

# The Brother of Jared Sees the Finger of the Lord

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Genesis 11:3–8; Ether 1:33–43; 2–3; 6:2–3

*The veil was taken from off the eyes of the brother of Jared, and he saw the finger of the Lord.* Ether 3:6

Jared and his brother\* were righteous men who lived in a city called Babel. Most people were wicked. They even started to build a tower to heaven, but the Lord stopped them. (See Genesis 11:3–8; Ether 1:33–37.)

The Lord told the brother of Jared to gather his family and friends and journey northward (see Ether 1:38–42). The Lord led them through the wilderness to the seashore, where they lived for four years (see Ether 2:5–6, 13).

While the Jaredites camped by the sea, the Lord chastised the brother of Jared for not praying. The brother of Jared repented, and the Lord forgave him. (See Ether 2:14–15.)

The Lord told the brother of Jared to build barges to take his people to the promised land (see Ether 2:16–17). After eight barges were finished, the brother of Jared brought two serious problems to the Lord. There would be no fresh air and no light. The Lord told the brother of Jared to cut a hole in the top and the bottom of each barge. The holes could be opened to let air in and closed to keep water out. (See Ether 2:18–20.)

The Lord asked the brother of Jared to think of a way to have light inside the barges (see Ether 2:22–23, 25). The brother of Jared formed 16 small stones that were clear like glass. He asked the Lord to touch the stones so they would give light. (See Ether 3:1, 4.)

The Lord touched each stone with His finger. When the brother of Jared saw the Lord's finger, he fell down with fear. (See Ether 3:6.) The Lord said, "Arise, why hast thou fallen?" (Ether 3:7). The brother of Jared answered that when he saw the Lord's finger, he was afraid. He did not know the Lord had a body. (See Ether 3:8.)

The Lord told the brother of Jared that because of his faith he had seen that the Lord would someday receive a body of flesh and blood. The Lord then asked the brother of Jared if he had seen more than His finger. The brother of Jared answered, "Nay; Lord, show thyself unto me" (Ether 3:10; see also Ether 3:9).

The Lord showed Himself to the brother of Jared and explained that all men were created in the Lord's image (see Ether 3:13–15). What the brother of Jared was seeing was the body of the Lord's spirit. When born on earth, Jesus would receive a physical body that would look the same as His spirit. (See Ether 3:16.)

The brother of Jared took the stones and placed one in each end of the barges. They gave light to the Jaredites as they traveled to the promised land. (See Ether 6:2–3.)

\* Joseph Smith revealed that the name of the brother of Jared was Mahonri Moriancumer (see "The Jaredites," *Juvenile Instructor*, May 1, 1892, 282).

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## Summary

Jared and his brother were righteous men who lived at the time of the tower of Babel. The Lord said He would lead them and their family and friends to a promised land. The group traveled until they came to the seashore, where the Lord instructed the brother of Jared to build barges to take them across the sea. The eight barges had no light, so the brother of Jared prayed. The Lord told him to think of what to do.

The brother of Jared prepared 16 clear stones and asked the Lord to touch them so they would shine. When the Lord touched the stones, the brother of Jared saw the Lord's finger. Because of the brother of Jared's great faith, Jesus showed him His spirit body. Afterward, the brother of Jared placed the stones in the barges to give the Jaredites light.

THE CHURCH OF  
JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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