

Table 3.C Beginning text of The Book of Jacob

The printer's manuscript diction and spelling¹

line numbers added
^ = insertion above the line

14	The Book of Jacob
	Chapter I.
15	The Brother of Nephi ^ the words of his preaching unto his Brethren – He confoundeth
16	a man who seeketh to overthrow the doctrine of Christ – a few words concerning the histo
17	-ry of the People of Nephi – for behold it came to pass that fifty & five years had passed away that
18	from the time ^ Lehi left Jerusalem wherefore Nephi gave me Jacob a commandment con small
19	-cerning these ^ plates upon which these things are engraven & he gave me Jacob a
20	commandment that I should write upon these plates a few of the things which I consid
21	-ered to be most precious that I should not touch save it were lightly concerning the histo
22	-ry of this People which are called the People of Nephi for he said that the history of his People
23	should be engraven upon his other Plates & that I should preserve these Plates & hand them down
24	unto my seed, from generation to generation & if there were preaching which was Sacred or rev
25	-elation which was great or prophesying that I should engraven the heads of them upon these pl
26	-ates & touch upon them as much as it were possible for Christs sake & for the sake of our Peop
27	-le for because of faith & great anxiety it truly had been made manifest unto us concerning ou
28	-r People what things should happen unto them & we also had many revelations & the spirit
29	of much prophecy wherefore we knew of Christ & his Kingdom which should come wherefo
30	-re we labored diligently among our People that we might persuade them to come unto
31	Christ & partake of the goodness of God that they might enter into his rest lest by any means he provocation
32	should swear in his wrath they should not enter in as in the ^ in the days of temptation
33	while the children of Israel were in the wilderness wherefore we would to God that we cou
34	-ld persuade all men not to rebell against God to provoke him to anger, but that all m his
35	-en would believe in christ & view his death & suffer ^ cross & and bear the shame of the w
36	-orld wherefore I Jacob take it upon me to fulfil the commandment of my Brother Nephi

¹ Skousen, ed., *The Printer's Manuscript of the Book of Mormon, Part One*, 240-41 (manuscript page 95).

THE BOOK OF JACOB.
THE BROTHER OF NEPHI.
CHAPTER I.

The words of his preaching unto his brethren. He confoundeth a man who seeketh to overthrow the doctrine of Christ. A few words concerning the history of the people of Nephi.

For behold, it came to pass that fifty and five years had passed away, from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem; wherefore, Nephi gave me, Jacob, a commandment concerning the small plates, upon which these things are engraven. And he gave me, Jacob, a commandment that I should write upon these plates, a few of the things which I considered to be most precious: that I should not touch, save it were lightly, concerning the history of this people which are called the people of Nephi. For he said that the history of his people should be engraven upon his other plates, and that I should preserve these plates, and hand them down unto my seed, from generation to generation. And if there were preaching which was sacred, or revelation which was great, or prophesying, that I should engraven the heads of them upon these plates, and touch upon them as much as it were possible, for Christ's sake, and for the sake of our people: for because of faith and great anxiety, it truly had been made manifest unto us concerning our people, what things should happen unto them. 6 And we also had many revelations, and the spirit of much prophecy; wherefore, we knew of Christ and his Kingdom, which should come. Wherefore we labored diligently among our people, that we might persuade them to come unto Christ, and partake of the goodness of God, that they might enter into his rest, lest by any means he should swear in his wrath they should not enter in, as in the provocation in the days of temptation while the children of Israel were in the wilderness.— Wherefore, we would to God that we could persuade all men not to rebel against God, to provoke him to anger, but that all men would believe in Christ, and view his death, and suffer his cross, and bear the shame of the world; wherefore, I, Jacob, take it upon me to fulfil the commandment of my brother Nephi.

² Smith, *The Book of Mormon* (1830), 123.

Printer's manuscript analysis

Title: The Book of Jacob
Title appositive: The Brother of Nephi
Chapter designation: Chapter I.

Introductory declaration:

Content synopsis

the words of his preaching unto his Brethren – He confoundeth a man who seeketh to overthrow the doctrine of Christ – a few words concerning the history of the People of Nephi

a few of the things which I considered to be most precious that I should not touch save it were lightly concerning the history of this People which are called the People of Nephi for he said that the history of his People should be engraven upon his other Plates & that I should preserve these Plates & hand them down unto my seed, from generation to generation & if there were preaching which was Sacred or revelation which was great or prophesying that I should engraven the heads of them upon these plates & touch upon them as much as it were possible for Christs sake & for the sake of our People

Contextual statement of chronology

fifty & five years had passed away from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem

Societal description

for because of faith & great anxiety it truly had been made manifest unto us concerning our People what things should happen unto them & we also had many revelations & the spirit of much prophecy wherefore we knew of Christ & his Kingdom which should come wherefore we labored diligently among our People that we might persuade them to come unto Christ & partake of the goodness of God that they might enter into his rest lest by any means he should swear in his wrath they should not enter in as in the provocation in the days of temptation while the children of Israel were in the wilderness wherefore we would to God that we could persuade all men not to rebel against God to provoke him to anger, but that all men would believe in christ & view his death & suffer his cross & and bear the shame of the world

Verification

Nephi gave me Jacob a commandment concerning these small plates upon which these things are engraven

he gave me Jacob a commandment that I should write upon these plates

I Jacob take it upon me to fulfil the commandment of my Brother Nephi