

If you've looked on the Podomatic site lately you've seen I have some Book of Mormon classes that have been added there. We had some people this week that asked if there were more classes that we could put on. So, each week we'll not only put this class on, the Sunday night class, but Margie is going to add more classes on the Podomatic site. They are classes I taught in the Philippines in 2012 and are on the Book of Mormon. So, you'll be able to tell the old class on the Podomatic because the picture will be of the Book of Mormon. And then our Sunday night classes will have a surprise picture or whatever we decide to put up there. So, each week there will be 3 classes added to that site. Two of them will be the old ones from 2012 and then the new ones that we do each week. Does that make sense? The ones from 2012, there are 57 classes and they are all from the Book of Mormon. What we did is, I took the members of the church from the Philippines and started right from the title page and went all the way through Moroni 10. It took over a year to do that because, like I said, there were 57 classes and you'll be able to tell the difference. They are unedited. I've learned some things since then but that's ok. You can see how we all grow.

Tonight I want to talk to you about something that might be pure Book of Mormon doctrine. You don't find it anywhere in the Old Testament. It's only mentioned once in the New Testament, twice in the Doctrine and Covenants, and 24 times in the Book of Mormon. If we didn't have the Book of Mormon we wouldn't have this doctrine at all because you would not be able to understand the New Testament reference without the Book of Mormon. The topic is the Spirit of Prophecy and the Spirit of Revelation. Let's go to a take-off scripture. Let's go to Alma 17:2-3. That's where we'll start and see where it takes us tonight. Now these are two famous verses that missionaries and mission presidents use throughout the world. What I want to share with you tonight is a little different insight, a little deeper insight into what we're talking about here. All gospel topics have layers of truth. You've read these verses over and over, but tonight I want to take you into them and show you some interesting things. Let's go to verse 2. This is where the sons of Mosiah are returning from a 14 year mission among the Lamanites and they meet Alma the Younger. They have a reunion. That's in verse one. Now verse 2, ***"Now these sons of Mosiah were with Alma at the time the angel first appeared unto him; therefore Alma did rejoice exceedingly to see his brethren; and what added more to his joy, they were still his brethren in the Lord;"*** now we start to look at a formula. There's a formula here, number 1) ***"and they had waxed strong in the knowledge of the truth;"*** this is a prerequisite. You have to have a strong knowledge of the truth. Number 2) ***"for they were men of a sound understanding,"*** Ponder that. What do you think that means? Number 3) ***"and they had searched the scriptures diligently, that they might know the word of God."*** These are some prerequisites. Now look at the next verse, the words in the next verse, ***"But this is not all;"*** semi-colon. So those three things in verse 2 are absolutely necessary in order to tap into what verse 3 is going to teach us. ***"But this is not all;"*** Number 4) ***"they had given themselves to much prayer, and fasting;"*** So there's four steps, the strong knowledge of the truth, they were men of a sound understanding, they searched the scriptures diligently, and they fasted and prayed...much. Therefore, now because of all of this, here we go, ***"therefore they had the spirit of prophecy, and the spirit of revelation,"*** because of those four things they had the spirit of prophecy, and the spirit of revelation, ***"and when they taught, they taught with power and authority of God."***

Now I'd like to ask ourselves a question. What is the spirit of prophecy and the spirit of revelation? It is pure Book of Mormon doctrine, especially the spirit of prophecy. Now I want to work on the spirit of revelation, first of all. Let's go and find out what the spirit of revelation is. Let's go to Doctrine and Covenants 8:2-3. This is the Lord's definition of the spirit of revelation. Verse 2, ***"Yea, behold, I will tell you in your mind and in your heart, by the Holy Ghost, which shall come upon you and which shall***

dwell in your heart.” Now when the Lord speaks to you, He is going to speak to you in a particular way. He’s going to speak to your mind and to your heart. ***He speaks to your mind in the form of thoughts and impressions and he speaks to your heart in the form of feelings.*** There is a process involved here that goes from testimony to conversion. When we get a testimony from the Holy Ghost, He testifies to us that something is true. That testimony is the beginning foundation for something greater. If you sit back and don’t move beyond testimony you probably won’t stay active or stay *in* the gospel of Jesus Christ. Testimony is the beginning. It’s centered in the mind. The place you want to go is from the mind to the heart. When your knowledge and foundation moves from testimony in the mind down into the heart, you’ve moved from testimony to conversion.

Student 1: Why is it that there is a separation between the mind and the heart? I guess my question is... it’s very strange...It’s as if there’s a conflict between what’s in your head and what’s in your core, or the essence in your spirit, what your spirit wants. How come both of them are not immediately connected and agreeing with each other?

Mike: Well they’re connected and that’s why, look at verse 3...***“this,”*** meaning receiving revelation in your mind through thoughts and in your heart through feelings, ***“this is the spirit of revelation,”*** so it’s the process of receiving revelation into the two areas that the Lord speaks to. The most powerful, lasting one is centered in the heart. You can’t get a witness, this is MY feeling, you can’t get a witness that is heart centered, converted, unless you first of all obtain a testimony through the power of the Holy Ghost. It’s a good question Marcos. It’s a matter of intensity. This is why so many people who investigate with the missionaries, join the church, and bare their testimonies at their baptism and say, “I know that the gospel is true. I know this. I know that.” And that’s true! They have received a witness of the Holy Ghost. If it doesn’t go any further than that. If it doesn’t move down into some other things that are deeper and more profound, those people that have just joined the church that have a witness of the Holy Ghost and a testimony, are not likely to remain in the church.

Student 2: Verse 4 there, ***“Therefore this is thy gift; apply unto it, and blessed art thou, for it shall deliver you out of the hands of your enemies, when, if it were not so, they would slay you and bring your soul to destruction.”*** So, it’s a gift and if it’s a gift given to us that we apply in our minds and it gets into our hearts, and that’s a gift to us.

Mike: Thanks, Jay. All of these things move by degrees from lesser to greater, from portions to fullness, just like we’ve talked about, from testimony to conversion, from conversion all the way up to knowledge. It’s just degrees of receiving revelation. The point is the Book of Mormon talks about two things. It talks about the Spirit of Revelation, which we have defined here, and then it talks about something in connection with that called the Spirit of Prophecy. In the Spirit of Revelation we want to seek to become converted. The Lord says that if you are converted, I will heal you. Whenever he talks about conversion you are going to see the word heal there. So there’s a deeper something. Also when we get into the converted area, we’re getting into an area that the scriptures refer to as the Baptism of Fire and the Holy Ghost. All of these things are designed to make you more ‘sure,’ S. U. R. E. If we have a little time I want to talk to you about it tonight. Everything is moving from unstable to SURE and this degree of revelation is the same thing. It moves from something foundational to something very significant and profound that is heart centered. The people who are staying in the church had something happen in the realm of the heart. All of the people who join the church have had something happen in the realm of the mind. They’ve had a witness come to them. The Lord says, “I will tell you in your mind.” See, they’ve had that. It has to go beyond that, otherwise you’re on very, very shaky ground. It’s my feeling that the majority of the people who are going inactive in the church today have not taken what they started with and moved it into the realm of the heart. That may be that they just don’t know any better. They had

received something that was so wonderful. This witness of the Holy Ghost to your mind, this testimony is powerful. It's enough to motivate people when they come out of the world and want to enter into a covenant and bear a testimony. But, it's just the beginning. It's just the start. Satan will try to distract him and say, "Hey, you've got it now. This is all you need to do. You don't need to go any further." And that testimony that you received, will not sustain you in the trials of life that you need to go through in order to obtain wisdom. It won't do it. I think all of us on the line tonight have had experience with the Spirit of Revelation. It's the more common of the two terms. Of the two terms, the Spirit of Revelation and the Spirit of Prophecy, the Spirit of Revelation is the one that we talk about most often. It's a common subject. Doctrine and Covenants 8:3 **"Now, behold, this is the spirit of revelation; behold this is the spirit by which Moses brought the children of Israel through the Red sea on dry ground."** What in heaven's name has Moses and the Red Sea got to do with the rest of verse 3 and verse 2? I remember when I read that, I thought, "That's a strange thing. Why does the Lord bring Moses in there and how does the Spirit of Revelation relate to the experience of Moses and the parting of the Red Sea?" Then as I studied that and found out; notice that the Lord, in verse two says, **"Yea, behold, I will tell you in your mind..."** Tell you what? Then you've got to ask the question. Tell you what? Well one thing is 'I will tell you that the church is true.' Is that all? 'I will tell you that the Book of Mormon is true.' Is that all? 'I will tell you that Joseph Smith was a prophet.' Is that all? Or, can we develop the gift of revelation to where God tells us of things that are going to happen in the future, so that when you come to that point you've already seen and already had revealed to you what's going to happen? So here's the question; before Moses ever stood on the edge of the Red Sea, with the Egyptian army on one side and a million plus people between the Egyptian army and the Red Sea, had God already told him through the Spirit of Revelation what to do at that point? Had there already been a sort of rehearsal? Is this where Moses stands and he looks at the Children of Israel and they are in a panic mode because the largest army in the world is bearing down on them and they are in the worst position they could be, with their back to the sea? Moses turns around and doesn't say, "Oh my gosh! What shall I do?" He turns around, holds up his staff and says, "Be still and see the power of God." Now where in heaven's name did that come from? Where did he get that knowledge from? He already knew what he was going to do. Before they get down there, he's not panicked, he's not worried. He's in perfect control. The Egyptians looked at Moses and said, "That's a poor general. His back is to the sea." Moses knows exactly what he's going to do. He knows exactly how it's going to happen. He knows exactly the words to say and the actions and **sign to make**, so that the elements obey him. And how did he do that? Why, he had the Spirit of Revelation. So this can go a whole lot further than what we think about, just a testimony of the gospel and being converted. This can go further than that. Does that make sense? This is why he mentions Moses in verse three.

Now, let's go to the second part. The second part is really exciting. Let's go back over again to Alma 17. The sons of Mosiah, because of those 4 things they'd done, (verse 3) **"they had the spirit of prophecy, and the spirit of revelation, and when they taught, they taught with power and the authority of God."**

Now, we talked about the Spirit of Revelation. **What's** the Spirit of Prophecy? How is prophecy used, observed, and experienced in the church today? I know how revelation is, right? We talk about that all of the time. But here, the Book of Mormon puts these two together; the Spirit of Prophecy and the Spirit of Revelation. They are two separate things. How does prophecy work in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints? Ask yourself that question. How does prophecy work? What is prophecy? What is this? What are we talking about? Well, prophecy is always FUTURE. Prophecy is not present and it's not the past. Prophecy is always future, so when you are talking about prophecy it has something to do with the future. So, when you prophesy you are speaking about something that is going to happen that has not yet happened. So, now what is this? The Bible gives us a key. You can say, well, we can go through the Book of Mormon and we see Samuel the Lamanite on the wall saying, 'If this

people do not repent, I will utterly destroy them.’ So, there’s a prophet on the wall prophesying of something future. Right? So, if they have the Spirit of Prophecy that must mean that the sons of Mosiah went out there and they were able to prophesy of future events that have not yet happened. But, you know what? That doesn’t really make a lot of sense to me. And then I came across this key that opened up, surely that’s true. Surely the Spirit of Prophecy is to be able to have the Spirit of the Holy Ghost come upon you and say, ‘Open your mouth and tell these people about something in the future that’s going to happen that hasn’t happened yet.’ And then surely that’s the Spirit of Prophecy.

Let’s go to Revelations in the Bible and let me show you something that was just massive for me. This just opened up a whole new realm of understanding and study for me. Revelations chapter 19 and it’s one little verse. In verse 10 we get a little key. Here’s one of those examples where one little verse, and by the way, this is the only verse in the New Testament that mentions the Spirit of Prophecy. So, one little verse mentions the Spirit of Prophecy and opens up the whole understanding of the Book of Mormon. Now when we look at the Book of Mormon we understand this key, you’re going to say, “Oh my gosh! There’s another puzzle piece. There’s a little something for me to seek after on my journey to my Father.” So let’s look at verse 10. This is John the Revelator and he’s speaking to an angelic messenger and this angel is speaking as though he’s the Lord. He’s speaking in the first person and even referring to himself as the Lord, the King of Kings. John’s a little bit confused because this interview with the angel starts back on chapter 1 and now we’re wrapping it up and as the interview with the angel ends with verse 10; **“And I (John) fell at his feet to worship him.”** Now here’s John the Revelator who falls down to worship an angel and he’s confused because this angel is speaking as though he’s Christ. Now look at verse 10. The angel said, **“And he said unto me, See though do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus:”** Now underline that and I want you to ask yourself a question. This angel says, **‘I’m one of you because I have the testimony of Jesus.’** What the heck is that? Look at the rest of the verse, **“worship God:”** and here’s the part you need to double underline, **“for the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy.”** So the testimony of Jesus IS the spirit of prophecy. It’s the only verse in the whole scripture, all of the cannon, that tells you what the spirit of prophecy is. It’s the testimony of Jesus. That’s in Revelations 19:10.

Now we think we know what that means, right? You say, oh, well I have a testimony that Jesus is the Christ. I get up on Fast Sunday and bear testimony and I know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Savior of the World. I have a testimony of Jesus, therefore, according to this, I’m also in possession of the Spirit of Prophecy, but I’m going to say that that doesn’t fit because, what you see in the Book of Mormon when the people have the Spirit of Prophecy is not what the average Latter Day Saint has. Let’s go back to the Book of Mormon. The testimony of Jesus, this angel has this. Whatever this is, this angel is in possession of the testimony of Jesus. Now let’s go look at a couple of other scriptures. Let’s go back to Alma 9:20. Now ask yourself this question: the way this is understood is that every Latter Day Saint that can stand up and bear testimony of Jesus Christ, in Fast and Testimony meeting and anywhere else, is in possession of the Spirit of Prophecy. That’s the way that we interpret that, right? And I suppose to a very fundamental lesser degree, there’s some truth in that, but that is not what the Book of Mormon is talking about. In Alma 9 we have a warning that is given by Alma, concerning the Nephite people. Now go to verse 20 where he described as people that have been highly favored of the Lord. Highly favored is something we’ve talked about in the past. Highly favored means that you can go to the Lord and ask for a favor and because of your status with Him, He will grant that favor. There have only been a few people in the scriptures that have been that way. Nephi refers to himself as one. The brother of Jared is one. Start to think about this. Now, look at verse 20. **“Yea, after having been such a highly favored people of the Lord; yea, after having been favored above every other nation, kindred, tongue, or people;”** ... And here’s how they were favored, **“after having had all things made known unto them,”** ...There’s your

first key, ***“according to their desires, and their faith, and prayers, of that which has been, and which is, and which is to come;”*** These Nephi people had obtained a highly favored status with the Lord. Now, look at verse 21. Here’s some more, ***“Having been visited by the Spirit of God; having conversed with angels, and having been spoken unto by the voice of the Lord; and having the Spirit of Prophecy, and the Spirit of Revelation,”*** ...Notice these were placed right smack in the middle of all of these things, ***“and also many gifts, the gift of speaking with tongues, and the gift of preaching, and the gift of the Holy Ghost, and the gift of translation;”*** Now brothers and sisters, that is not translating ancient documents. The gift of translation in verse 21 is the gift that Enoch and his people obtained because the Nephites had access to that. The man who’s speaking right here, Alma, is going to be translated. Alma goes away and you can follow it through and can find out that Alma does not experience physical death. Look at verse 23, ***“And now behold I say unto you, that if this people, who have received so many blessings from the hand of the Lord, should transgress contrary to the light and knowledge which they do have, I say unto you that if this be the case, that if they should fall into transgression, it would be far more tolerable for the Lamanites than for them.”*** In the middle of all of that, think back, is the gift of prophecy and the spirit of prophecy and revelation. Obviously, not what we’re talking about when we get up on Sunday and say, “I’d like to bear my testimony.”

So then, what is this thing called The Testimony of Jesus? It’s one of those hidden little pearls that the Lord hides right in plain sight. It’s where Jesus Christ personally testifies to YOU, that He is the Christ, the Savior, and you witness that. The testimony of Jesus is where Jesus comes to you and bears testimony to YOU of His resurrected, glorified status. These Nephites had this. It’s a whole lot more than the testimony of Jesus that we’re talking about. We’re talking about, not you receiving a witness that Jesus is the Christ by the power from the Holy Ghost, but you are actually having Jesus Christ look at you face to face and say, ‘I testify to you the following thing.’ You receive his testimony. That’s the Spirit of Prophecy. And that now fits with everything else here. You can now read these other verses and you can see that when the sons of Mosiah taught, they taught with power and with authority from God. Why? They received a witness of the Savior from his own mouth. He testified to them of His divinity, His resurrection. Well, in this case not a resurrection because he wasn’t born yet, but nonetheless, of His divinity and His future ministry and whatever else the Savior wants to testify to you about when you have that experience and receive the testimony of Jesus. Notice how that’s hidden because in our church vernacular the Lord very successfully hides one of His greatest pearls in plain sight because of the vernacular that we use in the church, day-in-and-day-out; ‘I have a testimony of Jesus.’ ‘I have a testimony of Jesus.’ ‘I’d like to bear my testimony of Jesus.’ But in reality it’s something much deeper, much more significant.

Let’s look at a couple of other scriptures here for just a minute. Let’s go section 11 in the Doctrine and Covenants, which is one of two that talks about this. Doctrine and Covenants 11:25. Things start to fall into place here. It’s like a jigsaw puzzle. These are like huge puzzle pieces. Verse 24, ***“Build upon my rock, which is my gospel;”*** He is speaking to Hyrum Smith at this point. 25, ***“Deny not the spirit of revelation, nor the spirit of prophecy”***... there are those two things again, ***“for wo unto him that denieth these things;”*** Wo is a pretty serious word. But can you see that what we’re talking about is the truth about these things? They are significantly more profound and much deeper than we thought and if you go against these things, if you deny them, you are in a precarious, serious place. It’s like he said back in Alma 9, that if these people should go contrary to the light of truth they have received it’ll be worse for them than any of the Lamanites. Notice that right in the middle of that list of things that made them highly favored is this thing called the Spirit of Prophecy, which Revelations says is the Testimony of Jesus. No wonder the sons of Mosiah were so powerful.

Now go to section 20 and let me show you one other thing. Section 20, again, in the heading of section 20 is a 'little pearl.' Section 20 is called the Constitution of the Church. It was originally called the Articles and Covenants of the Church. Look at the top heading. It says, ***“Revelation on Church Organization and Government, given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, April 1830.”*** Now look at this. ***“Preceding his record of this revelation the Prophet wrote; “We obtained of him [Jesus Christ] the following, by the spirit of prophecy and revelation; which not only gave us much information, but also pointed out to us the precise day upon which, according to his will and commandment, we should proceed to organize his Church once more here upon the earth.”*** See this is all done before 1830. They received instruction through the Spirit of Prophecy. Notice when he says that we obtained information 'of him' and then it's got brackets [Jesus Christ]. So Christ is talking to these men and giving them information on precisely what they should do, how to do it and the date they're to do it. That's called the Spirit of Prophecy or the testimony of Jesus; pure Book of Mormon doctrine. You and I should seek for the Spirit of Prophecy and of Revelation. We should seek for it. It all ties in with what we talked about before. This all talks about having an encounter with Christ. This is talking about having Him reveal to you, personally, in an intimate and personal way, speaking with you through the veil, obtaining promises from Him by the more sure word of prophecy, which is your first trip when you go through the veil at the temple, symbolically, the first time you knock at the veil. That is the more sure word of prophecy. You're obtaining promises and information from the Lord by conversing with him THROUGH the veil. See, you're not in His presence yet. All of these things are tied into that. When you have an encounter with Jesus it doesn't have to be in his presence. Did you hear His voice say, "Rosemarie, Saul, "I am Jesus Christ," and you obtain promises, you don't see him but you hear his voice and when he speaks to you then you've obtained the testimony of Jesus, which is the Spirit of Prophecy. I will tell you also that when you obtain a promise from Him, and information that Joseph was talking about here at the heading on Section 20, where it says that 'we obtained information,' you can speak of things that are future and yet to come because you have information now, from the source of all light and truth. In that information you're going to know things that are coming that have not yet happened and that's prophecy.

Student 3: The visions that Spencer had.

Mike: Absolutely. Yeah, let's look at the one more. Rosemarie, you're exactly right. Let's go to Jacob chapter 4. Here's one more reference to this and so we can get a feeling that this is a whole lot more than a testimony on the first Sunday of the month. Let's go to Jacob chapter 4. These Nephites, even though they kept the Law of Moses, the Law of Moses was dead to them. But, they kept it because they were commanded to observe the law, but they said the law is dead unto us and we are alive in Christ. That's where we want to be! Can I tell you that this is Mike Stroud chapter 14 verse 3; My feeling is that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is to us, in our day, what the Law of Moses was to the Nephites, in their day. The church is designed, it's training wheels. The church is training wheels. It's designed to take us somewhere else. If we get stuck in that then the purpose of the church is not being fulfilled. For example: every member knows that they're not a member of the church very long until somebody's talking to them about preparing to go to the temple. You're not baptized very long before somebody is saying, "Hey, we need to get you ready to go here," when you've just barely arrived in the church and now they're talking about getting you to go somewhere else. What is this? Because it's the purpose of the Church of Jesus Christ. Think about this, brothers and sisters. The main ordinances that we perform in the church worldwide, over and over weekly are Aaronic Priesthood Ordinances. Baptism, I just went to a baptism. My little granddaughter was baptized. That's an Aaronic Priesthood Ordinance. Now of course Confirmation is Melchizedek. Sacrament is Aaronic Priesthood. It's designed to lift us, point us. What did the law of Moses do? It was pointing them to something higher. It was

given to them as a schoolmaster to teach them something, that if they would follow these ordinances, these carnal commandments, these rights and ceremonies, it would lead you to something greater. So, the Nephites came out and said, “we keep the law but it’s dead to us,” And that’s their word, ‘it’s DEAD’ “and we are alive in Christ.” That’s what the church is trying to do today. It’s trying to get us to come up to something that’s much more significant, more profound, more ennobling, more glorified. We get stuck.

So, let’s go to Jacob 4:6 and let me show you this. ***“Wherefore, we search the prophets, and we have many revelations and the spirit of prophecy; and having all these witnesses we obtain a hope, and our faith becometh unshaken,”*** The Spirit of Prophecy is to take you to a hope that leads to unshaken faith.

One of these nights we need to have a lesson on ‘hope’ because what we talk about on hope, usually is not the hope that these people were talking about. Go to verse 4, ***“For, for this intent have we written these things, that they may know that we knew of Christ, and we had a hope of his glory many hundred years before his coming; and not only we ourselves had a hope of his glory, but also all the holy prophets which were before us.”*** Now go down to the middle of verse six, ***“and having all these witnesses we obtain a hope, and our faith becometh unshaken, insomuch that we truly can command in the name of Jesus and the very trees obey us, or the mountains, or the waves of the sea.”*** Do you think that’s a testimony on the first Sunday of the month that results in that kind of stuff? Notice in the middle of verse six what it says. We have many revelations and the Spirit of Prophecy; which means these people have stood in the presence, heard the voice of God, seen his face, obtain promises and have power with him to act in the name of God as though they were God. That’s where these people are. That’s a deeper meaning to the Spirit of Prophecy which IS the testimony of Jesus.

Student1: You know what? I’m thinking about this when I read this. I’m thinking about my own culture. You know, I’m Peruvian and in my culture we have our ancestry, the Incas, very, very famously known. There is a city named Machu Picchu. This city is at the very top of a mountain. As far as I’ve seen on documentaries and research, they have no explanation of how that city could have been built there. How could it have gone all the way to the top of the mountain? They have no evidence or way to find the source of the materials and even how they even put those stones, cut them up in perfect form and shape and put them on the very top of the mountain. It’s clearly impossible. And I’m thinking about this gift that these people have in Jacob 4 and I’m thinking I bet these were the builders and they had faith. And they had to do some crazy mountain moving things in order to make those things happen. There is no other explanation. Even my sister when I talk about this with her; we truly believe that the power they had not only gave them the power to command stones and mountains to move and to go to places or to be divided or cut in pieces, but also to have their own physical strength improve and increase. We hear about, in the Old Testament, Samson, the guy who ripped off the gates of a city and carried them on the top of a hill. You know what I’m talking about?

Mike: I do!

Student 1: Yeah, I mean, it’s ridiculous. I mean, I think these people were highly blessed and they had all of those gifts. I believe that could be the source of all those unexplainable cities. They are all now abandoned because eventually they all gave up, the Nephites did. They just gave in to the devil, unfortunately. It’s sad. It’s depressing.

Mike: One of these days we’re going to have the information and know the answers to these things aren’t we? Well, brothers and sisters, let me summarize again by giving the keys in Alma 9. Alma warns his people that ‘you know too much...if you turn against what you receive, your future will be utter destruction. Nephi saw it. All the prophets saw it.’ We have a Nephite people that are extinct by

genocidal war. Have you ever wondered why these nations were wiped out? The Israelites weren't wiped out. They had wars but it wasn't extinction. These people were extincted from the earth. The reason is they had all things made known to them. They were visited by the Spirit of God. They conversed with angels. They were spoken to by the voice of the Lord and had the Spirit of Prophecy and the Spirit of Revelation. They had all of the gifts of the spirit including the gift of translation, to be taken from the earth and to join the City of Enoch. These Nephites had these gifts active. If you sin against that you've sinned against such light and knowledge that the greater the light the greater the condemnation and the Nephites don't exist today because they did turn against that. I like to concentrate on the positive. They obtained this and they did it under the Law of Moses, which just blows me away. They had the success and obtained what the Law of Moses was designed to do. It never did do it.

Let me show you one other thing, 3rd Nephi 19. Look at what happened to these people. They had things take place. No wonder they were wiped out. I'm not surprised at all. In chapter 19 you have a sanctification going on among the people where they are physically changed. I want to skip down to verse 33. You ought to look at what happens in 19. We don't have time tonight. I call 3rd Nephi 19 the Holy of Holies of the Book of Mormon. Let's skip what it's talking about and just go to verse 32, ***"The tongue cannot speak the words which he prayed, neither can be written by man the words which he prayed."*** 33, ***"And the multitude did hear and do bear record; and their hearts were open and they did understand in the hearts the words which he prayed."*** 34, ***"Nevertheless, so great and marvelous were the words which he prayed that they cannot be written, neither can they be uttered by man."*** 35, ***"And it came to pass that when Jesus had made an end of praying he came again to the disciples, and said unto them:"***... Now look at this, he's already been among the Jewish Saints. He's completed his ministry. He spent 30 years over in Jerusalem. And look what he says, ***"So great faith have I never seen among all the Jews;"*** And that my friends includes the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve in the New Testament. What's happening here in the Book of Mormon NEVER happened on the Eastern Continent. Peter, James and John and the Twelve, never saw what you're reading about in 3rd Nephi 19. He said, ***"Wherefore I could not show unto them so great miracles, because of their unbelief."*** 36, ***"Verily I say unto you, there are none of them..."*** that includes the First Presidency and the Twelve, ***"that have seen so great things as ye have seen; neither have they heard so great things as ye have heard."*** Now, that's what the Nephites did and look what happened to them. The point is they did obtain heaven. They did obtain all the promises and they obtained the fullness of the Melchizedek Priesthood. They had the ministry of angels. They had all of the gifts of the spirit. They had personal encounters with the Lord Jesus Christ and KNEW Christ. They didn't know ABOUT Him. They KNEW Him. The Book of Mormon, my friends, is the handbook for us to do the same. What other reason do you think we have this book? Mormon comes out and says, "I write these things with the hope to make you more wise than we have been." It's a handbook on how to obtain what they obtained and then be wiser than they were. That's the purpose of the Book of Mormon. Tonight's lesson was the Spirit of Prophecy and the Spirit of Revelation. I hope it's been informative to you and that you learned some things.