among the Lamanites who had not alto-
gether forsaken the truth, began to re-
member the prophecies, recorded upon
their plates of gold, that after the cru-
cifixion, and after all these terrible judg-
ments had come upon them, their Mes-
siah, of whom Moses had spoken, should
render himself visible to the inhabitants
of this continent. They tell us that they
assembled themselves around a certain
temple that the Lord had preserved in
the northern part of South America, and
were wondering about the great convul-
sions of nature that had taken place.

While they were thus conversing,
pointing out and explaining to each
other what had taken place, both in
the north and in the south as far as
they had explored, while they were thus
conversing in all humility about Jesus,
who had been crucified in the land of
their fathers, they heard a voice com-
ing out of the heavens. At first they
could not comprehend it; but it excited
their attention—the attention of about
twenty-five hundred men, women and
children, and they all gazed steadfastly
towards the heavens, and while they
were thus engaged the voice spoke again
the second time and the third time, say-
ing unto them, "Behold my beloved Son,
in whom I am well pleased," and they
saw Jesus descending out of the heav-
ens clothed in a white robe, and he came
and stood in the midst of that large as-
sembly of people and he said unto them,
"Behold, I am Jesus Christ, the Son of
God, the Father of the heavens and the
earth, the God of the whole earth." After
he had thus spoken to them he told them
how he had come in the land of their fa-
thers, and how he had been crucified by
the Jewish nation. He then called the
multitude to come and see the wounds
in his hands, in his feet and in his side,
and they saw these wounds, and heard
the voice of their Redeemer, and they
knew of a surety that he was the Son of
God, of whom their prophets had so long
prophesied. Jesus commanded them no
longer to kill sacrifices and shed the
blood of beasts and fowls, for he himself
had been offered as a last final sacrifice
according to the types that were given
in the law of Moses, and that he had
shed his blood for the remission of sins;
and then he introduced among them the
gospel in all its fulness and plainness.
Oftentimes has my heart been filled with
joy inexpressible when I have read the
words of Jesus on that occasion, declar-
ing to them his gospel, and unfolding
to them that they must have faith in
him as the only Redeemer, as the only
being who could atone for the sins of
mankind; that they must repent of their
sins and become as little children, and
be baptized by immersion for the remis-
sion of their sins; that if they would do
this they should be baptized with fire
and with the Holy Ghost, and when they
should receive the Holy Ghost it should
impart unto them special gifts in order
that they, through the exercise of these
gifts, might be perfected and prepared to
return into the presence of their Father
and their God.

Jesus chose twelve disciples on the
American continent. They are not called
apostles in the Book of Mormon, but dis-
ciples. I have no doubt, however, in
my own mind, that they held the of-
firm to them his gospel, and unfolding
fice of the apostleship, for they exer-
cised all the functions of apostles. They
had power not only to baptize with wa-
ter, but to lay on hands for the bap-
tism of the Holy Ghost, which latter
was one of the functions granted, in an-
cient days, unto the office of an apos-
tle. These twelve Nephites who were
called by the personal ministry of Je-
sus, were commanded to go forth and
preach the Gospel on all the face of the