



# The Gospel Doctrine Class



Book of Mormon - Lesson 17

A Seer ... Becometh a Great Benefit

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*“Wo be unto this people, for I have seen their abominations, and their wickedness, and their whoredoms; and except they repent I will visit them in mine anger” (Mosiah 11:20)*

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## Mosiah 7-11

*A study of this lesson will encourage us to follow the counsel of Church leaders, particularly those whom the Lord has called as prophets, seers, and revelators.*

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Elder Delbert L. Stapley: “Should any individual or group deprecate or deal loosely with temporal, moral, and spiritual basics, the blessings of heaven will not abide with them. We cannot go along with the crowd and do as they do. We choose to be different because we are different. To be worldly minded separates us from heavenly blessings and opportunities for true happiness and peace.” (Conference Report, April 1965, p26)

Elder Bruce R. McConkie: “A seer is a prophet selected and appointed to possess and use these holy interpreters. (Mosiah 8:13; 28:16.) Joseph Smith, the great seer of latter-days (2 Ne. 3:6-11; D. & C. 21:1; 124:125; 127:12; 135:3), for instance, translated the Book of Mormon and received many revelations by means of the Urim and Thummim.” (Mormon Doctrine, p700)

Elder Bruce R. McConkie: “The President of the Church holds the office of seership. (D. & C. 107:92; 124:94, 125.) Indeed, the apostolic office itself is one of seership, and the members of the Council of the Twelve, together with the Presidency and Patriarch to the Church, are chosen and sustained as prophets, seers, and revelators to the Church.” (Mormon Doctrine, p701)

Elder Boyd K. Packer: “The scriptures speak of prophets as ‘watch[men] upon the tower’ who see ‘the enemy while he [is] yet afar off’ and who have ‘beheld things which were not visible to the natural eye...[for] a seer hath the Lord raised up unto his people.’

“[Many years ago] the Brethren warned us of the disintegration of the family and told us to prepare.... The weekly family home evening was introduced by the First Presidency.... Parents are provided with excellent materials for teaching their children, with a promise that the faithful will

be blessed.

“While the doctrines and revealed organization remain unchanged, all agencies of the Church have been reshaped in their relationship to one another and the home.... The entire curriculum of the Church was overhauled--based on scriptures.... and years were spent preparing new editions of the Bible, the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price....

“We can only imagine where we would be if we were just now reacting to [the] terrible redefinition of the family. But that is not the case. We are not casting frantically about, trying to decide what to do. We know what to do and what to teach....

“The course we follow is not of our own making. The plan of salvation, the great plan of happiness, was revealed to us, and the prophets and Apostles continue to receive revelation as the Church and its members stand in need of more.” (Ensign, May 1994, p20)

President Spencer W. Kimball: “The Lord has blessed us as a people with a prosperity unequalled in times past. The resources that have been placed in our power are good, and necessary to our work here on the earth. But I am afraid that many of us have been surfeited with flocks and heads and acres and barns and wealth and have begun to worship them as false gods, and they have power over us. Do we have more of these good things than our faith can stand? Many people spend most of their time working in the service of a self-image that includes sufficient money, stocks, bonds, investment portfolios, property, credit cards, furnishings, automobiles, and the like to guarantee carnal security throughout, it is hoped, a long and happy life....

“As the Lord himself said in our day, ‘They seek not the Lord to establish his righteousness, but every man walketh in his own way, and after the image of his own god, whose image is the likeness of the world, and whose substance is that of an idol, which waxeth old and shall perish in Babylon, even Babylon the great, which shall fall.’ (D&C 1:16)” (Teachings of Spencer W. Kimball, pp357-358)

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**Next Week's Reading Assignment**

Mosiah 12-17

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