
MIGHTY SUMMONS

A quarterly report to Helaman's Two Thousand

No. 13 Foundation For Research On Ancient America October 1991



Lyle Smith

Book Stewards Help FRAA

Congratulations to Kathleen Haley! Kathleen, one of FRAA's book stewards, recently sold over \$800 worth of materials for the Foundation. In anticipation of the second annual Michigan all-day Book of Mormon conference, materials were sent ahead to Kathleen. She and Sharon Haley set up and handled the sales for the day. She also took FRAA items to a reunion the following week. Kathleen's efforts generated over \$800 for FRAA.

At the conclusion of last year's conference, Kathleen volunteered to keep unsold items and act as a book steward for FRAA. This idea prompted FRAA to appoint Jim and Penny Dunning to act as book steward

coordinators. They facilitate and coordinate the efforts of volunteers like Kathleen. At present, 12 others from around the United States have

Volunteer book stewards needed

volunteered to act as book stewards for the Foundation.

For more information on how you can help or if you want to purchase any FRAA materials--like our newest item, a royal blue tote bag with the Maya glyph "and then it came to pass"--contact Jim and Penny Dunning, FRAA, 210 W. White Oak, Independence, Missouri 64050, or call (816) 461-FRAA. 

Wheelbarrow of Beef

James H. Daugherty

I had a laborer that worked for me at one time; a black man by the name of Reuben Valiant, who has since passed to his reward. One day Reuben said to me, "Jim, I would like to talk with you."

We went out on the office steps and sat down in the sunshine.

"I want to tell you an experience I had when I was a young man. I got married and had a child. I didn't have a job, but I had hope. I lived in Little Rock, Arkansas, and," he said, "you don't know what it's like to live in Little Rock, Arkansas and be black."

He told me the depression came; people were out of work and there was no way he was going to get a job. One Sunday morning when he went to church, the minister stood and said, "Folks, we're going to have to close the doors of the church. We have no money, and we can't keep the church open. We have expenses, though, and as Christian people, it's important that when we leave we don't owe anybody anything."

Reuben said all he had in this world was one dollar. He had it in his pocket. As the collection was taken, many things passed through his mind: the hungry baby at home; how much milk that dollar would buy; the hopelessness of getting work

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

and knowing all he had was that dollar.

When the collection plate finally came in front of him, he reached in his pocket and put in his last cent.

"I walked away from church," Reuben said, "realizing I didn't have much of a chance."

The minister had told the people, "If you, within your hearts, have given properly and with joy, even the last that you have, the Lord will bless you and will watch over you."

"I remembered what that man said," Reuben told me, "but I really didn't believe it."

"As I walked home, a white man, driving a wagon with a team of horses all lathered up because they had been running, reined in and pointed right at me and said, 'YOU! I want you!'"

"Jim, if ever the fear of God was put in a colored man--living in Little Rock in 1929 and having a white man

point his finger in your face and say, 'YOU!' would do it."

Reuben walked over and said, "Yes, sir, what can I do for you?" The man replied, "I need somebody that knows how to butcher. Do you know how to butcher?"

"Yes, sir, I do."

"I want you out to my place. I need some work done now."

"It's Sunday, sir. I hold the Sabbath day sacred."

"Then tomorrow morning at daylight come to my house." He gave Reuben his name and left.

All the next day Reuben butchered for him, and at the end of the day the man said, "I'm going to give you a whole hind quarter of one of the steers that you butchered today."

"Oh, sir, that's more than what the job is worth."

But the man said, "That's what I'm going to give you."

"I have no way to take it home," Reuben said.

"Borrow my wheelbarrow."

So Reuben started down through town with a wheelbarrow full of a hind quarter of beef. At every street corner, people would come out of their houses and ask, "Do you have meat for sale?" Reuben would say, "Why I sure do." He would slice off a hunk and give it to them in exchange for money. By the time he got home, almost all the beef had been sold. He had a pocket full of money plus enough beef for food.

"Jim," he said, "from that day on I have put my trust in the Lord, and I've never gone without."

This is the testimony that should be in our hearts; that if we give and give with a thankful heart, the Lord will watch over us, and bless us, and give us those things we need at the time that we need them.



New Opportunity

The Lord has opened a wonderful and exciting door for members of the Foundation--an opportunity to participate in a weekend of events exploring the Book of Mormon at Graceland College.

A weekend adventure with the Book of Mormon

After several meetings with Dr. Barbara Higdon, president of Graceland College, and John Sellers, vice president, FRAA was invited to join with Graceland College in hosting a Book of Mormon weekend,



October 25-27. We hope to make this a real adventure with one of the

greatest historical, literary, and religious documents of the world--the Book of Mormon. Geared toward college students, activities will also be of interest to others who want to share in the witness of this great work.

The tentative schedule includes: Friday evening: concert; Saturday morning and evening: concurrent presentations, drama, testimonies, and music; Sunday morning: worship service.

We need your prayers and support

We ask your prayers, EACH DAY, between now and October 25th. Your prayers are very important!

Special financial contributions will also be deeply appreciated as we seek to witness of the Holy One of Israel in this particular way.



Archaeology News



In 1989, (left to right) Jill and Lynne Beebe, Sean and Ruth Stonham, and Barbara and Barent Eliason board the plane for Tikal in Guatemala.

Don Beebe

Three spaces remain on the Guatemala 1991 tour sponsored by FRAA. Led by Lyle and Sherrie Smith, the tour departs November 22 and returns December 1. Itinerary

includes Antigua, Chichicastenango, Copan, Tikal, Uaxactun, Kaminaljuyu, and Guatemala City. Call Lyle Smith (816) 229-5192 or (816) 461-FRAA NOW!

Special Thanks

to the following people whose extra contributions freed funds for the Graceland College day.

John and Shirley Davis
Jim and Berenice Fleming
Thomas Gough
Harry and Venna Johnson
Joyce Lund

Gerald and Dolores Olney
Lois Shipley
Linda Trimble
Muriel Winn

AND in particular to:
Alida and June Roth for a microwave oven,
and
Dorothy Cargyle for a refrigerator.

Where We Are

As of August 15, 1991:

Enlisted in Helaman's Two Thousand	1017
Building Fund	\$30,954
Helaman's Two Thousand (excludes building fund)	\$58,811

Contributions from Helaman's Two Thousand have been up this year. THANK YOU all for sharing your resources so FRAA can continue promoting the Book of Mormon among all people. Expenses, though have been even higher than in the past. The purchase, renovation, and maintenance of the new building added a sizable amount to our yearly budget. So your continued support will be most appreciated!

Maya Seven-Day Cycle Proposed

As believers in the Book of Mormon, our faith has been tested these many years in that certain archaeological understandings of the Maya culture in Mesoamerica have disagreed with the Book of Mormon record. One of these anomalies has been the lack of a seven-day week or cycle in the Maya calendar. The Book of Mormon tells us the Nephites followed the Law of Moses which required a seven-day count in order to keep the Sabbath holy.

**Six days shalt thou labor,
and do all thy work; but
the seventh day, the Sabbath
of the Lord thy God, thou
shalt not do any work. . .**

-- Mosiah 7:117

In a recent publication by the Center for Maya Research, Research Reports on Ancient Maya Writing (April 1991), an avid amateur epigrapher from Japan, Kenji Saito, proposes a seven-day cycle in the Maya counting of time. He and archaeologist Yoshiho Yasugi of the National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan feel this cycle comprises part of what is called the Supplementary Series in the Maya inscriptions. They further identify Maya Glyph Y with a coefficient Glyph Z as representative of this seven-day cycle.

The report appears quite technical, but I believe for our purposes, the basic premise--identification of a seven-day count--eliminates another major divergence between our understanding of the Maya and Book of Mormon history.



Edited by the
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*God is marshaling his army
For the rescue of his truth;
He is calling now to battle
Both the aged and the youth.
You can hear his mighty summons
In the thunder of his word;
Let us then be valiant soldiers
In the army of the Lord!*
The Hymnal #321

Coming Up

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|----------------------------|---|
| September 22 | CLASS for TEENS (14-19) --What Is The |
| October 13 | Book of Mormon? - Taught by Aaron Smith |
| November 3 | FRAA Building, 210 W. White Oak, |
| December 1 | Independence, Missouri |
| 2:00 - 4:00 P.M. | |
| October 7, 14, 21, 28 | Book of Mormon /Archaeology Lecture/ |
| November 4, 11 | Class Series, FRAA Building, |
| 7:30 P.M. | 210 W. White Oak, Independence, Missouri |
| October 25 - 27 | Spend A Weekend With The Book of |
| | Mormon at Graceland College |
| November 9 | Second Annual Dallas/Fort Worth Region |
| | Spend A Day With The Book of Mormon |
| | Brookside Convention Center, Hurst, Texas |
| November 22-
December 1 | Guatemala Archaeology Tour |



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