

A large crowd of people in a desert camp, with a prominent wooden tower structure on the left. The scene is set during a golden hour, with a warm, hazy light. The tower has two levels, with a person standing on the top level. The crowd is dense, and many tents are visible in the background.

17

BENJAMIN

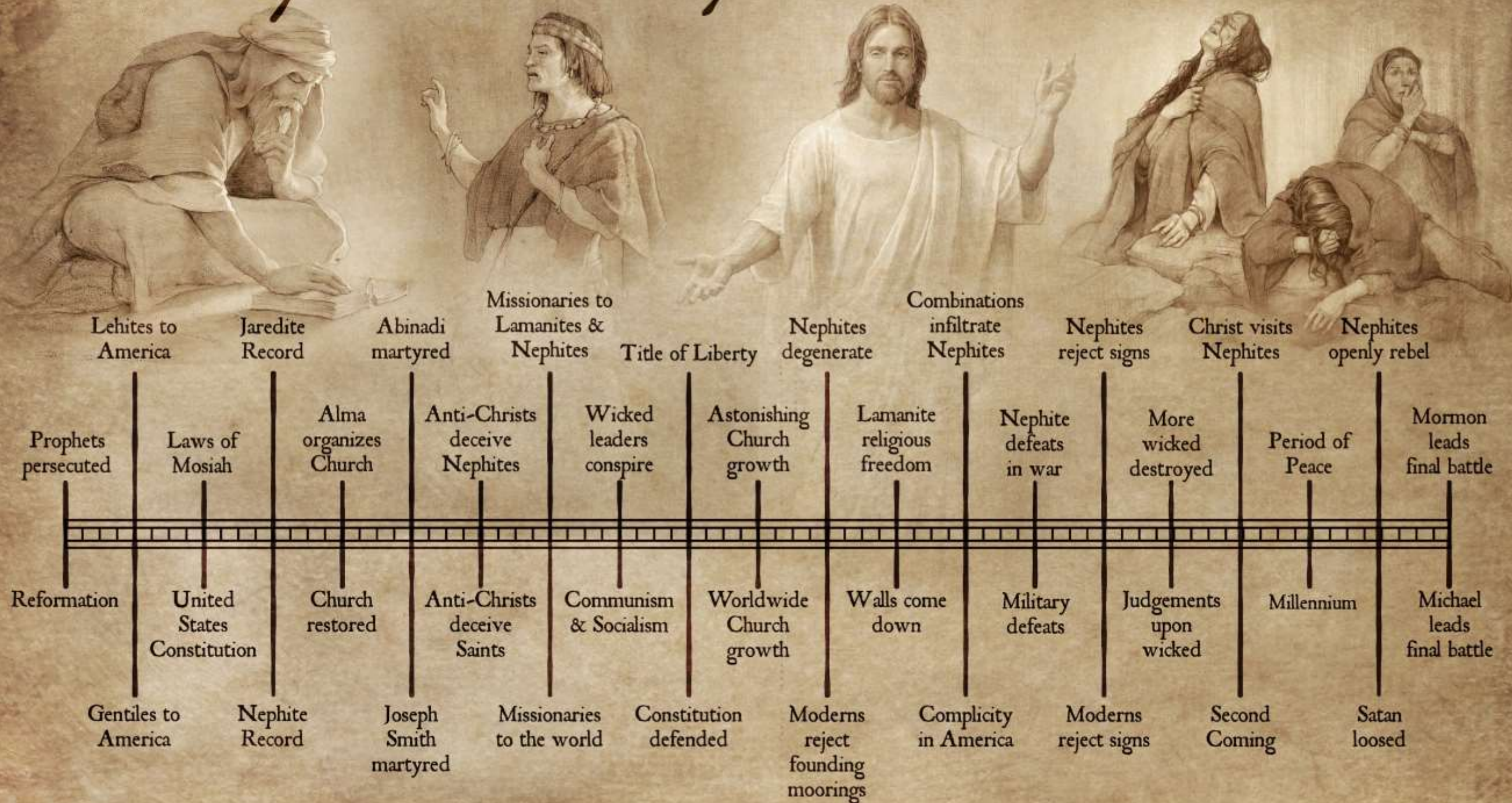
NOBLE KING, FATHER, &
"SON OF THE RIGHT HAND"

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**BENJAMIN:
NOBLE KING,
FATHER, &
“SON OF THE
RIGHT HAND”**

Book of Mormon Prophetic Parallels Timeline



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Art by Joseph F. Brickey
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KEYS TO INTERPRETING PARALLELS

- Use **periods** and **themes** as opposed to absolute dates.
- Find the beauty in multiple **layers** of depth, **symbolism**, **foreshadowing**, and other forms of Hebraic writing.
- Use the writings of **latter-day prophets** and other **scripture** to correctly interpret and provide commentary on the signs of the times, doctrine, and principles.



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**MORMON OPENS
WITH A RIGHTEOUS
PATRIARCHAL
FATHER & KING**



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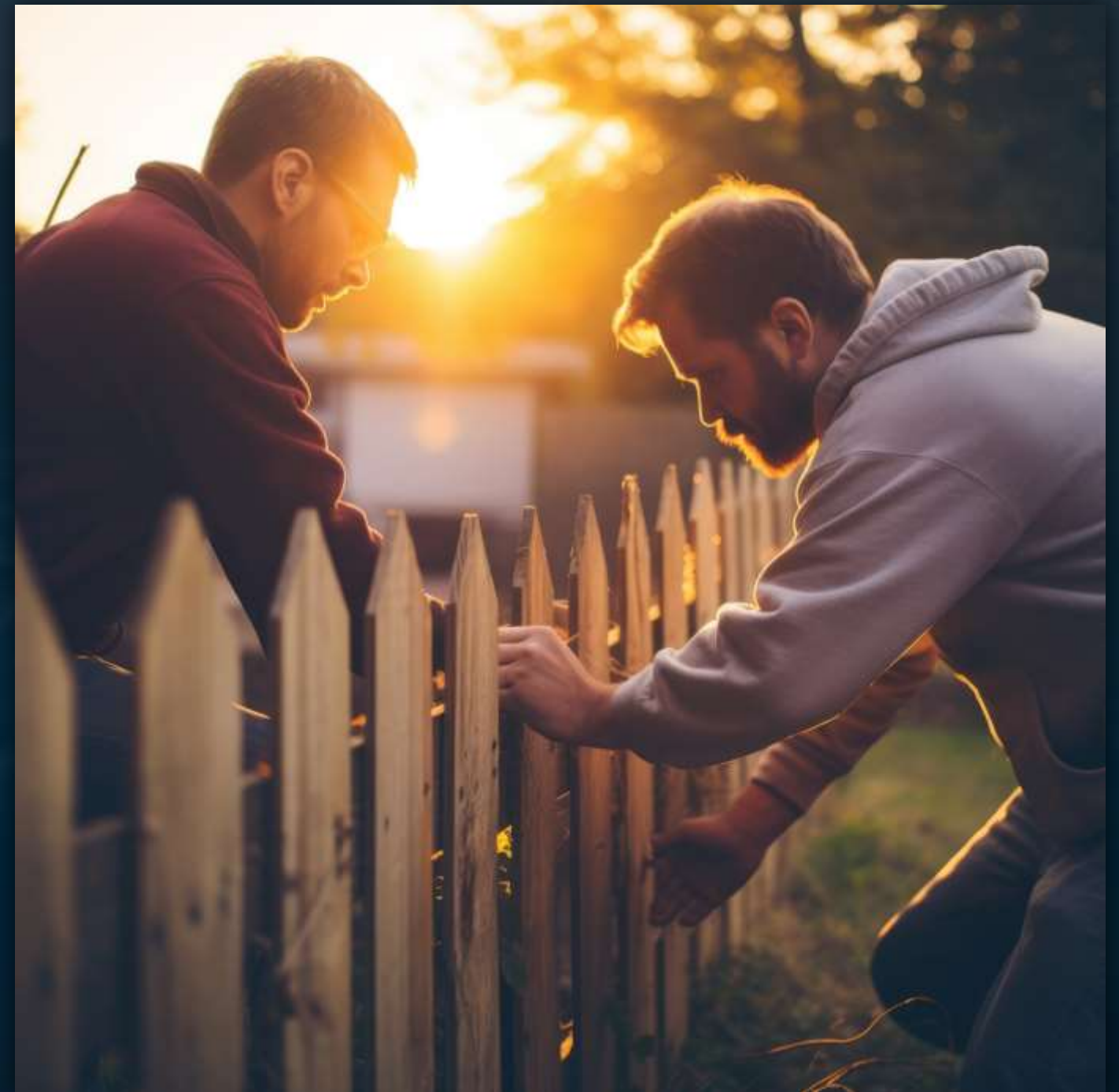
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#1: GIVES UP LIFE TO SACRIFICE & SERVICE

- “. . . Benjamin gathered together his armies, and he did stand against them; and he did fight with the **strength of his own arm**, with the sword of Laban.” (Words of Mormon 1:13)
- “. . . [I] have been kept and preserved by his matchless power, to **serve you** with **all** the **might, mind** and **strength** which the Lord hath granted unto me.” (Mosiah 2:11)
- “. . . I, myself, have labored with mine **own hands** that I might **serve** you, and that ye should **not** be laden with **taxes** . . .” (Mosiah 2:14)



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#2: COURAGEOUSLY STANDS TO DEFEND TRUTH IN LOVE WITHOUT COMPROMISE



- “. . . there had been false Christs, and their **mouths** had been **shut**, and they **punished** according to their crimes . . .” (Words of Mormon 1:15)
- “. . . there had been false prophets, and false preachers and teachers among the people, and all these having been **punished** according to their crimes . . .” (Words of Mormon 1:16)
- “. . . king Benjamin, by laboring with **all** the **might** of his **body** and the **faculty** of his **whole soul**, and also the prophets, did once more **establish peace** in the land.” (Words of Mormon 1:18)

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#3: UNDERSTANDS HOW TO PRACTICALLY USE SCRIPTURE TO REFORM HOMES & SOCIETY



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#4: RAISES SONS WHO CARRY ON LORD'S WORK

- “. . . he caused that [his sons] should be **taught** in all the **language** of his **fathers**, that thereby they might become men of **understanding**; and that they might know concerning the **prophecies** which had been spoken by the mouths of their **fathers** . . .” (Mosiah 1:2)
- “. . . he also taught them concerning the **records** which were engraven on the **plates of brass** . . .” (Mosiah 2:3, 7)



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MOSIAH CARRIES ON HIS FATHER’S WORK

- “. . . Mosiah did **walk** in the **ways** of the **Lord** . . . he also, himself, did **till** the earth, that thereby he might not become burdensome to his people, that he might **do** according to that which **his father had done in all things.**” (Mosiah 6:4, 7)
- “. . . [Mosiah] has this **high gift** [seership] from God. . . . a seer is a **revelator** and a **prophet** also; and a gift which is **greater** can **no man have** . . .” (Mosiah 8:14-16)



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#5: UNDERSTANDS & TEACHES REDEMPTION



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**BELIEF IS NOT ENOUGH.
ARE OUR CHILDREN REDEEMED & BORN AGAIN?**

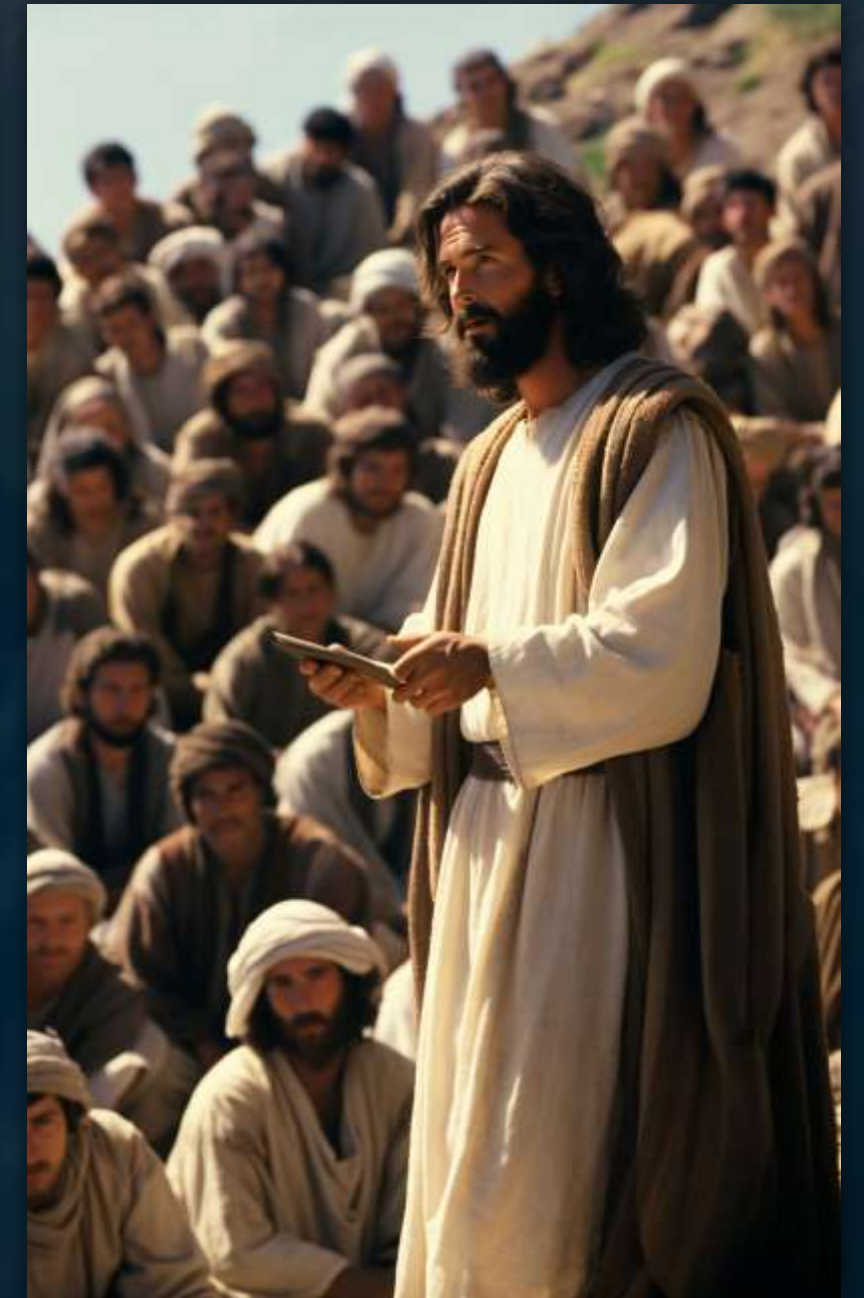
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KING BENJAMIN LEADS HIS ENTIRE KINGDOM TO EXPERIENCE A REMISSION OF SINS & REBIRTH



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“BENJAMIN” NAME MEANING

- Son of birthright wife, Rachel, who **fasted** for another son.
- Rachel names him “Ben-Oni,” meaning “son of **sorrow**” because of the heartbreaking circumstances surrounding his birth and life
- His father renames him “Ben-jamin” meaning “**son of my right hand,**” communicating his transformation from pain and suffering, to joy and royal inheritance.
- Moses prophecies and blesses Benjamin as “**beloved** of the Lord.”
- Benjamin’s name is a **prophecy** of the **mission** and **healing atonement** of Jesus Christ.



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BECOME SON/DAUGHTER AFTER RECEIVING



“But to as many as **received** me, gave I **power** to **become** my **sons**; and even so will I give unto as **many as will receive** me, power to **become my sons.**”

Doctrine and Covenants 39:4

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“ONLY TO THEM WHO BELIEVE” ARE SONS

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

JST, John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to **become** the **sons** of God; **only to them who believe** on his name.



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BECOME CHILDREN THROUGH ADOPTION

“For as many as are **led by the Spirit of God**, they are the **sons of God**.

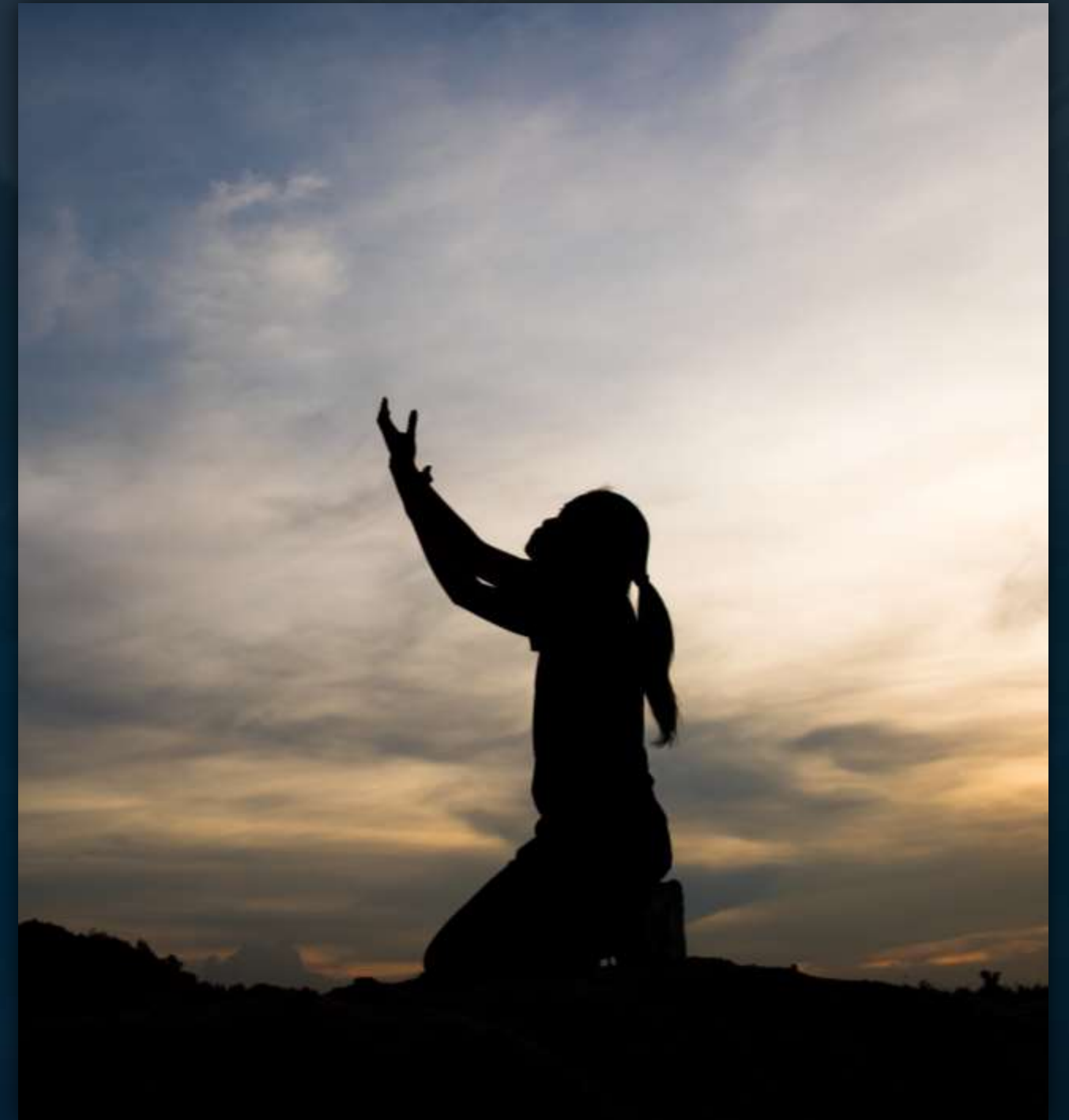
“For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the **Spirit of adoption**, whereby we cry, **Abba, Father**.

“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

“And if children, then heirs; **heirs of God**, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Romans 8:14-17

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“SONS AND DAUGHTERS IN MY KINGDOM”

“Hearken unto the voice of the Lord your God, while I speak unto you, Emma Smith, my daughter; for verily I say unto you, **all those who receive my gospel are sons and daughters in my kingdom.**”



Doctrine and Covenants 25:1

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ADAM IS BAPTIZED & REBORN AS A SON

“And thus he was baptized, and the Spirit of God **descended** upon him, and thus he was **born of the Spirit**, and became **quickened** in the **inner man**.

“And he heard a voice out of heaven, saying: Thou art **baptized with fire**, and with the Holy Ghost. This is the record of the Father, and the Son, from henceforth and forever;

“And thou art after the order of him who was without beginning of days or end of years, from all eternity to all eternity.

“Behold, thou art one in me, **a son of God**; and **thus may all become my sons**. Amen.”

Moses 6:65-68

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REDEEMED FROM A SERVANT TO SON

“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

“To **redeem** them that were under the law, that we might receive the **adoption of sons**.

“And because ye are **sons**, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, **Abba, Father**.

“Wherefore thou art **no more a servant**, but a **son**; and if a son, then an **heir** of God through Christ.”

Galations 4:4-7

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HEART CHANGED & ENTER COVENANT = SONS & DAUGHTERS AT RIGHT HAND OF GOD

“And now, **because of the covenant** which ye have made ye shall be called the **children of Christ**, his **sons**, and his **daughters**; for behold, this day he hath spiritually begotten you; for ye say that your **hearts are changed** through faith on his name; therefore, ye are **born** of him and have become his sons and his daughters.

“And under this head ye are made free, and there is no other head whereby ye can be made free. There is no other name given whereby salvation cometh; therefore, I would that ye should take upon you the name of Christ, all you that have entered into the **covenant** with God that ye should be obedient unto the end of your lives.

“And it shall come to pass that whosoever doeth this shall be **found at the right hand of God**, for he shall know the name by which he is called; for he shall be called by the name of Christ.”

Mosiah 5:7-9

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SIGNS OF THE TIMES BEGIN . . .

- Israel is **broken** and lost in Babylon (spiritually and physically).
- The world has **failed** us and left us empty and dead. We've lost our identity, our understanding of God's lifestyle, and our vision of true goodness.
- **New birth and complete revolution** of character, nature and personality is needed through Jesus Christ.
- **Transformation** is needed from being wandering sons and daughters “of sorrow,” to changed and redeemed “sons and daughters of the right hand.”



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DO WE **LOATHE** OUR PAST & THE CULTURE WE LEFT BEHIND? HAVE WE BEEN **BORN AGAIN**?

“And when they [House of Israel] entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they **profaned** my holy name . . .

“Then will I sprinkle **clean water** upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your **filthiness**, and from all your idols, will I **cleanse** you.

“A new **heart** also will I give you, and a new **spirit** will I put within you: and I will take away the **stony heart** out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of **flesh**.

“I will also **save** you from all your **uncleannesses**:

“Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall **lothe yourselves** in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations. . . . be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel.”

Ezekiel 36:20-31

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WHAT DOES AN ISRAELITE CULTURE LOOK LIKE?

“Down in New Zealand, I was the recipient of many courtesies while there. They **sang** and **danced** and **rolled their eyes** and **stuck out their tongues**. And so we applaud them, you know, and think it wonderful to encourage the continuation of that culture. **But** as it was interpreted to me . . . they chant and sing **battle hymns—not peace hymns**. And so I said to some of the leaders: ‘With all your beautiful voices, your wonderful talent, why don’t you develop some impressive songs on the **themes** surrounding the **coming of Christ**, about the **restoration** of the gospel, about **lofty ideals**, the **latter-day exodus**, the glories and **good things** which the gospel and the Church have brought us?’”



Spencer W. Kimball, The Miracle of Forgiveness, p. 394

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“THE TRUE WAY OF LIFE”

“In **all cultures**, let us perpetuate **not** the **mating dances**, the **sex stories**, **but** the **good** and the **beautiful** and **lofty** as we sing and as we dance. We should be **perpetuating Mormonism** and the **gospel**; the **true way of life.**”



Spencer W. Kimball, The Miracle of Forgiveness, p. 394

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“CULTURE OF CLEANLINESS & MORALITY”

“That doesn’t mean we need to bury all things of the past; but, if there is anything associated with **paganism** or **sectarianism** or **sex**, we **eliminate**. And so, we are **building a great culture entirely different** from that out there in the sectarian world. We are building a glorious **culture of cleanliness** and **morality** with **high-minded**, wonderful people. And, all the things the Church does—the singing of the songs, the speaking in public, the organization—the everything is **devoted** to this **one thing: building a great spiritual culture** that the **Lord wants**.”

Spencer W. Kimball, The Miracle of Forgiveness, p. 394

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“NOT BEEN SO GREAT WICKEDNESS”

- “We are inhabitants of a world of **sin** and **sorrow**; **pain** and **anguish**, **every ill** that can be heaped upon intelligent beings in a probation we are heirs to. I suppose that God never organized an earth and peopled it that was ever reduced to a **lower state** of darkness, sin and ignorance than this. I suppose this is one of the **lowest** kingdoms that ever the Lord Almighty created, and on that account is capable of becoming exalted to be one of the highest kingdoms that has ever had an exaltation in all the eternities.” (Brigham Young, *Journal of Discourses* 10:175)
- “I can stretch forth mine hands and hold all the creations which I have made; and mine eye can pierce them also, and among **all** the workmanship of mine hands there has **not been so great wickedness** as among thy [Enoch’s] brethren.” (Moses 7:36)
- “This [Moses 7:32-36] is a terrible arraignment against the inhabitants of this earth. Perhaps this is the **reason Jesus Christ was sent here** instead of to some other world, for in some other world they would not have crucified Him, and His presence was needed here because of the **extreme wickedness** of the inhabitants of this earth.” (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Signs of the Times*, p. 12)

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FALLEN ISRAEL —> NEW LIFE!



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NEW NAME & IDENTITY (MOSIAH 5)

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WHAT DOES AN “ISRAELITE” REALLY LOOK LIKE?



- Rebirth does not come by resurrecting lower law form, feasts, or rituals.
- Book of Mormon teaches how to achieve *real* Israelite identity and culture.
- Joseph Smith came to reveal new and everlasting covenant and higher laws once understood by ancient patriarchs to establish Zion.
- To return to your pure Israelite heritage and roots means to experience a change of heart, remission of sins, revolution of your inner nature, and to purge corrupt culture, and build something new.

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BOOK OF MORMON WILL PREPARE US FOR MORE!



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SLAVE VS. FREE SONS—WHO ARE YOU?

“For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.

“But he who was of the bondwoman was born **after the flesh**; but he of the freewoman was by **promise**.

“Which things are an allegory: for these are the **two covenants**; the one from the **mount Sinai**, which gendereth to **bondage**, which is [Ha]gar.

“For this [Ha]gar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in **bondage** with her children.

“But Jerusalem which is **above** is **free** [Zion/Church of Firstborn], which is the mother of us all.

“For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

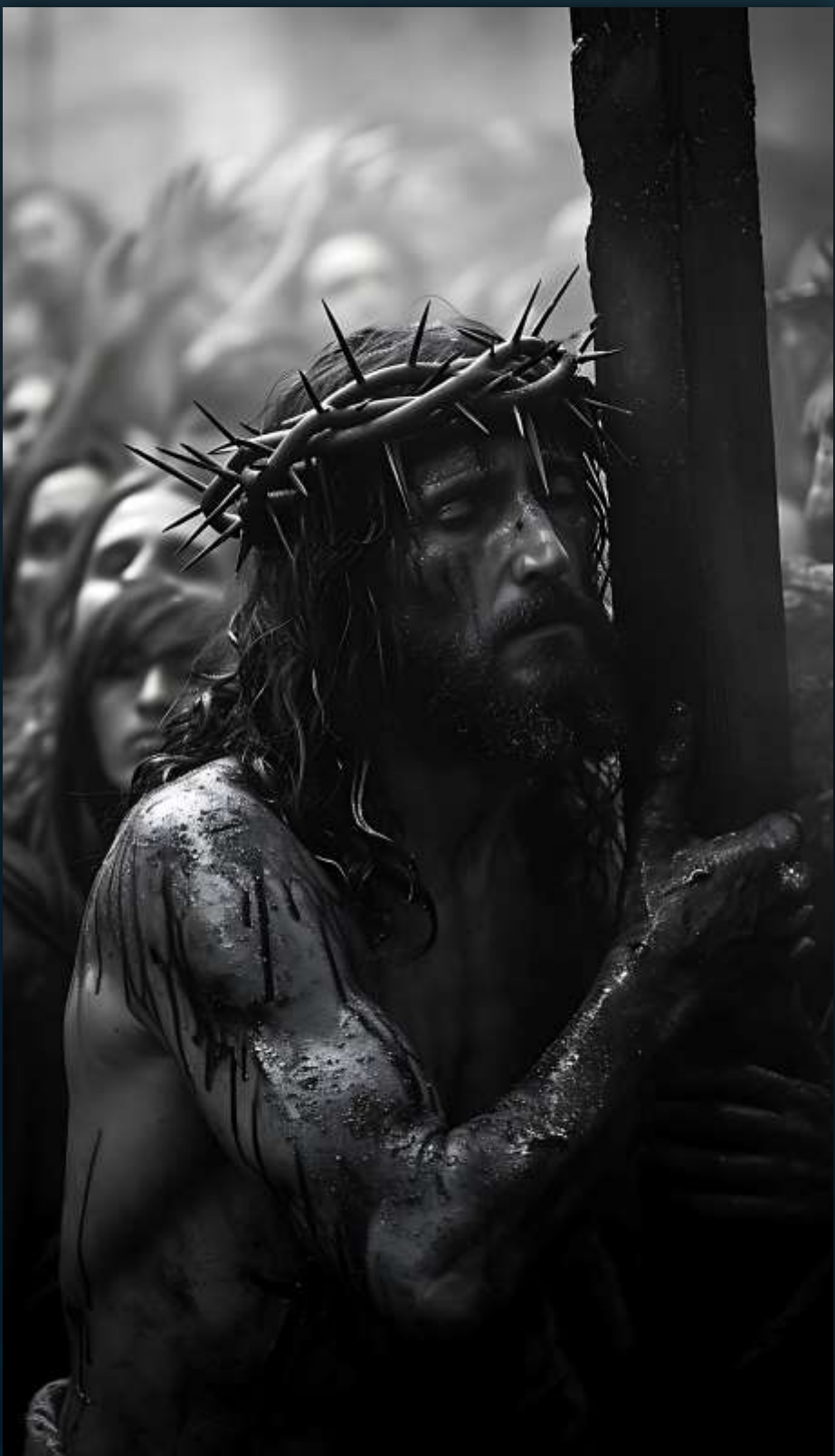
“Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the **children of promise.**”

Galations 4:22-28

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“LOSE YOUR LIFE . . . TO SAVE IT”



*A “man of sorrows and acquainted with grief” (Isaiah 53:3),
exalted and transformed to “standing on the right hand of God.” (Acts 7:55)*

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*Leah, Ezra,
Eliza, Mary, &
Ephraim
working on a
tech project*



Ephraim shipping book orders



Mary, Dad, & Ezra researching



Hannah & Ephraim testing Dad's new basement studio

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**STUDY AND APPLY MOSIAH 1-5 FOR YOUR OWN
PERSONAL, FAMILY & COMMUNITY REBIRTH!**

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