

October 28–November 3

Mormon 1–6

“I Would That I Could Persuade All... to Repent”



# Mormon Receives the Plates

Mormon 1:2-4

What characteristics did young Mormon possess that prepared him for his role in preserving and abridging the sacred records?



## James J. Hamula

"It was Mormon who was entrusted with the sacred records of the Nephite nation at only 10 years of age because he was a 'sober child' and 'quick to observe.' And it was Mormon who, at age 15, was 'visited of the Lord' and 'knew of the goodness of Jesus' because he was of a 'sober mind.'" (CR, Oct. 2008)

# Willfully Rebelled

## Mormon 1:13-17

Why were the “beloved disciples” taken away from the Nephites?

Why was Mormon forbidden to preach repentance to the Nephites at this time?



## Harold B. Lee

“Mormon described some people, his people, from whom the Spirit of the Lord had departed, and when I read that... it seems clear to me that what he was talking about was not merely the inability to have the companionship of or the gift of the Holy Ghost, but he was talking of that light of truth to which every one born into the world is entitled and which will never cease to strive with the individual unless he loses it through his own sinning.” (CR, April 1956)

# Willfully Rebelled

## Mormon 2:11-15

In the pride cycle, what does sorrow and suffering lead the people to do?

What do you think Mormon means when he said that the Nephites were experiencing “the sorrowing of the damned”?

What do you think Mormon means when he states that “the day of grace was passed with them”?



## Ezra Taft Benson

“I would like to stress... what the scriptures term ‘godly sorrow’ for our sins....

“Godly sorrow is a gift of the Spirit. It is a deep realization that our actions have offended our Father and our God. It is the sharp and keen awareness that our behavior caused the Savior, He who knew no sin, even the greatest of all, to endure agony and suffering. Our sins caused Him to bleed at every pore. This very real mental and spiritual anguish is what the scriptures refer to as having ‘a broken heart and a contrite spirit.’ Such a spirit is the absolute prerequisite for true repentance.” (“First Presidency Message”, Ensign, Oct. 1989)

## Neal A. Maxwell

“The natural man never picks up the cross. His is the ‘sorrowing of the damned,’ which involves regret but not necessarily over the sin itself. Instead, it is because these sorrowers can no longer take pleasure in sin. Quite a difference, for the natural man still clings, not to the cross, but to his old ways” (That Ye May Believe, pg. 48)



## Brigham Young

"Though the inhabitants of the earth are in darkness and blindness, yet they are not so ignorant as they represent themselves to be. There is a spirit in them that reprove them continually when they do wrong, until they have sinned away the day of grace, and a mantle of darkness is thrown around them to shut out forever the light of God. Until then, they are checked continually, are taught, and chastened or justified as the case may be." (JD, 9:101)

# Willfully Rebelled

Mormon 3:2-3

Even though they openly rebelled against God, why do you think that He gives them another chance to repent?



# Willfully Rebelled

Mormon 3:9-16

Of all their sins, what was the one that caused Mormon to refuse to lead them?

# Willfully Rebelled

Mormon 4:5,11-12

What do you think Mormon means when he said “it is by the wicked that the wicked are punished”?



# Willfully Rebelled

Mormon 5:1-2

Why had Mormon lost all hope of victory for the Nephites?

## Hugh W. Nibley

“However it might appeal to our own age of violence, Mormon found little consolation in the fact that his people were wonderfully tough and proud of it – ‘for so exceedingly do they anger that if seemeth to me that they have no fear of death’ (Moro 9:5). ‘... they repented not of their iniquities, but did struggle for their lives without calling upon that Being who created them’ (Morm 5:2). They could take care of themselves, thank you – and they did.” (Since Cumorah pg. 437-8)



# Willfully Rebelled

## Mormon 6:6

What are the “plates of Nephi” and what are “these few plates” that Mormon makes reference to?

## WoM 1:1-2

1) And now I, Mormon, being about to deliver up the record which I have been making into the hands of my son Moroni, behold I have witnessed almost all the destruction of my people, the Nephites.

2) And it is many hundred years after the coming of Christ that I deliver these records into the hands of my son; and it supposeth me that he will witness the entire destruction of my people. But may God grant that he may survive them, that he may write somewhat concerning them, and somewhat concerning Christ, that perhaps some day it may profit them.



# Willfully Rebelled

Mormon 6:16-22

As Mormon laments the destruction of his people, what lesson can we take away for us in the latter days?

## Mark E. Petersen

"Why were the Nephites destroyed? They had been told that it was a privilege for anyone to live on the American continent, for it is a promised land, and those who reside here must abide by the rules that God decreed pertaining to it.

"Only those who are willing to serve Jesus Christ, who is the God of this land, may remain here. Others will be swept off.

"The Nephites knew this, but with malice aforethought, they reveled in sin and rejected the teachings of Christ." (CR, Oct. 1978)



# Purpose of the Book of Mormon

Mormon 3:20-22

What is the purpose of the Book of Mormon as listed in these verses?

# Purpose of the Book of Mormon

## Mormon 5:12-14

What purpose of the Book of Mormon is emphasized in verse 14?

What do you think Mormon means when he states that his writings “are written after this manner”?



# Purpose of the Book of Mormon

## Mormon 5:15-18

What happens to a boat that is missing essential equipment like a sail and anchor?

What were the Nephites missing that caused them to be destroyed?

Spiritually speaking, what do we need in our lives to keep from being destroyed?

Neal A. Maxwell

“Only reform and self-restraint, institutional and individual, can finally rescue society! Only a sufficient number of sin-resistant souls can change the marketplace. As Church members we should be part of that sin-resistant counterculture” (CR, April 1993)



Next Week:

November 4–10

Mormon 7–9

“I Speak Unto You As If Ye Were Present”

