



# The Witness

Newsletter Of The Foundation For Research On Ancient America

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NEWSLETTER NO. 53

## U.S. SATELLITE MAPS AID PLUNDER

by Venna M. Johnson



High-tech grave robbers are looting unrestored archaeological sites which often are completely covered with earth and foliage.

David Perlman, Science Editor of the *San Francisco Chronicle* (November 7, 1985) reports, "High-technological graverobbers armed with detailed images gathered by U.S. satellites are looting some of the world's greatest archaeological treasures."

A treasure hunter can buy a meticulously detailed satellite map for \$3,000. The map, covering 100 square miles of remote terrain, can be used to dig up a sculptured Mayan memorial worth three million dollars.

A government Learjet equipped with sensitive instruments produced maps of the Chaco Canyon in New Mexico. Ancient kivas, Indian ceremonial

chambers, were revealed containing pottery worth \$30,000 or more to museums or to wealthy collectors willing to buy on the black market.

The Chaco Canyon discovery may hold 50 or more kivas. A kiva may yield as many as fifty valuable pots.

Thomas L. Sever of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said, "Ever since Indiana Jones, the rush is on. Our government data is available by law to anyone and it's cheap. The pot hunters are stampeding, and they've even formed well-financed corporations to exploit the findings."

Sever, 37, is NASA's only full-time archaeologist.

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# CHINA AND THE JAREDITE CULTURE

by Anne Scott

"I really love this Jewish people—I did not know I was Jewish, but now I know and I want to know it clearly. I want to learn more about Jewish culture, history and religion," said a 25 year old Beijing journalist recently in a syndicated article published in the New York Times.



Qu Yinan discovered she was among the several hundred surviving Chinese Jews, after her mother, Jin Ziaojing, an anthropologist and journalist, learned of the Jews of Kaifeng at a conference on minorities in 1981. The next year Jin wrote an article, "I Am a Chinese Jew," for a national journal, outlining the history of Chinese Jews and her own memories.

Although Qu originally came to the United States to learn more about American cultures, her interest in Judaism was fueled by her acquaintance with Rabbi Joshua Stampfer and his wife, Goldie, with whom she has been living. As she watched Rabbi Stampfer wash his hands in preparation for a Jewish Sabbath meal, Qu, who spoke little English, took the two-handed pewter cup he used for the ritual, and poured the water first over her right hand and then her left, and again over both hands. It was, she was able to explain later, something she had learned from her grandfather in China. Since that first American Sabbath last September, she has learned much more about the history and traditions of a people of which she recently learned she is a part. She now reads Hebrew, attends Sabbath services at Stampfer's Conservative Synagogue in the Portland, Oregon Congregation, Neveh Shalom, helps with the Sunday School, sings grace after meals and soon will be called upon to recite the Torah blessing at the Saturday morning religious service.

Next Fall, Qu plans to attend the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, to which she received a full scholarship. After completing studies at the University of Judaism, she plans to return to China and would like to write a book about Jewish traditions. She said there were no articles or books available in Chinese that discuss Judaism and its history.

The newspaper article stated that according to Chinese records, the first Jews came to China more than 2000 years ago. A large number later came over the Silk Route and settled in Kaifeng, the imperial

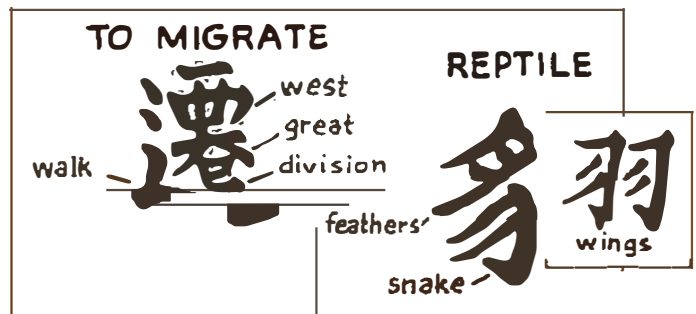
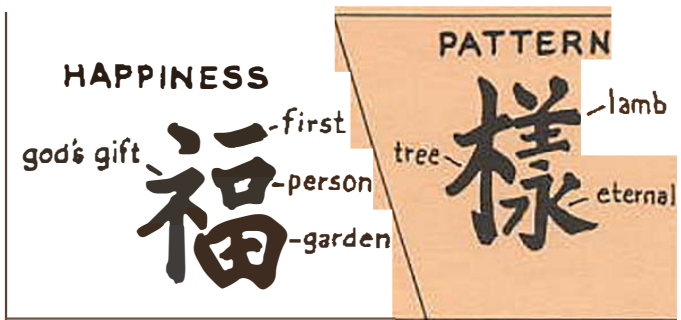
capital in the Song Dynasty (960-1279), and other communities. They were eventually assimilated into the population, although some practices were maintained. The Kaifeng Synagogue, called the Temple of Purity and Goodness, was built in 1163. Destroyed by fire and flood and rebuilt several times, it was not rebuilt after a flood in 1852. By that time, Kaifeng Jews were a declining community. The town's last Rabbi died in the mid-19th century and the Torah scrolls were acquired by an Anglican missionary, who later donated them to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Canada.

Jin's family was one of seven clans of Jews who had been living for centuries in Keifeng, which is 450 miles south of Beijing. Like many Chinese-Jews, Qu's family maintained only the vestiges of religious practice. Her family did not eat pork or shellfish, and she recalled that her grandfather always wore a blue skullcap, maintaining the custom of males covering the head. Because her grandfather did not discuss his religion, however, Qu and her mother thought they were part of China's sizable Moslem community, since Moslems also shun pork and wear skullcaps.

Qu met Rabbi Stampfer when he traveled in China in 1983 under the auspices of the Oregon Committee for the Humanities to research the history of the Jews in Kaifeng. He invited Qu to come to America and almost a year later, she arrived in Portland, Oregon. Her husband, an international affairs reporter for the People's Daily, remains in China. Rabbi Stampfer says that Qu is the only Kaifeng Jew in the world with the ability to read Hebrew and participate in basic Jewish rituals. He also noted that the Jews of Kaifeng are planning to convert a house on Teaching Scripture Lane into a Jewish museum and community center. It would be the first meeting center for Jews there in more than 100 years. Both he and Qu said they did not know whether that move would spark a renewal of the Chinese Jewish community, but that it represented "the first faint light of a renaissance of an ancient community."<sup>1</sup>

This syndicated article is thrilling to those who





believe in the Book of Mormon because it reaffirms to us that “the House of Israel shall be scattered upon all the face of the earth.” (1 Nephi 7:6)

Evidence is accumulating that the Jaredites were responsible for the Chinese civilization. Their route from the great tower eastward and across Asia is becoming better understood (see *People, Places, and Prophecies* by Verneil Simmons).<sup>2</sup>

An article by Sherri D. Smith entitled “Chinese Civilization” quoting from the Simmons text tells us: “It is not impossible that the Jaredite Colony traveled through the Yellow River Basin and left enough people in the vicinity of the Shantung Peninsula to initiate the beginning of civilization in China.”<sup>1</sup>

Also, Raymond Treat tells us in an article from *Recent Book of Mormon Developments* that “The Olmec Civilization is seen by Book of Mormon scholars as representing part of the Jaredite culture” and that “Olmec was the name given to the major archaeological group living during the time of the Jaredite highpoint.”<sup>4</sup>

Edward Butterworth in his book *Pilgrims of the Pacific*, states: “As far as we know, the Jaredites were the only people claiming divine direction for their migration out of Babel.”<sup>5</sup>

In Babylonian culture, the name was important and they tried to keep names secret at certain times and on certain occasions. It was believed that to the extent the bearer became known, he became vulnerable. Thus, we do not know the name of the Brother of Jared. Again quoting Edward Butterworth concerning the migration of the Jaredites: “It is possible the Jaredites were the vanguard of a massive move out of Asia. They were being led by divine power to attract other colonies out of Mesopotamia to inhabit Asia, the Far East, and the islands of the sea . . . The systematic scattering of the people from Babel was in progress. Now Asia, China, Africa, India and finally, the islands of the sea would be populated.”<sup>6</sup>

A very exciting book about the Chinese written language and entitled *The Discovery of Genesis* points out that: “Chinese characters when broken down into component parts time and again reflect elements of the story of God and man recorded in the early chapters of Genesis. Man and woman, the Garden, the institution of marriage, the temptation and fall, death, Noah’s flood, the tower of Babel—

they are all there in the tiny strokes that make up the Chinese characters.”<sup>7</sup>

We read also: “. . . The ancient Chinese were monotheists, serving a Supreme Heavenly Ruler.”<sup>8</sup>

The history of the written Chinese language gives its approximate time of origin as 2500 B.C. This dating coincides closely with the great dispersion of races from the Great Tower.

The author adds: “It is remarkable that the Chinese characters have survived intact through the intervening thousands of years with very little modification in the meaning of their constituent parts.”<sup>9</sup>

How thrilling to us who have the history of the Jaredites in the Book of Mormon, to read from someone not familiar with this sacred book, that China, a pagan nation with religious mixtures of ancestral worship, Taoism and its myths and magic, Buddhism with its superstitious and divinations and Confucianism with its scholarly teaching, yet daily communicates through written script which has its origin in the story of the gospel!

A few of the many available examples are shown in the accompanying characters<sup>10</sup> which have been illustrated by Glenn A. Scott.

We must remember that Ether 5:25 tells us that the Brother of Jared was mighty in writing.

Paul Zimmerman, in writing the Foreword for *Discovery of Genesis* gives us a fitting climax to ponder: “Perhaps God has given us a point of reference to use today in proclaiming to the Chinese themselves the full story of the Bible (and Book of Mormon?) with all the richness of the gospel of Jesus Christ.”<sup>11</sup>

#### FOOTNOTES

1. Syndicated Article, “The Jew From China”, New York Times
2. Verneil Simmons, *People, Places, & Prophecies*, Indep., Mo., Zarahemla Research Foundation, Inc., 1981, Pps. 27-33.
3. Ibid.
4. Raymond Treat, *Recent Book of Mormon Developments* (Articles from the Zarahemla Record, 1984), “Mesoamerican Archaeology and the Book of Mormon,” p. 7
5. Edward Butterworth, *Pilgrims of the Pacific*, (Indep., Mo. Herald House, 1974), P. 19.
6. Ibid, p. 41, 42.
7. C. H. Kang and Ethel R. Nelson, *The Discovery of Genesis*, (St. Louis, Concordia, 1979) Foreword, p. IX.
8. Ibid, p. IX.
9. Ibid, p. 5.
10. Ibid, PPs. 41, 44, 61, 95, 109, 119.
11. Ibid, Foreword, p. 10.



# —WHO WAS HE?

by Eveline Miasnikoff

When the world was not willing to admit that there had even been even one civilization inhabiting the western hemisphere, hundreds, even thousands of years before Columbus started the modern invasion, WHO dared over 150 years ago to tell of not one, not two, but three civilizations? (Jaredites, Nephites, and Mulekites).

WHO said there had been cultured peoples on the land now called Mesoamerica and Mexico, when the prevailing thought was that there were only barbaric and savage tribes?

WHO claimed that there were towers, temples, and many great buildings buried in the jungles of Middle America ten years before Stephens and Catherwood made their historic travels of discovery?

WHO was able to give an accurate description of a major earthquake without ever having experienced one or having access to information on the subject and before the science of seismology was invented? How could one know the sequence of events that happen in a major earthquake without having been witness to such a tremendous upheaval: storms, great tempests, terrible thunders, sharp lightnings, fires, whirlwinds, and finally indescribable darkness so thick it could be felt, gases so powerful no fires could be lit?

WHO without ever having been in a war or having anything to do with warfare could thoroughly describe the preparations for war on a grand scale? WHO could know the details of fortifications, moats, breastworks used in hand to hand battles? How could such a person know the problems of supplies, food, clothing, equipment, the handling of prisoners of war, the plans of attack, retreat, and spying?

WHO was ridiculed for saying that the earliest people had horses, elephants, machinery and expertise in the working of metals? WHO without a knowledge of Egyptian names could use so many of them correctly? And WHO would dare in the 1830s to claim an Egyptian influence in one of these pre-Columbian civilizations? How would one who had never seen a desert know the perils, fears and problems faced by the Arabs or Bedouins?

WHO growing up on a small New England farm unfamiliar with semitropical agriculture could tell the procedure used in cultivating Mediterranean olive trees?

WHO had knowledge of the ancient oriental custom of conquered rival kings being kept in captivity for years, sometimes for life, and sometimes to the third generation?

WHO claimed that many who could not pay the exorbitant taxes required to keep the kings in excessive luxury, were imprisoned and forced to produce beautiful goldsmithing and other exquisite products?

WHO was able to produce a book with many Hebrew expressions and characteristics even though he was not a Hebrew nor familiar with any Hebrew literature except the Bible? And WHO dared to state that the purpose of this book was to witness that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that he came to the ancient people of the Americas after his resurrection, taught them the gospel, and established his church among them, before he left them and returned to his father?

WHO was the one who though unlearned presented all this information to the world without apology or retractions ever having to be made? It was the young prophet, Joseph Smith. Considering his educational disadvantages, how could he possibly present all the information encompassed in the previous paragraphs, put it together in a tremendous book of over 700 pages, in an estimated 90 to 100 working days, under hectic working conditions, persecution and pressure?

Joseph Smith did not do all this of himself. Rather, he translated an actual record which had been kept by divine prophets through the ages. This he did by the command of God, and under his direction. No statements in this book, however extravagant they may have seemed at the time, have ever had to be retracted or revised. What is the book? It is the BOOK OF MORMON.

Joseph Smith was instrumental in bringing forth this marvelous translation which contains the fullness of the gospel and testifies that Jesus Christ is indeed the Son of God. Through this latter day prophet of God we have available the Book of Mormon which is one of the most precious treasures in existence in the world today.



Joseph Smith, Jr. obedient to the commandment of God, and under divine direction, translated the Book of Mormon from an ancient record engraved on golden plates.



# THE THREE NEPHITES

by Thelona D. Stevens

Shortly before Jesus took his final leave of the Nephites, he asked the twelve special witnesses what they desired most of him after he had gone to the Father. Nine of them desired to go speedily to him in his kingdom when their life's work was over, which Jesus granted.

Three of them dared not put into words their desires, but Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said that they desired the same thing which John the Beloved had desired (John 21:20-24; D&C 7:2). Jesus granted their wish, saying,

**More blessed are ye, for ye shall never taste of death, but ye shall live to behold all the doings of the Father, unto the children of men, . . . and ye shall not have pain while ye shall dwell in the flesh, neither sorrow, save it be for the sins of the world; . . . for ye have desired that ye might bring the souls of men unto me, while the world shall stand. . .**

—III Nephi 13:18-22

Later, when Mormon was abridging the record, he prayed to understand more about this and he was told that in order that they might not taste of death.

**there was a change wrought upon their bodies, that they might not suffer pain nor sorrow, save it were for the sins of the world. Now this change was not equal to that which should take place at the last day; but there was a change wrought upon them, insomuch that Satan could have no power over them, . . . and that the powers of the earth could not hold them; and in this state they were to remain until the judgment day of Christ . . .**

—III Nephi 13:51-53

Mormon also told,

**And they are as the angels of God, and if they shall pray unto the Father in the name of Jesus, they can shew themselves unto whatsoever man it seemeth them good.**

—III Nephi 13:42

Thus these Three Nephites continue to minister to mankind on the earth. Many have seen them and have been ministered to by them. Following are two testimonies regarding them.

Have you received of their ministry, or do you know of someone who had a faith-building experience with them which they would like to share with our readers? If so, please let us hear from you.

(We reserve the right to edit or condense such accounts, of course without changing the meaning.)

My sister is petite — stands 4'9" and normally weighs about 85 pounds. Some years ago she moved in midsummer to a ground floor apartment, and was unpacking and trying to get settled. The doors and windows were all open, lights all on. Stepping into the kitchen, she saw a man standing at the sink. She observed that he was of swarthy complexion, sturdy build, and unusual attire. He wore a plaid flannel shirt and fringe was down the sides of his pants. She felt no fear, but was mystified. She calmly asked, "How in the world did you get in here?" He looked at her, said nothing, and then vanished right before her eyes! She checked the doors and windows. The screens were all hooked. She had no explanation, but she did have a strong conviction that she had seen what she had seen.

My sister told me of this experience many times. Also, I heard her tell it to others, and no one ever had an explanation. Then one evening at our local prayer service she told the experience. At once I arose and gave the explanation as the Spirit of God revealed it to me. Just outside her back door was a carport, well grown over with vines, a perfect hiding place for one with evil intentions. One watching there could see that she was alone in the lighted apartment — until her visitor stood at her sink in full view of the back door. He had been sent to protect her. His mission completed, he vanished, but a would-be intruder would not have known this.

Her visitor was one of the Three Nephites, appearing as one capable of protecting her in her danger, according to the words of Moroni's description of angels who would be sent to minister unto the children of men, subject to God's command:

**Behold, they are subject unto him, to minister according to the word of his command, shewing themselves unto them of strong faith and a firm mind, in every form of godliness.** —Moroni 7:31

As soon as I sat down, a sister sitting behind me arose and bore testimony that the Spirit of God had verified to her both the experience and the explanation.

—TDS

## TESTIMONY BY THEODORE GATROST

I was born in 1937 at Radcliff, Kentucky. My parents, Floyd and Dorothy Gatrost, were members of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, as well as my grandparents. I became a member of this church when twelve years of age and remained

(continued on page 12)

# THE STORY GOES FORTH IN SIGHT AND SOUND

## FRAA LAUNCHES VIDEO PRODUCTION

by Dale Godfrey

In the Independence Examiner, Monday, November 11, 1985 was a statement that new findings put Asiatics in America prior to Christ. Each day the world becomes more and more aware of the truths that have been known to the Restoration for over one hundred and fifty years. And yet, each day the world continues in ignorance of the message found in the Book of Mormon. The Book of Mormon contains the fullness of the gospel of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles and also to the Jews. (Doctrine and Covenants 17:2d) It was in acknowledgement of this great truth that the Foundation for Research on Ancient America was established to bring to light the truths of the fullness of the Gospel.

FRAA began a new venture in October of 1985. It was then that the Foundation began to utilize video cassette tapes as a means of recording and sharing the truths of the Gospel. The Foundation's efforts in this area are still in their infancy, but through the devotion and sharing of many believers we have begun to acquire equipment and facilities to make this endeavor possible.

The goal of this video taping project is not to replace personal study, prayer or preparation but to assist and inspire your efforts. We hope to produce material which will be educational, informative and inspirational to persons of all ages. As our efforts continue we will be producing video cassette tapes suitable for use at home, in small groups and in church.

Our focus shall always remain the Gospel of Jesus Christ with particular emphasis on that Gospel as expressed through the Book of Mormon. We envision four primary areas of concentration, those being: Archaeological evidences of the Book of Mormon, the Book of Mormon impact upon lives, and a miscellaneous category to include such things as sermons, dramas, assorted children's material, and various items of instruction and information.

As we enter into this important area of ministry we would ask each of you for your prayers and support. If you are interested and would like to share your suggestions, talents or ideas with us we would be happy to hear from you.

We undertake this project in faith, and while we recognize that our efforts are feeble and weak we trust in the Lord and His promise "that the fullness of my gospel might be proclaimed by the weak and the simple, unto the ends of the world, and before kings and rulers." Doctrine and Covenants 1:4e

The first completed video is a "highlight" tape of the Book of Mormon Day held October 12, 1985. Over eight hours of presentations have been edited into 55 minutes for convenient viewing. However, should you want the complete presentation of any single speaker, the following will be custom made as there is need: 1) Ray Treat, 2) Lee Abramson, 3) Roy Weldon and Shirley Heater, 4) Henry Schaefer and T. Evan Thomas.

All tapes are available at School of Saints, 520 West Maple, Independence, Missouri 64050 or the Family Video Center located at 3417 South Noland Road in the Gaslight Square in Independence, Missouri 64055. Each tape is priced at \$14.95. Mail orders can be sent to either of the above facilities. Please add \$1.95 a tape for handling and mailing. Tapes may also be rented locally from the Family Video Center for \$2.00 a tape for a twenty-four hour period.

Also available for your home or church school study is a three segment tape of Thelona Stevens, and one of Henry Schaefer. Plans have been made for recording other speakers who will give enlightenment to your study and greater understanding of the truths of the restored gospel. Please watch THE WITNESS for additional tapes that are available, or contact either the Family Video Center at 816/833-1080 or School of Saints at 816/833-0491.



*If ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life.*

*II Nephi 13:30*

# The Foundation for Research On Ancient America And FRAA Video



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**TO: Aid Families**  
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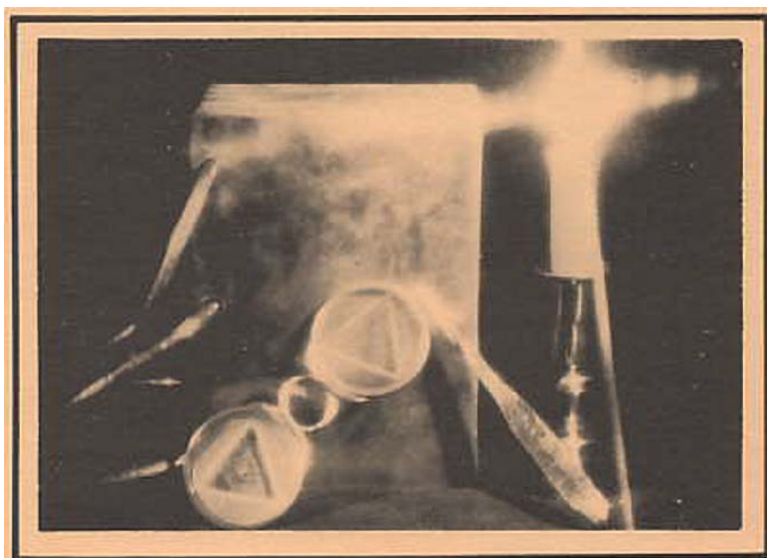
**TO: See more clearly**  
the importance of  
archeological evidences



**TO: Present with clarity**  
the scholarly research  
on the book itself



**TO: Hear** how the teachings become  
incarnate in the lives  
of people who  
endeavor to live for  
**Jesus Christ!**



# TANTALIZING GLIMPSES—FAINT WHISPERINGS

## A NEW RESEARCH TRAIL—THE ORAL RECORD

### PART I



Roy  
Weldon

*Editorial Note: This article follows the Introduction which was printed in the October 1985 issue of THE WITNESS. Brother Weldon is sharing a continuing series of articles with our readers.*

A young Englishman by the name of Richard Luxton has befriended and lived close to a Mayan shaman, Pablo Balaam, and has evidently made some quite tantalizing peeks into an extensive oral library kept secret among Mayan shamans for centuries. Some of the peeks and faint whisperings appear relevant to the Nephite Record, Joseph Smith, and the Restoration.

Documentation from “The Mystery of the Mayan Hieroglyphs, The Vision of an Ancient Tradition” by Richard Luxton with Pablo Balaam is now in order. Comments of Harper and Row, publishers of this book (1982) should be helpful. “Pablo Balaam’s words are the only explanation of Mayan sacred writing given to outsiders since the pre-Columbian culture was repressed by the Spanish invaders. The mystery of the Mayan hieroglyphs is the tale of an initiation into a Shamatic way of seeing, secretly continued in the Yucatan and elsewhere in spite of four hundred years of European persecution.”

Richard Luxton says when the Spanish settled in 1539-41 the knowledge was still there among the Indians. There were priests and shamans who could read the short count texts and more than this, who could accurately locate themselves according to the long count also. But the Spanish priest never set down any known explanation of how to read the

signs. There were Spanish priests, subsequent to Bishop de Landa who as late as the 1690s claimed to be able to read Mayan writing, but if they left any account of this, it has disappeared or has been suppressed. We learn only that the Mayas were still reading and writing hieroglyphically a mere two and half centuries ago.

In pages 174 and 175 Luxton presents evidence that when the Jesuits discovered that the hieroglyphic texts contained great similarities to Christianity they considered it *A LIE OF THE DEVIL*.

Thus the Spanish priests suppressed their knowledge and the shamans fled into the forests with their knowledge intact and claimed to be preserved to this day. Thus the Jesuits hid it, and the shamans also hid it.

It appears that there is no evidence that the Shaman Don Pablo taught Richard Luxton how to read the hieroglyphic texts. What Don Pablo gave Luxton was tantalizing peeks and faint whisperings of what the Maya texts contained.

Richard Luxton says, “In some mysterious way Don Pablo had seen below the surface texts . . . had seen into a deep pool of common Mayan knowledge. We spoke of ideas that remained hidden. Don Pablo talked of the Mayan jade mines no one had ever discovered, comparing this with the way their writing, specifically its origin and destiny had remained undisclosed. I reminded him that we had managed to read some of the signs, the calendar . . . and long count chronology.

Don Pablo nodded, but added . . . the *abuelos* put that there so that *when the truth is revealed*, when the time arrives for the writing to appear again, then you can see that it is so. It is like an examination so that you can see that their virtues, the power given them by our Lord is real and true. Then, also perhaps, you also will take their counsels to heart.

I was silenced by this. Like Don Miguel (another shaman) he had stated that the writing has a future destiny, a reappearance to come. More than this he had said that the fragments we had been given were put there for a reason, were there to prove something yet to come.” P. 184

Shaman Miguel adds: “The *abuelos* said that one of you who speaks English would come to understand their writing. This was to be one sign of the return of the old Mayan power . . . they said it would be read there before the year 2000.” P. 45

It is little wonder then that Richard Luxton

*(continued on page 12)*



**Study  
Along  
with . . .**



**Thelona Stevens**

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## **The New Covenant**

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Before there could be a new covenant, there had to be an old covenant.

There are references in the scriptures to the old covenant, the old testament, the first covenant, the first testament, the new covenant, the new testament, a better covenant, and a better testament. All of these can be grouped into two categories — the old covenant and the new covenant. Of course, there is the ever-lasting covenant, which actually is a topic unto itself.

One dictionary definition of testament with reference to the Bible is “a solemn covenant.” The word *covenant* used in Hebrews 9:15-18 is interpreted in the King James Version as *testament*. Both the Inspired Version (Mark 14:23) and the King James Version (Mark 14:24) use the word *testament*, and in Matthew 26:24 (I.V.), 26:28 (K.J.) and in Hebrews 7:20 (I.V.), 7:22 (K.J.), while both versions use the word *covenant* in Hebrews 8:6-8, 10:16,29, 12:24. Obviously, covenant and testament mean one and the same thing here.

Those before Christ came who knew and wrote of God’s plan for the salvation of mankind wrote their testimony as to these things. Those in the eastern hemisphere wrote the Old Testament of the Bible, while those in the western hemisphere wrote the “Old Testament” of the Book of Mormon. They were all writing under the first, or old covenant. After Christ, those who knew him bore testimony in both the old world and the new world — in the New Testament of the Bible and the “New Testament” of the Book of Mormon.

### **THE OLD COVENANT**

All those who lived prior to Christ’s coming, even from the days of Adam, who accepted the gospel plan and made covenant with God, did so under the old (or first) covenant, understanding that their eternal salvation was based on Christ, the Son of God, who would come “in the meridian of time” (Genesis 6:60) and offer himself in sacrifice for “all mankind, even as many as will” (Genesis 4:7,9; Alma 5:23). Christ’s offering of his blood for sin was for all from the days of Adam who would come unto him (Mosiah 1:107; II Nephi 1:72).

Under the law those who sin must die (Genesis 2:20; II Nephi 1:69,70). Adam’s sin brought the penalty of death to both the body and the spirit (D&C 28:11; Alma 9:28,29; 19:88). God in mercy offered Adam (and all mankind) the eternal plan of redemption from sin through Christ (Alma 19:90). If they would not accept him, they must suffer for their own sins (D&C 18:1,2).

Adam, having learned that disobedience was costly, hearkened unto the Lord when he was told to offer the firstlings of his flocks on the altar of sacrifice as an offering unto the Lord, obeyed the commandment. An angel appeared and asked Adam why he was doing this and Adam admitted that he did not know why, except that God had commanded it (Genesis 4:5,6). Then the angel explained:

**This thing is in similitude of the sacrifice of the Only Begotten of the Father . . . ; wherefore, thou shalt do all that thou doest in the name of the Son. And thou shalt repent, and call upon the name of the Son for evermore.**  
—Genesis 4:7,8

The Spirit of God “fell upon Adam” and confirmed the angel’s words, saying

I am the Only Begotten of the Father from the beginning, henceforth and for ever; that, as thou hast fallen, thou mayest be redeemed, and all mankind, even as many as will. —Genesis 4:9

## BAPTISM UNDER THE OLD COVENANT

Later Enoch's testimony was that Adam did not understand why baptism was required.

And our father Adam spoke unto the Lord, and said, Why is it that men must repent and be baptized in water? —Genesis 6:54

The remainder of the sixth chapter of Genesis is an account of God's answer to Adam and Adam's response. God explained that no unclean thing could dwell in his presence. He said,

Inasmuch as ye were born into the world by water and blood, and the spirit, which I have made and so become of dust a living soul; even so ye must be born again, into the kingdom of heaven, of water and of the Spirit, and be cleansed by blood, even the blood of mine Only Begotten, that ye may be sanctified from all sin; and enjoy the words of eternal life in this world, and eternal life in the world to come; even immortal glory. For, by the water ye keep the commandment; by the Spirit ye are justified; and by the blood ye are sanctified . . . This is the plan of salvation unto all men, through the blood of Mine Only Begotten . . . —Genesis 6:61-63,65

(Also the Lord said, "I give unto you a commandment, to teach these things freely unto your children."—Genesis 6:61)

Adam gladly accepted the plan, was baptized, and was "quicken in the inner man" by the Spirit of God, and was ordained to priesthood, all by the power of God (Genesis 6:67-70).

Baptism was taught by Enoch and by Noah.

Enoch was commanded by God:

Go forth to this people, and say unto them, Repent: . . . And he gave unto me a commandment, that I should baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, who is full of grace and truth, and the Holy Ghost which beareth record of the Father and the Son. —Genesis 7:12,13

Noah continued his preaching unto the people, saying,

Hearken and give heed unto my words, believe and repent of your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, even as our fathers did, and ye shall receive the Holy Ghost, that ye may have all things made manifest; —Genesis 8:11

Nephi, son of Lehi, prophesied concerning the Christ who would come. He taught his people that repentance and baptism were necessary, and he promised that if they would humble themselves and be baptized according to the instructions, they would receive the Holy Ghost (II Nephi 13:16,17). Then they must "press forward, feasting upon the words of Christ, and endure to the end and "thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life" (verse 30).

Alma taught repentance and faith on the Lord who had redeemed his people "having one faith, one baptism; . . . (Mosiah 9:53,54).

## THE LAW OF MOSES

The law of Moses, given by God to the faithless Israelites who broke their covenant (Exodus chapters 24,32), contained only a portion of what the Israelites might have had, had they been faithful to their covenant (Exodus 34:1,2; Deuteronomy 10:1,2). From that time until the coming of Christ, the fullness of the law given in the beginning was not had (D&C 83:3, 4a-c), but they did have the preparatory gospel, which is "the gospel of repentance and of baptism and the remission of sins, and the law of carnal commandments" (D&C 83:4c).

The Israelites continued to practice baptism until John, who was to prepare the way before Christ. John was baptized while yet in his childhood" (D&C 83:4e).

We know that John could not have been baptized before he was eight years of age as the law given by God in Abraham's time stipulated this.

And I will establish a covenant of circumcision with thee, and it shall be my covenant between me and thee, and thy seed after thee, in their generations; that thou mayest know for ever that children are not accountable before me until they are eight years old. —Genesis 17:11

## THE BREAD AND THE WINE

There was complete understanding by those ancients that the blood of Christ, the "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Genesis 7:54), was the source of their salvation. It is notable that Abraham was served the bread and the wine by Melchizedek:

And Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought forth bread and wine; and he break bread and blest it; and he blest the wine, he being the priest of the most high God, and he gave to Abram, and he blessed him, . . . —Genesis 14:17,18

Paul bore record that they of old who were committed to God's way were baptized and used the bread and the wine:

Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them; and that Rock was Christ.  
—I Corinthians 10:1-4

## THE NEW COVENANT

The old covenant which required offerings on the altar of sacrifice was replaced by the new covenant through Christ's divine sacrifice.

He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By which will we be sanctified through the offering once of the body of Jesus Christ.  
—Hebrews 10:9,10

It was not sufficient that Christ come to earth and dwell among men. It was required of him that he suffer sacrificial death in order that the new covenant might be effective.

For where a covenant is, there must of necessity be the death of the victim. For a covenant is of force after the victim is dead; otherwise it is of no strength at all while the victim liveth.  
—Hebrews 9:16,17

Had Christ not died, there would have been no validity to the promise of eternal life for mankind.  
The sacrifice which instituted the new covenant could not be just any sacrifice. It had to be of divine nature in order that mankind could be saved by it.

For it is expedient that there should be a great and last sacrifice; yea, not a sacrifice of man, neither of beast, neither of any manner of fowl; for it shall not be a human sacrifice; but it must be an infinite and eternal sacrifice. Now there is not any man that can sacrifice his own blood, which will atone for the sins of another.  
—Alma 16:210,211

For it behooveth the great Creator that he suffereth himself to become subject unto man in the flesh, and die for all men, that all men might become subject unto him.  
—II Nephi 6:10

Christ spoke to the Nephites out of the darkness following the great storm, saying,

Ye shall offer up unto me no more the shedding of blood; yea, your sacrifices and your burnt offerings shall be done away, for I will accept none of your sacrifices and your burnt offerings; and ye shall offer for a sacrifice unto me a broken heart and a contrite spirit.  
—III Nephi 4:49

After Christ's sacrifice, no other sacrifices of flesh on the sacrificial altar could be accepted. Paul declared:

For if the blood of bulls and goats . . . sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh; how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new covenant . . .  
—Hebrews 9:13-15

With the ushering in of the new covenant, all other covenants became ineffective; all was fulfilled in Christ.  
Jesus told the Nephites that the law of Moses had been fulfilled in him. He said,

I am he that gave the law, and I am he who covenanted with my people Israel; therefore, the law in me is fulfilled, for I have come to fulfill the law; therefore, it hath an end. . . . the law which was given unto Moses, hath an end in me. Behold, I am the law, and the light; look unto me, and endure to the end, and ye shall live, for unto him that endureth to the end will I give eternal life.  
—III Nephi 7:6-10

When the church was organized in April 1830, "some people came asking to unite with the church through previous baptisms performed by ministers not of this church," according to the introduction to Section 20 in the Doctrine and Covenants. The Lord answered Joseph Smith's inquiry about this by saying,

Behold, I say unto you, that all old covenants have I caused to be done away in this thing, and this is a new and everlasting covenant; even that which was from the beginning. Wherefore, although a man should be baptized an hundred times, it availeth him nothing; for you can not enter in at the strait gate by the Law of Moses, neither by your dead works; for it is because of your dead works that I have caused this last covenant, and this church to be built up unto me; even as in days of old. Wherefore, enter ye in at the gate, as I have recommended, and seek not to counsel your God. Amen.  
—Doctrine and Covenants 20:1

Abinadi proclaimed,

I say unto you that salvation doth not come by the law alone and were it not for the atonement which God himself shall make for the sins and iniquities of his people, that they must unavoidably perish.  
—Mosiah 8:5

Acceptance of Christ's offering is contingent upon turning to him in repentance and following his teachings in righteousness. King Benjamin recognized the significance of Christ's offering and sounded this appeal:

And now, O man, remember and perish not.  
—Mosiah 2:50



## The Three nephites

*(continued from page 5)*

active in the years following. I married at 19 and took a job in construction about 200 miles away. I worked with a small group of men and we got along very well.

One friend with whom I worked had seizures two or three times a week. He always seemed to get to me when one of his attacks started. This sort of thing was entirely new to me and it made me nervous, so I tried to avoid him. He was a very nice person when not in an attack, but I could not handle it when he was in a seizure.

Then I began thinking that any normal person could have this happen, and it could happen to me. This was an extremely frightening thought which preyed upon my mind at nighttime, interfering with sleep. I grew weary, which showed up in my work. Finally I told my wife what was troubling me. She was most

understanding and sought unsuccessfully to help me. It had become an obsession that was taking over my mind.

In desperation I turned to God in prayer for help. The wall of the bedroom began to disappear, leaving a mist fog. Out of the fog three images appeared and came to the foot of my bed. They did not walk, but seemed to float. They were side by side; all had beards; they were fully clothed. They did not speak, but stood looking at me and then they looked at one another, nodded their heads, and looked back at me again. Then they smiled, and all of a sudden I felt relaxed. They slowly backed off into the fog and disappeared and the wall returned to its normal appearance.

This happened about 20 years ago and to this day I have never had that fear again. I never avoided my friend again, but instead helped him all I could.

I believe the three who visited me were the Three Nephites. I know this was a spiritual experience, and I hope this testimony will help others remember that God works miracles, knows when we are in need of help, and is there to comfort and bless us



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## Tantalizing Glimpses—Faint Whisperings

*(continued from page 8)*

should say — “The brief discussions continued on several weeks, intermittent bright glimpses, each time leaving me puzzled over how the words could relate to Mayan writing.” P. 185 Two chapters in his book are titled “The Realm of Shadows” and “The Whispering of Ancient Voices.”

Richard Luxton continues: “This was not faith alone that the ancient shamans had left the sons . . . this was the conviction based upon objective examination, by number, count and reason of the ancient inherited texts.” The sons had been left a science of time, a history of the future, inscribed on stone. The long count of 13 completes itself on a day, 24 December AD 2011. p. 201

Richard Luxton continues: “Here was the dream walk unal personified as our Lord — the prime mover in Mayan Christianity — as Jesus Christ himself . . . but the real key to this passage resided in the enigmatic mention of Melchisedek in the opening lines. p. 230

The word Melchisedek surfacing from ancient hieroglyphic texts would be no enigma to anyone versed in the Nephite Record, where it is mentioned four times — Alma 10:7-13, Alma also documents that Melchisedek was King of Salem. Salem has long been regarded with question since evidence of its existence is the sole mention of it in King James Genesis.

Richard Luxton concludes, “The scribe is saying that the ancient Shamantic scripture known to us as Mayan hieroglyphic writing is as much holy word, Holy Scripture in a Christian sense . . . of which

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Melchisedek was keeper and first priest . . . the Indians here at the center of the new world had also holy writ through the shamans . . . they had been given supernatural wisdom and had recorded their future in count and mysterious sign. The history of the pre-Columbian world, as we had written it began in the potent light of this the briefest of Mayan texts . . . what will happen if we ever come to be given understanding of the entire scripture that has been left?” PP. 231, 232

All the above opens up some of the most exciting possibilities based upon the upcoming participation of the Lamanites in Zionite endeavor. Christ, himself, informs us that the Gentiles who repent shall, “Be numbered among this, the remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance, and they shall assist My people, the remnant of Jacob, and also, as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem; And then shall they assist My people that they may be gathered in, who are scattered upon all the face of the land, in unto the New Jerusalem, and then shall the power of Heaven come down among them and I also shall be in the midst . . . 3 Nephi 10:1-4

There are grand and glorious inferences in the above words. Twice it is stated the Gentiles shall assist. The inference here is that the leaders, the mighty and strong ones (D.C. 64:8) will be of the house of Jacob bringing with them mighty power, and the Lord, Himself, will be in the midst. It appears that not only will the Cumorah Library be revealed, but the hieroglyphic code will be broken and Lamanite prophets in our midst can fling the doors wide open to reveal gleaming wonders of the past, long locked to the wise men of the world.



# QUINOA

by Marjorie Hurt Jones

*EDITORIAL NOTE: Louise Gregson has submitted the following article which offers a new food alternative — quinoa.*

*The author, Marjorie Hurt Jones is a registered nurse and former president of the Nutrition for Optimal Health Association. She is currently devoting her time to writing and teaching adult classes on how to cope with allergies.*

*Permission for reprinting this article has been granted by the Human Ecology Action League, Inc.*

Quinoa (keen-wa) was the sustaining food of the Inca Indians who lived in the Andes Mountains of South America.\* Here at elevations greater than 6-8,000 feet, even above the tree line, the Incas grew quinoa. They hammered out a meager living by combining it with potatoes, corn and whatever else they could gather or grow. Usually, they combined these foods in one pot for a hearty stew. They had little else to eat, yet they thrived.

The Incas had great respect for the quinoa. They sensed it was the source of their strength, and used it in their religion. The literal meaning of quinoa is “mother”, or “mother grain” — the source of life.

Like amarantha, quinoa is commonly referred to as a grain. But in the Biological Classification of Foods it is NOT in the grain/grass family. It is in the Chenopodium Family, closely related to the edible weed lamb’s quarters, as well as to beets and spinach. And because we haven’t grown up eating it repetitiously, discovering this ancient, “new” super-food is like finding a gold mine to those of us who rotate our foods!

## What is it like?

Uncooked quinoa looks like rounded sesame seeds. They have a protective coating of a bitter substance called saponins, which must be washed off before cooking. Saponins are used to make soaps, and have also been found to have a “scrubbing” action inside the artery walls, reducing the build-up of cholesterol. Despite the benefits of saponins, in this instance they should be washed off for palatability. In any case, the substance is not toxic. (Agronomists speculate that it is this bitter coating that protects quinoa from invading insects.)

All quinoa is grown organically. The farmers who grow it are very poor and know nothing of using chemicals on crops. When Steve Gorad, of the Quinoa Corporation, was asked about possible contamination by fumigation when it enters this country, he said a most emphatic “NO”.

When quinoa cooks it seems to uncurl into saucer shaped discs and little curly threads. It is not sticky like true grains are, so it seems much lighter. Even when tender it retains a pleasant crunch. It is easily digested and considered appropriate for the elderly, the ill and small children. (Just put in in a blender briefly if a smooth gruel is necessary.) One South American study suggested that quinoa helped lactating women nurse better.

Quinoa is so irresistible because of its flavor. It can be used in casseroles in place of any grain, and substituted in many ways. Try it in cold salads, like pasta or tabouli, or in desserts. I made an “instant pudding” for breakfast by adding mashed banana and a little maple syrup to cold, cooked quinoa, and it was great! Though it cooks like rice, remember that quinoa is a complete protein and may be your “main course”.

## Food Value

The National Academy of Sciences has called quinoa “one of the best sources of protein in the vegetable kingdom”. The amino acid profile is much like that of whole, dried milk. It is high in those amino acids that are deficient in true grains — lysine, methionine and cysteine.

Like amaranth, quinoa is considered essentially gluten-free and high in fiber. It is a good source of B vitamins, vitamin E, calcium and many other minerals. Some varieties are a fair source of iron, while others are relatively low.

## How to Prepare

Cook quinoa just like rice. Measure 1/3 cup per serving into a pot and add cold water. Swish it around well and drain into a strainer. Repeat another time or two until the water is fairly clear and doesn’t foam much.

Discard last rinse water and add twice as much water to the pot as quinoa. A quarter teaspoon of salt per cup of quinoa is tasty but optional. Bring this to a boil, reduce the heat and simmer for 15 to 45 minutes (see next paragraph for explanation of this wide range). When it’s tender and the water is mostly absorbed stir lightly with a fork. Serve at once or cover to keep warm until needed — it won’t get sticky.

Because there are so many varieties of quinoa, stating a precise cooking time is chancey. Most seem to cook in about 20 minutes, but a few take double that. The first quinoa I tried happened to be a longer-cooking variety, and I found it confusing — expecting it to be ready in 15 minutes — and thought I was

*(continued on page 16)*

# U.S. Satellite Maps Aid Plunder

(continued from Page 1)

He was encouraged to use the advanced imaging technology to do this work eight years ago by Dr. Hans Mark, formerly the director of the Ames Research Center in Mountain View and presently the chancellor of the University of Texas.

With the use of satellite, space shuttle and aircraft images taken in the microwave and infrared radar regions of the spectrum, Sever has uncovered civilizations 200,000 years old under the sands of Sudan; he has explored hidden valleys in the Andes of Peru to find long-lost Incan cities; he has found settlement patterns in Costa Rica and Israel, and detected prehistoric highways in Yucatan.

His work is based on the astounding ability of the high-flying instruments to penetrate the jungle cover and surface soils to reveal village sites, ancient canal systems, ruined temples and graveyards.

Sever explained that the instruments operate at radiation wavelengths invisible to ordinary photography. Infrared detectors focused with high precision from satellites can measure minute variations in heat emission from areas as small as a square yard while they cover hundreds of square kilometers during a single pass.

Radar impulses beamed from the space shuttle to Earth and reflected into the orbiting detectors, can measure the slopes of hillside habitation sites, the height of village walls, or the roughness of the terrain where early farmers might have plowed their first furrows.

The technology involved is based on two of the United States' successful high-technology ventures totally unrelated to archaeology.

The first uses a class of specialized spacecraft called the Landsat satellites. The purpose is to survey Earth's major resources from orbit: new mineral deposits can be discovered, the health of forests and croplands can be assessed, potential oil-bearing formations can be sought or the mountain snow cover can be measured to predict the flow of summer water.

The second venture is purely military. Spy planes and spy satellites are used to assess missile launch sites on Soviet territory, to monitor nuclear weapons tests anywhere in the world, and to verify arms control treaties compliance.

The space agency's "multispectral scanners", the instruments that survey the Earth in many wavelengths of the spectrum simultaneously, are being used only for archaeological exploration, Sever explained.

He said that the results have been "spectacular" and are "revolutionizing" scientific explorations of the past.

He noted in a talk to a symposium sponsored by the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing and Johns Hopkins University that a major problem exists

because all the images NASA collects become available to anyone anywhere for a minimum price.

Sever said that his NASA salary is \$30,000 a year, and that he has been offered \$100,000 a year and more by private companies wanting to use his skills to examine satellite images for leads to potential artifacts. Companies also hoped he would head expeditions to garner objects for private sale.

An ancient city in Costa Rica has been detected by the use of radar. It is located near where a volcano has exploded nine times in the past. Sever and a group of ground-based archaeologists found "a Pompeii in the tropics," after journeying through rough terrain infested with venomous snakes and ticks. Radioactive carbon techniques dated it around 3000 B.C. That community holds an "elite graveyard" Sever said. He knows of a private expedition being readied to loot its gravestones.

Israel and Egypt have good governmental controls, and few relics are stolen from archaeological sites there, although the lands have been surveyed by satellite.

Sever has recently returned from an expedition to a site in Peru first discovered through satellite imaging. An American company ostensibly organized to salvage aircraft that crashed during World War II has purchased the satellite images of the site, Sever said.

Obviously the company is eyeing the ruins there because they are rich in monumental carved stone heads. Each head is worth \$250,000 on the black market.

Sever would like the world's legitimate archaeologists and their governments or academic sponsors to rapidly move to exploit the new revolution in satellite-based remote sensing.

"If we don't move fast, we'll find that the traces of the vanished civilizations we are just discovering with this new technology will vanish again—looted and robbed before we can examine them."



## NOTICE

FRAA has recently bought its own computer in order to be able to record and supervise more closely the rapidly growing mailing list. Thousands of names had to be changed from the former machine to ours and in the transaction hundreds of addresses were lost. We have checked our membership file to be certain that those who have made contributions will still get THE WITNESS. However, many of you have requested that we send newsletters to friends, and we may have lost some of those names or addresses. If you know of anyone who does not get the April issue, please notify us, or have them do so.

We regret this inconvenience. Perhaps it is the price of progress.

# LETTERS

What a great job you did on the Day with the Book of Mormon! It was a high point in my life and also in the life of my friend who attended with me.

—Alberta, Canada

Thank you for all you have done for so many of us. May God continue to bless you in all your righteous endeavors is my prayer.

—Washington

—California

The calendars are beautiful! Many of the saints indicated they were going to utilize the chart to help them read the Book of Mormon through.

—Michigan

I want to thank you for the lovely calendar, the little booklets and that wonderful book, *The Rod of Iron*. Best wishes for God to continue to bless your efforts in the years ahead. May God keep you in the palm of his loving hand.

—Australia

I truly appreciate receiving THE WITNESS. I like the splendid study material and the very interesting articles and testimonies.

—Ontario, Canada

We are pleased and thrilled with your Fullness of the Gospel magazine. There is nothing to compare with it! Having visited these places in Mexico, Yucatan, Guatamala and Peru we believe with our whole hearts, minds and strength that these are the ruins of the Jaredite-Nephite people. I have been a steadfast believer all my life (88 years).

I have been to Palenque so was very interested in the October article on Hebrew and Chinese signs there. I am giving this to my Jewish friend to read. I have been telling her about the Book of Mormon for a long time.

—Idaho

Our best wishes to you in your endeavors and a special thanks to Thelona. I have been a "fan" of hers since Bible Studies came out.

—Missouri

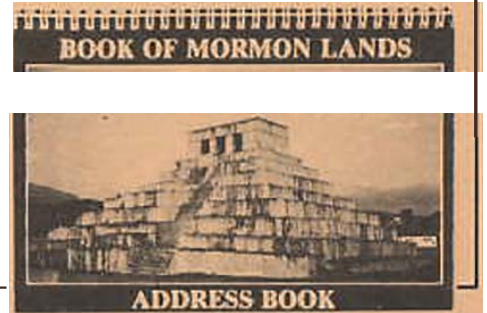
I feel completely refreshed when I read your reports in THE WITNESS. Keep up the good work.

Missouri

## JOIN IN THE WORK AND MAKE 1986 A BANNER YEAR

1985 saw many exciting projects completed by FRAA, such as a beautiful Book of Mormon Calendar, and of course the all day Book of Mormon day held October 12, at the Auditorium, but 1986 promises even more. In addition to its newsletter, "The Witness," which emphasizes Book of Mormon study and research articles, the Foundation assists in archaeological research in Mexico, and in publishing Book of Mormon books and pamphlets. Video tapes will be offered of a variety of speakers and subjects. Why not join us in 1986 and help share the exciting news of the Book of Mormon? **BECOME A MEMBER OF THE FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH ON ANCIENT AMERICA.**

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\*All contributions are tax deductible

# Quinona

(continued from page 13)

doing something wrong. My advice is to allow 40 minutes, but check it in 20. If it is done it will keep nicely until the rest of the meal is ready. Once you've noted the time required, it will be consistent for the rest of that batch.

You may also use it as the Incas did and make a hearty stew. Start with more water, at least 3:1, and add vegetables of your choice. When I tried this I just used what I had at hand — beets, celery, carrots, parsley and, for the last 5 minutes, 2 handfuls of torn spinach. Though I prefer more seasoning, it was really very good. And satisfying, too. Next time I think I'll use the Mustard Family — probably turnips, cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower, plus a little mustard stirred into the juices. Feel free to experiment — that's where "recipes" come from.

\*From 1200 to 1521 A.D.

### RESOURCES

QUINOA CORPORATION P.O. Box 7114 Boulder, Colorado 80306. Steve Gorn, President, (303) 444-9166. Sells quinoa in large quantities, as to stores or coops.

ILLINOIS AMARANTH COMPANY P.O. Box 464/Mundelein, IL 60060. Ken Patchen, President, (312) 546-6208, evenings. Sells quinoa in sample sizes and in 5 pound sacks, by mail.



## MOVING?

Please let us know your change of address. At quite an expense in both money and time, we are again updating our mailing list. Please help us keep it current.

# ABOUT THE FOUNDATION . . .

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The Foundation for Research on Ancient America is a not-for-profit corporation comprised of individuals who desire to advance the knowledge of Jesus Christ and the Book of Mormon. Through instructional materials, archaeological research, testimonies and related projects members of FRAA seek to assist in bringing forth the light that is contained in the ancient scriptures of the Book of Mormon.

The Foundation for Research on Ancient America is not an official organization of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

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