

The Mysteries of God  
**The Beginnings**  
Course Manual

“

*And he also taught them concerning the records which were engraven on the plates of brass, saying: My sons, I would that ye should remember that were it not for these plates, which contain these records and these commandments, we must have suffered in ignorance, even at this present time, **not knowing the mysteries of God;***

*For it were not possible that our father Lehi could have remembered all these things, to have taught them to his children, except it were for the help of these plates;*

...

*I say unto you, my sons: Were it not for these things, which have been kept and preserved by the hand of God, **that we might read and understand of his mysteries** and have his commandments always before our eyes, that even our fathers would have dwindled in unbelief;*

”

- King Benjamin  
*see Mosiah 1:4-7 (RAV) or 1:3-5 (LDS)*

# About this course

This course is intended as an introduction to the Plates of Brass as a foundational text for “Mormon Kabbalah”. It approaches the book by comparing it with existing texts in order to discover how it supports, builds on, or even completely rethinks what we might consider “Mormon Theology.”

This course will focus on the Book of Beginnings: The First Book of Moses as recorded on the Plates of Brass. It will attempt to use First Moses as an introduction to Mormon Kabbalah, and lay out a framework for future courses to build on. It will also use the Genesis account for comparison as a way of creating depth through the fusion of multiple perspectives.

This is not a “religious” class, in the sense that participants need not be “believers.” But anyone attending should come with an openness to truth and should NOT seek to convince or convert one another to whatever views they cherish. Nor should participants set out to tear down (or even disapprove of) each other’s “incorrect” ideas. We are here to share ideas and learn from one another, not to establish or enforce a consensus of truth.

The discussions are intended to be approached by a small group of interested participants (half a dozen?) who have read the reading, compared the comparable sections, considered the suggested questions, and formulated their own questions and opinions about the content so that by gathering as a group and discussing the content, we can all benefit from the insight and opinion and curiosity of each other, thus turning the key of unity to unlock the door of understanding.

As groups are formed that choose to study this material together, when possible, try to include a person who has studied this course previously, so that the best of the ideas from previous discussions are spread out to ever increasing numbers of people, and the understanding of the overall group will become brighter over time.

# Course Materials

All reading for this course is available in the course's reading packet via PDF download. You might also want to use the original source material, including:

- The Torah of Moses from the Plates of Brass
  - This book is published by the Church of Jesus Christ in Christian Fellowship, which is available in PDF format on their website for free.
- The Inspired Version of the Bible
  - Genesis .. some of which are also available in the Book of Moses found in the LDS Pearl of Great Price, and the JST footnotes in the Bible published by the LDS Church.
  - Also available on [www.centerplace.org](http://www.centerplace.org)
- The Book of Mormon
  - Books of Nephi, Alma, Jacob
  - The study guide / reading packets use the chapter and verse annotations as published in the Universal Book of Mormon to avoid chapter and verse numbering concerns. The student should be able to use those verse numbers to find references in whatever copy of the Book of Mormon they prefer to use. "RAV" refers to the "Revised Authorized Version", as published by the Community of Christ, and the "OPV" refers to the "Orson Pratt Versing" as published by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
- Doctrines of Saints
  - This book is a collection of the revelations that are found from the various Doctrine and Covenants used by branches of the restoration all unified into one book. It is the best place to get the Revelations of David Ferriman that are included in the reading.
- The Book of Abraham
  - Originally published in the Times and Seasons, The Book of Abraham is available in multiple places today, including:
    - The Pearl of Great Price published by the LDS Church
    - The Tsohar published by the Church of Jesus Christ in Christian Fellowship
- Teachings and Commandments
  - Teachings and Commandments is a collection of revelations similar to the Doctrine and Covenants that is made available through the Restoration Scriptures Foundation, on [scriptures.info](http://scriptures.info)
  - Section 171 - St John (The New Testament Book of St John, as revealed to Denver Snuffer in 2017)
  - Section 145 - Could be used as a source for the Book of Abraham
- The Books of Zenos, Melchizedek From the Plates of Brass
  - These books are made available in the Tsohar, published by the Church of Jesus Christ in Christian Fellowship

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For additional information please contact The Church of Jesus Christ in Christian Fellowship.