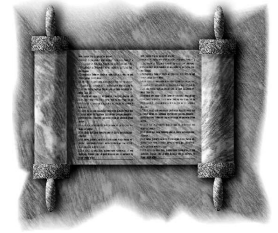
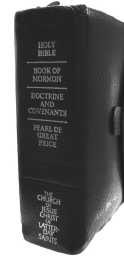
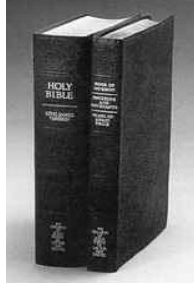


# THE STICK OF JOSEPH: ANOTHER TESTAMENT OF JESUS CHRIST



## "I KNOW ON WHOM I HAVE TRUSTED"

Lesson 7:

### INTRODUCTION

- There are four men mentioned in 2 Nephi 3 who have the same name. Who are they?

LEHI TEACHES THAT HIS DESCENDANTS WILL BE BLESSED THROUGH THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH AND THE BOOK OF MORMON. 2 Nephi 3

- What prophecy made by Joseph, did Lehi teach to his son Joseph? (2 Nephi 3:4; Genesis 30:22-24; 37:1-3, 23-28).
- Why were the covenants that Joseph of Egypt made with the Lord important to Lehi's family? (2 Nephi 3:4-5; Jacob 2:25; Genesis 45:7.)



Lehi's final council and blessing

- Who was the "choice seer" whom Joseph of Egypt saw in vision? (2 Nephi 3:6-15.)
- How did Joseph Smith "bring forth [the Lord's] word"? (2 Nephi 3:11)
- How have you been blessed because of the word of God brought forth by Joseph Smith?

- About what two records did The Lord tell Joseph of Egypt? By whose descendents would they be written? (2 Nephi 3:12).

- How have the Bible and the Book of Mormon "grow[n] together"?

- What blessings did the Lord say would come because the Bible and the Book of Mormon would "grow together"? (2 Nephi 3:12.)

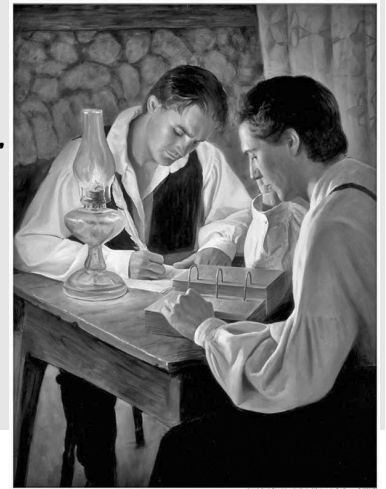
- What did the Lord promise Joseph of Egypt about his descendants and the covenants of the Lord? (2 Nephi 3:5).

- What are the roles of Joseph Smith and



the Book of Mormon in the fulfillment of these covenants? (2 Nephi 3:12-13, 18-21; 30:3-6.)

- How is this promise being fulfilled today?
- How does the Book of Mormon help you remember and keep your covenants with the Lord?
- What connects Joseph of Egypt, Lehi's son Joseph, and Joseph Smith, in addition to their name? (2 Nephi 3:4-7, 11-12, 18-21)



NEPHI LAMENTS HIS SINFULNESS BUT GLORIES IN THE GOODNESS OF GOD. 2 Nephi 4

- Nephi said, "My soul delighteth in the things of the Lord; and my heart pondereth [them] continually" (2 Nephi 4:16). What specific things did Nephi say he delighted in? (2 Nephi 4:15-16.)
- What does it mean to ponder?
- What can we do to make time to ponder the things of the Lord?
- How can pondering the things of the Lord help us?
- What words would you use to describe Nephi?
- Why made Nephi say that he was a "wretched man" whose "soul grieveth because of [his] iniquities"? (2 Nephi 4:17, 27; 1 Nephi 10:6.)
- Why is it important to recognize our fallen nature before God?
- How did Nephi find hope despite feeling "encompassed about" by temptation and sin? (2 Nephi 4:18-19.)
- How had the Lord helped Nephi in the past? (2 Nephi 4:20-25)
- When have you received similar blessings from the Lord?
- How can remembering blessings you have received in the past help you through difficult times?

- Nephi asked himself why he yielded to sorrow and sin in spite of the things that he had seen and the things that he knew (2 Nephi 4:26-27). What was he referring to?
- Why do we sometimes struggle with sorrow and

**temptation despite our knowledge of the gospel?**

- **What can Nephi's psalm teach us about overcoming sorrow and temptation?** (2 Nephi 4:28-30.)
- In the first part of his psalm, Nephi's words were directed toward himself (2 Nephi 4:15-30). The conclusion of the psalm was a prayer (2 Nephi 4:30-35).
- **What did Nephi ask of Heavenly Father in this prayer?** (2 Nephi 4:31-33)
- **How does the Lord "deliver [us] out of the hands of [our] enemies"?** (2 Nephi 4:31, 33.)
- **What does it mean to "shake at the appearance of sin"?** (2 Nephi 4:31; Mosiah 5:2; Alma 13:12.)
- **What do you think it means to "walk in the path of the low valley" and "be strict in the plain road"?** (2 Nephi 4:32).
- **What do you think it means for the Lord to "encircle [us] around in the robe of [His] righteousness"?** (2 Nephi 4:33).
- In his prayer, what did Nephi promise to do? (2 Nephi 4:30, 34-35. He promised to trust God and praise Him forever.)
- **What did Nephi mean when he said, "I will not put my trust in the arm of flesh"?** (2 Nephi 4:34; 28:31.)
- What are some ways that people "trust in the arm of flesh"?
- What are the dangers of this?
- **What can we do to increase our trust in the Lord?**

**THE ANGER OF LAMAN AND LEMUEL INCREASES AGAINST NEPHI, AND THE LORD COMMANDS THE FOLLOWERS OF NEPHI TO SEPARATE FROM THE FOLLOWERS OF LAMAN. 2 Nephi 5**

- **Why were Laman and Lemuel angry toward Nephi?** (2 Nephi 4:13; 5:3.)
- What did Laman and Lemuel seek to do as a result of their increasing anger? (2 Nephi 5:2, 4. 2 Nephi 4:27-29.)
- **What are some dangers of increasing anger?**
- **What can we do to be peacemakers in the home, the community, and the Church?**
- Because of the anger of his brothers, Nephi prayed for help (2 Nephi 5:1). **How did the Lord answer his prayers?** (2 Nephi 5:5.)

- When Nephi and his people had departed, they "lived after the manner of happiness" (2 Nephi 5:27). **What did they do that contributed to their happiness?** (2 Nephi 5:10-17.)
- **How can the Nephites' example help us as we strive to live "after the manner of happiness"?**

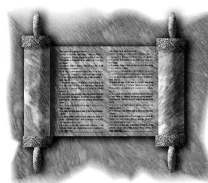
**"AWAKE, MY SOUL! ... REJOICE, O MY HEART" (2 Nephi 4:28)**

- **When we feel discouraged, What are some things we can do to overcome these feelings of discouragement that are found in Nephi's psalm and his example?** Chapters 4 and 5

Scripture	Suggestion
(2 Nephi 4:15)	
(2 Nephi 4:16).	
(2 Nephi 4:20-21, 34)	
(2 Nephi 4:24)	
(2 Nephi 5:15, 17)	
(2 Nephi 5:16).	

**Conclusion**

Soon after Lehi's death, "Laman and Lemuel and the sons of Ishmael were angry with [Nephi] because of the admonitions of the Lord" (2 Nephi 4:13). As Nephi wrote of these continuing difficulties, he recorded his feelings in a passage that is sometimes called "the Psalm of Nephi." As Nephi said, we can overcome trials if we turn to the Lord. In his testimony He said that the Lord had Been his support (2 Nephi 4:20). The Lord had Led Nephi through afflictions in the wilderness (2 Nephi 4:20). He had Filled him with His love (2 Nephi 4:21), had Confounded his enemies (2 Nephi 4:22) and He had heard his cry (2 Nephi 4:23). By Staying with the Lord, He had given him knowledge by visions (2 Nephi 4:23). All we who hold to the Rock of Salvation will, like Nephi, receive these things.



*Like with Nephi, the Lord watches over us in our times of despair.*