

"The Contract"

Class 05

Book of Mormon Class

Living Hope Congregation, Independence, MO.

Part of this class was presented in this video series.

The Rest of This class will be completed at Restored Gospel Podcast.



The Contract

Lamanite Tradition

When History Isn't?

A Book

Torn pages

Divergent Pathways

Contract

\$20 and the Governor

Don't Publish

No other Gift

Isaiah's work

AC

PB's

Unalterable Decrees

Eternal Justice

In the Book of Mormon.....

Perhaps the Significant Determinant of who the Lamanites were was....

Tradition!

It's OK to ask questions....

- The promise is that someday we all see eye to eye
- There will be agreement in Christ.
- We don't always recognize our traditions..
- It's not OK to lack charity...

LDS...admitted to changes to historical 'reality'

"I commenced revising the history of Joseph Smith at Brother Richard's office: Elder Heber C. Kimball and George A. Smith were with me. President Joseph Smith had corrected forty-two pages before his massacre. It afforded us great satisfaction to hear Brother [Willard] Richards read the history of the infancy of the church. Adjourned at eleven p.m. having read one hundred and forty pages in Book 'A'"

Brigham Young, History of the Church 7:29, p. 389; April 1, 1845

Was this true??

"The early leaders of the Church had been rewriting their history from the time of Joseph Smith's first revelations, changing and elaborating details, and sometimes consciously altering the facts to suit later circumstances."

No Man Knows My History, Fawn Brodie

(Fawn Brodie's book was banned from LDS church)

LDS problem only??

In a 2019 article in the Salt Lake Tribune, historian Matthew Bowman discussed the Church's history of revising its own history:

"The church has long been aware of the problem of a <u>tightly</u> <u>controlled narrative</u>, and over the last two decades has made a concerted effort to be more transparent about its past.

But in the 19th and early 20th centuries, church leaders had a different idea about what history should do:

It should be inspirational, and tell the story of the faithful who followed the prophet."

History....re-written??

"By the early 1840s, Joseph Smith had begun to supervise the writing of a history of the church, which would be used to correct the inaccuracies and misrepresentations published in the newspapers. . . .

But even this official history underwent revisions and additions, often to address later theological developments or to sanitize the record."

Intro to JosephSmithPapers.org

Discovery of the 1832 Version of JS Vision (From "The Case of the Three Torn Pages")

Reference: The Case of the Three Torn Pages https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B46d9-tC8xTAOWdaek56WTdYZVU/preview?pli=1&resourcekey=0-jWtH-

9R9KPkNEkUOdneSeA

https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/letterbook-1/9#!/paperSummary/letterbook-1&p=9

1965 – Cheesman prepares typescript of masters thesis:

"An Analysis of the Accounts Relating Joseph Smith's Early Visions" https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/etd/4590/

https://www.dialoguejournal.com/wp-content/uploads/sbi/articles/Dialogue_V47N02_210.pdf

(From "The Case of the Three Torn Pages")

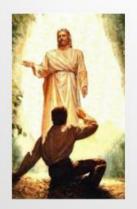
Discovery of the 1832 Version

- 1832 Joseph Smith, Jr records his hand-written account of First Vision in first three (2-sided) pages of Letterbook 1
- 1838/39 Official account of First Vision
 - canonized in Pearl of Great Price in 1880
- 1844 Joseph Smith, Jr. killed in Carthage, IL
- 1847 Brigham Young and saints trek to Utah, bring boxes of Church records to Salt Lake City (including Letterbook 1)
- 1901 Joseph Fielding Smith (JFS) began work in Church Historian and Recorder office
- 1910 JFS called as Apostle
- 1921 JFS called as Church Historian
- ~1921-1935 JFS and Church Historian office process box of Nauvoo records, discover Letterbook 1(approximately 100 years after it was created)
- ~1930-35 Three pages containing JS's handwritten 1832 account are torn out of Letterbook 1 and placed in JFS's office safe
 - Rest of Letterbook 1 and other Nauvoo records placed in Church archives

(From "The Case of the Three Torn Pages")

Who Tore Out the Pages? Why?

- Who?
 - Evidence strongly points to Joseph Fielding Smith
- Why?
 - JS's hand-written version contradicted the canonized 1838 version
 - 1832 JS already knew no churches were right, only Christ appears
 - 1838 JS seeks which church to join, Father and Son appears, told to join none of churches
 - This struck at heart of Joseph Smith's claim of being divinely called to restore True Church. JFS must've feared fallout.



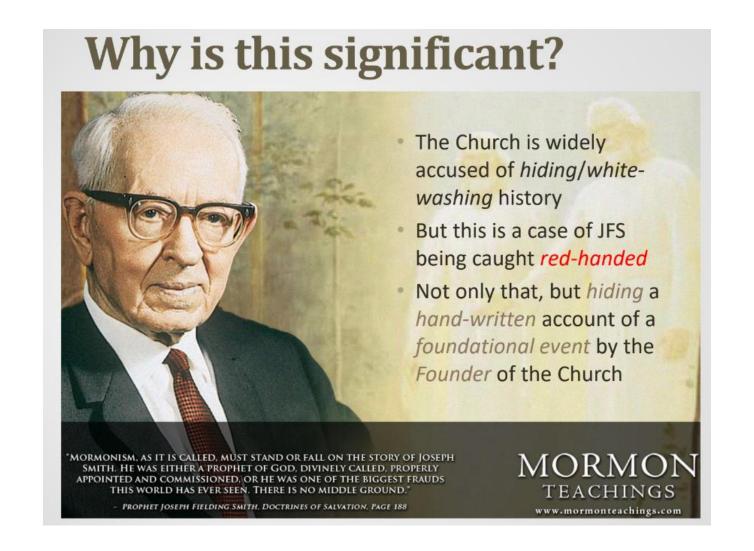








(From "The Case of the Three Torn Pages")



Ancient Contracts in the Bible

- "Treaty of the Great King," by Meredith Kline (1963)
- Describes Ancient Contracts in Israel between Parties
- Also Called a "bilateral covenant"
- Same Words written on two sides of the scroll
- Scroll torn, each party keeping a side.
- Brought together in presence of the king.

And there is another Aspect...

Ezekiel 37:16

Son of man, take a stick and write on it, "For Judah, and the people of Israel associated with him; "

then take another stick and write on it,

"For Joseph (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of Israel associated with him."

And join them one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand."

Contract

Contract

Corey is hiring Mike to buy 2 lb. blueberries for \$10.

Paid when delivered.

Contract

Corey is hiring Mike to buy 2 lb. blueberries for \$10.

Paid when delivered.

Contract—What if torn in half?

Contract for Corey

Corey is hiring Mike to buy 2 lb. blueberries for \$10.

Paid when delivered.

Contract for Mike

Corey is hiring Mike to buy 2 lb. blueberries for \$10.

Paid when delivered.

The Tear prevented just any two contracts from being joined.

Contract for Corey

Contract for Mike

Corey is hiring Mike to buy 2 lb. blueberries for \$10.

Paid when delivered.

Corey is hiring Mike to buy 2 lb. blueberries for \$10.

Paid when delivered.

No Opportunity for Mischief.

Contract for Corey

Corey is hiring Mike to buy 2 lb. blueberries for \$10.

Paid when delivered.

Contract for Mike

Corey is hiring Mike to buy 1 lb. strawberries for \$20.

Paid up front.

The Book of Mormon is an ANCIENT ORIGINAL SIDE of God's CONTRACT

2 Nephi 12:

65 For I command all men - both in the east, and in the west, and in the north, and in the south, and in the islands of the sea - That they shall write the words which I speak unto them;

66 For out of the books which shall be written, I will judge the world, Every man according to their works, According to that which is written.

67 "For behold, I shall speak unto the Jews, and they shall write it;

68 And I shall also speak unto the Nephites, and they shall write it;

69 And I shall also speak unto the other tribes of the house of Israel which I have led away, and they shall write it;

70 And I shall also speak unto all the nations of the earth, and they shall write it.

71 "And it shall come to pass that the Jews shall have the words of the Nephites,

And the Nephites shall have the words of the Jews;

72 And the Nephites and the Jews shall have the words of the lost tribes of Israel; And the lost tribes of Israel shall have the words of the Nephites and the Jews.

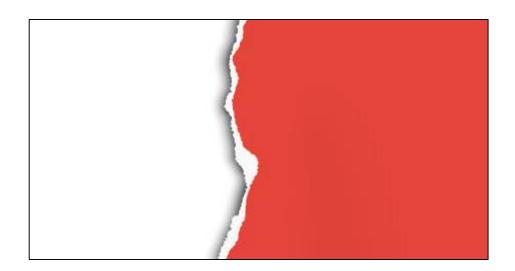
73 "And it shall come to pass that My people, which are of the house of Israel, Shall be gathered home unto the lands of their possessions;

And My word also shall be gathered in one.

The Book of Mormon is an ANCIENT ORIGINAL SIDE of God's CONTRACT

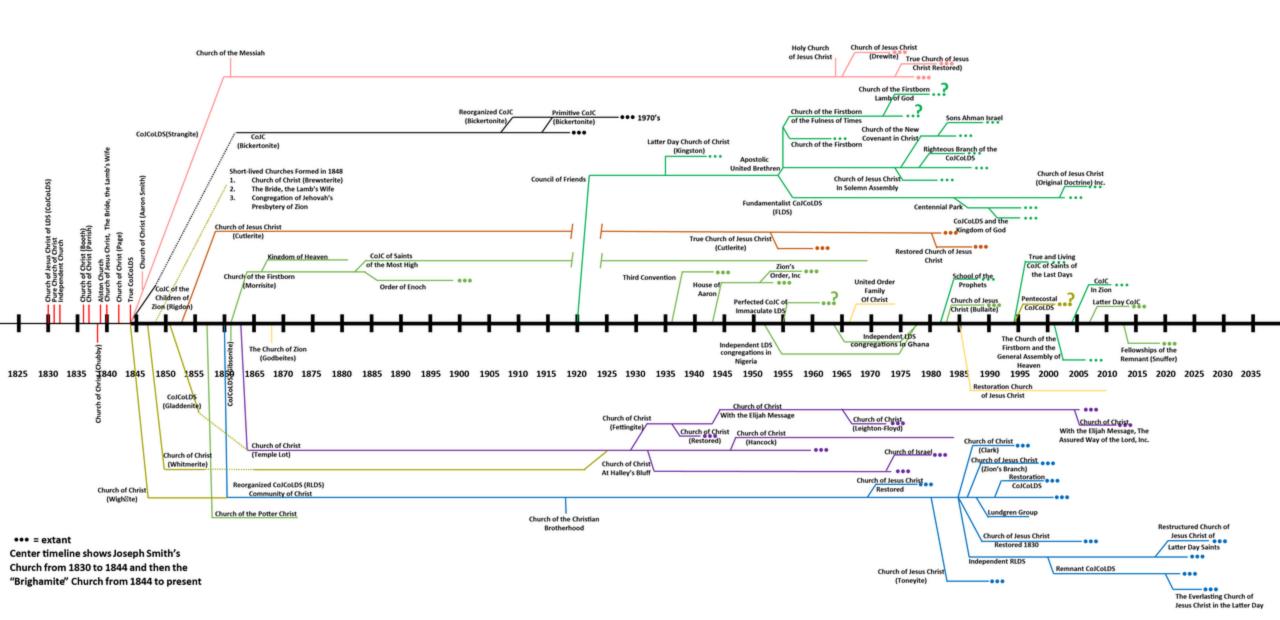
Joseph Kept a Half

Jews Kept a Half

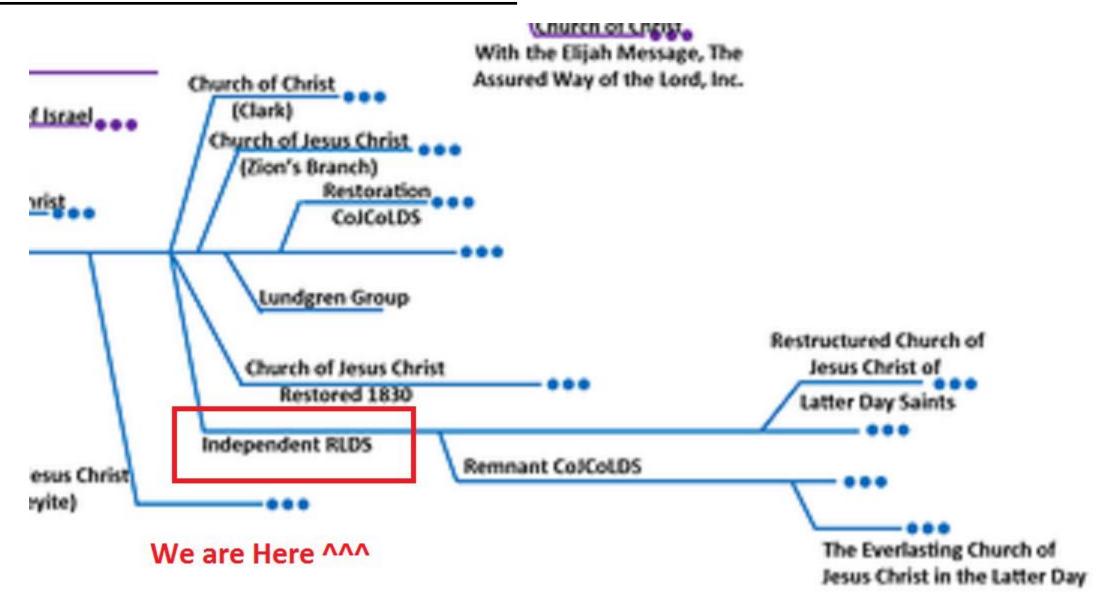


The Gentile "Restoration"

The Gentile "Restoration"



The Gentile "Restoration"



What to learn from this?

Disagreeing over things like 'Authority'

What to learn from this? We Gentiles Call it 'The Restoration'

2 Nephi 12:40

Wo be unto the Gentiles saith the Lord God of Hosts.

For notwithstanding I shall lengthen out Mine arm unto them from day to day,

they will deny Me.

2 Nephi 12:

40 "Wo be unto the Gentiles!" saith the Lord God of Hosts;

For notwithstanding I shall lengthen out Mine arm unto them from day to day, they will deny Me;

41 Nevertheless, I will be merciful unto them, " saith the Lord God, if they will repent and come unto Me.

For Mine arm is lengthened out all the day long, "saith the Lord God of Hosts.

42 "But behold, there shall be many at that day [ELLIPSIS omitted: non-Repentance] when I shall proceed to do a marvelous work among them, That I may remember My covenants which I have made unto the children of men, That I may set My hand again the second time to recover My people which are of the house of Israel,

43 And also,
that I may remember the promises which I have
made unto thee, Nephi, and also unto thy father,
that I would remember your seed,
And that the words of your seed should proceed
forth out of My mouth unto your seed.

44 "And My words shall hiss forth unto the ends of the earth for a standard unto My people which are of the house of Israel;

<u> 3 Nephi 7</u>

34 "And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you: 'At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against My gospel, And shall reject the fullness of My gospel,

And shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations and above all the people of the whole earth, And shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner of hypocrisy and murders, and priestcrafts and whoredoms, and of secret abominations -

35 And if they shall do all these things, And shall reject the fullness of My gospel, Behold, 'saith the Father, 'I will bring the fullness of My gospel from among them;

36 And THEN will I remember My covenant which I have made unto My people, O house of Israel, And I will bring My gospel unto them;

The Prophesied Restoration of Israel

- Israel's True restoration has not happened yet.
- Does not happen in the shadow of the Gentiles.
- Prophecy Indicates the Gentiles Deny God.
- How and Why? Like everyone else. Traditions become incorrect.
- The Restoration of Israel happens when Gentiles Judged for Rejecting God.

From Book of Commandments...

Section 4

2 And now, behold, this shall you say unto him: I the Lord am God, and I have given these things unto my servant Joseph, and have commanded him that he should stand as a witness of these things, nevertheless I have caused him that he should enter into a covenant with me, that he should not show them except I command him, and he has no power over them except I grant it unto him;

and he has a gift to translate the book, and I have commanded him that he shall pretend to no other gift, for I will grant him no other gift

What was changed??

Book of Commandments

and he has a gift to translate the book, and I have commanded him that he shall pretend to no other gift, for I will grant him no other gift

(3RD PERSON ORIGINALLY)

ORIGINAL WORKING: Teaches ONE Gift

Doctrine and Covenants

DC 5:1d And you have a gift to 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.

MODIFIED WORDING:

Teaches More than One Gift

(Return)

A Book....

"What an astonishing thing a book is.

It's a flat object made from a tree with flexible parts on which are imprinted lots of funny dark squiggles.

But one glance at it and you're inside the mind of another person, maybe somebody dead for thousands of years.

Across the millennia, an author is speaking clearly and silently inside your head, directly to you.

Writing is perhaps the greatest of human inventions, binding together people who never knew each other, citizens of distant epochs.

Books break the shackles of time.

A book is proof that humans are capable of working magic."

-- Carl Sagan, "Cosmos"

This Book, The Book of Mormon

- God has given you a gift via the Book of Mormon of being inside the minds of spiritual heavyweights.
- What they think, how they learned.
- We get the story of a family who had never heard about Jesus before and how they learned of him, by him.
- Advice: Do not disregard what they taught about the relationship of Jesus to us.
- We are not more advanced today because we have heard of Zion.
- They had their finger on the pulse of what it meant to seek, listen and obey.

What is this?



No you can't.

Because THIS is (a picture of) a COUNTERFEIT \$20 Bill



Here is a real (top) and the FAKE.

They are close, but not the same.

(The Bottom one won't buy you ANYTHING!!)



How do Bankers Know the Difference?



They handle enough Real Ones, they can simply feel which ones are FAKE



How do we know real spiritual things from counterfeit?

Have to Handle the Real

How Many memorize Scripture?

How many of you can perfectly recite a single lengthy verse from Memory??

- 2 Consecutive Verses in a row??
- 3 Verses in a row???
- 4 Verses in a row?????

Church History: Letter to Governor.

I love the DISCIPLINE of the Book of Mormon writers

- Why?
- Because when they were told to stop writing....they stopped.

Early Nephite Writers....Obeyed

1 Nephi 3

- 246 And behold, the things which this apostle of the Lamb shall write are many things which thou hast seen;
- 247 And behold, the remainder shalt thou see;
- 248 But the things which thou shalt see hereafter, thou shalt not write, For the Lord God hath ordained the apostle of the Lamb of God, that he should write them,
- 252 And behold, I, Nephi, am forbidden that I should write the remainder of the things which I saw, Wherefore, the things which I have written sufficeth me;

Early Jaredite Writers....Obeyed

Ether 6:14

(Mormon writing...) And I was about to write more but I am forbidden; But great and marvellous were the prophecies of Ether

Latter Gentile writers.....

Book of Commandments

"I command you that you preach naught but repentance; <u>and</u>
show not these things, neither
speak these things unto the
world,

for they cannot bear meat, but milk they must receive:

wherefore, they must not know these things, lest they perish."

Doctrine and Covenants (later):

DC 18:21 And
I command you that you preach naught but repentance, and show not these things unto the world until it is wisdom in me;

But Latter Gentile writers.....??

Book of Commandments

"I command you that you preach naught but repentance; <u>and</u>
show not these things, neither
speak these things unto the
world,

for they cannot bear meat, but milk they must receive:

wherefore, they must not know these things, lest they perish."

Doctrine and Covenants (later):

DC 18:21 And

I command you that you preach naught but repentance, and show not these things unto the world until it is wisdom in me;

David Whitmer: The words, "until it is wisdom in me," were added to this revelation. They had to add these words in order to publish the revelations. "An Address to All Believers"

(Return)

What was said?

Evening and the Morning Star in July 1833.

The article criticized the "inhabitants of Jackson County" for their treatment of the Latter-day Saints, and referred to them as "a community of dissenters, and a mongrel set of character, under the influence of the prince of darkness."

The article went on to say that the residents of Jackson County had been "notorious for their opposition to truth and righteousness," and had "pursued a course towards the Church of Christ that has brought the displeasure of heaven upon them."

David Whitmer: An Address to All Believers

The main reason why the printing press was destroyed, was because they published the Book of Commandments. It fell into the hands of the world, and the people of Jackson county, Missouri, saw from the revelations that they were considered by the church as intruders upon the land of Zion, as enemies to the church, and that they should be cut off out of the land of Zion and sent away.

The people seeing these things in the Book of Commandments became the more enraged, tore down the printing press, and drove the church out of Jackson county. (See Doc. and Cov., Sections 52:9, 64:7, 45:15.) "Which is the land of your inheritance. Which is now the land of your enemies." "And the rebellious shall be cut off out of the land of Zion, and shall be sent away, and shall not inherit the land." "And now I say unto you, keep these things from going abroad unto the world, until it is expedient in me, that ye may accomplish this work in the eyes of the people, and in the eyes of your enemies, that they may not know your works until ye have accomplished the thing which I have commanded you."

This is sufficient. I will quote no more to show you that the leaders made a mistake in publishing the revelations in a book. It is too plain.

\$20 Bucks and the Governor

- The Saints appealed to the Governor who eventually issued an extermination order of Latter Day Saints from Jackson County—the only extermination order ever dictated by a US Governor.
- But what did the saints say?

Address to Governor of Missouri, 1830s

The holy prophets had declared, 'that it should come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house should be established in the top of the mountains, and should be exalted above the hills, and all nations should flow unto it.

And many people should go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob: and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.' (Isaiah 2:3)

Address to Governor of Missouri, 1830s

And again it was said by Joel, seemingly to strengthen the faith of the Latter Day Saints in the above, 'that whosoever should call on the name of the Lord should be delivered, for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem, shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.'

(Joel 2:32)

The Book of Mormon, which we hold equally sacred with the Bible, says, 'that a New Jerusalem should be built up on this land, unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph, for the which things there has been a type.'

In fact all the prophets from Moses to John the revelator have spoken concerning these things, and in all good faith, by direct revelation from the Lord, as in days of old, we commenced the glorious work, that a holy city, a New Jerusalem, even Zion, might be built up, and a temple reared in this generation, whereunto, as saith the Lord, all nations should be invited.

The Book of Mormon, which we hold equally sacred with the Bible, says, 'that a New Jerusalem should be built up on this land, unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph, for the which things there has been a type.'

Scripture actually states:

<u>up upon this land</u>, <u>And it shall be a land of their inheritance</u>; <u>And they shall build up a holy city</u> unto the Lord, like unto the Jerusalem of old; And they shall no more be confounded until the end come when the earth shall pass away; (REMNANT=LITERAL DESCENDANTS)

In fact all the prophets from Moses to John the revelator have spoken concerning these things,



This too is scripturally Incorrect.

Book of Mormon does NOT state that all spoke of Zion being built up, but ALL PROPHESIED OF JESUS.

Scripture actually states:

Mosiah 8:11 "For behold, did not Moses prophesy unto them concerning the coming of the Messiah and that God should redeem His people? Yea, and even all the prophets which have prophesied ever since the world began,

Book of Mormon does NOT state that all spoke of Zion being built up, but ALL SPOKE OF JESUS.

Scripture actually states:

Mosiah 8:11 "For behold, did not Moses prophesy unto them concerning the coming of the Messiah and that God should redeem His people? Yea, and even all the prophets which have prophesied ever since the world began,

3 Nephi 9:62 "Verily I say unto you - Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have testified of Me -

Sources of....

'that a New Jerusalem should be built up on this land, unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph, for the which things there has been a type.'

In <u>fact all the prophets from Moses to John the</u> <u>revelator have spoken concerning these things</u>,

THE ACTUAL CONTEXT WAS NOT PROPHESYING ABOUT ZION,

BUT,

PROPHESYING ABOUT JESUS!

(TRUTH: Mosiah 8:11 "For behold, did not Moses prophesy unto them concerning the coming of the Messiah and that God should redeem His people? Yea, and even all the prophets which have prophesied ever since the world began,)

[OUT OF CONTEXT]

(Return)

Injected Words of Man....

and in all good faith, by direct revelation from the Lord, as in days of old, we commenced the glorious work, that a holy city, a New Jerusalem, even Zion, might be built up, and a temple reared in this generation, whereunto, as saith the Lord, all nations should be invited.

WHAT IT OMITS: ZION WOULD BE BUILT UP BY REMNANT WHEN LAMANITES HEARTS CHANGE.

[TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT]

Correct Verse:

Ether 6:8 Wherefore, the remnant of the house of Joseph shall be built up upon this land, And it shall be a land of their inheritance; And they shall build up a holy city unto the Lord, like unto the Jerusalem of old;

(Return)

What we have is an example of a misrepresentation OR streching of Scripture. How does this affect our Traditions?

- Is it possible to hold what was said about scripture above the scripture itself?
- Do we hold Gentile ideas about Zion above the prophecies of Jesus?
- What is our tradition vs reality?

God's Eternal Justice

Alma 15

55 I had not ought to harrow up in my desires the firm decree of a just God, For I know that He granteth unto men according to their desires, whether it be unto death or unto life,

Yea, I know that He allotteth unto man,

yea, decreeth unto them decrees which are unalterable according to their wills, whether it be unto salvation or unto destruction.

56 Yea, and I know that good and evil hath come before all men - Or he that knoweth not good from evil is blameless,

But he that knoweth good and evil, to him it is given according to his desires, Whether he desireth good or evil, life or death, joy or remorse of conscience.

Restoration Ever Taught Me This....

<u>Alma 15</u>

Yea, I know that He allotteth unto man, yea, decreeth unto them decrees which are unalterable according to their wills, whether it be unto salvation or unto destruction.

Grace defined as WILLINGNESS TO DIE FOR US?

John 10:14 (KJ)

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.

18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself.

I have power to lay it down,

and I have power to take it again.

This commandment have I received of my Father.

(WILLING TO GO TO THE CROSS)

Which Teaches Willingness and Grace....?

Mosiah 1:97-101

For behold, the time cometh and is not far distant, that with power the Lord Omnipotent who reigneth, which was and is from all eternity to all eternity, Shall come down from heaven among the children of men, And shall dwell in a tabernacle of clay,

For behold, blood cometh from every pore, so great shall be His anguish for the wickedness and the abominations of His people.

The Book of Mormon Teaches HE GAVE HIS LIFE WILLINGLY

Alma 5:21

And this that the word might be fulfilled which saith

He will take upon Him the pains and the sicknesses of His people;

And He will take upon Him death, that He may loose the bands of death which bind His people;

22 And He will take upon Him their infirmities, that His bowels may be filled with mercy, according to the flesh,

That He may know, according to the flesh, how to succor His people according to their infirmities.

The Book of Mormon Teaches This:

Gave His life WILLINGLY...

SYNTHETIC PARALLELISM— **INCREASING INFORMATION**

END/BEGIN

Alma 5:21 And this that the word might be fulfilled which saith He will take upon Him the pains and the sicknesses of His people; And He will take upon Him death, that He may loose the bands of 'DEATH'

death which bind His people;

22 And He will take upon Him their infirmities, that His bowels may be filled with mercy, according to the flesh, **ANADIPLOSIS-**That He may know,

> according to the flesh, how to succor His people

according to their infirmities.

COGNATE ACCUSATIVE "BANDS/BIND"

> **CHIASM PARALLELISM**

> > (Return)

JANUS

PARALLELISM ON

Which Teaches God's Willingness and Grace....?

Mosiah 1:97-101

For behold, the time cometh and is not far distant, that with power the Lord Omnipotent who reigneth, which was and is from all eternity to all eternity, Shall come down from heaven among the children of men, And shall dwell in a tabernacle of clay,

For behold, blood cometh from every pore, so great shall be His anguish for the wickedness and the abominations of His people.

DC 18:2i which suffering caused myself, even God, the greatest of all, to tremble because of pain, and to bleed at every pore, and to suffer both body and spirit, and would that I might not drink the bitter cup, and shrink;

(Return)

What Does the Book of Mormon Teach about Salvation??

Alma 19:98

Now repentance could not come unto men except there were a punishment, which also was as eternal as the life of the soul should be.

Affixed opposite to the plan of happiness, which was as eternal also as the life of the soul.

What Does the Book of Mormon Teach about Salvation

Helaman 4:71 And may God grant in His great fullness that men might be brought unto repentance and good works.

SYNTHETIC PARALLELISM—

That they might be restored unto grace. INCREASING INFORMATION

For grace according to their works.

ANTITHETICAL PARALLELISM—
CONTRASTING INFORMATION

72 And I would that all men might be saved;

But we read that in that great and last day there are some which shall be cast out, Yea, which shall be cast off from the presence of the Lord, SYNTHETIC PARALLELISM

73 Yea, which shall be consigned to a state of endless misery, fulfilling the words which saith:

ANTITHETICAL PARALLELISM—

They that have done good shall have everlasting life; CONTRASTING INFORMATION

And they that have done evil shall have everlasting damnation.

And thus it is. Amen.

(Return)

SALVATION IS ETERNAL AND ON A PARALLEL. Let these Principles sink in....

- Salvation's duration matches the length of the soul.
- What is the length of the soul?
- Repentance is not possible unless a <u>Punishment</u> exists.
- A <u>Reward</u> Exists in <u>Opposition</u> to the <u>Punishment</u>.
- The <u>Reward</u> affixed <u>matches</u> the <u>Punishment</u> Affixed.
- The two must last in equal duration, which is Endless and Eternal.
- THIS IS THE PERFECT PARALLEL OF GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION.
- THIS IS IN HARMONY WITH JUSTICE AND MERCY.

Read it again...This is Principle

Alma 19:98

Now repentance could not come unto men except there were a punishment, which also was as eternal as the life of the soul should be.

Affixed opposite to the plan of happiness, which was as eternal also as the life of the soul.

AND This is Principle

Alma 15:55

I had not ought to harrow up in my desires the firm decree of a just God, For I know that He granteth unto men according to their desires, whether it be unto death or unto life,

Yea, I know that He allotteth unto man, <u>yea, decreeth unto them</u> decrees which are unalterable according to their wills, whether it be unto salvation or unto destruction.

56 Yea, and I know that good and evil hath come before all men - Or he that knoweth not good from evil is blameless, <u>But he that knoweth good and evil, to him it is given according to his desires, Whether he desireth good or evil, life or death, joy or remorse of conscience.</u>

The Book of Mormon Teaches this about the FINAL STATE of Man.

3 Nephi 11:33

If they be good, to the resurrection of everlasting life, ANTITHETIC PARALLELISM And if they be evil, to the resurrection of damnation

Being on a parallel,

the <u>one on the one hand</u>, SYNTHETIC PARALLELISM and the other on the other hand.

According to the mercy

and the justice

EMBLEMATIC PARALLELISM

and the holiness which is in Christ, which was before the world began.

The Book of Mormon Teaches this about the FINAL STATE of Man.

Mosiah 8

84 "If they be good, to the resurrection of endless life and happiness;

And if they be evil, to the resurrection of endless damnation,

ANTITHETIC PARALLELISM

85 Being delivered up to the devil who hath subjected them, which is

damnation, <u>ELLIPSIS</u>

86 Having gone according to their own carnal wills and desires, (HANGING SENTENCE/S)

Having never called upon the Lord while the arms of mercy were extended toward them;

87 For the arms of mercy were extended toward them and they would not.

They being warned of their iniquities and yet they would not depart from

them,

ANTITHETIC PARALLELISM

88 And they were commanded to repent and yet they would not repent.

(Return)

The Book of Mormon Teaches this about the FINAL STATE of Man.

1 Nephi 4:61 Wherefore, the final state of the souls of men is to dwell in the kingdom of God, or to be cast out because of that justice of which I have spoken;

Alma 16:234

Therefore,
the Spirit of the Lord hath withdrawn from you
and hath no place in you,
And the devil hath all power over you;
And this is the **final state of the wicked**.

What is the Principle?

- Salvation is Eternal
- SALVATION IS EITHER SIN FULLY REMOVED OR SIN FULLY RETAINED, ETERNALLY.
- The FINAL STATE OF THE WICKED IS TOTAL SEPARATION FROM GOD.
- THERE IS NO MIDDLE SALVATION STATE WITHOUT GOD.
- Expression of your WILL to SIN and REBEL is an ETERNAL ACT.
- Expression of your WILL to REPENT is an ETERNAL ACT.
- The difference is the WILL OF YOUR HEART & MIND.
- THE TWO ARE ON EQUAL AND ETERNAL PARALLELS.
- REPENTANCE/ THE CHANGE OF HEART/ THE GATE MAKES THE ONLY DIFFERENCE

So Compare it to this...

DC 18

1d And surely every man must repent or suffer, for I God am endless; wherefore, I revoke not the judgments which I shall pass, but woes shall go forth, weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth; yea, to those who are found on my left hand;

nevertheless, it is not written that there shall be no end to this torment; but it is written endless torment.

2a Again, it is written eternal damnation; wherefore it is more express than other scriptures, that it might work upon the hearts of the children of men, altogether for my name's glory;

Or This. Could Ideas of Man be worked into Words of God??

76:7t But, behold, and lo, we saw the glory and the inhabitants of the telestial world, that they were as innumerable as the stars in the firmament of heaven, or as the sand upon the seashore, and heard the voice of the Lord saying:

7u These all shall bow the knee, and every tongue shall confess to him who sits upon the throne for ever and ever;

7v for they shall be judged according to their works; and every man shall receive according to his own works, and his own dominion, in the mansions which are prepared, and they shall be servants of the Most High, but where God and Christ dwell they cannot come, worlds without end.

The Book of Mormon is an ANCIENT ORIGINAL SIDE of God's CONTRACT

Original Contract
(Book of Mormon)

tells of:

- One God
- Complete Salvation or Complete Separation
- Israel Restored to Truth
- Zion built by Remnant of Israel.

Semi-Original Contract (Bible)

tells of:

- Generally One God
- Mainly Salvation or Complete Separation
- Israel returns to God
- Zion happens eventually...

Gentiles Inject tradition as scripture...Speak of

- Council of Gods
- Levels of Salvation
- Zion built by Gentiles.
- Among other things...

From Book of Commandments...

Section 4

2 And now, behold, this shall you say unto him: I the Lord am God, and I have given these things unto my servant Joseph, and have commanded him that he should stand as a witness of these things, nevertheless I have caused him that he should enter into a covenant with me, that he should not show them except I command him, and he has no power over them except I grant it unto him;

and he has a gift to translate the book, and I have commanded him that he shall pretend to no other gift, for I will grant him no other gift

What was changed??

Book of Commandments

and he has a gift to translate the book, and I have commanded him that he shall pretend to no other gift, for I will grant him no other gift

<mark>(3RD PERSON ORIGINALLY)</mark>

ORIGINAL WORKING: Teaches ONE Gift

Doctrine and Covenants

DC 5:1d And you have a gift to 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.

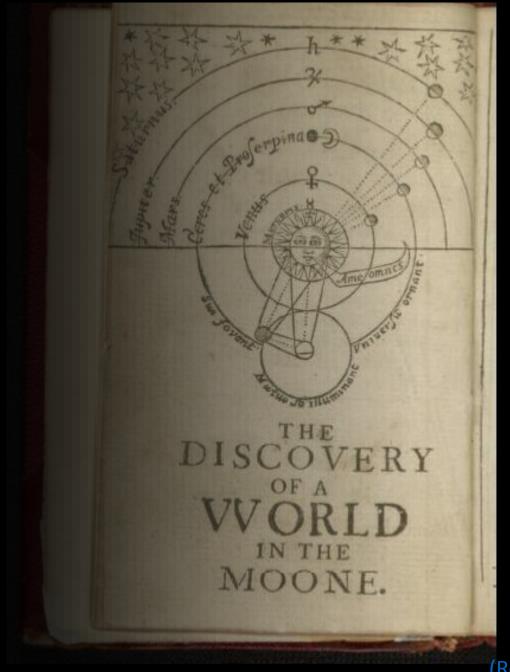
MODIFIED WORDING: Teaches More than One Gift

(Return)



The MOON....

"tis probable there may be inhabitants in this other World." John Wilkins, 1638



(Return)

In 1835....New York Sun.. A New Tradition Began: The Moon was Inhabited

- Published 6 articles <u>describing the discovery of various species of</u> creatures inhabiting the moon.
- Richard Locke, New York Sun.
- Herschel is alleged to have observed creatures that look like bison, goats, unicorns, and tail-less beavers in forests on the moon. The most stunning find, however, was the discovery of human-bat creatures who had constructed temples on the moon.
- These stories brought considerable attention to the New York Sun.
 People around the world were interested in learning about the inhabitants of the moon.

Brigham Young: the Sun & Moon were Inhabited

"Who can tell us of the inhabitants of this little planet that shines of an evening, called the moon?... when you inquire about the inhabitants of that sphere you find that the most learned are as ignorant in regard to them as the most ignorant of their fathers.

So it is in regard to the <u>inhabitants of the sun</u>. <u>Do you think it is inhabited? I rather think it is.</u>

Do you think there is any life there? No question of it; it was not made in vain.

It was made to give light to those who dwell upon it, and to other planets; and so will this earth when it is celestialized".8

The Church followed the planetary Tradition...

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Sr:

Lorenzo Snow, December 15, 1836

"thou shalt have power to translate thyself from one plannet [planet] to annother [another] - power to go to the moon if thou shalt desire it"



The Church following the planetary Tradition...

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

Julius Thompson [not dated but either 1835 or 1836]

"thou shalt put thy trust in God, he will deliver thee and thou shalt go forth as upon the wings of Eagles, from city to city & from land to land, and from world to world, and preach the gospel in other planets and save many..."

The Church following the planetary Tradition...

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

Solomon Warner Jr.

Thy life shall be long. Thou shalt be translated and preach to other worlds, even from planet to planet ...

Why was this language present in Patriarchal Blessings?

- Because it was popular to discuss in the day.
- Seemed to be in the thoughts of leading scientists, so why not the church?
- In the day, people wanted it to be true, so talked as if it was.
- It was not true.

Yet...LDS continue a tradition about Kolob...



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolob

Yet...LDS continue a tradition about Kolob...

- **Kolob** is a star or planet described in the <u>Book of Abraham</u>, a sacred text of the <u>Latter Day Saint movement</u>. Several Latter Day Saint denominations hold the Book of Abraham to have been translated from an <u>Egyptian papyrus scroll</u> by <u>Joseph Smith</u>...
- According to this work, Kolob is the heavenly body nearest to the throne of God.
- While the Book of Abraham calls Kolob a "star", it also calls planets "stars", and therefore some Latter Day Saint commentators consider Kolob a planet. [3]
- The body also appears in <u>Latter Day Saint culture</u>, including a reference to Kolob in an LDS hymn. [4]

The Book of Abraham???

The Egyptian manuscript that Joseph Smith 2 claimed was the Book of Abraham is known as the Joseph Smith Papyri.

It is a collection of several papyrus fragments that Smith purchased from an antiquities dealer in 1835.

Smith believed that one of the fragments contained the writings of the biblical patriarch Abraham, which he then translated into English and published as the Book of Abraham.

From Book of Commandments...

Section 4

2 And now, behold, this shall you say unto him: I the Lord am God, and I have given these things unto my servant Joseph, and have commanded him that he should stand as a witness of these things, nevertheless I have caused him that he should enter into a covenant with me, that he should not show them except I command him, and he has no power over them except I grant it unto him;

and he has a gift to translate the book, and I have commanded him that he shall pretend to no other gift, for I will grant him no other gift

The Book of Abraham???

Modern Egyptologists, however, have examined the same papyrus fragments and have determined that they are actually part of a funerary text known as the Book of Breathings, a common Egyptian funerary text that was used during the time of the Pharaohs.

The text was a guide to help the deceased navigate the afterlife and was typically buried with the deceased.

The papyrus fragments contain no mention of Abraham, and the hieroglyphics on the fragments are not a translation of the text that Smith claimed to have translated.

The Book of Abraham???

Furthermore, the manuscript has been dated to the first century BC, which is long after the time of Abraham.

Egyptologists have concluded that the papyrus was likely created as a copy of an earlier text that may have contained a version of the Book of Breathings.

Other Blessings in the Early Church

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

Joseph Smith Jr.

Thou shalt speak the word of the Lord and the earth shall tremble; the mountains shall move and the rivers shall turn out of their course. Thou shalt escape the edge of the sword, and put to flight the armies of the wicked.

... Thou shalt be gathered to Zion

thou shalt stand on mount Zion when the tribes of Jacob come shouting from the north..."

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

Hyrum Smith

"...I now ask my heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, to bless the[e] with the same blessings with which Jacob blessed his son Joseph; for thou art his true descendant, and thy posterity shall be numbered with the house of Ephraim, and with them thou shalt stand up to crown the tribes of Israel, when they come shouting to Zion.

Thou shalt live to see thy Redeemer come in the clouds of heaven..."

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

Lydia Knight April 3, 1836

"receive an inheritance in Jackson Co. within one year, see thy friends in Zion, thy brothers and sisters and rejoice with them, and shall see the glory of God..."

(Saints were expelled from Jackson County in 1833, did not return By any number until 1860's)

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

Oliver Snow on June 20, 1836

"...Thou shalt live to see the tribes come in from the North... "

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

Isaac Rogers on December 3, 1836

"...Thou shalt stand to behold the winding up scene,

and shall stand on the earth at the coming of Christ if faithful.

Thou shalt stand on Mount Zion with the hundred and forty four thousand.

This Blessing I seal upon you, and by the authority of the priesthood and in the name of Jesus Christ I seal you up unto eternal life, even so Amen... "

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"..shall see the earth cleansed and the peaceable kingdom of Christ established on the earth." --Jacob Zundel

"Thou shalt remain on the earth to behold the Savior come in the clouds of heaven. Thou shalt be numbered with the 144.000 that shall stand upon Mount Zion "--Wilford Woodruff

"...Thy children shall also be blessed, and grow up to inherit the land of Zion..."--Morris Phelps

(Zion named over 300 times in JS1 Patriarchal blessings.)

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"The <u>destroyer shall not have power over thee to take away thy life.</u>

<u>Thou shalt behold the Son of God while thou dost stand in the flesh</u>

and if thou dost seek it with all thy heart,

thou shalt stand on the earth to behold the Savior come in the clouds of heaven, and be caught up to meet him, and thou shalt see the end of the wicked. " **Henry Harmon** on May 23, 1837

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"...and thou shalt see the heavens opened and behold thy Redeemer while thou art in the flesh, and he shall lay his hand upon thee and set thee apart and give unto the[e] power and authority, and if thou art called to pass through fire, it shall not burn thee: and if thou art called to pass through floods, thou shalt not drown, and prison walls shall not hold thy body, for thou shalt fill thy mission and escape all thine enemies, and thou shalt live unto the coming of the son of man..." Harpin Riggs (probably May 1836

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"... Thou shalt live to behold with thine eyes, an highway over which the called of God, the righteous shall pass. Thy whole soul must rest in the power of God. Study wisdom. On thy way to Zion, thou must keep the holy sabbath. ... thou shalt see thy Saviour even so, Amen."

Jacob Curtis (probably May 1836)

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"...Thou shalt have power to help build up Zion and see her flourish upon the hills: Thou shalt see the hosts of God gathered there. Thou shalt have power to translate thyself like Enoch..."

Jacob Chamberlain on June 20, 1836

(Power to be Translated mentioned over 30 times)

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"...Thou mayest be called home to thy father that the overflowing scourge may not come upon thee, yet something whispers me that if thou layest hold on faith thou mayest see 100 years. See the winding up scene of this generation, may see the temple and the cloud resting upon it, may see Jesus come in the clouds of heaven.

Jacob Chamberlain on June 20, 1836

("winding up scene" phrase used over 48 times in blessings)

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"...Thou shalt stand in the flesh and see the winding up scene of this generation. Thou shalt remain on the earth to behold the Savior come in the clouds of heaven...

Thou shalt walk upon the waters.;

Thou art of the blood of Ephraim, and if thou wilt claim it by faith thou mayest bring all of thy relatives into the kingdom of God, for they are of the blood of Ephraim. In the name of Jesus Christ I seal this blessing on thy head, by the authority of the holy priesthood..

Wilford Woodruff on April 13, 1837

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"...Thou shall live to see the redemption of Zion and rejoice upon the goodly land; thou shalt inherit it and thy seed after thee to the latest generations while the earth remains."

Edward Partridge on May 4, 1835

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"...Thou shalt have power over thy enemies, and if need so be thou shalt have power to call down fire from heaven and destroy them, so as thou mayest be delivered out of their hands;

Burr Riggs on June 7, 1835

(Six individuals granted the power to call down fire).

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"... Enemies shall hunt thee from place to place. God shall deliver thee even as Philip. Ye shall have power to call fire from heaven to consume them, thrown down Prison walls

Michael Barkdull on March 23, 1836

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"... And should your lot be cast among a barbarous people and they seek to destroy you if need require it you shall even power to translate yourself or to call down fire from heaven as did Elijah of old,

Dominicus Carter on December 19, 1836

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"... the Lord shall make thee mighty like unto Enoch,- and like him wafe thyself to the city of Enoch if thou desire it; but if not thou mayest tarry to the coming of the Son of Man, and be caught up to meet him, and partake of the fulness of celestial glory.

Charles N. Baldwin on June 30, 1835

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"... Thou shalt see the city of Enoch. and shalt gaze upon it in all its glory:

William W. Phelps on August 27, 1835

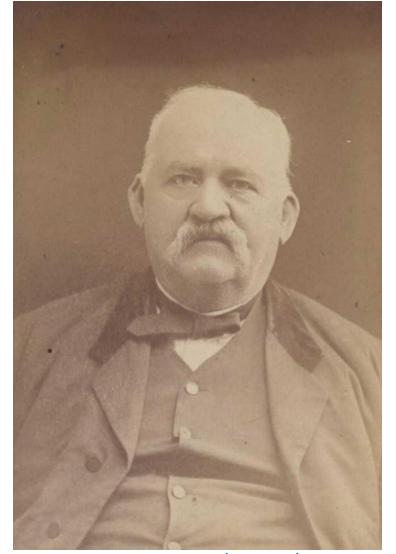
Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

"... and like Enoch of old thou shalt not sleep in the dust, But thou shalt rise up in the chariots of fire and shall come up to the city of Enoch and behold the glories thereof.

Elisha C. Hubbard (probably May 1836)

Elisha Copeland Hubbard

BIRTH 21 FEB 1816 • Rochester, Windsor, Vermont, United States **DEATH** 30 MAR 1897 • Hamburg, Erie County, New York, United States of America



Question:

Which of these promises came true?

- Saints walked on waters?
- Saints translated to preach to moon/sun and their inhabitants?
- Would not sleep in the dust?
- Lived to see Christ's return?
- Lived to see Zion established?
- Lived in Zion?
- Saw descendants live in Zion?
- Saw the 'winding up scene?'
- Commanded fire to come down and destroy enemies?

Answer:

(Probably) None of them.

- But what did this type of language produce early on?
- It produced <u>Traditions of belief</u>, and a manner of language among the Gentiles, Unique to the Gentiles.

The real question: WHY DID SAINTS GET SO FAR DOWN THIS PATH OF THINKING?

- Likely a mis-reading of the Book of Mormon.
- 1 Nephi 7 (and other chapters) deals with prophetic future. Misunderstood these events to be immediately upon the Gentiles.
- What we learn from specific reading of 1 Nephi 7 is the 'speedy' events, were all hinged upon judgement upon the Great and Abominable church.
- This event did not happen in the days of Joseph Smith, nor has it happened yet in the history of Gentiles.
- This event is STILL IN THE FUTURE.
- Early saints thought these events were to transpire then.

Show the chart of divergent churches of the Restoration. Are we that much different?

How many of them lived to see Zion a reality because they were good enough? NONE.

Zion is when the covenants are fulfilled.

THE BOOK OF MORMON IS ABOUT THOSE COVENANTS. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND IT. TO PREACH IT. AT A 30,000 ft view, ZION is not built because the Gentiles hope for it. It is because the lamanites, to whom the Book of Mormon was written, HEARTS CHANGE EXACTLY AS THEIR ANCESTORS DID.

- Why the splits, but what the similarities?
- Likely All had a vision of Zion.

- ALSO share..why I keep emphasizing the Lamanite change...these
 people had changed to where their enemies running at them with a
 sword caused them to lay down defenseless and be butchered alive.
 Nothing angered them. Have we changed that much too? It is the
 changed that build Zion, not the privileged.
- Gentiles can't worship in the same building God for changes they perceive from reading the Doctrine and covenants, a book of their scripture.

Revelation 12

1 And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:

2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.

4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

Revelation 12

5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

Revelation 12

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

Revelation 12

13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.

14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Chapter 12 INSPIRED VERSION

Chapter 12 KING JAMES VERSION

1 And there appeared a 1 And there appeared a great sign in heaven, in great wonder in heaven; a the likeness of things on woman clothed with the the earth; a woman sun, and the moon under clothed with the sun, and her feet, and upon her the moon under her feet, head a crown of twelve and upon her head a stars: crown of twelve stars.

Chapter 12 INSPIRED VERSION

Chapter 12 KING JAMES VERSION

with child, cried, travailing cried, travailing in birth, in birth, and pained to be and pained to delivered.

2 And the woman being 2 And she being with child be delivered.

man child, who was to man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod rule all nations with a rod of iron; and her child was of iron: and her child was caught up unto God and caught up unto God, and his throne. to his throne.

3 And she brought forth a 5 And she brought forth a

Chapter 12 INSPIRED VERSION

5 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she had a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore years.

Chapter 12 KING JAMES VERSION

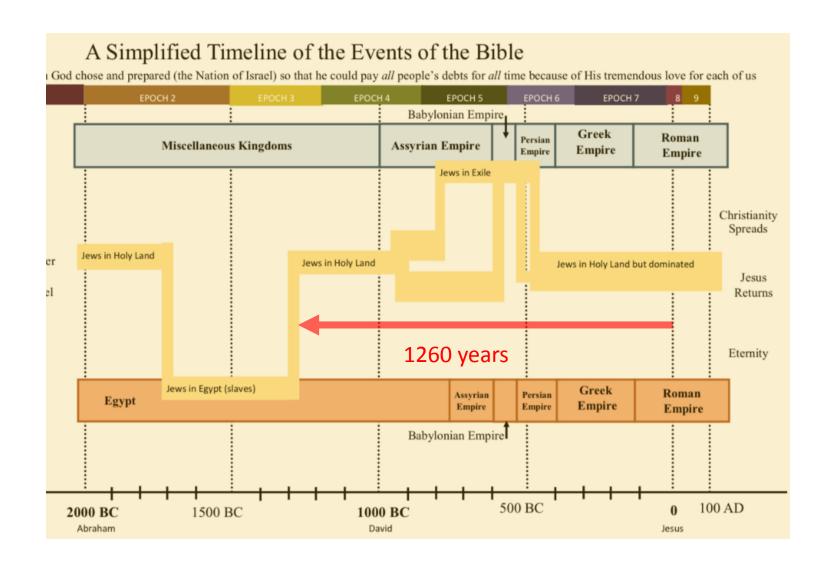
6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

6 And there was war in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought against Michael;

7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

7 And the dragon prevailed not against Michael, neither the child, nor the woman which was the church of God, who had been delivered of her pains, and brought forth the kingdom of our God and his Christ.

8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.



Telling 1260 Years becomes a Tradition.... ...but DOES NOT FIT any rational timeline except...

- 1260 Days (original) changed to 1260 YEARS in Inspired Version
- 1260 DAYS would have maintained the parallel to 3.5 Years (or times, time and half a time)
- The WOMAN is the church, who gives birth to a son 1260 years later. The Woman (the church) does not give birth to the church.
- Was The Kingdom born in 1830?
- How does this relate to the Gentile Church???
- The Son born is JESUS.
- Kingdom of Heaven is a Hebrew Idiom for God (Jeff Benner)
- The Church being 'hidden' 1260 years fits better here: the MERCY of GOD hidden as Israel Enters the Mosaic Law Era.
- Israelites only knew the hardship of the law.
- The MERCY RETURNS and BEARS JESUS, and the LAW of MOSES is fulfilled.

"The Kingdom" Incorrectly taught in Mormon history...but became Tradition for some...

"...for know ye not that there is Zion? know ye not that the millennium has commenced?

We have had Zion upon the earth this fourteen years.

Peace reigns among this people which is Zion. Union and true charity dwells with this people: this is the most orderly and peaceable people upon the face of the whole earth.

Well, this is Zion, and it is increasing and spreading wider and wider, and this principle of Zion, which is peace, will stretch all over the earth; that is the millennium."

(Return)

--Brigham Young RLDS Church History, 1844 Vol 6, Chpt 12, Page: 956

Question: Why is there no mention of Melchizedek Priesthood in the Book of Mormon?

- Why ask this question?
- Because NO MENTION of MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD ORDER exists in the Book of Mormon.

Psalms 110:4

The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent,

Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Was This Original to the Old Testament?

No one can say for sure but the Book of Mormon sheds an interesting light on it...

Psalms 110:4

The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent,

Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Scholars debate....

- "The peculiar phraseology of this verse has led some to suppose that it may have been inserted by a later hand, and that the true Psalm ended with ver.
 3." (Joseph Addison Alexander, The Book of Psalms, 1868)
- "The absence of reference to an existing order, the use of the singular, the
 article before priest, the abrupt introduction of the name Melchizedek in a
 Psalm which otherwise deals with Yahweh's promises to David, are all
 features which suggest that the verse is a later insertion." (Peter C. Craigie,
 Psalms 1-50, 1983)
- "There is no clear evidence that Psalm 110:4 was added by scribes, but the sudden appearance of the figure of Melchizedek and the absence of any reference to an existing priestly order have led many scholars to question its originality." (Tremper Longman III, How to Read the Psalms, 1988)

Why ask this question?

- Was Melchizedek a biblical topic like the Moon was in 1830s?
- Because the idea of a Melchizedek Order became a tradition after the Bablyonian conquest.
- NO MENTION OF MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD in BOOK OF MORMON
- Book of Mormon improves on this, ONLY MENTIONS PRIESTHOOD after the ORDER of GOD.
- (A rose by any other name...)

This is a Debate. But WHY ASK THE QUESTION?

Fact: The BOOK OF MORMON makes NO MENTION of a MELCHIZEDEK ORDER

Instead, the Book of Mormon is 'greater than this' indicating priesthood is ONLY AFTER THE ORDER OF GOD!

Other Scholars

Scholar 1: C.F. Keil

Quote: "It is a far-fetched interpretation to find in the name Melchizedek, and the brief notice given of him, the type of a sacerdotal order, which did not arise till long after David's time, and which in fact first took shape in the time of Ezra."

Source: Commentary on the Old Testament, Volume 5: Psalms, by C.F. Keil and F. Delitzsch, page 327.

Scholar 2: Hermann Gunkel

Quote: "The introduction of Melchizedek is not original to the psalm, but was added by a later editor, probably to give the psalm a more exalted Messianic character."

Source: The Psalms: A Form-Critical Introduction, by Hermann Gunkel, page 294.

Scholar 3: James L. Mays

Quote: "The Melchizedek tradition was superimposed on the psalm by an editor who wanted to emphasize the universal and eternal nature of the king's reign."

Source: Psalms, Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching, by James L. Mays, page 178.

Additional sources supporting the idea that the Melchizedek tradition was added to Psalm 110 include:

The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha: An Ecumenical Study Bible, edited by Michael D. Coogan, page 763. The notes on Psalm 110 state that "the reference to Melchizedek is likely a later addition to the poem."

The Jewish Study Bible, edited by Adele Berlin and Marc Zvi Brettler, page 1215. The notes on Psalm 110 state that "the Melchizedekian priest-king figure was probably added to the psalm by a later redactor to emphasize the king's exalted status."

The Anchor Bible Commentary: Psalms 101-150, by Mitchell Dahood, page 203. Dahood argues that the reference to Melchizedek was added later to the psalm to emphasize the royal and priestly aspects of the king's reign. (Return)

Scholars also debate Historicity of HEbrews

- Hebrews is the only other book to discuss Melchizedek Order
- Debated whether is was part of original 'cannon' of Jesus Teachings.
- Scholars debate. Some argue it was added about 100 AD. Perhaps written by Clement of Rome.
- But the point is this idea of an order after a man Mechizedek was NEVER mentioned by Jesus or his disciples anywhere else.
- IT IS ONLY A NAME. I AM NOT DISPUTING CAPABILITY OF PRIESTHOOD, BUT QUESTION WHETHER WE HAVE GIVEN IT THE PROPER SIGNIFICANCE WITHIN THE RESTORATION.

What was the Focus of Book of Mormon writers? THEY MENTION THE NAME OFTEN.

2 Nephi 11:48

And we talk of Christ,
We rejoice in Christ,
We preach of Christ,
We prophesy of Christ,

Synonymous parallelism

Chiasm
Parallelism
(Christ is the
Remission of Sin)

And we write
according to our prophecies,
that our children may know
to what source they may look
for a remission of their sins.

Cognate Accusative—
Same word as Noun/Verb

Book of Mormon Beautifully Blends Isaiah

- Likely over 100 references to Isaiah, besides entire chapters.
- Sometimes the writings blend to complete parallels (in the Book of Mormon)
- But Isaiah 29....our tradition vs reality.

Compare Isaiah 51:1

King James

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

2 Nephi 11:99

Come unto Me, all ye ends of the earth, Buy milk and honey without money and without price."

But look what Book of Mormon does...

Α	96 <u>He doeth not anything, save it be for the benefit of the</u> world, For He loveth the world, even that He layeth down His own life that He may draw all men unto Him;	Synonymous parallelism
В	97 Wherefore, He commandeth none that they shall not partake of His salvation.	Antithetical parallelism
С	98 Behold, doth He cry unto any, saying, "Depart from Me"?	Rhetorical question
X	99 Behold I say unto you, Nay! But He saith: "Come unto Me, all ye ends of the earth, Buy milk and honey without money and without price."	(Isaiah is Center of Chiasm)
C'	100 Behold, hath He commanded any that they should depart out of the synagogues, or out of the houses of worship? Behold I say unto you, Nay!	
B'	102 Hath He commanded any that they should not partake of His salvation?	
	103 Behold I say unto you, Nay! But He hath given it free for all men; And He hath commanded His people that they should persuade all men unto repentance.	Climactic parallelism
A'	104 Behold, hath the Lord commanded any that they should not partake of His goodness? 105 Behold I say unto you, Nay! But all men are privileged, the one like unto the other, And none are forbidden.	Synthetical parallelism (Return)
		<u>(Neturn)</u>

Book of Mormon Beautifully Blends Isaiah

- Likely over 100 references to Isaiah, besides entire chapters.
- Sometimes the writings blend to complete parallels (in the Book of Mormon)
- But Isaiah 29....our tradition vs reality.

Critics: Joseph Smith Plagiarized from Isaiah

• I Wanted to understand this, yes or no.

Started Comparing each Book of Mormon Isaiah Verse with each King James verse of Isaiah.

- Did not know what would be found
- Fascinating Results...

Comparing Isaiah to the Book of Mormon

- Conclusion #1
- Joseph Smith didn't plagiarize Isaiah—too many subtle word differences, always for the better in the Book of Mormon.

• Critics sling dirt hoping dust discourages you. They didn't read the text. Just glance and harrumph.

Comparing Isaiah to the Book of Mormon

- Conclusion #2
- Read Isaiah from the Book of Mormon. It is a better version/translation.

But OTHER problems come up, not easily answered.

Examples from King James vs Book of Mormon

King James: Parallelism / poetry is Sometimes Lost.

Isaiah 54:5

For thy **Maker is thine husband**;

The Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel;

The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

But Book of Mormon Restores Proper Parallelism. Isaiah was Master of Parallelism

Isaiah 54:5

For thy Maker is thine husband;

The Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel;

The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

3 Nephi 10:13

For thy Maker,
thy husband,
the Lord of Hosts is His name;
And thy Redeemer,
the Holy One of Israel,
the God of the whole earth
shall He be called;

<u>Isaiah—Book of Mormon Restores the</u> Parallelism and Chiasm

King James Isaiah

2:12 For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low:

2:13 And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan,

2:14 And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up, (misses Chiasm)

Book of Mormon of Isaiah

8:28 For the day of the Lord of Hosts soon cometh upon all nations,
yea, upon everyone —
Yea, upon the proud and lofty and upon everyone which is lifted up; And he shall be brought low;

8:29 Yea, and the day of the Lord shall come upon all the cedars of Lebanon - For they are high and lifted up — and upon all the oaks of Bashan, [<ellipsis]

8:30 and upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills, and upon all the nations which are lifted up, [Restores Chiasm]

<u>Isaiah—Book of Mormon Restores Plural</u> <u>Amplification</u>

King James Isaiah

53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.



Book of Mormon of Isaiah

Mosiah 8:21 'All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, everyone, to his own way; And the Lord hath laid on Him the <u>iniquities</u> of us all.



<u>Plural Intensification also called Plural Amplification</u> was A Hebrew Method to Expand the unimaginable by pluralizing the singular word

<u>Isaiah—Book of Mormon Restores Plural</u> <u>Amplification</u>

King James Isaiah

53:8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Book of Mormon of Isaiah

Mosiah 8:23 He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who shall declare His generation? For He was cut off out of the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people was He stricken.

<u>Plural Intensification also called Plural Amplification</u> was A Hebrew Method to Expand the unimaginable by pluralizing the singular word

Book of Mormon Restores Lost Verses

Book of Mormon Restores Lost Verses

King James Isaiah 2:16

And upon all the **ships of Tarshish**, and upon all pleasant pictures.

Book of Mormon Restores Lost Verses

King James

Isaiah 2:16

And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures.

Book of Mormon

2 Nephi 8:32

And upon all the ships of the sea, and upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all the pleasant pictures.

Book of Mormon Restores Lost Verses (via Brass Plates)

King James

Isaiah 2:16

And upon all the **ships of Tarshish**, and upon all pleasant pictures.

Book of Mormon

2 Nephi 8:32

And upon all the ships of the sea, and upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all the pleasant pictures.

Book of Mormon contains Isaiah phrase only found in Septuagint.

King James (omits)

1 - - - - - -

2 And upon all the ships of Tarshish

3 and upon all pleasant pictures.

Book of Mormon (contains all)

1 And upon all the ships of the sea,

2 and upon all the ships of Tarshish

3 and upon all pleasant pictures.

Septuagint (omits)

1 And upon every ship of the sea,

2 — — — — —

3 and upon every display of fine ships.

(Return)

2 Nephi 11

78 And as I spake concerning the convincing of the Jews that Jesus is the very Christ, It must needs be that **the Gentiles** be convinced also that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God, And that He manifesteth Himself unto all they that believe in Him by the power of the Holy Ghost,

79 Yea, unto every nation, kindred, tongue and people, working mighty miracles, signs and wonders among the children of men according to their faith.

80 But behold, I prophesy unto you concerning the last days, Concerning the days when the Lord God shall bring these things forth unto the children of men,

81 After that my seed and the seed of my brethren shall have dwindled in unbelief and shall have been smitten by the Gentiles,

82 Yea, after that the Lord God shall have camped against them round about and shall have laid siege against them with a mount and raised forts against them;

83 And after that they shall have been brought down low in the dust, even that they are not, Yet the words of the righteous shall be written, And the prayers of the faithful shall be heard, And all they which have dwindled in unbelief shall not be forgotten.

84 For they which shall be destroyed shall speak unto them out of the ground, And their speech shall be low, out of the dust, And their voice shall be as one that hath a familiar spirit,

85 For the Lord God will give unto him power that he may whisper concerning them, even as it were out of the ground; And their speech shall whisper out of the dust.

86 For thus saith the Lord God: "They shall write the things which shall be done among them, **And they shall be written and sealed up in a book**; And they that have dwindled in unbelief shall not have them, for they seek to destroy the things of God;

87 Wherefore, as they which have been destroyed have been destroyed speedily, And the multitude of their terrible ones shall be as chaff that passeth away,

88 Yea, " thus saith the Lord God, "it shall be at an instant, suddenly!"

89 And it shall come to pass that they which have **dwindled in unbelief** shall be smitten by the hand of the Gentiles;

90 And **the Gentiles** are lifted up in the pride of their eyes and have stumbled because of the greatness of their stumbling block, that they have built up many churches;

2 Nephi 11—Isaiah in Reflective Chiasm

2 Nephi 11 Chiasm of Isaiah				
Words/Verse	<u>Chiasm</u>	<u>Description</u>		
Nephi 78	Α	It must needs be that the Gentiles be convinced also that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God		
Nephi 81	В	Brethren Dwindled in Unbelief		
Nephi 82	С	Lord Camps Around them		
Nephi 84	D	Words of the Ancients will Speak from Dust		
Isaiah 86	D'	Their Words Sealed Up in a Book		
Isaiah 88	C'	Instant/Sudden Destruction to those who dwindled		
Nephi 89	B'	Those who dwindled smitten by Gentiles		
Nephi 90	Α'	Gentiles Lifted Up in Pride of their heart		

In the Book of Mormon:

Isaiah is Skillfully Interwoven into Nephi's Words

MANY VERSES IN BOOK OF MORMON DIFFER

<u>ISAIAH 50:1</u> Thus saith the LORD, Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, whom I have put away? or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and for your transgressions is your mother put away.

50:2 Wherfore, when I came, was there no man? when I called, was there none to answer? Is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot redeem? or have I no power to deliver? behold, at my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a wilderness: their fish stinketh, because there is no water, and dieth for thirst.

50:3 I clothe the heavens with blackness, and I make sackcloth their covering.

50:4 The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to **speak a word in season to him** that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

2 NEPHI 5:46 Yea, for thus saith the Lord, have I put thee away? Or have I cast thee off forever? 5:47 For thus saith the Lord: Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement? 5:48 To whom have I put thee away? Or to which of My creditors have I sold you? 5:49 Yea, to whom have I sold you?

5:50 Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, And for your transgressions is your mother put away. 5:49 Yea, to whom have I sold you?

5:51 Wherefore, when I came, there was no man. When I called, yea, there was none to answer. 5:52 O house of Israel, Is My hand shortened at all that it cannot redeem? Or have I no power to deliver? 5:53 Behold, at My rebuke I dry up the sea - I make the rivers a wilderness, And their fish to stink because the waters are dried up, And they dieth because of thirst.

5:54 I clothe the heavens with blackness, And I make sackcloth their covering.

5:55 The Lord God hath given Me the tongue of the learned, That I should know how to speak a word in season unto thee, O house of Israel, 5:56 when ye are weary. He wakeneth morning by morning, 5:57 He wakeneth Mine ear to hear as the learned.

Book of Mormon Restores the Septuagint and King James

 Septuagint, the earliest Greek translation of the Hebrew scriptures, originating in the third to second centuries

Clearly the Book of Mormon does NOT plagiarize from the King James.

• 100's of examples like these, perhaps will share Isaiah as future class study.

Isaiah Compared to Book of Mormon Rev1.xlsx

ISAIAH FROM KING JAMES	JACOB QUOTING ISAIAH FROM 2 NEPHI 5	ISAIAH FROM INSPIRED VERSION
15 But I am the LORD thy God, that divided the sea, whose waves roared: The LORD of hosts is his name.	98 But I Am the Lord thy God, whose waves roared - The Lord of Hosts is My name.	15 But I am the Lord thy God, that divided the sea, whose waves roared; The Lord of hosts is his name.



ISV Follows the KJ (even though the Book of Mormon Provides a Different Translation) WHY??

KJ Isaiah 48:1

Hear ye this, O house of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel, and are come forth out of the waters of Judah, which swear by the name of the LORD, and make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth, nor in righteousness.

1 Nephi 6:8

"Hearken and hear this, O house of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel and are come forth out of the waters of Judah, Which swear by the name of the Lord and make mention of the God of Israel, yet they swear not in truth nor in righteousness;
[Synonymous Parallelism]

ISV Isaiah 48:1

1 Hear ye this, O house of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel, and are come forth out of the waters of Judah, which swear by the name of the Lord, and make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth, nor in righteousness.

ISV FOLLOWS KJ OVER A BOOK OF MORMON SAME PASSAGE (even though the Book of Mormon Provides different wording) WHY? MANY EXAMPLES OF THIS THROUGHOUT ISAIAH.

KJ Isaiah

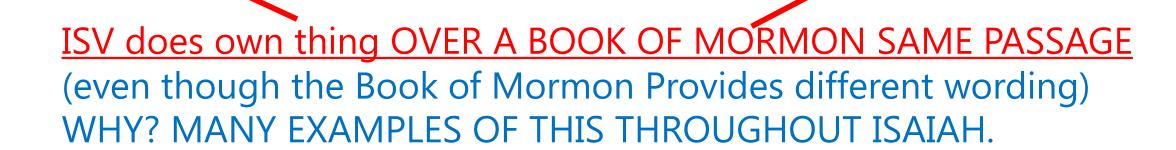
29:3 **And I** will camp against thee round about, and will lay siege against thee with a mount, and I will raise forts against thee.

2 Nephi 11:82

Yea, after that the Lord God shall have camped against them round about and shall have laid siege against them with a mount and raised forts against them;

ISV Isaiah

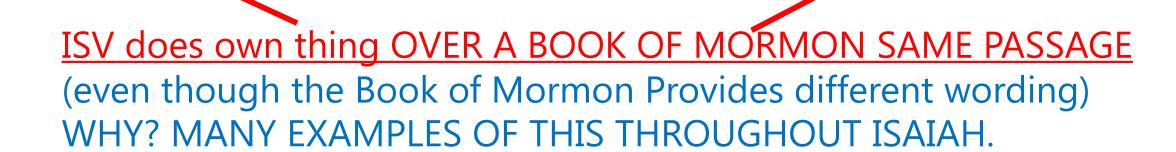
29:3 **That I** the Lord will camp against her round about, and will lay siege against her with a mount, and I will raise forts against her.



KJ Isaiah

2 Nephi 11:82

ISV Isaiah



Question regarding Inspired Version

- Why in some verses does the Inspired Version use the King James text exactly when the Book of Mormon Text differs?
- Perhaps:
 - It isn't a big deal
 - No one noticed
 - Went through 2 committees long after Joseph Smith to revive.
- BUT, this bothers me that a couple scriptures in the Inspired Version stand opposite to the teaching where King James AND Book of Mormon are in agreement. How can this be answered?
- The BOOK OF MORMON HAS THE BETTER TRANSLATION OF ISAIAH COMPARED TO ANY BIBLE.
- IF IT HAS IMPERFECTIONS, LIKELY THEIR ORIGINAL SOURCE WAS NOT PERFECT EITHER.

Why do Book of Mormon and KJ agree, but NOT INSPIRED VERSION of ISAIAH PASSAGE?

King James

Isaiah 51:19

17 thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out. 18 There is none to guide her among all the sons whom she hath brought forth; neither is there any that taketh her by the hand of all the sons that she hath brought up.

These two things are come unto thee; who shall be sorry for thee? desolation, and destruction, and the famine, and the sword: by whom shall I comfort thee?

Book of Mormon

2 Nephi 5:103

100 Awake. Awake, stand up, O
Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the
hand of the Lord the cup of His fury!
101 Thou hast drunken the dregs of
the cup of trembling, wrung out;
102 And none to guide her among all
the sons she hath brought forth;
Neither that taketh her by the hand of
all the sons she hath brought up.

104 These two sons are come unto thee - who shall be sorry for thee? - Thy desolation and destruction, and the famine and the sword -

Inspired Version Isaiah 51:19-20

....These two sons are come unto thee; they shall be sorry for thee, thy desolation, and destruction, and the famine, and the sword; and by whom shall I comfort thee?

Thy sons have fainted save these two, they lie at the head of all the streets, as a wild bull in a net; they are full of the fury of the Lord, the rebuke of thy God.

The Inspired Version Misses the Important Point

(Return)

How could the Inspired Version miss on this?

- Truth is MANY DIFFERENCES IN TEXT EXIST as given in the book of Mormon.
- Not only was Isaiah Not plagiarized [Critics sling this, hoping you won't study] but it is VASTLY IMPROVED over King James.
- [Unfortunately, in all honesty], it is the Inspired Version that is sometimes unexplainable.....
- Recommendation: Read Isaiah from the Book of Mormon whenever possible.

But Isaiah 29..Inspired Version Tradition...

- JS2 Bible Commentary was never Completed
- Laid in cornerstone of Nauvoo House in 1841.
- Not discovered until 1880s
- Left Rotting... Why?



Inspired Version Tradition...

- Ideas over language
- Lay there for 41 Years in the corner stone of the house.
- Moldy, corrupted, the then Husband of Emma Smith Discovered.
- Some manuscript went with LDS, Some with Retained by RLDS.
- Went Through two committees before RLDS Publishment in 1867
- Republished as 1970 Version.
- LDS never officially endorsed.

But Isaiah 29..Inspired Version Tradition...

My Opinion:

- Nephi's words were incorrectly Added to the Old Testament Text...
- These weren't Isaiah's words, although Isaiah likely understood the event as Nephi writes it.
- But these are NEPHI's words in the wrong book as a way to embellish the story.

Why didn't Inspired Version Correct this error in Acts 2:4.

Bands of Death does not even occur in the Bible, but it DOES occur in the Book of Mormon

King James Bible

Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Inspired Version

24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death; because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Having loosed the pains of death.--The word for "pains" is the same as that for "sorrows" in Matthew 24:8: literally, travail-pangs. The phrase was not uncommon in the LXX. version, but was apparently a mistranslation of the Hebrew for "cords," or "bands," of death. If we take the Greek word in its full meaning, the Resurrection is thought of as a new birth as from the womb of the grave.

(Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers)

Why didn't Inspired Version Correct this error in Acts 2:4. The Book of Mormon gets it right.

Bands of Death does not even occur in the Bible, but it DOES occur in the Book of Mormon

Mosiah 8:35 "And thus God breaketh the bands of death, Having gained the victory over death, giving the Son power to make intercession for the children of men,

Mosiah 8:37 standing betwixt them and justice, Having broken the bands of death, taken upon Himself their iniquity and their transgressions, Having redeemed them and satisfied the demands of justice.

Alma 3:16 "And again I ask, were the bands of death broken? And the chains of hell which encircled them about, were they loosed?

Unicorns...vs Reem?

King James

Isaiah 34:7 And the unicorns shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness.

Inspired Version

Isaiah 34:7 And the reem shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness.

Unicorns...vs Reem?

Adam Clarke Commentary

Verse Isaiah 34:7. *The unicorns shall come down* — ראמים *reemim*, translated *wild goats* by Bishop *Lowth*.

The ראם *reem* Bochart thinks to be a species of wild goat in the deserts of Arabia. It seems generally to mean the rhinoceros.

•

Inspired Version

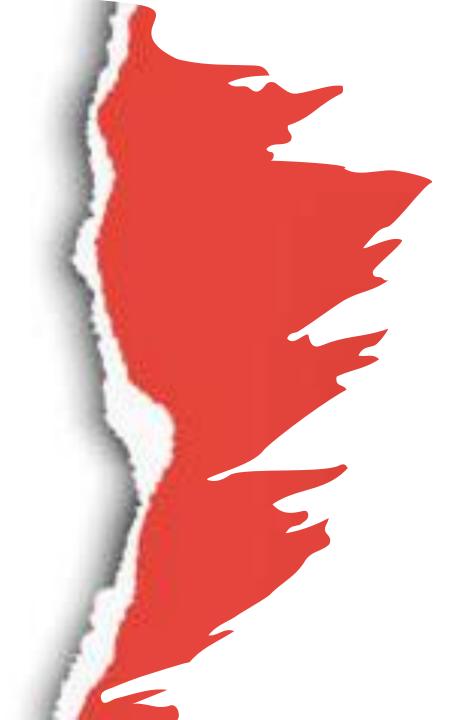
Isaiah 34:7 And the reem shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness.

Thomas Wayment Discovers over <u>200 similarities between Inspired Version and</u>
Adam Clarke Commentary

Thomas A. Wayment was a professor of Classics at Brigham Young University

Joseph Smith Bible Translation vs Adam Clarke

- Over 200 similarities found between Joseph Smith's Translation and Adam Clarke Commentary by Thomas Weyment.
- Thomas Weyment is BYU professor.
- The Adam Clarke Commentary took 40 years to write, published March 28, 1825
- ADAM CLARKE WAS A <u>HUGE PROPONENT FOR PLURALITY OF GODS</u>.



What is Conclusion of all this?

- Gentile writings...suspicious of intertwining ideas of Gentiles into God's Word.
- Subtle changes influence the traditions we have been taught to value.
- These traditions can be counter to Book of Mormon teachings.
- Traditions (whether we realize it or not) become the foundation of belief and worship.
- We have to evaluate traditions in light of truth.
- We can not reject the God of the Book of Mormon for a God of the Gentiles.

The Rest of This class will be continued at Restored Gospel Podcast.

