

Idioms and Prayer

A Restored Gospel Podcast Presentation







OK, HERE YOU GO!

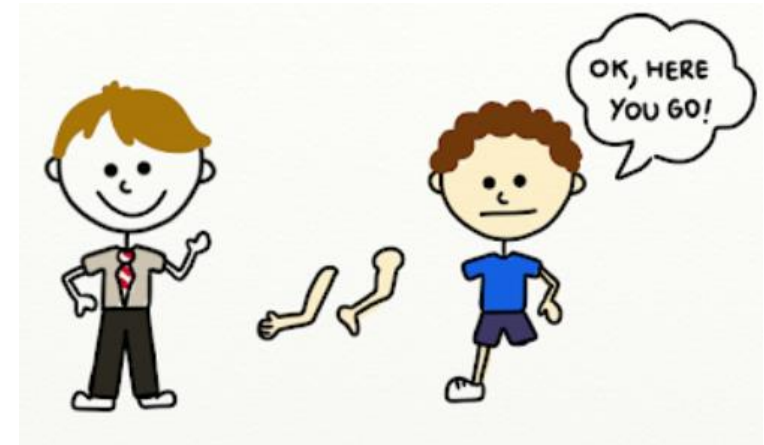
Bite the Bullet- do something difficult with courage



Break the Ice- initiate a conversation



Costs an arm and leg- Expensive



Idioms Exist in all Languages

Chinese

"Draw a snake and add feet"

- Meaning: Overdoing something unnecessary or adding superfluous details.

Japanese:

"Dumplings over flowers"

- Meaning: Preferring substance over style or practicality over aesthetics.

Korean

"To catch a tiger's cub, one must enter the tiger's den"

- Meaning: To achieve a goal, one must take risks.

German

"To have tomatoes on one's eyes"

- Meaning: To not see or notice something obvious.

Idioms

- THEY ARE NEVER INTENDED TO BE TAKEN LITERALLY.
- THE LITERAL MEANING IMPARTS UNDERSTANDING.

Others

Raining cats and dogs

Literal Understanding: Animals falling from the sky.

Actual Meaning: Very heavy rainfall.

Under the weather

Literal Understanding: Being physically beneath the weather.

Actual Meaning: Feeling ill or unwell.

Spill the beans

Literal Understanding: Pouring out beans from a container.

Actual Meaning: To reveal confidential information or secrets

We Understand these (without explanation)
because....

- We Understand the culture and context.

Cultural Influence on Idioms

“Pedal to the Metal”

- We know it means to ‘drive fast,’
- ...we get it because we understand automobile structure and how humans interact with it.

Hebrew has Idioms too.

From the Bible:

- **A land flowing with milk and honey** (Exodus 3:8)

Suggested Meaning: rivers of milk and honey, which isn't the intended meaning

Intended Meaning: a land of abundance and prosperity

- **To gird up one's loins** (Job 38:3)

Suggested Meaning: refers to the ancient practice of tucking in one's robe for better mobility

Intended Meaning: prepare oneself for action or to brace oneself.

Idioms in the Book of Mormon

- **The 'Angel of the Lord'**-Nephi's vision: This was an Idiom describing God himself from Nephi's Vision (He knew it was the Lord).
- **Garments Spotless** – (Jacob) a description of being sin free.
- **Stiffneckedness** – Mormon uses a description of stubbornness or obstinacy.
- **Speaking with the Tongue of Angels** – Nephi speaks of the Change experienced by believers.
- **The Wrestle before God** – Enos describes his spiritual struggle
- **Put on the beautiful garments, O daughter of Zion** –prepare to return to God, living sin free in Christ.

Note: The Idioms are not always Explained if spoken among people of the culture.

Biblically—

[Exodus 15:6](#) Thy **right hand**, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy **right hand**, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.

[Psalms 16:11](#) Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy **right hand** there are pleasures for evermore.

[Psalms 17:7](#) Shew thy marvellous lovingkindness, O thou that savest by thy **right hand** them which put their trust in thee from those that rise up against them.

[Psalms 18:35](#) Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy **right hand** hath holden me up, and thy gentleness hath made me great.

[Psalms 21:8](#) Thine **hand** shall find out all thine enemies: thy **right hand** shall find out those that hate thee.

[Psalms 63:8](#) My soul followeth hard after thee: thy **right hand** upholdeth me.

[Psalms 139:10](#) Even there shall thy **hand** lead me, and thy **right hand** shall hold me.

[Isaiah 41:13](#) For I the LORD thy God will hold thy **right hand**, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

[Isaiah 48:13](#) Mine **hand** also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my **right hand** hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together.

But these were not intended to be taken literally....

History... 'Hand of'

Historically....

To be the '**hand of**' meant **power and authority**.

In ancient times, the person named '**Hand of the King**' was

- Most trusted,
- Able to be the liaison between the King and the Kingdom,
- Managed the affairs of the Kingdom.

Jesus on Trial uses IDIOM

[Mark 14:62](#) And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see **the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.**

[Mark 16:19](#) So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, **he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.**

[Luke 22:69](#) Hereafter **shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.**

[Acts 2:33](#) Therefore **being by the right hand of God exalted**, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

[Acts 7:55-56](#)

But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus **standing on the right hand of God**,

And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man **standing on the right hand of God.**

The Idiom explained..

For Humans to stand on the 'right hand of God'

- Meant more than a physical position to the Hebrews.
- **This Represented Salvation unto God, either Justice or Mercy.**

Jesus being 'on the right hand' of God

- Described Jesus Equality to God.
- It wasn't a physical position.
- **This Represented Redemption by God, his Justice and Mercy.**

Gentiles want to read this literally.....

Mark 14

60 And the high priest stood up in the midst, and asked Jesus, saying,
Answerest thou nothing? what is it which these witness against thee?

61 **But he held his peace, and answered nothing.**

Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, **Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?**

62 And Jesus said, **I am.**

and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

63 Then the high priest rent his clothes, and saith, **What need we any further witnesses?**

64 Ye have heard the blasphemy: what think ye?

And they all condemned him to be guilty of death.

The Bible doesn't consistently explain this Expression.

[Barnes' Notes on the Bible](#)

In the case of Stephen there is every indication of a vision or supernatural representation of the heavenly objects; something in advance of mere "faith" such as dying Christians now have.

What was its precise nature we have no means of ascertaining.

Objects were often represented to prophets by "visions"; and probably something similar is intended here.

It was such an elevation of view - such a representation of truth and of the glory of God, as to be denoted by the word "see"; though it is not to be maintained that Stephen really saw the Saviour with the bodily eye.

On the right hand of God - That is, exalted to a place of honor and power in the heavens. See the [Matthew 26:64](#) note; [Acts 2:25](#) note.

Stephen's Intent

- To Describe Jesus as 'on the right hand' of God meant **JESUS WAS EQUAL TO GOD.**
- **Stephen was merely repeating what Jesus had Prophesied—that Jesus was God.**

THIS DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH
STANDING OR
SITTING BY GOD,
ON THIS RIGHT HAND
OR SITTING ON HIS LAP.

- JUST LIKE '**BITING THE BULLET**' IS NOT PUTTING AN EXPLOSIVE IN ONE'S MOUTH.
- THIS IS EASIER FOR JEWS TO UNDERSTAND THAN GENTILES.

Stephen's Meaning

- To Describe Jesus as 'on the right hand of God' meant **JESUS WAS EQUAL TO GOD.**
- **STEPHEN WASN'T DESCRIBING SEEING TWO PERSONAGES.** We want to read this literally but it was given poetically.
- **STEPHEN WAS REPEATING WHAT JESUS HAD PROPHESED-JESUS WAS GOD. THIS IS WHY THEY KILLED HIM.**
- ALL WHO COME TO HIM WILL REALIZE HE IS GOD. EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW.

A Version of this Idiom exists in the Book of Mormon

Moroni 9:28

And may the grace of God the Father
Whose throne is high in the heavens,

**And our Lord Jesus Christ who sitteth on the right hand of His power
Until all things shall become subject unto Him,**

Be and abide with you forever. Amen

(LDS: [Moroni 9:26](#))

**This uses the Idiom of the Hebrews meaning that
the Physical Jesus is the same Creator as the Spiritual Father.**

What does the Book of Mormon Teach?

That JESUS IS the Eternal God. Not a separate conscious being.

[Title Page 1:7](#) And also to the **convincing of the Jew and Gentile that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God**, manifesting Himself unto all nations.

What does the Book of Mormon Teach?

That JESUS IS the Eternal God. Not a separate conscious being.

[2 Nephi 11:78](#) (LDS: [2 Nephi 26:13](#))

And as I spake concerning the convincing of the Jews that Jesus is the very Christ,
It must needs be that the Gentiles be convinced also **that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God,**
And that He manifesteth Himself unto all they that believe in Him by the power of the Holy Ghost

[Alma 8:104](#) (LDS: [Alma 11:44](#))

And shall be brought and be arraigned before **the bar of**
Christ the Son and
God the Father and
the Holy Spirit which is one Eternal God,
To be judged according to their works,
whether they be good or whether they be evil.

What does the Book of Mormon Teach?

That JESUS is the Eternal God. Not a separate conscious being.

This was given from the beginning.

This understanding was quickly lost among ideas about

- Priesthood,
- Endowments,
- Gatherings to 'Zion',
- Baptisms for the Dead,
- Temples,
- Dispensations of Time

**WE ARE TO BE CONVINCED THAT
JESUS IS THE ETERNAL GOD.**

This idea is resisted more than any scripture in the collective “Gentile restoration.”

WE ARE TO BE CONVINCED THAT JESUS IS THE ETERNAL GOD.

We Resist because....

- ... we choose confused mistranslations from the Bible in place of Book of Mormon clarity.
- ... we choose events from church history over the Book of Mormon.

If it clashes with Book of Mormon Teaching, it is incorrect Theology. (ex King Follet Sermon)

WE ARE TO BE CONVINCED THAT JESUS IS THE ETERNAL GOD.

...WHEN YOU BELIEVE THIS YOU WILL begin to

- WORSHIP differently
- WALK differently
- SPEAK softly
- HOPE correctly
- LOOK eternally

God took on Flesh becoming Jesus:

[2 Nephi 5:24](#) (LDS: [2 Nephi 6:9](#))

And He also hath shown unto me **that the Lord God,
the Holy One of Israel,
should manifest Himself unto them in the flesh;**

[Mosiah 5:45](#) (LDS: [Mosiah 7:27](#))

Or in other words he said that
**Man was created after the image of God,
And that God should come down among the children of men
And take upon Him flesh and blood
And go forth upon the face of the earth;**

God took on Flesh becoming Jesus:

[Mosiah 1:97](#) (LDS: [Mosiah 3:5](#))

For behold, the time cometh and is not far distant, that with power
the **Lord Omnipotent who reigneth,**

Which was and is from all eternity to all eternity,

Shall come down from heaven among the children of men,

And shall dwell in a tabernacle of clay,

[Mosiah 1:102](#) (LDS: [Mosiah 3:8](#))

And **He** shall be called

Jesus Christ the Son of God,

The Father of heaven and of earth,

The Creator of all things from the beginning;

And His mother shall be called Mary;

God took on Flesh becoming Jesus:

Mosiah 8:13

13 Have they not said that **God Himself should come down among the children of men and take upon Him the form of man** and go forth in mighty power upon the face of the earth?

14 Yea, and have they not said also that **He should bring to pass the resurrection of the dead** and that **He Himself should be oppressed and afflicted?**

Mosiah 8:29 (LDS: Mosiah 15:2)

And **because He dwelleth in flesh, He shall be called the Son of God;**

[ABINADI GIVES THE ONLY DEFINITION IN ALL SCRIPTURE OF 'SON OF GOD.'

THIS WAS VASTLY MISUNDERSTOOD BY THOSE EXTRAPOLATING IT TO MOTHER, FATHER GODS, BABY GOD AS JESUS. THESE MISSED THE MEANING OF THE BOOK OF MORMON.]

God took on Flesh becoming Jesus:

2 Nephi 6:10

For it behooveth the great Creator
that He suffereth Himself to become subject unto man in the flesh
and die for all men,
that all men might become subject unto Him;

Lesson 2

Then you're saying Jesus Prayed to 'Himself'??

**WE ARE TO BE CONVINCED THAT
JESUS IS THE ETERNAL GOD.**

Keep this understanding forefront as we consider Jesus praying.

Question: 'if Jesus is God, how could Jesus pray to himself?'

Deep Questions...

- If God were Loving, why is there so much pain and hatred in the world?
- If God is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnibenevolent, why does evil exist?
- Why does God seem absent or hidden, especially in times of suffering or crisis? Why doesn't God make His existence more obvious?
- How can humans have free will if God is omniscient and knows the future?
- How can a loving God condemn people to eternal suffering?

These usually miss a premise, a basic understanding. As if the questioner has the premise figured out before asking the question.

Before Asking if Jesus Prayed to Himself...

Consider:

- Why did Jesus even come to earth?
- Why did God Take on Flesh to begin with?
- What did 'Being God's Son' even mean?
- What was overcome by taking on flesh?
- Did Jesus have a will?

We have tougher questions to answer...

The Book of Mormon poses even tougher questions.....

If God was Jesus, and Jesus was God, how did he speak from Heaven if he was in Mary's Womb?

GOD WAS RESPONDING to NEPHI'S PRAYER to appear AS JESUS.

[3 Nephi 1:13](#) (LDS: [3 Nephi 1:13](#))

**And on the morrow come I into the world
to show unto the world that I will fulfill
all that I have caused to be spoken
by the mouth of My holy prophets.**

Jesus Praying shows The Example For Us...

Prayer is THE (only) connection made between the Flesh and the Eternal worlds to our benefit.

All must find it, must participate in it.

Prayer ...

All Humans must participate in, even if you are Jesus.

Jesus 'Prayed' because of his EXPOSURE TO TEMPTATION.

- Jesus Taught us that Prayer is the remedy for Temptation.
- Jesus was TEMPTED BEYOND ANYTHING WE KNOW.

[Mosiah 8:32](#) (LDS: [Mosiah 15:5](#))

And thus the **flesh becoming subject to the Spirit,**
or the Son to the Father, being one God,
suffereth temptation and yieldeth not to the temptation,
But suffereth Himself to be mocked and scourged
And cast out and disowned by His people.

[Mosiah 8:34](#) (LDS: [Mosiah 15:7](#))

Yea, even so He shall be led, crucified and slain,
The **flesh becoming subject even unto death,**
The will of the Son being swallowed up
In the will of the Father.

Jesus Teaches Prayer provides:

Strength

Submission

Deliverance

Blessing

Prayer provides:

Strength

[Alma 16:109](#) (LDS: [Alma 31:30](#))

O Lord, wilt Thou give me strength that I may bear with mine infirmities?
For I am infirm and such wickedness among this people doth pain my soul.

Submission

[Jacob 5:26](#) (LDS: [Jacob 7:14](#))

And Thy will, O Lord, be done and not mine."

Deliverance

[2 Nephi 3:52](#) (LDS: [2 Nephi 4:31](#))

Wilt Thou deliver me out of the hands of mine enemies?

Blessing

[3 Nephi 9:25](#) (LDS: [3 Nephi 19:25](#))

(after Jesus Prays)...

And it came to pass that Jesus beheld them as they did pray unto Him,

And His countenance did smile upon them,

And the light of His countenance did shine upon them;

And behold, **they were as white as the countenance and also the garments of Jesus;**

We don't experience prayer's benefit
when we pray with unrepentant hearts.