

Go Ye and Teach

The Restoration

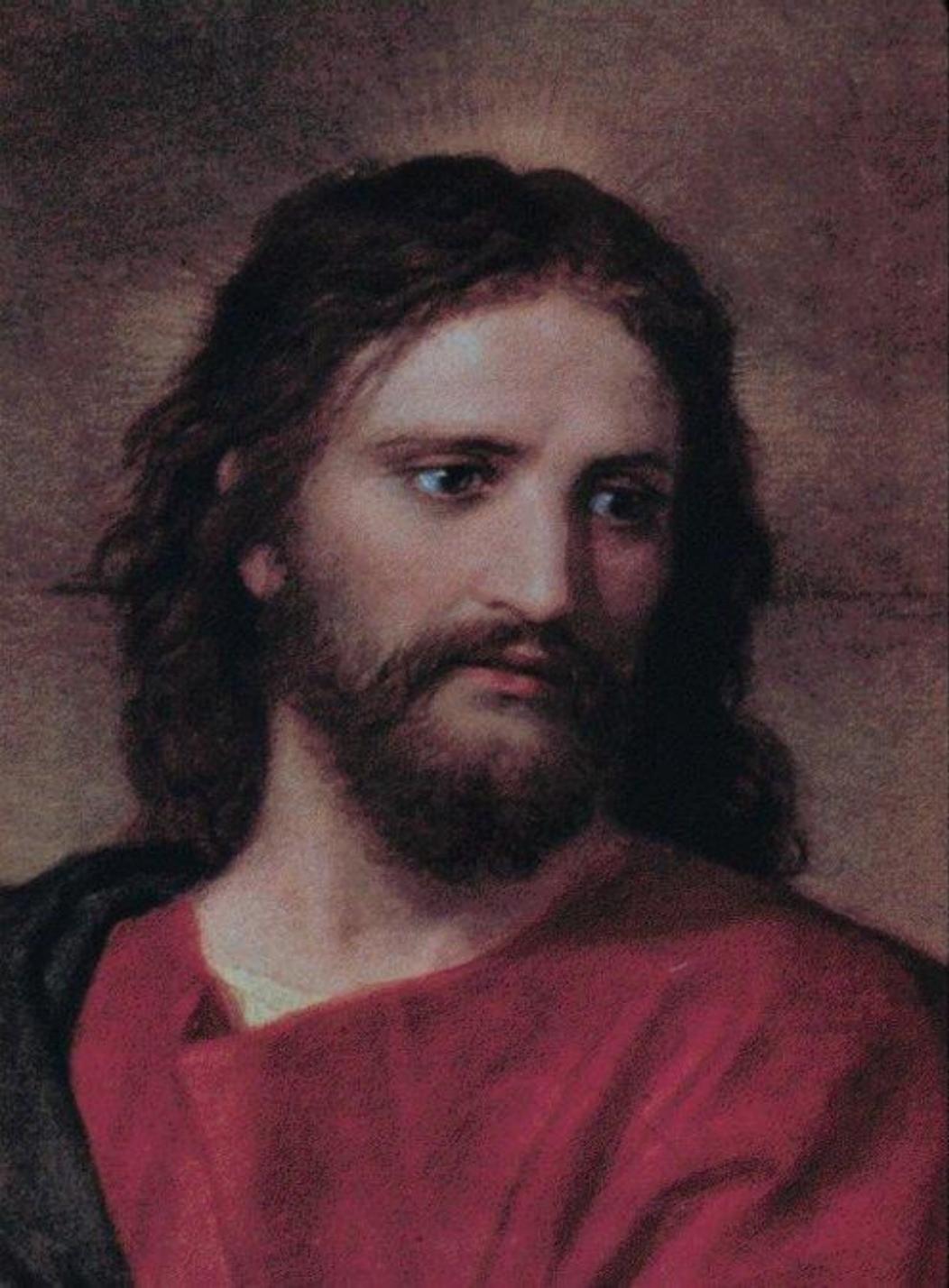
Part 1

Preface

- ❑ Christ restored His church in these latter days
 - as it was in former times
- ❑ The Book of Mormon is Christ's work
- ❑ Metallic plates were not uncommon for record storage
- ❑ Joseph Smith was a prophet of God

Preface

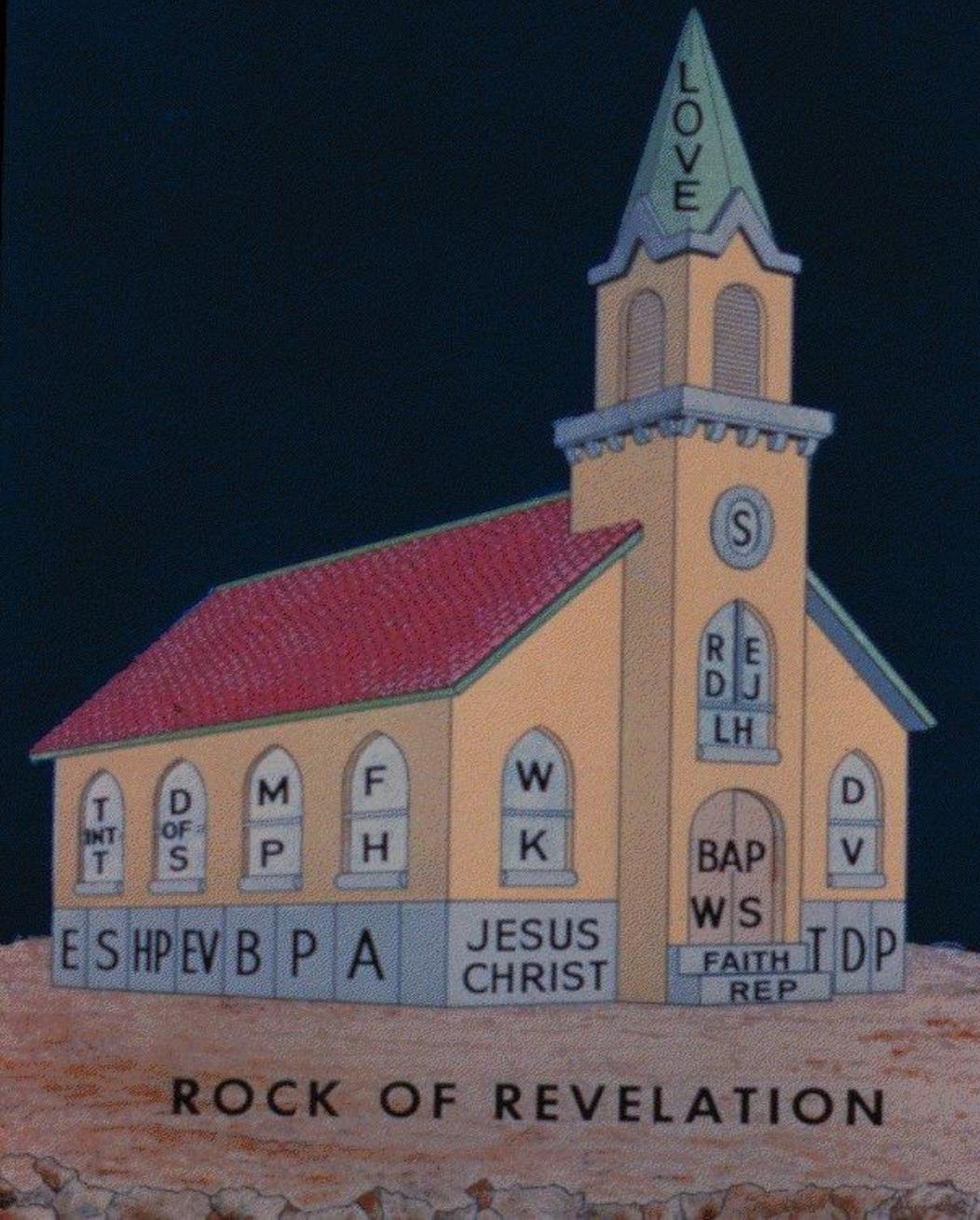
- ❑ Priesthood authority was divinely restored
- ❑ After Joseph Smith's death, the church was reorganized
- ❑ Christ's church is alive today



- ❑ Jesus Christ
- ❑ Central to all we believe and teach
- ❑ Son of God
- ❑ No salvation except through Him
- ❑ Requires our obedience to His gospel principles

Church of Christ, Complete

- part of Christ's plan for the salvation of man





- ❑ Christ Ascends to Heaven
- ❑ Acts 1:9-11
- ❑ Jesus will return again
 - in the latter days



- ❑ Pentecost
- ❑ Acts 1:4, 5; 2:1-6
- ❑ Bearing witness of Christ
 - under conviction and power of the Holy Spirit



- ❑ Christian Devotion
- ❑ Acts 2:41-47; 4:32-37
- ❑ Stewardship
 - showing love for Christ and fellow men



❑ **The Hirelings Flee**

❑ **John 10:12-14**

❑ **As the years passed**

– **Clergy no longer motivated by love**

– **Motivated by**

» **desire for money**

» **honor among men**

» **power**

❑ **Major factor leading to apostasy**

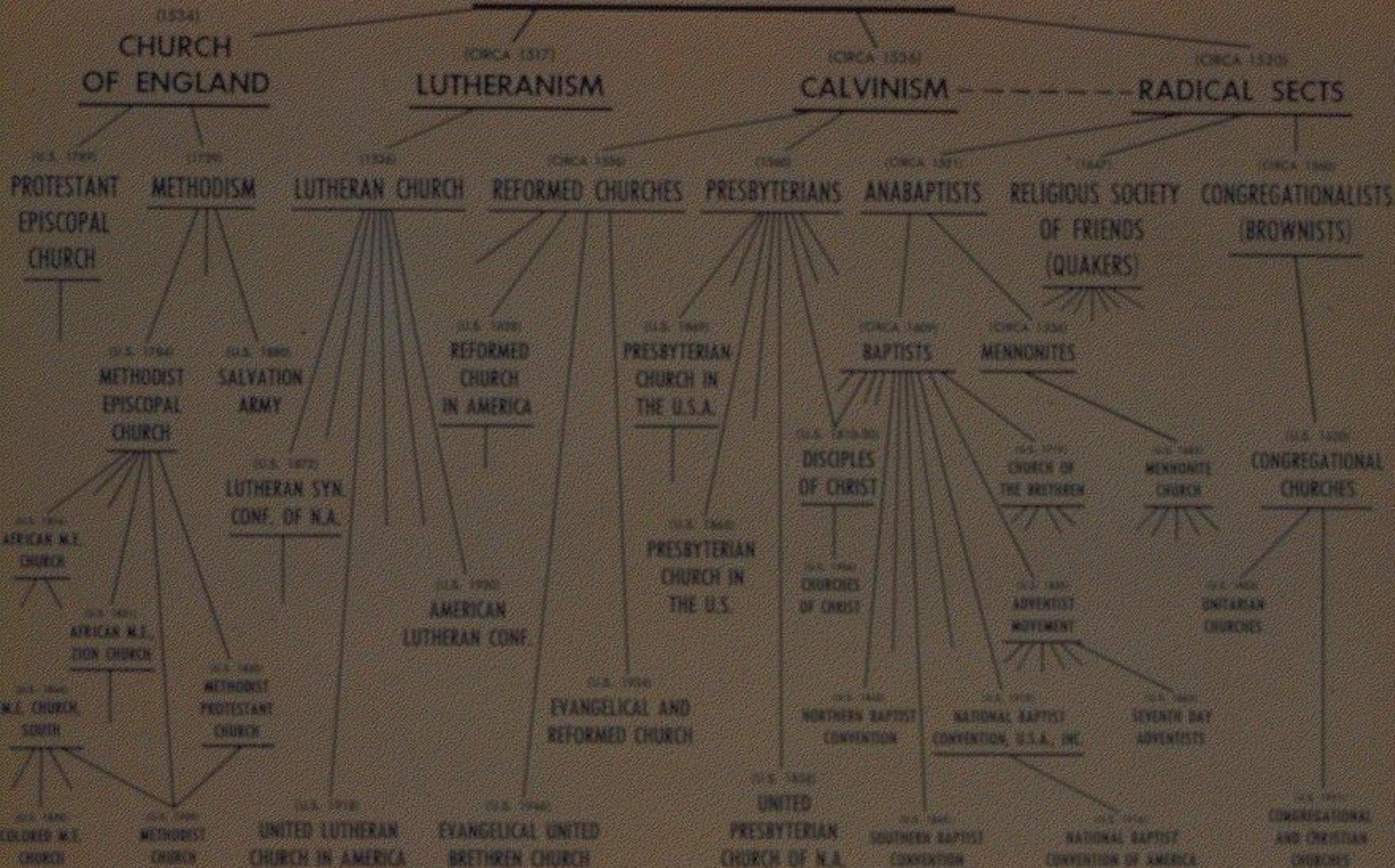
Amos 8:11, 12

- Prophetic predictions of an apostasy
 - a famine of God's word
 - seeking without finding it

Mosheim

- During this [seventh] century true religion lay buried under a senseless mass of superstitions, and was unable to raise her head. The earlier Christians had worshipped only God and His Son; but those called Christians in this century worshipped the wood of a cross, the images of holy men, and bones of dubious origin.
Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History, p. 250

CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY



Isaiah 11:11-12

- Terrible religious conditions
 - Result of apostasy
 - Lord must set His hand a second time
- Darkness had come
 - Lord promised to restore His church

- The Angel Flying Through the Midst of Heaven
- Revelation 14:6-7
- Christ's church was to be restored in the Latter Days
- The Restoration period covers between 1830 and 2000
 - Verse 7 is yet to be fulfilled in its entirety



Zechariah 2:4

- Two angels conversing about the rehabilitation of Jerusalem
 - soon to take place
- This information was to be given to a young man by an angel

- **Joseph Smith reading the Bible**
- **Confusion from multiple revivals**
 - western New York state



James 1:5

- Prayer
- Fasting
- Study



- Inside the Sacred Grove
- Center of the Grove
 - Palmyra, New York



- Joseph Smith's First Vision
- Church was started by God
- These words are central to the first vision
 - "This is My Beloved Son, hear ye Him."

First Vision

- ... I saw a pillar of light exactly over my head, above the brightness of the sun; which descended gradually until it fell upon me ... When the light rested upon me I saw two personages (whose brightness and glory defy all description) standing above me in the air. One of them spake unto me, calling me by name, and said, (pointing to the other) ...

First Vision

□ ... This is My beloved Son, hear Him.”

Church History, Volume 1, page 9

First Vision

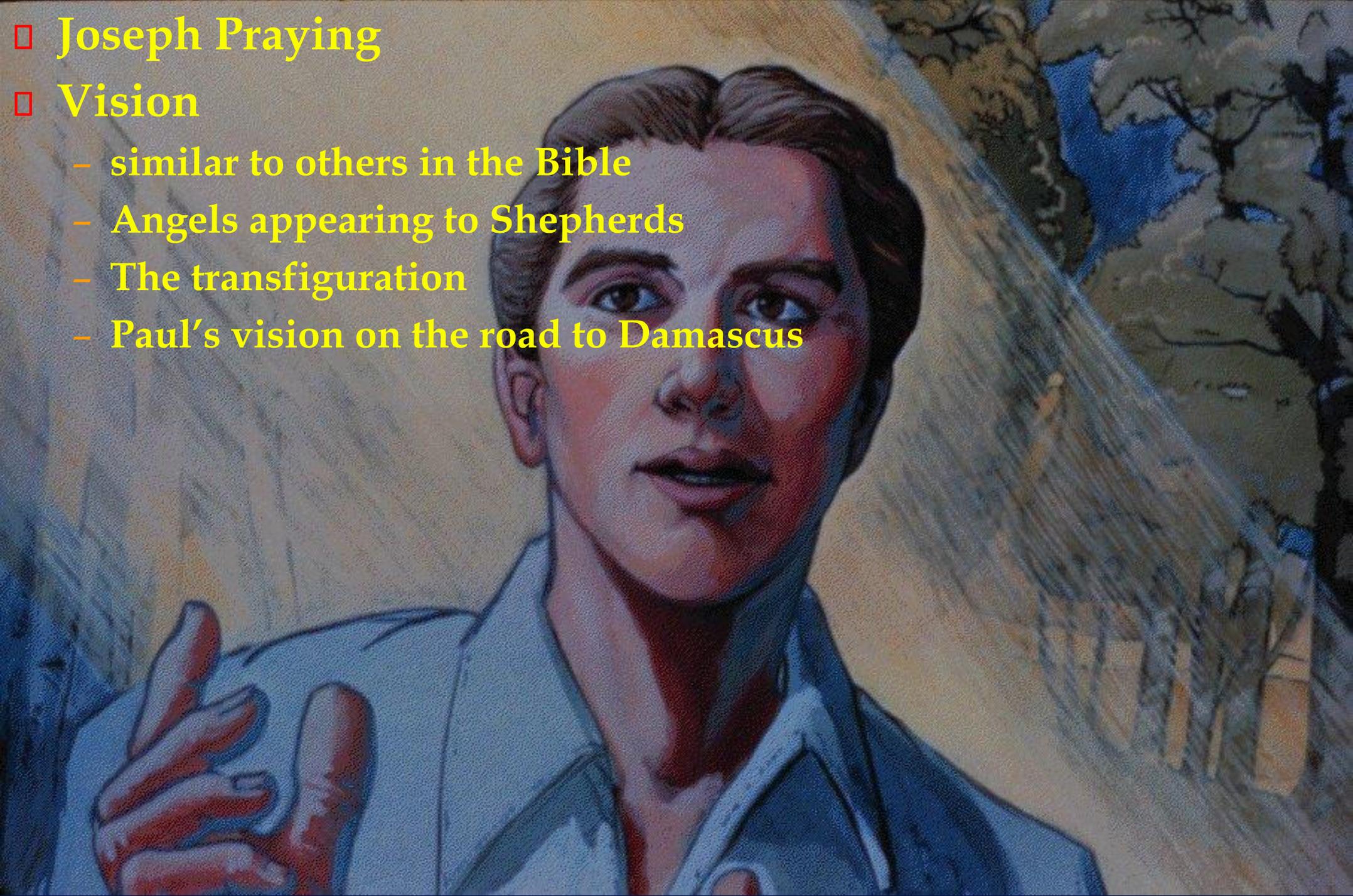
- ❑ My object in going to inquire of the Lord was to know which of all the sects was right, that I might know which to join ... I was answered that I must join none of them ...

Church History, Volume 1, page 9

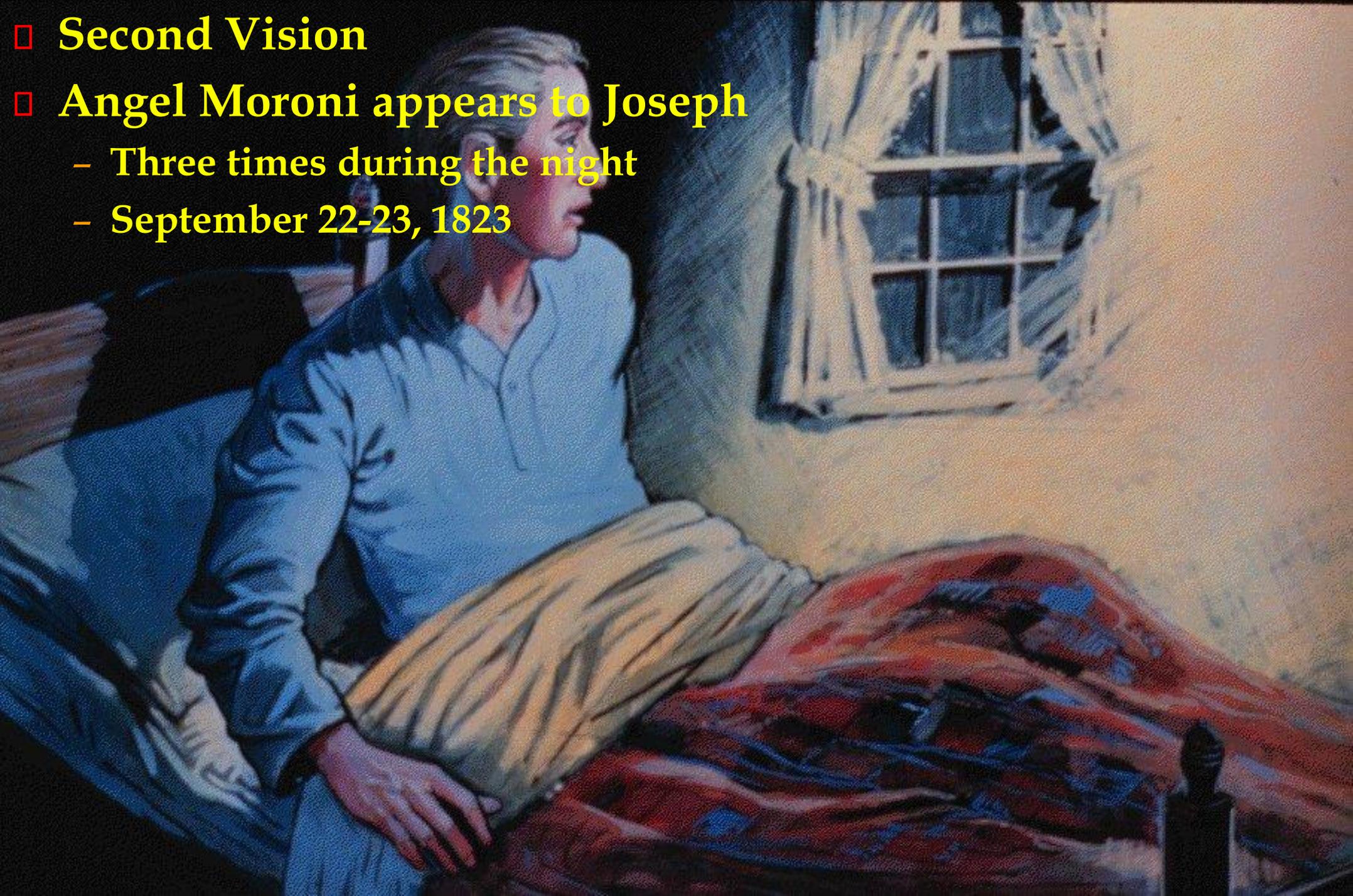
□ Joseph Praying

□ Vision

- similar to others in the Bible
- Angels appearing to Shepherds
- The transfiguration
- Paul's vision on the road to Damascus



- ❑ **Second Vision**
- ❑ **Angel Moroni appears to Joseph**
 - Three times during the night
 - September 22-23, 1823



Second Vision

- ... on the evening of the ... twenty-first of September, after I had retired to my bed for the night, I betook myself to prayer and supplication to Almighty God.
... While I was thus in the act of calling upon God ... a personage appeared at my bedside
...

Church History, Volume 1, page 12

Second Vision

- ❑ He called me by name, and said unto me that he was a messenger sent from the presence of God to me, and that his name was Moroni. That God had a work for me to do, and that my name should be had for good and evil, among all nations, kindreds, and tongues; or that it should be both good and evil spoken of among all people.
Church History, Volume 1, pages 12, 13.

Second Vision

- ❑ He said there was a book deposited written upon gold plates, giving an account of the former inhabitants of this continent, and the source from whence they sprang. He also said that the fullness of the everlasting gospel was contained in it, as delivered by the Savior to the ancient inhabitants.

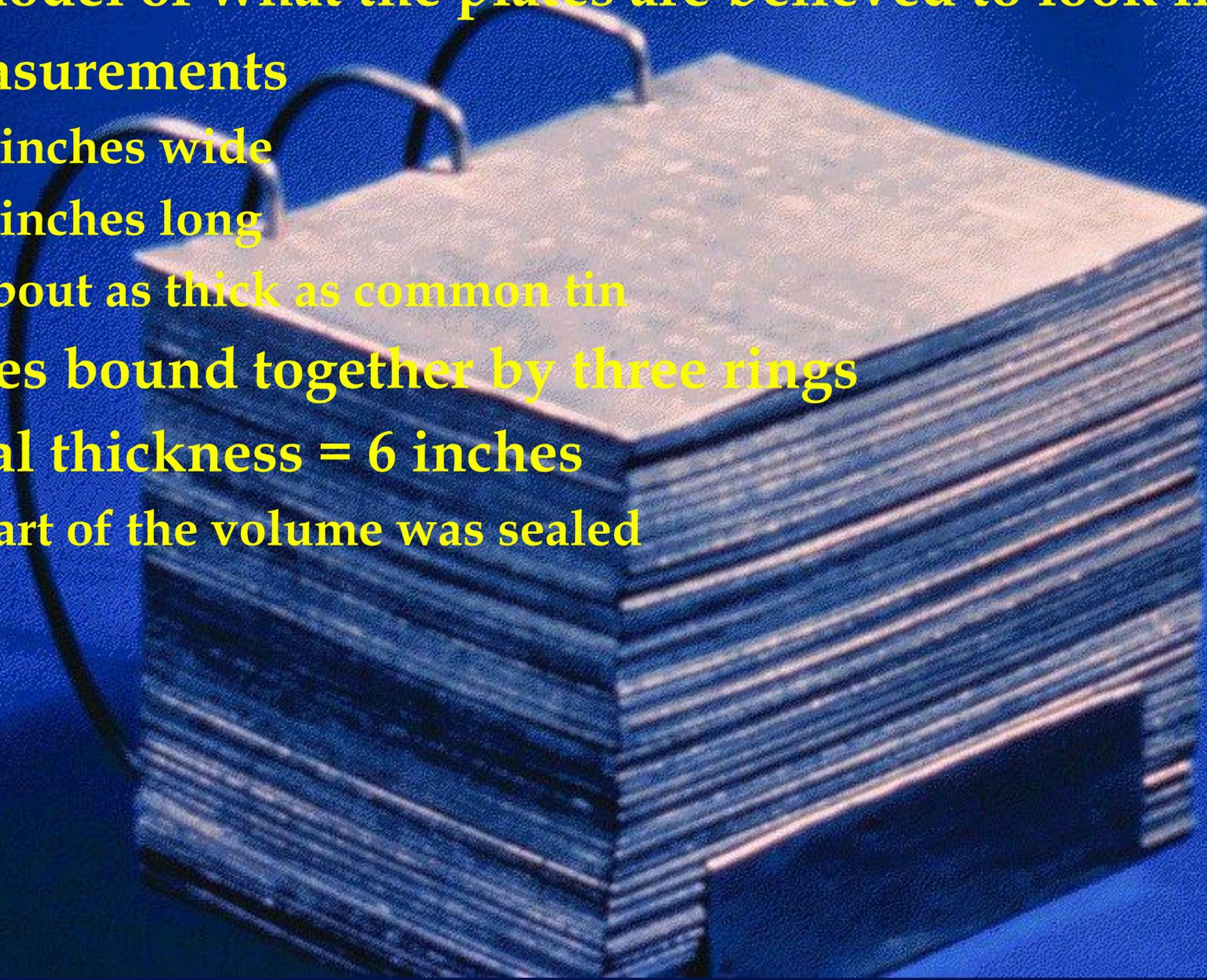
Church History, Volume 1, page 13.

Second Vision

- After telling me these things, he commenced quoting the prophecies of the Old Testament ... He also said that this was not yet fulfilled, but was soon to be.

Church History, Volume 1, pages 13, 14.

- ❑ **Book of Mormon Plates**
- ❑ **A model of what the plates are believed to look like**
- ❑ **Measurements**
 - 6 inches wide
 - 8 inches long
 - about as thick as common tin
- ❑ **Pages bound together by three rings**
- ❑ **Total thickness = 6 inches**
 - Part of the volume was sealed

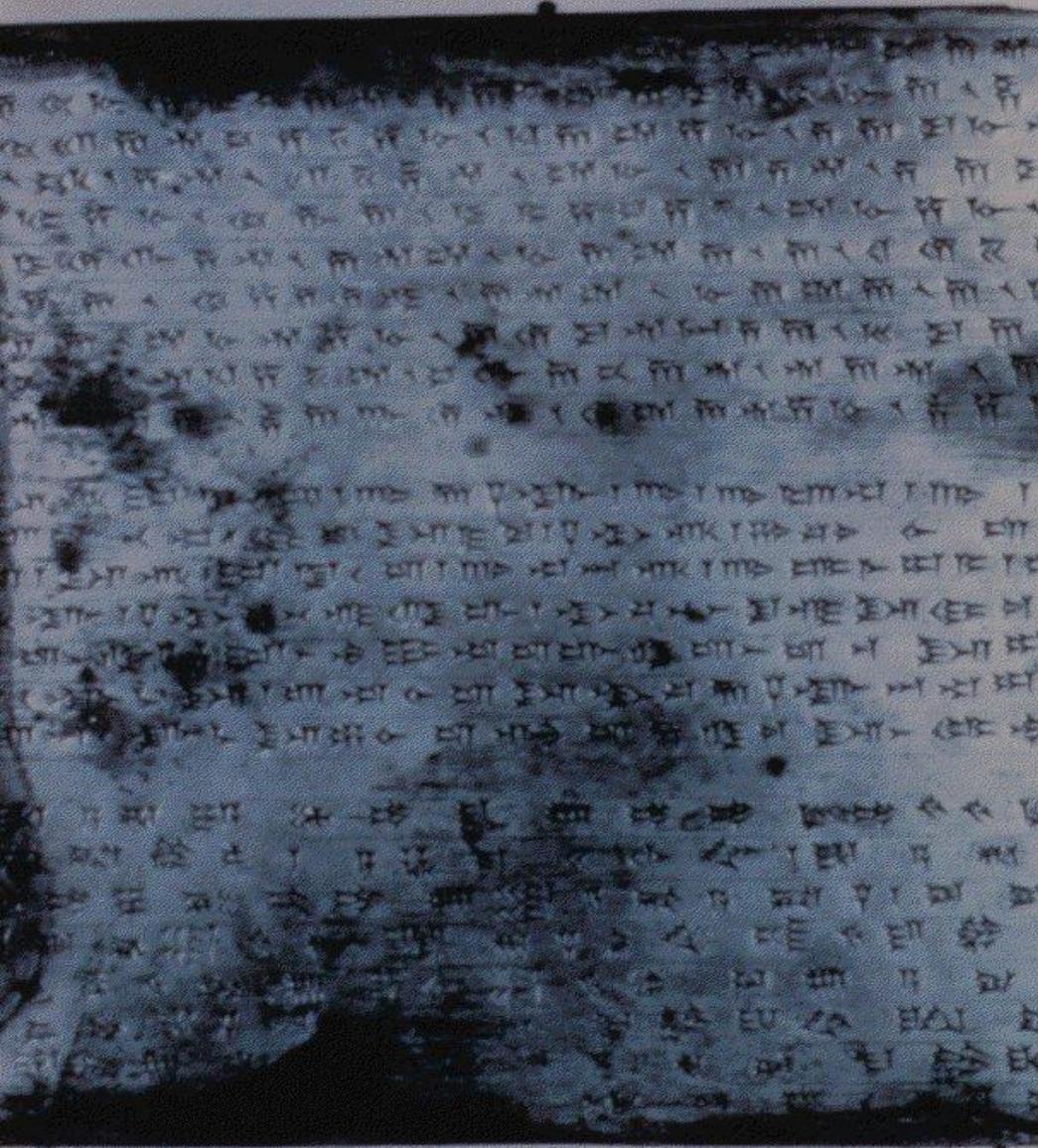


- ❑ **Breastplate and Urim and Thummim**
- ❑ **Urim and Thummim**
 - consisted of two transparent stones in metal rims
 - attached to the breastplate
- ❑ **Model of an ancient Hebrew breastplate and Urim and Thummim**



- ❑ A stone box
- ❑ Plates buried in a stone box
- ❑ Picture typical of boxes found in the Middle East





- ❑ Metallic Plates and Inscriptions
- ❑ Found in 1936
 - Darius the Great
 - King of Persia
- ❑ Inscribed in gold and silver plates
 - Dated 516 B.C.
 - Metal was shining brightly when these plates were discovered

- ❑ **Breastplate and Plates**
- ❑ **Posed picture**
 - **What it might have looked like**



□ Thin Gold Plates Found at Monte Alban

– Mexico

□ Ancient Americans used gold plates for records

□ End -- The Restoration, Part 1

