

"PROPHET." IT'S MORE THAN A WORD, MORE THAN A POSITION. IT'S AN IMAGE WHICH CARRIES THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF CONNOTATION AND DENOTATION. AND IT LEADS TO THE UNAVOIDABLE QUESTION...



IN MOST OF THE ANCIENT WORLD, THE HOLIEST PEOPLE WERE DISCONNECTED FROM THE WORLD. TO VISIT THE ORACLE OR THE HOLY HERMIT, ONE HAD TO UNDERTAKE AN ARDUOUS JOURNEY TO VISIT HIM (OR HER) IN HIS (OR HER) ISOLATION.

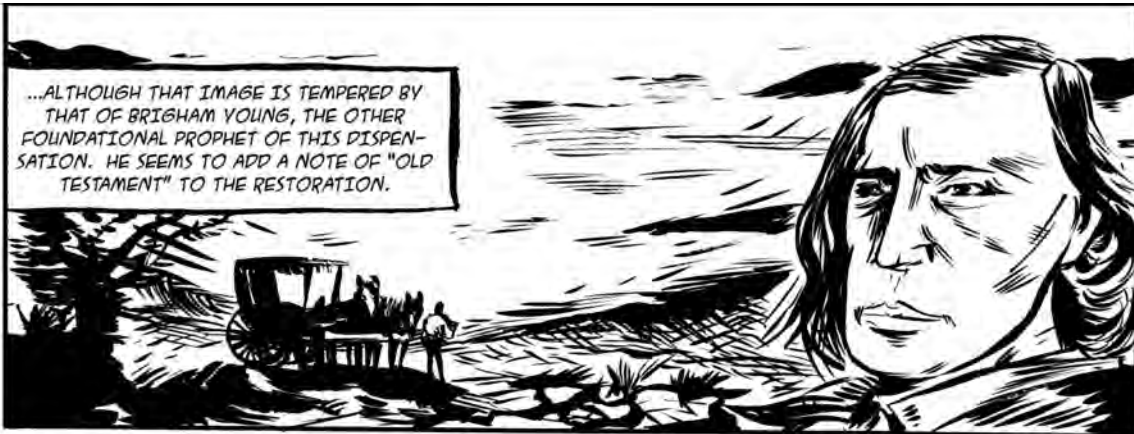
A HEBREW PROPHET WAS JUST AS NON-WORLDLY, BUT HE (IT WAS ALWAYS "HE") DIDN'T WAIT FOR THE ODD SUPPLICANT TO VISIT HIM ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP. HE HAD A HABIT OF TAKING HIS MESSAGE -- OF CONDEMNATION AND REPENTANCE, AS LIKELY AS NOT -- TO THE PEOPLE WHO NEEDED TO HEAR IT, UNINVITED. BOTH IN THE OLD TESTAMENT...



... AND THE NEW TESTAMENT.

MORMONS ALSO MIX IN IMAGES FROM THE BOOK OF MORMON AND CHURCH HISTORY OF THE YOUNG, ROBUST PROPHET-WARRIOR OR PROPHET-KING.





WHEN WE LOOK FOR A PROPHET, WHAT DO WE SEE? WHAT DO WE EXPECT TO SEE? AND MOST IMPORTANT, WHERE DO WE EXPECT TO SEE ONE? WHERE SHOULD WE LOOK FOR ONE?

