bodies that death should not have power
over them. But let us read a little
further, it is very interesting. "And it
came to pass that when Jesus had spo-
ken these words, he touched every one
of them with his finger save it were the
three who were to tarry;" that is, he
touched the nine who were to preach
until they were seventy-two years old
and who were then to be taken home to
God, "and then he departed. And behold,
the heavens were opened, and they (the
three) were caught up into heaven, and
saw and heard unspeakable things. And
it was forbidden them that they should
utter; neither was it given unto them
power that they could utter the things
which they saw and heard; And whether
they were in the body or out of the body,
they could not tell; for it did seem unto
them like a transfiguration of them."
That is the way that they received their
partial change. "But it came to pass that
they did again minister upon the face of
the earth; nevertheless they did not min-
ister of the things which they had heard
and seen, because of the commandment
which was given them in heaven."

Now these men lived in the first cen-
tury of the Christian era on this con-
tinent; and when that generation all
passed away they also lived in the sec-
ond century of the Christian era, and
ministered to the ancient inhabitants on
this land. And when the second cen-
tury had all passed off the stage of ac-
tion they also lived in the third cen-
tury; and in the fourth century the Lord
took these three men from the midst
of the remnant of Israel on this land.

Where did he take them? I do not
know, it is not revealed. Why did he
take them away? Because of the apos-
tasy of the people, because the people
were unworthy of the ministration of
such great and holy men; because they
sought to kill them; because they cast
them into dens of wild beasts twice; and
these men of God played with these wild
beasts as a child would play with a suck-
ling lamb, and received no harm from
them. They cast them three times into
a furnace of fire, and they came forth
therefrom and received no hurt. They
dug deep pits in the earth and cast them
therein, supposing that they would per-
ish; but by the power of the word of God
that was in them, they smote the earth
in the name of the Lord, and were deliv-
ered from these pits. And thus they went
forth performing signs, wonders and mir-
acles among this remnant of Israel, un-
til their wickedness became so great that
the Lord commanded them to depart out
of their midst. And the remnant of
Israel, from that day to the present—
between fourteen and fifteen centuries—
have been dwindling in unbelief, in ig-
norance, and in all the darkness which
now surrounds them; but notwithstanding
their darkness and misery, the three
Nephites, for many generations, have
not administered to them, because of the
commandment of the Almighty to them.

But are they always to remain silent?
Are there no more manifestations to
come from these three men? Are they
never again to remember the remnants
of the House of Israel on this land? Let
us read the promise. "Behold, I was
about to write the names of those who
were never to taste of death, but the
Lord forbade; therefore I write them
not, for they are hid from the world.
But behold, I have seen them." Mor-
mon saw them nearly four centuries af-

fter they were caught up into heaven,
and after they received their partial
change. Mormon saw them and they
administered unto him. He says—
"Behold, I have seen them, and they