

& now my Son Helaman I command you that ye take the ~~reke~~ Records which have been entrusted with me

& I also command you that ye shall keep a Record of this People according as I have done upon the plates of Nephi & keep all these things sacred which I have kept even as I have kept them for it is for a wise purpose that they are kept

& these plates of Brass which contain these en-graveings which have the Records of the holy Scriptures upon them which have the genealogy of our fore fathers even from the beginning

& Behold it hath been Prophesied by our fathers that they should be kept & handed down from one generation to another & be kept & preserved by the hand of the Lord until they should go forth unto every Nation Kindred Tounge & People that they shall know of the mysteries contained thereon

& now behold if they are kept they must retain in their brightness yea & they will retain their brightness yea & also shall all the plates which do contain that which is holy ~~writ~~ writ

now ye may suppose that this is foolishness in me but behold I say unto you that by small & simple things are great things brought to pass & small means in man-y instances doth confound the wise

& the Lord God doth work by means to bring about his great & eternal purposes & by ~~small~~ very small means the Lord doth confound the wise & bringeth about the salvation of many souls

& now it hath ~~be~~ hitherto been wisdom in God that these things (should be preserved) large & C.
for behold they have enlarged the memory of this People yea & convinced many of the error of their ways & brought them to the knowledge of their God unto the salvation of their souls

CHAPTER 37

The plates of brass and other scriptures are preserved to bring souls to salvation—The Jaredites were destroyed because of their wickedness—Their secret oaths and covenants must be kept from the people—Counsel with the Lord in all your doings—As the Liahona guided the Nephites, so the word of Christ leads men to eternal life. About 74 B.C.

¹And now, my son Helaman, I command you that ye take the [_ _ _] records which have been entrusted with me;

²And I also command you that ye [X] keep a record of this people, according as I have done, upon the plates of Nephi, and keep all these things sacred which I have kept, even as I have kept them; for it is for a wise purpose that they are kept.

³And these plates of brass, which contain these en[-]grav[]ings, which have the records of the holy scriptures upon them, which have the genealogy of our fore[]fathers, even from the beginning—

⁴[X] Behold, it has[] been prophesied by our fathers, that they should be kept and handed down from one gen[-]eration to another, and be kept and preserved by the hand of the Lord until[] they sh[-]ould go forth unto every nation, kindred, to[]ngue, and people, that they shall know of the mysteries contained thereon.

⁵And now behold, if they are kept they must retain[-] in their brightness; yea, and they will retain their brightness; yea, and also shall all the plates which do contain that which is holy [_ _] writ.

⁶Now ye may suppose that this is foolishness in me; but behold I say unto you, that by small and simple things are great things brought to pass; and small means in man[-]y instances doth confound the wise.

⁷And the Lord God doth work by mea[-]ns to bring about his great and eternal purposes; and by [_ _ _] ver[]y small means the Lord doth confound the wise and bringeth about the salvation of many souls.

⁸And now, it has[] [X] hitherto been wisdom in God that these things should be preserved; [_ _ _ _ X _]
for behold, they have enlarged the memory of this people, yea, and convinced many of the error of their ways, and brought them to the knowledge of their God unto the salvation of their souls.

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yea I ~~sayeth~~ say unto you were it not for these ~~plat~~(things)~~es~~ that these records do (contain) which are on these plates Ammon & his Brethren could not have convinced so many thousands of the Lamanites of the incorrect tr(adi)tion of their fathers yea these records & their words brought them unto repentance that is they brought them to the knowledge of the Lord their God & to rejoice in Jesus Christ their redeemer

& who knoweth but what they will be the means of bringing many thousands of them yea & also many thousands of our stiffnecked brethren the Nephites which are now hardening their hearts in sins & iniquities to the knowledge of their Redeemer

now these mysteries a(are)~~#~~ not yet fully made known unto me therefore I shall forbear

& it may suf()fice if I only say they are preserved for a wise purpose which purpose is known unto God for he doth counsel in wisdom over all **264** his works & his paths are strait & his course is one Eternal round

O remember reme(mber my Son Helaman how strict ~~#~~(are) the Commandments of God & he say-eth if ye will keep my commandments ye shall prosper in the land but if ye keep not his ~~presance~~ commandments ye shall be cut off from his presance

& now remember my Son that God hath entrusted you with these things which are sacred which he hath kept sacred & also which he will keep & preserve for a wise purpose in him that he may shew forth his power un-to future Generations

& now Behold I tell you by the spirit of Propesy that if ye transgress the commandments of God behold these things which are sacred shall be taken away from you by the Power of God & ye shall be deliv-ered up unto Satan that he may sift you as chaff before the wind

but if ye keep the commandments of God & do with these things which are sacr-ed according to that which the Lord doth command you for you must appeal unto the Lord for all things whatsoever ye must do with them be()hold no power of Earth or Hell can take them from you for God is po()werful to the fulfilling of all his words

⁹Yea, I [_ _ _ _ _] say unto you, were it not for these [_ _ _]things[_] that these records do **contain**, which are on these plates, Ammon **and** his brethren could not have convinced so many thousands of the Lamanites of the incorrect tr(adi)tion of their fathers; yea, these records **and** their words brought them unto repentance; that is, they brought them to the knowledge of the Lord their God, **and** to rejoice in Jesus Christ their Redeemer.

¹⁰**And** who knoweth but what they will be the means of bringing many thousands of them, yea, **and** also many thousands of our stiffnecked brethren, the Nephites, **who** are now hardening their hearts in sin[_] **and** iniquities, to the knowledge of their Redeemer?

¹¹Now these mysteries [_]are[_] not yet fully made known unto me; there[_]fore I shall forbear.

¹²**And** it may suf()fice if I only say they are preserved for a wise purpose, which purpose is known unto God; for[_] he doth counsel in wisdom over all his works, **and** his paths are straight, **and** his course is one eternal round.

¹³O remember, reme(mber, my son Helaman, how strict [X]are the commandments of God. **And** he sa[_]-[_]id: If ye will keep my commandments ye shall prosper in the land—but if ye keep not his [_ _ _ _ _] commandments ye shall be cut off from his presence.

¹⁴**And** now remember, my son, that God has[_] entrusted you with these things, which are sacred, which he has[_] kept sacred, **and** also which he will keep **and** preserve for a wise purpose in him, that he may show forth his power un[-]to future generations.

¹⁵**And** now behold, I tell you by the spirit of prophecy, that if ye transgress the commandmen[_]ts of God, behold, these things which are sacred shall be taken away from you by the power of God, **and** ye shall be deliv[-]ered up unto Satan, that he may sift you as chaff before the wind.

¹⁶**But** if ye keep the commandments of God, **and** do with[_] these things which are sacr[-]ed according to that which the Lord doth command you, (for you must appeal unto the Lord for all things whatsoever ye must do with them) be()hold, no power of earth or hell can take them from you, for God is po()werful to the fulfilling of all his words.

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for he will fulfil^h a^l(all)s his promises which he shall make unto you for he hath fulfilled his promise which he (~~ath~~ -ath madee unto our fother(s)

f for he promised unto them that he would p-~~r~~serve these things for a wise purpose in him that he might shew forth his power unto future generations

& now behold one purpose hath he fulfilled e-~~v~~en to the restoration of many thousands of the Lemanites to the Knowledge ~~of the truth~~ &C
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of the truth & he hath shewn forth his power in them & he will also still show for-~~th~~ his power in them unto future Generations therefore they shall be preserved

therefo-~~r~~e I command you my Son Helaman that ye be diligent in fulfilling all my word(s) & that ye be diligent in keeping the commandments of God as they are written

& now I will speak unto you concerning those twenty four plates that ye keep them that the mysteries & the works of darkness & their secret works or the secret works of those People which have been destroyed may be made manifest unto this people yea all their murders & robings & their plunderings & all their wickedness & abo--mina-tions may be made manifest unto (t)his People yea & that ye preserve these directors

for behold the Lord saw that his People began to work in darkness yea work secret murders & ~~amon~~ abominations therefor the Lord said if they did not repent they should be destroyed from off the face of the earth

& the Lord said I will prepare unto my servant Gazelem a stone which shall shine forth in darkness unto light that I may discover unto my People which serve me that I may discover unto them the works of their br-ethren yea their secret works their works of darkness & their wickedness & abominations

& now my Son these directors were prepared that the word of God might be fulfilled which he spake saying **265**

¹⁷For he will fulfil[_ _]l [_]all[_] his promises which he shall make unto you, for he has[_] fulfilled his promises which he ([_ _] [-]has made[_] unto our fathers.

¹⁸[_] For he promised unto them that he would p[-]reserve these things for a wise purpose in him, that he might show forth his power unto future generations.

¹⁹And now behold, one purpose hath he fulfilled, e[-]ven to the restoration of many thousands of the Lamanites to the knowledge [X_X_X] [X_] [X_ _ _ _ _] of the truth; and he hath shown forth his power in them, and he will also still show for[-]th his power in them unto future generations; therefore they shall be preserved.

²⁰Therefo[-]re I command you, my son Helaman, that ye be diligent in fulfilling all my words, and that ye be diligent in keeping the commandments of God as they are written.

²¹And now, I will speak unto you concerning those twenty-four plates, that ye keep them, that the mysteries and the works of darkness, and their secret works, or the secret works of those people who have been destroyed, may be made manifest unto this people; yea, all their murders, and robings, and their plunderings, and all their wickedness and abo[-][-]mina[-]tions, may be made [] manifest unto this people; yea, and that ye preserve these interpreters.

²²For behold, the Lord saw that his people began to work in darkness, yea, work secret murders and [_ _ _] abominations; therefore the Lord said, if they did not repent they should be destroyed from off the face of the earth.

²³And the Lord said: I will prepare unto my servant Gazelem, a stone, which shall shine forth in darkness unto light, that I may discover unto my people who serve me, that I may discover unto them the works of their br[-]ethren, yea, their secret works, their works of darkness, and their wickedness and abominations.

²⁴And now, my son, these interpreters were prepared that the word of God might be fulfilled, which he spake, saying:

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I will bring forth out of darkness unto light all their secret works & their abominations & except they repent I will destroy them from off the face of the Earth & I will bring to light all their secrets & abominations unto every Nation which shall hereafter possess the land

& now my Son we see tha(t) they did not repent therefore they have been destroid & thus far the word (of God) hath been fulfilled yea their ~~h~~secret abominations have been brought out of darkness & made known unto us

& now my Son I command you that ye retain all their oaths & their covenants & their agreements in their Secret abominations yea & all their signs & (their) wonders ye shall retain from this People that they know th-em not ~~h~~ lest peradventure they should fall into darkness also & be destroid

for behold there is a curse upon all this land that destruction shall come upon all th-ose workers of darkness according to the power of God when they are fully ripe & therefore I desire that this People might not be destroyed

therefore ye shall keep these secret pla-ns of their Oaths & their covenants from this People & ~~o~~ only their wickedness & therr murders & their abominations shall ye make known unto them & ye shall teach them to abhor such wickedness & abominations & murders & ye shall also teach them that th-ose people were destroid on account of their wickedness & abominations & their mur-ders

for behold they murdered all the Propets of the Lord which came among them to declare unto them concerning their iniquities & the blood of those which they
ndments to his (Son Helaman &C)
murdered did cry unto the Lord their God for vengeance upon those which were their mur(der)ers & thus the Judgments of God did come upon them workers of darkness & secret combinations

yea & cursed be the land forever & ever unto those workers of darkness & secret combinations even unto destruction except they repent before they are fully ripe

& now my Son remember the words which I have spoken unto you trust not those secret plans unto this peo-ple but teach them an everlasting hatred against sin & iniquity

²⁵I will bring forth out of darkness unto light all their secret works **and** their abominations; **and** except they repent I will destroy them from off the face of the earth; **and** I will bring to light all their secrets **and** abominations, unto every nation **that** shall hereafter possess the land.

²⁶**And** now, my son, we see **that** they did not repent; therefore they have been destroyed, **and** thus far the word of God has[_] been fulfilled; yea, their [_]secret abominations have been brought out of darkness **and** made known unto us.

²⁷**And** now, my son, I command you that ye retain all their oaths, **and** their covenants, **and** their agreements in their secret abominations; yea, **and** all their signs **and** their wonders ye shall **keep** from this people, that they know th[-]em not, [_] lest peradventure they should fall into darkness also **and** be destroyed.

²⁸**F**or behold, there is a curse upon all this land, that destruction shall come upon all th[-]ose workers of darkness, according to the power of God, when they are fully ripe; **[X]** therefore I desire that this people might not be destroyed.

²⁹**T**herefore ye shall keep these secret pla[-]ns of their oaths **and** their covenants from this people, **and** [_] only their wickedness **and** their murders **and** their abominations shall ye make known unto them; **and** ye shall teach them to abhor such wickedness **and** abominations **and** murders; **and** ye shall also teach them that th[-]ese people were destroyed on account of their wickedness **and** abominations **and** their mur[-]ders.

³⁰**F**or behold, they murdered all the prophets of the Lord **who** came among them to declare unto them concerning their iniquities; **and** the blood of those **whom** they
[_ _ _ _ _ X X X X X]
murdered did cry unto the Lord their God for vengeance upon those **who** were their mur(der)ers; **and** thus the judgments of God did come upon these workers of darkness **and** secret combinations.

³¹**Y**ea, **and** cursed be the land forever **and** ever unto those workers of darkness **and** secret combinations, even unto destruction, except they repent before they are [_ _ _]fully ripe.

³²**A**nd now, my son, remember the words which I have spoken unto you; trust not those secret plans unto this peo[-][-]ple, but teach them an everlasting hatred against sin **and** iniquity.

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preach unto them repentance & faith on the Lord Jesus Christ teach them to humble themselves & to be meek & lowly in heart teach them to withstand every temptation of the Devil with their faith on the Lord Jesus Christ

teach them to never be weary of good works but to be meek & lowly in heart for such shall find rest to their souls

O remember my son & learn wisdom in thy Youth ye learn in thy Youth to keep the commandments of God

yea & cry unto God for all thy support yea let all thy doings be unto the Lord & whither soever thou goest let it be in the Lord yea let all thy thoughts be directed unto the Lord yea let the affections of thy heart be placed upon the Lord forever

Counsel the Lord in all thy doings & he will direct thee for good yea when thou liest down at night lie down ~~w~~(unto) ~~th~~ the Lord that he may watch over you in your sleep & when thou risest in the morning let thy heart be full of thanks unto God & if ye always do these things ye shall be lifted up at the last day

& now my Son I have somewhat to say concerning the thing which our Fathers call a ball or director or our Fathers called it Liahona which is being ~~interpreted~~ interpreted a compass & the Lord prepared it

& behold there cannot any man work after the manner of so curious a workmanship & behold it was prepared to shew unto our Fathers the course which they should travel in the wilderness

& it did work for them according to their faith in God therefore if they had faith to believe that God could cause that those spindles should point the way they should go behold it was done therefore they had this miracle & also many other miracles wrought by the power of God day by day

nevertheless because those miracles were worked by small means it did shew unto them marvelous work(s) they were slothful & forgot to exercise their faith & diligence & then those marvelous works ceased & they did not progress in their journey

³³Preach unto them repentance, and faith on the Lord Jesus Christ; teach them to humble themselves and to be meek and lowly in heart; teach them to withstand every temptation of the devil, with their faith on the Lord Jesus Christ.

³⁴Teach them to never be weary of good works, but to be meek and lowly in heart; for such shall find rest to their souls.

³⁵O, remember, my son, and learn wisdom in thy youth; yea, learn in thy youth to keep the commandments of God.

³⁶Yea, and cry unto God for all thy support; yea, let all thy doings be unto the Lord, and whither [] soever thou goest let it be in the Lord; yea, let all thy thoughts be directed unto the Lord; yea, let the affections of thy heart be placed upon the Lord forever.

³⁷Counsel with the Lord in all thy doings, and he will direct thee for good; yea, when thou liest down at night lie down [] unto [] the Lord, that he may watch over you in your sleep; and when thou risest in the morning let thy heart be full of thanks unto God; and if ye [X] do these things, ye shall be lifted [X] up at the last day.

³⁸And now, my son, I have somewhat to say concerning the thing which our fathers call a ball, or director—or our fathers called it Liahona, which is, being [] interpreted, a compass; and the Lord prepared it.

³⁹And behold, there cannot any man work after the manner of so curious a workmanship. And behold, it was prepared to show unto our fathers the course which they should travel in the wilderness.

⁴⁰And it did work for them according to their faith in God; therefore, if they had faith to believe that God could cause that those spindles should point the way they should go, behold, it was done; therefore they had this miracle, and also many other miracles [] wrought [] by the power of God, day by day.

⁴¹Nevertheless, because those miracles were worked by small means it did show unto them marvelous works. They were slothful, and forgot to exercise their faith and diligence and then those marvelous works ceased, and they did not progress in their journey;

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therefore they tarried in the wilderness or did not travel a direct course & were afflicted with hungar & thirst because of their transgression

& now my Son I would that ye should understand that th(e)se things are not without a shaddow for as our Fathers were slothful to give heed to this compass now these things were temporal they did not prosper even so it is with Alma(s) Com things which are spiritual

for behold it is (as)easy to give heed to the word of Christ which will point to you a strait course to eternal bliss as it was for our fathers to give heed to this Compass which would point unto them a strait course to the promised land

& now I say is there not a type in this thing for just as surely as this director did bring our Fathers by following its course to the promised land shall the word of Christ if we follow their course carry us beyond this vale of tears into a far better land of promise

O my Son do not let us be slothful because of the easiness of the way for so was it with our Fathers for so was it prepared for them that if they would look they might live even so it is with us the way is prepared & if we will look we may live forever

& now my Son see that ye take Care of these Sacred things yea see that ye look to God & live go unto this people & declare the word & be sober my Son farewell—

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⁴²Therefore, they tarried in the wilderness, or did not travel a direct course, **and** were afflicted with hunger **and** thirst, because of their transgressions.

⁴³**And** now, my son, I would that ye should understand that these things are not without a shad[]ow; for as our fathers were slothful to give heed to this compass (now these things were temporal) they did not prosper; even so it is with [X _ _ _] things which are spiritual.

⁴⁴For behold, it is as[]easy to give heed to the word of Christ, which will point to you a straight course to eternal bliss, as it was for our fathers to give heed to this compass, which would point unto them a straight course to the promised land.

⁴⁵**And** now I say, is there not a type in this thing? For just as surely as this director did bring our fathers, by following its course, to the promised land, shall the words of Christ, if we follow their course, carry us beyond this vale of sorrow into a far better land of promise.

⁴⁶O my son, do not let us be slothful because of the easiness of the way; for so was it with our fathers; for so was it prepared for them, that if they would look they might live; even so it is with us. The way is prepared, **and** if we will look we may live forever.

⁴⁷**And** now, my son, see that ye take care of these sacred things, yea, see that ye look to God **and** live. Go unto this people **and** declare the word, **and** be sober. My son, farewell[].