

# THE BOOK of MORONI

## (The Son of Mormon)

### Chapter One.

**H**aving completed the abridgment of the account of the Jaredite people, I, Moroni, initially intended not to write further. However, since I have not yet perished, I choose to remain anonymous to the Lamanites to avoid certain death. Their internal conflicts are exceedingly brutal, as their intense animosity leads them to execute any Nephite unwilling to renounce a belief in Christ. I am steadfast in not denying Him, and to safeguard my own life, I wander wherever I can. Despite my initial intention to cease writing, I find myself penning a few more words. This deviation from my plan is prompted by the hope that these additional writings may prove valuable to my Lamanite brethren in some future day, as guided by the will of the Lord.

### Chapter Two.

**T**he teachings of Christ, spoken to his chosen twelve disciples as he laid his hands upon them— Addressing them individually, he instructed: You are to invoke the Father in my name through fervent prayer. After doing so, you will be endowed with the authority to confer the Holy Ghost upon those whom you lay your hands, following the practice of my apostles in using my name for this purpose.

Christ conveyed these instructions to his disciples during his initial appearance, with the multitude remaining unaware. Only the disciples heard these words, and upon those they laid hands, the Holy Ghost descended.

### Chapter Three.

**T**he process by which the disciples, known as the elders of the church, appointed priests and teachers— Following their supplication to the Father in the name of Christ, they placed their hands upon them and declared:

In the name of Jesus Christ, I confer upon you the ordination as a priest (or, if he is to be a teacher, I ordain you as a teacher) to proclaim repentance and the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ. This is to be achieved by steadfastly exercising faith in his name until the end. Amen.

They ordained priests and teachers in this manner, aligning with the gifts and callings that God extended to individuals. Their ordinations were carried out through the power of the Holy Ghost residing within them.

### Chapter Four.

**T**he procedure observed by their elders and priests in administering the body and blood of Christ to the church; and they administered it in accordance with the commandments of Christ. Thus, we are assured of the authenticity of the process. The elder or priest carried out the administration— They knelt alongside the church, offering a prayer to the Father in the name of Christ:

O God, the Eternal Father, we implore thee in the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, to consecrate and sanctify this bread for the souls of all those who partake of it. May they eat in remembrance of the

body of thy Son and bear witness to thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they willingly take upon themselves the name of thy Son. May they always remember him and faithfully follow the commandments he has given them, so that they may continually have his Spirit to accompany them. Amen.

### Chapter Five.

**T**he process of administering the wine— They took the cup and uttered:  
O God, the Eternal Father, we beseech thee, in the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, to consecrate and sanctify this wine for the souls of all those who partake of it. May they drink in remembrance of the blood of thy Son, which was shed for them. May they bear witness to thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they always remember him, seeking to have his Spirit with them. Amen.

### Chapter Six.

**N**ow, let me address the topic of baptism. Elders, priests, and teachers underwent baptism, but only if they demonstrated through their actions that they were worthy of it. No one was baptized unless they came forward with a broken heart and a contrite spirit, testifying to the church that they genuinely repented of all their sins. Baptism was extended only to those who willingly took upon themselves the name of Christ, with a firm commitment to serve Him until the end.

After they had been baptized, cleansed by the power of the Holy Ghost, and incorporated into the community of the church of Christ, their names were recorded. This served as a means to remember and nurture them with the teachings of God's good word, guiding them in the right path, and keeping them vigilant in prayer, relying solely on the merits of Christ, the originator, and perfecter of their faith.

The church frequently gathered to fast, pray, and discuss the well-being of their souls. They also regularly assembled to partake of bread and wine, commemorating the Lord Jesus.

The community was steadfast in ensuring no iniquity among them. If someone was found guilty and three church witnesses condemned them before the elders, and they did not repent or confess, their names were erased, and they were no longer considered part of the people of Christ. However, whenever individuals genuinely repented, seeking forgiveness with sincere intent, they were forgiven. The church meetings were conducted in harmony with the guidance of the Spirit and the power of the Holy Ghost. The direction of the meetings, whether for preaching, exhortation, prayer, supplication, or singing, was determined by the influence of the Holy Ghost.

### Chapter Seven.

**N**ow, I, Moroni, transcribe some words from my father, Mormon, addressing the concepts of faith, hope, and charity. This was his manner of instruction to the people in the synagogue they had constructed for worship.

I, Mormon, now address you, my beloved brethren, by the grace of God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. It is through His will, granted by the gift of His calling upon me, that I have the privilege to speak to you at this moment. Therefore, my discourse is directed to those within the church, the peaceable followers of Christ, who have acquired a sufficient hope enabling them to enter the Lord's rest, both now and in the future when they rest with Him in heaven.

My brethren, I commend these qualities to you based on your peaceful interactions with others. Remember: by their works ye shall know them. If their works are good, then they too are good. I recall the divine decree that a man, being evil, cannot perform good deeds unless done with genuine intent. Offering a gift or praying to God without real intent profits nothing. It is not counted as righteousness unto him. An evil man giving a gift grudgingly is viewed by God as if he had not given at all, marking him as evil. Similarly, if a man prays without genuine intent of heart, it is in vain, for God receives none such.

In essence, an evil man cannot do good, nor will he offer a good gift. A bitter fountain cannot yield good water, and a man serving the devil cannot follow Christ. What is of God always encourages goodness and love, inspiring people to do good continually. Anything that entices to do good, love God, and serve Him is inspired by God.

Therefore, beware not to judge evil as of God or good as of the devil. My brethren, it is your responsibility to judge rightly. The Spirit of Christ is given to every person so they may discern good from evil. I show you the way to judge: anything encouraging good and belief in Christ is from God. Conversely, whatever persuades men to do evil, reject Christ, and deny God is from the devil. The devil and his angels never promote good; they consistently tempt individuals to commit sin and perpetuate evil. On the other hand, everything inspired by God encourages continual goodness and love towards Him. Thus, every invitation and enticement to do good, love God, and serve Him is of divine inspiration.

Be cautious, my beloved brethren, not to misjudge, thinking evil is of God or that good and Godly things are of the devil. I urge you, brethren, to diligently search in the light of Christ to discern good from evil. Embrace every good thing, and don't condemn it. By doing so, you will truly be a child of Christ.

Now, let's delve into the subject of faith, as I promised. I will share the way by which you can lay hold on every good thing. God, knowing all things, sent angels to minister to humankind, revealing information about the coming of Christ. In Christ, every good thing would come to pass. Prophets were also informed by God Himself, declaring that Christ would come. Through various means, God manifested good things to His children. All good things come from Christ; otherwise, men would have fallen, and no good thing would have come to them.

By the ministry of angels and every word proceeding from the mouth of God, men began to exercise faith in Christ. Through faith, they laid hold on every good thing, a practice that continued until the arrival of Christ. After Christ's advent, men were saved by faith in His name, becoming the sons of God. Christ assured our fathers that whatever they asked the Father in His name, believing in faith, it would be done.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, have miracles ceased just because Christ ascended into heaven? Has the appearance of angels to men stopped? Has the Holy Ghost's power been withheld from men? Will this continue as long as time lasts, the earth stands, or there remains one man to be saved? I declare unto you, Nay; miracles happen by faith, and angels continue to minister unto men. They are subject to God's command, revealing themselves to those with strong faith and a firm commitment to godliness in various forms. Their ministry is to call men to repentance and fulfill the covenants made by the Father to prepare the way among men. They declare the word of Christ to chosen vessels of the Lord so they may bear testimony of Him. In this way, the Lord God prepares the way for the rest of men to have faith in Christ, allowing the Holy Ghost to dwell in their hearts, bringing to fruition the Father's covenants. Christ affirmed that those who have faith in Him will have

the power to do whatever is expedient in Him. He called all the ends of the earth to repent, come to Him, be baptized in His name, and have faith in Him for salvation.

Now, my beloved brethren, if these things I have spoken are true, and God, with power and great glory, will show you on the last day that they are true, has the era of miracles come to an end? For Christ has answered the requirements of the law, claiming all those who have faith in Him. Those who have faith in Him will cleave unto every good thing. He advocates for the cause of the children of men, dwelling eternally in the heavens.

Because of His actions, my beloved brethren, have miracles ceased? I declare unto you, Nay; angels have not ceased to minister to men. They are subject to Him, ministering according to His command, showing themselves to those of strong faith and firm minds in every form of godliness. Their ministry is to call men to repentance and fulfill and do the work of the covenants of the Father. They declare the word of Christ unto chosen vessels of the Lord, that they may bear testimony of Him. By doing so, the Lord God prepares the way for the rest of men to have faith in Christ, that the Holy Ghost may have place in their hearts, according to the power thereof. Thus, the Father brings to pass the covenants He made with the children of men. Christ has said: If ye will have faith in me, ye shall have power to do whatsoever thing is expedient in me. And He further proclaimed: Repent, all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me, and be baptized in my name, and have faith in me, that ye may be saved.

Now, my beloved brethren, if these things are true, and God will show with power and great glory at the last day that they are true, and if they are true, has the day of miracles ceased? Or have angels ceased to appear unto the children of men? Or has He withheld the power of the Holy Ghost from them? Or will He, so long as time shall last, or the earth shall stand, or there shall be one man upon the face thereof to be saved? I declare unto you, Nay; for it is by faith that miracles are wrought. It is by faith that angels appear and minister unto men. Therefore, if these things have ceased, woe be unto the children of men, for it is because of unbelief, and all is vain. For no man can be saved, according to the words of Christ, save they shall have faith in His name. Therefore, if these things have ceased, then faith has ceased also. Awful is the state of man, for they are as though there had been no redemption made. But behold, my beloved brethren, I have a better judgment of you. I judge that you have faith in Christ because of your meekness. If you have not faith in Him, then you are not fit to be numbered among the people of His church.

Once again, my beloved brethren, I turn my attention to hope. How can one attain faith without hope? What is it that you shall hope for? I say unto you, have hope through the atonement of Christ and the power of His resurrection. Hope to be raised unto life eternal, all because of your faith in Him according to the promise. Therefore, a man must have hope if he has faith. Without faith, there can be no hope. Again, a man cannot have faith and hope without being meek and lowly of heart. If so, his faith and hope are in vain, for none is acceptable before God except the meek and lowly in heart.

If a man is meek and lowly in heart and confesses by the power of the Holy Ghost that Jesus is the Christ, he must also have charity. Without charity, his faith and hope are worthless. A man must have charity, which is defined by its enduring qualities. Charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endures forever. Charity is patient, kind, not envious, not prideful, unprovoked easily, thinks no evil, rejoices not in iniquity but in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Therefore, my beloved brethren, if you lack charity, you are nothing. Charity never fails; it is the greatest of all. All other things will fail. Charity is the pure love of Christ, and possessing it at the last day ensures well-being.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, pray to the Father with all the energy of your heart that you may be filled with this love bestowed upon all true followers of His Son, Jesus Christ. Become the sons of God, and when He appears, you shall be like Him, for you shall see Him as He is. Have this hope, be purified as He is pure. Amen.

### Chapter Eight.

**T**his is an epistle from my father, Mormon, addressed to me, Moroni, soon after my induction into the ministry. In it, he conveyed the following: My beloved son, Moroni, I rejoice exceedingly that the Lord Jesus Christ has remembered you and called you to His ministry and holy work. I remember you always in my prayers, constantly entreating God the Father in the name of His Holy Child, Jesus. I pray that, through His infinite goodness and grace, He will preserve you by the endurance of faith in His name until the end.

Now, my son, I want to discuss something that deeply troubles me—disputations among you. It pains me greatly to learn of disputes arising among you, particularly regarding the baptism of your little children. Therefore, my son, I urge you to work diligently to eradicate this significant error from among you. This is the purpose behind my writing this epistle.

Immediately after learning of these matters, I sought the Lord's guidance on the issue. By the power of the Holy Ghost, the word of the Lord came to me, saying: Listen to the words of Christ, your Redeemer, your Lord, and your God. I came into the world not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. The healthy do not need a physician; only the sick do. Therefore, little children are whole, as they are not capable of committing sin. Hence, the curse of Adam is lifted from them in me, rendering it powerless. The law of circumcision is abolished in me. The Holy Ghost manifested the word of God to me in this manner.

Therefore, my beloved son, I assert that baptizing little children is solemn mockery before God. Teach this: Repentance and baptism are for those who are accountable and capable of committing sin. Teach parents to repent, be baptized, and humble themselves like their little children, and they will all be saved with their little ones. Little children require no repentance or baptism. Baptism is for repentance, fulfilling commandments, and remitting sins. Little children are alive in Christ from the foundation of the world; if not, God would be partial, changeable, and a respecter of persons. Think of the countless little children who died without baptism! If little children needed baptism for salvation, they would have gone to an endless hell. Anyone who supposes that little children need baptism is in the gall of bitterness and the bonds of iniquity. Such a person lacks faith, hope, and charity. If cut off in this thought, they will go down to hell. It is a dreadful wickedness to believe that God saves one child due to baptism while the other perishes for lacking it. Woe to those who pervert the ways of the Lord in this manner! They will perish unless they repent.

I speak boldly with authority from God and fear not what man can do. Perfect love casts out fear. I am filled with everlasting charity, where all children are alike unto me. I love little children with perfect love, and they are all alike, partakers of salvation. God is not partial or changeable; He is unchangeable from eternity to eternity. Little children cannot repent, so it is wicked to deny God's pure mercies to them. They are all alive in Him due to His mercy. Saying that little children need baptism denies Christ's mercies and the power of His redemption. Woe to those who assert this, as they are in danger of death, hell, and endless torment.

I declare it boldly; God has commanded me. Listen to these words, or they will stand against you at the judgment-seat of Christ. All little children are alive in Christ, as are those without the law.

The power of redemption extends to those without the law. Therefore, he who is not condemned cannot repent, and baptism is worthless to such a person. It is mockery before God, denying Christ's mercies and the power of His Holy Spirit, and placing trust in dead works. My son, this should not be, for repentance is for those under condemnation and the curse of a broken law.

The first fruits of repentance is baptism, which comes by faith to fulfill the commandments. Fulfilling the commandments leads to the remission of sins. Remission of sins leads to meekness and lowliness of heart. Meekness and lowliness of heart result in the visitation of the Holy Ghost, filling with hope and perfect love. This love endures through diligence in prayer until the end when all the saints will dwell with God.

My son, I will write to you again if I do not go out soon against the Lamanites. The pride of the Nephites has proven their destruction unless they repent. Pray for them, my son, that repentance may come to them. However, I fear the Spirit may have ceased striving with them. In this part of the land, they seek to suppress all power and authority from God, denying the Holy Ghost. After rejecting such great knowledge, my son, they will soon perish, fulfilling the prophecies spoken by the prophets and the words of our Savior.

Farewell, my son, until I write to you again or we meet. Amen.

## **The Second Epistle of Mormon to his son Moroni (Chapter 9)**

### Chapter Nine.

Once again, my beloved son, I write to assure you of my continued existence, but unfortunately, I bring news of a grievous nature. A severe battle with the Lamanites has left us without victory. Archeantus, Luram, and Emron have fallen by the sword, and a significant number of our best men have been lost.

Now, my son, I am concerned that the Lamanites may annihilate our people, for they show no signs of repentance. Satan constantly stirs them up to anger against one another. Despite my continuous efforts, when I speak the word of God sharply, they tremble and become angry. Conversely, when I use no sharpness, they harden their hearts. I fear that the Spirit of the Lord may have ceased striving with them. Their anger is so extreme that it seems they have no fear of death. They have lost love for one another and constantly crave blood and revenge.

Yet, my beloved son, despite their hardness, we must labor diligently. Ceasing to work would bring condemnation upon us. We have a duty in this mortal existence to conquer the enemy of righteousness and find rest for our souls in the kingdom of God.

Now, I must address the sufferings of our people. According to information from Amoron, the Lamanites have numerous prisoners, including men, women, and children. The husbands and fathers of these captives have been slain, and the Lamanites feed the women with the flesh of their husbands and the children with the flesh of their fathers. They provide them with very little water.

Despite this grave abomination, the Lamanites' actions do not surpass the wickedness of our people in Moriantum. They have taken many Lamanite daughters as prisoners, depriving them of their chastity and virtue. After committing these heinous acts, they mercilessly torture and murder these captives, devouring their flesh like wild beasts. They do this as a display of bravery. O my beloved son, how can a people, once civilized (only a few years have passed, and they were a civil and delightful people) delight in such abominations? How can we expect God to withhold judgment against us? My

heart cries out: Woe unto this people. O God, come in judgment, hide their sins, wickedness, and abominations from Your face!

Again, my son, many widows and their daughters are left in Sherrizah. The army of Zenephi has carried away the remaining provisions, leaving them to wander in search of food. Many old women faint and die along the way. The army with me is weak, and the Lamanite armies are between Sherrizah and me. Many who fled to the army of Aaron have fallen victim to brutal treatment.

The depravity of my people is evident. They lack order and mercy. I am but a man, and I cannot enforce my commands any longer. They have become entrenched in their perversion, equally brutal to all, sparing neither the old nor the young. They delight in everything except that which is good. The suffering of our women and children across the land surpasses description.

My son, I will dwell no longer on this horrifying scene. You know the wickedness of this people. They lack principle and compassion, and their wickedness surpasses that of the Lamanites. I cannot recommend them to God, lest He should smite me. But, my son, I commend you to God, and I trust in Christ for your salvation. I pray that God will spare your life to witness either the return of His people to Him or their complete destruction, for I know they will perish unless they repent and return. If they perish, it will be like the Jaredites due to the willfulness of their hearts, seeking blood and revenge. If they do perish, we know that many of our brethren have deserted to the Lamanites, and many more will follow. Therefore, write a few things if you are spared and I perish before seeing you. But I hope to see you soon, as I have sacred records to deliver to you.

My son, be faithful in Christ. May the things I have written not weigh you down unto death, but may Christ lift you up. May His sufferings and death, showing His body to our fathers, His mercy, long-suffering, and the hope of His glory and eternal life rest in your mind forever. May the grace of God the Father, whose throne is high in the heavens, and our Lord Jesus Christ, seated at the right hand of His power until all things become subject unto Him, be with you forever. Amen.

## Chapter Ten.

I, Moroni, express my thoughts as I see fit and address my brethren, the Lamanites. More than four hundred and twenty years have passed since the sign was given of the coming of Christ. After delivering a few words of exhortation, I seal up these records.

When you read these things, if it is God's will for you to read them, I encourage you to reflect on the Lord's mercy to humanity, from the creation of Adam to the time when you receive these words. Ponder it in your hearts. Upon receiving these records, I urge you to ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true. If you ask with a sincere heart, real intent, and faith in Christ, He will reveal the truth to you through the power of the Holy Ghost. The power of the Holy Ghost allows you to know the truth of all things. Anything that is good is just and true; therefore, nothing good denies Christ but acknowledges Him. You can know that Christ is real through the power of the Holy Ghost. Therefore, do not deny the power of God, for He works by power according to the faith of humanity, consistently today, tomorrow, and forever.

Once again, I encourage you, my brethren, not to deny the gifts of God, for they are many and come from the same God. These gifts are administered in various ways, but it is the same God who works in all. They are given through the manifestations of the Spirit of God to benefit individuals. Some receive the gift to teach the word of wisdom by the Spirit of God; others receive the gift to teach the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another, exceedingly great faith; and to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; another may receive the gift to work mighty miracles; yet another may

receive the gift to prophesy concerning all things; and another, the ability to behold angels and ministering spirits; yet another may receive the gift of speaking in all kinds of tongues; and another, the gift of interpreting languages and various kinds of tongues. All these gifts come through the Spirit of Christ, and each person receives them individually according to their will. I emphasize, my beloved brethren, that you should remember every good gift comes from Christ.

Remember that Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. All these spiritual gifts I mentioned will never be done away with as long as the world exists, except due to the unbelief of humanity. Therefore, faith is necessary, and where there is faith, there is also hope. And where there is hope, there is charity. Without charity, you cannot be saved in the kingdom of God. Neither can you be saved without faith or hope. If you lack hope, you will be in despair, and despair arises from iniquity. Christ truly said to our fathers: With faith, you can do all things that are expedient to me.

Now I speak to all the ends of the earth: If the day comes when the power and gifts of God are done away with among you, it will be because of unbelief. Woe to the children of men if this happens, for there will be none among you who does good. If there is one who does good, he will work by the power and gifts of God. Woe to those who discard these things and die, for they die in their sins and cannot be saved in the kingdom of God. I speak this according to the words of Christ, and I do not lie.

I urge you to remember these things, for the time will soon come when you shall know that I do not lie. You shall see me at the bar of God, and the Lord God will ask you: Did I not declare my words to you, which were written by this man, as one crying from the dead or speaking out of the dust? I declare these things to fulfill the prophecies. They shall proceed from the mouth of the everlasting God, and His word shall echo from generation to generation. God will show you that what I have written is true.

Once again, I exhort you to come unto Christ, grasp every good gift, and avoid the evil gift and unclean things.

Awake and arise from the dust, O Jerusalem! Put on your beautiful garments, O daughter of Zion! Strengthen your stakes and enlarge your borders forever, so that you may no longer be confounded. May the covenants of the Eternal Father made unto you, O house of Israel, be fulfilled. Yes, come unto Christ, be perfected in Him, deny yourselves of all ungodliness. If you deny yourselves of all ungodliness and love God with all your might, mind, and strength, His grace is sufficient for you. By His grace, you may be perfect in Christ. If you are perfect in Christ by the grace of God, you can in no way deny His power. If, by the grace of God, you are perfect in Christ and do not deny His power, you are sanctified in Christ by the grace of God. This happens through the shedding of the blood of Christ in the covenant of the Father for the remission of your sins. You become holy, without spot.

Now I bid farewell to all. I will soon rest in the paradise of God until my spirit and body reunite. I will be brought forth triumphantly through the air to meet you before the pleasing bar of the great Jehovah, the Eternal Judge of both the living and the dead. Amen.

T H E E N D