



LESSON 10: THE BOOK OF MORMON IS PUBLISHED

“Lesson 10: The Book of Mormon Is Published,” *Primary 5: Doctrine and Covenants: Church History*, (1997), 47

PURPOSE

- ◉ To help the children be grateful that the Book of Mormon is available for them to read and study.

AN ANGEL CAME TO JOSEPH SMITH

1. An angel came to
Joseph Smith,
And from the ground he
took
A sacred record hidden
there,
A precious, holy book.

2. It tells of people long
ago,
Led by the Lord's own
hand,
Who left their homes
and crossed the sea
To reach a favored land.

3. The Nephites and the
Lamanites,
And all who came to dwell,
Had peace when they
obeyed the Lord,
The sacred records tell.

4. And now I'll read the
sacred book,
And then I'll understand
That Heav'nly Father loves
us all
In each and ev'ry land.

Words: Anna Johnson, 1892-1979. © 1969 IRI

Music: A. Laurence Lyon, b. 1934. © 1969 IRI

OPENING PRAYER WILL BE
GIVEN BY:



(Enter Name Here)

ATTENTION ACTIVITY

- ◉ In this container are the letters that spell out “The Book of Mormon: Another Testament of Jesus Christ”
- ◉ You are to work together to arrange the letters to spell out this phrase.

ATTENTION ACTIVITY

- ◉ When the Book of Mormon was first published, books were set by hand in metal type. The printer had to select and place each letter individually.



ATTENTION ACTIVITY

- This was a very time-consuming process, as you can see from putting the letters together in the short phrase I gave you.



ATTENTION ACTIVITY

- ◉ In today's lesson, you will learn more about the publication of the Book of Mormon.



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SCRIPTURAL AND HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS



◉ When the translation of the gold plates was almost finished, Joseph Smith

began looking for someone to publish the translation as a book.

- He talked to a printer in Palmyra, Egbert B. Grandin, and asked him to give an estimate of the cost of printing the book.



- ◉ Grandin did not want to print the “golden Bible,” as he called it, because he knew that people were against the book, and he was afraid he would not be paid.





- ◉ Joseph went to Rochester, New York, to see if he could find someone else to do it.
- ◉ One printer refused to print the book because he did not believe Joseph's account of where he got it; another agreed to print it, but his price was very high.

- ◉ Finally Joseph returned to Palmyra and convinced Grandin to print the book.

- ◉ Grandin agreed only after Martin Harris pledged his farm to guarantee the printing costs.



○ For the safety of the manuscript of the translation, the Lord commanded Joseph Smith to have Oliver Cowdery make a complete copy of the manuscript.



- Joseph assigned Oliver Cowdery and Hyrum Smith to oversee the printing.





- Only a few pages of the manuscript were taken to the printer at a time, and for several months Oliver and Hyrum frequently visited the printing office



- ◉ Oliver Cowdery learned about printing during these visits and hand-set some of the type for the book himself.



- ◉ The original manuscript had no paragraphs or punctuation, so Grandin's typesetter, John H. Gilbert, added punctuation and paragraphing.



- ◎ The published book was called the Book of Mormon because the prophet Mormon wrote or edited most of the ancient record.

- People in Palmyra who opposed the Book of Mormon held a meeting and resolved not to buy the book when it was published.



- ◉ Grandin again became worried that he would not be paid.
- ◉ Martin Harris was afraid he would lose his farm, and he wondered what he should do.



- ◉ Joseph Smith inquired of the Lord, and the Lord told Martin not to “covet” his own property but to “impart it freely” to cover the costs of printing the Book of Mormon.
(D&C 19:26)



- ◉ Martin Harris eventually sold 151 acres of his farm to pay Grandin for publishing the Book of Mormon.

- Several Pages were typeset, one letter at a time, and then printed on one large sheet.



- Notice all the sheets that are laying around the room waiting to be bound into books.

- ◉ The printer made one copy of the sheet and looked for errors on it.



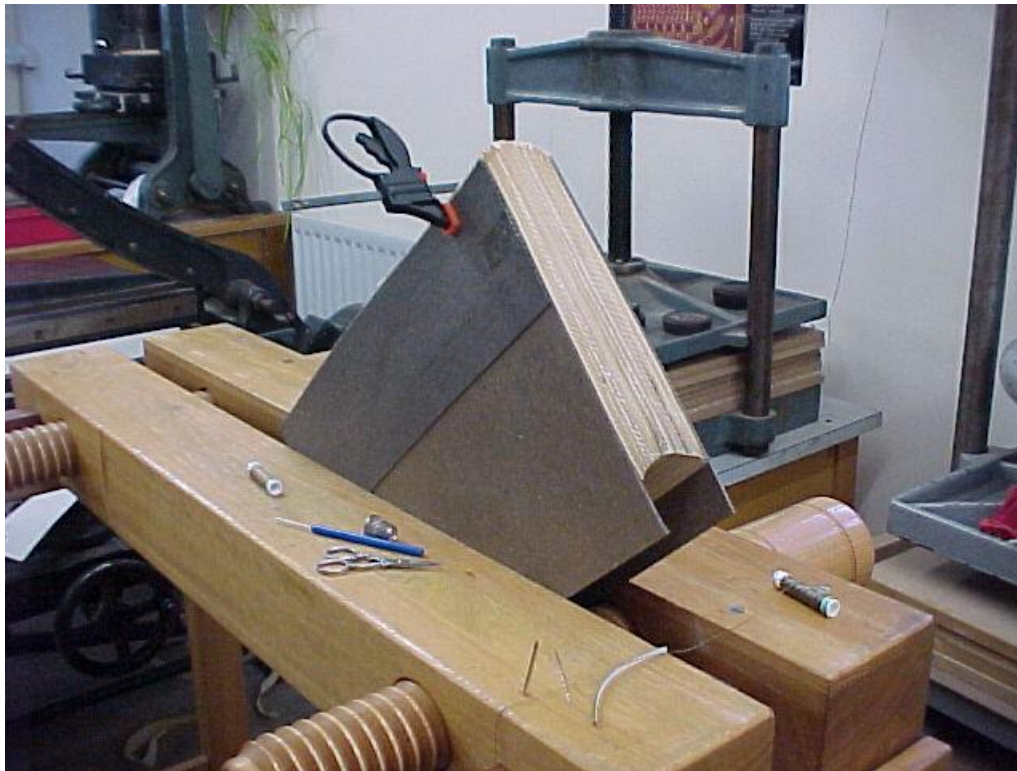
- ◉ When the sheet was correct, five thousand copies were printed.

- This process was repeated until five thousand copies of the entire Book of Mormon were printed.

- Then the printed pages were sent to the bindery, where they were folded, cut, and bound into books.



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- The first five thousand copies of the Book of Mormon were completed in the spring of 1830 and cost \$3,000 to print



- ◉ Satan had tried hard to stop the translation and publication of the Book of Mormon, but he was unsuccessful.



DISCUSSION
TIME

◉ Who translated the Book of Mormon?
(D&C 20:2, 8.)



◉ What does the Book of Mormon contain?
(D&C 20:9.)



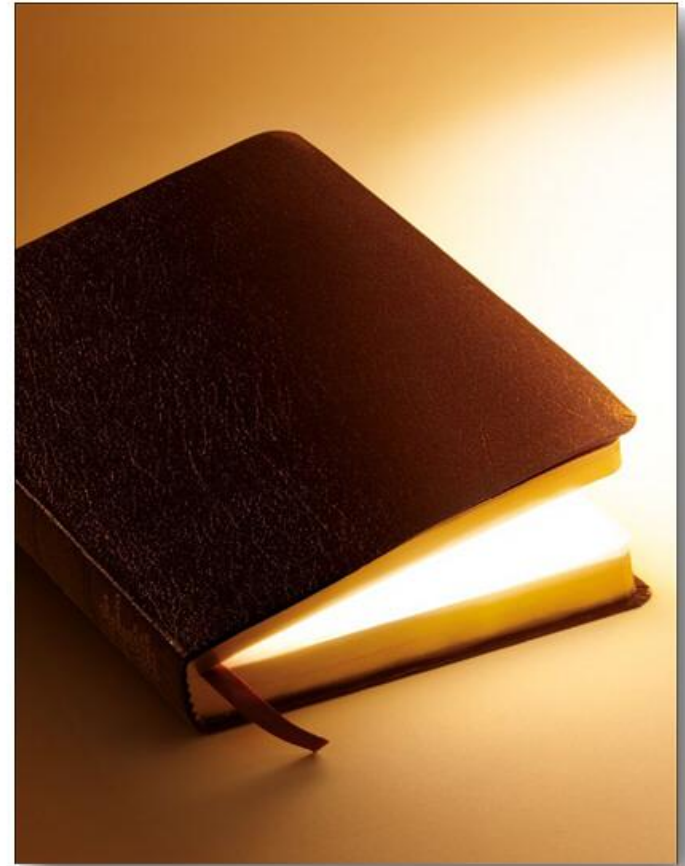
- ◉ How can reading and studying the Book of Mormon bless our lives? (D&C 20:9-12.)



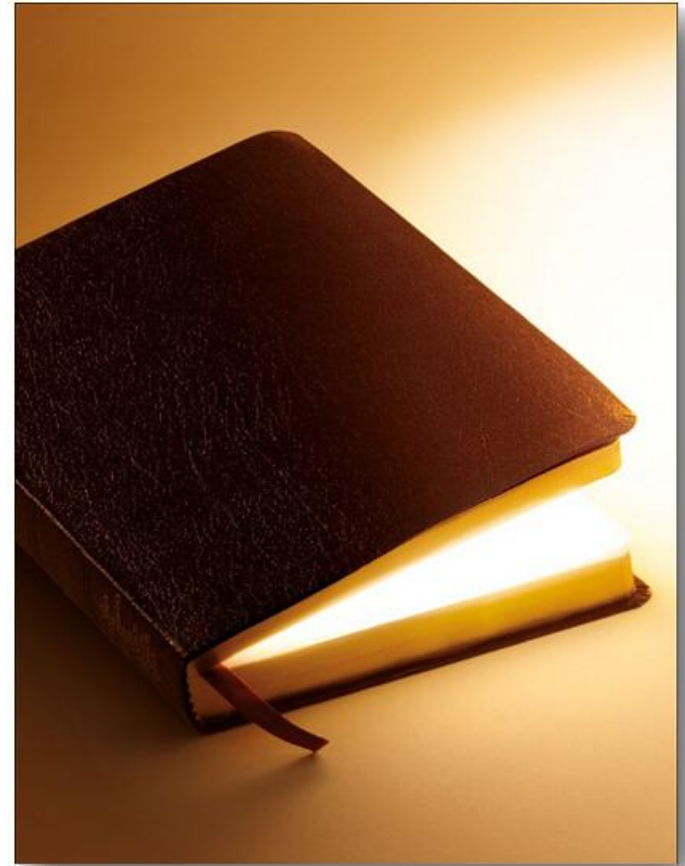
- ◉ What do we learn from section 20 about the Lord's concern for us "in this age and generation"? (D&C 20:11.)

◉ What does the Book of Mormon witness to us?

■ It is another testament [or witness] of Jesus Christ



◉ How can you be a witness of Jesus Christ?



◉ What can you do to show others that you believe in Jesus Christ?

◉ What is promised to those who receive the Book of Mormon in faith? (D&C 20:14.)

■ . . . those who receive it in faith, and work righteousness, shall receive a crown of eternal life.

◉ Eternal life is life with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ

◉ What happens to those who reject the Book of Mormon?
(D&C 20:15.)



. . . those who ^aharden their hearts in ^bunbelief, and ^creject it, it shall turn to their own ^dcondemnation—

○ How can you gain a testimony of the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon? (Moroni 10:4-5.)



○ Pray about it

- Why is it essential that every person gain his or her own personal testimony of the Book of Mormon?



- How does it make you feel to know that Heavenly Father made it possible for us to have the Book of Mormon?



ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

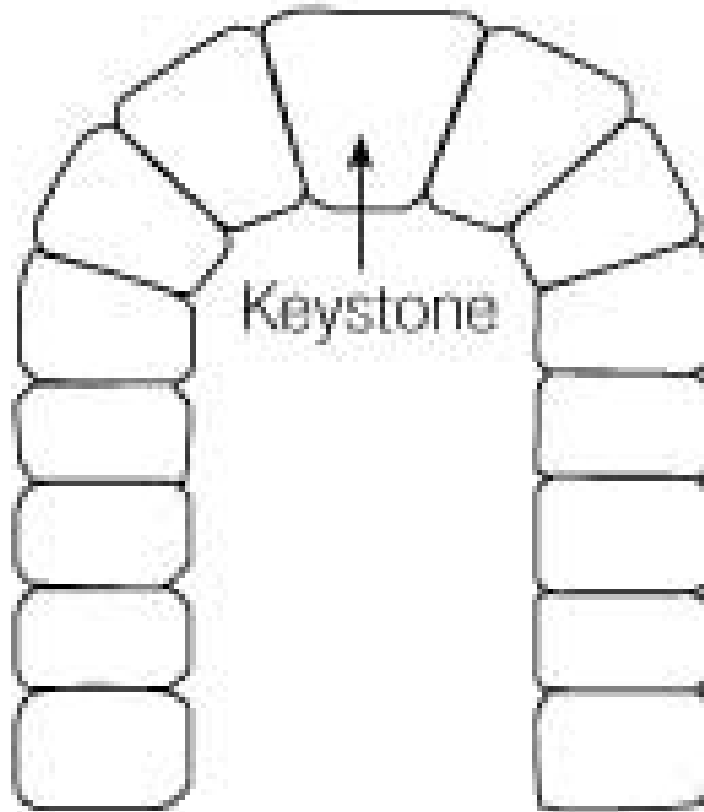
ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 1

Let's read the following quotation from the Prophet Joseph Smith found in the sixth paragraph of the introduction to the Book of Mormon

“I told the brethren that the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book.”

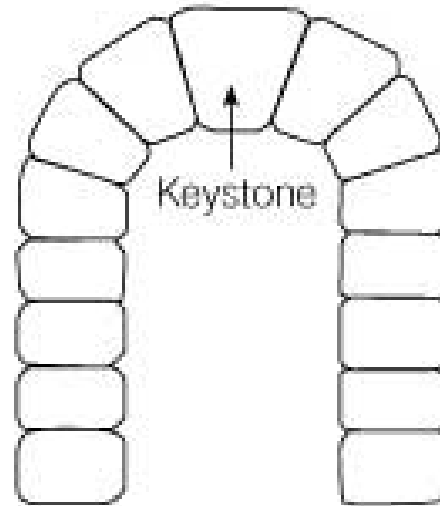
ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 1

What is a keystone?



ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 1

- The keystone holds the whole arch together; without it the arch would fall.



ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 1

- Why do you think Joseph Smith called the Book of Mormon “the keystone of our religion”?

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 2

- Members of the Church were very eager to read the Book of Mormon when it was finally published.
- Listen to the following story:

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 2

- ◉ In 1828 Mary Elizabeth Rollins moved to Kirtland, Ohio, with her family.
- ◉ Two years later, when Mary Elizabeth was twelve, missionaries came to Kirtland.
- ◉ Mary Elizabeth and her mother joined the Church.
- ◉ One day Mary Elizabeth heard that her neighbor Brother Morley, who was the presiding elder in Kirtland, had a copy of the Book of Mormon.
- ◉ It was the only copy in town.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 2

- ◉ Mary Elizabeth went to him to ask if she could borrow it to read.
- ◉ Brother Morley told her that he had not had a chance to read it himself.
- ◉ Only a few people had even seen it.
- ◉ Mary Elizabeth asked if she could please take the book for just a little while.
- ◉ Brother Morley agreed to let her take it overnight as long as she returned it first thing in the morning.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 2

- ◉ That night Mary Elizabeth's family stayed up very late, all taking turns reading from the book.
- ◉ The next morning Mary Elizabeth hurried back to Brother Morley's home to return the book.
- ◉ Brother Morley did not believe that Mary Elizabeth could have read much in one night, but she showed him how much she and her family had read.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 2

- ◉ She told him how the book began and about the story of Lehi and his family and their journey across the ocean.
- ◉ Brother Morley was amazed that Mary Elizabeth had read and understood so much.
- ◉ He told her that she could take the Book of Mormon and finish it; he would wait to read it until she was done.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 2

- Mary Elizabeth and her family continued to read, and when they were almost finished, Joseph Smith came to their house.
- He saw the Book of Mormon and asked how it had gotten there, since he had sent it to Brother Morley.
- Mary Elizabeth's uncle told Joseph Smith the story, and Joseph asked to see Mary Elizabeth.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 2

- ◉ Mary Elizabeth said, “When [Joseph] saw me he looked at me so earnestly. ...
- ◉ After a moment or two he came and put his hands on my head and gave me a great blessing, the first I ever received, and made me a present of the book, and said he would give Brother Morley another”

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 4

- Use the following pictures to tell about the coming forth of the Book of Mormon

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 4



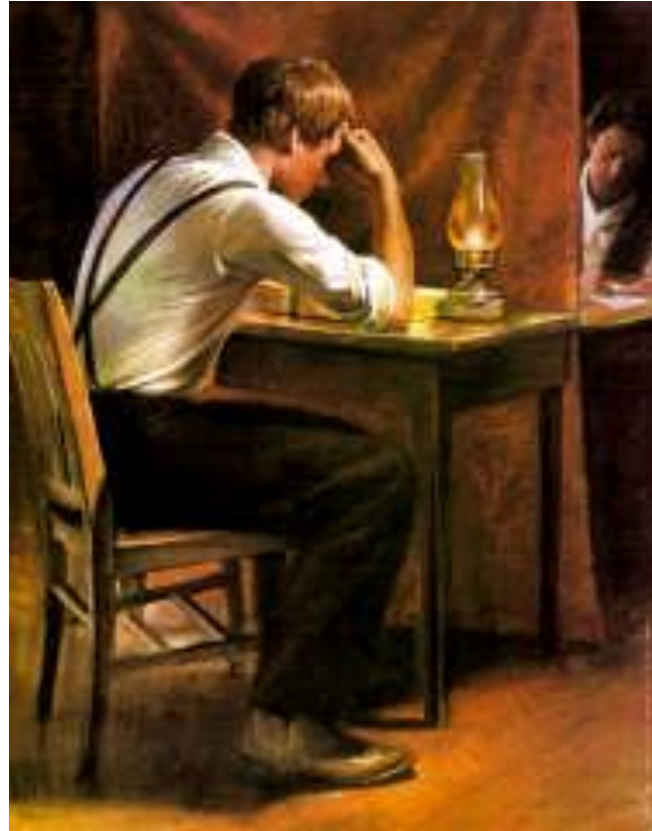
Moroni Appears to Joseph Smith in
His Room

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 4



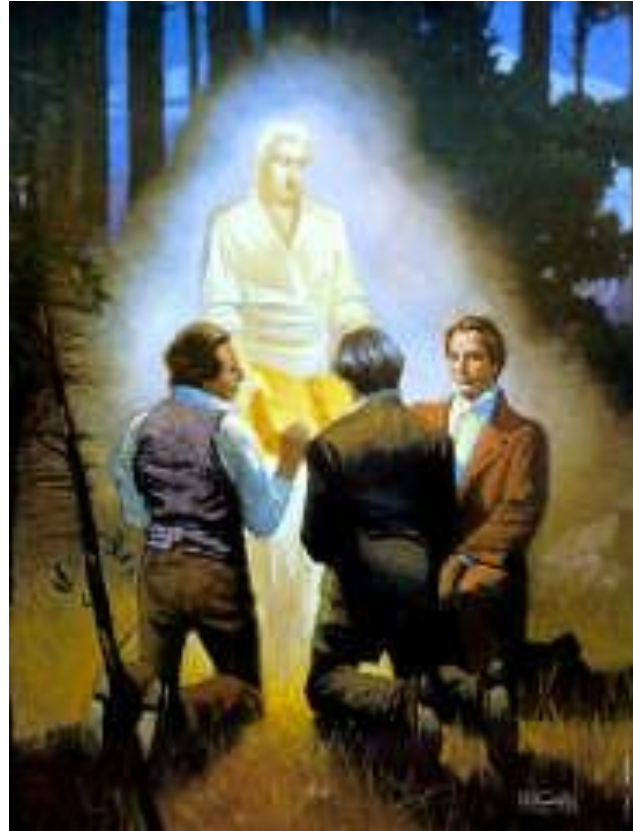
Joseph Smith Receives the Gold Plates

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 4



Joseph Smith Translating the Gold Plates

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 4



Moroni Shows the Gold Plates to
Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, and
David Whitmer

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 4



The Eight Witnesses View the Gold Plates

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 4



Printing of the Book of Mormon

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 5

- President Ezra Taft Benson, the fourteenth President of the Church, told us three reasons why we should study the Book of Mormon:
 - “[It] is the keystone of our religion.”
 - “It was written for our day.”
 - “It helps us draw nearer to God.”

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 5

◉ Let's read the following statement that President Benson made to the children of the Church:

- “How pleased I am to hear of your love for the Book of Mormon.
- / love it too, and Heavenly Father wants you to continue to learn from the Book of Mormon every day.
- It's Heavenly Father's special gift to you.
- By following its teachings, you will learn to do the will of our Father in Heaven”

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 6

- ◉ Does anyone have the eighth article of faith memorized?

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 6

- ◉ Let read it together and try to memorize it.
- ◉ 8 We believe the ^aBible to be the ^bword of God as far as it is translated ^ccorrectly; we also believe the ^dBook of Mormon to be the word of God.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY 6

- Let's try it again without the words on the screen.

TESTIMONY

- ◉ I am grateful that through the faith and efforts of the Prophet Joseph Smith, the Book of Mormon was published so that we might study and learn from it.
- ◉ I bear you my testimony that as we study the Book of Mormon we can draw closer to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.
- ◉ I want to challenge you to read and study the Book of Mormon and pray for a personal testimony of its truthfulness.

CLOSING PRAYER WILL BE
GIVEN BY:



(Enter Name Here)

THE END

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D&C 19:26

- ◉ 26 And again, I command thee that thou shalt not ^acovet thine own property, but impart it freely to the printing of the Book of Mormon, which contains the ^btruth and the word of God—

D&C 20:2, 8

- ◉ 2 Which commandments were given to Joseph Smith, Jun., who was ^acalled of God, and ^bordained an ^capostle of Jesus Christ, to be the ^dfirst ^eelder of this church;
- ◉ 8 And ^agave him power from on high, by the ^bmeans which were before prepared, to translate the Book of Mormon;

D&C 20:9

- 9 Which contains a ^arecord of a fallen people, and the ^bfulness of the ^cgospel of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles and to the Jews also;

D&C 20:9-12

- 9 Which contains a ^arecord of a fallen people, and the ^bfulness of the ^cgospel of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles and to the Jews also;
- 10 Which was given by inspiration, and is confirmed to ^aothers by the ministering of angels, and is ^bdeclared unto the world by them—

D&C 20:9-12

- ◉ 11 Proving to the world that the holy scriptures are ^atrue, and that God does ^binspire men and call them to his ^choly work in this age and generation, as well as in generations of old;
- ◉ 12 Thereby showing that he is the ^asame God yesterday, today, and ^bforever. Amen.

D&C 20:11

- ◉ 11 Proving to the world that the holy scriptures are ^atrue, and that God does ^binspire men and call them to his ^choly work in this age and generation, as well as in generations of old;

D&C 20:14

- ◉ 14 And those who receive it in faith, and work ^arighteousness, shall receive a ^bcrown of eternal life;

D&C 20:15

- ◉ 15 But those who ^aharden their hearts in ^bunbelief, and ^creject it, it shall turn to their own ^dcondemnation—

MORONI 10:4-5

- ◉ 4 And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ^aask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not ^btrue; and if ye shall ask with a ^csincere heart, with ^dreal intent, having ^efaith in Christ, he will ^fmanifest the ^gtruth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost.
- ◉ 5 And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may ^aknow the ^btruth of all things.