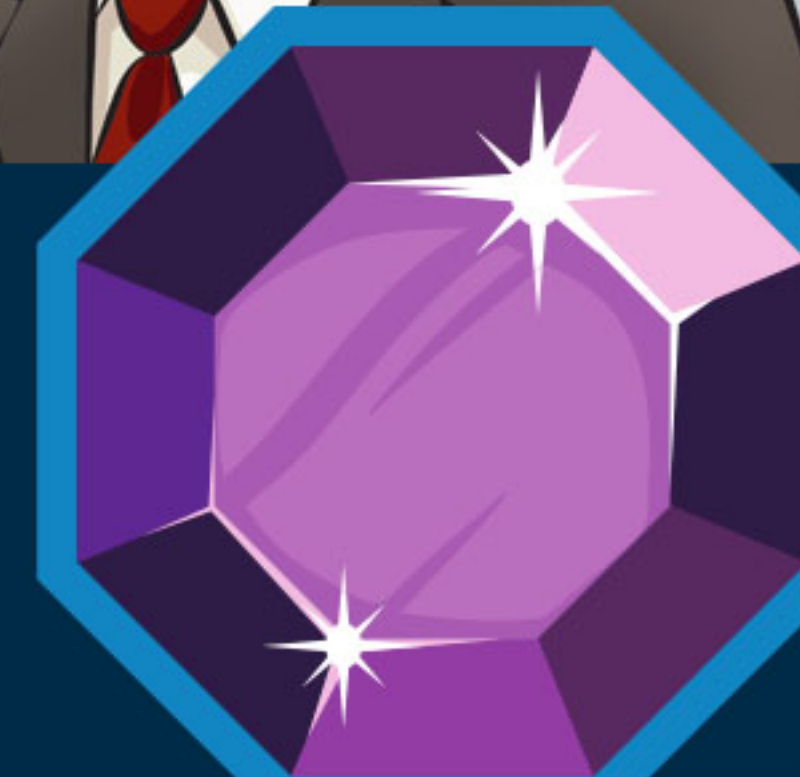


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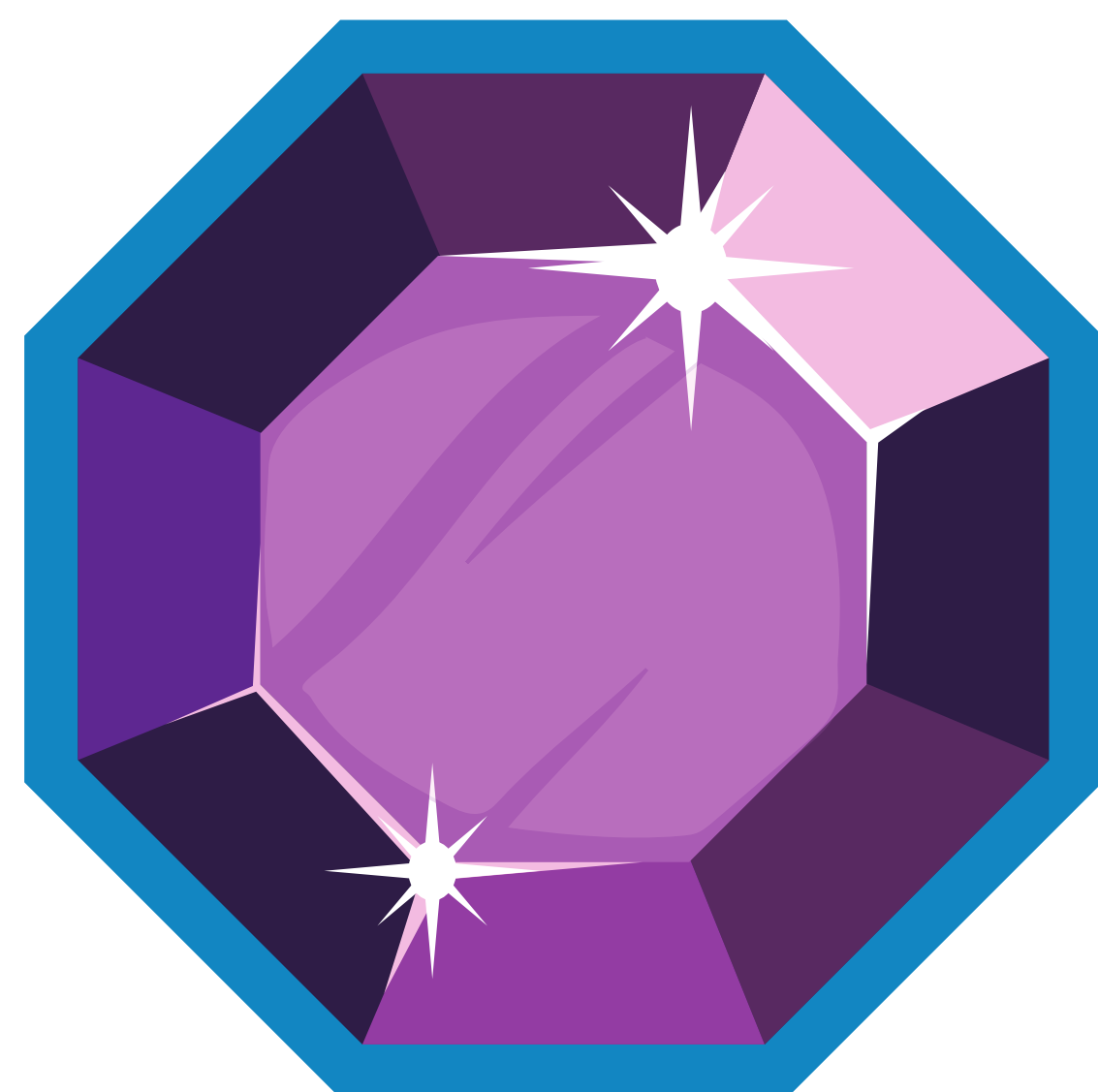
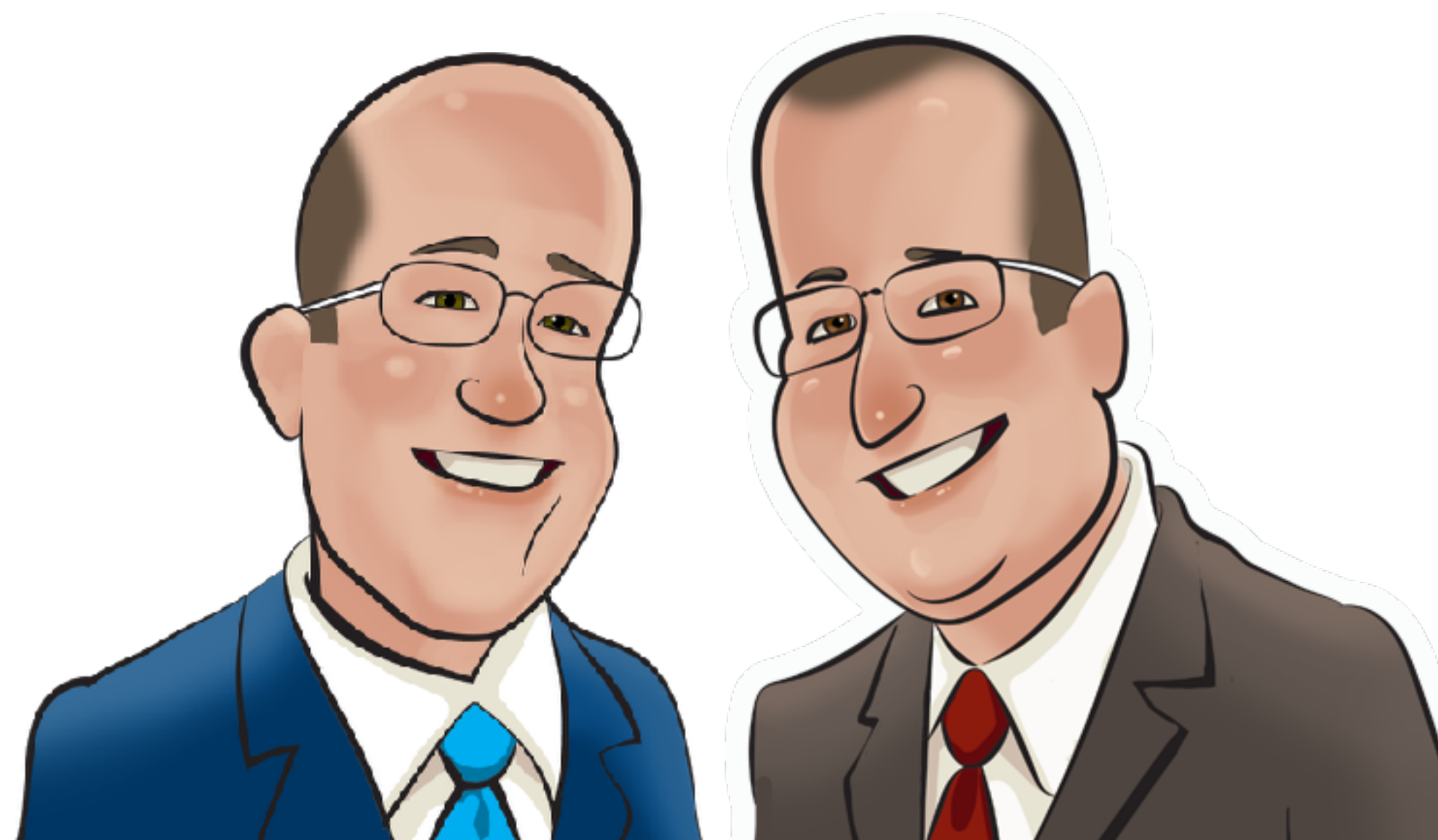


**Come Follow Me 2021**

**D&C 3-5**



S02E04



# Scripture GEMS

1827

Joseph obtains the plates from Moroni

Martin Harris gives Joseph \$50 so he and Emma can move to Harmony, PA. The plates are hidden in a barrel of beans.

1828

Joseph begins limited translation of the plates

Martin takes characters to the learned.

1829

Martin loses the 116 page manuscript

Palmyra  
Manchester

Harmony

Kirtland ●

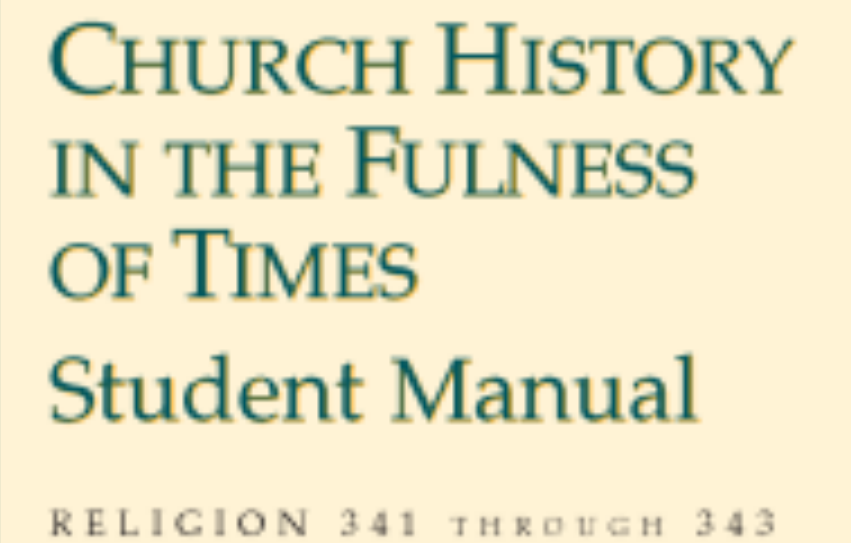
Hiram ●

PENNSYLVANIA

YORK

**In Pennsylvania, Joseph and Martin labored together on the translation until 14 June 1828. By that time the translation filled 116 foolscap pages (roughly legal-size), and Martin asked if he could take this manuscript home to show his wife and friends.**

**Lucy Harris, Martin's wife, became increasingly concerned about Martin's interest and financial involvement in the translation of the plates. She and others began to press Martin for evidence of the plates' existence.**



CHURCH HISTORY  
IN THE FULNESS  
OF TIMES  
Student Manual  
RELIGION 341 THROUGH 343

**He hoped this would convince Lucy that the work was legitimate and stop her opposition. Through the Urim and Thummim, Joseph inquired of the Lord. The answer was no. Martin, not satisfied, persisted until Joseph again asked the Lord; still the answer was no. Martin's pleadings and solicitations continued. Joseph wanted to satisfy his benefactor. He was young and inexperienced, and he relied upon the age and maturity of Martin. Moreover, Martin was the only one Joseph knew who was willing to work as scribe and finance the publication of the book. These considerations moved him to ask again. Finally, the Lord granted a conditional permission. Martin agreed in writing to show the manuscript to only four or five people, including his wife; his brother; his father; his mother; and Lucy's sister. Martin then left for Palmyra with the only copy of the manuscript.**

**Shortly after Martin's departure, Emma Smith bore a son, Alvin, who died the day he was born. Emma nearly died herself, and for two weeks Joseph was constantly at her bedside. When she improved, his attention returned to the manuscript. By this time Martin had been gone for three weeks, and they had heard nothing from him. Martin had not been totally irresponsible. He had spent time with his wife, taken care of business in Palmyra, and served on a jury.**

**Emma, expressing her concern about the manuscript, encouraged Joseph to catch a stage to Palmyra and check on the matter. After traveling from Harmony to the Palmyra area and walking the last twenty miles during the night, Joseph finally arrived at his parents' home in Manchester. He immediately sent for Martin. Martin usually came quickly, so breakfast was prepared for him and the Smiths. Several hours**

**check on the matter. After traveling from Harmony to the Palmyra area and walking the last twenty miles during the night, Joseph finally arrived at his parents' home in Manchester. He immediately sent for Martin. Martin usually came quickly, so breakfast was prepared for him and the Smiths. Several hours passed before Martin finally plodded up the walk with head hung down. He climbed on the fence and sat there with his hat down over his eyes. Finally he came in and sat down at the breakfast table, but he could not eat. Lucy Mack Smith, the Prophet's mother, recorded: "He took up his knife and fork as if he were going to use them, but immediately dropped them. Hyrum, observing this, said 'Martin, why do you not eat; are you sick?' Upon which Mr. Harris pressed his hands upon his temples, and cried out in a tone of deep anguish, 'Oh, I have lost my soul! I have lost my soul!'"**



CHURCH HISTORY  
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RELIGION 341 THROUGH 343

**“Joseph who had not expressed his fears till now, sprang from the table, exclaiming, ‘Martin, have you lost that manuscript? Have you broken your oath, and brought down condemnation upon my head as well as your own?’**

**“‘Yes; it is gone,’ replied Martin, ‘and I know not where.’”**

**Self-condemnation and fear beset the Prophet. He exclaimed, “‘All is lost! all is lost! What shall I do? I have sinned—it is I who tempted the wrath of God. I should have been satisfied with the first answer which I received from the Lord; for he told me that it was not safe to let the writing go out of my possession.’ He wept and groaned, and walked the floor continually.**



**“At length he told Martin to go back and search again.**

**“‘No’; said Martin, ‘it is all in vain; for I have ripped open beds and pillows [looking for the manuscript]; and I know it is not there.’**

**“‘Then must I,’ said Joseph, ‘return with such a tale as this? I dare not do it. And how shall I appear before the Lord? Of what rebuke am I not worthy from the angel of the Most High?’ ...**

**“The next morning, he set out for home. We parted with heavy hearts, for it now appeared that all which we had so fondly anticipated, and which had been the source of so much secret gratification, had in a moment fled, and fled forever.”**

1827

1828

1829

Martin loses the  
116 page  
manuscript

Palmyra  
Manchester

Harmony

Kirtland

Hiram

PENNSYLVANIA

YORK

**In words written to his mother he declared,**

**“After I left you ... I commenced humbling myself in mighty prayer before the Lord, ... that if possible I might obtain mercy at [His] hands and be forgiven of all that I had done which was contrary to His will”**

*(Joseph Smith, in Lucy Mack Smith, “Lucy Mack Smith, History, 1844–1845,” book 7, pages 8–9, [josephsmithpapers.org](http://josephsmithpapers.org); capitalization and punctuation standardized).*



1827

1828

1829



NEW YORK

Palmyra  
Manchester

Harmony

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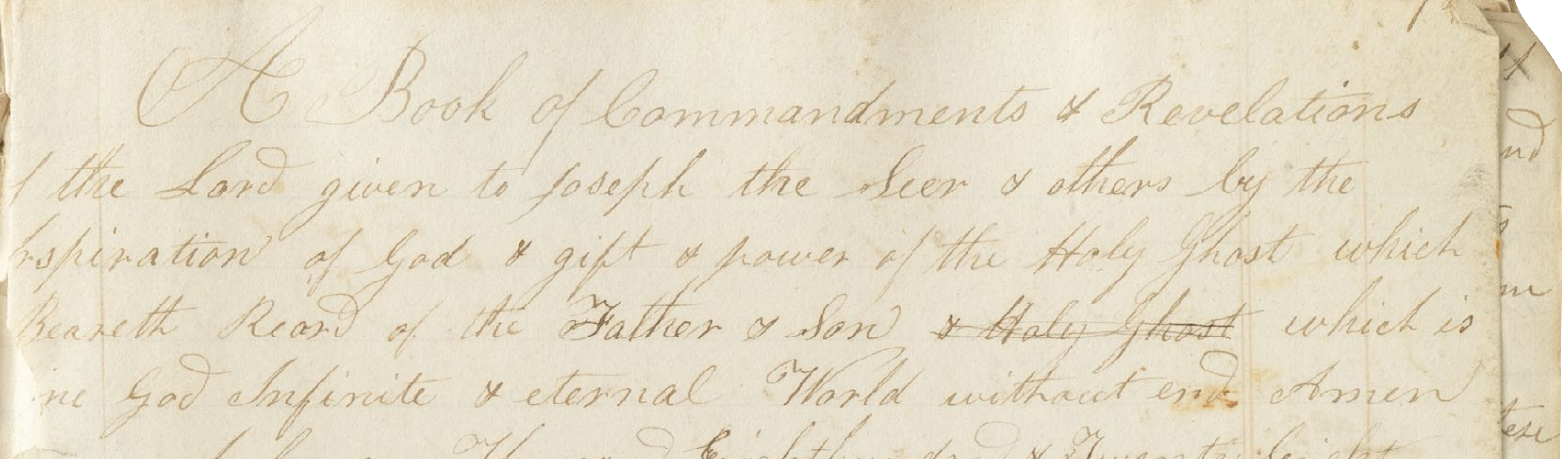
PENNSYLVANIA

**(Saints, Vol. 1, Ch. 6)**

**When Joseph returned to Harmony in the summer of 1828, Moroni appeared to him again and took the plates away. “If you are sufficiently humble and penitent,” the angel said, “you will receive them again on the twenty-second of September.”**

## (Revelations in Context, “The Contributions of Martin Harris”)

The angel appeared and gave again to Joseph the Urim and Thummim, or interpreters, that Joseph had originally received with the plates but had lost for having “wearied the Lord in asking that Martin Harris might take the writings.” Using the Urim and Thummim, Joseph received the earliest of his revelations for which a text survives.



The Book of Commandments & Revelations  
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beareth Record of the Father & Son & Holy Ghost which is  
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July one thousand Eight hundred & Twenty Eight  
Given to Joseph the Seer after he had last certain writ-  
ings which he had translated by the gift & power of God

Saying the works <sup>of</sup> ~~the~~ designs & the purposes of God cannot  
be frustrated neither can they come to ~~naught~~ <sup>naught</sup> for God  
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JS Must Repent or Loose the Gift to Translate

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14 And this is the reason that thou hast lost thy privileges for a season—

15 For thou hast suffered the counsel of thy <sup>a</sup>director to be trampled upon from the beginning.

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The Lord's Course

Purpose of the Book of Mormon

**“In his infinite wisdom, our Father has provided for every problem or difficulty that may arise to stop or hinder the progress of his work. No power on earth or in hell can overthrow or defeat that which God has decreed. Every plan of the Adversary will fail, for the Lord knows the secret thoughts of men, and sees the future with a vision clear and perfect, even as though it were in the past. Jacob, son of Lehi, in his rejoicing declared: ‘O how great the holiness of our God! For he knoweth all things, and there is not anything save he knows it.’ (2 Nephi 9:20.) He knew that Satan would try to frustrate the coming forth of the Book of Mormon by the stealing and changing of the manuscript, and provided for it hundreds of years before the birth of Jesus Christ.”**

*(President Joseph Fielding Smith, “Church History and Modern Revelation,” 1:26.)*

*Jesus Tempted by Carl Heinrich Bloch*





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Purpose of the Book of Mormon



**“Martin Harris was ‘wicked’ in persisting to ask for what God at first refused to grant. He was ‘wicked’ in not keeping the sacred pledge to guard the manuscript. But otherwise he was not a wicked man, as that term is generally understood. A father will sometimes call his boy ‘wicked,’ meaning disobedient for the time being.”**

*(Hyrum M. Smith and Janne M. Sjodahl, Introduction to and Commentary on The Doctrine and Covenants, p. 20.)*

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4 For although a man may have many <sup>a</sup>revelations, and have <sup>b</sup>power to do many mighty works, yet if he <sup>c</sup>boasts in his own <sup>d</sup>strength, and sets at naught the <sup>e</sup>counsels of God, and follows after the dictates of his own will and <sup>f</sup>carnal desires, he must fall and incur the <sup>g</sup>vengeance of a <sup>h</sup>just God upon him.

5 Behold, you have been <sup>a</sup>entrusted with these things, but how strict were your commandments; and remember also the promises which were made to you, if you did not transgress them.

6 And behold, how <sup>a</sup>oft you have

2 1a Mal. 4:5 (5-6);  
3 Ne. 25:5 (5-6);

Salvation for the Dead.  
3a Luke 1:17.

b Alma 19:4.  
c Amos 6:13 (13-14);

<sup>b</sup>transgressed the commandments and the laws of God, and have gone on in the <sup>c</sup>persuasions of men

7 For, behold, you should not have <sup>a</sup>feared man more than God. Although men set at naught the counsels of God, and <sup>b</sup>despise his words—  
8 Yet you should have been faithful; and he would have extended his arm and <sup>a</sup>supported you against all the fiery <sup>b</sup>darts of the <sup>c</sup>adversary; and he would have been with you in every time of <sup>d</sup>trouble.

9 Behold, thou art Joseph, and thou wast chosen to do the work of the Lord, but because of transgression, if thou art not aware thou wilt <sup>a</sup>fall.

10 But remember, God is merciful; therefore, repent of that which thou hast done which is contrary to the commandment which I gave you, and thou art still chosen, and art <sup>a</sup>again called to the work;

11 Except thou <sup>a</sup>do this, thou shalt be delivered up and become as other men, and have no more gift.

12 And when thou deliveredst up that which God had given thee sight and power to <sup>a</sup>translate, thou deliveredst up that which was <sup>b</sup>sacred into the hands of a wicked <sup>c</sup>man,

13 Who has set at naught the counsels of God, and has broken the most

sacred promises which were made before God, and has depended upon his own judgment and <sup>a</sup>boasted in his own wisdom.

14 And this is the reason that thou hast lost thy privileges for a season—

15 For thou hast suffered the counsel of thy <sup>a</sup>director to be trampled upon from the beginning.

16 Nevertheless, my <sup>a</sup>work shall go forth, for inasmuch as the knowledge of a Savior has come unto the world, through the <sup>b</sup>testimony of the Jews, even so shall the <sup>c</sup>knowledge of a <sup>d</sup>Savior come unto my people—

17 And to the <sup>a</sup>Nephites, and the Jacobites, and the Josephites, and the Zoramites, through the testimony of their fathers—

18 And this <sup>a</sup>testimony shall come to the knowledge of the <sup>b</sup>Lamanites, and the Lemuelites, and the Ishmaelites, who <sup>c</sup>dwindled in unbelief because of the <sup>d</sup>iniquity of their fathers, whom the Lord has suffered to destroy their <sup>e</sup>brethren the Nephites, because of their <sup>f</sup>iniquities and their abominations.

19 And for this very <sup>a</sup>purpose are these <sup>b</sup>plates <sup>c</sup>preserved, which contain these records—that the <sup>d</sup>promises of the Lord might be fulfilled, which he made to his <sup>e</sup>people;

6b Josh. 23:16 (15-16);  
Alma 12:31.  
TG Transgress.  
c Titus 1:14;  
D&C 45:29; 46:7.

c TG Devil.  
d Ps. 81:7;  
Alma 9:17; 38:5.  
9a Acts 1:25;  
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18a TG Testimony.  
b Jacob 1:13;  
Enos 1:13;  
D&C 10:48 (46, 52).

JS Must Repent or Loose the Gift to Translate

Purpose of the Book of Mormon

The Lord's Course



**“There are many places in the scriptures that counsel mankind to fear God. In our day we generally interpret the word fear as “respect” or “reverence” or “love”; that is, the fear of God means the love of God or respect for Him and His law. That may often be a correct reading, but I wonder if sometimes fear doesn’t really mean fear, as when the prophets speak of fearing to offend God by breaking His commandments. ...**

**“... We should so love and reverence Him that we fear doing anything wrong in His sight, whatever may be the opinions of or pressure from others”**

*(Elder D. Todd Christofferson, “A Sense of the Sacred” [CES fireside for young adults, Nov. 7, 2004], 6–7, LDS.org; see also [speeches.byu.edu](http://speeches.byu.edu)).*

1, *Elijah is to reveal the priesthood; 2–3, The promises of the fathers are planted in the hearts of the children.*

BEHOLD, I will reveal unto you the Priesthood, by the hand of <sup>a</sup>Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and <sup>b</sup>dreadful day of the Lord.

2 And <sup>a</sup>he shall plant in the hearts of the children the <sup>b</sup>promises made to the fathers, and the hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers.

3 If it were not so, the whole <sup>a</sup>earth would be utterly wasted at his coming.

SECTION 3

*Revelation given to Joseph Smith the Prophet, at Harmony, Pennsylvania, July 1828, relating to the loss of 116 pages of manuscript translated from the first part of the Book of Mormon, which was called the book of Lehi. The Prophet had reluctantly allowed these pages to pass from his custody to that of Martin Harris, who had served for a brief period as scribe in the translation of the Book of Mormon. The revelation was given through the Urim and Thummim. (See section 10.)*

1–4, *The Lord’s course is one eternal round; 5–15, Joseph Smith must repent or lose the gift to translate; 16–20, The Book of Mormon comes forth to save the seed of Lehi.*

THE <sup>a</sup>works, and the designs, and the purposes of God cannot be <sup>b</sup>frustrated, neither can they come to naught.

2 For God doth not <sup>a</sup>walk in crooked paths, neither doth he <sup>b</sup>turn to the right hand nor to the left, neither doth he vary from that which he hath said, therefore his paths are straight, and his <sup>c</sup>course is one eternal round.

3 Remember, remember that it is

not the <sup>a</sup>work of God that is frustrated, but the work of men;

4 For although a man may have many <sup>a</sup>revelations, and have <sup>b</sup>power to do many mighty works, yet if he <sup>c</sup>boasts in his own <sup>d</sup>strength, and sets at naught the <sup>e</sup>counsels of God, and follows after the dictates of his own will and <sup>f</sup>carnal desires, he must fall and incur the <sup>g</sup>vengeance of a <sup>h</sup>just God upon him.

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JS Must Repent or Loose the Gift to Translate

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9 Behold, thou art Joseph, and thou wast chosen to do the work of the Lord, but because of transgression, if thou art not aware thou wilt <sup>a</sup>fall.

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The Lord’s Course

Purpose of the Book of Mormon

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The Lord’s Course

Purpose of the Book of Mormon



LAKE ONTARIO

ERIE CANAL

ROCHESTER

PENNYR

MANCHESTER

ONEIDA LAKE

ERIE CANAL

ERIE CANAL

To ALBANY

GENESEE RIVER

FANETT

ITHACA

COLESVILLE

NEW YORK  
PENNSYLVANIA

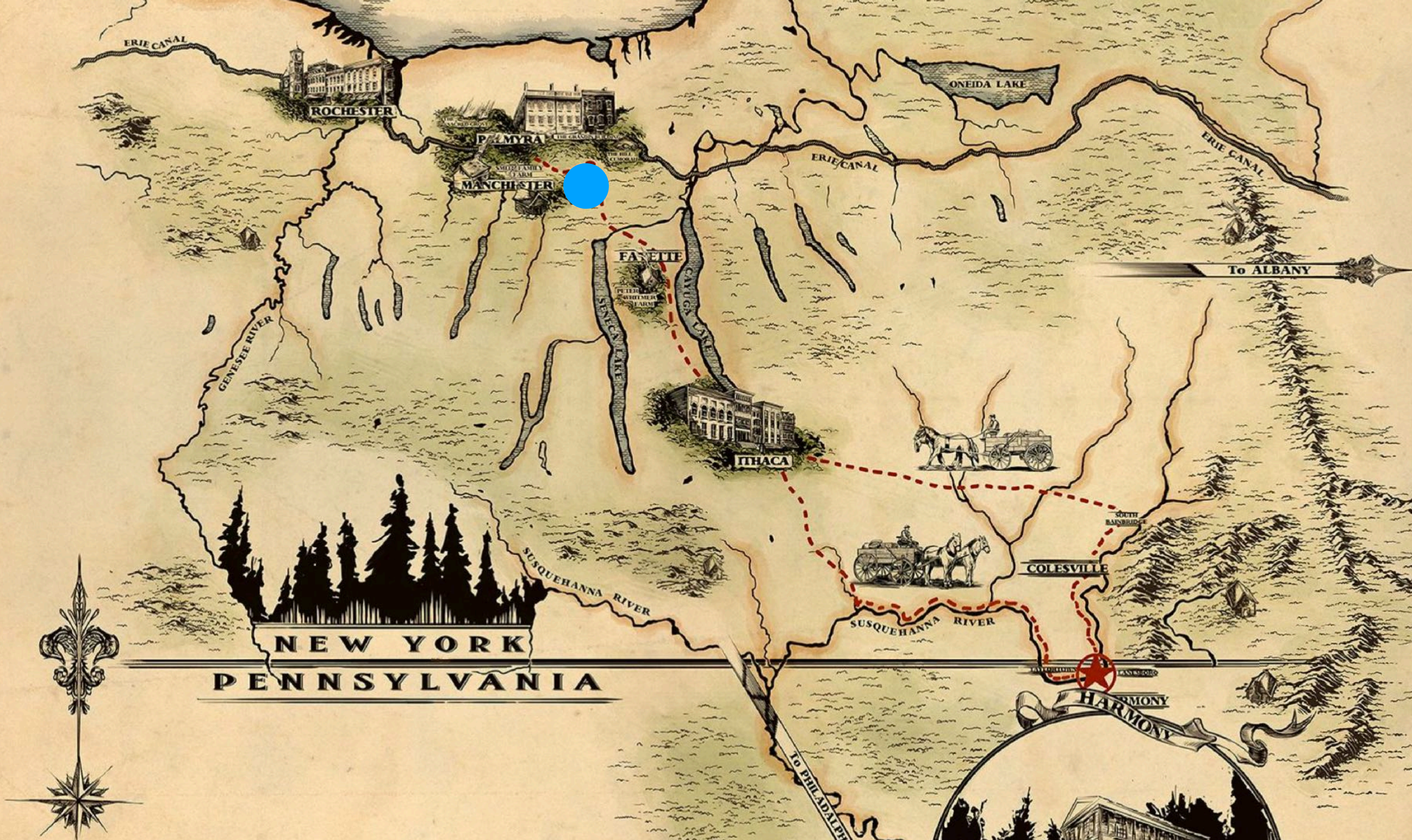
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER

HARMONY

TO PHILADELPHIA





ERIE CANAL

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NEW YORK  
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HARMONY

TO PHILADELPHIA

**During his visit to his son in Harmony, Joseph Smith Sr. asked for a revelation concerning his own role in the Restoration; the young prophet thus received one of his earliest revelations for another individual. When the revelation was later copied in preparation for publication, the following heading was added: “A Revelation to Joseph the Father of the Seer he desired to know what the Lord had for him to do & this is what he Received as follows.”**

*Revelations in Context*



*Joseph Smith Sr. by William Whitaker*



**“it contains sufficient counsel and instruction for a lifetime of study. No one has yet mastered it. It was not intended as a personal revelation to Joseph Smith, but to be of benefit to all who desire to embark in the service of God. It is a revelation to each member of the Church, especially to all who hold the Priesthood. Perhaps there is no other revelation in all our scriptures that embodies greater instruction pertaining to the manner of qualification of members of the Church for the service of God, and in such condensed form than this revelation. It is as broad, as high and as deep as eternity. No elder of the Church is qualified to teach in the Church, or carry the message of Salvation to the world, until he has absorbed, in part at least, this heaven-sent instruction.”**

*(Elder Joseph Fielding Smith, “Church History and Modern Revelation,” 1:35.)*

20 And that the <sup>a</sup>Lamanites might come to the knowledge of their fathers, and that they might know the <sup>b</sup>promises of the Lord, and that they may <sup>c</sup>believe the gospel and

<sup>d</sup>rely upon the merits of Jesus Christ, and be <sup>e</sup>glorified through faith in his name, and that through their repentance they might be saved. Amen.

## SECTION 4

*Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet to his father, Joseph Smith Sr., at Harmony, Pennsylvania, February 1829.*

1–4, Valiant service saves the Lord's ministers; 5–6, Godly attributes qualify them for the ministry; 7, The things of God must be sought after.

Now behold, a <sup>a</sup>marvelous work is about to come forth among the children of men.

2 Therefore, O ye that embark in the <sup>a</sup>service of God, see that ye <sup>b</sup>serve him with all your heart, might, mind and strength, that ye may stand <sup>c</sup>blameless before God at the last day.

3 Therefore, if ye have desires to serve God ye are <sup>a</sup>called to the work;

4 For behold the <sup>a</sup>field is white already to <sup>b</sup>harvest; and lo, he that thrusteth in his sickle with his might, the same layeth up in <sup>c</sup>store that he perisheth not, but bringeth salvation to his soul;

5 And <sup>a</sup>faith, <sup>b</sup>hope, <sup>c</sup>charity and <sup>d</sup>love, with an <sup>e</sup>eye single to the <sup>f</sup>glory of God, <sup>g</sup>qualify him for the work.

6 Remember faith, <sup>a</sup>virtue, knowledge, <sup>b</sup>temperance, <sup>c</sup>patience, <sup>d</sup>brotherly <sup>e</sup>kindness, <sup>f</sup>godliness, charity, <sup>g</sup>humility, <sup>h</sup>diligence.

7 <sup>a</sup>Ask, and ye shall receive; <sup>b</sup>knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Amen.

20a 2 Ne. 30:5 (3–6);  
D&C 28:8 (8–9, 14);  
32:2; 49:24.

b 2 Ne. 10:9 (9, 21);  
Alma 9:24.

c Morm. 3:21.

d 2 Ne. 31:19;  
Moro. 6:4.

e Moro. 7:26 (26, 38).

4 1a Isa. 29:14;  
1 Ne. 14:7 (7–17); 22:8;  
D&C 6:1; 11:1; 12:1;

Mind;  
Strength.

c 1 Cor. 1:8;  
Col. 1:22;  
Jacob 1:19;  
Mosiah 3:21;  
3 Ne. 27:20;  
D&C 88:85.

3a Matt. 8:19 (19–22);  
D&C 11:4, 15; 36:5;  
63:57.  
TG Called of God;

d TG Love.

e Ps. 25:15; 141:8;  
Matt. 6:22;  
Morm. 8:15.

f TG Glory;  
Motivations.

g TG Priesthood,  
Qualifying for.

6a TG Chastity;  
Virtue.

b TG Temperance.

c TG Patience.

## SECTION 5

*Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, at Harmony, Pennsylvania, March 1829, at the request of Martin Harris.*

1–10, This generation will receive the Lord's word through Joseph Smith; 11–18, Three witnesses will testify of the Book of Mormon; 19–20, The word of the Lord will be verified as in previous times; 21–35, Martin Harris may repent and be one of the witnesses.

BEHOLD, I say unto you, that as my servant <sup>a</sup>Martin Harris has desired a witness at my hand, that you, my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., have got the plates of which you have testified and borne record that you have received of me;

2 And now, behold, this shall you say unto him—he who spake unto you, said unto you: I, the Lord, am God, and have given these things unto you, my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., and have commanded you that you should stand as a <sup>a</sup>witness of these things;

3 And I have caused you that you should enter into a <sup>a</sup>covenant with me, that you should not <sup>b</sup>show them except to those <sup>c</sup>persons to whom I commanded you; and you have no <sup>a</sup>power over them except I grant it unto you.

4 And you have a gift to <sup>a</sup>translate the plates; and this is the first gift that I bestowed upon you; and I have commanded that you should pretend to no other gift until my purpose is fulfilled in this; for I will

grant unto you no other gift until it is finished.

5 Verily, I say unto you, that <sup>a</sup>woe shall come unto the inhabitants of the earth if they will not <sup>b</sup>hearken unto my words;

6 For hereafter you shall be <sup>a</sup>ordained and go forth and deliver my <sup>b</sup>words unto the children of men.

7 Behold, if they will not <sup>a</sup>believe my words, they would not believe you, my servant Joseph, if it were possible that you should show them all these things which I have committed unto you.

8 Oh, this <sup>a</sup>unbelieving and <sup>b</sup>stiff-necked generation—mine <sup>c</sup>anger is kindled against them.

9 Behold, verily I say unto you, I have <sup>a</sup>reserved those things which I have entrusted unto you, my servant Joseph, for a wise purpose in me, and it shall be made known unto future generations;

10 But this generation shall have my word <sup>a</sup>through you;

11 And in addition to your testimony, the <sup>a</sup>testimony of three of my servants, whom I shall call and ordain, unto whom I will show these things, and they shall go forth with my words that are given through you.

12 Yea, they shall know of a <sup>a</sup>surety that these things are true, for from heaven will I declare it unto them.

5 1a D&C 5:23 (23–24);  
Isa. 41:61.

d 2 Ne. 3:11.  
4a D&C 3:12 (25 (25, 28))

b Morm. 8:33.  
7a Haughtin



**“Unknown, untaught, with no reputation, [Joseph Smith] should have been forgotten in the small hamlet, almost nameless, in the backwoods of a great state; but he dared to say that the work that he was doing, under God’s instruction, was to become a marvel and a wonder in the world. We know, my brethren and sisters, that whether it be friend or enemy who speaks of us, if he is a sober-thinking, honest man, he will declare that whatever in his opinion the foundations of this work may be—we know the foundations—it is a marvelous work and a wonder, none like it in the long history of the world. The truths set loose by the Prophet Joseph Smith have touched every man of faith throughout the whole civilized world, and measurably changed their beliefs for good.”**

*(Elder John A. Widtsoe In Conference Report, Apr. 1946, pp. 21–22.)*



20 And that the <sup>a</sup>Lamanites might come to the knowledge of their fathers, and that they might know the <sup>b</sup>promises of the Lord, and that they may <sup>c</sup>believe the gospel and

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20a 2 Ne. 30:5 (3–6); D&C 28:8 (8–9, 14); 32:2; 49:24.

b 2 Ne. 10:9 (9, 21); Alma 9:24.

c Morm. 3:21.

d 2 Ne. 31:19; Moro. 6:4.

e Moro. 7:26 (26, 38).

4 1a Isa. 29:14; 1 Ne. 14:7 (7–17); 22:8; D&C 6:1; 11:1; 12:1;

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f TG Glory; Motivations.

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### SECTION 5

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, at Harmony, Pennsylvania, March 1829, at the request of Martin Harris.

1–10, This generation will receive the Lord’s word through Joseph Smith; 11–18, Three witnesses will testify of the Book of Mormon; 19–20, The word of the Lord will be verified as in previous times; 21–35, Martin Harris may repent and be one of the witnesses.

BEHOLD, I say unto you, that as my servant <sup>a</sup>Martin Harris has desired a witness at my hand, that you, my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., have got the plates of which you have testified and borne record that you have received of me;

2 And now, behold, this shall you say unto him—he who spake unto you, said unto you: I, the Lord, am God, and have given these things unto you, my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., and have commanded you that you should stand as a <sup>a</sup>witness of these things;

3 And I have caused you that you should enter into a <sup>a</sup>covenant with me, that you should not <sup>b</sup>show them except to those <sup>c</sup>persons to whom I

grant unto you no other gift until it is finished.

5 Verily, I say unto you, that <sup>a</sup>woe shall come unto the inhabitants of the earth if they will not <sup>b</sup>hearken unto my words;

6 For hereafter you shall be <sup>a</sup>ordained and go forth and deliver my <sup>b</sup>words unto the children of men.

7 Behold, if they will not <sup>a</sup>believe my words, they would not believe you, my servant Joseph, if it were possible that you should show them all these things which I have committed unto you.

8 Oh, this <sup>a</sup>unbelieving and <sup>b</sup>stiff-necked generation—mine <sup>c</sup>anger is kindled against them.

9 Behold, verily I say unto you, I have <sup>a</sup>reserved those things which I have entrusted unto you, my servant Joseph, for a wise purpose in me, and it shall be made known unto future generations;

10 But this generation shall have my word <sup>a</sup>through you;

11 And in addition to your testimony, the <sup>a</sup>testimony of three

One way we can love God is by “aligning our thoughts and actions with God’s word.”

Elder Uchtdorf, “The Love of God,” Oct. 2009 GC

5 1a D&C 5:23 (23–24);

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20 And that the <sup>a</sup>Lamanites might come to the knowledge of their fathers, and that they might know the <sup>b</sup>promises of the Lord, and that they may <sup>c</sup>believe the gospel and

<sup>d</sup>rely upon the merits of Jesus Christ, and be <sup>e</sup>glorified through faith in his name, and that through their repentance they might be saved. Amen.

### SECTION 4

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet to his father, Joseph Smith Sr., at Harmony, Pennsylvania, February 1829.

1–4, Valiant service saves the Lord’s ministers; 5–6, Godly attributes qualify them for the ministry; 7, The things of God must be sought after.

Now behold, a <sup>a</sup>marvelous work is about to come forth among the children of men.

2 Therefore, O ye that embark in the <sup>a</sup>service of God, see that ye <sup>b</sup>serve him with all your heart, might, mind and strength, that ye may stand <sup>c</sup>blameless before God at the last day.

3 Therefore, if ye have desires to serve God ye are <sup>a</sup>called to the work;

4 For behold the <sup>a</sup>field is white already to <sup>b</sup>harvest; and lo, he that thrusteth in his sickle with his might, the same layeth up in <sup>c</sup>store that he perisheth not, but bringeth salvation to his soul;

5 And <sup>a</sup>faith, <sup>b</sup>hope, <sup>c</sup>charity and <sup>d</sup>love, with an <sup>e</sup>eye single to the <sup>f</sup>glory of God, <sup>g</sup>qualify him for the work.

6 Remember faith, <sup>a</sup>virtue, knowledge, <sup>b</sup>temperance, <sup>c</sup>patience, <sup>d</sup>brotherly <sup>e</sup>kindness, <sup>f</sup>godliness, charity, <sup>g</sup>humility, <sup>h</sup>diligence.

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20a 2 Ne. 30:5 (3–6); D&C 28:8 (8–9, 14); 32:2; 49:24.  
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**“My understanding is that the most important mission that I have in this life is: first, to keep the commandments of God, as they have been taught to me; and next, to teach them to my Father’s children who do not understand them.**

...

**“It is not necessary for you to be called to go into the mission field in order to proclaim the truth. Begin on the man who lives next door by inspiring confidence in him, by inspiring love in him for you because of your righteousness, and your missionary work has already begun.”**

*(Elder George Albert Smith In Conference Report, Oct. 1916, pp. 50–51.)*

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4 And you have a gift to <sup>a</sup>translate the plates; and this is the first gift that I bestowed upon you; and I have commanded that you should pretend to no other gift until my purpose is fulfilled in this; for I will

grant unto you no other gift until it is finished.

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**“[Peter] wrote on one occasion: ‘... that we might be partakers of the divine nature.’ (2 Peter 1:4.) He realized what it means to be in touch with the spiritual, to rise above the temporal, the sensual, and partake of the divine Spirit of God.**

**“... that is the purpose of making us more capable of responding to the Spirit and subduing the sensual. ...**

**“That is why we like to have every young man and every young woman utilize his or her time intelligently, usefully, to bring the soul in harmony with the spirit, that we all might be partakers of God’s Spirit, partakers of his divine nature.”**

*(President David O. McKay In Conference Report, Oct. 1961, p. 90.)*

gift that I bestowed upon you; and I have commanded that you should pretend to no other gift until my purpose is fulfilled in this; for I will

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8 Oh, this <sup>a</sup>unbelieving and <sup>b</sup>stiff-necked generation—mine <sup>c</sup>anger is kindled against them.

9 Behold, verily I say unto you, I have <sup>a</sup>reserved those things which I have entrusted unto you, my servant Joseph, for a wise purpose in me, and it shall be made known unto future generations;

10 But this generation shall have my word <sup>a</sup>through you;

11 And in addition to your testimony, the <sup>a</sup>testimony of three of my servants, whom I shall call and ordain, unto whom I will show these things, and they shall go forth with my words that are given through you.

12 Yea, they shall know of a <sup>a</sup>surety that these things are true, for from heaven will I declare it unto them.

5 1a D&C 5:23 (23–24);  
Isa. 41:11

d 2 Ne. 3:11.  
4a D&C 3:12 (25, 26, 28)

b Morm. 8:33.  
7a Houghton

1827

1828

1829

Joseph obtains the plates from Moroni

Joseph begins limited translation of the plates

Martin loses the 116 page manuscript

Martin Harris gives Joseph \$50 so he and Emma can move to Harmony, PA. The plates are hidden in a barrel of beans.

Martin takes characters to the learned.

Palmyra  
Manchester

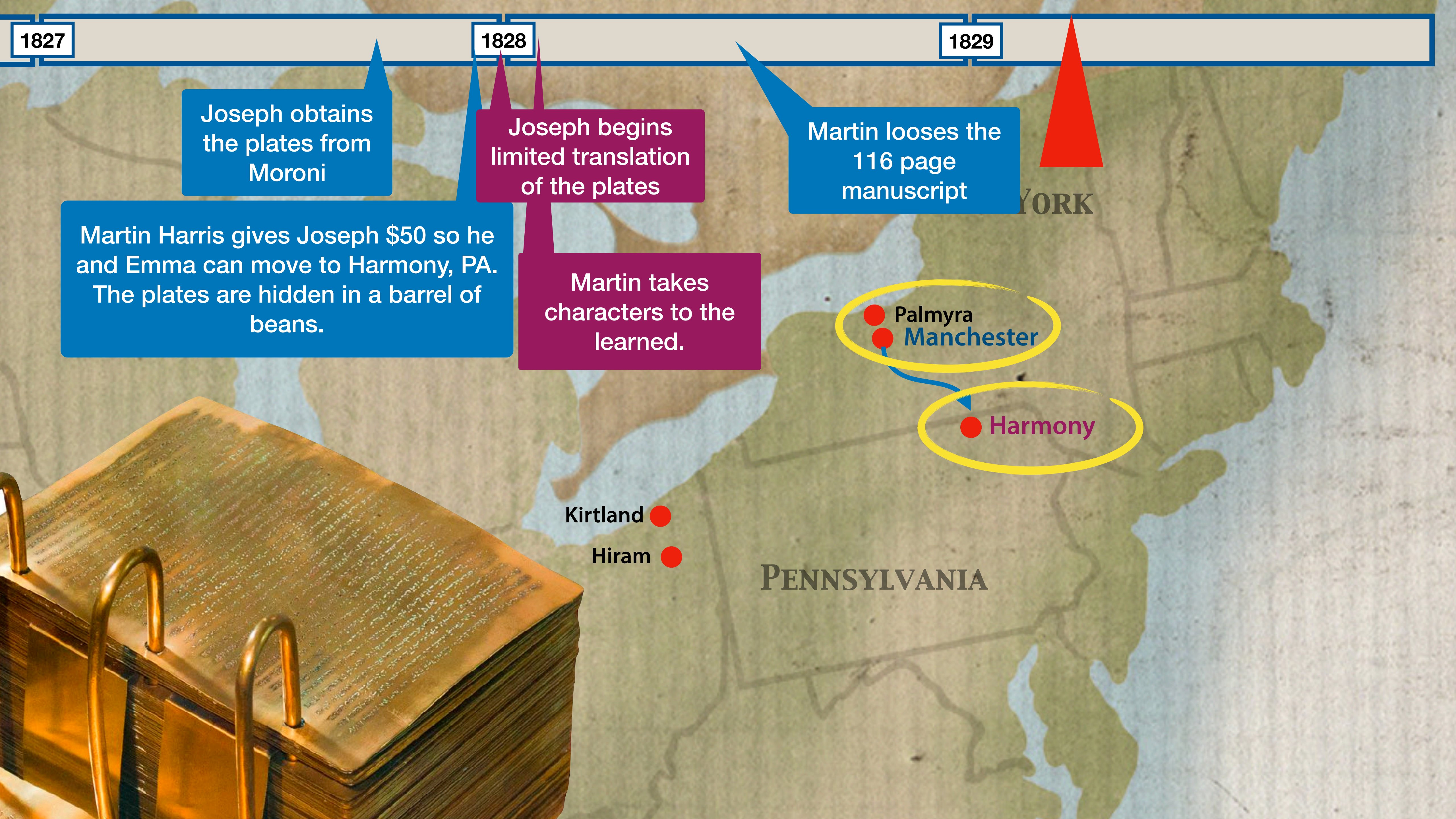
Harmony

Kirtland ●

Hiram ●

PENNSYLVANIA

YORK



20 And that the <sup>a</sup>Lamanites might come to the knowledge of their fathers, and that they might know the <sup>b</sup>promises of the Lord, and that they may <sup>c</sup>believe the gospel and

<sup>d</sup>rely upon the merits of Jesus Christ, and be <sup>e</sup>glorified through faith in his name, and that through their repentance they might be saved. Amen.

## SECTION 4

*Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet to his father, Joseph Smith Sr., at Harmony, Pennsylvania, February 1829.*

1–4, Valiant service saves the Lord's ministers; 5–6, Godly attributes qualify them for the ministry; 7, The things of God must be sought after.

Now behold, a <sup>a</sup>marvelous work is about to come forth among the children of men.

2 Therefore, O ye that embark in the <sup>a</sup>service of God, see that ye <sup>b</sup>serve him with all your heart, might, mind and strength, that ye may stand <sup>c</sup>blameless before God at the last day.

3 Therefore, if ye have desires to serve God ye are <sup>a</sup>called to the work;

4 For behold the <sup>a</sup>field is white already to <sup>b</sup>harvest; and lo, he that thrusteth in his sickle with his might, the same layeth up in <sup>c</sup>store that he perisheth not, but bringeth salvation to his soul;

5 And <sup>a</sup>faith, <sup>b</sup>hope, <sup>c</sup>charity and <sup>d</sup>love, with an <sup>e</sup>eye single to the <sup>f</sup>glory of God, <sup>g</sup>qualify him for the work.

6 Remember faith, <sup>a</sup>virtue, knowledge, <sup>b</sup>temperance, <sup>c</sup>patience, <sup>d</sup>brotherly <sup>e</sup>kindness, <sup>f</sup>godliness, charity, <sup>g</sup>humility, <sup>h</sup>diligence.

7 <sup>a</sup>Ask, and ye shall receive; <sup>b</sup>knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Amen.

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d 2 Ne. 31:19;  
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e Moro. 7:26 (26, 38).

4 1a Isa. 29:14;  
1 Ne. 14:7 (7–17); 22:8;  
D&C 6:1; 11:1; 12:1;

Mind;  
Strength.

c 1 Cor. 1:8;  
Col. 1:22;

Jacob 1:19;  
Mosiah 3:21;  
3 Ne. 27:20;  
D&C 88:85.

3a Matt. 8:19 (19–22);  
D&C 11:4, 15; 36:5;  
63:57.

TG Called of God;

d TG Love.

e Ps. 25:15; 141:8;  
Matt. 6:22;  
Morm. 8:15.

f TG Glory;  
Motivations.

g TG Priesthood,  
Qualifying for.

6a TG Chastity;  
Virtue.

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1–10, This generation will receive the Lord's word through Joseph Smith; 11–18, Three witnesses will testify of the Book of Mormon; 19–20, The word of the Lord will be verified as in previous times; 21–35, Martin Harris may repent and be one of the witnesses.

BEHOLD, I say unto you, that as my servant <sup>a</sup>Martin Harris has desired a witness at my hand, that you, my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., have got the plates of which you have testified and borne record that you have received of me;

2 And now, behold, this shall you say unto him—he who spake unto you, said unto you: I, the Lord, am God, and have given these things unto you, my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., and have commanded you that you should stand as a <sup>a</sup>witness of these things;

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4 And you have a gift to <sup>a</sup>translate the plates; and this is the first gift that I bestowed upon you; and I have commanded that you should pretend to no other gift until my purpose is fulfilled in this; for I will

grant unto you no other gift until it is finished.

5 Verily, I say unto you, that <sup>a</sup>woe shall come unto the inhabitants of the earth if they will not <sup>b</sup>hearken unto my words;

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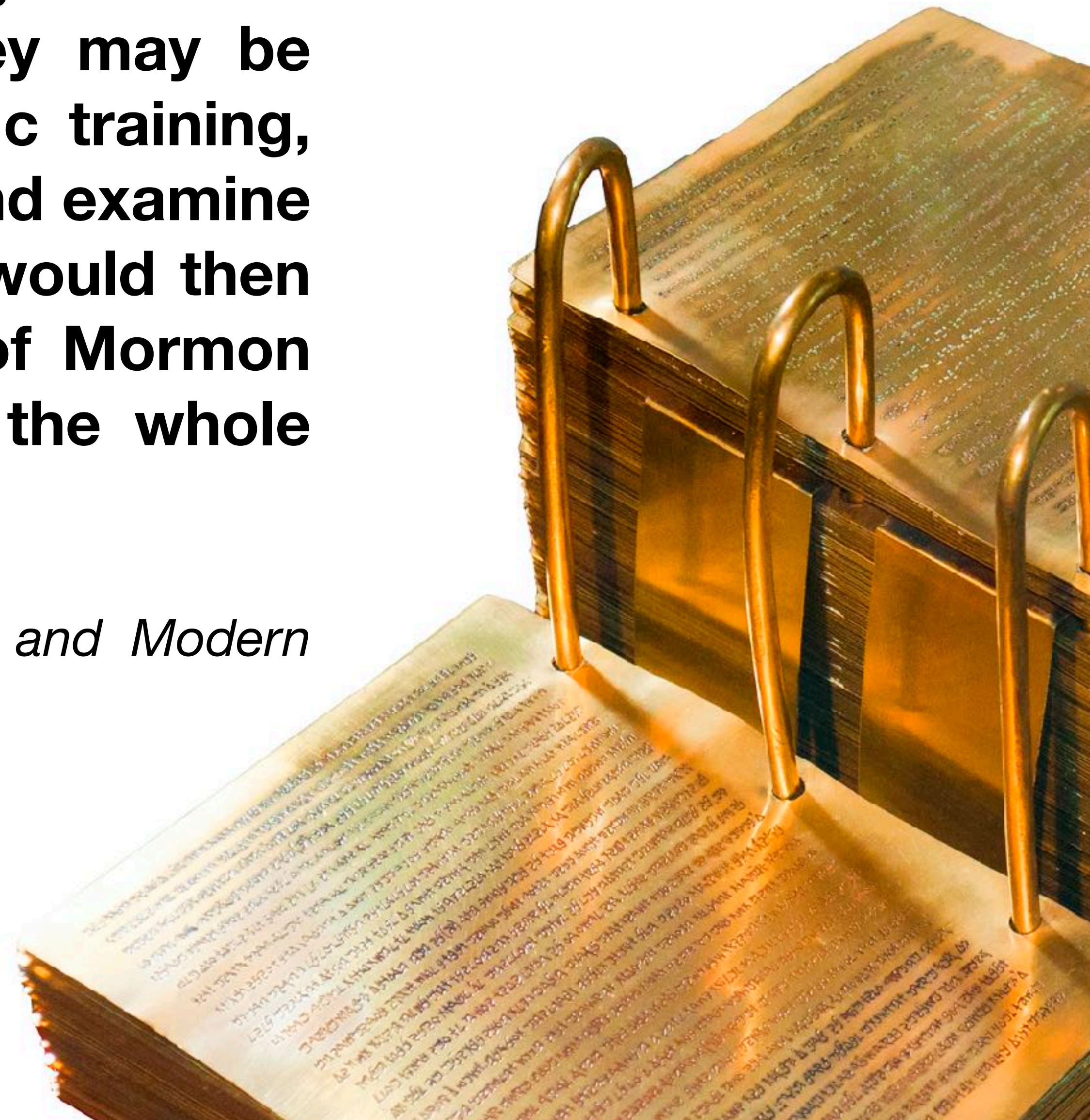
5 1a D&C 5:23 (23–24);  
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d 2 Ne. 3:11.  
4a D&C 3:12 (25 (25, 28))

b Morm. 8:33.  
7a Haughtiness

**“Frequently when [people] ... hear the story of the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, they ask if the plates are in some museum where they may be seen. Some of them with some scientific training, [suggest] that if the scholars could see and examine the plates and learn to read them, they would then bear witness to the truth of the Book of Mormon and the veracity of Joseph Smith, and the whole world would then be converted”**

*(President Joseph Fielding Smith, “Church History and Modern Revelation,” 2 vols. [1953], 1:40).*



20 And that the <sup>a</sup>Lamanites might come to the knowledge of their fathers, and that they might know the <sup>b</sup>promises of the Lord, and that they may <sup>c</sup>believe the gospel and

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f TG Glory;  
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4a D&C 3:12 (25, 28)

b Morm. 8:33.  
7a Houghton

**“This revelation declared that this generation shall have the word of the Lord through Joseph Smith. There may be some who think that this is unreasonable, and the Lord should use some miraculous means to convert the world... When they are informed that the angel took the plates back again, they turn away in their skepticism, shaking their heads. But the Lord has said: ‘For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.’ (Isa. 55:8–9.)**

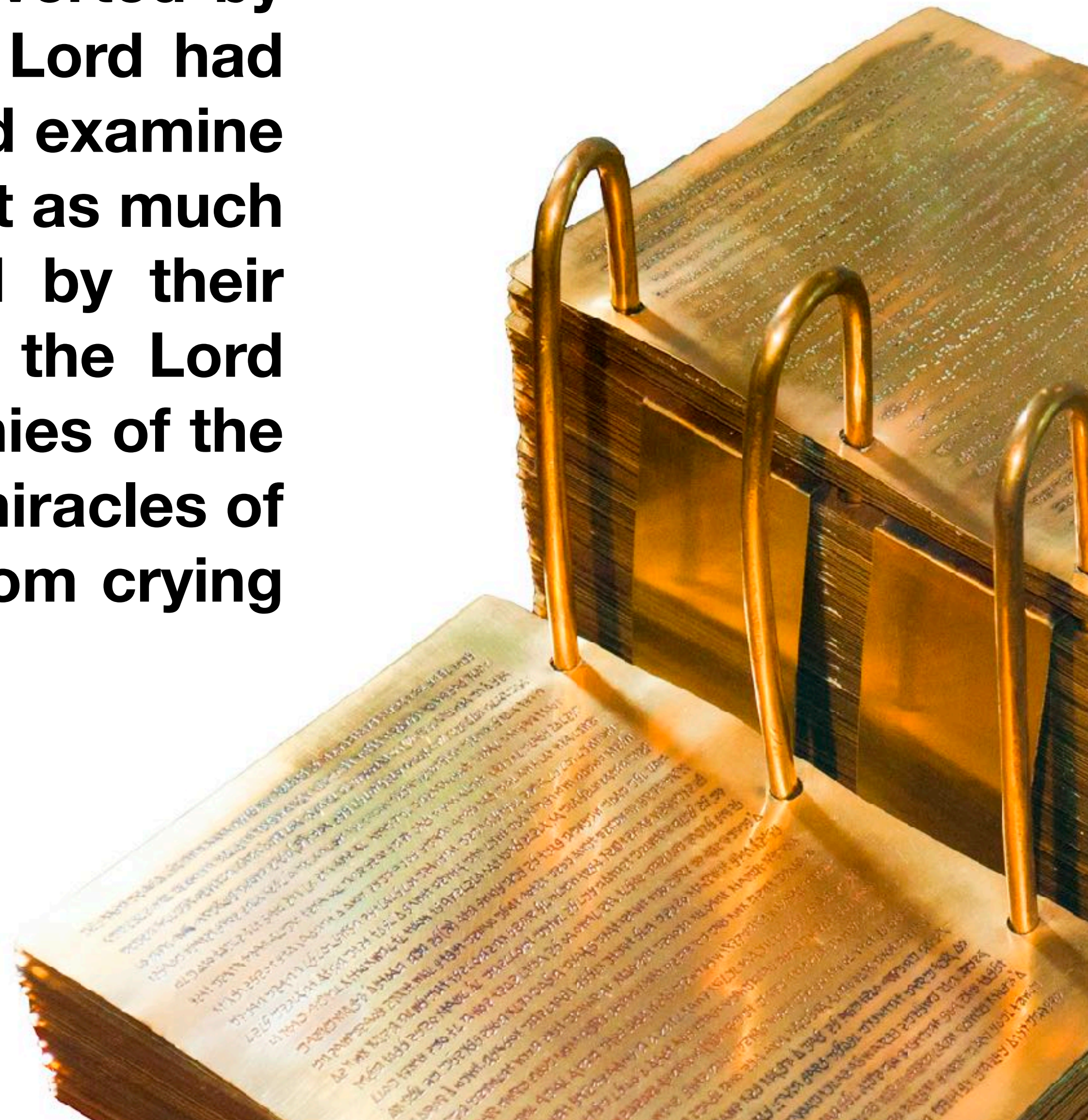
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**We have learned that people are not converted by miracles or by examining records. If the Lord had placed the plates where the scholars could examine them, they would have scoffed at them just as much as they do today. People are converted by their hearts being penetrated by the Spirit of the Lord when they humbly hearken to the testimonies of the Lord's servants. The Jews witnessed the miracles of our Lord, but this did not prevent them from crying out against him and having him crucified.”**

*(President Joseph Fielding Smith, “Church History and Modern Revelation,” 2 vols. [1953], 1:40).*



20 And that the <sup>a</sup>Lamanites might come to the knowledge of their fathers, and that they might know the <sup>b</sup>promises of the Lord, and that they may <sup>c</sup>believe the gospel and

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7a Houghton

13 I will give them power that they may behold and view these things as they are;

14 And to <sup>a</sup>none else will I grant this power, to receive this same testimony among this generation, in this the beginning of the rising up and the coming forth of my <sup>b</sup>church out of the wilderness—clear as the <sup>c</sup>moon, and fair as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.

15 And the testimony of three <sup>a</sup>witnesses will I send forth of my word.

16 And behold, whosoever <sup>a</sup>believeth on my words, them will I <sup>b</sup>visit with the <sup>c</sup>manifestation of my <sup>d</sup>Spirit; and they shall be <sup>e</sup>born of me, even of water and of the Spirit—

17 And you must wait yet a little while, for ye are not yet <sup>a</sup>ordained—

18 And their testimony shall also go forth unto the <sup>a</sup>condemnation of this generation if they <sup>b</sup>harden their hearts against them;

19 For a desolating <sup>a</sup>scourge shall go forth among the inhabitants of the earth, and shall continue to be poured out from time to time, if they <sup>o</sup>repent not, until the earth is <sup>c</sup>empty, and the inhabitants thereof are <sup>d</sup>consumed away and utterly destroyed by the brightness of my <sup>e</sup>coming.

20 Behold, I tell you these things,

even as I also <sup>a</sup>told the people of the destruction of Jerusalem; and my <sup>b</sup>word shall be verified at this time as it hath hitherto been verified.

21 And now I command you, my servant Joseph, to <sup>a</sup>repent and <sup>b</sup>walk more uprightly before me, and to yield to the <sup>c</sup>persuasions of men no more;

22 And that you be <sup>a</sup>firm in <sup>b</sup>keeping the commandments wherewith I have commanded you; and if you do this, behold I grant unto you <sup>c</sup>eternal life, even if you should be <sup>d</sup>slain.

23 And now, again, I speak unto you, my servant Joseph, concerning the <sup>a</sup>man that desires the witness—

24 Behold, I say unto him, he exalts himself and does not <sup>a</sup>humble himself sufficiently before me; but if he will <sup>b</sup>bow down before me, and humble himself in mighty <sup>c</sup>prayer and faith, in the <sup>d</sup>sincerity of his heart, then will I grant unto him a <sup>e</sup>view of the things which he desires to see.

25 And then he shall say unto the people of this generation: Behold, I have seen the things which the Lord hath shown unto Joseph Smith, Jun., and I <sup>a</sup>know of a surety that they are true, for I have seen them, for they have been shown unto me by the power of God and not of man.

26 And I the Lord command him, my servant Martin Harris, that he shall say no more unto them concerning these things, except he shall say: I have seen them, and they have been shown unto me by the power of God; and these are the words which he shall say.

27 But if he deny this he will break the <sup>a</sup>covenant which he has before covenanted with me, and behold, he is condemned.

28 And now, except he humble himself and acknowledge unto me the things that he has done which are wrong, and covenant with me that he will keep my commandments, and exercise <sup>a</sup>faith in me, behold, I say unto him, he shall have no such views, for I will grant unto him no views of the things of which I have spoken.

29 And if this be the case, I command you, my servant Joseph, that you shall say unto him, that he shall do no more, nor trouble me any more concerning this matter.

30 And if this be the case, behold, I say unto thee Joseph, when thou

hast translated a few more pages thou shalt stop for a season, even until I command thee again; then thou mayest translate again.

31 And except thou do this, behold, thou shalt have no more gift, and I will take away the things which I have entrusted with thee.

32 And now, because I foresee the lying in wait to destroy thee, yea, I foresee that if my servant Martin Harris humbleth not himself and receive a witness from my hand, that he will fall into <sup>a</sup>transgression;

33 And there are many that lie in wait to <sup>a</sup>destroy thee from off the face of the earth; and for this cause, that thy days may be <sup>b</sup>prolonged, I have given unto thee these commandments.

34 Yea, for this cause I have said: Stop, and <sup>a</sup>stand still until I command thee, and I will <sup>b</sup>provide means whereby thou mayest accomplish the thing which I have commanded thee.

35 And if thou art <sup>a</sup>faithful in keeping my commandments, thou shalt be <sup>b</sup>lifted up at the last day. Amen.

## SECTION 6

*Revelation given to Joseph Smith the Prophet and Oliver Cowdery, at Harmony, Pennsylvania, April 1829. Oliver Cowdery began his labors as scribe in the translation of the Book of Mormon, April 7, 1829. He had already received a divine manifestation of the truth of the Prophet's testimony respecting the plates on which was engraved the Book of Mormon record. The Prophet inquired of the Lord through the Urim and Thummim and received this response.*

1–6, Laborers in the Lord's field gain salvation; 7–13, There is no gift greater

witness of the truth comes by the power of the Spirit; 28–37, Look unto Christ,

**The Word of the Lord  
Will be Verified**

**Martin Harris May Repent and Be One of the Witnesses**

13 I will give them power that they may behold and view these things as they are;

14 And to <sup>a</sup>none else will I grant this power, to receive this same testimony among this generation, in this the beginning of the rising up and the coming forth of my <sup>b</sup>church out of the wilderness—clear as the <sup>c</sup>moon, and fair as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.

15 And the testimony of three <sup>a</sup>witnesses will I send forth of my word.

16 And behold, whosoever <sup>a</sup>believeth on my words, them will I <sup>b</sup>visit with the <sup>c</sup>manifestation of my <sup>d</sup>Spirit; and they shall be <sup>e</sup>born of me, even of water and of the Spirit—

17 And you must wait yet a little while, for ye are not yet <sup>a</sup>ordained—

18 And their testimony shall also go forth unto the <sup>a</sup>condemnation of this generation if they <sup>b</sup>harden their hearts against them;

19 For a desolating <sup>a</sup>scourge shall go forth among the inhabitants of the earth, and shall continue to be poured out from time to time, if they <sup>b</sup>repent not, until the earth is <sup>c</sup>empty, and the inhabitants thereof are <sup>d</sup>consumed away and utterly destroyed by the brightness of my <sup>e</sup>coming.

20 Behold, I tell you these things,

even as I also <sup>a</sup>told the people of the destruction of Jerusalem; and my <sup>b</sup>word shall be verified at this time as it hath hitherto been verified.

21 And now I command you, my servant Joseph, to <sup>a</sup>repent and <sup>b</sup>walk more uprightly before me, and to yield to the <sup>c</sup>persuasions of men no more;

22 And that you be <sup>a</sup>firm in <sup>b</sup>keeping the commandments wherewith I have commanded you; and if you do this, behold I grant unto you <sup>c</sup>eternal life, even if you should be <sup>d</sup>slain.

23 And now, again, I speak unto you, my servant Joseph, concerning the <sup>a</sup>man that desires the witness—

24 Behold, I say unto him, he exalts himself and does not <sup>a</sup>humble himself sufficiently before me; but if he will <sup>b</sup>bow down before me, and humble himself in mighty <sup>c</sup>prayer and faith, in the <sup>d</sup>sincerity of his heart, then will I grant unto him a <sup>e</sup>view of the things which he desires to see.

25 And then he shall say unto the people of this generation: Behold, I have seen the things which the Lord hath shown unto Joseph Smith, Jun., and I <sup>a</sup>know of a surety that they are true, for I have seen them, for they have been shown unto me by the power of God and not of man.

**The Word of the Lord  
Will be Verified**

26 And I the Lord command him, my servant Martin Harris, that he shall say no more unto them concerning these things, except he shall say: I have seen them, and they have been shown unto me by the power of God; and these are the words which he shall say.

27 But if he deny this he will break the <sup>a</sup>covenant which he has before covenanted with me, and behold, he is condemned.

28 And now, except he humble himself and acknowledge unto me the things that he has done which are wrong, and covenant with me that he will keep my commandments, and exercise <sup>a</sup>faith in me, behold, I say unto him, he shall have no such views, for I will grant unto him no views of the things of which I have spoken.

29 And if this be the case, I command you, my servant Joseph, that you shall say unto him, that he shall do no more, nor trouble me any more concerning this matter.

30 And if this be the case, behold, I say unto thee Joseph, when thou

hast translated a few more pages thou shalt stop for a season, even until I command thee again; then thou mayest translate again.

31 And except thou do this, behold, thou shalt have no more gift, and I will take away the things which I have entrusted with thee.

32 And now, because I foresee the lying in wait to destroy thee, yea, I foresee that if my servant Martin Harris humbleth not himself and receive a witness from my hand, that he will fall into <sup>a</sup>transgression;

33 And there are many that lie in wait to <sup>a</sup>destroy thee from off the face of the earth; and for this cause, that thy days may be <sup>b</sup>prolonged, I have given unto thee these commandments.

34 Yea, for this cause I have said: Stop, and <sup>a</sup>stand still until I command thee, and I will <sup>b</sup>provide means whereby thou mayest accomplish the thing which I have commanded thee.

35 And if thou art <sup>a</sup>faithful in keeping my commandments, thou shalt be <sup>b</sup>lifted up at the last day. Amen.

## SECTION 6

*Revelation given to Joseph Smith the Prophet and Oliver Cowdery, at Harmony, Pennsylvania, April 1829. Oliver Cowdery began his labors as scribe in the translation of the Book of Mormon, April 7, 1829. He had already received a divine manifestation of the truth of the Prophet's testimony respecting the plates on which was engraved the Book of Mormon record. The Prophet inquired of the Lord through the Urim and Thummim and received this response.*

1–6, Laborers in the Lord's field gain salvation; 7–13, There is no gift greater

witness of the truth comes by the power of the Spirit; 28–37, Look unto Christ,

13 I will give them power that they may behold and view these things as they are;

14 And to <sup>a</sup>none else will I grant this power, to receive this same testimony among this generation, in this the beginning of the rising up and the coming forth of my <sup>b</sup>church out of the wilderness—clear as the <sup>c</sup>moon, and fair as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.

15 And the testimony of three <sup>a</sup>witnesses will I send forth of my word.

16 And behold, whosoever <sup>a</sup>believeth on my words, them will I <sup>b</sup>visit with the <sup>c</sup>manifestation of my <sup>d</sup>Spirit; and they shall be <sup>e</sup>born of me, even of water and of the Spirit—

17 And you must wait yet a little while, for ye are not yet <sup>a</sup>ordained—

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