he hath made unto the house of Israel.

## CHAPTER 30

*The latter-day Gentiles are commanded to repent, come unto Christ, and be numbered with the house of Israel. About A.D. 34–35.*

**HEARKEN**, O ye Gentiles, and hear the words of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, which he hath <sup>a</sup>commanded me that I should speak concerning you, for, behold he commandeth me that I should write, saying:

2 Turn, all ye <sup>a</sup>Gentiles, from your wicked ways; and <sup>b</sup>repent of your evil doings, of your <sup>c</sup>lyings and deceivings, and of your whoredoms, and of your secret abominations, and your idolatries, and of your <sup>d</sup>murders, and your <sup>e</sup>priestcrafts, and your <sup>f</sup>envyings, and your strifes, and from all your wickedness and abominations, and come unto me, and be baptized in my name, that ye may receive a remission of your sins, and be filled with the Holy Ghost, that ye may be <sup>g</sup>numbered with my people who are of the house of Israel.

5a 2 Ne. 28:15;

Morm. 9:26.

b Morm. 8:17;

c 2 Ne. 9:9;

3 Ne. 27:32.

TG Sons of Perdition.

c Alma 16:18;

3 Ne. 21:19 (19–21).

d 3 Ne. 16:10;





**“The very first word in the Doctrine and Covenants is hearken. It means “to listen with the intent to obey.” To hearken means to “hear Him”—to hear what the Savior says and then to heed His counsel. In those two words—“Hear Him”—God gives us the pattern for success, happiness, and joy in this life. We are to hear the words of the Lord, hearken to them, and heed what He has told us!”**

*(Pres. Russell M. Nelson, General Conference Apr. 2020)*



and behold, at that day, if ye shall spurn at his doings he will cause that it shall soon overtake you.

5 <sup>a</sup>Wo unto him that <sup>b</sup>spurneth at the doings of the Lord; yea, wo unto him that shall <sup>c</sup>deny the Christ and his works!

6 Yea, <sup>a</sup>wo unto him that shall deny the revelations of the Lord, and that shall say the Lord no longer worketh by revelation, or by prophecy, or by <sup>b</sup>gifts, or by tongues, or by healings, or by the power of the Holy Ghost!

7 Yea, and wo unto him that shall say at that day, to get <sup>a</sup>gain, that there can be <sup>b</sup>no miracle wrought by Jesus Christ; for he that doeth this shall become <sup>c</sup>like unto the son of perdition, for whom there was no mercy, according to the word of Christ!

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5a 2 Ne. 28:15;

Morm. 9:26.

b Morm. 8:17;

c 2 Ne. 9:9;

3 Ne. 27:32.

TG Sons of Perdition.

c Alma 16:18;

3 Ne. 21:19 (19–21).

d 3 Ne. 16:10;



**“It does not matter if your lineage in the house of Israel is through bloodlines or by adoption. As a member of the Church, you are counted as a descendant of Abraham and an heir to all the promises and blessings contained in the Abrahamic covenant” (True to the Faith: A Gospel Reference [2004], 112).**

**“As a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, you are a child of the covenant (see 3 Nephi 20:25–26). You have received the everlasting gospel and inherited the same promises given to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You have the right to the blessings of the priesthood and to eternal life, according to your faithfulness in receiving the ordinances of salvation and keeping the associated covenants. Nations of the earth will be blessed by your efforts and by the labors of your posterity” (True to the Faith, 5–6).**



# FOURTH NEPHI THE BOOK OF NEPHI

WHO IS THE SON OF NEPHI—ONE OF THE  
DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

An account of the people of Nephi, according to his record.

*The Nephites and the Lamanites are all converted unto the Lord—They have all things in common, work miracles, and prosper in the land—After two centuries, divisions, evils, false churches, and persecutions arise—After three hundred years, both the Nephites and the Lamanites are wicked—Amma-ron hides up the sacred records. About A.D. 35–321.*

AND it came to pass that the thirty and fourth year passed away, and also the thirty and fifth, and behold the disciples of Jesus had formed a church of Christ in all the lands round about. And as many as did come unto them, and did truly repent of their sins, were <sup>a</sup>baptized in the name of Jesus; and they did also receive the Holy Ghost.

2 And it came to pass in the thirty and sixth year, the people were all converted unto the Lord, upon all the face of the land, both Nephites and Lamanites, and there were no contentions and disputations among them, and every man did deal justly one with another.

3 And they had <sup>a</sup>all things common among them; therefore there were not rich and poor, bond and free, but they were all made free, and partakers of the heavenly <sup>b</sup>gift.

4 And it came to pass that the thirty and seventh year passed away also, and there still continued to be <sup>a</sup>peace in the land.

5 And there were great and marvelous works wrought by the disciples of Jesus, insomuch that they did <sup>a</sup>heal the sick, and <sup>b</sup>raise the dead, and cause the lame to walk, and the blind to receive their sight, and the deaf to hear; and all manner of <sup>c</sup>miracles did they work among the children of men; and in nothing did they work miracles save it were in the name of Jesus.

6 And thus did the thirty and eighth year pass away, and also the thirty and ninth, and forty and first, and the forty and second, yea, even until forty and nine years had passed away, and also the fifty and first, and the fifty and second; yea, and even until fifty and nine years had passed away.

7 And the Lord did prosper them exceedingly in the land; yea, insomuch that they did build cities again where there had been cities burned.

8 Yea, even that great <sup>a</sup>city Zarahemla did they cause to be built again.

9 But there were many cities which had been <sup>a</sup>sunk, and waters came up in the stead thereof; therefore these cities could not be renewed.

10 And now, behold, it came to pass that the people of Nephi did wax strong, and did multiply exceedingly fast, and became an exceedingly <sup>a</sup>fair and delightsome people.

11 And they were married, and given in marriage, and were blessed according to the multitude of the <sup>a</sup>promises which the Lord had made unto them.

12 And they did not walk any more after the <sup>a</sup>performances and <sup>b</sup>ordinances of the <sup>c</sup>law of Moses; but they did walk after the commandments which they had received from their Lord and their God, continuing in <sup>d</sup>fasting and prayer, and in meeting together oft both to pray and to hear the word of the Lord.

13 And it came to pass that there was no contention among all the people, in all the land; but there were mighty miracles wrought among the disciples of Jesus.

14 And it came to pass that the seventy and first year passed away, and also the seventy and second year, yea, and in fine, till the seventy and ninth year had passed away; yea, even an hundred years had passed away, and the <sup>a</sup>disciples of Jesus, whom he had chosen, had all gone to the <sup>b</sup>paradise of God, save it were the <sup>c</sup>three who should tarry; and there were other <sup>d</sup>disciples <sup>e</sup>ordained in their stead; and also many of that <sup>f</sup>generation had passed away.

15 And it came to pass that there was no <sup>a</sup>contention in the land, because of the <sup>b</sup>love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people.

16 And there were no <sup>a</sup>envyings, nor <sup>b</sup>strifes, nor <sup>c</sup>tumults, nor whoredoms, nor lyings, nor murders, nor any manner of <sup>d</sup>lasciviousness; and surely there could not be a <sup>e</sup>happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God.

17 There were no robbers, nor murderers, neither were there Lamanites, nor any manner of <sup>-ites</sup>; but they were in <sup>a</sup>one, the children of Christ, and heirs to the kingdom of God.

18 And how blessed were they! For the Lord did bless them in all their doings; yea, even they were blessed and prospered until an hundred and ten years had passed away; and the first generation from Christ had passed away, and there was no contention in all the land.

19 And it came to pass that <sup>a</sup>Nephi, he that kept this last record, (and he kept it upon the <sup>b</sup>plates of Nephi) died, and his son Amos kept it in his stead; and he kept it upon the plates of Nephi also.

20 And he kept it eighty and four years, and there was still peace in the land, save it were a small part of the people who had revolted from the church and taken upon them the name of Lamanites; therefore there began to be <sup>a</sup>Lamanites again in the land.

21 And it came to pass that <sup>a</sup>Amos died also, (and it was an hundred and ninety and four years from the coming of Christ) and his son Amos kept the record in his stead; and he also kept it upon the plates of Nephi; and it was also written in the book of Nephi, which is this book.

22 And it came to pass that two hundred years had passed away; and the second generation had all passed away save it were a few.

23 And now I, Mormon, would that ye should know that the people had multiplied, insomuch that they were spread upon all the face of the land,

A New Society

Records of Nephi, Amos  
and Amos





**“Personal peace is reached when one, in humble submissiveness, truly loves God. Heed carefully this scripture:**

**“‘There was no contention in the land, because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people’ (4 Nephi 1:15; italics added; see also 1:2).**

**“Thus, love of God should be our aim. It is the first commandment—the foundation of faith. As we develop love of God and Christ, love of family and neighbor will naturally follow. Then will we eagerly emulate Jesus. He healed. He comforted. He taught, ‘Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God’ (Matthew 5:9; see also 3 Nephi 12:9).**





**“Through love of God, the pain caused by the fiery canker of contention will be extinguished from the soul. This healing begins with a personal vow: ‘Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me’ (Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, ‘Let There Be Peace on Earth’ [Beverly Hills, Calif.: Jan-Lee Music, 1972]). This commitment will then spread to family and friends and will bring peace to neighborhoods and nations.**

**“Shun contention. Seek godliness. Be enlightened by eternal truth. Be like-minded with the Lord in love and united with Him in faith. Then shall ‘the peace of God, which passeth all understanding’ (Philippians 4:7), be yours, to bless you and your posterity through generations yet to come”**

*(Elder Russell M. Nelson in Conference Report, Apr. 1989, 88; or Ensign, May 1989, 71).*



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12 And they did not walk any more after the <sup>a</sup>performances and <sup>b</sup>ordinances of the <sup>c</sup>law of Moses; but they did walk after the commandments which they had received from their Lord and their God, continuing in <sup>d</sup>fasting and prayer, and in meeting together oft both to pray and to hear the word of the Lord.

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14 And it came to pass that the seventy and first year passed away, and also the seventy and second year, yea, and in fine, till the seventy and ninth year had passed away; yea, even an hundred years had passed away, and the <sup>a</sup>disciples of Jesus, whom he had chosen, had all gone to the <sup>b</sup>paradise of God, save it were the <sup>c</sup>three who should tarry; and there were other <sup>d</sup>disciples <sup>e</sup>ordained in their stead; and also many of that <sup>f</sup>generation had passed away.

15 And it came to pass that there was no <sup>a</sup>contention in the land, because of the <sup>b</sup>love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people.

16 And there were no <sup>a</sup>envyings, nor <sup>b</sup>strifes, nor <sup>c</sup>tumults, nor whoredoms, nor lyings, nor murders, nor any manner of <sup>d</sup>lasciviousness; and surely there could not be a <sup>e</sup>happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God.

17 There were no robbers, nor murderers, neither were there Lamanites, nor any manner of <sup>a</sup>-ites; but they were in <sup>a</sup>one, the children of Christ, and heirs to the kingdom of God.

18 And how blessed were they! For the Lord did bless them in all their doings; yea, even they were blessed and prospered until an hundred and ten years had passed away; and the first generation from Christ had passed away, and there was no contention in all the land.

19 And it came to pass that <sup>a</sup>Nephi, he that kept this last record, (and he kept it upon the <sup>b</sup>plates of Nephi) died, and his son Amos kept it in his stead; and he kept it upon the plates of Nephi also.

20 And he kept it eighty and four years, and there was still peace in the land, save it were a small part of the people who had revolted from the church and taken upon them the name of Lamanites; therefore there began to be <sup>a</sup>Lamanites again in the land.

21 And it came to pass that <sup>a</sup>Amos died also, (and it was an hundred and ninety and four years from the coming of Christ) and his son Amos kept the record in his stead; and he also kept it upon the plates of Nephi; and it was also written in the book of Nephi, which is this book.

22 And it came to pass that two hundred years had passed away; and the second generation had all passed away save it were a few.

23 And now I, Mormon, would that ye should know that the people had multiplied, insomuch that they were spread upon all the face of the land,

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## Records of Nephi, Amos and Amos



**“Why would it matter to a people what they were called? Why would it be so important for them to be called Lamanites? Why would a group choose to forsake the transcendent privileges of unity in order to be designated by this or that name? The answer is simple: pride. A desire to be different. A yearning to be acknowledged. A fear of being overlooked. A craving for public notice. The righteous feel no need for attention, no desire to be praised, no inclination to demand recognition. The prideful demand their rights, even when they are wrong. The prideful feel that they must do things their way, even when that way is the wrong way. The prideful insist that they must pursue their own path, even when the road they take is wide and broad and leads to destruction”**

*(Joseph Fielding McConkie, Robert L. Millet, and Brent L. Top, Doctrinal Commentary on the Book of Mormon, 4 vols. [1987–92], 4:204–5).*



# FOURTH NEPHI THE BOOK OF NEPHI

WHO IS THE SON OF NEPHI—ONE OF THE  
DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

An account of the people of Nephi, according to his record.

*The Nephites and the Lamanites are all converted unto the Lord—They have all things in common, work miracles, and prosper in the land—After two centuries, divisions, evils, false churches, and persecutions arise—After three hundred years, both the Nephites and the Lamanites are wicked—Amma-ron hides up the sacred records. About A.D. 35–321.*

AND it came to pass that the thirty and fourth year passed away, and also the thirty and fifth, and behold the disciples of Jesus had formed a church of Christ in all the lands round about. And as many as did come unto them, and did truly repent of their sins, were <sup>a</sup>baptized in the name of Jesus; and they did also receive the Holy Ghost.

2 And it came to pass in the thirty and sixth year, the people were all converted unto the Lord, upon all the face of the land, both Nephites and Lamanites, and there were no contentions and disputations among them, and every man did deal justly one with another.

3 And they had <sup>a</sup>all things common among them; therefore there were not rich and poor, bond and free, but they were all made free, and partakers of the heavenly <sup>b</sup>gift.

4 And it came to pass that the thirty and seventh year passed away also, and there still continued to be <sup>a</sup>peace in the land.

5 And there were great and marvelous works wrought by the disciples of Jesus, insomuch that they did <sup>a</sup>heal the sick, and <sup>b</sup>raise the dead, and cause the lame to walk, and the blind to receive their sight, and the deaf to hear; and all manner of <sup>c</sup>miracles did they work among the children of men; and in nothing did they work miracles save it were in the name of Jesus.

6 And thus did the thirty and eighth year pass away, and also the thirty and ninth, and forty and first, and the forty and second, yea, even until forty and nine years had passed away, and also the fifty and first, and the fifty and second; yea, and even until fifty and nine years had passed away.

7 And the Lord did prosper them exceedingly in the land; yea, insomuch that they did build cities again where there had been cities burned.

8 Yea, even that great <sup>a</sup>city Zarahemla did they cause to be built again.

9 But there were many cities which had been <sup>a</sup>sunk, and waters came up in the stead thereof; therefore these cities could not be renewed.

10 And now, behold, it came to pass that the people of Nephi did wax strong, and did multiply exceedingly fast, and became an exceedingly <sup>a</sup>fair and delightsome people.

11 And they were married, and given in marriage, and were blessed according to the multitude of the <sup>a</sup>promises which the Lord had made unto them.

12 And they did not walk any more after the <sup>a</sup>performances and <sup>b</sup>ordinances of the <sup>c</sup>law of Moses; but they did walk after the commandments which they had received from their Lord and their God, continuing in <sup>d</sup>fasting and prayer, and in meeting together oft both to pray and to hear the word of the Lord.

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and that they had become exceedingly <sup>a</sup>rich, because of their prosperity in Christ.

24 And now, in this two hundred and first year there began to be among them those who were lifted up in <sup>a</sup>pride, such as the wearing of costly apparel, and all manner of fine pearls, and of the fine things of the world.

25 And from that time forth they did have their goods and their substance no more <sup>a</sup>common among them.

26 And they began to be divided into classes; and they began to build up <sup>a</sup>churches unto themselves to get <sup>b</sup>gain, and began to deny the true church of Christ.

27 And it came to pass that when two hundred and ten years had passed away there were many churches in the land; yea, there were many churches which professed to know the Christ, and yet they did <sup>a</sup>deny the more parts of his gospel, insomuch that they did receive all manner of wickedness, and did administer that which was sacred unto him to whom it had been <sup>b</sup>forbidden because of unworthiness.

28 And this church did multiply exceedingly because of iniquity, and because of the power of <sup>a</sup>Satan who did get hold upon their <sup>b</sup>hearts.

29 And again, there was another church which denied the Christ; and they did <sup>a</sup>persecute the true <sup>b</sup>church of Christ, because of their humility and their belief in Christ; and they did despise them because of the many miracles which were wrought among them.

30 Therefore they did exercise power and authority over the disciples of Jesus who did tarry with

them, and they did cast them into <sup>a</sup>prison; but by the power of the word of God, which was in them, the prisons were rent in twain, and they went forth doing mighty miracles among them.

31 Nevertheless, and notwithstanding all these miracles, the people did harden their hearts, and did seek to kill them, even as the Jews at Jerusalem sought to kill Jesus, according to his word.

32 And they did cast them into <sup>a</sup>furnaces of <sup>b</sup>fire, and they came forth receiving no harm.

33 And they also cast them into <sup>a</sup>dens of wild beasts, and they did play with the wild beasts even as a child with a lamb; and they did come forth from among them, receiving no harm.

34 Nevertheless, the people did harden their hearts, for they were led by many priests and <sup>a</sup>false prophets to build up many churches, and to do all manner of iniquity. And they did <sup>b</sup>smite upon the people of Jesus; but the people of Jesus did not smite again. And thus they did dwindle in unbelief and wickedness, from year to year, even until two hundred and thirty years had passed away.

35 And now it came to pass in this year, yea, in the two hundred and thirty and first year, there was a great division among the people.

36 And it came to pass that in this year there arose a people who were called the <sup>a</sup>Nephites, and they were true believers in Christ; and among them there were those who were called by the Lamanites—Jacobites, and Josephites, and <sup>b</sup>Zoramites;

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A Great Division

Christ, (among whom were the <sup>a</sup>three disciples of Jesus who should tarry) were called Nephites, and Jacobites, and Josephites, and Zoramites.

38 And it came to pass that they who rejected the gospel were called Lamanites, and Lemuelites, and Ishmaelites; and they did not dwindle in <sup>a</sup>unbelief, but they did <sup>b</sup>wilfully rebel against the gospel of Christ; and they did teach their children that they should not believe, even as their fathers, from the beginning, did dwindle.

39 And it was because of the wickedness and abomination of their fathers, even as it was in the beginning. And they were <sup>a</sup>taught to hate the children of God, even as the Lamanites were taught to <sup>b</sup>hate the children of Nephi from the beginning.

40 And it came to pass that two hundred and forty and four years had passed away, and thus were the affairs of the people. And the <sup>a</sup>more wicked part of the people did wax strong, and became exceedingly more numerous than were the people of God.

41 And they did still continue to build up churches unto themselves, and adorn them with all manner of precious things. And thus did two hundred and fifty years pass away, and also two hundred and sixty years.

42 And it came to pass that the wicked part of the people began again to build up the secret oaths and <sup>a</sup>combinations of Gadianton.

43 And also the people who were called the people of Nephi began to be proud in their hearts, because of

their exceeding riches, and become <sup>a</sup>vain like unto their brethren, the Lamanites.

44 And from this time the disciples began to sorrow for the <sup>a</sup>sins of the world.

45 And it came to pass that when three hundred years had passed away, both the people of Nephi and the Lamanites had become exceedingly wicked one like unto another.

46 And it came to pass that the robbers of <sup>a</sup>Gadianton did spread over all the face of the land; and there were none that were righteous save it were the disciples of Jesus. And gold and silver did they lay up in store in abundance, and did <sup>b</sup>traffic in all manner of traffic.

47 And it came to pass that after three hundred and five years had passed away, (and the people did still remain in wickedness) <sup>a</sup>Amos died; and his brother, Ammaron, did keep the record in his stead.

48 And it came to pass that when three hundred and twenty years had passed away, <sup>a</sup>Ammaron, being constrained by the Holy Ghost, did <sup>b</sup>hide up the <sup>c</sup>records which were <sup>a</sup>sacred—yea, even all the sacred records which had been handed down from generation to generation, which were sacred—even until the three hundred and twentieth year from the coming of Christ.

49 And he did hide them up unto the Lord, that they might <sup>a</sup>come again unto the remnant of the house of Jacob, according to the prophecies and the promises of the Lord. And thus is the end of the record of Ammaron.



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**“Let us reach out with love and kindness to those who would revile against us. ... In the spirit of the Christ who advised us to turn the other cheek, let us try to overcome evil with good”**

*(President Gordon B. Hinckley in Conference Report, Oct. 1982, 112; or Ensign, Nov. 1982, 77).*



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**“True believers** are settled in their views of Christ. Despite their weaknesses, their spirituality is centered on the Savior, so their views of everything else are put in that precious perspective.

**“True believers** gladly perform their duties in the kingdom. These duties are usually measurable and straightforward. They include partaking worthily of the sacrament, rendering Christian service, studying the scriptures, praying, fasting, receiving ordinances, attending to family duties, paying tithes and offerings. ...

**“True believers** are humble. They are ‘meek and lowly of heart’ [Moroni 7:43]. ... They are not easily offended. They do not resist counsel. ...

**“True believers** are willing to do what Christ wants. ... Are we willing to let the Lord lead us into further developmental experiences? Or do we shrink back? The things which





**“True believers** are willing to do what Christ wants. ... Are we willing to let the Lord lead us into further developmental experiences? Or do we shrink back? The things which enlarge the soul inevitably involve stretching.

**“True believers** have a balanced contentment. They strike a balance between being too content and wishing for a more important role. ...

**“True believers** truly pray. Their prayers are sincere. ... The true believer’s prayers, at least some of the time, are inspired.

**“True believers** have both right conduct and right reasons for that conduct. They are so secure in their relationship with the Lord that their goodness would continue even if nobody were watching. ...

**“True believers** rejoice in the success of others. ... They don’t regard colleagues as competitors.





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**“True believers remember that forgetting is part of forgiving. They follow the Lord’s example: ‘I [will] remember [their sins] no more’ (D&C 58:42). ...**

**“True believers are innocent as to sin, but not naive. They are kind, but candid. They love their fellowmen. ...**

**“True believers are happy. Instead of a ‘woeful countenance,’ true believers in Christ have a disciplined enthusiasm to work righteousness. They are serious about how they live life, but are also of good cheer”**

*(Elder Neal A. Maxwell, “True Believers,” New Era, Apr., 1994, 20–24).*





**“When the Nephites were truly righteous, their previous patterns of polarization vanished. ‘There was no contention in the land, because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people. ...**

**“Unfortunately, the sequel to that story is not a happy one. This pleasant circumstance persisted until ‘a small part of the people ... had revolted ... and taken upon them the name of Lamanites’ [4 Nephi 1:20], reviving old prejudices and teaching their children again to hate, ‘even as the Lamanites were taught to hate the children of Nephi from the beginning’ [4 Nephi 1:39]. And so the polarizing process began all over again.**

**“I hope that we may learn this important lesson and delete segregating names from our personal vocabularies. The Apostle Paul taught that ‘there is**





**‘even as the Lamanites were taught to hate the children of Nephi from the beginning’ [4 Nephi 1:39]. And so the polarizing process began all over again.**

**“I hope that we may learn this important lesson and delete segregating names from our personal vocabularies. The Apostle Paul taught that ‘there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus’ [Galatians 3:28; see also Colossians 3:11].**

**“Our Savior invites us ‘to come unto him and partake of his goodness; and he denieth none that come unto him, black and white, bond and free, male and female; ... all are alike unto God’ [2 Ne. 26:33]”**

*(Elder Russell M. Nelson, “A More Excellent Hope,” Ensign, Feb. 1997, 63).*



and that they had become exceedingly <sup>a</sup>rich, because of their prosperity in Christ.

24 And now, in this two hundred and first year there began to be among them those who were lifted up in <sup>a</sup>pride, such as the wearing of costly apparel, and all manner of fine pearls, and of the fine things of the world.

25 And from that time forth they did have their goods and their substance no more <sup>a</sup>common among them.

26 And they began to be divided into classes; and they began to build up <sup>a</sup>churches unto themselves to get <sup>b</sup>gain, and began to deny the true church of Christ.

27 And it came to pass that when two hundred and ten years had passed away there were many churches in the land; yea, there were many churches which professed to know the Christ, and yet they did <sup>a</sup>deny the more parts of his gospel, insomuch that they did receive all manner of wickedness, and did administer that which was sacred unto him to whom it had been <sup>b</sup>forbidden because of unworthiness.

28 And this church did multiply exceedingly because of iniquity, and because of the power of <sup>a</sup>Satan who did get hold upon their <sup>b</sup>hearts.

29 And again, there was another church which denied the Christ; and they did <sup>a</sup>persecute the true <sup>b</sup>church of Christ, because of their humility and their belief in Christ; and they did despise them because of the many miracles which were wrought among them.

30 Therefore they did exercise power and authority over the disciples of Jesus who did tarry with

them, and they did cast them into <sup>a</sup>prison; but by the power of the word of God, which was in them, the prisons were rent in twain, and they went forth doing mighty miracles among them.

31 Nevertheless, and notwithstanding all these miracles, the people did harden their hearts, and did seek to kill them, even as the Jews at Jerusalem sought to kill Jesus, according to his word.

32 And they did cast them into <sup>a</sup>furnaces of <sup>b</sup>fire, and they came forth receiving no harm.

33 And they also cast them into <sup>a</sup>dens of wild beasts, and they did play with the wild beasts even as a child with a lamb; and they did come forth from among them, receiving no harm.

34 Nevertheless, the people did harden their hearts, for they were led by many priests and <sup>a</sup>false prophets to build up many churches, and to do all manner of iniquity. And they did <sup>b</sup>smite upon the people of Jesus; but the people of Jesus did not smite again. And thus they did dwindle in unbelief and wickedness, from year to year, even until two hundred and thirty years had passed away.

35 And now it came to pass in this year, yea, in the two hundred and thirty and first year, there was a great division among the people.

36 And it came to pass that in this year there arose a people who were called the <sup>a</sup>Nephites, and they were true believers in Christ; and among them there were those who were called by the Lamanites—Jacobites, and Josephites, and <sup>b</sup>Zoramites;

37 Therefore the true believers in Christ, and the true worshipers of

A Great Division

Christ, (among whom were the <sup>a</sup>three disciples of Jesus who should tarry) were called Nephites, and Jacobites, and Josephites, and Zoramites.

38 And it came to pass that they who rejected the gospel were called Lamanites, and Lemuelites, and Ishmaelites; and they did not dwindle in <sup>a</sup>unbelief, but they did <sup>b</sup>wilfully rebel against the gospel of Christ; and they did teach their children that they should not believe, even as their fathers, from the beginning, did dwindle.

39 And it was because of the wickedness and abomination of their fathers, even as it was in the beginning. And they were <sup>a</sup>taught to hate the children of God, even as the Lamanites were taught to <sup>b</sup>hate the children of Nephi from the beginning.

40 And it came to pass that two hundred and forty and four years had passed away, and thus were the affairs of the people. And the <sup>a</sup>more wicked part of the people did wax strong, and became exceedingly more numerous than were the people of God.

41 And they did still continue to build up churches unto themselves, and adorn them with all manner of precious things. And thus did two hundred and fifty years pass away, and also two hundred and sixty years.

42 And it came to pass that the wicked part of the people began again to build up the secret oaths and <sup>a</sup>combinations of Gadianton.

43 And also the people who were called the people of Nephi began to be proud in their hearts, because of

their exceeding riches, and become <sup>a</sup>vain like unto their brethren, the Lamanites.

44 And from this time the disciples began to sorrow for the <sup>a</sup>sins of the world.

45 And it came to pass that when three hundred years had passed away, both the people of Nephi and the Lamanites had become exceedingly wicked one like unto another.

46 And it came to pass that the robbers of <sup>a</sup>Gadianton did spread over all the face of the land; and there were none that were righteous save it were the disciples of Jesus. And gold and silver did they lay up in store in abundance, and did <sup>b</sup>traffic in all manner of traffic.

47 And it came to pass that after three hundred and five years had passed away, (and the people did still remain in wickedness) <sup>a</sup>Amos died; and his brother, Ammaron, did keep the record in his stead.

48 And it came to pass that when three hundred and twenty years had passed away, <sup>a</sup>Ammaron, being constrained by the Holy Ghost, did <sup>b</sup>hide up the <sup>c</sup>records which were <sup>a</sup>sacred—yea, even all the sacred records which had been handed down from generation to generation, which were sacred—even until the three hundred and twentieth year from the coming of Christ.

49 And he did hide them up unto the Lord, that they might <sup>a</sup>come again unto the remnant of the house of Jacob, according to the prophecies and the promises of the Lord. And thus is the end of the record of Ammaron.