

PREFACE

This book presents Joseph Smith's revision of the four New Testament gospels and is representative of Smith's outlook on the gospel message. Besides the Book of Mormon his Bible revision was the second most important endeavor in the Restoration church. To make the revision readable, the spellings of words have been corrected. Punctuation and capitalization have also been added and the italic words in the King James Version (KJV) have been printed in regular typeface. For easier reference, I have retained the chapter and verse numbers from the KJV. The unaltered KJV verses are from the 1828 KJV Bible that Joseph Smith used during the revision process. Over thirty-nine percent of the verses in Smith's revision of the gospels follow the KJV text.

Additions to the King James text of four or more words in a row are in bold. Bold verse numbers, such as the number **6**, indicate a change to the KJV text, either updated language, rearrangement of words in the verse, or omission of a word or words. When supplying additional words to the Bible by "the power of God" Joseph Smith believed that he was recovering what had been lost. The Introduction gives an important yet brief background to the oral tradition, writing, and printing of the Bible, especially the gospels. I express appreciation to the Library-Archives of the Community of Christ (the official legal name continues to be the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) in Independence, Missouri, for access to the manuscripts of Joseph Smith's Bible revision.

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