

Cumorah Messenger

In the Shadow of Hill Cumorah

By Tim Brown © 2015

I have been remembering some of the testimonies of past expeditions and am reminded of the experiences we shared in the shadow of the hill we believe is the Book of Mormon Hill Cumorah.

I will always remember the first time I saw the hill. It was in 2001 on a church trip. We were coming from the west through the treacherous mountain road in the tour bus. As we rounded a bend, there it stood in its majestic splendor. As we drew nearer, the larger it became. Holy Cow! It was huge and we had plans to climb it the next day. Neil Steede said, "We're not climbing to the top, just up the skirt till we get to the cliff face." Well, gee whiz, that shouldn't be a problem.

Five of us got up at 3 AM the next morning. The

taxi picked us up at 4 AM and we got to the hill around 5 AM. Our supplies consisted of one and half gallons of water, a bag of trail mix, several packages of peanut butter crackers, a compass, four GMRS radios and a machete – no gloves, no long sleeve shirt, no boots and no guide. We made the trek first through pasture then jungle then pasture then the cliff face around 12:30 pm. Our water and snacks were mostly gone and we hadn't even started our search of the cliff face. To make a long story short, we all survived the experience.

We watched the shadows of Hill Cumorah consume more and more of the valley below as we descended the Hill in pain. We realized how totally inadequate and unprepared we were

for this journey. We finally reached the road and started walking hoping to catch a ride to town and then a bus to Tuxtepec. We were in awe of Cumorah's power and strength to hide and protect Mormon's Library.

We continued our bus tour and in the following days contemplated what we had experienced and the implications for the future. After the first recon mission, we tried to be better prepared. Others saw our vision, embraced our cause and accompanied us on later expeditions to Hill Cumorah. First, it was a small group and then more joined in. We tried to use the stealth method, but when you have 17 people, vehicles, equipment, gear and food, stealth kinda goes out the window. We

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Why Do the Research?

By David B Brown © 2015

The group who formed the original Hill Cumorah Team began this work in the year 2001. They were driven by a dream that one day the original records buried by Mormon in the Hill Cumorah would be found and proclaim to the world the fullness of truth that is contained in the abridged record we call the Book of Mormon. Holding fast to this dream, the members of the team began efforts to become familiar with the region around Cerro Rabon (Hill Cumorah) so that if and when these records are discovered, we might somehow be involved in

their preservation. We want to ensure that they are regarded with the sacredness due to them—even more so than the highly-regarded Dead Sea Scrolls or the Nag Hammadi library.

Since the inception of this project, we have received countless comments concerning the efforts we make. Some applaud us for the vision we hold, while others seemingly scoff as they indicate how proof is not needed for a book of faith. "Either you believe or you don't and physical evidence is not an expression of faith."

We certainly agree that proving something through

empirical evidence removes the expression of faith that God wants us to demonstrate. However, we find that there is more involved in our motivation to find these evidences.

After the Book of Mormon was published and the church organized in 1830, Joseph Smith Jr. was set to the task of reviewing the

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fell in love with the people and they with us. The shadow of Hill Cumorah grew even larger as we expanded our horizons.

It is humbling to see how this first simple quest has blossomed into the organization it has become and is still evolving. We could never have imagined traveling to the places we have seen and the blessings we have received in the things we have been allowed to do.

Here are a few of the places we've visited, projects with which we have been involved, and we are presently doing:

In Jalapa de Diaz we:

- tested children for diabetes
- administered the laying on of hands to many individuals
- shared the story with the Mayors of the surrounding villages concerning Hill Cumorah (Cerro Rabon) and its importance not only to their past, but to their future
- investigated several areas in the valley
- donated several thousand pesos to help a family with medical expenses
- donated thousands more to help a family improve their home
- helped name an infant girl Esperanza, one member of our group being named Godfather to Esperanza's brother and assisting with his baptism
- donating tens of thousands of articles of mostly children's clothing to four

different communities (this continues on a yearly basis)

- our group being written up in several newspapers for "healing" a girl who had been bitten by a snake
- made a wonderful friend with a teacher we hired for an interpreter and his family
- and enjoyed some wonderful native food – fried grasshoppers!

We have made presentations in many Restoration faith congregations and branches including the Stone Church in Independence, MO.

We have offered several years of Sunday evening classes at Buckner Community of Christ and have made multiple presentations at the Book of Mormon Roundtable.

We have made many trips to Michigan for Book of Mormon Days.

Neil Steede attended a symposium on Book of Mormon archeology in Utah.

We've made numerous trips to Mesoamerica to investigate a multitude of archeological sites: Teotihuacan, Cacaxtla, Palenque, Yaxchilan, Bonampak, Tres Zapotes, LaVenta, El Tajin,



Chinkultic, Altun Ha, Tonina, Rio Bec, Lamanai, Tikal, Xunantunich, Caracol, Cerros, Calakmul, Uxmal, Cholula, LaVenta, San Lorenzo, Tres Zapotes, Bonampak, El Pilar, Uaxactun, Becan, Chichen Itza, Tulum, Ek Balam, Coba and San Bartolo.

We have done extensive research of the San Bartolo Murals. The murals tell an incredible story, the same story found only in the Inspired Version of the Holy Scriptures. We are currently assisting the archeological community with several projects at Teotihuacan. The information we have gathered from various sites over the years is enormous. The insights are staggering. We have developed a website to share our information and testimonies at www.hceti.org.

We print a quarterly newsletter.

We have incorporated and are a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3).

We have archived many DVDs on many subjects and on series we have presented with handout materials.

As the information we gather grows, so does the testimony of our Savior. The testimony of Christ is everywhere; in the architecture, the glyphs and murals. The more information we gather, the longer the shadow of Cumorah grows. That shadow will continue to grow and spread out until one day the shadow will burst with light as Cumorah shares its precious treasure with the world. What an incredible journey. Come join us. The best is yet to come.

Hill Cumorah Expedition Team, Inc.

The Hill Cumorah Expedition Team, Inc (HCETI) is a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) IRS recognized tax-exempt organization dedicated to the research of Western Hemisphere Pre-Colonial history as it parallels Book of Mormon events and cultural developments.

In recent years we have made some amazing discoveries of what we believe are cultural parallels between the Book of Mormon and the Mayan culture of Mesoamerica. We can demonstrate a Judeo-Christian influence in the artwork

of San Bartolo. We can demonstrate a history of the converted Lamanites in the artwork of Bonampak. We can demonstrate a belief in a Messiah in the artwork at Palenque. We can demonstrate a celestial event that marks the birth of Christ and the Bethlehem Star at Teotihuacan. All of this because we have a core group of researchers who are steeped in the scriptures and who are dedicated to searching for the scientific evidences that run parallel to the Book of Mormon record.

In recent months our Board of Directors has voted to halt the annual membership fee of \$100 as the means to acquiring our operating funds, and we have now shifted our emphasis to spreading our new found information and asking for donations of whatever a person is able to give; \$5, \$10, \$25...whatever you are led to send and help as we continue to move out in faith and gather the evidences that confirm the faith message received nearly two centuries ago. Keep the faith!!

Why Do the Research? *continued*

King James Version of the Bible and he was instructed to correct key aspects that were removed from the original versions. The Book of Mormon states that the book of the Jews had many plain and precious things removed. Under inspiration, Joseph began replacing what had been removed so that a more accurate concept of the latter-day gospel could be understood. In the process of this inspired work, Joseph gave us an enriched understanding of the dialogue between God and Enoch. Enoch was shown many things and he was distraught when he saw the darkness that covered the Earth after the Son of Man had been crucified and returned to Heaven. Then God consoled Enoch with this passage.

Inspired Version Genesis 7:67 *“And the Lord said unto Enoch, As I live, even so will I come in the last days, in the days of wickedness and vengeance, to fulfill the oath which I made unto you concerning the children of Noah. [68] And the day shall come that the earth shall rest. But before that day the heavens shall be darkened, and a veil of darkness shall cover the earth; and the heavens shall shake, and also the earth. [69] And great tribulations shall be among the children of men, but my people will I preserve; and righteousness will I send down out of heaven, and truth will I send forth out of the earth, to bear testimony of mine Only Begotten; his resurrection from the dead; yea, and also the resurrection of all men. [70] And righteousness and truth will I cause to sweep the earth as with a flood, to gather out mine own elect from the four quarters of the earth, unto a place which I shall prepare; an holy city, that my people may gird up their loins, and be looking forth for the time of my coming; for there shall be my tabernacle, and it shall be called Zion; a New Jerusalem.”*

This passage is especially moving to the Restoration believer because it captures the vision of latter-day purpose—a gathering of believers looking forward for a time when the righteousness of Zion returns to this Earthly realm. It is the manifestation of Christ’s Kingdom on Earth. What a glorious concept that

the King of Kings will return and rule over the physical world He conquered.

Within this promise is a passage, *...and righteousness will I send down out of heaven, and truth will I send forth out of the earth,...*

Those of us involved in the Hill Cumorah group believe that we play a role in the fulfillment of this scripture. Here is how we understand it.

Most all Restoration faith believers understand that the righteousness coming down out of Heaven is the revelation that Joseph Smith Jr. experienced in the grove with the subsequent translation of the Book of Mormon, the organization of the latter-day church and the keys of priesthood and dispensation fulfillment that were conferred at the dedication of the Kirtland Temple in 1836. Truly, the heavens were opened and for a span of about 10 years, the inspiration Joseph received was absolutely earth-shaking in creating a new perspective for man’s sacred journey.

But, the following phrase is *“truth will I send forth out of the earth, to bear testimony of mine Only Begotten; his resurrection from the dead;”* This phrase indicates that there will be evidences from the ground that speak to the truth of what comes down out of Heaven. It implies that it is important for the evidences to support what our faith compels us to believe. Are there scriptures that further indicate this perspective? Here are a few for your consideration:

Ether 1:109 *“Come unto me, O ye Gentiles, and I will shew unto you the greater things, the knowledge which is hid up because of unbelief.”* This passage implies that **knowledge**, or evidence that confirms faith, will be brought forward if we will only believe and express the faith to discover these evidences.

Ether 5:7 *“Wherefore, dispute not because ye see not, for ye receive no witness until after the trial of your faith, for it was by faith that Christ shewed himself unto our fathers, after he had risen from the dead;”* Again, faith is the first step in expressing one’s belief, but once that faith is tested, then we will receive confirmation of its truth, bring-

ing the believer to a new level of understanding and another challenge to express further faith. Discovery of truth only comes once the effort is made to test the faith we express. This is the foundation of empirical science and the modern-day concept of the scientific method. You propose a truth, you create a hypothesis, you test that hypothesis and the results will either confirm the truth of the theory or its falsehood.

The Hill Cumorah Expedition Team proposes this hypothesis: that the historical cultural aspects found in the Book of Mormon are parallel with the Maya of Mesoamerica. We believe that our expression of faith in the validity of the Book of Mormon compels us to research the archaeological record of the Mayan people, develop comparative scenarios and trust that God will reveal the truth of our theory, or where we are wrong, that He will demonstrate how it is false.

This theory has been confirmed over and over, again and again. It began with the discovery of Yaxchilan as the city of Zarahemla. From there we discovered Chinkultic to be the City of Nephi, Palenque is Bountiful, Kaminaljuyu is the City of Lehi-Nephi, Tikal is Antiparah, Calakmul is Judea, LaVenta is the City of Desolation, Bonampak is the City of Melek, and the modern-day country of Belize is in essence the Land of Jerushon.

On and on our theories have escalated. Each time we find a new truth, it leads to a new hypothesis. For example, if Chinkultic is the City of Nephi, and if Yaxchilan is Zarahemla, then Tonina should be the city of Ammonihah. If Tonina is Ammonihah, then we should be able to find at least two entrances to the city, one on the east and another on the south. It should have history of a prison collapse, of many people burned, of heads of state buried under rubble, of a large number of people slaughtered in conflict and of the surrounding approach to the city being clear-cut of trees and shrubs. ALL of these are part of the archaeological record found at Tonina. Therefore, we conclude that Tonina is the Book of

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Why Do the Research? *Continued*

Mormon city of Ammonihah. Just like the example we have given here, we find city after city where parallels like this exist.

Not only do we find historical archaeological parallels for cities, but we can also identify people. There is a person at Tonina named Jaguar Bird and his companion who were imprisoned and denied food and water, but then those bonds were loosened and they were set free. This is the very story of Alma and Amulek when they preached the gospel before the lawyers and officials at Ammonihah. They were confined in prison, denied food and water and then later released when the prison collapsed. This is how one confirmation of a theory leads to other hypotheses and further development.

Again, we find that Jaguar Bird of Tonina is Bird Jaguar IV of Yaxchilan. We have made the connection that Bird Jaguar IV of Yaxchilan is Alma II who was the High Priest and first Chief Judge. This is a very interesting discovery and lends itself to an understanding of the use of hieroglyphs by the Maya.

The same two descriptive characteristics are used to describe Alma; bird and jaguar. Bird refers to the spiritual nature of man. When man is born, his spirit resides in the physical body. The metaphor often used is that the bird is nested in the tree. This is further developed in our concept of when the body dies, then the bird flies away and leaves the tree—hence the iconic hymn “I’ll Fly Away.” The second glyph used for Alma is Jaguar. To the Maya the Jaguar symbolized two aspects—power and royalty. We believe that the royalty symbol is not used in a strict definition, but that it refers to anyone who rules by right of the position they hold. In other words, in Yaxchilan, Alma is Bird Jaguar because he is the spiritual leader who rules over the church by right of position as High Priest. The bird comes before jaguar because his spiritual leadership is the strength of his position.

But, in Tonina, the people did not receive him as a High Priest. They did not regard his spiritual leadership and honor the spiritual teaching to be first in

their lives. Therefore, what was demonstrated at Tonina was the power of God’s wrath when there is corruption of government over the people and the innocent believers are victimized. Such is the action of those who governed at Tonina when they had the believers gathered and burned alive when they would not recant their faith. Therefore, the jaguar, or power of God aspect of the High Priest was manifested to the people at Tonina and Alma is recorded there as Jaguar Bird, for the power of God’s judgment preceded their acceptance of Alma’s spiritual teaching.

These are just a few of the discoveries we have received from expressing our faith that God will bring truth out of the earth. In addition, we have another scriptural promise from the Book of Mormon. III Nephi 12:2 “*And these things have I written, which are a lesser part of the things which he taught the people; and I have written them to the intent that they may be brought again unto this people, from the Gentiles, according to the words which Jesus hath spoken. [3] And when they shall have received this, which is expedient that they should have first, to try their faith, and if it shall so be that they shall believe these things, then shall the greater things be made manifest unto them.*” This implies that we will not only have confirmation of what we are given in the Book of Mormon record, but that even more information will be given in the process. This is an amazing testimony we receive over and over.

When we prepare for an expedition to do research at the Central American sites, we have specific ideas of where we want to go and what we expect to find. But, in every expedition we have returned to Independence, Missouri with far more information than we ever anticipated—and some of it is absolutely amazing.

In 2013 we traveled to Guatemala to visit the sites of Kaminaljuyu, Tikal, San Bartolo and Copan. We were expecting to find specific information that tied Kaminaljuyu and Tikal together because we have the theory that when the King of the Lamanites was converted, he

moved the seat of Lamanite government from Kaminaljuyu to Tikal, then commissioned the San Bartolo Murals to tell their conversion story. In the process of gathering information during this trip we made an amazing discovery—it appears that King Anti-Nephi-Lehi was beheaded. There is nothing in the Book of Mormon to indicate this event, though the Nephite information given does not conflict with this discovery. Here are the evidences.

Alma 14:22 “*And their hatred became exceeding sore against them, even inso-much that they began to rebel against their king, inso-much that they would not that he should be their king; therefore they took up arms against the people of Anti-Nephi-Lehi. [23] Now the king conferred the kingdom upon his son and he called his name Anti-Nephi-Lehi. [24] And the king died in that self-same year that the Lamanites began to make preparations for war against the people of God.*” We are given the understanding that there are issues with the new direction the King of the Lamanites has started. Apparently, the powers within the Lamanite government do not care for the changes being made and there are now efforts to stop the changes.

In San Bartolo the archaeologists discovered a pit with the head of a royal male—no body was found. At Tikal there is a royal burial of a king with a headless body laid at his side. We believe the Tikal Royal is the converted King of the Lamanites and the headless body is his designated heir, King Anti-Nephi-Lehi. The head of whom is buried at San Bartolo where the murals depict the conversion gospel experience.

A stela at Tikal (right) depicts Lord Stormy Sky holding up a seven link chain with the right hand and cradling a bodiless head in his left arm. We interpret this as the usurper king who was



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Adventures In Scriptures

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JUST LIVING

The *Nephites* were now living in a period of time ruled by *judges*. The people had agreed to follow the *laws* that Mosiah created. The laws helped the people understand the differences between *right* and *wrong*. The judges understood that keeping the laws helped establish a *civil* and *peaceful* society. *Alma II* was the chief judge and a man of God. He knew that helping the people to choose right instead of wrong was the *standard* to live by.

Alma II was put to the test as a judge when a man named *Nehor* was brought before him for judgment. *Nehor* had been preaching and establishing a new church in the land. *Gideon*, a man of God, confronted *Nehor* about his teachings. *Nehor* was teaching *priestcraft*. Priestcraft was the practice of priesthood exalting themselves above everyone else and using their position to get gain.

Priesthood is a ministry of service and not for personal gain. It is meant to help people with their physical and spiritual needs. *Gideon* was using only his *words* in order to convince *Nehor* that he was teaching false *doctrine*. *Nehor* became angry and beat *Gideon* with his sword. *Gideon*, being old, was not able to withstand the blows and died.

Alma II found *Nehor* guilty of spreading priestcraft and enforcing it by *violence*. In order to fulfill the law and for *justice* to be effective *Nehor* was put to death for his crimes. The seeds of priestcraft that *Nehor* had planted continued to divide the people and cause harm for many years to follow. Alma chapter 1:1-24

Story Word Search

Find and circle the words from the story above:

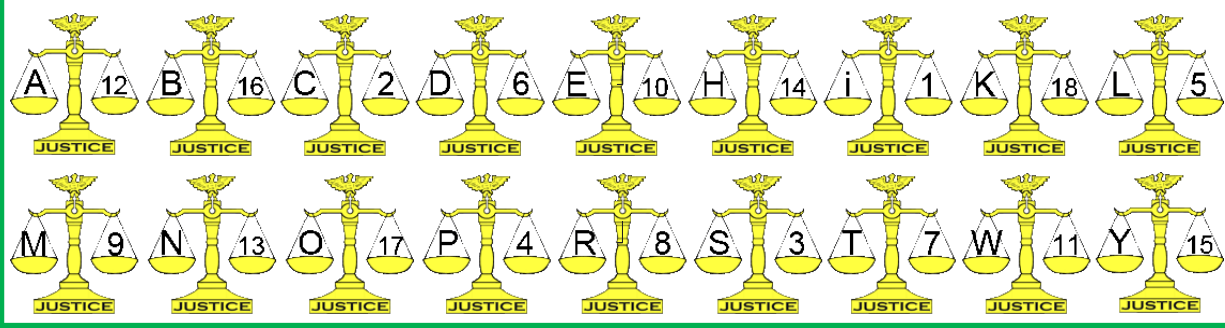
B	Y	R	F	Q	V	Q	H	H	O	O	B	E	Y	J
F	C	E	Q	D	O	I	G	B	J	O	N	H	I	U
J	O	E	H	W	R	D	O	X	Z	I	Q	I	M	S
P	E	A	C	E	F	U	L	L	R	J	A	H	G	T
D	U	B	D	T	Y	R	Z	T	E	M	W	I	X	I
G	R	I	K	O	Z	A	C	F	L	N	D	E	C	C
P	V	A	C	X	O	O	P	A	N	E	C	I	S	E
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T	F	A	R	C	T	S	E	I	R	P	R	E	E	S
R	I	G	H	T	S	W	A	L	G	L	W	P	N	C
Z	X	W	M	B	Z	S	X	E	Y	P	L	I	N	X

- ALMA II
- CIVIL
- DOCTRINE
- GIDEON
- JUDGES
- JUSTICE
- LAWS
- NEHOR
- NEPHITES
- PEACEFUL
- PRIESTCRAFT
- PRIESTHOOD
- RIGHT
- STANDARD
- VIOLENCE
- WORDS
- WRONG

Just Living Scripture

Write the correct letter in each space above the numbers to find out what the scripture says.
Use the justice scales below to see which letters go with the right number.

7 14 10 4 8 1 10 3 7 3 12 13 6 7 10 12 2 14 10 8 3
 6 1 6 13 17 7 7 14 1 13 18 7 14 10 15 11 10 8 10
 16 10 7 7 10 8 7 14 12 13 7 14 10 14 10 12 8 10 8 3
 12 13 6 5 10 12 8 13 10 8 3 from Alma 1:39



Pick the words that best describe Priesthood or Priestcraft behavior.

write PH for Priesthood next to the words that match that behavior.
and write PC for Priestcraft next to the words that match that behavior.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>___ ___ Cruel</p> <p>___ ___ Giving</p> <p>___ ___ Greedy</p> <p>___ ___ Hurtful</p> <p>___ ___ Kind</p> <p>___ ___ Man's ideas</p> <p>___ ___ Popular</p> <p>___ ___ Serve others</p> <p>___ ___ Sincere</p> <p>___ ___ Truth</p> | <p>___ ___ Generous</p> <p>___ ___ God's ideas</p> <p>___ ___ Helpful</p> <p>___ ___ Importance of others</p> <p>___ ___ Lies</p> <p>___ ___ Peaceful</p> <p>___ ___ Self-importance</p> <p>___ ___ Serve self</p> <p>___ ___ Taking</p> <p>___ ___ Violent</p> |
|---|---|

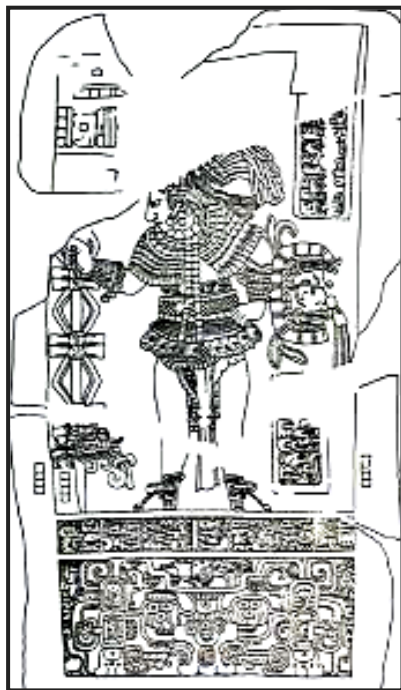
Why Do the Research? *Continued*

attempting to return the seven converted cities back to Lamanite rule and in order to accomplish his design he decapitated King Anti-Nephi-Lehi. We further theorize that this usurper was from Dos Pilas and the eldest son of the deceased converted King of the Lamanites which makes him a brother to King Lamoni and King Anti-Nephi-Lehi. This makes the beheading event even more despicable.

The Bonampak Murals illustrate that the new young king was decapitated. In this line drawing you see the head lying on the foot of the king. Epigraphers interpret this to be the removal of his



head. Also, there is a huge stela in the plaza at Bonampak depicting a warrior with a bodiless head touching the left elbow. We interpret this as a Yaxchilan warrior who, because the young king



was decapitated, is focused on helping protect the people who made an oath to lay down their arms as symbolized by the multiple bonds tied to the spear. This illustrates what the Nephites promised they would do—they would protect the converted Lamanites from being slaughtered because of their oath to never again take up arms. Especially after their spiritual and civil leader had paid the ultimate price for his beliefs.

All of these truths were stacking up to give us a solid understanding of the events that rocked the converted Lamanites, but it was back in Kaminaljuyu at the Mira Flores Museum in Guatemala City where we found the artwork that tied it all together. It was a vase that illustrated a king who wore a decapitated head on his belt like a coup, and the stomach of the king was cut open. We believe this is a depiction of the passage where Amalickiah brought



the army before the Lamanite king and then had his servant stab the king and leave him “lying in his gore.” This Lamanite king who suffered the death by stabbing would have been the one in immediate succession to King Anti-Nephi-Lehi; it appears that the usurper king received the wages for his terrible act of greed by being dethroned through violence in the same manner that he acquired the throne.

This revelation of how King Anti-Nephi-Lehi was dethroned in such a

brutal manner provides incredible depth of understanding to the amount of passion involved in the events that forever changed the Lamanite nation. It also gives us a greater appreciation for the sacrifices that the converted Lamanites made and their complete dedication to their God.

In earlier years we were searching at Yaxchilan (Zarahemla) for information concerning Shield Jaguar II who we now understand to be Mosiah the elder. While doing our research we came across a discovery that answered a question almost everyone has asked at some point. How does someone walk into a kingdom with a 300-year history of kings and then get appointed king the way the Book of Mormon says Mosiah was appointed? The archaeology tells us that Shield Jaguar II marries a royal heir named Lady K’uk and receives the kingdom that is hers to grant. That is how Mosiah is “appointed” king, he marries the daughter of King Zarahemla. Many of the lintels in Yaxchilan illustrate the event.

Both of these examples demonstrate how the Hill Cumorah Expedition Team has acted on our faith in the truth of the Book of Mormon record and in response to our actively asking, seeking and knocking, God has answered with more information than we ever anticipated. “Even greater things” are being revealed just as His scripture promised.

The Hill Cumorah Team does not do this alone. Here is the final scripture I want to share concerning promises for greater light. Mormon 4:18 *“For he truly saith, that no one shall have them to get gain; but the record thereof is of great worth; and whoso shall bring it to light, him will the Lord bless. [19] For no one can have power to bring it to light, save it be given him of God; for God will that it shall be done with an eye single to his glory, or the welfare of the ancient and long dispersed covenant people of the Lord.”* Not only will God bless those who know that they are acting on His behalf to further His purposes in this second witness, but He blesses those who are acting on

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**We're on the web at
www.hceti.org**

The Hill Cumorah Expedition Team, Inc is a 501(c)(3) Missouri not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the study, research and dissemination of information as it pertains to the Book of Mormon. All donations are tax deductible. Our primary focus is to research and assemble archaeological and other related information to help establish the historical feasibility of the Book of Mormon.

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Why Do the Research?

behalf of the ancient people of this land. In other words, we know that we have thousands of friends in the archaeological community who are being guided and blessed from on High. The Hill Cumorah Expedition Team has yet to turn over a spade of dirt at any archaeological dig. We leave the artifact gathering and professional discernment to the ones who have spent a lifetime studying the art and science of archaeology. All we do is take the trustworthy reports they have developed and lay them alongside the record we understand to be true then let the light from the two worlds align.

Through the years we have met so many men and women who are elbow-deep in dirt with insect bites and smelly clothes, and who do nothing but glow with excitement as they find an attentive ear who is willing to soak up their knowledge. That is who we are, the sponges who love, admire and appreci-

ate all their hard work and the whole lives that are dedicated to revealing truth that comes out of the Earth. Our archaeologist comrades are an invaluable part of God's work in bringing greater light to present and future believers in these latter-days. They are our heroes for all of the hardships they endure and especially for the ones who choose to practice integrity and overcome their temptation for fame. We could make a long list, but inevitably we will forget to mention someone and the list will not be accurate. You know who you are, and we applaud the work that you do!! We couldn't do ours without you.

To conclude, this work is so important. Not because it will force people to believe in a book of faith. Not because we hope to convert people through reason as opposed to faith. It is important because with each piece of the puzzle

there are new insights and greater things to be found for those who express a faith and belief in the nuggets we have already received. These new revelations are a fulfillment of God's word that He will provide answers to those who seek. Ultimately, we believe that there will be information brought forth from the Earth that will confirm what so many express in their everyday walk—that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the entire world. That He loves the whole of Creation and does not choose one people over another—that all of humanity has been engaged in a work for Him from the very beginning. We believe this evidence lies in the dormant layers of the Earth waiting for a curious worker to demonstrate his faith, pick up his spade, and actively seek the answers that a world longing for light desires to find. Join us in this incredible journey to serve our Risen Lord.