

## 2 Nephi 31–33: Doctrine of Christ

Monte F. Shelley

An LDS African-American told me that in college, he read the statements of early Church leaders on the blacks and the priesthood. He became so angry that he almost left the Church. He then said that two verses in 2 Nephi let him know how the Lord felt regardless of what these leaders said: “The Lord shall recover his people from **Cush**” (2 Ne 21:11) which is part of Africa, and “Christ inviteth all to come to him, **black** and white” (2 Ne 26:33).

### 1. What does \_\_\_\_\_ mean?

Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.

This shows how the meaning of a word often depends on context. A font for baptism is not the same as a word processing font like Times New Roman.

**What does “light” mean?** It depends on the context.

The greater light ruled the day, morning light, fire gave light, make burdens light, we will light upon him, ye are the light of the world, body shall be full of light, they made light of it, cease from light speeches, intelligence is light and truth)

**TV English and Scripture English are often different.**

We each learned English from how words are used today by family, friends, and television. I call this TV English. As we read the scriptures, we easily notice that Scripture English uses words such as *thee*, *wist*, and *saith* that are NOT used in TV English. However, we often fail to realize that some scripture words have different meanings unless the use is strange (e.g., “quit yourself and fight” Other times we see phrases like “gay clothing,” “they wanted wine,” or “needs and wants” without realizing that the TV English meaning was not intended.

Today we will discuss the meanings of some key words and phrases in 2 Nephi 26–33 as used or contained in the scriptures.

**What does “white” mean?**

In the 1830 Book of Mormon, Nephi said that in the last days, a “remnant of our seed” would accept the gospel and become “a white and delightful people” (2 Ne 30:6). In the 1840 edition, Joseph changed white to pure which is also in our current scriptures. To some, this change only clarifies which meaning of white was intended.

Common phrases: White paper, white skin, white noise, white lie, white/black hat, white/black magic

OED white, adj. *7a.fig.* Morally or spiritually pure or stainless; spotless, unstained, innocent.

.adj. white :1844Websters 3. Having the color of purity; pure; clean; free from spot; as, white robed innocence. ... 5. Pure; unblemished. No whiter page than Addison’s remains. – Pope. 6. In a scriptural sense, purified from sin; sanctified. – Ps. 51.

### 2. Where do liars go?

- Wo unto the liar, for he shall be **thrust down to hell**.<sup>35</sup> Wo unto the murderer who deliberately killeth, for he shall die.<sup>36</sup> Wo unto them who commit whoredoms, for they shall be thrust down to hell.<sup>37</sup> Yea, wo unto those that worship idols, for the devil ... delighteth in them. (2 Ne 9:34–37)
- The Lord God hath commanded that men should not murder; ... lie; ... steal; ... take the name of the Lord their God in vain; ... envy; ... have malice; ... contend one with another; ... commit whoredoms; ... for whoso doeth them **shall perish**. (2 Ne 26:32)

c. Murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the **lake which burneth with fire and brimstone**: which is the **second death**. (Rev 21:8; D&C 63:17)

d. TELESTIAL: These are they who are liars, and sorcerers, and adulterers, and whoremongers <sup>(dealer, trader, trafficker)</sup>, and whosoever loves and makes a lie <NIV Rev 22:15 loves and practices falsehood>. ...<sup>105</sup> These are they who suffer the vengeance of **eternal fire**.<sup>106</sup> These are they who are **cast down to hell** and **suffer the wrath** of Almighty God, until the fulness of times, when Christ shall have subdued all enemies. (D&C 76:103–106)

e. Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another.<sup>12</sup> And ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither ... profane the name of thy God. ...<sup>13</sup> Thou shalt not defraud thy neighbour, neither rob him (Lev 19:11–13)

“You shall not steal; you shall not deal deceitfully or falsely with one another.” (JPS Tanakh Lev 19:11)

f. Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother. (Mark 10:19)

g. If a man or woman shall rob, he or she shall be delivered up unto the law of the land.<sup>85</sup> And if he or she shall steal, he or she shall be delivered up unto the law of the land.<sup>86</sup> And if he or she shall lie, he or she shall be delivered up unto the law of the land. (D&C 42:84–86)

h. They durst not lie ... for fear of the law, for liars were punished;<sup>18</sup> And they durst not steal, for fear of the law, for such were punished; neither durst they rob, nor murder, for he that murdered was punished unto death. (Alma 1:16–18)

In the examples above, we learn that people who lie, murder, rob, and steal will go to hell and should be turned over to the law of the land. This suggests the lies referred to are “criminal lies” such as fraud, slander, libel, false advertising, or lying under oath that are used to hurt people or to deceive them so they will buy, invest, or give money without getting the expected result (“too good to be true” schemes).

In TV English, lies refers to “criminal lies” and “white lies” that are clearly not breaking any laws or hurting people illegally. For example,

A mission contact gives a bad address, says will attend Church. Santa Claus; surprise birthday party; teasing; I like your dress;

However, not all questions deserve a truthful answer. When people ask questions that are none of their business, they do not deserve a truthful answer or any answer. When a criminal asks a question, a truthful answer could make one an accomplice in a crime. For example, if a man plans to kill your spouse, do you tell him where your spouse is? When people ask our opinion, does that give us permission to use “truth” without righteousness as a verbal sword to destroy a person’s hopes, faith, and happiness with our personal biases, judgments, and beliefs?

Satan wants to destroy our hope in Christ by suggesting meanings for “sins” that are so broad that they deceive good people into doing his will or wasting time on guilt trips instead of following today’s promptings to do good. One elderly woman asked me if she was going to hell for telling tall stories to amuse her family. Some people worry that feeling any attraction to a person they are not married to is “looking with lust” and makes them an adulterer. One sister missionary felt she was a “daughter of perdition” who had committed the unpardonable sin by ignoring a prompting

from the spirit. A friend stopped doing a good thing because he was worried that he “might” be doing it for the wrong reasons.

To avoid temptation to commit crimes, we are not to covet what belongs to another and is not for sale. However, coveting is never mentioned with the above sins that result in hell and being punished by the law.

### 3. What is the difference between *faith* and *belief*?

### 4. What is the opposite of \_\_\_\_\_? (*faith*)

There “must needs be ... an opposition in all things. If not so, ... righteousness could not be brought to pass, neither wickedness, neither holiness nor misery, neither good nor bad.” (2 Ne 2:11)

“If ye shall say there is no law, ... there is no sin ... no righteousness ... no happiness. And if there be no righteousness nor happiness there be no punishment nor misery.” (2 Ne 2:13)

“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy ... (D&C 59:5)

<b>Mind</b>	God exists → believe	Doubt, unbelief
<b>Heart</b>	redeem → hope	Fear Grudgingly
<b>Strength</b>	do X → obey	Not obey Obey
<b>Might</b>	sell all → do it	Not sacrifice

He that ... receiveth a commandment with doubtful heart, and keepeth it with slothfulness, the same is damned. (D&C 58:29)

### 5. What does *language* mean?

The Lord God ... speaketh unto men according to their language, unto their understanding. (2 Ne 31:3)

Every man shall hear the fulness of the gospel in his own tongue, and in his own language. (D&C 90:11)

Although language clearly refers to English or Spanish, it might also refer to (a) different dialects of a language, or (b) personal meanings based on one’s own experience. In *Five Love Languages*, the author shows how some things like gifts or time may mean I love to some people, but not others. Missionaries can teach in a language or dialect, but only the Spirit can teach in one’s personal language.

### 6. What is the “doctrine of Christ” in 2 Nephi 31?

**Gate:** Repentance, baptism, Holy Ghost (31:17 remission of sins),

Ye have not come thus far save it were by the word of Christ with unshaken faith in him, relying wholly upon the merits of him who is mighty to save. (31:19)

**Path:** Endure To End, (31:20 press forward with hope/love; feast)

Christ came to do his Father’s will and set an example for us

**Partial list:** In the scriptures, giving the first and the last item in a list (e.g., alpha and omega; from A to Z, believe and endure) is a verbal shorthand for the whole list. Likewise, giving the first two items (e.g., believe and repent), reminds one of the whole list.

The words which I have written ... persuadeth them to believe in him, and to endure to the end. (2 Ne 33:4)

God ... is a merciful Being, even unto salvation, to those who will repent and believe on his name. (Al 26:35)

### 7. What does “endure to the end” mean (2 Ne 31)?

a. Endure?

- (SOED 4) suffer without resistance, submit to, tolerate
- (1) harden; (2) *intr.* To last, persist, hold out; (3) *trans.* To undergo (without giving way), bear, support, sustain;
- GR stay under/behind; undergo/bear trials; persevere; (Spanish: *persevere*)
- “endure to the end, in following the example of the Son of the living God” (2 Ne 31:16)

b. End? (GR goal)

- End of life <sup>33:9</sup> “until the end of the day of probation”
  - <sup>33:4</sup> “endure to the end, which is life eternal”
- “if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life.” (2 Ne 31:20)

### 8. What does “the words of Christ” mean?

“Feast upon the words of Christ” (2 Ne 31:3)

“how could ye speak with the tongue of angels save it were by the Holy Ghost? <sup>3</sup> Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore, they speak the words of Christ. (2 Ne 32:2-3)

<sup>10</sup> If ye shall believe in Christ ye will believe in these words, for they are the words of Christ, and he hath given them unto me; and they teach all men that they should do good. <sup>11</sup> And if they are not the words of Christ, judge ye—for... I have been commanded of him to write these things ... (2 Ne 33:10–11)

Clearly the “words of Christ” clearly include the written words that we call scriptures. However, Nephi also includes words spoken by anyone who receives the Holy Ghost and then speaks by the power of the Holy Ghost. “The words of Christ” also include the personal promptings of the Spirit that we receive.

A friend of mine in a Stake Presidency said he that missionaries right after their missions were often at a spiritual high. However, after 2 to 3 months when he interviewed them, he noticed a significant decrease in the Spirit. He felt that one reason was that they were no longer spending as much time in prayer and scripture study. He also said that he asked men who were disfellowshipped of excommunicate: “How long has it been since you had U prayer and scripture study?” Usually it had been 6 or more months.

### 9. Holy Ghost

- a. When a man speaketh by the power of the Holy Ghost the power of the Holy Ghost carrieth it unto the hearts of the children of men. (2 Ne 33:1)
- b. The Holy Ghost ... witnesses of the Father and the Son (31:18)
- c. **Boyd K. Packer:** The Holy Ghost speaks with a voice that you feel more than you hear. It is described as a ‘still small voice.’ (*Ensign*, Nov. 1994, 60)
- d. The words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do. ... The Holy Ghost ... will show unto you all things what ye should do. (32:3, 5)

The Holy Ghost will tell or show you all things you should DO (wisdom). How does this apply to Nephi?

Nephi looked daily at his Liahona instead of relying on past revelations. When tied up on the boat, he did not try to break the ropes as he had done earlier. Instead, he suffered it as the Lord wanted him to do then.

- Counsel with the Lord in all thy doings (Al 37:37)
- Ye must not perform any thing unto the Lord save in the first place ye shall pray unto the Father in the name of Christ, that he will consecrate thy performance unto thee, that thy performance may be for the welfare of thy soul. (32:9)
- It is not meet that I should command in all things (D&C 58:26)

This verse is often taken out of context.

Section Heading: “Many were eager to learn the will of the Lord concerning them in the new place of gathering” (Jackson County).

<sup>25</sup> Wherefore, let [Bishop Partridge and counselors] bring their families to this land, as they shall counsel between themselves and me.

<sup>26</sup> For behold, it is not meet that I should command in all things; for he that is compelled in all things, the same is a slothful and not a wise servant; wherefore he receiveth no reward.

<sup>27</sup> Verily I say, men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness; <sup>28</sup> For the power is in them, wherein they are agents unto themselves. ...

Bishop Partridge went to Joseph not the Lord to find out what to do. The Lord through Joseph told him to counsel with the Lord to hear or feel what do with their spiritual hears, not go to Joseph to hear with their earthly ears.

What is the power within them that allows them to “do many things of their own free will” and be “agents unto themselves?” It is the Holy Ghost who will tell or show them all things as he did with Nephi.

## 10. How does one *harden* his or her heart?

There are many that harden their hearts against the Holy Spirit, that it hath no place in them; wherefore, they cast many things away which are written and esteem them as things of naught. (2 Ne 33:2)

Why we miss/ignore promptings (foolishness)

Harden heart (blame game; Laman channel)

The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. (1 Cor 2:14)

## 11. What does *uncircumcised heart* mean?

“Wo unto the uncircumcised of heart” (2 Ne 9:33).

Circumcision of the flesh was an outward sign that a person had entered the covenant of Abraham. An uncircumcised heart referred to a person who had not made an inner covenant (Rom 2:28–29; 2 Ne 9:33). This is like making a promise with your fingers crossed. Today we might say a baptized person had an unbaptized heart. “Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost” (Acts 7:51).

## 12. Inner and Outer Gospel:

The **outer gospel** has to do with general commandments that come through our natural senses (e.g., hearing or reading). Typically, the outer gospel emphasizes what our bodies should or should not do, and what others can observe us doing do (e.g., church attendance, family prayer, tithing). In the outer gospel, there are many commandments. Outer gospel to-do-lists help me find fault with myself or with others for sins of omission.

The following fictional story relates to the outer gospel.

### The Day Things Got Worse

A woman had triplets, age 2, and 4 other children between 4 and 10. One hectic school morning, the triplets needed a diaper change. The triplets pulled clothes out of drawers, clogged the toilet with a diaper, and spilled a bag of flour on the floor. Mom was trying to make a lunch for her husband and get breakfast. After her husband and oldest daughter left, mom was trying to make bread for a Relief Society social, answer several phone calls, and pick up after the children. Just as the visiting teachers rang the doorbell, one of the triplets toddled into the kitchen dragging a soggy diaper from one foot.

The visiting teachers gave a lesson “about how LDS women ought to be running their homes. They read off some list ... [that LDS] mothers should keep their homes clean, have an attractive and peaceful atmosphere, prepare nutritional meals, have beautiful table settings, start stimulating conversations during meals, sew and quilt ..., study the scriptures thirty minutes a day, spend thirty minutes a day on their knees, keep a daily journal, attend the temple twice a month, do genealogical research, write letters regularly to missionaries ..., get adequate rest, do thirty minutes of exercise ..., be beautiful, teach their children the gospel, teach them to be honest, obedient, industrious, talented, clean, healthy, safe, ... creative, and teach them to clean their teeth. ... In addition they should support their PTA [and] political party. ... They should develop their own talents ... read good literature, ... listen to ... their children, ... [have each child] learn to play an instrument, and ... [be] active in the seasonal sports programs. In addition, they should greet their husband at the door each evening looking as fresh and exciting as a morning daisy.

When they finished reading, ... [mom was] all red and purple. ... [After they left] I heard mom crying.”  
(Blaine and Brenton Yorgason, *A Town Called Charity*, 17-23)

The **inner gospel** relates to our heart and mind seeking to know and do God’s will, and how we respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. In the inner gospel, there is only one commandment: to hear and obey the promptings of the Spirit. (“There is A law ... upon which ALL blessings are predicated” D&C 130:20.)

Outer gospel to-do-lists are like restaurant menus. Although we may want to eat everything, we can only eat a few things at each meal. Likewise, there are many good things we could do each day, but we have time to do only a few. Like the Liahona, prayer, promptings, feelings, and circumstamces help us decide which of many good things to do today. Some days our promptings may not include anything on the list. Perhaps, this is one reason Christ said, “Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” (NIV Mt 6:34)

**Is the goal to repent of all my sins, or to repent of sinning?**

**Outer gospel repentance:** Search my past with a magnifying glass to find and then repent of each past sin. Pay for all of my own sins (penance). Punish myself by going on guilt trips. Follow yesterday's promptings. Joseph Smith should have retranslated the 116 pages he lost, and then continued going on guilt trips.

As a missionary, a friend read in the *Miracle of Forgiveness* about sins of omission and commission. He tried to remember every sin he had ever committed so he could repent of each one by going through the "four steps." Instead of doing missionary work, he spent much of each day trying to remember and repent. Finally the mission president told the missionaries to stop reading the book. His mission president helped him to learn from the past but live in the present.

Years after breaking the law of chastity, a teenage girl repeatedly reviewed, relived, and remorse (penance) long after confessing and forsaking. She did not believe priesthood leaders who told her she was forgiven, and she ignored their counsel to learn from the past, prepare for the future, and live in the present by following today's promptings.

**Inner Gospel:** Look and follow Liahona today. Strive to repent of sinning by hearing and obeying today's promptings. Change what I do in the present by learning from the past and planning for the future. Joseph asked if he should retranslate and was told no.

While playing baseball, I pick up the ball and tried to throw out a player running to second base so we would win the game. The ball went all the way to the fence, four runs came in, and we lost the game. It was the only one we lost all season. I punished myself by reviewing, reliving, and remorsing about my error! The other players blamed and reminded me that it was my fault! Five years later, I made the same error in the same situation. Only then did I realize that I had been mentally practicing to remake the error for years. Things would have been different if I had spent that time practicing mentally and physically throwing correctly!

One morning after dropping off a teenager for school, I was in at an intersection trying to turn right. I saw no one walking from the right so I was looking left for an opening. As I pulled forward, I hit a bicyclist. Luckily, he hopped up and was fine. I regretted hitting him. This experience became a metaphor for me of my two choices in life: (1) I can go through life looking in the rearview mirror at the people I had hit and feel bad, or (2) I can learn from the experience and look forward to avoid hitting more people in the future.

If the children shall repent ... and turn to the Lord their God, with all their hearts and with all their might, mind, and strength (D&C 98:47)

In Hebrew, the word for *repent*, means to *return* or *turn* toward. Thus, the prodigal son repents by returning to his father.

**The table below shows how some gospel terms (e.g., faith, repentance, righteousness, and perfection) have different meanings in the inner gospel than in the outer gospel.**

	Outer Gospel	Inner Gospel
Goal	Focus on destination (Celestial Kingdom).	Focus on path leading to the destination.
Commandments	Many commandments or laws.	One commandment "There is A law ... upon which ALL blessings are predicated! (D&C 130:20)
Righteousness	Avoid or repent of all possible sins of omission and commission. Make a long "to do" list and complete all of it. This is like trying to eat everything on a restaurant menu at each meal.	Look and follow the Liahona's directions today. <u>Hear and obey</u> the spirit's promptings. This is like eating only one thing on the menu and feeling satisfied.
Consequences of Sin	Punishment, pain, suffering	Lack of progress, hunger and thirst
Faith in God	Believe in the existence and nature of God.	Look and follow Liahona today. <u>Hear and obey</u> the spirit's promptings.
Repentance	Search my past with a magnifying glass to find and then repent of each past sin. Pay for all of my own sins (penance). Self-punishment in the form of guilt trips. Follow <u>yesterday's</u> promptings.	Look and follow Liahona today. <u>Strive to repent of sinning</u> . Change what I do in the present by learning from the past and planning for the future. Hear and obey <u>today's</u> promptings.
Purpose of Prayer	To ask for and to express thanks for blessings.	To learn God's will and to ask for help in doing it. To thank God for blessings I enjoy and for those I don't enjoy.
Christ	He will punish me harshly for the slightest sin. Ignoring <u>warning signs</u> , and <u>jumping fences</u> will be punished as moral felonies.	He treats my sins and mistakes as learning opportunities. He helps me to clean up my messes and to know the next step from where I am now. Afflictions and problems are blessings in disguise.
How I feel	I expect happiness but find unhappiness.	I find peace and happiness now and in the future.

The Holy Spirit prompts us (a) to switch our mental TV channel from the guilt or murmuring channel to the gratitude and learning channel, (b) to select a good thing from the menu, (c) to see people and events as God does, and (d) to solve problems not complain about them.

The evil spirit prompts us to find fault with what is, blame others or ourselves, punish them, and murmur repeatedly about our grievances and problems.

### 13. Nephi's Challenge (2 Ne 33:10)

<sup>10</sup> And now, my beloved brethren, and also Jew, and all ye ends of the earth, hearken unto these words and believe in Christ; and if ye believe not in these words believe in Christ. And if ye shall believe in Christ ye will believe in these words, for they are the words of Christ, and he hath given them unto me; and they teach all men that they should do good.

<sup>11</sup> And if they are not the words of Christ, judge ye—for Christ will show unto you, with power and great glory, that they are his words, at the last day; and you and I shall stand face to face before his bar; and ye shall know that I have been commanded of him to write these things, notwithstanding my weakness.

### 14. How does one FEAST on the words of Christ?

**Jewish Table Talk:** “The Talmud describes in detail the various modes of conduct to be observed at meals. For example persons should engage in a discussion of Torah during the meal so that they will be ‘as though they had eaten at the table of God.’ Furthermore, the table [with 4 corners like the altar] is regarded as a substitute for the altar in the Temple, and therefore, it must be treated with reverence. Before any meal, the hands must be washed pronouncing the appropriate blessing over the washing, after which bread is eaten. The meal is concluded with the Grace after Meals.” (*Encyclopedia Judaica Jr.*) (Rona, BM 11)

**Neal A. Maxwell:** We need to feast upon the words of Christ in the scriptures and as these words come to us from living prophets. Just nibbling occasionally will not do. (See 2 Ne 31:20 and 2 Ne 32:3.) Feasting means partaking with relish and delight and savoring—not gorging episodically in heedless hunger, but partaking gratefully, dining with delight, at a sumptuous spread carefully and lovingly prepared ... over the centuries (*Wherefore Ye Must Press Forward*, 28).

### 15. First and Second Comforter

**Joseph:** After a person has faith in Christ, repents of his sins, and is baptized for the remission of his sins and receives the Holy Ghost (by the laying on of hands), which is the first Comforter, then let him continue to humble himself before God, hungering and thirsting after righteousness, and living by every word of God, and the Lord will soon say unto him, Son, thou shalt be exalted. When the Lord has thoroughly proved him, and finds that the man is determined to serve him at all hazards, then the man will find his calling and election made sure, then it will be his privilege to receive the other Comforter. ... When any man obtains this last Comforter, he will have the personage of Jesus Christ to attend him, or appear unto him from time to time, and even He will manifest the Father unto him, and they will take up their abode with him, and the visions of the heavens will be opened unto him, and the Lord will teach him face to face, and he may have a perfect knowledge of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God; and this is the state and place the ancient Saints arrived at when they had such glorious visions—Isaiah, Ezekiel, John upon the Isle of Patmos, St. Paul in the three heavens, and all the Saints who held communion with the general assembly and Church of the First Born. (*TPJS* 149–151)

**Nephi:** This is the doctrine of Christ, and there will be no more doctrine given until after he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh. And when he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh, the things which he shall say unto you shall ye observe to do. (2 Ne 32:6)

## Conclusion

### Leave enough time for conclusion!

We refer to the Holy Ghost as a gift received after baptism. However, in the confirmation, we do not hear “I confer upon you the Holy Ghost.” Instead we hear, “receive the Holy Ghost.”

<sup>33</sup> For what doth it profit a man if a gift is bestowed upon him, and he receive not the gift? Behold, he rejoices not in that which is given unto him, neither rejoices in him who is the giver of the gift. (D&C 88:33)

To receive the Holy Ghost, one looks at his Liahona often by seeking to know and do the will of the Lord. We can “look” with our eyes open as we ponder, which is a form of prayer (Marion G. Romney) or by listening to our conscience. From time to time we will receive truth as needed to help us do the Lord’s will. However, as we consider what to do and the possible options, one will feel right. If “it mattereth not” unto the Lord (D&C 60:5; 61:22; 62:5), we may do as we wish.

**The joy, peace, and happiness promised by living the gospel refers to living the inner gospel, not the outer gospel.**

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### Quotes

**Gordon B. Hinckley:** With the ever increasing number of converts, we must make an increasingly substantial effort to assist them as they find their way. Every one of them needs three things: a friend, a responsibility, and nurturing with ‘the good word of God’ (Moroni 6:4). It is our duty and opportunity to provide these things. (*Ensign*, May 1997, 47)

“if Adam had not transgressed he would not have fallen. ... 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. ... Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy. (2 Ne 2:22–23, 25)

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**NOTE:** The yellow shading shows what is NOT on the handout that I use in class. The handout makes it possible to share information while only briefly referring to it in class. The handout and any other supplements for the lesson are at [www.sviewp.com](http://www.sviewp.com).

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#### Sources:

##### GENERAL

- BMRC = Dennis L. Largey, *Book of Mormon Reference Companion*.
- TBM = Hugh Nibley, *Teachings of the Book of Mormon*, 4 vols.
- OM = Original Manuscript
- PM = Printer's Manuscript
- *LDS View* = This computer program with the scriptures in 11 languages was previously sold in the Church Distribution Center as *Scriptures on CDM*. It can now be downloaded with the scriptures in up to 30 languages (<http://ldsview.byu.edu>). At <http://WordCruncher.com>, you can download WordCruncher and Webster's 1844 Dictionary (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). If *LDS View* was downloaded first, WordCruncher will let you see the English scriptures and when you click on an English word, you can see Webster's 1844 definition.
- Other Bible Translations are at <http://www.blueletterbible.org/>

##### BAJA model

- Baja = [www.achoiceiland.com](http://www.achoiceiland.com)

##### MESOAMERICAN model

- Sorenson = John L. Sorenson, *An Ancient American Setting for the Book of Mormon*.
- *Reexploring* = John W. Welch, ed., *Reexploring the Book of Mormon*, <http://mi.byu.edu>
- Poulsen = [homegeography.poulsenll.org/bomdirections.html](http://homegeography.poulsenll.org/bomdirections.html)

##### Hebraisms

- Par-Heb = Donald W. Parry, "Hebraisms and Other Ancient Peculiarities," <http://mi.byu.edu>
- Tved-Heb = John Tvedtnes, "The Hebrew Background of the Book of Mormon," chapter 8 in *Rediscovering the Book of Mormon*; <http://mi.byu.edu>

##### Other sources

- BD = *Bible Dictionary* (in English LDS Scriptures).
- GS = *Guide to the Scriptures* (in electronic LDS Scriptures)
- I-BofM = New Testament Institute manual, *The Life and Teachings of Jesus & his Apostles*, [institute.lds.org](http://institute.lds.org)
- KJV King James Version of the Bible.
- NIV = New International Version of the Bible
- *TPJS* = *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*
- *SOED* = Shorter Oxford English Dictionary
- *OED* = Oxford English Dictionary
- BDB = *Brown, Driver, Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*
- Bauer = Walter Bauer, *Greek English Lexicon of the New Testament*
- EJ = *Encyclopedia Judaica*
- Rona = Daniel Rona, [www.israelrevealed.com/comp-sup-r.htm](http://www.israelrevealed.com/comp-sup-r.htm).
- MM = Meridian Magazine, Gospel Doctrine, [www.ldsmag.com](http://www.ldsmag.com)
- [beardall2000.com/gospdoct.shtml](http://beardall2000.com/gospdoct.shtml); [www.gospeldoctrine.com](http://www.gospeldoctrine.com)