Brass plates Part 2

Elder Holland

One who does not understand Nephi's relentless determination to enter that city and obtain those records, no matter what the cost to his own life or others, will never understand why it was so fundamentally necessary to bring forth the Book of Mormon in this dispensation,

or why the forces of hell tried to wrench those plates from the boy prophet, or why every one of us must search the scriptures and live by every word of God.

[Or why Satan works so hard to discredit the Book and demean its translator]

As with Nephi's traveling through the wilderness, it is "wisdom in the Lord" that we, too, should carry the sacred records with us on our own journey toward the promised land. (See 1 Nephi 5:22)

Our only alternative is to "dwindle and perish in unbelief."

Constrained

I Nephi 4:10

And it came to pass that I was constrained by the Spirit that I should kill Laban; but I said in my heart: Never at any time have I shed the blood of man.

Question:

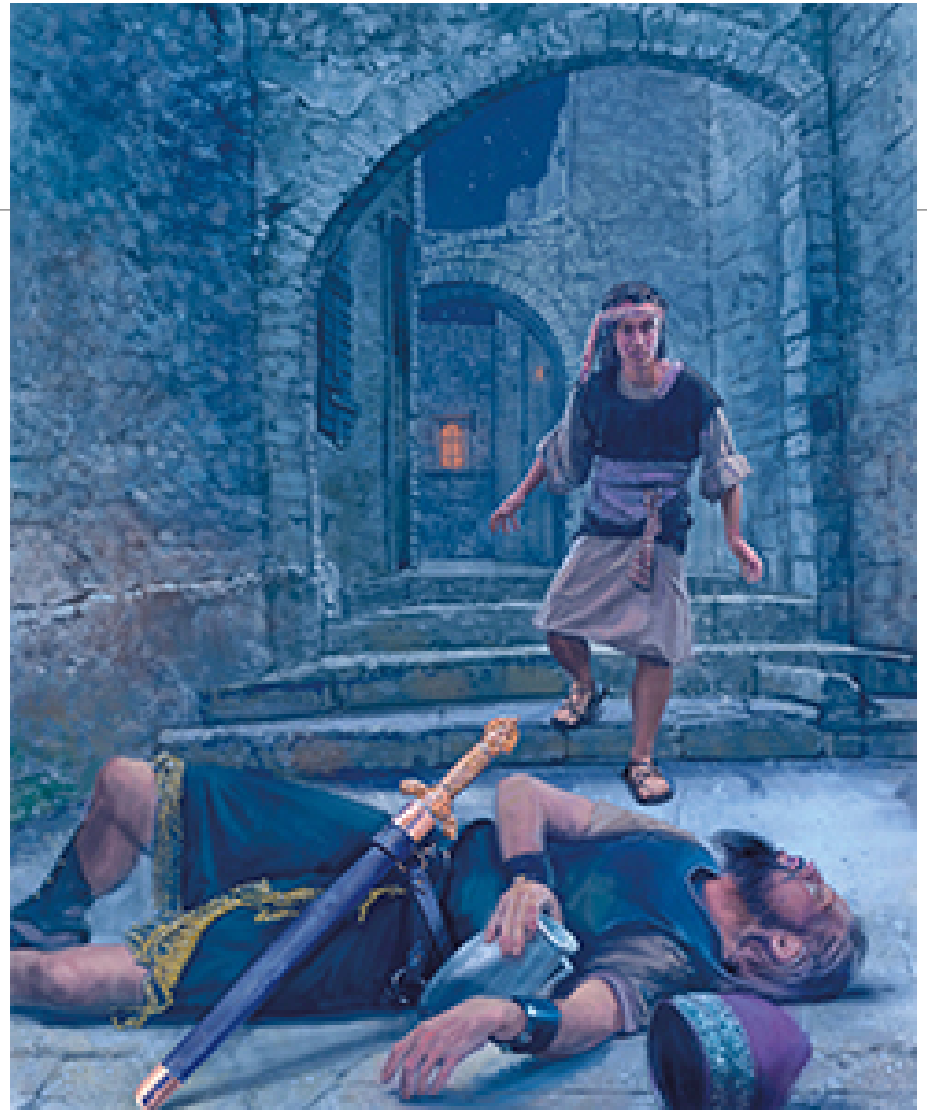
The Lord could have solved the 'plate problem' any number of ways…

Nephi had faith in the Lord's ability.

Nephi prayed for the Lord's intervention…

Why might the Lord require this of Nephi?

What was being taught?



Inventory Time!
How do I react when constrained by the spirit?

The Brass Plates

1 Nephi 5

The Mulekites

Nevertheless, they had had many wars and serious contentions, and had fallen by the sword from time to time; and their language had become corrupted;

and they had brought no records with them; *and they denied the being of their Creator*; and Mosiah, nor the people of Mosiah, could understand them."

1 Nephi 13: 20-23

And I beheld a book, and it was carried forth among them. And the angel said unto me: Knowest thou the meaning of the book? And I said unto him: I know not. And he said: Behold it proceedeth out of the mouth of a Jew. [This was the Bible]. And I, Nephi, beheld it; and he said unto me:

The book that thou beholdest is a record of the Jews, which contains the covenants of the Lord, which he hath made unto the house of Israel; and it also containeth many of the prophecies of the holy prophets;

***and it is a record like unto the engravings which are upon the plates of brass, save there are not so many*; nevertheless, they contain the covenants of the Lord, which he hath made unto the house of Israel; wherefore, they are of great worth unto the Gentiles" (See).**

2 Nephi 4: 2

And the prophecies which [Joseph] wrote, there are not many greater.

And he prophesied concerning us, and our future generations; and they are written upon the plates of brass”

Alma 37: 4, 14, 17-19

Behold, it has been prophesied by our fathers, that they [the brass plates] should be kept and handed down from one generation to another, and be kept and preserved by the hand of the Lord until they should go forth unto every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, *that they shall know of the mysteries contained thereon…*

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 unto future generations…

For he will fulfil all his promises which he shall make unto you, for he has fulfilled his promises which he has made unto our fathers. For he promised unto them that he would preserve these things for a wise purpose in him, that he might show forth his power unto future generations.

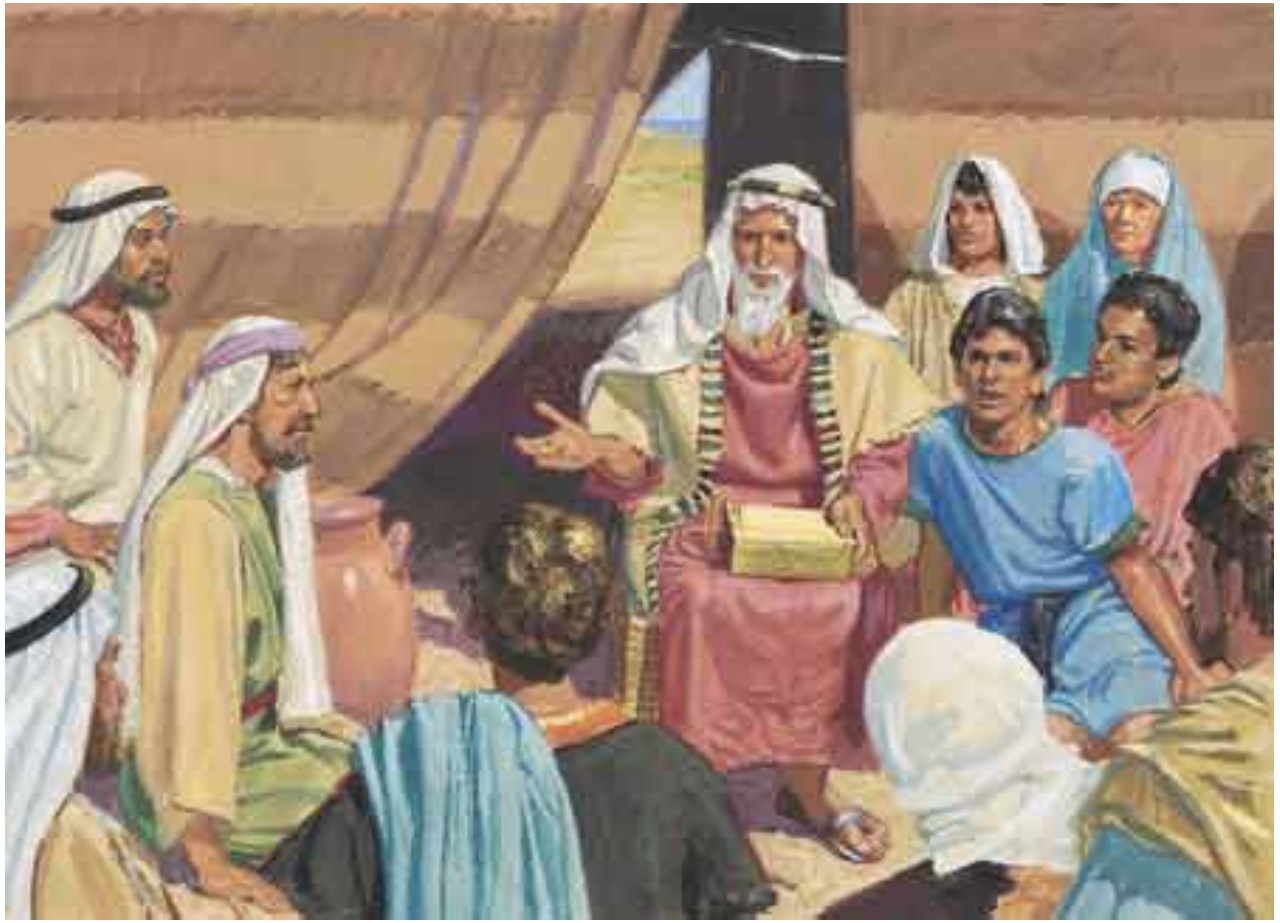
And now behold, one purpose hath he fulfilled, even to the restoration of many thousands of the Lamanites to the knowledge of the truth; and he hath shown forth his power in them, and he will also still show forth his power in them unto future generations; therefore they shall be preserved"

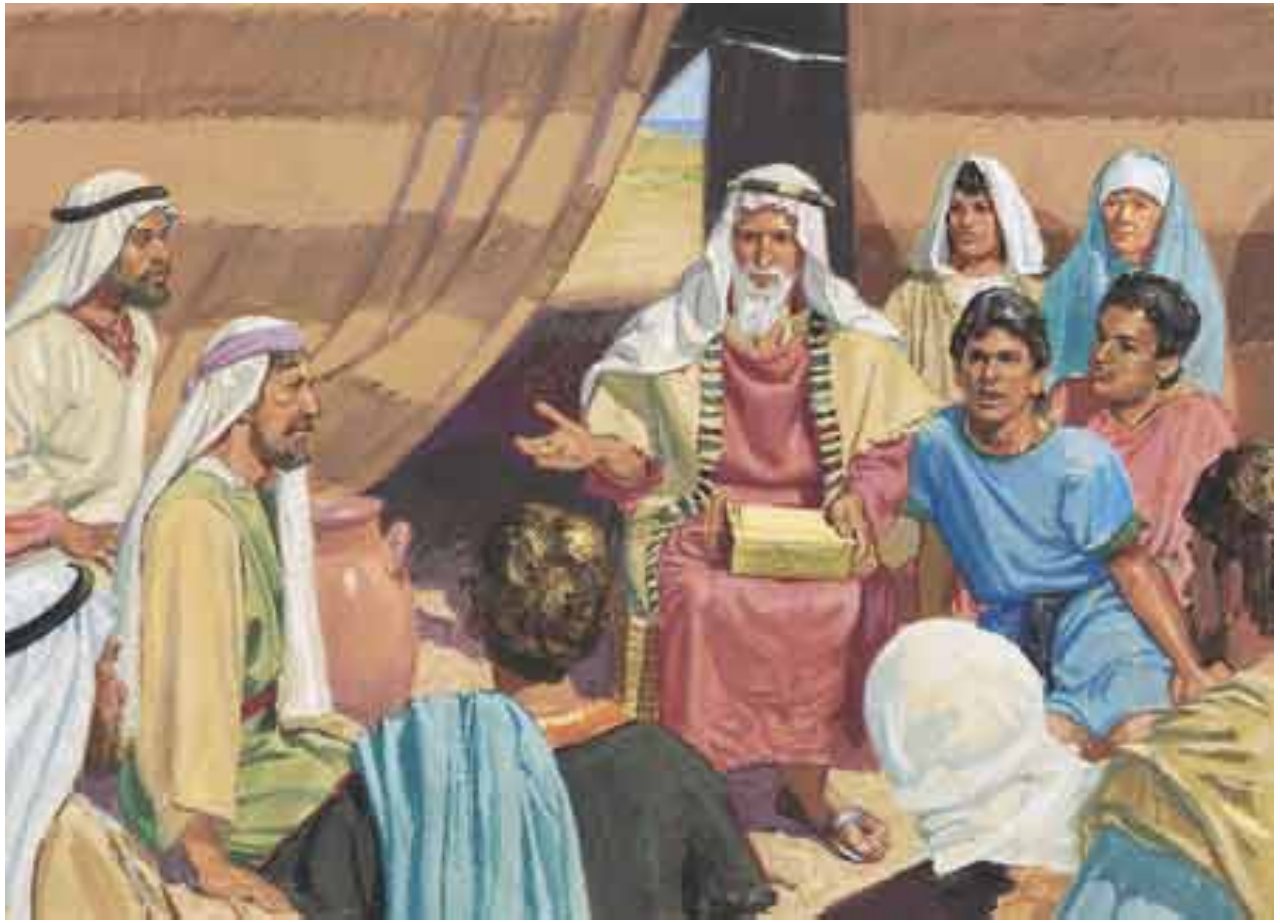
God of Abraham

1 Nephi 6:4

The Family of Ishmael

1 Nephi 7



Remembering and Forgetting

1 Nephi 7:9