

Gentile Tradition Part 2

Living Hope Spring 2023
remainder of Class 5.



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.

That they might be restored unto grace.

For grace according to their works.

SYNTHETIC PARALLELISM—
INCREASING 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:

They that have done good shall have everlasting life;

And they that have done evil shall have everlasting damnation.

ANTITHETICAL PARALLELISM—
CONTRASTING INFORMATION

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 Punishment exists.
- A Reward Exists in Opposition to the Punishment.
- The Reward affixed matches the Punishment 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, 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.

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**,
And if they be **evil**, to the **resurrection of damnation**,
ANTITHETIC PARALLELISM

Being on a parallel,
the one on the one hand, 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, ELLIPSIS
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**.

[\(Return\)](#)

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...adding

- Council of Gods
- Levels of Salvation
- Zion built by Gentiles.
- Inhabitants of other planets...
- 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

(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

[\(Return\)](#)

Ephraim

- First Mention in church History [Vol 1, Chpt 6, Page: 87](#)
- "Soon after this occurrence I returned to Fayette, Seneca County. The Book of Mormon ('The stick of Joseph in the hands of Ephraim') had now been published for some time, and as the ancient prophet had predicted of it, 'It was accounted as a strange thing.' No small stir was created by its appearance;

Ephraim

Ezekiel 37

15 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,

16 Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:

17 And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.

We started calling ourselves Ephraim

- But the Book of Mormon calls us 'Gentiles'
- Mulekites numbered among Nephites AFTER their assimilation into culture, beliefs
- Gentiles Numbered among Israel AFTER our repentance and Israel's Return to the Lord.
- NOWHERE does SCRIPTURE call Gentiles Ephraim.

Mosiah 11:90 And now all the people of Zarahemla
were numbered with the Nephites, And this because the kingdom had
been conferred upon none but those which were descendants of
Nephi.

We would Technically be 'Manasseh' not Ephraim....

[3 Nephi 10:1](#) "But if they will repent, and hearken unto My words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish My church among them; **And they shall come in unto the covenant and be numbered among this, the remnant of Jacob,** unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance, And they shall assist My people, the remnant of Jacob -
(LDS: [3 Nephi 21:23](#))

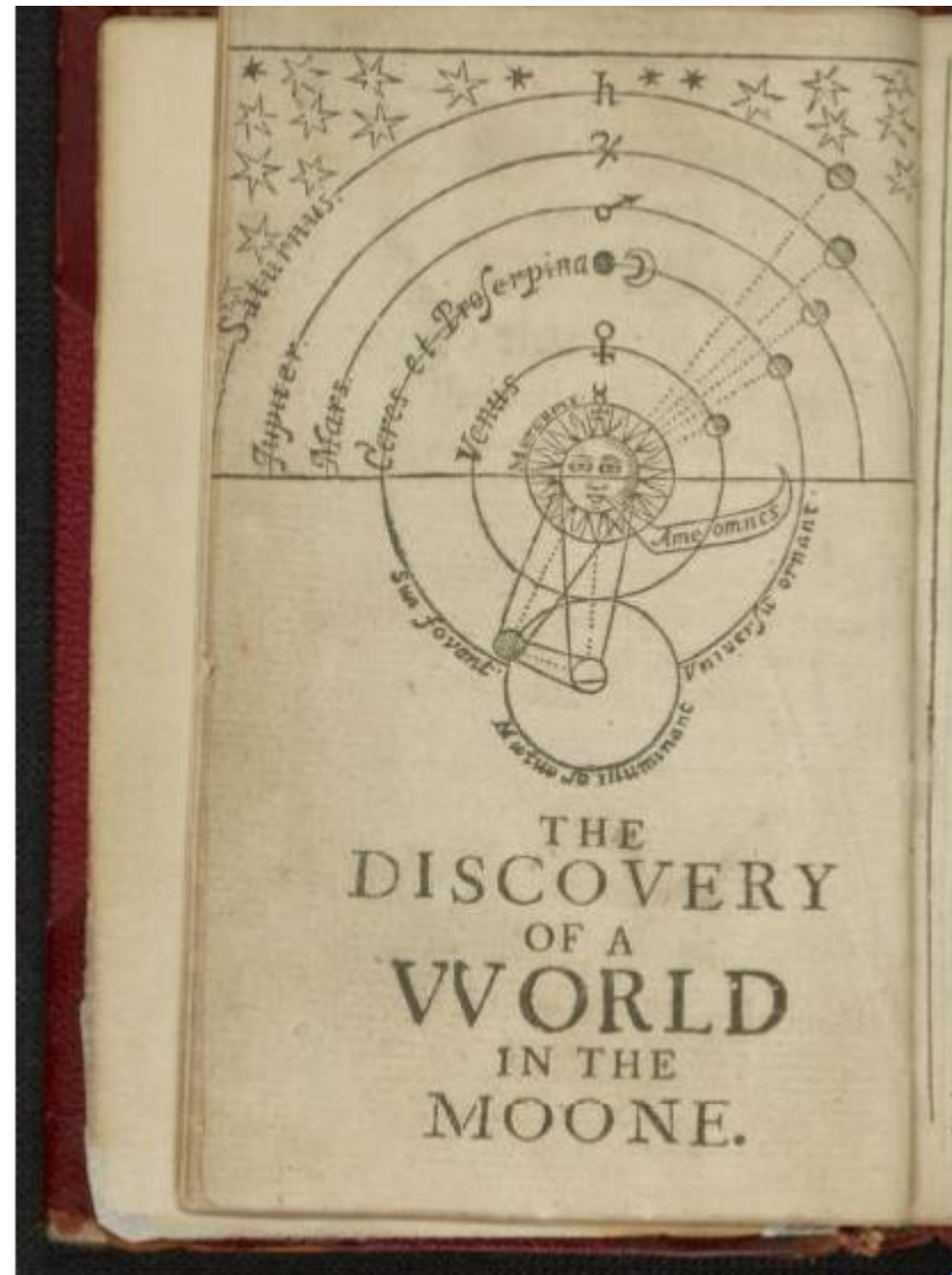


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The MOON....

"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 describing the discovery of various species of 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 inhabitants of the sun. Do you think it is inhabited? I rather think it is.

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 [Book of Abraham](#), a sacred text of the [Latter Day Saint movement](#). Several Latter Day Saint denominations hold the Book of Abraham to have been translated from an [Egyptian papyrus scroll](#) by [Joseph Smith](#)...
- According to this work, Kolob is the heavenly body nearest to the [throne of God](#).
- While the Book of Abraham calls Kolob a "star",^[1] it also calls planets "stars",^[2] and therefore some Latter Day Saint commentators consider Kolob a planet.^[3]
- The body also appears in [Latter Day Saint culture](#), 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.

The Book of Abraham Incorrectly Translated

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 Book of Abraham Incorrectly Translated

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.

So where does 'Ephraim' Come Into Latter Day Doctrine?

- First mention in Church History is Ezekiel 37.
-Then ASSUMED this is us because the Book of Mormon is 'in our hands.'

Other Blessings in the Early Church

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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..."

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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...**”

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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)

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

Oliver Snow on June 20, 1836

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

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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... “

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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.)

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

“The destroyer shall not have power over thee to take away thy life.
Thou shalt behold the Son of God while thou dost stand in the flesh
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

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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)

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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)

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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)

https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Patriarchal_Blessings_by_Joseph_Smith_Sr_Dated_1834-1840 [\(Return\)](#)

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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)

https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Patriarchal_Blessings_by_Joseph_Smith_Sr_Dated_1834-1840 [\(Return\)](#)

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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

https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Patriarchal_Blessings_by_Joseph_Smith_Sr_Dated_1834-1840 ([Return](#))

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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).

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

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

Can the Church make its own Traditions??...

Patriarchal Blessings by Joseph Smith Senior:

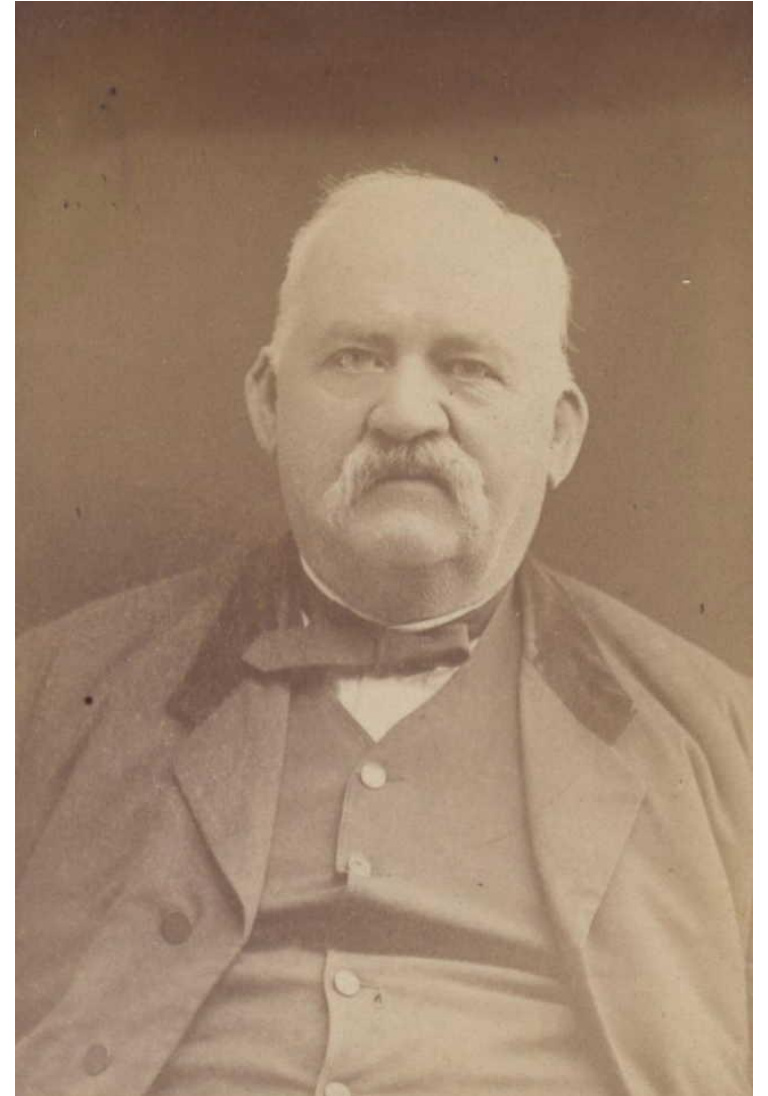
“... and like Enoch of old thou shalt not sleep in the dust, But thou shalt rise up in the chariots of fire and shall come up to the city of Enoch and behold the glories thereof.

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 **Traditions of belief,** 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.

“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**.

Scholars Debate this Verse was NOT Original to the Old Testament

[Psalms 110:4](#)

The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent,
Thou art a priest for ever after the **order of Melchizedek**.

The Book of Mormon sheds an interesting light on it...

Scholars debate....Psalm 110:4 Not Original

- "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)

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.** [\(Return\)](#)

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 Babylonian 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!

Furthermore....

- Reasoning is to 'avoid too frequent mention of the name of God'
- ...Who benefits from that?

DC 104:1a There are, in the church, two priesthoods; namely: the **Melchisedec**, and the Aaronic, including the Levitical priesthood.

DC 104:1b Why the first is called the **Melchisedec** priesthood, is because **Melchisedec** was such a great high priest: before his day it was called the holy priesthood, after the order of the Son of God;

DC 104:1c but out of respect or reverence to the name of the Supreme Being, to avoid the too frequent repetition of his name, they, the church, in ancient days, called that priesthood after **Melchisedec**, or the **Melchisedec** priesthood.

No....Nephites were all about Mentioning His Name...

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,

Cognate Accusative—
Same word as Noun/Verb

that our children may know
to what source they may look
for a remission of their sins.

What we have are Gentile Traditions....

- GENTILE TRADITIONS mixed with Scripture.
- We MUST draw a distinction between truth and tradition.
- Can ONLY DO THIS if we understand the BOOK OF MORMON.

Everlasting Covenant

- Ask saints and they will tell you it is with Enoch about Enoch City return.
- But.....

Everlasting Covenant

- Ask saints and they will tell you it is with Enoch about Enoch City return.
- But.....
- Ask NEPHI, LEHI, KING BENJAMIN, ALMA, MORMON, MORONI, JESUS:
- It is about Regathering Israel.

Everlasting Covenant is to Regather Israel

Ezekiel 37:21-26

21 And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land:

22 And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:

...26 **Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them:** and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

Everlasting Covenant is to Regather Israel—
We MISS THIS if we think it is about Enoch.
Enoch is a Gentile Tradition NOT supported by
the other side of the Contract.

3 Nephi 9:58

And behold, this people will I establish in this land, unto the fulfilling
of the covenant which I made with your **father Jacob,**

And it shall be a New Jerusalem.

These are NOT Book of Mormon Scripture.

These are GENTILE TRADITIONS.

- Melchizedek Priesthood Order (or Aaronic).
- People inhabiting other Planets (Sun, Moon, Kolob)
- Giving Ephraim title to Gentiles.
- A Tribunal of Gods. (Book of Mormon teaches ONE GOD ONLY)
- Satan and Jesus Brothers (Jesus IS GOD, not a lessor surrogate)
- Gentiles Building Zion singlehandedly
- Enoch
- Enoch City
- An Everlasting Covenant with Enoch. (Everlasting Covenant was to Regather Israel per the Book of Mormon)