

# Jacob's Temple Sermon





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# Winter Quarters, 1848

- ▶ “My name is Cowdery—Oliver Cowdery. In the history of the Church I stood ... in her councils. Not because I was better than other men was I called ... to fill the purposes of God. He called me to a high and holy calling. I wrote with my own pen the entire Book of Mormon (save a few pages) as it fell from the lips of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and he translated it by the power and gift of God, by means of the Urim and Thummim, or as it is called by that book, ‘Holy Interpreter.’
- ▶ “I beheld with my eyes and handled with my hands, the gold plates from which it was translated. ... That book is true, Sidney Rigdon did not write it; Mr. Spaulding did not write it; I wrote it myself as it fell from the lips of the Prophet. ...
- ▶ “I was present with Joseph when an Holy Angel from Heaven came down and conferred upon us ... the Aaronic Priesthood, and said to us, at the same time, that it should remain on earth while the earth stands. I was also present with Joseph when the Higher or Melchizedek Priesthood was conferred by the Holy Angels from on high. ...
- ▶ “Brethren, for a number of years, I have been separated from you. I now desire to come back. I wish to come humble and be one in your midst. I seek no station. I only wish to be identified with you. I am out of the Church, but I wish to become a member.
- ▶ I wish to come in at the door: I know the door, I have not come here to seek precedence. I come humbly and throw myself upon the decision of the body, knowing as I do, that its decisions are right.”
- ▶ (Stanley R. Gunn, *Oliver Cowdery*, Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1962, pp. 203-4.)

# Understanding Jacob

A silhouette of a person leading a camel across a desert dune at sunset. The sun is a bright orange circle in the sky, and the horizon is a dark line. The person and camel are on the right side of the dune, moving towards the left.

## Jacob 7:26

And it came to pass that I, Jacob, began to be old; ...wherefore, I conclude this record, ... by saying that the time passed away with us, and also our lives passed away like as it were unto us a dream,

we being a lonesome and a solemn people, wanderers, cast out from Jerusalem, born in tribulation, in a wilderness, and hated of our brethren, which caused wars and contentions;

wherefore, we did mourn out our days.

**Jacob and Nephi**

**Jacob 1:9**





# The Gooder Life

Jacob 1:7

Wherefore we labored  
diligently among our people,  
that we might persuade them  
to come unto Christ

And partake of the goodness of  
God, that they might enter  
into his rest.

Jacob 1:8

...that all men would believe in  
Christ, and view his death,  
and suffer his cross and bear  
the shame of the world

# Thoughts

Jacob 2:4





# Pres. Joseph F. Smith

...the education of our desires is one of far-reaching importance to our happiness in life.

God's ways of educating our desires are, of course, always the most perfect...

And what is God's way?

Everywhere in nature we are taught the lessons of patience and waiting. We want things a long time before we get them...

In nature we have our seed-time and harvest; Nature resists us and keeps admonishing us to wait; indeed, we are compelled to wait...

*Gospel Doctrine, p. 297*



A person is silhouetted against a vibrant sunset over a mountain range. The sun is a bright yellow-orange circle on the horizon, casting a warm glow across the sky. To the left, a large, dark evergreen tree stands prominently. The overall scene is peaceful and contemplative.

# Principle

Our thoughts reveal our desires; and desires dictate our decisions