

## **December 16–22: Moroni 10, “Come Unto Christ, and Be Perfected in Him”**

### The Mercy of the Lord

Moroni reminds us of how merciful the Lord is to us and that the Book of Mormon is an example of the extent of His mercy

Moroni 10:1-3

1 Now I, Moroni, write somewhat as seemeth me good; and I write unto my brethren, the Lamanites; and I would that they should know that more than four hundred and twenty years have passed away since the sign was given of the coming of Christ.

2 And I seal up these records, after I have spoken a few words by way of exhortation unto you.

3 Behold, I would exhort you that when ye shall read these things, if it be wisdom in God that ye should read them, that ye would remember how merciful the Lord hath been unto the children of men, from the creation of Adam even down until the time that ye shall receive these things, and ponder it in your hearts.

How do you think the Book of Mormon reminds us of the mercy of the Lord?

Dale G. Renlund

"Throughout time, even and especially during difficult times, prophets have encouraged us to remember the greatness of God and to consider what He has done for us as individuals, as families, and as a people. This direction is found throughout the scriptures but is notably prominent in the Book of Mormon. The title page explains that one of the Book of Mormon's purposes is 'to show unto the remnant of the house of Israel what great things the Lord hath done for their fathers.'...

"The consistency of pleas from prophets to reflect on the goodness of God is striking. Our Heavenly Father wants us to recall His and His Beloved Son's goodness, not for Their own gratification but for the influence such remembrance has on us. By considering Their kindness, our perspective and understanding are enlarged. By reflecting on Their compassion, we become more humble, prayerful, and steadfast." (CR, April 2020)

### Testimony of the Book of Mormon

We are promised that we can know for ourselves, thru the power of the Holy Ghost, that the Book of Mormon is true.

Moroni 10:4-5

4 And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost.

5 And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things.

What does Moroni state we must you do to receive a manifestation that the Book of Mormon is true?

(if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ)

Ulisses Soares

"To all who hear my voice today, I invite you to be part of the marvelous coming forth of the Book of Mormon in your own life. I promise you that as you *prayerfully and consistently study its words*, you can partake of its promises and rich blessings in your life.... I can assure you that He will give you the answer in a very personal way, as He has done for me and many others around the world. Your experience will be as glorious and sacred for you as... for all who have sought to receive a witness of the integrity and trustworthiness of this sacred book." (CR, April 2020)

Neil L. Andersen

"President Dallin H. Oaks visited our mission in Bordeaux, France, in 1991. He explained to our missionaries that *real intent* means that the person praying is saying to the Lord something like this: 'I do not ask out of curiosity but *with total sincerity to act on the answer to my prayer*. If Thou wilt give me this answer, I will act to change my life. I will respond.'" (CR, April 2020)

Spencer W. Kimball

"The treasures of both secular and spiritual knowledge are hidden ones—but hidden from those who do not properly search and strive to find them.... Spiritual knowledge is not available merely for the asking; even prayers are not enough. *It takes persistence and dedication of one's life.*" (The Teachings of Spencer W. Kimball, ed. Edward L. Kimball, pg. 389–90)

By what power do we receive the manifestation that the Book of Mormon is true?

(he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost)

Dilworth Young

"With all of this the Lord asks but one thing of the reader. Read the Book of Mormon honestly, prayerfully, with a desire to know its truth; and *if the intent is sincere, God will reveal the truth of it to that person by the power of the Holy Ghost*. To their wonderment and marveling as they discover its truths for themselves many have read and believed. And further, with that testimony from the Holy Ghost has come the assurance also that Jesus Christ is the Creator and Lord of this earth, that he is mindful of all those who seek him, that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God and by revelation established this, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." (CR, April 1965)

After receiving the witness that the Book of Mormon is true, what can we do to strengthen that testimony?

Milton R. Hunter

"When I was a child and first heard the stories of the Book of Mormon, the Holy Ghost touched my heart and bore a sweet witness to it of the divine authenticity of that ancient record. I knew then as I knew that I was alive that the Book of Mormon is true, is divine, is a sacred record of the inhabitants of ancient America. As I grew older, I read the book many times, and each time the same sweet testimony came into my heart, sometimes coming so forcefully that I was filled with emotion to the extent that tears ran down my cheeks. As I read the Book of Mormon now, the Holy Ghost still bears testimony to me that it is the word of God." (CR, Oct. 1954)

Why do you think that a testimony of the Book of Mormon can become the cornerstone to receiving a testimony other essential spiritual truths?

Bruce R. McConkie

"Now I am one who knows by the power of the Spirit that this book is true, and as a consequence I also know, both by reason and by revelation from the Spirit, of the truth and divinity of all the great spiritual verities of this dispensation. For instance:

"I know that the Father and the Son appeared to Joseph Smith -- because the Book of Mormon is true.

"I know that the gospel has been restored and that God has established his Church again on earth -- because the Book of Mormon is true.

"I know that Joseph Smith is a prophet, that he communed with God entertained angels, received revelations, saw visions, and has gone on to eternal glory -- because the Book of Mormon is true.

"I know that the Bible is the word of God as far as it is translated correctly -- because the Book of Mormon is true.

"I know that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the kingdom of God on earth, the one kingdom with legal administrators who can seal men up unto eternal life -- because the Book of Mormon is true.

"To my testimony of the Book of Mormon I add that of the Lord God himself, who said Joseph Smith 'has translated the book... and as your Lord and your God liveth it is true.' (D&C 17:6)." (CR, Apr. 1968)

Gifts From God

## Moroni explains the gifts from God

Moro 10:8-19

8 And again, I exhort you, my brethren, that ye deny not the gifts of God, for they are many; and they come from the same God. And there are different ways that these gifts are administered; but it is the same God who worketh all in all; and they are given by the manifestations of the Spirit of God unto men, to profit them.

9 For behold, to one is given by the Spirit of God, that he may teach the word of wisdom;

10 And to another, that he may teach the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

11 And to another, exceedingly great faith; and to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

12 And again, to another, that he may work mighty miracles;

13 And again, to another, that he may prophesy concerning all things;

14 And again, to another, the beholding of angels and ministering spirits;

15 And again, to another, all kinds of tongues;

16 And again, to another, the interpretation of languages and of divers kinds of tongues.

17 And all these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ; and they come unto every man severally, according as he will.

18 And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that every good gift cometh of Christ.

19 And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that he is the same yesterday, today, and forever, and that all these gifts of which I have spoken, which are spiritual, never will be done away, even as long as the world shall stand, only according to the unbelief of the children of men.

From whom do we receive all spiritual gifts?

(every good gift cometh of Christ.)

Why does the Lord give us gifts?

D&C 46:8-11

8) Wherefore, beware lest ye are deceived; and that ye may not be deceived seek ye earnestly the best gifts, always remembering for what they are given;

9) For verily I say unto you, *they are given for the benefit of those who love me and keep all my commandments, and him that seeketh so to do; that all may be benefited* that seek or that ask of me, that ask and not for a sign that they may consume it upon their lusts.

10) And again, verily I say unto you, I would that ye should always remember, and always retain in your minds what those gifts are, that are given unto the church.

11) For all have not every gift given unto them; for there are many gifts, and *to every man is given a gift by the Spirit of God.*

Moroni tells us how it can lose the blessings of God

Moroni 10:20-23

20 Wherefore, there must be faith; and if there must be faith there must also be hope; and if there must be hope there must also be charity.

21 And except ye have charity ye can in nowise be saved in the kingdom of God; neither can ye be saved in the kingdom of God if ye have not faith; neither can ye if ye have no hope.

22 And if ye have no hope ye must needs be in despair; and despair cometh because of iniquity.

23 And Christ truly said unto our fathers: If ye have faith ye can do all things which are expedient unto me.

How can we lose the blessing of the hope we have that we will be saved?

(if ye have no hope ye must needs be in despair; and despair cometh because of iniquity)

Dieter F. Uchtdorf

“The scriptures say that there must be 'an opposition in all things.' So it is with faith, hope, and charity. Doubt, despair, and failure to care for our fellowmen lead us into temptation, which can cause us to forfeit choice and precious blessings.

“The adversary uses despair to bind hearts and minds in suffocating darkness. Despair drains from us all that is vibrant and joyful and leaves behind the empty remnants of what life was meant to be. Despair kills ambition, advances sickness, pollutes the soul, and deadens the heart. Despair can seem like a staircase that leads only and forever downward.”  
(CR, Oct. 2008)

Moroni ends by admonishing us all to come to Christ and be partakers of the blessings He has in store

Moroni 10:30-34

30 And again I would exhort you that ye would come unto Christ, and lay hold upon every good gift, and touch not the evil gift, nor the unclean thing.

31 And awake, and arise from the dust, O Jerusalem; yea, and put on thy beautiful garments, O daughter of Zion; and strengthen thy stakes and enlarge thy borders forever, that thou mayest no more be confounded, that the covenants of the Eternal Father which he hath made unto thee, O house of Israel, may be fulfilled.

32 Yea, come unto Christ, and be perfected in him, and deny yourselves of all ungodliness; and if ye shall deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and love God with all your might, mind and strength, then is his grace sufficient for you, that by his grace ye may be perfect in Christ; and if by the grace of God ye are perfect in Christ, ye can in nowise deny the power of God.

33 And again, if ye by the grace of God are perfect in Christ, and deny not his power,

then are ye sanctified in Christ by the grace of God, through the shedding of the blood of Christ, which is in the covenant of the Father unto the remission of your sins, that ye become holy, without spot.

34 And now I bid unto all, farewell. I soon go to rest in the paradise of God, until my spirit and body shall again reunite, and I am brought forth triumphant through the air, to meet you before the pleasing bar of the great Jehovah, the Eternal Judge of both quick and dead. Amen.