

Transcription Telephone Call – 10:50 am, 12 June 2007
Ida Smith & Jeffrey (Jeff) Holland

(As I understood either party to say) - Words in Parentheses mean as best I could audibly understand.

[Inaudible time-frame on tape] - Brackets mean inaudible to me, but something is there.

Ida: Well, hi! Fine. Yes, you bet.

Jeff: Hello.

Ida: Hello, Jeffery Holland.

Jeff: Ida, Long time no (hear).

Ida: Well it's, it's been forever!

Jeff: Where are you (working now)?

Ida: Well, I'm still in Orem.

Jeff: Are ya?

Ida: Yep, yep.

Jeff: So, are you still at the University?

Ida: Oh no. I've been retired for nine years.

Jeff: (Inaudible.)

Ida: Can you believe it?

Jeff: Yeah. That's amazing.

Ida: It is amazing.

Jeff: How are ya doing?

Ida: Well I'm doing really well, and I appreciate talking to you 'cause when I talked to Hyrum,

Jeff: Yeah.

Ida: He said, "Ida, Jeff is the one you need to talk to." And so what I need to know is, Help me here, can you, wha-, what can you tell me about Christopher Nemelka?

Jeff: Well... this is off the record ok

Ida: OK

Jeff: Ok, this has gotta be Jeff to Ida.

Ida: OK

Jeff: No bugging of telephones.

Ida: OK

Jeff: I have to be very discreet, and very careful what I say.

Ida: Sure.

Jeff: (in) this office.

Ida: Sure.

Jeff: So I've gotta have ya in my confidence

Ida: OK.

Jeff: You're a friend that I say that.

Ida: Sure.

Jeff: The guy is a Whacko. It's just, it's just a, he's just not in touch with reality.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: (uh) Ida. He uh was a, a, an employee here as security, sort of a parking lot security guard.

Ida: Uh huh...

Jeff: ahhhh, and he just sort of went off the deep end. Now I'm, I'm really, I'm not using very General Authority language

Ida: Uh huh...

Jeff: But understand

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: I love you and I don't want you, ... in trouble.

Ida: Ya-ow sure. I understand.

Jeff: Uh... that uh.... That he, he got this notion about uh... the 116 pages of the Book of Mormon that were missing, and then it, then it began to be the sealed portion of the plates that were missing, and then he, and then he uh, stort-a started to walk and talk with Timothy the uhhhhh...the Disciple in the Book of Mormon who was raised from the dead.

Ida: Uh huh. (Cold Sniffle)

Jeff: And uh, and then he got into polygamy and uhhh it's, it's, it was just kind of one aberration after another, and then at, at, at some fairly late date when he was being called and questioned on all of this, he just said, "Well I made all this up. I just, I just wanted to show that you could do it. I wanted to show that, you know, you could write impressive scriptures." Uh, I've read the stuff, I've uh, very early on, I, I sort of got into it to see, you know...

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: what it was, and what he was doing.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: and uh, and this kind of admission was fairly late

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: in, in coming.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: But he said, "You know, I just, uh, I, I don't really have these plates, but

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: But I wanted to show that that, that, that anybody with, with some literary talent could, could write scripture." So,

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: anyway. Uhhhhh. That's, that's my, that's my unofficial, un- not to be quoted

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: uh, Jeff to Ida

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: Off the record... (chuckling)

Ida: Uh huh...

Jeff: personal assessment

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: of a very, very, a sort of a, unstable situation.

Ida: Uh huh...

Jeff: [noise] I don't wanna impugn the man personally... uh but uh, but, but his behavior, and his track record into polygamy and uh, and the moving with Nephite disciples, who were raised from the dead;

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: you know, that just kinda hasta have you raise your eyebrows.

Ida: Yeah. Yeah.

Jeff: So that's where I am.

Ida: Well, listen. I really appreciate this; but tell me... cause, when I uh, when I, somebody told me it was on the Internet, it, it absolutely blew my mind. And, I just thought, "Whoa! Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!" and um, wh-, whu-, what was your estimate of the man? Have you talked to him? (er) Have you met with him? er

Jeff: No, ah, No. I don't uh, I don't do that.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: I. His local priesthood leaders have, and he's been disciplined.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: And he's out o' the church.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: But he's met with his local priesthood leaders uh, repeatedly I think, or they have tried to meet with him...

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: about his violations. Uhhh. When he [click] was let go from the from the security department, (Inaudible. Sounds like: I'd tried to work with him.) [noise]

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: And uhhhhh... So. You know. I'd, I'd, I've never met him. I know something of the family. I

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: know something of the Nemelka uh, family.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: uh, that's uh, that's just where that (Inaudible. Sounds like: can take us, I just see understand why on historical) [clicks] ... monitors and watches.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: It's when things get to be, uh, sort of aberrations.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: That's how I first came in contact.

Ida: Uh huh, Uh huh... Well you know, then I heard about the book that he had done on, um Revelations.

Jeff: Uh huh.

Ida: And um, I, I was amazed 'cause I, I, I did get that book. And it is, it is an amazing book!

Jeff: Yeah, well, I don't, I really don't know that much about that.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: Uh, what I was more concerned about was this business with the plates and

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: resurrected beings.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: I don't, I don't. You know, n' for all I know, he's a bright guy. For all I know, he could give commentary on, on the Book of Revelations, er whatever he gives on. Ya know.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: A lot o' people could do that,

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: and are probably good at doing that.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: It's that, it's just the, the severe anxiety that I have about what he, what he says he's doing, and then, and it, it spells, "It's not true."

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: Uhhhh, I wouldn't. I would... That's quite different from

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: gospel scholarship, which, of which he may have a good deal.

Ida: Uh huh, Uh huh ... Well, that's really helpful because it's, umm whe-, when President Hinckley in uh, in ought five, you know, asked everybody, "Read the Book of Mormon! Read the Book of Mormon!" And um, I just go over it, when I get done with it, I start over again. And I have Skousen's tapes, which are fabulous! And uh, so I was in the midst of that then, but I thought, "I'm gonna start over again." So I did.

Jeff: Yeah.

Ida: And, I just prayed every night, that we would get The Sealed Portion.

Jeff: Yeah.

Ida: And I thought, "If everybody does this,

Jeff: Uh huh.

Ida: ya know, maybe we'll get it!"

Jeff: Be wonderful! Yeah. Wull (sic), I'd like it (yeah) there's nothing I'd be more excited about. Uhhh. But you've a-, you've also gotta know, Ida, that when that happens, it's not gonna happen ta, its not gonna come to somebody down at Joe's Bar and Grill.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: It's, it's, you know, if we really believe there's an order and a priesthood in the church, it's gonna come to the president of the church.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: It's gonna come, uh, down thru the line, its gonna come thru some sort of prophetic

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: calling. It, it just isn't gonna come to Marc Nemelka.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: It's just a simple fact of the matter.

Ida: Uh huh, uh huh.

Jeff: And that's not to fault him personally. I'm just I'm

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: trying ta (sic). If, if the Book of Mormon is true, and it is.

Ida: I do. I believe it. Absolutely!

Jeff: Of course! And the two-thirds are gonna come, which they will; it's gonna come to be part and parcel of the authenticated, bonified, institutional mission of that church, uh, of that book, as it's been given to the church. And it isn't gonna be given to somebody outside the church.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: But it isn't gonna come

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: from Jerry Fallwell, or

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: Marc Nemelka, er

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: or uh, for that matter, not fro-, from Jeff Holland. It, it's gonna come ta, you know, in this case, it'd be Gordon B. Hinckley,

Ida: Um hum.

Jeff: and, he'd be the first to know. So, part of our safety, is knowing that this,

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: that's how anything that's gonna be for the benefit

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: of the institution of the church, anything to be a part of the original Book of Mormon,

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: uh, where it's, where it's been founded and embraced, and uhhh expounded

Ida: Um hum.

Jeff: of course, printed and copyrighted.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: Um, the two thirds are gonna have to come be a part of that

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: to have its ultimate second witness

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: and power. So,

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: "Yeah! We'd all like it to come.

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: But I know when it comes, to whom it's gonna come,

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: how its gonna come. And we could all, we could all pray for that. We, we probably all should pray for that.

Ida: Um hum.

Jeff: I'd guess we could do better if we were mastering the part we've got. But then, that's another story.

Ida: Yeah, yeah.

Jeff: (inaudible)... members of ...

Ida: Well, since

Jeff: Someday it will.

Ida: Yeah, yeah.

Jeff: (inaudible, Sounds like: It depends on the ...you're born in.)

Ida: Well, considering where, when I heard it was on the Internet, and I'm not a big Internet fan (laughs). I don't, I just don't

Jeff: Well, everything's on the Internet.

Ida: Yeah, I know! I know! But do you know/have, have any of the brethren read any of, of what he's, what he's,

Jeff: I have. I don't know. I don't have any idea.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: I don't know how many of the others have.

Ida: H-, h-, have you, have you read what he wrote on the Sealed Portion?

Jeff: Yes, yeah.

Ida: From, through all of it?

Jeff: Uhhh, Well, I don't know that I've read all of it. I probably haven't read all of it. (Inaudible. Sounds like: I don't get much hiatus.)

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: But I've read quite a bit.

Ida: Well, as I understand it, it's nearly five hundred pages!

Jeff: I think so.

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: I think so. Yeah.

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: And then, and then, either before or after that, his focus was on the hundred and sixteen pages.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: Uhhhhhhhh. You know. So, yeah well anyway.

Ida: Yeah. Well, listen Jeff; I really appreciate your calling me back. And how's, how's your wife?

Jeff: She's doin' fine. She's doing fine. She'll, I'll tell her we talked, and she'll be sad she's missed you. She's babysitting on the East coast right now.

Ida: Oh, is that right?

Jeff: Yeah.

Ida: She being grandmother?

Jeff: Yeah, she's being a grandmother this week

Ida: Well good for her.

Jeff: Well listen, take, just this is for you Ida, it's because I love ya.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: [click] Have ya be distressed about it uh, th-, th-, the man may have significant scriptural insight. He may have significant gospel capability. But, but, he is not gonna be the agent through whom

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: the sealed portions come, or the hundred and sixteen pages; nor, am I very comfortable with his walking and talking with resurrected Nephites or starting polygamy. So,

Ida: Um hmm.

Jeff: just, just chalk all of that up in context,

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: and keep looking to the, to the prophetic leadership of the church, n' then we can all pray for the

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: arrival of the, of the Sealed Portion.

Ida: Right.

Jeff: Just keep this personal between you and me. I really can't, and wouldn't for anybody else in the world, I would not talk publicly. I would not

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: give an opinion.

Ida: Yeah.

Jeff: Um, this would be contested

Ida: (Wud)

Jeff: because of the nature of my office n' the

Ida: Sure.

Jeff: restrictions that, that I'm in.

Ida: Sure.

Jeff: But I love you, and I told Hyrum if you called, I'd talk to you.

Ida: Ohhh, I appreciate 't. Well listen. One other question: considering all of this, um, I'm, I'm amazed that we haven't had a letter from uh, the First Presidency to Bishops, to members of the church, in warning!

Jeff: Well, there's a lot. There's, uh, it, it partly, it's because there's just, it, this is only one of scores Ida, it's just it, it there's this, there just, there just, sort of strange things that happen week in and week out. If we sent letters on all of 'em, it'd, it'd just be just a barrage of letters

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: every, every week and every month.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: I think, I think what we're counting on, are for people ta use their head, count up, be rational,

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: say, "Ya know, is this the way it would happen if it were gonna happen?" Have local priesthood leaders n' local uh auxiliary leaders, uh, uh alert, and aware enough of, sorta, sorta, the order, n' policy, n' procedure of the church,

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: that, that, ideally the people could council each other without, without our shooting those out, because there are, there's so much.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: there's just, if you, if you went on the Inter-, the Internet is the great new toy of all mankind.

Ida: Oh, I know! I know!

Jeff: And uhhhh, there, there've gotta be at least as many sites out there that are Anti-LDS, as there are Pro.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: 'et, to the tune of, ya know, thousands of pages!

Ida: Oh I know it! I know.

Jeff: So, it, it'd be pretty hard ta shoot out letters on all of that,

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: whenever, and uh, And uh, and then the other thing is, we can't talk! We uh, we, we, we do not talk about, we don't say when people have been disciplined.

Ida: Uh huh, uh huh.

Jeff: We don't talk about people who've start polygamy sects.

Ida: Uh huh, uh huh.

Jeff: We just keep our mouths shut, and sometimes that's frustrating, because I wish we could say, just, you know. Wish we could just pound the table and say, "Look, get this straight!" But,

Ida: Sure.

Jeff: But the whole church policy is: We respect people's privacy. We, we, we respect the, the agency, and the individual of the person. We're, we're not, even though they're free to say about what they wanna say, we, we just hafta kinda be mum. You'll remember the days with the, with the, the, some of the BYU folks, when, when, when uh, we were going through those difficult days there.

Ida: Sure.

Jeff: Uhhh, we knew a lot about, uhhhh, some of those people having trouble that we couldn't

Ida: Oh, sure. Yeah.

Jeff: talk about and go ___ about,

Ida: Yeah, sure, sure.

Jeff: that, that's just, that's just one of the institutional limits that are on us. But we count on it coming out in the wash at the end of the day.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: That all will be well.

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: Um, we want it to be well with you.

Ida: Sure. Well, listen. Thank you

Jeff: [inaudible word]

Ida: a ton for calling me back

Jeff: Thanks Ida,

Ida: Uh huh.

Jeff: Same to you.

Ida: Bye, bye.