

Whether the Lord will that I be translated, or that I suffer the will of the Lord in the flesh, it mattereth not, if it so be that I am saved in the kingdom of God. Amen.

THE BOOK OF MORONI

CHAPTER 1.

Moroni's desolate state—He writes, hoping for the welfare of the Lamanites.

1. Now I, Moroni, after having made an end of "abridging the account of the people of Jared, I had supposed not to have written more, but I have not as yet perished; and I make not myself known to the Lamanites lest they should destroy me.

2. For behold, their wars are "exceedingly fierce among themselves; and because of their hatred they put to death every Nephite that will not deny the Christ.

3. And I, Moroni, will not deny the Christ; wherefore, I wander whithersoever I can for the safety of mine own life.

4. Wherefore, I write a few more things, contrary to that which I had supposed; for I had supposed not to have written any more; but I write a few more things, that perhaps they may be of "worth unto my brethren, the Lamanites, in some future day, according to the will of the Lord.

CHAPTER 2.

Concerning the bestowal of the Holy Ghost by the Nephite twelve.

1. The words of Christ, which he spake unto his "disciples, the twelve whom he had chosen, as he laid his hands upon them—

2. And he called them by name, saying: Ye shall call on the Father in my name, in mighty prayer; and after ye have done this ye shall have power that to him upon whom ye shall lay your hands, "ye shall give the Holy Ghost; and in my name shall ye give it, for thus do mine apostles.

3. Now Christ spake these words unto them at the time of his first appearing; and the multitude "heard it not, but the disciples heard it; and on as many as they "laid their hands, fell the Holy Ghost.

CHAPTER 3.

Concerning the ordination of priests and teachers.

1. The manner which the "disciples, who were called the elders of the church, "ordained priests and teachers—

2. After they had prayed unto the Father in the name of Christ, they laid their hands upon them, and said:

3. In the name of Jesus Christ I ordain you to be a priest, (or, if he be a teacher) I ordain you to be a teacher, to preach repentance and remission of sins through Jesus Christ, by the endurance of faith on his name to the end. Amen.

4. And after this manner did they ordain priests and teachers, according to the gifts and callings of God unto men; and they

a, see Book of Ether. *b*, 1 Ne. 12:20—23. Morm. 5:15. *c*, 2 Ne. 3:7, 11, 12, 19—21. See *c*, 2 Ne. 27. CHAP. 2: *a*, see *c*, 3 Ne. 12. *b*, ver. 3. 3 Ne. 18:37. *c*, 3 Ne. 18:37. *d*, see *b*. CHAP. 3: *a*, see *c*, 3 Ne. 12. *b*, vers. 2—4. See *c*, Mos. 6. BETWEEN A. D. 400 AND 421.

ordained them by the ^cpower of the Holy Ghost, which was in them.

CHAPTER 4.

Mode of administering the sacramental bread.

1. The manner of their ^aelders and priests administering the ^bflesh and blood of Christ unto the church; and they administered it according to the commandments of Christ; wherefore we know the manner to be true; and the elder or priest did minister it—

2. And they did ^ckneel down with the church, and pray to the Father in the name of Christ, saying:

3. O God, the Eternal Father, we ask thee in the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this bread to the souls of all those who partake of it; that they may eat in remembrance of the ^dbody of thy Son, and witness unto thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they are willing to take upon them the ^ename of thy Son, and always remember him, and keep his commandments which he hath given them, that they may always have his Spirit to be with them. Amen.

CHAPTER 5.

Mode of administering the sacramental wine.

1. The manner of administering the wine—Behold, they took the cup, and said:

2. O God, the Eternal Father, we ask thee, in the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this wine to the souls of all those who drink of it, that they may do it in remembrance of the

^ablood of thy Son, which was shed for them; that they may witness unto thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they do always remember him, that they may have his Spirit to be with them. Amen.

CHAPTER 6.

Conditions and mode of baptism—Church discipline.

1. And now I speak concerning baptism. Behold, ^aelders, ^bpriests, and teachers were baptized; and they were not ^cbaptized save they brought forth fruit meet that they were worthy of it.

2. Neither did they receive any unto baptism save they came forth with a broken heart and a contrite spirit, and witnessed unto the church that they truly repented of all their sins.

3. And none were received unto baptism save they took upon them the ^dname of Christ, having a determination to serve him to the end.

4. And after they had been received unto baptism, and were wrought upon and cleansed by the ^epower of the Holy Ghost, they were numbered among the people of the church of Christ; and their names were taken, that they might be remembered and nourished by the good word of God, to keep them in the right way, to keep them continually watchful unto ^fprayer, relying alone upon the merits of Christ, who was the author and the finisher of their faith.

5. And the church did meet together oft, to ^gfast and to pray, and to speak one with another concerning the welfare of their souls.

c, 1 Ne. 13:37. Moro. 6:9. CHAP. 4: *a*, Moro. 3:1. *b*, see *t*, 3 Ne. 18. *c*, D. & C. 20:76. *d*, see *t*, 3 Ne. 18. *e*, see *e*, Mos. 5. CHAP. 5: *a*, see *t*, 3 Ne. 18. D. & C. 20:79. 27:2—4. CHAP. 6: *a*, Moro. 3:1. *b*, see *c*, Mos. 6. *c*, see *u*, 2 Ne. 9. *d*, see *e*, Mos. 5. *e*, see *y*, 3 Ne. 9. *f*, see *e*, 2 Ne. 32. *g*, see *t*, Mos. 27. BETWEEN A. D. 400 AND 421.

6. And they did meet together oft to ^hpartake of bread and wine, in remembrance of the Lord Jesus.

7. And they were strict to observe that there should be no iniquity among them; and whoso was found to commit iniquity, and ⁱthree witnesses of the church did condemn them before the elders, and if they repented not, and confessed not, their names were blotted out, and they were not numbered among the people of Christ.

8. But as ^joft as they repented and sought forgiveness, with real intent, they were forgiven.

9. And their meetings were conducted by the church after the manner of the workings of the Spirit, and by the power of the Holy Ghost; for as the ^kpower of the Holy Ghost led them whether to preach, or to exhort, or to pray, or to supplicate, or to sing, even so it was done.

CHAPTER 7.

Moroni presents Mormon's teachings on faith, hope, charity.

1. And now I, Moroni, write a few of the words of my father Mormon, which he spake ^lconcerning faith, hope, and charity; for after this manner did he speak unto the people, as he taught them in the ^msynagogue which they had built for the place of worship.

2. And now I, Mormon, speak unto you, my beloved brethren; and it is by the grace of God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, and his holy will, because of the ⁿgift of his calling unto me, that I am permitted to speak unto you at this time.

3. Wherefore, I would speak unto you that are of the church, that are the peaceable followers of Christ, and that have obtained a sufficient hope by which ye can enter into the rest of the Lord, from this time henceforth until ye shall rest with him in heaven.

4. And now my brethren, I judge these things of you because of your peaceable walk with the children of men.

5. For I remember the word of God, which saith ^oby their works ye shall know them; for if their works be good, then they are good also.

6. For behold, God hath said a man being evil cannot do that which is good; for if he offereth a gift, or prayeth unto God, except he shall do it with real intent it profiteth him nothing.

7. For behold, it is not counted unto him for righteousness.

8. For behold, if a man being evil giveth a gift, he doeth it grudgingly; wherefore it is counted unto him the same as if he had retained the gift; wherefore he is counted evil before God.

9. And likewise also is it counted evil unto a man, if he shall pray and not with real intent of heart; yea, and it profiteth him nothing, for God receiveth none such.

10. Wherefore, a man being evil cannot do that which is good; neither will he give a good gift.

11. For behold, a bitter fountain cannot bring forth good water; neither can a good fountain bring forth bitter water; wherefore, a man being a servant of the devil cannot follow Christ; and if he follow Christ he cannot be a servant of the devil.

h, see *b*, 3 Ne. 18. *i*, D. & C. 42:80, 81. *j*, Mos. 26:31. *k*, see *c*, Moro. 3.
 CHAP. 7: *a*, vers. 21—39, 40—44, 45—48. Eth. 12:3—37. Moro. 8:14, 26. 10:20—23.
b, see *u*, Al. 16. *c*, 3 Ne. 5:13. *d*, 3 Ne. 14:15—20. BETWEEN A. D. 400 AND 421.

12. Wherefore, 'all things which are good cometh of God; and that which is evil cometh of the devil; for the devil is an enemy unto God, and fighteth against him continually, and inviteth and enticeth to sin, and to do that which is evil continually.

13. But behold, that which is of God inviteth and enticeth to do good continually; wherefore, every thing which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to love God, and to serve him, is inspired of God.

14. Wherefore, take heed, my beloved brethren, that ye do 'not judge that which is evil to be of God, or that which is good and of God to be of the devil.

15. For behold, my brethren, it is given unto you to judge, that ye may know good from evil; and the way to judge is as plain, that ye may know with a perfect knowledge, as the daylight is from the dark night.

16. For behold, the Spirit of Christ is given to every man, that he may know good from evil; wherefore, I show unto you the way to judge; for 'every thing which inviteth to do good, and to persuade to believe in Christ, is sent forth by the power and gift of Christ; wherefore ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of God.

17. But whatsoever thing persuadeth men to do evil, and believe not in Christ, and deny him, and serve not God, then ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of the devil; for after this manner doth the devil work, for he persuadeth no man to do good, no, not one; neither do his angels; neither do they who subject themselves unto him.

18. And now, my brethren, seeing that ye know the light by which ye may judge, which light is the light of Christ, see that ye do not ^hjudge wrongfully; for with that same judgment which ye judge ye shall also be judged.

19. Wherefore, I beseech of you, brethren, that ye should search diligently in the light of Christ that ye may know good from evil; and if ye will lay hold upon every good thing, and condemn it not, ye certainly will be a child of Christ.

20. And now, my brethren, how is it possible that ye can lay hold upon every good thing?

21. And now I come to that ⁱfaith, of which I said I would speak; and I will tell you the way whereby ye may lay hold on every good thing.

22. For behold, God ^jknowing all things, ^kbeing from everlasting to everlasting, behold, he sent angels to minister unto the children of men, to make manifest concerning the coming of Christ; and in Christ there should come every good thing.

23. And God also declared unto prophets, by his own mouth, that Christ should come.

24. And behold, there were divers ways that he did manifest things unto the children of men, which were good; and all things which are good cometh of Christ; otherwise men were fallen, and there could ^lno good thing come unto them.

25. Wherefore, by the ministering of angels, and by every word which proceeded forth out of the mouth of God, men began to exercise faith in Christ; and thus by ^mfaith, they did lay hold upon every good thing; and thus

e, see *o*, Eth. 4. *f*, ver. 18. 3 Ne. 14:2. Morm. 8:19. *g*, see *o*, Eth. 4. *h*, see *f*. *i*, see *a*. *j*, see *r*, 2 Ne. 9. *k*, see *a*, Mos. 3. *l*, see *b* and *c*, 2 Ne. 2. *m*, see *a*.
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it was until the coming of Christ.

26. And after that he came men also were saved by faith in his name; and by faith, they become the sons of God. And as sure as Christ liveth he spake these words unto our fathers, saying: "Whatsoever thing ye shall ask the Father in my name, which is good, in faith believing that ye shall receive, behold, it shall be done unto you.

27. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, have miracles ceased because Christ hath ascended into heaven, and hath sat down on the right hand of God, to °claim of the Father his rights of mercy which he hath upon the children of men?

28. For he hath answered the ends of the law, and he claimeth all those who have °faith in him; and they who have faith in him will cleave unto every good thing; wherefore he °advocateth the cause of the children of men; and he dwelleth eternally in the heavens.

29. And because he hath done this, my beloved brethren, °have miracles ceased? Behold I say unto you, Nay; neither have angels °ceased to minister unto the children of men.

30. For behold, they are subject unto him, to minister according to the word of his command, showing themselves unto them of strong faith and a firm mind in every form of godliness.

31. And the office of their ministry is to call men unto repentance, and to fulfil and to do the work of the covenants of the Father, which he hath made unto the children of men, to prepare

the way among the children of men, by declaring the word of Christ unto the chosen vessels of the Lord, that they may bear testimony of him.

32. And by so doing, the Lord God prepareth the way that the residue of men may have faith in Christ, that the 'Holy Ghost may have place in their hearts, according to the power thereof; and after this manner bringeth to pass the Father, the °covenants which he hath made unto the children of men.

33. And Christ hath said: If ye will have faith in me ye shall have power to do whatsoever thing is expedient in me.

34. And he hath said: °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.

35. And now, my beloved brethren, if this be the case that these things are true which I have spoken unto you, and God will show unto you, °with power and great glory at the last day, that they are true, and if they are true has the °day of miracles ceased?

36. 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?

37. Behold I say unto you, Nay; for it is by °faith that miracles are wrought; and it is by faith that °angels appear and minister unto men; wherefore, if these things have ceased wo be unto the children of men, for it is

n, 3 Ne. 18:20. *o*, see *e*, 2 Ne. 2. *p*, see *a*. *q*, see *e*, 2 Ne. 2. *r*, see *r*, 2 Ne. 26. *s*, vers. 30—32, 36, 37. *t*, see *y*, 3 Ne. 9. *u*, see *j*, 3 Ne. 15. *v*, 3 Ne. 27:20. Eth. 4:18. *w*, see *u*, 2 Ne. 9. *x*, see *g*, 2 Ne. 33. *y*, see *r*, 2 Ne. 26. *z*, see *s*. *2a*, 1 Ne. 10:17—19. 2 Ne. 28:4. Moro. 10:4, 5, 7, 19, 24—27. *2b*, see *a*. *2c*, see *s*.

^{2d}because of unbelief, and all is vain.

38. For no man can be saved, according to the words of Christ, save they shall have faith in his name; wherefore, if these things have ceased, then has ^{2e}faith ceased also; and awful is the state of man, for they are as though there had been no redemption made.

39. But behold, my beloved brethren, I judge better things of you, for I judge that ye have faith in Christ because of your meekness; for if ye have not faith in him then ye are not fit to be numbered among the people of his church.

40. And again, my beloved brethren, I would speak unto you concerning ^{2f}hope. How is it that ye can attain unto faith, save ye shall have hope?

41. And what is it that ye shall hope for? Behold I say unto you that ye shall have hope through the ^{2g}atonement of Christ and the power of his resurrection, to be ^{2h}raised unto life eternal, and this because of your faith in him according to the promise.

42. Wherefore, if a man have faith he must needs have hope; for without faith there cannot be any hope.

43. And again, behold I say unto you that he cannot have faith and hope, save he shall be meek, and lowly of heart.

44. If so, his faith and hope is vain, for none is acceptable before God, save the meek and lowly in heart; and if a man be meek and lowly in heart, and confesses by the power of the Holy Ghost that Jesus is the Christ, he must needs have ²ⁱcharity; for if he have not charity he is nothing;

wherefore he must needs have charity.

45. And charity suffereth long, and is kind, and envieth not, and is not puffed up, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, and rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoiceth in the truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

46. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, if ye have not charity, ye are nothing, for charity never faileth. Wherefore, cleave unto charity, which is the greatest of all, for all things must fail—

47. But charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth forever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with him.

48. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart, that ye may be filled with this love, which he hath bestowed upon all who are true followers of his Son, Jesus Christ; that ye may become the sons of God; that when he shall appear we shall ^{2j}be like him, for we shall see him as he is; that we may have this hope; that we may be purified ^{2k}even as he is pure. Amen.

CHAPTER 8.

Mormon's epistle to Moroni—Little children have no need of repentance or baptism.

1. An epistle of my father Mormon, written to me, Moroni; and it was written unto me soon after my calling to the ministry. And on this wise did he write unto me, saying:

2. My beloved son, Moroni, I rejoice exceedingly that your

^{2d}, ver. 38. Moro. 10:19, 23—27. ^{2e}, see ^{2d}. ^{2f}, see ^a. ^{2g}, see ^f, 2 Ne. 2. ^{2h}, see ^d, 2 Ne. 2. ²ⁱ, see ^a. ^{2j}, 3 Ne. 27:27. 1 John 3:2. ^{2k}, 3 Ne. 19:28, 29.

Lord Jesus Christ hath been mindful of you, and hath called you to his ministry, and to his holy work.

3. I am mindful of you always in my prayers, continually praying unto God the Father in the name of his Holy Child, Jesus, that he, through his infinite goodness and grace, will keep you through the ^aendurance of faith on his name to the end.

4. And now, my son, I speak unto you concerning that which grieveth me exceedingly; for it grieveth me that there should disputations rise among you.

5. For, if I have learned the truth, there have been disputations among you concerning the ^bbaptism of your little children.

6. And now, my son, I desire that ye should labor diligently, that this gross error should be removed from among you; for, for this intent I have written this epistle.

7. For immediately after I had learned these things of you I inquired of the Lord concerning the matter. And the word of the Lord came to me by the ^cpower of the Holy Ghost, saying:

8. Listen to the words of Christ, your Redeemer, your Lord and your God. Behold, I came into the world not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance; the whole need no physician, but they that are sick; wherefore, little children are whole, for they are not capable of committing sin; wherefore the curse of Adam is ^dtaken from them in me, that it hath no power over them; and the ^elaw of circumcision is done away in me.

9. And after this manner did the Holy Ghost manifest the

word of God unto me; wherefore, my beloved son, I know that it is ^fsolemn mockery before God, that ye should baptize little children.

10. Behold I say unto you that this thing shall ye teach—repentance and baptism unto those who are accountable and capable of committing sin; yea, teach parents that they must repent and be baptized, and humble themselves as their little children, and they shall all be saved with their little children.

11. And their little children need no repentance, neither baptism. Behold, baptism is unto repentance to the fulfilling the commandments unto ^gthe remission of sins.

12. But little children are alive in Christ, even ^hfrom the foundation of the world; if not so, God is a partial God, and also a changeable God, and a respecter to persons; for how many little children have died without baptism!

13. Wherefore, if little children could not be saved without baptism, these must have gone to an endless hell.

14. Behold I say unto you, that he that supposeth that little children need baptism is in the gall of bitterness and in the bonds of iniquity; for he hath ⁱneither faith, hope, nor charity; wherefore, should he be cut off while in the thought, he must go down to ^jhell.

15. For awful is the wickedness to suppose that God saveth one child because of baptism, and the other must perish because he hath no baptism.

16. Wo be unto them that shall pervert the ways of the Lord

a, see *h*, 2 Ne. 31. *b*, vers. 9—26. *c*, see *c*, Moro. 3. *d*, see *m*, Mos. 3. *e*, Gen. 17:9—14. *f*, vers. 14, 23. See *b*. *g*, 3 Ne. 12:2. 30:2. *h*, see *d*, Mos. 4. *i*, see *a*, Moro. 7. *j*, see *k*, 1 Ne. 15.

after this manner, for they shall perish except they repent. Behold, I speak with boldness, having authority from God; and I fear not what man can do; for perfect love casteth out all fear.

17. And I am filled with charity, which is everlasting love; wherefore, all children are alike unto me; wherefore, I love little children with a perfect love; and they are all alike and ^kpartakers of salvation.

18. For I know that God is not a partial God, neither a changeable being; but he is ^lunchangeable from ^mall eternity to all eternity.

19. Little children cannot repent; wherefore, it is awful wickedness to deny the pure mercies of God unto them, for they are ⁿall alive in him because of his ^omercy.

20. And he that saith that little children need baptism denieth the mercies of Christ, and setteth at naught the ^patonement of him and the power of his redemption.

21. Wo unto such, for they are in danger of death, ^qhell, and an endless torment. I speak it boldly; God hath commanded me. Listen unto them and give heed, or they stand against you at the judgment-seat of Christ.

22. For behold that all little children are ^ralive in Christ, and also all ^sthey that are without the law. For the power of redemption cometh on all them that have no law; wherefore, he that is not condemned, or he that is under no condemnation, cannot repent; and unto such baptism availeth nothing—

23. But it is ^tmockery before God, denying the ^umercies of

Christ, and the power of his Holy Spirit, and putting trust in dead works.

24. Behold, my son, this thing ought not to be; for repentance is unto them that are under condemnation and under the curse of a broken law.

25. And the first fruits of repentance is baptism; and baptism cometh by faith unto the fulfilling the commandments; and the ^vfulfilling the commandments bringeth remission of sins;

26. And the remission of sins bringeth meekness, and lowliness of heart; and because of meekness and lowliness of heart cometh the ^wvisitation of the Holy Ghost, which Comforter filleth ^xwith hope and perfect love, which love endureth by diligence unto ^yprayer, until the end shall come, when all the saints shall dwell with God.

27. Behold, my son, I will write unto you again if I go not out soon against the Lamanites. Behold, the pride of this nation, or the people of the Nephites, hath proven their destruction except they should repent.

28. Pray for them, my son, that repentance may come unto them. But behold, I fear lest the Spirit hath ceased striving with them; and in this part of the land they are also seeking to put down all power and authority which cometh from God; and they are ^zdenying the Holy Ghost.

29. And after rejecting so great a knowledge, my son, they must perish soon, unto the fulfilling of the prophecies which were ^{aa}spoken by the prophets, as well as the words of our Savior himself.

k, see *m*, Mos. 3. *l*, see *d*, Morm. 9. *m*, see *a*, Mos. 3. *n*, ver. 22. *o*, vers. 20, 23. *p*, see *f*, 2 Ne. 2. *q*, see *k*, 1 Ne. 15. *r*, ver. 19. *s*, see *j*, Mos. 3. *t*, see *f*. *u*, vers. 19, 20, 23. *v*, see *g*. *w*, see *y*, 3 Ne. 9. *x*, see *a*, Moro. 7. *y*, see *e*, 2 Ne. 32. *z*, Al. 39:5, 6. *2a*, see *d*, 1 Ne. 12.

