

What Does
the
Book of Mormon Teach
About Baptism??
The Precision and the Plainness

The BANNER over all Salvation....

Every Class leads up to this class.

The BANNER over all Salvation....

The point of the Last Class:

FREEDOM to CHOOSE GOD.

Your Will must change BY YOUR CHOICE.

The BANNER over all Salvation....

JUDGEMENT DAY IS : you demonstrated your desire to change, your works demonstrate this desire.

VITAL MESSAGE OF THE BOOK OF MORMON

THE BOOK OF MORMON TEACHES:

EVERY STEP OF GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION
IS/MUST BE UNDERSCORED BY YOUR FREEDOM
TO CHOOSE HIM.

- Hydraulic Demo
- Story of the sorting room.
- Upper end of the engineering food chain.
- Workers in the sorting room
- No manuals, operating procedures.
- Just someone to show them.
- The workers all had downs syndrome. They carried out their jobs with precision. Little reading required.
- The managers job was just to show them.

BAPTISM is NOT technical

The Answers Can be expressed accurately and simply by Jesus words:

'Follow Me and Do the Things you have seen Me do.'

2 Nephi 13:15

And also the voice of the Son came unto me, saying:

He that is baptized in My name,

To him will **the** Father give **the** Holy Ghost, like unto Me.

Wherefore follow Me,

and do the things which ye have seen Me do.

We don't have to read that much if we are simply willing to follow his example.

Know ye not that he was holy?

How much more?

The 4 Levels of Hebrew Scripture

- Rabbi's divide Hebrew scripture on four levels:
- **1. Sod** (סוד , (the deepest, perhaps hardest to understand. The word means "Secret" ("mystery") this scripture may come as inspiration or revelation with deep, harder to understand meanings.
- **2. Derash** (דרש – (from Hebrew *darash*, means to "inquire" ("seek"). **Derash** is thoughtful, deep scripture, (the homiletical interpretation)but with meaning not shrouded in mystery.
- **3. Remez** (רמז – (hints", this scripture is allegorical, giving hints of meaning through easier to understand symbols.

The 4 Levels of Hebrew Scripture

- Rabbi's divide Hebrew scripture on four levels:
- **4. Peshat** (פֶּשָׁט'-- ('plain sense' literal or straight forward. The word literally meant 'to flatten out.' Scripture taught in Peshat is taught in 'plainness' and leaves little room for misunderstanding or error in interpretation.
- The 4th Level **Peshat** is TO SPEAK PLAINLY or in PLAINNESS.

Do you Think Joe Smith Knew These?

1. **Sod** mystery harder to understand meanings.
2. **Derash** -deep scripture,
3. **Remez** -allegorical,
4. **Peshat** --plain

Nephi...I Speak in Plainness

2 Nephi 11:7 For behold, **my soul delighteth in plainness unto** my people, that they may learn;

2 Nephi 11:11 But behold, I proceed with mine own prophecy, according to my **plainness**, in the which I know that no man can err.

Nephi...I Speak in Plainness

[2 Nephi 13:3](#) Wherefore, the things which I have written sufficeth me, save it be a few words which I must speak concerning the doctrine of Christ; Wherefore, I shall speak unto you **plainly**, according to the **plainness** of my **prophesying**,

[2 Nephi 13:4](#) For my **soul delighteth** in **plainness**, for after this manner doth the Lord God work among the children of men.

What do these weird words have in common?

- **Anaphora**

- (anaph·o·ra | \ ə-'na-f(ə-)rə)

- **Cataphora (Epiphora).**

- (ca·taph·o·ra | \ kə-'ta-fə-rə) or
- (epiph·o·ra | \ i-'pif-ə-rə)

- **Anadiplosis**

- (ana·di·plo·sis | \ ,a-nə-də-'plō-səs)

- **Inclusio**

- **Emblematic**

- **Staircase**

- **Chiasm**

Other Hebrew Parallel Types Found in Scripture..

TYPES OF PARALLELISM IN HEBREW POETRY

1. Synonymous Parallelism

The second line repeats the first line.

2. Antithetical Parallelism

The second line contrasts with the first line.

3. Synthetic Parallelism

The second line adds to the first line.

4. Climactic Parallelism

The successive lines build to a climax.

5. Emblematic Parallelism

The figure of speech is explained in the second line.

6. Alternate Parallelism

The 3rd line repeats the 1st and the 2nd the 4th - ABAB.

7. Chiastic Parallelism

The 1st and 2nd lines are reversed in 3rd and 4th - ABBA.

All Scholarly classifications of Hebrew Parallelism.

- Anaphora
- Cataphora (Epiphora).
- Anadiplosis
- Inclusio
- Emblematic
- Staircase
- Chiasm (ABCBA)
- Side-by-side repetition
- Refrain
- Antithetical Parallelism (AB-A-B)
Word Patterning
- Synonymous Parallelism
- Synthetic parallelism (A,-A)
- Climactic Parallelism (ABC)
- Alternate Parallelism (ABAB)
- Imagery

Also

(from A. Berlin. “Introduction to Hebrew Poetry” *New Interpreter’s Bible* Vol. IV: 301-315)

Question: do you think Joseph Smith knew these??

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- Cataphora (Epiphora).
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Also

Family in New York State— 1890s



EVERY TYPE OCCURS IN THE BOOK OF MORMON

- Anaphora
- Cataphora (Epiphora).
- Anadiplosis
- Inclusio
- Emblematic
- Staircase
- Chiasm (ABCBA)
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6

PARALLELISM

6.1 *Introductory*

Parallelism

Parallelism is universally recognised as *the* characteristic feature of biblical Hebrew poetry although it is also used extensively in kindred Semitic verse (notably Akkadian) as well as elsewhere.¹ Most introductions to Hebrew poetry, for instance, Gray's *The Forms of Hebrew Poetry*, provide a brief description of parallelism and then proceed to give a detailed classification of its sub-types: synonymous, antithetic, synthetic² and so on. My presentation here will be very different from the standard not simply to avoid duplication or out of sheer love of novelty but because the study of parallelism has been affected, recently, on two levels, both related to theory. Accordingly, a few basic notions of theory with particular reference to parallelism

Other Hebrew Grammar Characteristics:

Double word meaning

Use of same word as Noun and Verb in same verse.

Example: 1 Nephi 2:41

Lehi says ‘Behold I have dreamed a dream.’

Dreamed—Verb

A Dream—Noun.

...But Book of Mormon Critics state Plagiarism because Joseph says the same words in the Bible.

Double Word:Book of Mormon extends into a staircase parallelism

Use of same word as Noun and Verb in same verse

1 Nephi 2:41 And it came to pass that while my father tarried in the wilderness, he spake unto us, saying:

Behold, I have dreamed a dream, *or in other words,*

I have seen a vision;

Some other Double Words (in Book of Mormon)

1 Nephi 1:172 And it came to pass that thus far I and my father had kept the **commandments** wherewith the Lord had **commanded** us,

1 Nephi 1:3 ...And in that same year there came many **prophets prophesying** unto the people that they must repent or that great City Jerusalem must be destroyed;

Some other Double Words (in Book of Mormon)

Alma 12:52 But Ammon stood forth and began to cast stones at them with his **sling**, yea, with mighty power he did **sling** stones amongst them;

Alma 12:72 Nevertheless, Lamoni began to **fear** exceedingly with **fear**, lest he had done wrong in slaying his servants,

Alma 12:134 Yea, this light had infused such joy into his soul, the cloud of darkness having been dispelled - **And the light of everlasting light** was **lit** up in his soul,

Some other Double Words (in Book of Mormon)

2 Nephi 11:90 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;

Alma 23:33 And thus had the Lamanites obtained, by the cunning of Amalickiah, so many cities by their numberless hosts, All of which were strongly **fortified** after the manner of the **fortifications** of Moroni, All of which afforded strongholds for the Lamanites.

Double Noun/Verb Words.

Mosiah 13:40

If your higher **judges** doth not **judge** righteous **judgments**,
ye shall cause that a small number of your lower **judges** should be
gathered together and they shall **judge** your higher **judges**, according to
the voice of the people;

(Judge, Judges, Judgements)

Or this.... Double Words along with lack of baptism.

Mosiah 1:117

For behold, **He judgeth** and His **judgment** is **just**.

And the infant perisheth not that dieth in his infancy;

Or this.... Double Words and Chiasm, along with lack of need for baptism.

Mosiah 1:117

For behold

He

judgeth

and His **judgment**
is **just**.

And the infant

perisheth not

that dieth

in his infancy;

The PLAIN Book of Mormon Baptism Question

Mosiah 9:40

Yea, and are willing to **mourn** with those that **mourn**,
Yea, and **comfort** those that stand in need of **comfort**,
And to stand as witnesses of God
at all times
and in all things
and in all places that ye may be in,
even until death?

That ye may be redeemed of God and be numbered with those of the
first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life.

(Elipsis)

Baptism Principle #1:

Baptism is a Witness you are WILLING

[Mosiah 9:39](#) "And now as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God and to be called His people, And are **willing** to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light,

[Mosiah 9:40](#) Yea, and are **willing** to mourn with those that mourn, Yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, And to stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things and in all places that ye may be in, even until death, That ye may be redeemed of God and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life -

[Mosiah 9:179](#) They were desirous to be baptized as a **witness and a testimony that they were willing to serve God with all their hearts** -

Anaphora

Several consecutive lines may **begin with the same word or phrase.**

An excellent example is **Psalms 150**

1 Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him according to his excellent greatness.

3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; praise him with the psaltery and harp.

4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals; praise him upon the high-sounding cymbals.

6 Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

Cataphora (Epiphora)

Per Adele Berlin (Hebrew Scholar):

Consecutive lines end with the same word or phrase. This is rare in the Hebrew Bible and may be considered incidental.

Example is Isaiah 40

13 Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD,
or being his counsellor hath taught him?

14 With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him?
And taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge,
and shewed to him the way of understanding?

Anadiplosis

The first line ends and the second line begins with the same word

Example Ps 96:12-13

12 Let the field be joyful,
and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord,
for he is coming.

For he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness
and the people with his truth.

Staircase

Successive Lines contain increasing intensity or explanation.

Example Ps 77:16-17

The waters saw thee, O God,
The waters saw thee they were afraid,
The depths also were troubled.
The clouds poured out water,
the skies sent out a sound:

Problem....some Hebrew Parallels are not obvious initially.....

.....but, check this out....

Staircase Parallelism—of Baptism

1 Nephi 3:11-12

And my father said

he should **baptize** in Bethabara, beyond Jordan;

and he also said he should **baptize with water**;

even that he should **baptize the Messiah with water**.

And after he had **baptized the Messiah with water**, he should behold and bear record that

He had baptized the Lamb of God who should take away the sins of the world.

(baptize, baptize with water, The Messiah, The Lamb of God take way worlds sin)

Anadiplosis—Remember hard to find in bible.?

The first line ends and the second line begins with the same word

Example Ps 96:12-13

12 Let the field be joyful,
and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord,
for he is coming.

For he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness
and the people with his truth.

Anadiplosis AND Staircase In Book of Mormon— in the same verse:

The first line ends and the second line begins with the same word

Moroni 8:29

And the **firstfruits** of repentance is **baptism**,
And **baptism** cometh by faith, unto the fulfilling **the commandments**,
And the fulfilling **the commandments** bringeth **remission of sins**,
And the **remission of sins** bringeth **meekness and lowliness of heart**,
And because of **meekness and lowliness of heart** cometh the visitation of **the Holy Ghost**,
Which **Comforter** filleth with hope and **perfect love**,
Which love endureth by diligence unto prayer **until the end shall come when
all the saints shall dwell with God**

Anadiplosis AND Staircase In Book of Mormon in the same verse
2 Nephi 1:89-93 (From Lehi's words to Jacob)

**And if ye shall say there is no law,
ye shall also say there is no sin;**

**And if ye shall say there is no sin,
ye shall also say there is no
righteousness;**

**And if there be no righteousness,
there be no happiness;**

**And if there be no righteousness nor
happiness,
there be no punishment nor misery;**

92 **And if these things are not,
there is no God;**

93 **And if there is no God,
we are not, neither the earth.
For there could have been no
creation of things,
neither to act, nor to be acted upon;
Wherefore, all things must have
vanished away.**

Staircase and Emblematic

1 Nephi 3:4

Yea, even six hundred years from the time that my father left Jerusalem,

A Prophet would the Lord God raise up among the Jews,

Yea, **even a Messiah,**

Or in other words, **a Savior of the world.**

Significance??

2 Nephi 8:7-12

Behold, my soul delighteth in proving unto my people the truth of the coming of Christ, For, for this end hath the law of Moses been given;

And all things which have been given of God from the beginning of the world unto man are the typifying of Him.

And also my soul delighteth in the covenants of the Lord which He hath made to our fathers;

Yea, my soul delighteth in His grace and His justice and power and mercy, In the great and eternal plan of deliverance from death.

And my soul delighteth in proving unto my people that save Christ should come, all men must perish;

Book of Mormon contains all these in one passage:

Anadiplosis and Chiastic AND Anaphora.

2 Nephi 8:7-14

Behold, my soul delighteth
in proving unto my people
the truth of the **coming of Christ.**

For, for this end hath the law of Moses been **given.**
And all things which have been **given** of God from the
beginning of the
world unto man are the typifying of Him.

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in the covenants of the Lord which He hath made to our
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Yea, my soul delighteth
in His grace and His justice and power and mercy,
In the great and eternal plan of deliverance from death.

And my soul delighteth
in proving unto my people
that save Christ should come,
all men must perish.

Anaphora

(repeating first lines
'my soul delighteth')

AND

Chiasm

With multiple
Parallels within

And my soul delighteth
in proving unto my people
that save Christ should come,
all men must perish.

For if there be no Christ,
there be no God;
And if there be no God,
we are not,
for there could have been no creation.
But there is a God,
And He is Christ.
And He cometh in the fullness of His own time.

Anaphora

(end of phase
begins the next)

And Chiasm
within Chiasm

Also multiple Parallels within each.

Law of Moses//typifying of him

The whole passage is a chiasm on

- the truth of the coming
- the signs of his coming
- the covenants of his coming
- the purpose of his coming (the great plan vs perish)
- Who is coming
- When he is coming.

- The Book of Mormon contains no words by chance.
- These words are Finely Machined, ordered by master craftsmen who were washed over by God's Holy Spirit to convey words and truth of the Almighty.
- These are the choicest words chosen, selected, arranged to within 1/10,000 of a spiritual inch to convey exact meaning to us—IN PLAINNESS.
- In the end, a shaft turns.
- I am like the employee in the sorting center, can recognize round and square, short and long.
- Couldn't begin to understand how they were designed and ordered, or the discipline of mind required for God to select the few overtime worthy to have written scripture.
- He Speaks According to our understanding, our language.

We don't need to know the origins, and
precision if we understand the basic message.

2 Nephi 13:4-5

For my soul delighteth in plainness,
for after this manner doth the Lord God work among the
children of men.

For the Lord God giveth light unto the understanding.

For **He speaketh unto men according to
their language unto their understanding;**

(Get the point of this first, but also see it is also a Staircase Parallelism)

If microscopic Hebrew Authenticity exists in the Book of Mormon...

- If Hebrew origins not just present, but ABUNDANT and substantiated....
- Could it be possible that the MAIN Messages brought in PLAINNESS are ALSO true?

Hebrew Scholar Jeff Benner...

“To Sin is To MISS THE MARK”

The Hebrew word for "sin" is חטא *hhatah*, (Strong's #2403) and literally means "miss the mark"

Jacob 3

22 But behold, the Jews were a stiff-necked people, And they despised the words of plainness and killed the prophets and sought for things that they could not understand;

23 Wherefore, because of their blindness, which blindness came by looking beyond the mark, they must needs fall,

The Word “Trample”

.....perfectly explains the Ancient Hebrew Meaning
within the Book of Mormon

Trample...

Many times our modern culture can influence definitions of words in a way not intended by the original author. The Bible often refers to the keeping and breaking God's commands and covenant. To "keep" the commands of God is generally understood as to "obey" the commands, but this is not completely true since the Hebrew word "shamar"

(שָׁמַר) literally means to guard or protect.

The breaking of the commands is understood as "disobeying" but the Hebrew word "Parar" (פָּרַר) literally means to trample underfoot) .

Hebrew
Scholar Jeff
Benner...
Explains 'to
Trample'

Dictionary ~ Verbs

Each Hebrew word is a picture of action. In this case, the picture is an ox treading on the grain on the threshing floor to open up the hulls to remove the seeds. To the Ancient Hebrews, breaking the commands of Elohiym was equated with throwing it on the ground and trampling on it. A child who disobeys his parents, but is genuinely apologetic, shows honor and respect to his parents. But a child who willfully disobeys with no sign of remorse has trampled on his parents teachings and deserves punishment.

Book of Mormon defines Trample in Staircase/Emblematic Parallelism—matches Hebrew Perfectly.

1 Nephi 5:232-235

For the things which some men esteem to be of great worth both to the body and soul, others set at naught and trample under their feet;

Yea, even the very God of Israel do men trample under their feet;

I say trample under their feet, but I would speak in other words:

They do set Him at naught and hearken not to the voice of His counsels.

Jews Despised What?

Jacob 3

22 But behold, the Jews were a stiff-necked people,
And they **despised the words of plainness**
and killed the prophets
and sought for things that they could not understand;

23 Wherefore, because of their blindness,
which blindness came by looking beyond the mark,
they must needs fall,

Jews Despised What?

Jacob 3

24 For God hath taken away His plainness from them and delivered unto them many things which they cannot understand, because they desired it;

25 And because they desired it, God hath done it, that they may stumble.

They did what

- Look beyond the mark
- Trample under feet.
- (both emblematic)

Will see EVERY discussion of Baptism has some level of Parallelism.

Follow Thou Me

- Know ye not that he was Holy?

If He Have Need...

2 Nephi 13:7

And now if the Lamb of God, He being holy, should have need to be baptized by water to fulfill all righteousness, O then, how much more need have we, being unholy, to be baptized, yea, even by water!

If He Have Need...

[2 Nephi 13:7](#)

And now if
the Lamb of God,
He being holy,
should have need
to be baptized by water
to fulfill all righteousness,
O then,
how much more need
have we,
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to be baptized,
yea, even by water!

If He Have Need...Then Ours is Even Greater

2 Nephi 13:7

And now if

the Lamb of God,

He being holy,

should have need

to be baptized by water

to fulfill all righteousness,

O then,

how much more need

have we,

being unholy,

to be baptized, yea, even by water!

Parallels: Lamb of God/we; Holy/UnHoly; his need/our need; baptized in water/baptized in water

Compelled to be Humble.

Alma 16:134-138

And now, because ye are compelled to be humble,
blessed are ye.

For a man sometimes, if he is compelled to be humble,
seeketh repentance.
And now surely, whosoever repenteth
shall find mercy.
And he that findeth mercy and endureth to the end,
the same shall be saved.

And now as I said unto you that because ye were compelled to be humble,
ye were blessed.

Do ye not suppose that they are more blessed
who **truly humble** themselves because of the word?

Yea, he that truly humbleth himself
and repenteth of his sins
and endureth to the end,
the same shall be blessed.

Yea, much more blessed than they who art compelled to be humble
because of their exceeding poverty.

Therefore, blessed are they who humbleth themselves
without being compelled to be humble.

Or rather, in other words,

Blessed is he that believeth in the word of God
and is baptized without stubbornness of heart.
Yea, without being brought to know the word
or even compelled to know.
before they will believe.

Alma 16:134-138

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And now surely, whosoever repenteth
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And he that findeth mercy and endureth to the end,
the same shall be saved.

And now as I said unto you that because ye were compelled to be humble,
ye were blessed.

Do ye not suppose that they are more blessed
who truly humble themselves because of the word?

Yea, he that truly humbleth himself
and repenteth of his sins
and endureth to the end,
the same shall be blessed.

Yea, much more blessed than they who art compelled to be humble
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before they will believe.

Same Ending (Cataphora)

Same Beginning (Anaphora)

(bonus here)

Emblematic Conclusion, Summarizes All

Center of Chiasm 1

Center of Chiasm 2

Center of Chiasms Are Parallel

Parallelism observed from the Previous Passage

- (Parallel Compelled to be humble/compelled to be baptized (Parallel))
- (Parallel of being humble/Baptism is act of Humility)
- (Parallel of same being saved with baptism)
- (Emblematic)
- (Poverty compels, but the Word is better)
- (Double word humble/humbleth)
- Staircase

Book of Mormon important Baptism Parallelism

- **Life of the Body and Life of the Spirit** is a if not THE major parallelism within the Book of Mormon.
- Baptism symbolically represents that parallel in all aspects.
- What other book (and any other denomination) stresses BOTH the baptism by water and the Holy Ghost by specific instructions and command other than those with Book of Mormon?



<http://www.letusreason.org/Biblexp304.htm>

Is baptism a work and what is a work according to the Bible?

- A work is something we physically do.
- A good work would be anything conformed to the will of God in Christ (Eph.2:10).
- In Ephesians 2:8 is specifically says we are not save by works; salvation is *“by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, NOT OF WORKS, lest anyone should boast.”*

Content taken from

<http://www.letusreason.org/Biblexp304.htm>



Is baptism a work and what is a work according to the Bible?

A work is something that is physically done to accomplish a task, which is seen.

Belief, faith is exercised without lifting a finger.

The Bible emphatically states that we are not saved by works.

If we were, we would surely boast in ourselves, just as it says in Ephesians 2.

Content taken from

<http://www.letusreason.org/Biblexp304.htm>



Is baptism considered a work? Absolutely.

Another person is required to be there, and both participate in a physical activity; it is a ceremony. In the Old Testament people's sins were covered by faith, but they had to do a work with their faith in order to show their faith - they had to sacrifice.

Content taken from
<http://www.letusreason.org/Biblexp304.htm>



Is baptism considered a work? Absolutely.

Forgiveness from God and reconciliation with Him involved a blood sacrifice.

A person bought an animal to the high priest, as a mediator he would then sacrifice the animal to the Lord.

In the New Testament Jesus, our high priest has done this for us and we only need to exercise faith in his one time act.

Content taken from
<http://www.letusreason.org/Biblexp304.htm>



Is baptism considered a work? Absolutely.

- Baptism is a physical work of man, this is why it is not part of the gospel that says we are saved by grace through faith. In other words we depend on what work another did for us to be saved, God through Christ. Faith is what the heart and mind agree on, what Jesus did already for us. We trust in His work for us.

Content taken from
<http://www.letusreason.org/Biblexp304.htm>



Is baptism considered a work? Absolutely.

- “we are NOT saved by WORKS” (Eph. 2:8), even those we are commanded to do. Those who say baptism is necessary for our salvation do not see it as a work. So the definition of what is a work, and the works of the law, must be understood.

Content taken from
<http://www.letusreason.org/Biblexp304.htm>



Is baptism considered a work? Absolutely.

- A work is any physical, religious ceremonial or moral activity that would be required for a believer to gain salvation, to be justified. Works of the law are those things specifically mentioned in the Old Covenant Law of Moses.

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Is baptism considered a work? Absolutely.

- Paul writes of Israel in Rom. 9:31-33: *“but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone.”*
- Jesus was the stone the builders rejected.

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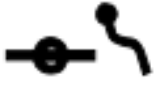



Is baptism considered a work? Absolutely.

Baptism is put in the same category as any work. What if someone believes the gospel, that Jesus died for their sins but also feels they must be baptized. That is adding works.

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Ancient Hebrew Definition of Innocent

1318)   (קָן NQ) ac: **Suckle** co:
Breast ab: **Innocent:** The pictograph  is a picture of a seed and represents the sons of the next generation, the  is a picture of the sun at the horizon and the drawing in of light. Combined these mean "child drawn in". The bringing in and holding close of an infant to the breast.

Innocent=BLAMELESS, INNOCENT, CLEAN

A)  (נָקָה NQ)

Innocent: Where the infant suckles.

f^m)  (נָקִי N-QY) —

Innocent: A state of innocence
as an infant. [df: נָקִי] [freq. 44]

|k|v: innocent, guiltless, quit,
blameless, clean, clear | {str:
5355}

Words NOT appearing in King James

- Innocence does NOT appear in King James.
- Guiltless does, and in an interesting context in NT. Means without sin.

Matthew 12:

(story of shewbread)

6 But I say unto you, That in this place is one greater than the temple.

7 But if ye had known what this meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.

8 For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.

Innocence

The Book of Mormon uses 'INNOCENCE' describing Adam/Eve's nature Pre-Sin.

2 Nephi 1:113 And they would have had no children; Wherefore, they would have remained in a state of **innocence** - having no joy, for they knew no misery, doing no good, for they knew no sin.

Guiltless—without SIN

Mosiah 2:42

(context: sharing with the poor, not coveting possessions)

And now for the sake of these things which I have spoken unto you -
that is,

for the sake of retaining a remission of your sins from day to day,
that ye may walk guiltless before God

Guiltless—without SIN

3 Nephi 12:29

And it shall come to pass that whoso repenteth and is baptized in My name shall be filled;

And if he endureth to the end, Behold, him will **I hold guiltless before My Father at that day** when I shall stand to judge the world;

Guiltless—without SIN

Mormon 3:29

And He hath brought to pass the redemption of the world,

Whereby he that is found guiltless before Him at the judgment day
hath it given unto them to dwell in the presence of God in His kingdom,

To sing ceaseless praises with the choirs above unto the Father and unto the Son and unto the Holy Ghost, which is one God, in a state of happiness which hath no end.

The Book of Mormon Teaches...

- Innocent
- Guiltless
- Blameless

Little Children are described as ALL these things,
which means WITHOUT SIN.

The Book of Mormon Teaches...

- Innocent
- Guiltless
- Blameless

Little Children are described as ALL these things,
which means WITHOUT SIN.

And All these MATCH the Ancient Hebrew for Sinless.

Jesus' Blood Atones for these Three:

- Those who kept the commandments, in Covenant
- Those who knew no law
- Little Children

(Abinadi's teaching: Mosiah 8)

Those whose Blood Jesus Atones for (Described as part of First Resurrection)

1. Those Who Obeyed

Mosiah 8:

56 And now, the resurrection of all the prophets and all those that have believed in their words, or all those that have kept the commandments of God,

These shall come forth in the first resurrection;

Therefore, they are the first resurrection;

Those whose Blood Jesus Atones for
(Described as part of First Resurrection)

1. Those Who Obeyed

Mosiah 8:

57 They are raised to dwell with God who hath redeemed them, Thus they have eternal life through Christ who hath broken the bands of death.

Those whose Blood Jesus Atones for
(Described as part of First Resurrection)

2. Those Who Knew No Law

Mosiah 8:

58 And there are those who have part in the first resurrection, And these are they that have died before Christ came, in their ignorance, not having salvation declared unto them;

Those whose Blood Jesus Atones for
(Described as part of First Resurrection)

2. Those Who Knew No Law

Mosiah 8:

59 And thus the Lord bringeth about the restoration of these (i.e. those who knew no law);

And they have a part in the first resurrection, or hath eternal life, being redeemed by the Lord.

Those whose Blood Jesus Atones For (Described as part of First Resurrection)

2. Those Who Knew No Law

Moroni 8:25

For behold that **all little children are alive** in Christ,
and also all they that are without the law;

(Notice Moroni captures those who knew no law here as well)

Those whose Blood Jesus Atones for
(Described as part of First Resurrection)

3. Little Children

Mosiah 8:

60 And little children also hath eternal life.

The Best Scripture regarding the Innocent State of Children comes from Jesus in BOTH New Testament and Book of Mormon

[Moroni 8:9](#)

Behold, I came into the world, not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance;

The whole need no physician, but they that are sick;

**Wherefore, little children are whole,
for they are not capable of committing sin;**

Wherefore, the curse of Adam is taken from them in Me,
that it hath no power over them;

And the law of circumcision is done away in Me.'

Moroni 8:13 But little children are alive in Christ, even from the foundation of the world; If not so, God is a partial God, and also a changeable Being and a respecter to persons; For how many little children have died without baptism?

Baptism is 'a Work??'

Incorrect Understanding of Grace, Works in New Testament.

This is TYPICAL in many Gentile Christian Churches, especially the 'hyper Grace' movement.

Baptism is 'a Work??'

NOTICE EVERY PERSON JUSTIFYING THEIR POSITION (BAPTISM OF INFANTS, NO BAPTISM REQUIRED, BAPTISM IS A WORK...)

ALL USE SCRIPTURE IN SOME FASHION.

BUT TAKE OUT OF CONTEXT, INFER NONEXISTENT MEANING,
STRAW MAN ASSUMPTIONS....

GENERALIZATIONS... (PLAY VIDEO)

Baptism is 'a Work??'

Incorrect Understanding of Grace, Works in New Testament.

These confuse the Law of Moses which which was also called 'The Law of Works.'

The whole law was done away. Paul refers to TWO kinds of works:

1. The Works of the Law of Moses (done away) and
2. The Works required by Christ.

Baptism is 'a Work??'

Some incorrectly believe that salvation has nothing to do with works.

Our works could not bring about salvation, it took an infinite payment by God.

But our works demonstrate the change of heart, therefore we are judged by them.

We are COMMANDED to be about 'the Good WORKS' of Christ.

Baptism is not a “Work of the Law of Moses’

Rebutting the ignorance

Paul referred to the Works of the Law of Moses being done away.

Paul and Apostles refer to the Works of Faith being our response to Christ.

Notions taught by Hollywood, misguided Christians

Notion: Baptism will seal your children with the parents in Eternity.

Answer: Book of Mormon teaches Children already have eternal life. Parents need to humble themselves as children already are.

[Mosiah 1:118](#)

But men drinketh damnation to their own souls,
except they humble themselves and become **as little children**,

And believeth that salvation was and is and is to come, in and through the atoning blood of Christ, the Lord Omnipotent.

Notions taught by Hollywood & misguided Christians

Notion: Little Children will go to Hell if not baptized.

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Moroni 8:18 "Behold, I speak with boldness, having authority from God; For I fear not what man can do; For perfect love casteth out all fear; And I am filled with charity, which is everlasting love;

Wherefore, all children are alike unto me; Wherefore, I love little children with a perfect love; And they are all alike and partakers of salvation;

Notions taught by Hollywood & misguided Christians

Notion: Little Children have sin.

Answer: Book of Mormon teaches Children are sinless, not capable of sin.

[Mosiah 1:114-115](#)

And even if it were possible **that little children could sin**,
they could not be saved;

But I say unto you, they are blessed; For behold, as in Adam, or by nature, they fall, even so the blood of Christ atoneth for their sins.

Notions taught by Hollywood & misguided Christians

Notion: We are born into this world with the sin of Adam upon us.

Answer: Book of Mormon teaches we are only accountable for our own sin. We are all, however, born into a fallen world separated from God because of the action of our first parents.

[Mosiah 1:114-115](#)

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Why the Book of Mormon

Because Gentiles would STUMBLE

Why the Book of Mormon

Because Gentiles would STUMBLE.

Not trying to prove 'this is the restored church' but this is the restored doctrine that was given for all to plainly understand.

Scripture contains no righteous account of infant baptism, yet millions taught that it must be true.

Scripture contains first person Jesus commanding baptism, yet many Gentiles advocate it isn't necessary.

Use the incorrect understandings put forth by Luther and build a religion upon it that had no foundation in the original Apostles message.

Be aware

Not trying to demonstrate by scripture that this is God's true church,
but in intellectual honesty, what makes most sense? What is plainest?

But becomes self evident

Beware

It seems the ENTIRE justification of 'children having sin' is an obscure statement that David was conceived in sin. (But David also writes of his child who died saying where he is, I will be too, so that cancels the idea that somehow he was arguing that all babies have sin. BUT THE ENTIRE CATHOLIC AND LUTHERAN WORLD REFERS TO THIS SCRIPTURE WHEN JUSTIFYING INFANT BAPTISM.

That is likely just another way to say, born into a sinful world.

But SIN is part of the SOUL, not the BODY.

SIN occurs with WILLFUL rebellion against that which is good.

Saying a body was born into a sinful world does not make it SINFUL by default, OTHERWISE JESUS WOULD HAVE BEEN BORN WITH SIN.

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It seems the ENTIRE justification of 'children having sin' is an obscure statement that David was conceived in sin. (But David also writes of his child who died saying where he is, I will be too, so that cancels the idea that somehow he was arguing that all babies have sin. BUT THE ENTIRE CATHOLIC AND LUTHERAN WORLD REFERS TO THIS SCRIPTURE WHEN JUSTIFYING INFANT BAPTISM.

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Psalms 51:6

Beware --one single phrase is used throughout Catholicism to support children being born with sin. This scripture does not teach or imply this.

1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

If Children are born with sin, then Jesus (who was conceived by an earthly mother) would have bestowed sin onto Jesus. NOT TRUE.

Saying a body was born into a sinful world does not make it SINFUL by default, OTHERWISE JESUS WOULD HAVE BEEN BORN WITH SIN. Likely no Christian on either side of the argument would claim that Jesus had sin at birth. It can't be reconciled otherwise Jesus would have been a sinner, which if true, negates the entire story of salvation—he was what the unblemished lamb represented.

Psalmist (David) who wrote Psalm 51 also claimed he would 'go' to where his infant was:

2 Samuel:

22 And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said,

Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?

23 But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast?

can I bring him back again?

I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

David's understanding was

His child was with God in heaven.

David DID NOT imply in Psalm 51 that children are born with sin.

Rather, he acknowledges that from the beginning of life, we are surrounded by sin in this world.

Baptism Extremes

Infant Baptism

HAS to be done because

- Infants are sinners
- One can not received Gods gifts without baptism
- HAVE to be baptized otherwise go to hell.
- One becomes a Christian at the point of infinite baptism to delight God.

No Baptism of ANY Kind

- No baptism is necessary, just faith alone
- Any baptism is a work, and works are of man, therefore baptism is NOT necessary because WORKS do not save you.
- Baptism is a work offending God because ONLY faith is required.
- We become 'Christians' when we SAY we believe.

The Extremes

Satan plays both extremes to his advantage. This is the baptismal hedge.

SATAN deceives some to ENFORCE baptism therefore demand its application to the innocent. (And thereby Mock God's Grace).

SATAN deceives others to REJECT baptism, therefore demand its exclusion for any reason, stating saved by FAITH alone. (And thereby Mock God's Grace).

Will show some videos

Intentionally Brief.

Not trying to pick apart every argument, although it is possible to refute every claim. For now, they exist.

BUT instead, see the reason, clarity, pureness, plainness of the words written in the Book of Mormon. And decide what is just, true and divine.

For those who state NO BAPTISM

Know ye not that he was HOLY??