

DISCOVER THE BOOK OF MORMON WORKBOOK FOR GRADES 4-7



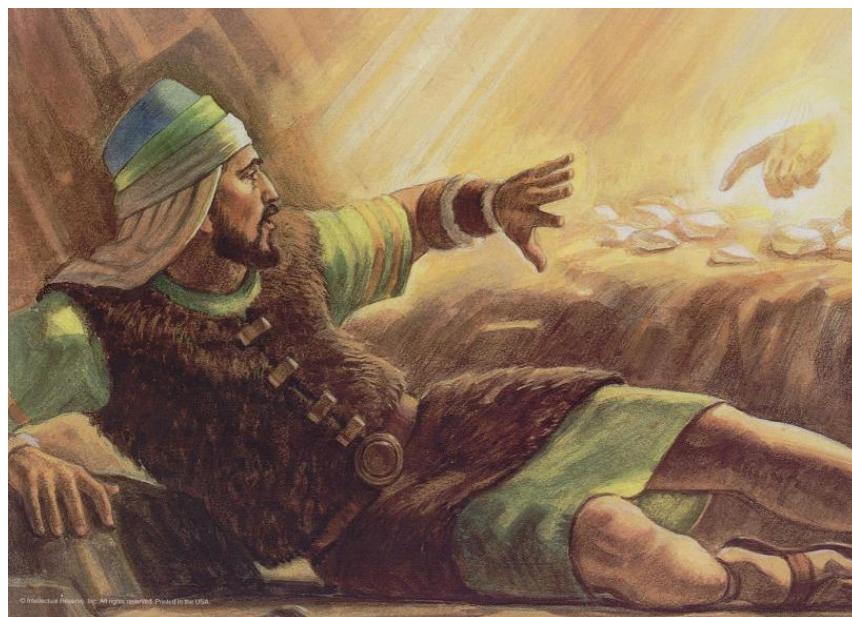
Helping Children Discover and Love the Book of Mormon

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UNIT 1

DISCOVER THE FAITH OF THE JAREDITES

(ABOUT 2200 BC TO 200 BC)



In this unit, you will study part of the book of Ether. You will learn who the Jaredites were and how the Lord blessed them for their righteousness and led them from the Tower of Babel (around 2200 BC) to the promised land.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT:

- ◆ The Book of Ether and the Jaredites
- ◆ The Tower of Babel
- ◆ Two Cities: One Wicked, One Righteous
- ◆ Activity Page
- ◆ Word Study
- ◆ Building the Barges
- ◆ Activity Page
- ◆ The Faith of the Brother of Jared
- ◆ Traveling to a New Land
- ◆ Life in the Ocean
- ◆ Book of Mormon Journal
- ◆ A Cycle of Wickedness and Righteousness
- ◆ Ether Calls for the People to Repent
- ◆ Word Study
- ◆ Book of Mormon Journal

NEW MEMORY VERSES:

- ◆ Ether 3:13
- ◆ Ether 6:12

THE BOOK OF ETHER AND THE JAREDITES

The Jaredites were a group of people whose record began at the time of the Tower of Babel, around 2200 BC. Jared and his family were led by the Lord to the American continent to bring up a new and righteous nation. When they were righteous, they were blessed. However, like many other nations, they fell into apostasy because of pride. They eventually destroyed themselves through war.

The book of Ether tells the story of the Jaredites from the time they left the Tower of Babel until the time that they were completely destroyed. The prophet Ether was the last Jaredite record keeper. His record was later found by King Limhi's people and translated by King Mosiah. We'll learn about Limhi and Mosiah later in the Book of Mormon. Moroni abridged the Jaredite record and his abridgement is what we have now as the book of Ether. Since the Jaredite record began many years before Lehi left Jerusalem, we are starting our study of the Book of Mormon with Ether.



SOME WORDS TO KNOW:

- ♦ **apostasy**—when a person or group of people falls away from living the gospel
- ♦ **abridge**—to write a summary of a record that contains the most important parts

This picture was created by LDS artist Minerva Teichert. It shows King Mosiah translating the Jaredite plates that were found and brought to him by the people of Limhi.

King Mosiah and his people were sad to read about the destruction of the Jaredite people. The Lord did not protect them because they did not rely on him.

♦ Read what it says in **Mosiah 28:17-19** about the importance of the Jaredite record. Look for the word *expedient* which means very important or necessary. What does it say is expedient?

♦ **THINK ABOUT THIS!** It says that Mosiah's people mourned and rejoiced at the knowledge they got from the record. They were saddened at the wickedness of the Jaredites, but they also knew that by reading and understanding why the Jaredite people were eventually destroyed, they could learn how obedience to God's laws can protect us. What do you think YOU can learn from the story of the Jaredites?

THE TOWER OF BABEL (ABOUT 2200 BC)

Nimrod, a great-grandson of Noah, founded a city called Babylon. He falsely claimed his right to lead the people through priesthood authority. He rebelled against God. His kingdom, which was also called Babel, grew and became strong, but the people were not righteous. We can read about him in the Bible:

- ♦ Use Genesis 11:1, 4 in the Bible to fill in the missing words below:
“And the whole earth was of one _____ and of one speech...and they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a _____, whose top may reach unto _____.”



The Lord came down to see the city. He was not pleased. He knew the people were not living the principles of the gospel. They were trying to build their own tower, or temple, to reach heaven. They did not rely on the true priesthood authority of God.

The Lord decided to confound, or change, the languages of all the people. Then they wouldn't be able to communicate with each other and would leave the wicked city of Babel.

In the book of Ether we read about Jared and his family. They lived near the city of Babylon. They were righteous. When the Lord confounded the languages of the people, Jared asked his brother to pray to the Lord. The brother of Jared asked the Lord not to confound the language of his family and friends. The Lord had compassion on Jared and his family and their language was not confounded.

- ♦ Read the account that the prophet Ether gave of Jared's family in **Ether 1:33-43**.

SOME WORDS TO KNOW: ETHER 1:33-43

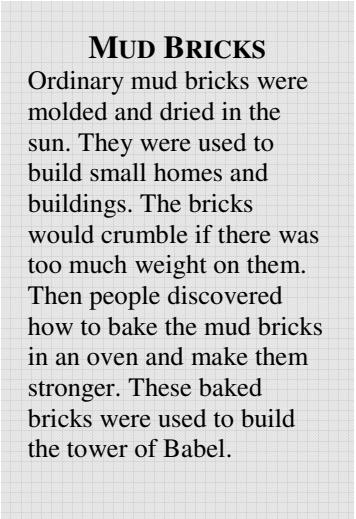
- ♦ **confounded**—changed
- ♦ **inquire**—ask
- ♦ **whither**—where
- ♦ **seed**—descendents

- ♦ What did the Lord have planned for Jared's family when they left the city of Babylon?

Put a check next to the things the Lord told Jared to take:

- His family
- His friends
- His friends' families
- His cattle and animals
- The Tower of Babel

- ♦ **THINK ABOUT THIS!** Sometimes the Lord has plans for our lives too. We may not know what he wants us to do or why something happens to us, but if we trust in him, he will make everything work together for our good. “And we know that all things work together for the good of them that love God.” —Romans 8:28



TWO CITIES: ONE WICKED, ONE RIGHTEOUS

In the last lesson we learned that Nimrod founded the great city of Babylon. Circle some words below that describe his people:

RIGHTEOUS	faithful	greedy
worldly	UNRIGHTEOUS	rebellious
		obedient

Nimrod did not rely on the Lord or follow the principles of the gospel. In the last lesson we read about the consequences of his wickedness when the Lord scattered his people.

About the same time, another city was founded. The people there had repented and turned again to God. It was a city full of righteous people. They gathered together to learn about God and his plan for them. They had a righteous leader who held the priesthood. His name was Melchizedek. Melchizedek was a great high priest. Abraham later paid his tithing to Melchizedek.

♦ Read about Melchizedek in your *Bible Dictionary* at the end of your Bible. Then read **Alma 13:13-19**. Write what you learned about Melchizedek below:

**SOME WORDS TO KNOW:
ALMA 13:13-19**

- ♦ **fruit meet for repentance**—to do good works and repent
- ♦ **wax strong in iniquity**—grow unrighteous

Melchizedek's people repented and the Lord blessed them with peace. As we study the book of Ether, you will see how righteousness brings peace and wickedness brings sorrow and destruction.

Put a check next to the words that describe Melchizedek:

- a righteous leader
- a wicked leader
- a high priest
- king of Babylon
- king of Salem
- humble

This illustration shows Melchizedek blessing Abraham. The scriptures tell us that Abraham paid his tithing to Melchizedek.



THE CITY OF BABYLON

The city of Babylon is used throughout the scriptures as an example of a place and a people who are unrighteous and worldly. The scriptures say that eventually Babylon (worldly things) will fall and the Kingdom of God will reign on the earth.

In the Book of Mormon, we will learn about many cities: some righteous, some wicked. The Lord made special promises to protect His people when they were obedient. Those who were not were sometimes destroyed.

Melchizedek * Write five words that describe Melchizedek.

* Write five words that describe Niimrod

- ♦ Using your words in the circles above, write some sentences comparing and contrasting Nimrod and Melchizedek. Sentences that **compare** show how two things are alike. Sentences that **contrast** show how two things are different.

WORD STUDY

♦ You have learned several words from the scriptures so far in this unit. Look at the words below. See if you can match them to their definitions. If you need help, go back to the previous lessons and look in the grey boxes that say, “SOME WORDS TO KNOW.”

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| _____ apostasy | a. to write a summary of a record |
| _____ abridge | b. where |
| _____ confound | c. to ask |
| _____ inquire | d. falling away from living the gospel |
| _____ whither | e. to change |
| _____ seed | f. to grow unrighteous |
| _____ fruit meet for repentance | g. to do good works and repent |
| _____ wax strong in iniquity | h. descendants |

♦ Use the words from your word study to complete the sentences below:

1. The Lord _____ the language of the people at the tower of Babel.
2. The brother of Jared _____ of the Lord what his family should do.
3. The Jaredites started out righteous, but fell into _____.

♦ Draw a picture of the Tower of Babel. Inside the tower (or on its steps) list things that the people of Babel thought would get them to Heaven (for example: their own works, the power of men, etc.). Beside the tower draw the brother of Jared. Write what you think he might have told the people about how to get to heaven.



BUILDING THE BARGES (ABOUT 2200 BC)

The brother of Jared is never called by name in the Book of Mormon. However, modern revelation tells us that his name was Mahonri Moriancumer. Practice saying that aloud three times fast!

The story of the Brother of Jared is a story of faith and a lesson in how we can solve problems that we have in our lives. The picture below shows the journey of the Jaredites. It was painted by Minerva Teichert.



♦ Read: Ether 2:1-5, 13-14

SOME WORDS TO KNOW: ETHER 2:1-5, 13-14

- ♦ **quarter**—area of land
- ♦ **pitched**—set up
- ♦ **chasten**—scold, call to repentance

♦ What things did Jared and his family take with them into the wilderness? Circle them below. Then look again at Ether 2:15 to check your work:

ANIMALS

boats

birds

fish

computers

honeybees

seeds

♦ **THINK ABOUT THIS!** If you were going into the wilderness with your family and planning to never return home, what do you think you would want to take with you?

The brother of Jared and his family spent four years living in the wilderness where the Lord had led them. The Lord had promised to lead them to a promised land. He said that whoever lived in the land would be blessed and free as long as they were righteous.

♦ Read Ether 2:12

The Lord told the brother of Jared to build boats, or barges, to cross the ocean. These were special boats that could travel both on top and beneath the water.

♦ Read Ether 2:16-18. Draw a picture of one of the Jaredite barges in the box on the right.

THE FAITH OF THE BROTHER OF JARED

While building the barges, the brother of Jared had two problems: no air and no light. The Lord solved one problem for him, and made the brother of Jared find his own solution to the other problem.

SOME WORDS TO KNOW: ETHER 2:19-21

♦ **perish**—die

♦ Read: **Ether 2:19-21.** Write down the solution to the problem of no air:

♦ Read: **Ether 2:21-25 and Ether 3:1, 4** Write down the solution to the problem of no light:

Why do you think the Lord made the brother of Jared find his own solution? The Lord sometimes lets us solve our own problems too! The brother of Jared had great faith. He believed in the Lord and knew he was real. Because of his faith, he had a great experience.

♦ Read **Ether 3:6-14.** Describe what happened to the brother of Jared.

SOME WORDS TO KNOW: ETHER 2:21-25

♦ **vessels**—boats
♦ **dashed**—broken, smashed

ETHER 3:1, 4

♦ **molten**—make by melting

♦ Memory Verse ♦

ETHER 3:13

“Behold, I am he who was prepared from the foundation of the world to redeem my people. Behold, I am Jesus Christ. I am the Father and the Son. In me shall all mankind have life, and that eternally, even they who shall believe on my name; and they shall become my sons and my daughters.”

Memorize these words that Jesus Christ spoke to the brother of Jared. So great was the faith of the brother of Jared that the Lord could not help showing himself. Moroni later wrote about the faith of the brother of Jared.

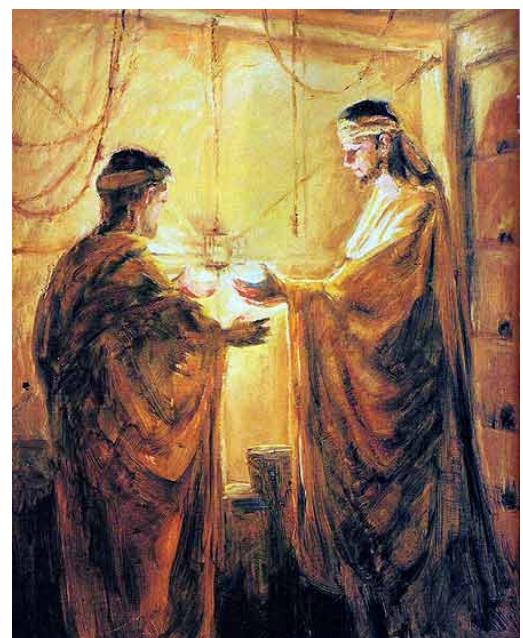
♦ Read **Ether 12:19-21.** These are the words that Moroni wrote about the brother of Jared.

Fill in the missing words below using verse 20:

“So great was his

in God, that when God put forth his finger he could not hide it from the sight of the brother of Jared, because of his word which he had spoken unto him, which word he had obtained by

...wherefore he showed him all things.”



A New Light in the Barge, by Trent Gudmundsen

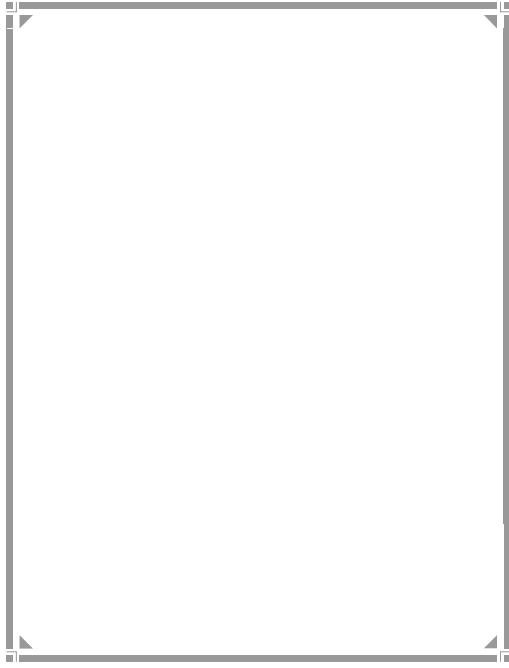
♦ Make a travel brochure to show the Jaredite families what to expect in the Promised Land. Cut along the dotted lines below and fill in the information you want to share. Then fold a piece of construction paper in thirds and mount your brochure pieces to complete your project.

Visit the Promised Land

(Draw a picture of the Jaredites enjoying the Promised Land.)

There's so much to do here! You can...

Don't miss out! This place is...
(On the lines below, list adjectives that describe the Promised Land!)



(Draw a picture.)

(Draw a picture of the Promised Land.)

The land the Lord
has chosen for YOU!

Left Blank For Cutting On Opposite Side of Paper.

(Draw and write about something the Jaredites might see in the Promised Land: animals, trees, mountains, beaches, etc.)

In the Promised Land you will see...

You will hear...

(Draw and write about something the Jaredites might hear in the Promised Land: animal sounds, the ocean, etc.)

You will taste and smell...

(Draw and write about something the Jaredites might taste or smell in the Promised Land: new foods for them like bananas, mangos, other fruit, corn, etc.)

Left Blank For Cutting On Opposite Side of Paper.

TRAVELING TO A NEW LAND (AFTER 2200 BC)

♦ Read: Ether 6:1-9, 11-12

The Jaredites spent _____ days upon the water (vs. 11).

When they “set their feet upon the shores of the promised land, they _____” (vs. 12).

SOME WORDS TO KNOW: ETHER 6:1-9, 11-12

- ♦ **commending themselves**—trusting themselves to
- ♦ **furious**—strong
- ♦ **encompassed about**—surrounded by
- ♦ **tender mercies**—care and blessings from the Lord

Jared and his people were righteous. “They were taught to walk humbly before the Lord and they were also taught from on high [by God]. And it came to pass that they began to spread upon the face of the land and to multiply and to till the earth; and they did wax (grow) strong in the land.” Ether 6:17-18.

♦ Memory Verse ♦

ETHER 6:12

“And they did land upon the shore of the promised land. And when they had set their feet upon the shores of the promised land they bowed themselves down upon the face of the land, and did humble themselves before the Lord, and did shed tears of joy before the Lord, because of the multitude of his tender mercies over them.”

Memorize this verse. It describes the gratitude of the Jaredites when they finally reached the promised land safely. They knew that the Lord had protected them and they gave him thanks.

We need to show our thankfulness to God for our blessings too!

REVIEWING THE JAREDITES’ JOURNEYS

When did Jared and his family leave the Tower of Babel? _____

What is the brother of Jared’s name? _____

How long did the Jaredites live in the wilderness? _____

What were the two problems that the brother of Jared had with the barges?

Who appeared to the brother of Jared? _____

♦ Look at the names below. Cross out the ones who were wicked. Circle the ones who were righteous.

Nimrod	Melchizedek	people of Babylon
JARED	<i>Mahonri Moriancumer</i>	ETHER

♦ Match these Memory Verses to their description:

Ether 3:13	Jaredites arrive in the promised land
Ether 6:12	Jesus Christ appears to the brother of Jared

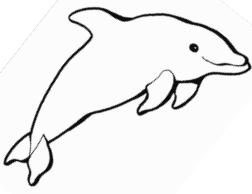
♦ Write down the names of these leaders:

_____ I was a righteous leader who led my people away from Babylon.

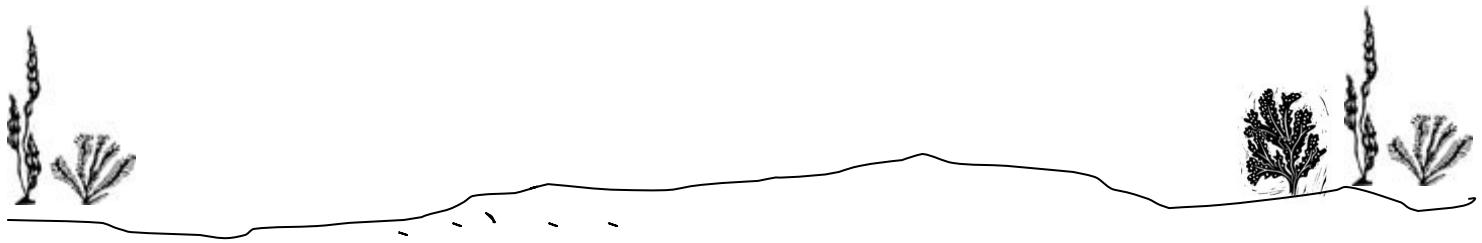
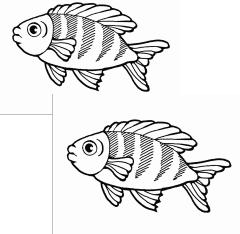
_____ I was the man who founded the city of Babylon.

_____ I wrote the record that you have been reading in this lesson.

LIFE IN THE OCEAN



The Jaredite boats could travel above OR beneath the water. There were no windows in their boats, but if they could have seen what was underwater, what would it have looked like? Describe the underwater scene through which the Jaredite boats traveled.



BOOK OF MORMON JOURNAL



Record what you learned in this unit about the Jaredites. Here are some ideas to get you started. You don't have to answer them all: What did you learn about how God helps us solve problems? What did you learn about faith and obedience? Does God forgive us even when we ignore him like the brother of Jared did for four years? Can we still have great spiritual experiences?

A CYCLE OF WICKEDNESS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

In the last lessons we saw how the Lord blessed Jared's people and they were humble and taught by the Lord. As the number of Jaredites grew, some of them became greedy and prideful. They started to worship idols. They were wicked. Finally, there began to be wars in the land.

SOME WORDS TO KNOW: ETHER 7:23-26

- ◆ **idolatry**—worshipping idols
- ◆ **revile**—rebel
- ◆ **execute a law**—enforce a law

♦ Read Ether 7:23-26

Who did the Lord send to warn the people? _____

Did King Shule listen to the prophets? _____

Why did the Lord spare the people? _____

CURELOMS AND CUMOMS?



Ether 9 tells us that the Jaredites had cattle, oxen, cows, sheep, pigs, goats, horses,

donkeys, elephants, cureloms, and cumoms. There's no description of cureloms and cumoms. The record only states that they were plentiful and useful for man. What do you think they looked like?

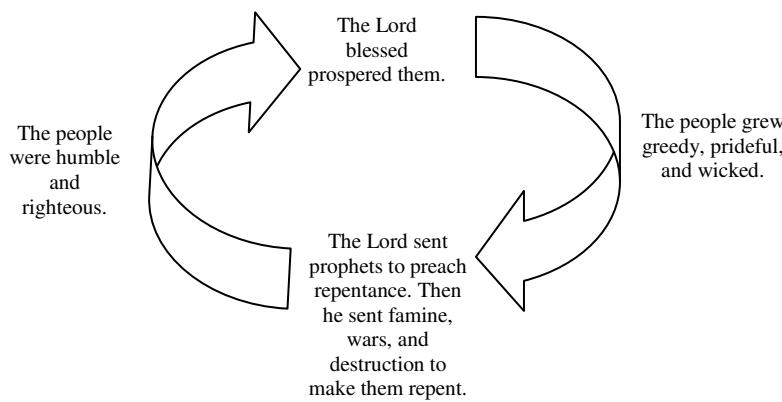
♦ Read Ether 9:16-20, 22

Write down what happened when the people repented.

*You might guess that the people did not stay righteous for long. This is common in the scriptures. A group of people **repent**. They are **blessed**. Then they start to become **greedy and prideful**. They forget the poor. They **forget God**. Then the Lord has to send **prophets** to tell them to repent. If they don't, the Lord may send a famine or war or something else to **make the humble**. Then the people **repent again** and become righteous.*

♦ Read Ether 9:28-35.

THE JAREDITES' CYCLE OF WICKEDNESS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS



SOME WORDS TO KNOW: ETHER 9:28-35

- ◆ **famine**—no rain or food
- ◆ **dearth**—no rain or food

♦ **THINK ABOUT THIS!** Are there times in your life that you feel really close to God? Then, maybe you stop reading your scriptures and don't say your prayers. All of a sudden it's harder to go to church and follow the commandments. The Lord gave us the story of the Jaredites to warn us NOT to let their cycle of wickedness and righteousness happen in our own lives!

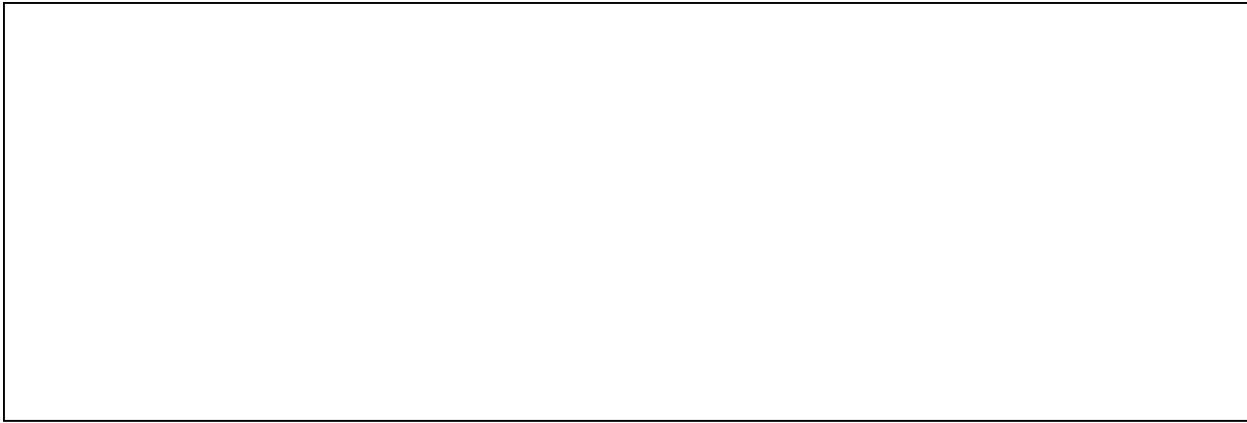
ETHER CALLS FOR THE PEOPLE TO REPENT (BEFORE 200 BC)

In this lesson you will read about the great prophet Ether. He saw and prophesied many great things. Do you think the Jaredites listened? Read and find out.

♦ Read **Ether 12:2-5**. What did Ether teach? _____

♦ Read **Ether 13:13-22**. Where did Ether have to go to live? _____

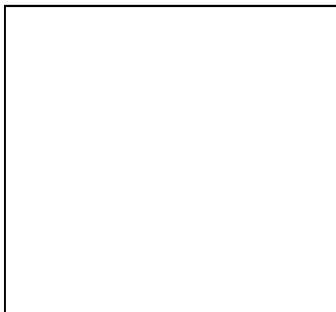
Draw a picture of Ether making his record in the cavity of a rock. Think about how he must have felt.



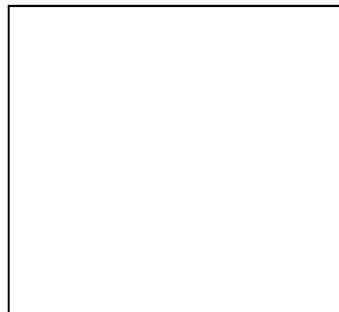
Coriantumr was a leader of the Jaredites when Ether was the prophet. Coriantumr and his people would not repent and the Lord did not protect them.

THE END OF THE JAREDITES

Coriantumr and Shiz were the two leaders of the Jaredite armies. They were both prideful and wicked, and neither would give up their fight. Under their leadership, millions of Jaredite people were killed in wars. Draw a picture of each general dressed for battle.



VS.



Coriantumr

Shiz

♦ Read **Ether 15: 1-6** and vs. **12-16**

♦ Read **Ether 15:28-30** and vs. **33-34**

♦ **THINK ABOUT THIS!** What was the real cause of the destruction of the Jaredites?

WORD STUDY

♦ Read the words and definitions from your recent lessons below. Then find each word in the word search.

quarter—area of land

pitch—to set up

chasten—to scold or call to repentance

perish—to die

vessels—boats

dashed—broken or smashed

molten—to make by melting

furious—strong

encompassed—surrounded by

tender mercies—care and blessings from the Lord

idolatry—worshipping idols

revile—to rebel

execute—to enforce a law

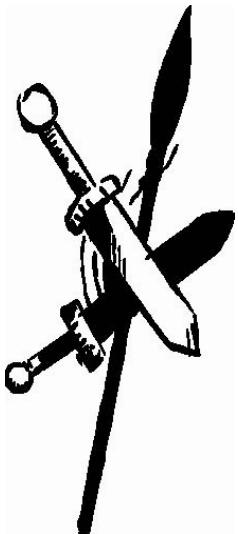
famine—no rain or food

dearth—no rain or food



T	A	Q	U	A	R	T	E	R
E	B	C	D	P	I	T	C	H
N	E	C	E	E	D	F	G	E
D	T	H	H	R	E	M	I	N
E	U	A	J	I	A	O	V	C
R	C	S	E	S	R	L	E	O
M	E	T	L	H	T	T	S	M
E	X	E	I	K	H	E	S	P
R	E	N	V	N	P	N	E	A
C	L	M	E	O	Q	R	L	S
I	F	U	R	I	O	U	S	S
E	S	D	A	S	H	E	D	E
S	F	A	M	I	N	E	T	D
U	I	D	O	L	A	T	R	Y

BOOK OF MORMON JOURNAL



Record what you learned in the last few lessons about the Jaredites' wickedness. Does being blessed and favored by the Lord mean that a people will always be righteous? How do people go from being humble and righteous to being wicked and prideful? What does the Lord sometimes have to do to help people remember to be humble? How can we make sure that we are righteous and close to the Lord instead of stubborn and prideful?