

An Angel Came to Joseph Smith

Scripture Connection

1st Verse - Joseph Smith

Read: Joseph Smith History 1: 30, 34, 52, 59

30 While I was thus in the act of calling upon God, I discovered a light appearing in my room, which continued to increase until the room was lighter than at noonday, when immediately a personage appeared at my bedside, standing in the air, for his feet did not touch the floor.

34 He said there was a book deposited, written upon gold plates, giving an account of the former inhabitants of this continent, and the source from whence they sprang. He also said that the fulness of the everlasting Gospel was contained in it, as delivered by the Savior to the ancient inhabitants;

52 Having removed the earth, I obtained a lever, which I got fixed under the edge of the stone, and with a little exertion raised it up. I looked in, and there indeed did I behold the plates, the Urim and Thummim, and the breastplate, as stated by the messenger. The box in which they lay was formed by laying stones together in some kind of cement. In the bottom of the box were laid two stones crossways of the box, and on these stones lay the plates and the other things with them.

59 At length the time arrived for obtaining the plates, the Urim and Thummim, and the breastplate. On the twenty-second day of September, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, having gone as usual at the end of another year to the place where they were deposited, the same heavenly messenger delivered them up to me with this charge: that I should be responsible for them; that if I should let them go carelessly, or through any neglect of mine, I should be cut off; but that if I would use all my endeavors to preserve them, until he, the messenger, should call for them, they should be protected.

Discuss these questions:

- Why did an angel come to Joseph Smith? (See verse 30) _____
- What was written on the plates? (See verse 34) _____
- What did Joseph Smith find with the plates? (See verse 52) _____
- What warning did the angel give Joseph? (See verse 59) _____

Be prepared to share a summary of the scriptures – what happened, why, and anything else you found interesting or learned.

As a class lead: 1st verse of An Angel Came to Joseph Smith.

*“An angel came to Joseph Smith, and from the ground he took,
a sacred record hidden there, a precious, holy book.”*

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2nd Verse: Lehi's People

Read: 1 Nephi 16: 10, 16, 28; 1 Nephi 17:13; 1 Nephi 18: 22-23

10 And it came to pass that as my father arose in the morning, and went forth to the tent door, to his great astonishment he beheld upon the ground a round ball of curious workmanship; and it was of fine brass. And within the ball were two spindles; and the one pointed the way whither we should go into the wilderness.

16 And we did follow the directions of the ball, which led us in the more fertile parts of the wilderness.

28 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the pointers which were in the ball, that they did work according to the faith and diligence and heed which we did give unto them.

13 And I will also be your light in the wilderness; and I will prepare the way before you, if it so be that ye shall keep my commandments; wherefore, inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments ye shall be led towards the promised land; and ye shall know that it is by me that ye are led.

22 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, did guide the ship, that we sailed again towards the promised land.

23 And it came to pass that after we had sailed for the space of many days we did arrive at the promised land; and we went forth upon the land, and did pitch our tents; and we did call it the promised land.

Discuss these questions:

- How did the Liahona help Lehi's family? (See verse 10, 16) _____
 - Did the Liahona always work? What made it work? (See verse 28) _____
 - Who guided Lehi's family to the Promised Land? (See verse 13) _____
 - How do you think Lehi's family felt when they arrived at the Promised Land? _____
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Be prepared to share a summary of the scriptures – what happened, why, and anything else you found interesting or learned.

As a class lead: 2nd verse of An Angel Came to Joseph Smith.

*"It tells of people long ago, led by the Lord's own hand,
who left their homes and crossed the sea, to reach a favored land."*

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3rd Verse – Nephites & Lamanites

Read: 4th Nephi 1: 1, 2, 12, 15, 18

1 And it came to pass that the thirty and fourth year passed away, and also the thirty and fifth, and behold the disciples of Jesus had formed a church of Christ in all the lands round about. And as many as did come unto them, and did truly repent of their sins, were baptized in the name of Jesus; and they did also receive the Holy Ghost.

2 And it came to pass in the thirty and sixth year, the people were all converted unto the Lord, upon all the face of the land, both Nephites and Lamanites, and there were no contentions and disputations among them, and every man did deal justly one with another.

12 And they did not walk any more after the performances and ordinances of the law of Moses; but they did walk after the commandments which they had received from their Lord and their God, continuing in fasting and prayer, and in meeting together oft both to pray and to hear the word of the Lord.

15 And it came to pass that there was no contention in the land, because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people.

18 And how blessed were they! For the Lord did bless them in all their doings; yea, even they were blessed and prospered until an hundred and ten years had passed away; and the first generation from Christ had passed away, and there was no contention in all the land.

Discuss these questions:

- What ordinance did the people take upon themselves? (See verse 1) _____
- Who was converted? Was anyone not converted? (See verse 2) _____
- What law and practices did they follow? (See verse 12) _____
- How does keeping the commandments bring us happiness? _____

Be prepared to share a summary of the scriptures – what happened, why, and anything else you found interesting or learned.

As a class lead: 3rd verse of An Angel Came to Joseph Smith.

*“The Nephites and the Lamanites, and all who came to dwell,
had peace when they obeyed the Lord, the sacred record tells.”*

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4th Verse – People Today

Read: 3 Nephi 11: 10, 14-15; The final Conference Address of President Thomas S. Monson

10 Behold, I am Jesus Christ, whom the prophets testified shall come into the world.

14 Arise and come forth unto me, that ye may thrust your hands into my side, and also that ye may feel the prints of the nails in my hands and in my feet, that ye may know that I am the God of Israel, and the God of the whole earth, and have been slain for the sins of the world.

15 And it came to pass that the multitude went forth, and thrust their hands into his side, and did feel the prints of the nails in his hands and in his feet; and this they did do, going forth one by one until they had all gone forth, and did see with their eyes and did feel with their hands, and did know of a surety and did bear record, that it was he, of whom it was written by the prophets, that should come.

We live in a time of great trouble and wickedness. What will protect us from the sin and evil so prevalent in the world today? I maintain that a strong testimony of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and of His gospel will help see us through to safety. If you are not reading the Book of Mormon each day, please do so. If you will read it prayerfully and with a sincere desire to know the truth, the Holy Ghost will manifest its truth to you. If it is true—and I solemnly testify that it *is*—then Joseph Smith was a prophet who saw God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.

If you do not have a firm testimony of these things, do that which is necessary to obtain one. It is essential for you to have your own testimony in these difficult times, for the testimonies of others will carry you only so far. However, once obtained, a testimony needs to be kept vital and alive through continued obedience to the commandments of God and through daily prayer and scripture study. - President Thomas S. Monson, "The Power of the Book of Mormon"

Discuss these questions:

- What do these scriptures teach us about the Savior's love for all people? _____
- Why is a testimony of the Savior so important? _____
- How can we gain a testimony of the Savior? _____
- What 3 things can we do daily to protect us? _____

Be prepared to share a summary of the scriptures and conference address. What did you learn and what can you teach the other kids in primary from these passages?

As a class lead: 4th verse of An Angel Came to Joseph Smith.

*"And now I'll read the sacred book, and then I'll understand,
that Heav'nly Father loves us all, in each and ev'ry land."*