

23

# DIVINELY SANCTIONED GOVERNMENTS OF LIBERTY

FOR OUR DAY

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

FOR OUR DAY

# CONSTITUTION IS SIGN OF CHRIST'S COMING

- “5. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AMERICAN NATION. — We know by revelation that the United States was established as a nation by the Lord for two chief reasons: 1. So that the **Book of Mormon**, containing as it does the fulness of the gospel, might **come forth** with its message of salvation to both Jew (which includes the Lamanites) and Gentile. 2. So that the Lord’s true Church might be set up again on earth, and thus have the **way opened** up for the fulfilling of the **covenants** made by the Lord with the house of **Israel**.
- “7. ESTABLISHMENT OF U.S. CONSTITUTION. — According to the Lord’s plan of agency and freedom, certain ‘inherent and **inalienable rights**’ belong to ‘all mankind.’ Hence, the Lord’s **interest in civil government**; for, ‘No government can exist in peace, except such laws are framed and held inviolate as will secure to each individual the free exercise of **conscience**, the right and **control of property**, and the **protection of life**.’ (D. & C. 98:4-10; 134.) . . . ‘And for this purpose,’ saith the Lord, ‘have **I established** the **Constitution** of this land, by the hands of **wise men** whom I raised up unto this very purpose, and redeemed the land by the shedding of blood.’ (D. & C. 101:76-80.)
- “14. CHURCH AND KINGDOM SET UP AGAIN. — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the **kingdom of God** on earth. It is the kingdom set up without man’s hands (meaning by revelation from heaven), and it was to come forth in the days of certain kings who reigned subsequent to the days of the Roman Empire; that is, it was to be set up in the last days. (Dan. 2:31-45.)”

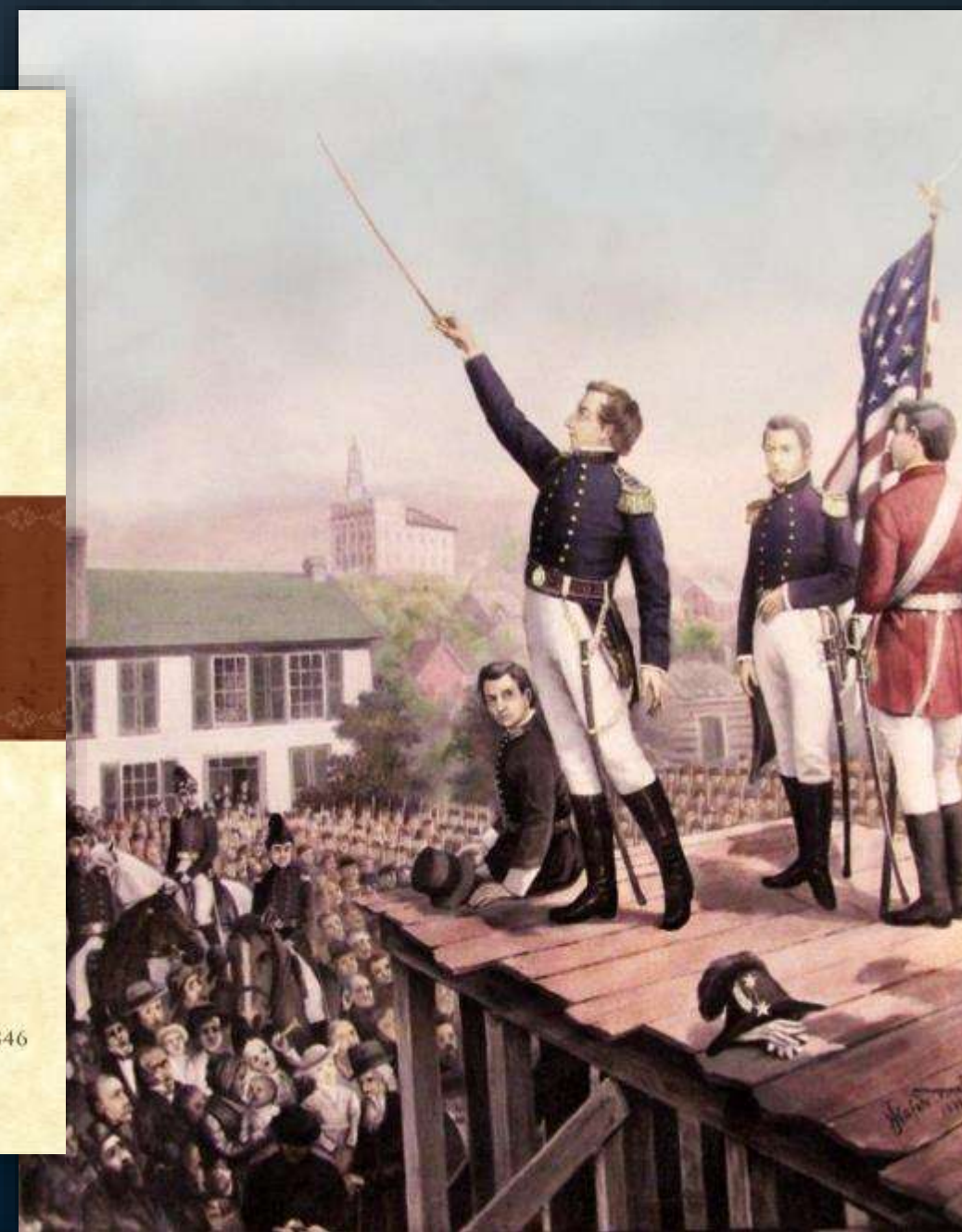
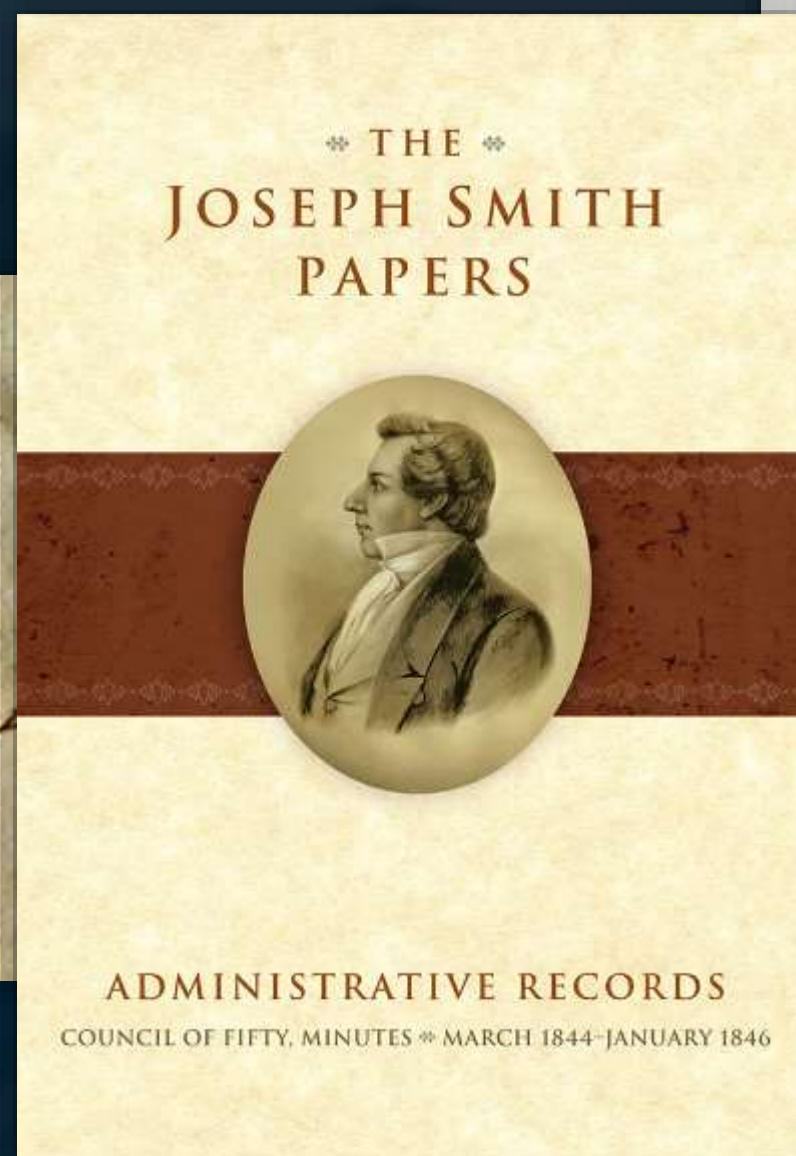
*All 51 Signs of the Times are listed in Bruce R. McConkie’s work: Mormon Doctrine, pp. 715-734.*

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# COUNCIL OF 50: FOUNDATION OF THE POLITICAL KINGDOM OF GOD ON EARTH



LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# U.S. CONSTITUTION PART OF FULFILLING COVENANTS MADE TO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL

“For it is wisdom in the Father that they [the Gentiles] should be established in this land, and be set up as a **free people** by the **power** of the **Father**, that these things [Nephite records] might come forth from them unto a **remnant** of your seed, that the **covenant** of the Father may be **fulfilled** which he hath covenanted with his people, O **house of Israel**”

*3 Nephi 21:4*

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)



LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

FOR OUR DAY

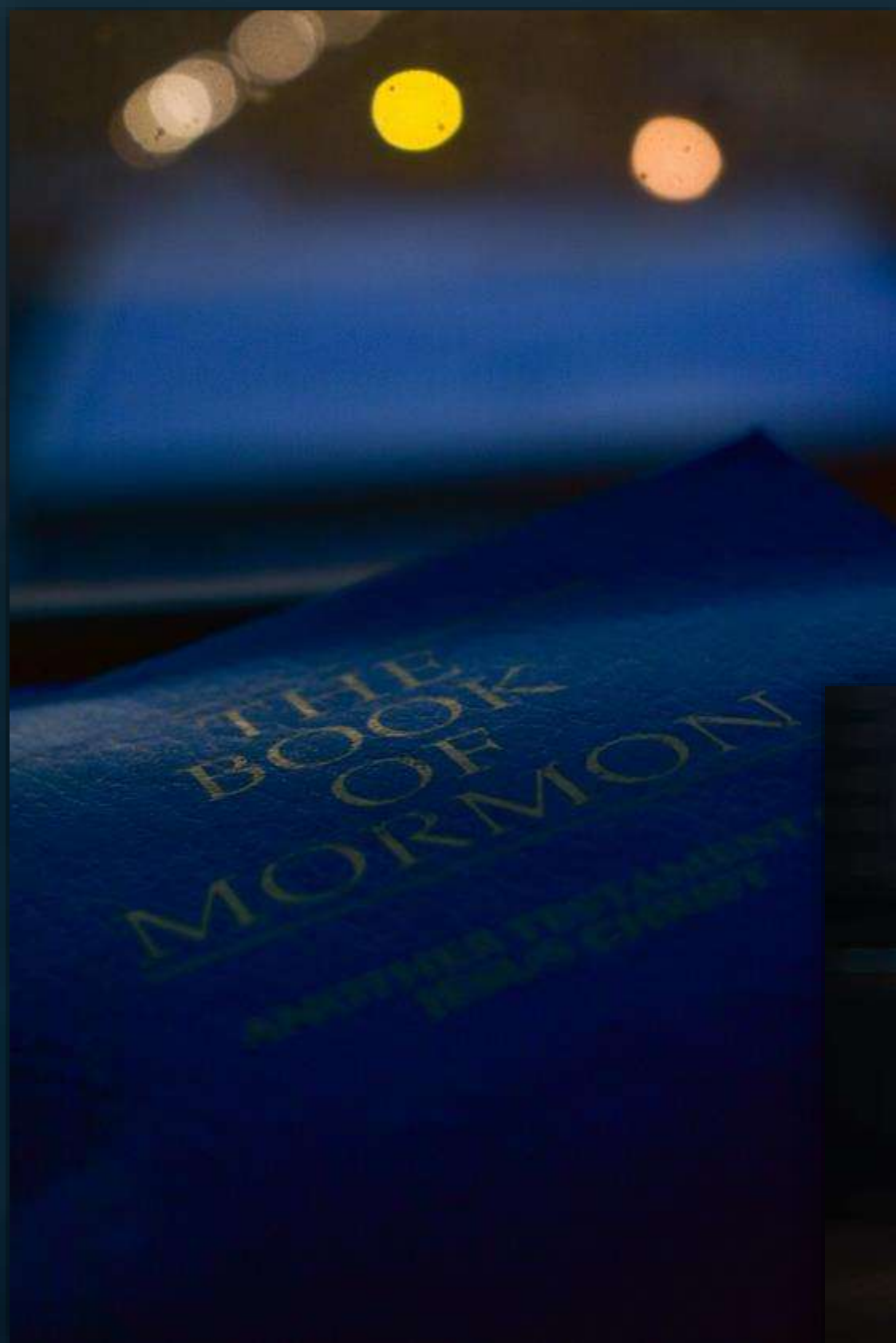
# WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT THE BOOK OF MORMON?

- Details on the structure and function of a constitutional republic
- War strategies, battle tactics, and history
- Righteous political principles detailed: unalienable rights, federalism, oath of office, elected representatives, checks and balances, scriptures as the foundation of law, etc.
- Secret combinations
- Motivations and behavioral patterns of enemies to liberty
- Righteous political and military role models



LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES



WHY NOT USE THE  
BOOK OF MORMON AS  
OUR PRIMARY TEXTBOOK  
ON GOVERNMENT?

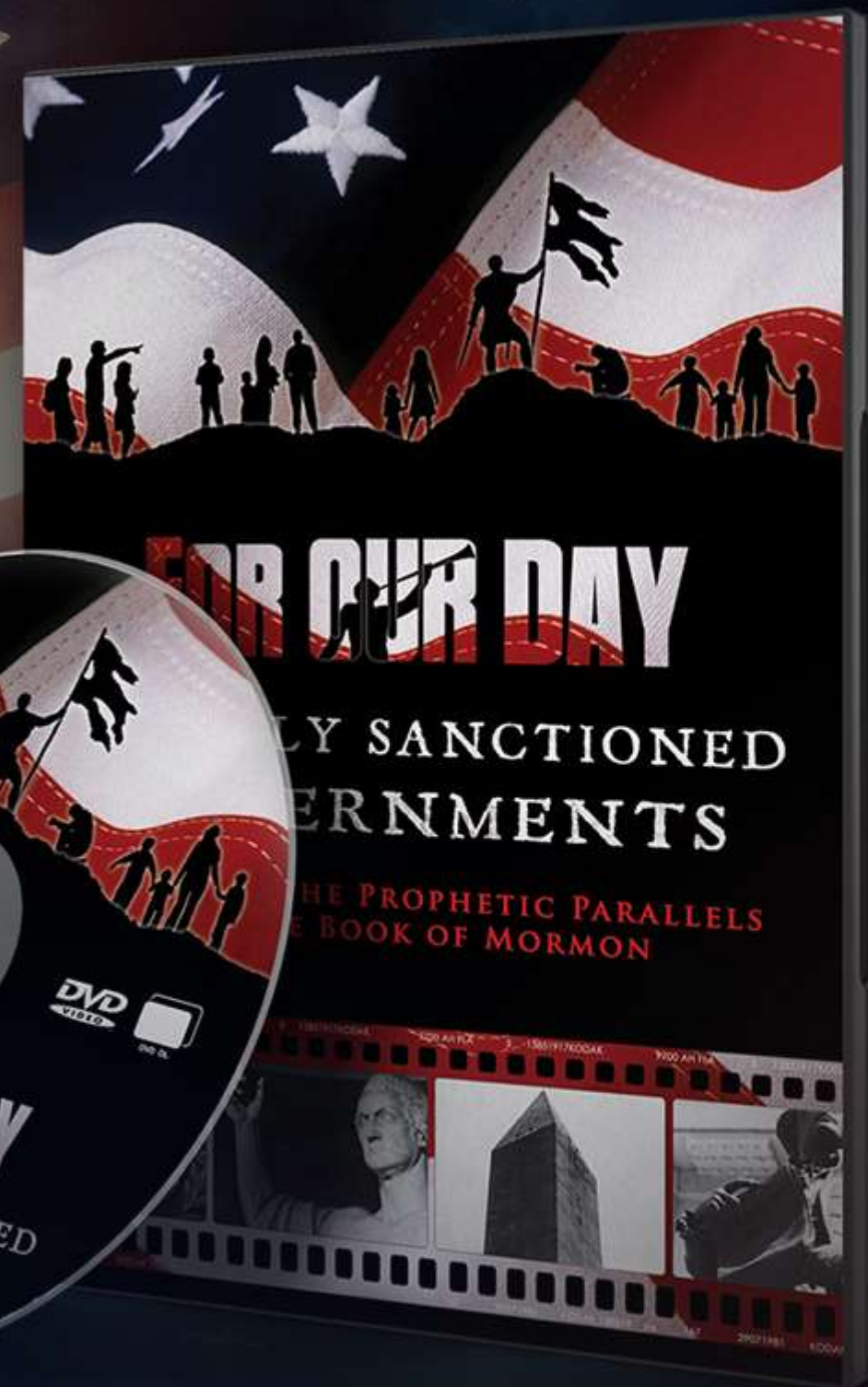


# FOR OUR DAY

DIVINELY SANCTIONED  
GOVERNMENTS



JOSEPH SMITH®  
FOUNDATION



[WWW.JOSEPHSMITHFOUNDATION.ORG/GOVERNMENTS](http://WWW.JOSEPHSMITHFOUNDATION.ORG/GOVERNMENTS)

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

WITHOUT LIBERTY, GOD'S CHILDREN HAVE **NO**  
**ACCESS TO LEARN & LIVE THE GOSPEL**

=

**NO SALVATION**

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# “MOTTO OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS” (MARCH 1838)

“The Constitution of our country formed by the Fathers of liberty. Peace and good order in society. Love to God, and good will to man. All good and wholesome laws, virtue and truth above all things, and aristarchy, live forever!”



*“Motto of the Church of Christ of Latterday Saints,” Far West, Missouri, ~16-17 March 1838, signed by Joseph Smith and others (Original document at the Church History Library, also published on the Joseph Smith Papers)*

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# JOSEPH SMITH CONDEMNS ABUSE OF POWER

“But woe to tyrants, mobs, aristocracy, anarchy, and toryism, and all those who invent or seek out unrighteous and vexatious law suits, under the pretext and color of law, or office, either religious or political.”



*“Motto of the Church of Christ of Latterday Saints,” Far West, Missouri, ~16-17 March 1838, signed by Joseph Smith and others (Original document at the Church History Library, also published on the Joseph Smith Papers)*

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)

FOR OUR DAY

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# REMEMBER SACRIFICES OF THE FATHERS

“Exalt the standard of Democracy! Down with that of priestcraft, and let all the people say Amen! that the blood of our fathers may not cry from the ground against us. Sacred is the memory of that blood which bought for us our liberty.”



*“Motto of the Church of Christ of Latterday Saints,” Far West, Missouri, ~16-17 March 1838, signed by Joseph Smith and others (Original document at the Church History Library, also published on the Joseph Smith Papers)*

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)

FOR OUR DAY

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

FOR OUR DAY

# DO WE REMEMBER WHAT WE ARE BUILDING?

- Gathering Israel and building Zion is **not** just spiritual. These are real events!
  - “We believe in the **literal** gathering of Israel . . .”
  - “. . . Zion (the New Jerusalem) will be built upon the **American continent** . . .”
  - “. . . Christ will reign **personally** upon the earth . . .” (Article of Faith 10)
- Israel/Zion/Jerusalem are **literal locations** with people, cities, and buildings.
- Zion and her stakes will include:
  - Cities and towns
  - Schools
  - Stores/economic system
  - Museums, concert halls, and culture (art, music, movies)
  - Schools
  - Etc.
- Building Zion requires the **liberty** to **build** God’s kingdom—and a **government** to **protect** that liberty.

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# ISRAELITES HAVE A COVENANT RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT LIBERTY

- Jesus Christ sacrificed his life to provide individual and societal liberty. Are we **following His example**?
- “And in **thy** [Abraham] **seed** shall all the nations of the earth be **blessed** . . .” (Genesis 22:18)
- “Go ye therefore, and teach **all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:” (Matthew 28:19)
- “. . . let us **preserve** our **liberty** as a **remnant of Joseph** . . .” (Alma 46:24)



LESSON  
**23**

**MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES**



**AMERICA WAS COVENANTED & SET APART TO  
PROVIDE ACCESS TO LIBERTY/GOSPEL**

**FOR OUR DAY**

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

FOR OUR DAY

# ARE YOU PART OF THE CAUSE OF CHRISTIANS?

“... he **prayed mightily** unto his God for the blessings of **liberty** to rest upon his brethren, so long as there should a **band of Christians** remain to possess the land ... Moroni prayed that the **cause of the Christians**, and the **freedom** of the land might be favored. . . .

“[He cried saying:] come forth in the **strength of the Lord**, and enter into a covenant that they will **maintain** their **rights**, and their **religion**, that the Lord God may bless them.”

*Alma 46:13-20*

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)



LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# “PRESERVE LIBERTY AS A REMNANT OF JOSEPH”

“Moroni said unto them: Behold, we are a remnant of the **seed of Jacob**; yea, we are a remnant of the seed of **Joseph**, whose **coat** was **rent** by his brethren into many pieces; yea, and now behold, let us remember to **keep** the **commandments** of God . . . yea, let us **preserve** our **liberty as a remnant of Joseph** . . .”

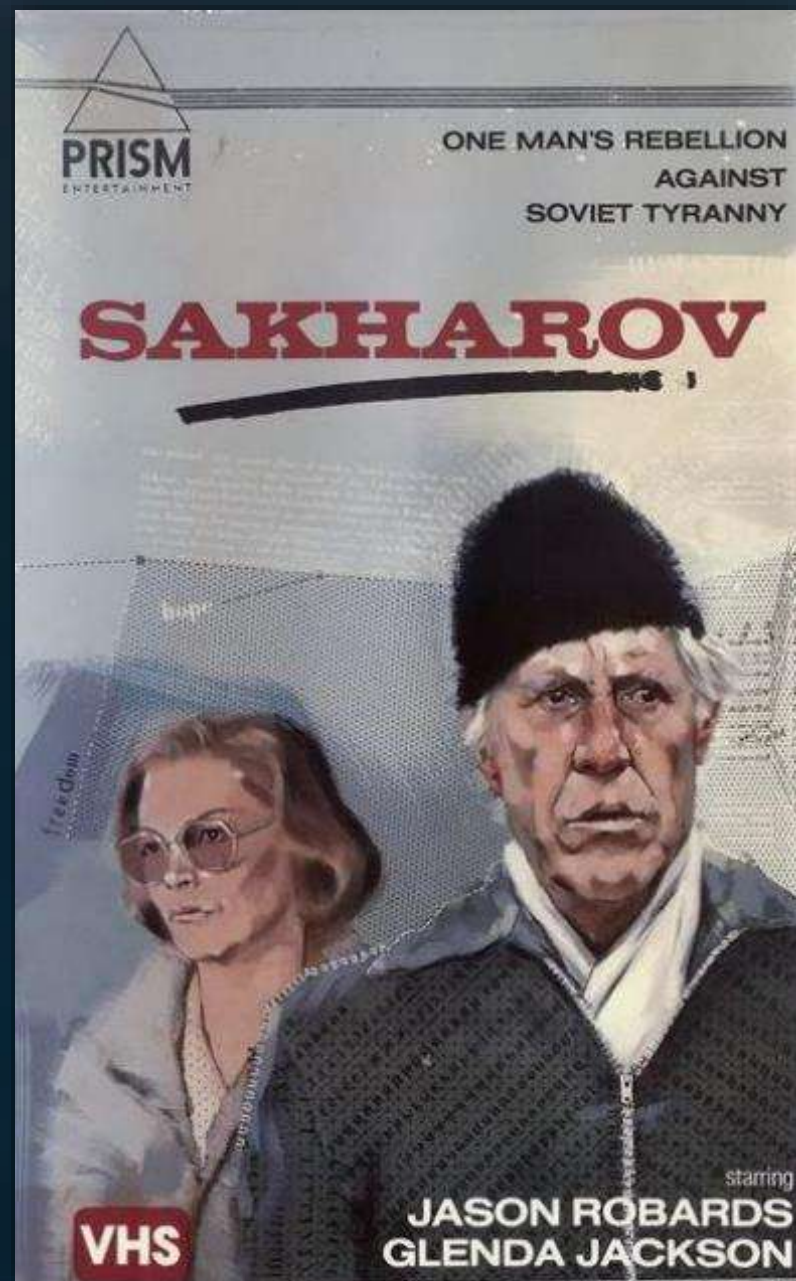
*Alma 46:23-24*



LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN LIBERTY IS LOST?



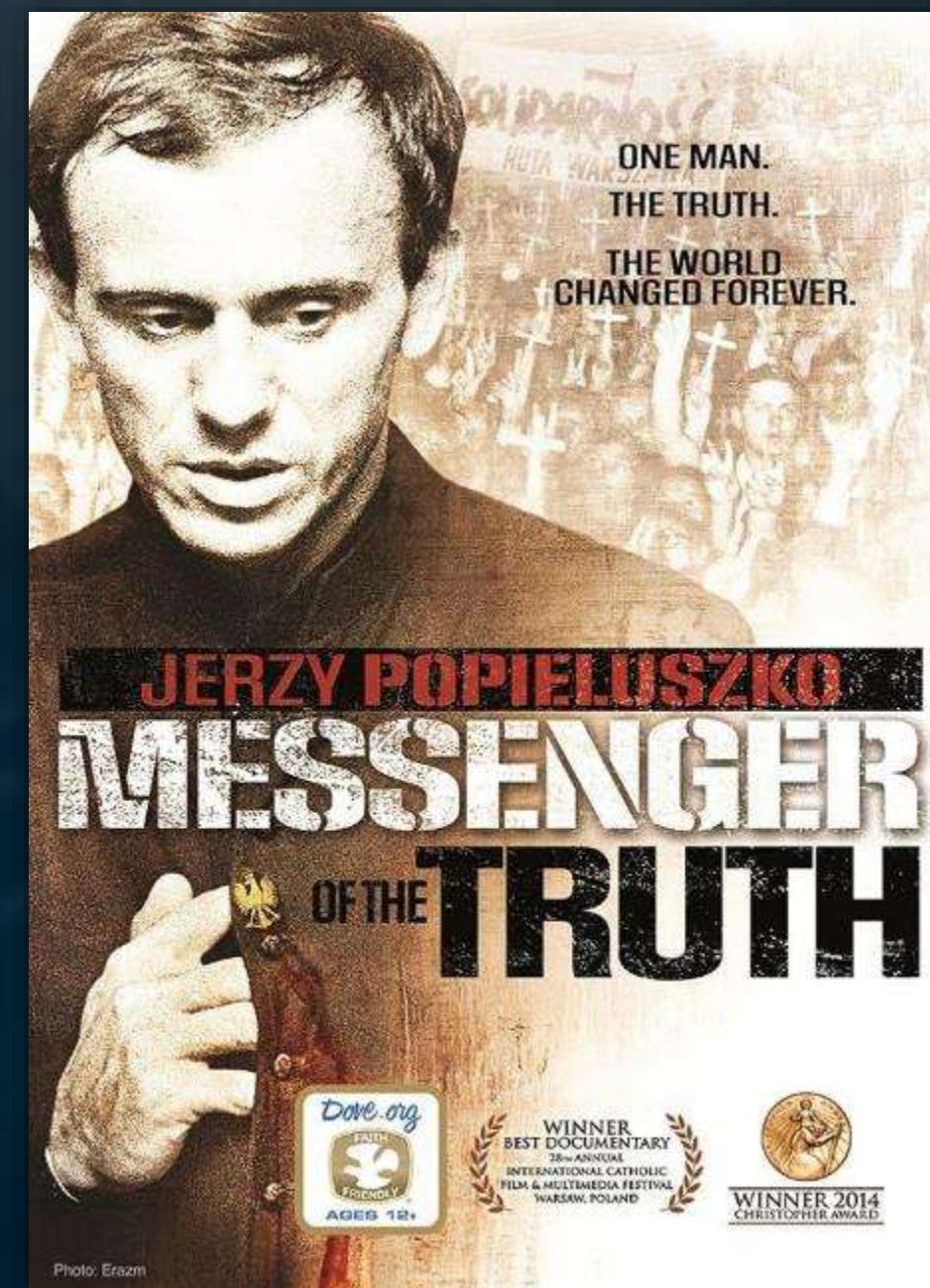
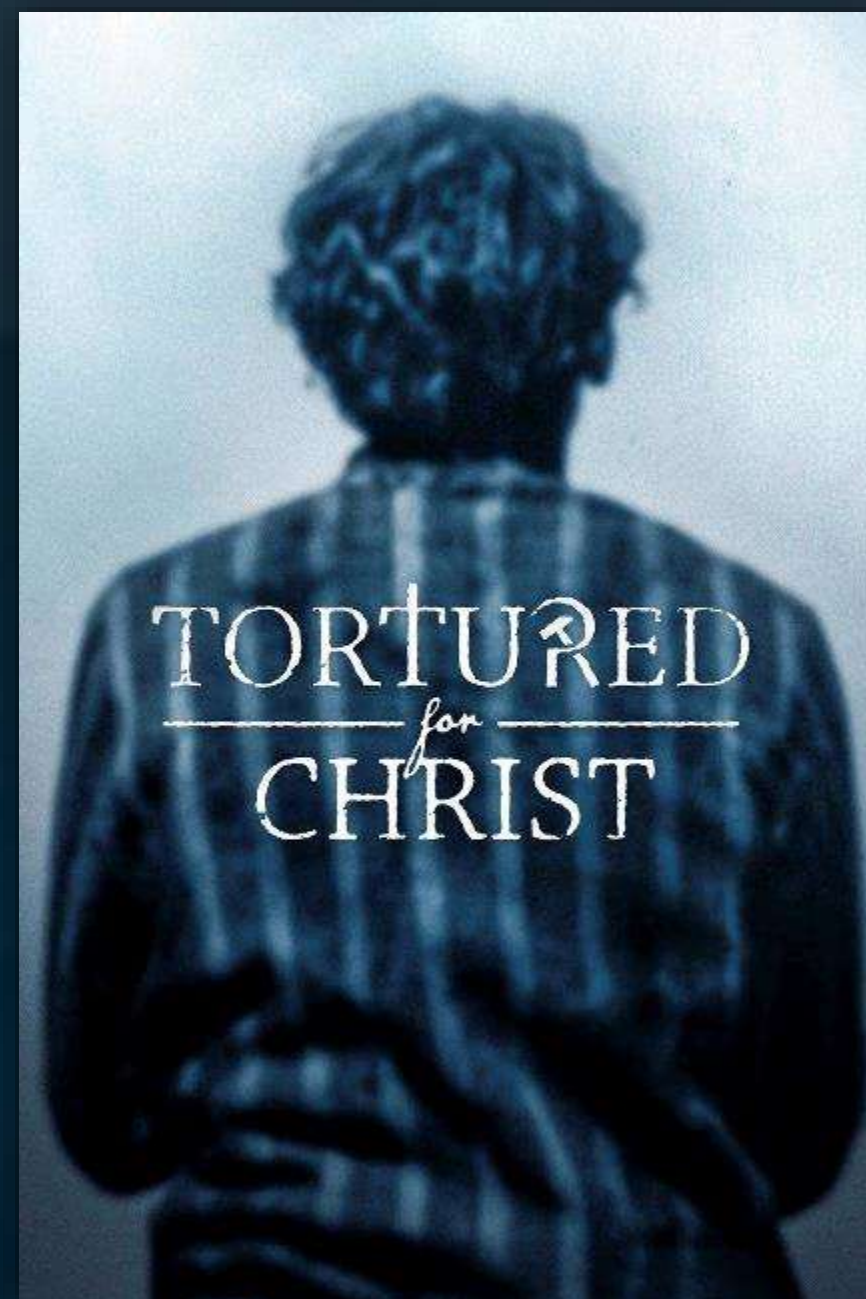
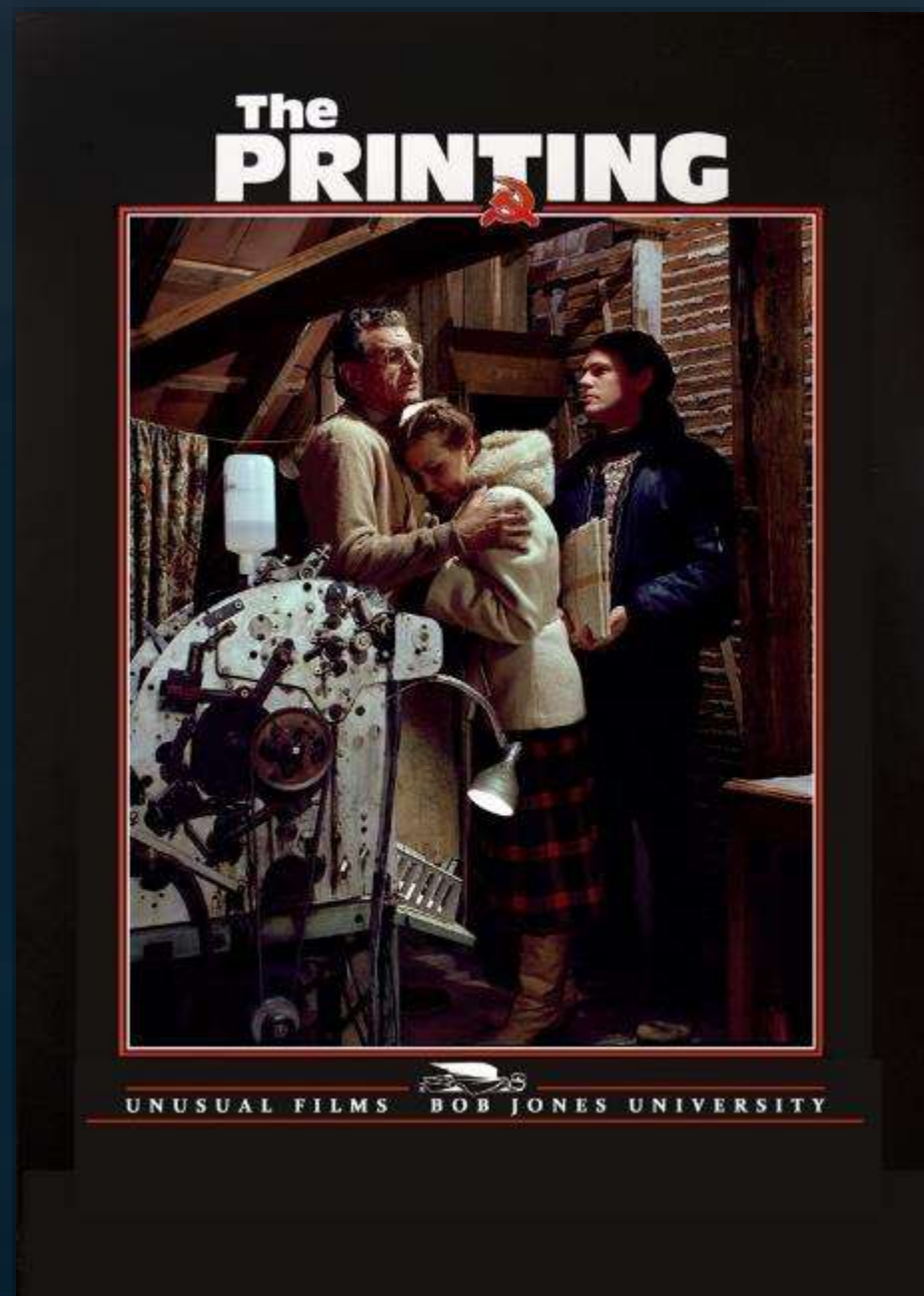
FOR OUR DAY

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN LIBERTY IS LOST?



LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# THE BOOK OF MORMON IS THE BEST TEXTBOOK ON GOVERNMENT!



FOR OUR DAY

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# NEPHITE POLITICAL & RELIGIOUS REVIVAL

“... the Nephites were in great **fear**, lest they should be **overpowered**, and trodden down, and slain, and **destroyed**.

“Yea, they began to remember the **prophecies of Alma**, and also the **words of Mosiah**; and they saw that they had been a **stiffnecked** people, and that they had set at **naught** the **commandments** of God;

“... they had **altered** and trampled under their feet the **laws of Mosiah** . . . because of their **iniquity** the **church** had begun to **dwindle** . . . and the **judgments** of God did **stare** them in the **face**.”

*Helaman 4:20-23*

[www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay](http://www.JosephSmithFoundation.org/ForOurDay)

FOR OUR DAY

LESSON  
23

MOSIAH'S  
GOVERNMENT  
OF LIBERTY:  
REIGN OF  
THE JUDGES

# THE BOOK OF MORMON IS THE SOLUTION FOR BOTH REVIVALS!

