

# OF GOD OR OF MAN?

What was  
Joseph Smith's  
purpose for the  
Kirtland  
Temple?





Why did Joseph Smith instruct to build the Kirkland Temple?

What was the purpose?

Was this from God or Man?



## 3rd Nephi Book of Mormon

29 And there shall be no disputations among you, as there hath hitherto been; neither shall there be disputations among you concerning the points of my doctrine, as there hath hitherto been;

30 For verily, verily I say unto you, He that hath the spirit of contention, is not of me, but is of the devil, who is the father of contention, and he stirreth up the hearts of men to contend with anger one with another;

31 Behold, this is not my doctrine, to stir up the hearts of men with anger one against another; but this is my doctrine, that such things should be done away.

32 Behold, verily, verily I say unto you, I will declare unto you my doctrine. And this is my doctrine, and it is the doctrine which the Father hath given unto me;

[http://www.restoredgospel.com/Scriptures1/Shell\\_ChapterContext\\_Classic.php?ScriptureID=39633&ContextSearch=1&ChapterSearch=1](http://www.restoredgospel.com/Scriptures1/Shell_ChapterContext_Classic.php?ScriptureID=39633&ContextSearch=1&ChapterSearch=1)



33 And I bear record of the Father, and the Father beareth record of me, and the Holy Ghost beareth record of the Father and me, and I bear record that the Father commandeth all men, everywhere, to repent and believe in me;

34 And whoso believeth in me, and is baptized, the same shall be saved; and they are they who shall inherit the kingdom of God.

35 And whoso believeth not in me, and is not baptized, shall be damned.

36 Verily, verily I say unto you, that this is my doctrine; and I bear record of it from the Father; and whoso believeth in me, believeth in the Father also;



37 And unto him will the Father bear record of me; for he will visit him with fire and with the Holy Ghost;

38 And thus will the Father bear record of me; and the Holy Ghost will bear record unto him of the Father and me; for the Father, and I, and the Holy Ghost, are one.

39 And again I say unto you, Ye must repent, and become as a little child, and be baptized in my name, or ye can in no wise receive these things.

40 And again I say unto you, Ye must repent, and be baptized in my name, and become as a little child, or ye can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God.

41 Verily, verily I say unto you, that this is my doctrine; and whoso buildeth upon this, buildeth upon my rock; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against them.



42 And whoso shall declare more or less than this, and establish it for my doctrine, the same cometh of evil, and is not built upon my rock, but he buildeth upon a sandy foundation, and the gates of hell standeth open to receive such, when the floods come, and the winds beat upon them.

43 Therefore go forth unto this people, and declare the words which I have spoken, unto the ends of the earth.  
And unto him will the Father bear record of me; for he will visit him with



[Read Previous Page / Next Page](#)

**601** chapel, were obliged to break off from their business at the commencement of this storm, on the 11th instant.

"This evening at six o'clock met with the Council of the Twelve, by their request. Nine of them were present. Council opened by singing and prayer. And I made some remarks as follows:-

"I am happy in the enjoyment of this opportunity of meeting with this council on this occasion. I am satisfied that the Spirit of the Lord is here, and I am satisfied with all the brethren present; and I need not say that you have my utmost confidence, and that I intend to uphold you to the uttermost, for I am well aware that you have to sustain my character against the vile calumnies and reproaches of this ungodly generation, and that you delight in so doing.

"Darkness prevails at this time as it was at the time Jesus Christ was about to be crucified. The powers of darkness strove to obscure the glorious Sun of righteousness that began to dawn upon the world and was soon to burst in great blessings upon the heads of the faithful; and let me tell you, brethren, that great blessings await us at this time, and will soon be poured out upon us, if we are faithful in all things, for we are even entitled to greater blessings than they were, because they had the person of Christ with them to instruct them in the great plan of salvation. His personal presence we have not, therefore we have need of great faith, on account of our peculiar circumstances; and I am determined to do all that I can to uphold you, although I may do many things inadvertently that are not right in the sight of God.



You want to know many things that are before you that you may know how to prepare yourselves for the great things that God is about to bring to pass. But there is one great deficiency or obstruction in the way that deprives us of the greater blessings; and in order to make the foundation of this church complete and permanent we must remove this obstruction, which is, to attend to certain duties that we have not as yet attended to. I supposed I had established this church on a permanent foundation when I went to Missouri, and indeed I did so, for if I had been taken away, it would have been enough, but I yet live, and therefore God requires more at my hands. The item to which I wish the more particularly to call your attention tonight, is the ordinance of washing of feet. This we have not done as yet, but it is necessary now, as much as it was in the days of the Savior; and we must have a place prepared that, we may attend to this ordinance aside from the world.

”



1. Great deficiency or obstruction
2. Deprives us of greater blessings
3. Obstruction has to be removed - why?
  - To make the foundation of the church sure and permanent
4. Need the ordinance of washing of feet
5. Necessary now as in the days of the Savior
  - Did Jesus make this an ordinance?
  - New world -did he perform in Book of Mormon ?



"We have not desired much from the hand of the Lord with that faith and obedience that we ought, yet we have enjoyed great blessings, and we are not so sensible of this as we should be. When or where has God suffered one of the witnesses or first elders of this church to fall? Never, nor nowhere. Amidst all the calamities and judgments that have befallen the inhabitants of the earth his almighty arm has sustained us, men and devils have raged, and spent their malice in vain. We must have all things prepared, and call our solemn assembly as the Lord has commanded us, that we may be able to accomplish his great work, and it must be done in God's own way. The house of the Lord must be prepared, and the solemn assembly called and organized in it, according to the order of the house of God; and in it we must attend to the ordinance of washing of feet. It was never intended for any but official members. It is calculated to unite our hearts, that we may be one in feeling and sentiment, and that our faith may be strong, so that Satan cannot overthrow us, nor have any power over us.



6. Must be done in God's own way :

- Call solemn assembly

- House of the Lord Prepared - according to the "order"

- Washing of feet

- Official members only

7. Why do we need this?

- to unite our hearts

- to be one in feeling and sentiment

- to help our faith to be strong

- that Satan will have no power over us

- Satan will not overthrow us



"The endowment you are so anxious about, you cannot comprehend now, nor could Gabriel explain it to the understanding of your dark minds. But strive to be prepared in your hearts; be faithful in all things, that when we meet in the solemn assembly, that is, such as God shall name out of all the official members will meet, and we must be clean every whit. Let us be faithful and silent, brethren, and if God gives you a manifestation, keep it to yourselves; be watchful and prayerful, and you shall have a prelude of those joys that God will pour out on that day. Do not watch for iniquity in each other, if you do you will not get an endowment, for God will not bestow it on such. But if we are faithful, and live by every word that proceeds forth from the mouth of God, I will venture to prophesy that we shall get a blessing that will be worth remembering, if we should live as long as John the Revelator; our blessings will be such as we have not realized before, nor in this generation. The order of the house of God has been, and ever will be, the same, even after Christ comes; and after the termination of the thousand years it will be the same; and we shall finally roll into the celestial Kingdom of God, and enjoy it forever."



"You need an endowment, brethren, in order that you may be prepared and able to overcome all things; and those that reject your testimony will be damned. The sick will be healed, the lame made to walk, the deaf to hear, and the blind to see, through your instrumentality. But let me tell you, that you will not have power, after the endowment, to heal those that have not faith, nor to benefit them, for you might as well expect to benefit a devil in hell as such who are possessed of his spirit, and are willing to keep it; for they are habitations for devils, and only fit for his society. But when you are endowed and prepared to preach the gospel to all nations, kindred, and tongues, in their own languages, you must faithfully warn all, and bind up the testimony, and seal up the law, and the destroying angel will follow close at your heels, and exercise his tremendous mission upon the children of disobedience, and destroy the workers of iniquity, while the saints will be gathered out from among them, and stand in holy places ready to meet the Bridegroom when he comes.



“ I feel disposed to speak a few words more to you, my brethren, concerning the endowment: All who are prepared, and are sufficiently pure to abide the presence of the Savior, will see him in the solemn assembly.’

"The brethren expressed their gratification for the instruction I had given them. We then closed by prayer, when I returned home and retired to rest.

## “The Endowment”



Interesting what else is happening simultaneously:

Monday 16th - "On Sabbath morning, 15th, he went with me to meeting, which was held in the schoolhouse, as the chapel was not finished plastering.

"Tuesday, 17. Exhibited the alphabet of the ancient records to Mr. Holmes and some others. Went with him to F. G. Williams' to see the mummies. We then took the parting hand, and he started for home, being strong in the faith of the gospel of Jesus Christ and determined to obey its requirements. I returned home and spent the day in dictating and comparing letters. A fine, pleasant day, although cool.

"This evening at early candle light I preached at the schoolhouse.



19 and bowed himself with O. Cowdery, in solemn but silent prayer to the Most High. After rising from prayer the following vision was opened to both of them.

The veil was taken from their minds and their eyes of their understandings were opened. They saw the Lord standing upon the breast work of the pulpit before them and under his feet was a pavement of pure gold, in color like amber; his eyes were as a flame of fire, the hair of his head was like the pure snow, his countenance shone above the brightness of the sun, and his voice was as the sound of the rushing of great waters, even the voice of Jehovah, saying, I am the first and the last, I am he who liveth, I am he who was slain, I am your Advocate with the Father. Behold your sins are forgiven you. You are clean before me therefore, lift up your heads and rejoice, let the hearts of your brethren rejoice and let the hearts of all my ~~people~~ <sup>people</sup> rejoice who have with their might, built this house to my name. For behold I have accepted this house and my name shall be here; and I will manifest myself to my people, in mercy, in this House. Ye I will appear unto my servants and speak unto them with mine own voice, if my people will keep my commandments and do not pollute this Holy House. Ye the hearts of thousands and tens of thousands shall greatly rejoice in consequence of the blessings which shall be poured out, and the endowment with which my servants have already been endowed and shall hereafter be endowed in this House. And the fame of this House shall spread to foreign lands, and this is the beginning of the blessing, which shall

Home > The Papers >

## Visions, 3 April 1836 [D&C 110]



### Source Note

*Visions, [Kirtland Township, Geauga Co., OH], 3 Apr. 1836. Featured version copied [ca. 3 Apr. 1836] in JS, Journal, 1835–1836, pp. 192–193; handwriting of Warren A. Cowdery; JS Collection, CHL. For more complete source information, see the source note for JS, Journal, 1835–1836.*

### Historical Introduction

A few days following the temple dedication in Kirtland, Ohio, and the solemn assembly that empowered church elders for the ministry, JS's journal records that JS and Oliver Cowdery had a vision of heavenly messengers in the House of the Lord.<sup>1</sup> On the afternoon of Easter Sunday, 3 April 1836, JS helped other members of the church presidency distribute the sacrament of the Lord's Supper to the congregation that had assembled in the lower court of the



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<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/visions-3-april-1836-dc-110/1>

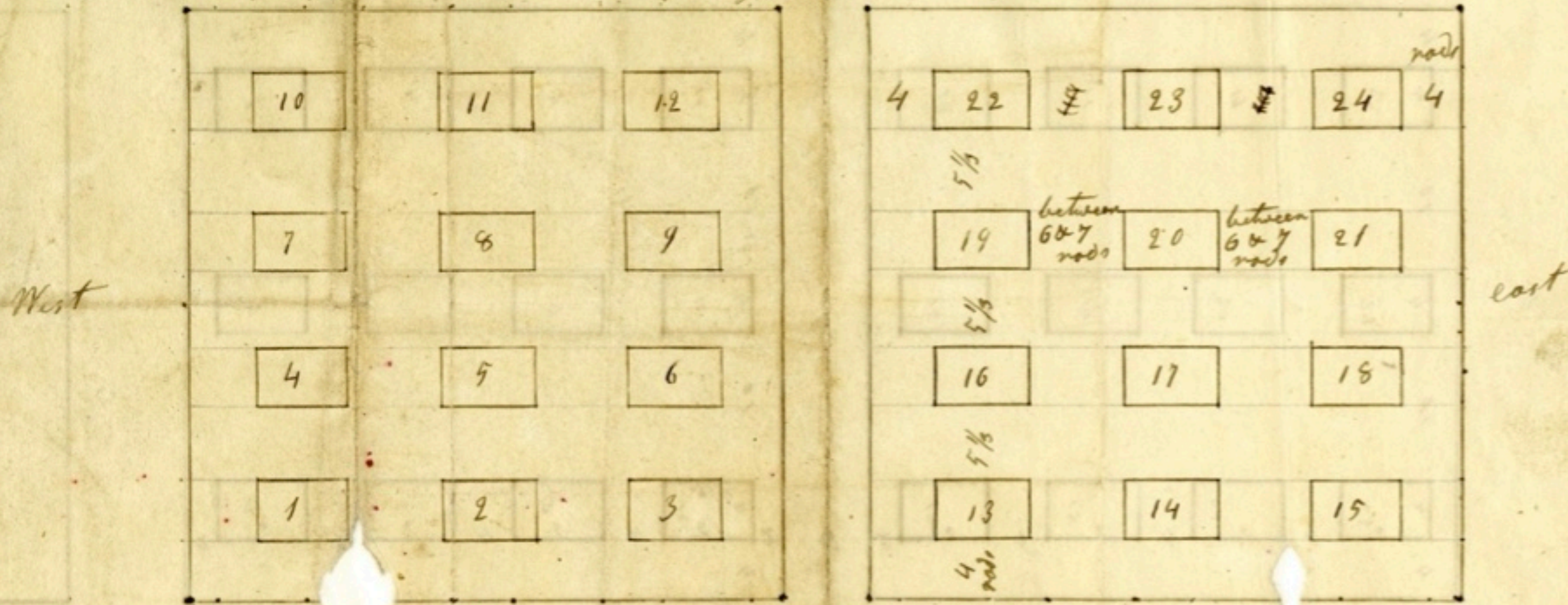


According to the journal, after JS and Cowdery prayed, secluded in the curtains and pulpits of the temple, they had a miraculous vision of Jesus Christ, who accepted the House of the Lord as JS had prayed for at the dedication.<sup>4</sup> The appearance was a fulfillment of a promise made in earlier JS revelations, that the Lord would show himself in the temple.<sup>5</sup> Following the appearance of Christ, the journal records, JS and Cowdery also received visitations from the biblical prophets Moses, Elias, and Elijah, who bestowed upon the two church leaders “the Keys of this dispensation.” These keys authorized JS and Cowdery to exercise in new ways the priesthood they had received from the apostles Peter, James, and John in 1829.<sup>6</sup> The bestowal of “the Keys of this dispensation,” particularly those concerning the gathering of Israel and turning “the hearts of the Fathers to the children,” marked a vital moment for Latter-day Saint missionary work and temple ordinances.

<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/visions-3-april-1836-dc-110/1>



I have marked out the 2 squares below & also the 24 buildings. I have arranged them so as to leave the spaces between them more equal, and according to the natural judgement of man would be preferable to the arrangement on the <sup>you sent me,</sup> plat. Thinking perhaps that their arrangement was not by revelation, and also that you had not seen them plotted out has induced me to plot them this way for you to view & reflect upon



If the plan on this <sup>South</sup> should be considered preferable to the other perhaps it would be wisdom to set the buildings <sup>over</sup> the streets than what they are marked



The names of the Temples to be built on the painted squares as represented on the plot of the City of Zion which is now about to be forwarded thither. Nos 10, 11, & 12, are to be called, House of the Lord for the presidency of the High and most holy priesthood after the order of Melchizadeck which was after the order of the son of God upon Mount Zion City of the New Jerusalem. Nos. 7, 8, & 9 The Sacred Apostolic Repository for the use of the Bishops. Nos, 4, 5, & 6 The holy evangelical House for the High Priesthood of the holy order of God. Nos 1, 2, & 3 The house of the Lord for the Elders of Zion, an ensign to the nations. Nos 22, 23 & 24 House of the Lord for the presidency of the high Priesthood after the order of Aaron, a Standard for the people. Nos 19, 20, 21 House of the Lord for the high Priesthood after the order of Aaron, the Law of the Kingdom of heaven, Messenger to the people. Nos. 16, 17, & 18 House of the Lord for the Tea <https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/minute-book-1/26?highlight=12%20temples%20zion> chers in Zion, messenger to the Church. Nos 13, 14, & 15 House of the Lord for the Deacons in Zion, helps in government. Underneath must be written on each House — Holiness To the Lord 24 June 1833 —

24

<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/minute-book-1/26?highlight=12%20temples%20zion>



## New ordinances never taught by Jesus

- Washing of feet
- Baptism for the dead
- Baptize at 8 years old
- Priesthood covenants and orders
- Mechisedec PH as a thing
- Aaronic PH as a thing (even though Joseph Smith revelation says it ended with John the Baptist which is also not true, it contradicts his later statements)
- The endowment



- One true church and authority
- Passed on through lineage of the man ordaining the next man (spiritual and physical)
- Levels of Salvation and final eternal resting place

Where did Nephi and Levi get “authority” from?

- The Holy Ghost
- They were not part of the “priesthood” of the day (Tribe of Levi or descended from Aaron?)



Those crazy Brighamites perverted the gospel....

WRONG



The plain gospel presented again in simpleness was hijacked long before the death of Joseph Smith



Early as 1830 they knew of a temple in new Jerusalem see Oliver c. Covenant

Manchester, Oct. 17, 1830.

I, Oliver [Cowdery], being commanded of the Lord God, to go forth unto the Lamanites, to proclaim glad tidings of great joy unto them, by presenting unto them the fulness of the Gospel,<sup>1</sup> of the only begotten son of God; and also, to rear up a pillar as a witness where the Temple of God shall be built, in the glorious New-Jerusalem;<sup>2</sup> and having certain brothers with me, who are called of God to assist me, whose names are Parley [P. Pratt], Peter [Whitmer Jr.] and Ziba [Peterson], do therefore most solemnly covenant before God, that I will walk humbly before him, and do this business, and this glorious work according as he shall direct me by the Holy Ghost; ever praying for mine and their prosperity, and deliverance from bonds, and from imprisonments,<sup>3</sup> and whatsoever may befall us, with all patience and faith.— Amen.

OLIVER COWDERY.

We, the undersigned, being called and commanded of the Lord God, to accompany our Brother Oliver Cowdery, to go to the Lamanites, and to assist in the above mentioned glorious work and business. We do, therefore, most solemnly covenant before God, that we will assist him faithfully in this thing, by giving heed unto all his words and advice, which is, or shall be given him by the spirit of truth, ever praying with all prayer and supplication, for our and his prosperity, and our deliverance<sup>4</sup> from bonds, and imprisonments, and whatsoever may come upon us, with all patience and faith.—Amen.

Signed in presence of

JOSEPH SMITH, Jun.

DAVID WHITMER,<sup>5</sup>

P. P. PRATT,

ZIBA PETERSON,

PETER WHITMER [Jr]. [p. [1]][Link for original Joseph Smith papers](#)

Where did this idea of a temple come from ?



Prophet Seer Revelator is defined  
in the Book of Mormon as the  
one who has the interpreters to  
translate language. That is it.



|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Temple or Tabernacle         | Kirtland Temple   |
| High Priest - Aaron line     | First Elder or President of Church  |
| Sprinkle Blood on Mercy Seat | Washing of Feet   |
| Sins Atoned for              | Receive Endowment , cleansed from blood of this generation , new enlightenment, see Jesus |



## The problem with repeating the phrase “The Gospel was restored in 1830”

This lumps all the Gentile teachings together with the Book of Mormon

The truth is that : - The Gospel is eternal and has always been. We had plain understanding given back to us presented in the Book of Mormon that had been corrupted or “transgressed” - added to...

*To name a few....*

-Who Jesus is——God the Eternal Father

-How to come to Christ

-What sacrifice to offer. - (broken heart contrite spirit)

-God’s eternal plan for man

-The “church” defined



**4** He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

**5** After that he poureth water into a basin, and began to <sup>a</sup>wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel wherewith he was girded.

**6** Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

**7** Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

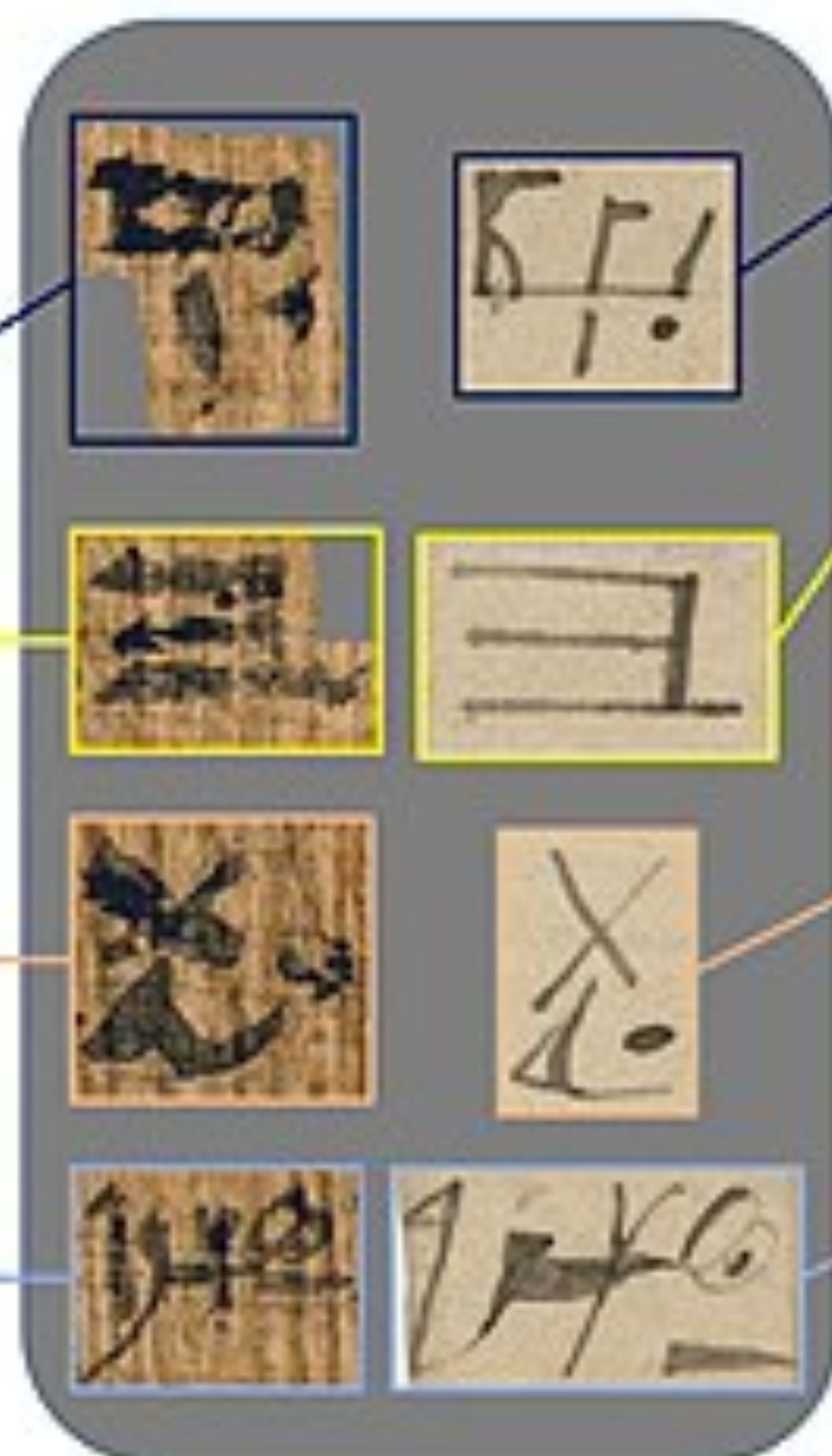
**8** <sup>a</sup>Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I <sup>b</sup>wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

**9** Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also *my* hands and *my* head.

**10** Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash *his* feet, but is <sup>a</sup>clean every whit: and ye are <sup>b</sup>clean, but not all.



### Breathing Permit of Hôr Scroll



### Book of Abraham Manuscript

Page 3 (1:11 - 1:16)

Warren Parrish Handwriting (ca. Nov 1835)

