

The Book of Mormon

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10:56 AM

The five people Martin was allowed to show the manuscript to were: his wife Lucy, his parents, his brother & Mrs. Caw (Lucy's sister). Originally Joseph was going to go with Martin, however Emma was pregnant with their first child and starting to go into labor. Since her mom wasn't really taking care of her Joseph needed to stick around. He had Martin make a covenant with Joseph & the Lord that he would only show those 5 people and hurry. However, Martin invited lots of people to come see them and took a long time. This was a very difficult pregnancy for Emma, she was really on the brink of death. Joseph goes and pleads for help from Emma's parents, her father refuses, but her mother comes to her assistance. Their son was named Alvin. He only lived 4 hours, it was very difficult for Joseph & Emma. At this time her mother invited them both to come live with them. Finally after Emma is feeling better she sends Joseph to go pick up the manuscript to bring it back. He sends Hyrum to get the manuscript from Martin. When Martin goes to get the manuscript it is gone. Martin ransacks his house to find the manuscript. When he shows up at the Smith's home, and finally during the course of the meal he says to Joseph "I have lost my soul." Joseph asks if he has lost the manuscript, and when he is told yes he says "You have not only lost your soul, you have lost mine." When Joseph returns to Harmony, Pennsylvania he tells Mr. Hale "I am no longer a looker in stones." He says that he wants to become a farmer. Issac Hale wants to make amends to his son-in-law, gives them 100 acres and helps him build a 2 story house on that land. Even though these are some of the best times for him financially, these are some of the darkest days for Joseph. Lucy Smith says Joseph came back to Palmyra and climbs the hill again on 21 September 1828. When he has been re-called he knows better than to let just everyone into the inner circle, and is very quiet. The one in the know is his wife Emma. She scribes for him 16 pages. She has too much else to do that she can no longer scribe for him.

Oliver Cowdery stood about 5'7", small boned, a teacher. His health wasn't good, he suffered from lung fever which took his life when he was 50. While Joseph was looking for a scribe, Oliver was working as a teacher in Fayette, NY living with the Whitmers. Oliver falls in love with their 13 year old daughter, Elizabeth, so cannot stay there to work as her school teacher. Moves to Palmyra to work there instead of his brother Warren. He is hired by Hyrum Smith and starts living with the Smith family. In the summer of 1829 (when school is out) he decides to go with Samuel Smith to Harmony, Pennsylvania. By April 7th of 1829 he is working as Joseph's scribe. The priesthood is restored on April 15th. They get close to finishing the plates. They have been ordained as priests and so they start baptizing people... even though there isn't currently an organized church. Samuel is the first one baptized. Those who have been baptized still attend other churches- there was no organized church for them to attend. Joseph & Emma attended the Methodist church in Harmony. As more and more is translated, less people attend the local church in Pennsylvania. The preacher there was Issac Hale's brother Nathaniel Lewis. He finds out the reason people aren't coming is because Joseph has baptized them. Nathaniel tells Isaac that Joseph is a looker in stone once more. They decide that they are going to take matters into their own hands and they will kill both Joseph & Oliver by tarring & feathering them. Joseph hears that his father in law and uncle in law are planning on killing them, and they need to leave. They can't return to Palmyra because of all the people there, so Oliver suggests Fayette (remember Elizabeth). Oliver writes to his friend David Whitmer to see if they can come and stay with them. The answer is yes on a condition- but only if you "plaster the field". It means they have to put minerals back into the soil... kinda like fertilizing. They found out that it was already finished by 3 men. Joseph & Oliver walked out of town and left Emma behind. David picks them up. They see a man with a knapsack who says he is going to Cumorah. They finished the large plates in Harmony, and they're doing the small plates in Fayette. The three witnesses are shown the plates by the Angel Moroni while in Fayette. When the manuscript is finished they start looking for a publisher. E.D. Grandon is up for it. Once The Book of Mormon comes out, it hit the NY area by storm (they didn't have tons of books coming out every day). One opinion was that Joseph has epileptic fits and in the midst of the fit he would shout the words out to a scribe and that was The Book of Mormon. Another theory was that Joseph had always been a major dreamer. There was also the Solomon Spalding manuscript that had been stolen. There was a manuscript that had been stolen, but it was found in the Hawaiian Islands in the 20th century. It was NOTHING like the Book of Mormon. On the original Book of Mormon it says that he is the "author and proprietor". This was written because he wanted to get a copyright and that was one of the requirements for getting a copyright. It has a disclaimer on the very next page saying that he was only the translator.

The Book of Mormon is another testament of Jesus Christ, therefore the main character ought to be Jesus Christ. So, the question is, is it really? Title page: it is to convince both Jew & Gentile that Jesus is the Christ. Every verse in the Book of Mormon is a sentence. Every 1.7 verses in the Book of Mormon has Christ's name in some form. There are 101 different names for Christ in the Book of Mormon. All of the names are used in correct contextual usage.

3 Nephi 11: They hear a voice from heaven, the still small voice. Suddenly they look up and see a man, dressed in white, next time he'll be dressed in red, descending towards them and they thought he was an angel... they missed.

