

# Moroni 7–8, 10: Moroni’s Last Words

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## Quotes

- Dear God, Last Christmas I asked you for a baby sister. This Christmas I want you to take her back.
- Don’t cry because it’s over, ... smile because it happened.
- Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don’t matter and those who matter don’t mind.
- Please don’t nag yourself with thoughts of failure. Do not set goals beyond your capacity to achieve. Simply do what you can do, in the best way you know, and the Lord will accept your effort. (Gordon B. Hinckley)

## Lucky “Guesses” in the 1830 Book of Mormon

- “**IF** he saith unto the earth move **AND** it is moved” (Hel. 12:13)
- “**IF** ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, **AND** he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost” (Moro. 10:4)

## 1. Sacrament Prayers (Moro. 4–5)

Bread	Water
O God, the Eternal Father, we ask thee in the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this (bread/wine) to the souls of all those who (partake/drink) of it; that they may (eat/do it) in remembrance of the (body/blood) of thy Son (.../which was shed for them;)	(and/that they may) witness unto thee, O God, the Eternal Father,
that they <i>are willing to</i>	that they <i>do</i>
take upon them the name of thy Son, and always remember him, and keep his commandments which he hath given them,	always remember him,
that they may (always/...) have his Spirit to be with them. Amen.	

## 2. “Peaceable followers of Christ” (7:3–4)

<sup>3</sup>I would speak unto you ... 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 ... until ye shall rest with him in heaven. ... <sup>4</sup>I judge these things of you because of your peaceable walk with the children of men.

## 3. “Real Intent” (7:5–8)

<sup>5</sup>By their works ye shall know them; for if their works be good, then they are good also. <sup>6</sup>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.

For behold, it is not counted unto him for righteousness. <sup>8</sup>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

<sup>9</sup>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.

## 4. How to Judge (7:12–17)

<sup>12</sup>The devil ... inviteth and enticeth to sin, and to do ... evil continually. <sup>13</sup>But ... 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. <sup>14</sup>Wherefore, take heed ... 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. <sup>15</sup>For behold ... it is given unto you to judge, that ye may know good from evil; and the way to judge is as plain. ... <sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>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; ...

## 5. Why judge? (7:18–19)

<sup>18</sup>See that ye do not judge wrongfully; for with that same judgment which ye judge ye shall also be judged. <sup>19</sup>Wherefore, ... 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.

## 6. “Lay hold upon every good thing” (7:20–25)

<sup>20</sup>How is it possible that ye can lay hold upon every good thing? ... <sup>22</sup>God knowing all things ... 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. <sup>23</sup>And God also declared unto prophets, by his own mouth, that Christ should come. ... <sup>25</sup>Wherefore, ... by every word which proceeded forth out of the mouth of God, men began to exercise faith in Christ; and thus by faith, they did lay hold upon every good thing.

## 7. Role of angels (7:30–32)

<sup>30</sup>[Angels] are subject unto [Christ], 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. <sup>31</sup>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...; 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. <sup>32</sup>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...; and after this manner bringeth to pass the Father, the covenants which he hath made unto ... men.

## 8. Faith, power, miracles (7:33, 37)

<sup>33</sup>Christ hath said: If ye will have faith in me ye shall have power to do whatsoever thing is expedient in me. ... <sup>37</sup>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 ... men, for it is because of unbelief, and all is vain.

	FAITH IN CHRIST	Opposite
<b>Mind</b>	Believe his words	Doubt, unbelief
<b>Heart</b>	Confidence/trust/willingly	Fear/grudgingly/enmity/hard
<b>Body</b>	Obey words/promptsings	Disobey
<b>Might</b>	Consecrate/Sacrifice	Not sacrifice/consecrate

## 9. Hope (7:40–42)

<sup>40</sup>How is it that you can attain unto faith, save ye shall have hope? <sup>41</sup>And what is it that ye shall hope for? ... Ye shall have hope through the atonement of Christ and the power of his resurrection, to be raised unto life eternal, and this because of your faith in him according to the promise. <sup>42</sup>Wherefore, if a man have faith he must needs have hope; for without faith there cannot be any hope.

## 10. Charity (7:43–47)

<sup>43</sup> [A man] cannot have faith and hope, save he shall be meek, and lowly of heart. ... <sup>44</sup> 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 charity; ... <sup>45</sup>

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.

<sup>46</sup> 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—

<sup>47</sup> 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. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart, that ye may be filled with this love.

### What does “of” mean?

Phrase	Meaning	Pure love of Christ
House <i>of</i> God	= God’s house	Christ’s love
Gift <i>of</i> God	= Gift from God	Love from Christ
Fear <i>of</i> God	= Fear God	Love Christ

## 11. Infant Baptism (8:8–9)

<sup>8</sup> Listen to the words of Christ, your Redeemer. ... 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 taken from them in me, that it hath no power over them; and the law of circumcision is done away in me. <sup>9</sup> And after this manner did the Holy Ghost manifest the word of God unto me; wherefore ... I know that it is solemn mockery before God, that ye should baptize little children.

## 12. Wickedness of Nephites (Moro 9) no faith, hope, charity

## 13. Moroni’s Promise (10:2–4)

<sup>2</sup> I seal up these records. ... <sup>3</sup> I would exhort you that when ye shall read these things, ... that ye would remember how merciful the Lord hath been unto the children of men, from the creation of Adam even down until the time that ye shall receive these things, and ponder it in your hearts.

<sup>4</sup> And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost.

## 14. Gifts of the Spirit (10:9–18, 30)

<sup>9</sup> Teach the word of wisdom; ... <sup>10</sup> teach the word of knowledge; ... <sup>11</sup> exceedingly great faith; ... the gifts of healing ... <sup>12</sup> work mighty miracles; ... <sup>13</sup> prophesy concerning all things; ... <sup>14</sup> the beholding of angels and ministering spirits; ... <sup>15</sup> all kinds of tongues; ... <sup>16</sup> the interpretation of languages. <sup>17</sup> And all these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ; and they come unto every man severally, according as he will. <sup>18</sup> And I would exhort you, ... that ye remember that every good gift cometh of Christ. ... <sup>30</sup> And ... that ye would come unto Christ, and lay hold upon every good gift, and touch not the evil gift, nor the unclean thing.

## 15. Perfect in Christ (10:32–33)

<sup>32</sup> Come unto Christ, and be perfected in him, and deny yourselves of all ungodliness; and if ye shall deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and love God with all your might, mind and strength, then is his grace sufficient for you, that by his grace ye may be perfect in Christ; ... <sup>33</sup> And again, if ye by the grace of God are perfect in Christ, and deny not his power, then are ye sanctified in Christ by the grace of God, through the shedding of the blood of Christ, which is in the covenant of the Father unto the remission of your sins, that ye become holy, without spot.

## 16. How do these chapters apply to us?

### Questions

1. Could a 23 year old young man have written this book?
2. How do these things apply to me now in my circumstances?
3. As I read these chapters, how do I feel?
4. Do they invite and entice me to love God, and do good?
5. As I read, do I “remember how merciful the Lord hath been, and ponder it in [my] heart” and ask God if it is true?

### Quotes

**Neal A. Maxwell:** The Book of Mormon will be with us ‘as long as the earth shall stand.’ We need all that time to explore it, for the book is like a vast mansion with gardens, towers, courtyards, and wings. There are rooms yet to be entered, with flaming fireplaces waiting to warm us. The rooms glimpsed so far contain further furnishings and rich detail yet to be savored, but decor dating from Eden is evident. There are panels inlaid with incredible insights, particularly insights about the great question\*. Yet we as Church members sometimes behave like hurried tourists, scarcely venturing beyond the entry hall.” (*Not My Will, but Thine*, 33) \* “the great question ... is whether the word be in the Son of God, or whether there shall be no Christ. (Al. 34:5-6)

**Ezra Taft Benson:** The Book of Mormon is studied ... every fourth year. This four-year pattern, however, must *not* be followed by Church members in their personal and family study. We need to read daily from the pages of the book that will get a man ‘nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book’ (HC 4:461) (*Ensign*, Nov 1988, 4).

**Jeffrey R. Holland:** The Savior said, ‘Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. ... Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid’ (John 14:27). I submit to you, that may be one of the Savior’s commandments that is, even in the hearts of otherwise faithful Latter-day Saints, almost universally disobeyed; and yet I wonder whether our resistance to this invitation could be any more grievous to the Lord’s merciful heart. I can tell you this as a parent: as concerned as I would be if somewhere in their lives one of my children were seriously troubled or unhappy or disobedient, nevertheless I would be infinitely more devastated if I felt that at such a time that child could not trust me to help or thought his or her interest was unimportant to me or unsafe in my care. In that same spirit, I am convinced that none of us can appreciate how deeply it wounds the loving heart of the Savior of the world when he finds that his people do not feel confident in his care or secure in his hands or trust in his commandments (“Come unto Me,” *Ensign*, Apr. 1998, 19).

**Boyd K. Packer:** I have thought that the last phrase, ‘every man severally, according as he will,’ [Moro. 10:17] refers to the man himself. If a man wills that the gift should come to him, and he desires it, the gift shall be his. (*Teach Ye Diligently*, 20)