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## The building or refurbishing of ancient temples is central to the covenant process

Author(s): LeGrand L. Baker Source: *The Book of Mormon as an Ancient Israelite Temple: Nineteen Classic Temple Characteristics of the Book of Mormon* Published: Salt Lake City: Eborn Books, 2012 Page(s): 122

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The Book of Mormon as an Ancient Israelite Temple

15. "There is a close interrelationship between the temple and law in the ancient Near East. The building or restoration of a temple is perceived as the moving force behind a restating or "codifying" of basic legal principles, and of the "righting" and organizing of proper social order. The building or refurbishing of temples is central to the covenant process"<sup>104</sup>

The Book of Mormon is the harbinger of *thee* new law. After teaching the value and purposes of the Law of Moses it shows how and why that Law was fulfilled.

It teaches the *fulness* of the gospel as taught by the Savior to the Nephites.

The Lord calls the Book of Mormon his "new covenant." (D&C 84:57) The gospel taught in its pages is everlasting because it was proclaimed before the foundation of the world and will be the criteria by which all the earth will be judged. It is new because it is taught anew in our time.

The translation and publication of the Book of Mormon challenged the teachings of apostate Christianity and began a new era when all of the laws of the gospel will ultimately be preached to every nation tongue and people. In this regard, as in others we have already observed, the Book of Mormon fulfills this criterion of Lundquist's typology literally with regard to the establishment, proclaiming, and upholding of the kingdom of God.

<sup>104</sup>Lundquist, "Common Temple Ideology," 59.