

THE BOOK OF ALMA

THE SON OF ALMA

The account of Alma, who was the son of Alma the first,
and chief judge over the people of Nephi, and also the high priest over the Church.
An account of the reign of the judges, and the wars and contentions among the people.
And also an account of a war between the Nephites and the Lamanites,
according to the record of Alma, the first and chief judge.

CHAPTER ONE

*Nehor teaches false doctrines, establishes a church,
introduces priestcraft, and slays Gideon
He is executed for his crimes
Priestcrafts and persecutions spread among the people
The priests support themselves, the Church prospers.*

1 **N**ow it came to pass that in the first year of the reign of the judges over the people
of Nephi, from this time forward, king Mosiah having gone the way of all the
earth, having warred a good warfare, walking uprightly before God, leaving none
to reign in his stead; nevertheless he had established laws, and they were acknowledged by
the people; therefore they were obliged to abide by the laws which he had made.

Page 208

2 And it came to pass that in the first year of the reign of Alma in the judgment-seat, there
was a man brought before him to be judged, a man who was large, and was noted for his
3 much strength. ■ And he had gone about among the people, preaching to them that which
he termed to be the word of God, bearing down against the church; declaring unto the
people that every priest and teacher ought to become popular; and they ought not to labor
4 with their hands, but that they ought to be supported by the people. ■ And he also testified
unto the people that all mankind should be saved at the last day, and that they need not fear
nor tremble, but that they might lift up their heads and rejoice; for the Lord had created all
men, and had also redeemed all men; and, in the end, all men should have eternal life.
5 And it came to pass that he did teach these things so much that many did believe on his
6 words, even so many that they began to support him and give him money. ■ And he began
to be lifted up in the pride of his heart, and to wear very costly apparel, yea, and even
began to establish a church after the manner of his preaching.

7 And it came to pass as he was going, to preach to those who believed on his word, he met a
man who belonged to the church of God, yea, even one of their teachers; and he began to
contend with him sharply, that he might lead away the people of the church; but the man
8 withstood him, admonishing him with the words of God. ■ Now the name of the man was
Gideon; and it was he who was an instrument in the hands of God in delivering the people
9 of Limhi out of bondage. ■ Now, because Gideon withstood him with the words of God he
was wroth with Gideon, and drew his sword and began to smite him. Now Gideon being
stricken with many years, therefore he was not able to withstand his blows, therefore he
10 was slain by the sword. ■ And the man who slew him was taken by the people of the
church, and was brought before Alma, to be judged according to the crimes which he had
11 committed. ■ And it came to pass that he stood before Alma and pleaded for himself with
12 much boldness. ■ But Alma said unto him:

Page 209

13 *“Behold, this is the first time that priestcraft has been introduced among this
people. And behold, thou art not only guilty of priestcraft, but hast endeavored
to enforce it by the sword; and were priestcraft to be enforced among this people
it would prove their entire destruction. ■ And thou hast shed the blood of a*

14 *righteous man, yea, a man who has done much good among this people; and were we to spare thee his blood would come upon us for vengeance. ■ Therefore thou art condemned to die, according to the law which has been given us by Mosiah, our last king; and it has been acknowledged by this people; therefore this people must abide by the law.”*

15 And it came to pass that they took him; and his name was Nehor; and they carried him upon the top of the hill Manti, and there he was caused, or rather did acknowledge, between the heavens and the earth, that what he had taught to the people was contrary to the word of God; and there he suffered an ignominious death. ■ Nevertheless, this did not put an end to the spreading of priestcraft through the land; for there were many who loved the vain things of the world, and they went forth preaching false doctrines; and this they did for the sake of riches and honor. ■ Nevertheless, they durst not lie, if it were known, for fear of the law, for liars were punished; therefore they pretended to preach according to their belief; and now the law could have no power on any man for his belief. ■ And they durst not steal, for fear of the law, for such were punished; neither durst they rob, nor murder, for he that murdered was punished unto death.

19 But it came to pass that whosoever did not belong to the church of God began to persecute those that did belong to the church of God, and had taken upon them the name of Christ. 20 Yea, they did persecute them, and afflict them with all manner of words, and this because of their humility; because they were not proud in their own eyes, and because they did impart the word of God, one with another, without money and without price. ■ Now there was a strict law among the people of the church that there should not any man, belonging to the church, arise and persecute those that did not belong to the church, and that there should be no persecution among themselves. ■ Nevertheless, there were many among them who began to be proud, and began to contend warmly with their adversaries, even unto blows; yea, they would smite one another with their fists. ■ Now this was in the *second 23 year of the reign of Alma, and it was a cause of much affliction to the church; yea, it was the cause of much trial with the church. ■ For the hearts of many were hardened, and their names were blotted out, that they were remembered no more among the people of God. 25 And also many withdrew themselves from among them. ■ Now this was a great trial to those that did stand fast in the faith; nevertheless, they were steadfast and immovable in keeping the commandments of God, and they bore with patience the persecution which was heaped upon them. ■ And when the priests left their labor to impart the word of God unto the people, the people also left their labors to hear the word of God. And when the priest had imparted unto them the word of God they all returned again diligently unto their labors; and the priest, not esteeming himself above his hearers, for the preacher was no better than the hearer, neither was the teacher any better than the learner; and thus they were all equal, and they did all labor, every man according to his strength. ■ And they did impart of their substance, every man according to that which he had, to the poor, and the needy, and the sick, and the afflicted; and they did not wear costly apparel, yet they were neat and comely. ■ And thus they did establish the affairs of the church; and thus they began to have continual peace again, notwithstanding all their persecutions. ■ And now, because of the steadiness of the church they began to be exceedingly rich, having abundance of all things whatsoever they stood in need--an abundance of flocks and herds, and fatlings of every kind, and also abundance of grain, and of gold, and of silver, and of precious things, and abundance of silk and fine-twined linen, and all manner of good homely cloth. ■ And thus, in their prosperous circumstances, they did not send away any who were naked, or that were hungry, or that were athirst, or that were sick, or that had not been nourished; and they did not set their hearts upon riches; therefore they were liberal to all, both old and young, both bond and free, both male and female, whether out

90 B.C.

Page 210

31 of the church or in the church, having no respect to persons as to those who stood in need.
32 And thus they did prosper and become far more wealthy than those who did not belong to
their church. ■ For those who did not belong to their church did indulge themselves in
sorceries, and in idolatry or idleness, and in babblings, and in envyings and strife; wearing
costly apparel; being lifted up in the pride of their own eyes; persecuting, lying, thieving,
robbing, committing whoredoms, and murdering, and all manner of wickedness;
nevertheless, the law was put in force upon all those who did transgress it, inasmuch as it
was possible.

33 And it came to pass that by thus exercising the law upon them, every man suffering
according to that which he had done, they became more still, and durst not commit any
wickedness if it were known; therefore, there was much peace among the people of Nephi
until the fifth year of the reign of the judges.

CHAPTER TWO

Amlici seeks to become king and is rejected by the voice of the people

His followers make him king

The Amlicites make war on the Nephites and are defeated

The Lamanites and Amlicites join forces and are defeated--Alma slays Amlici.

Page 211

1 And it came to pass in the commencement of the *fifth year of their reign there began to be **87 B.C.**
a contention among the people; for a certain man, being called Amlici, he being a very
2 cunning man, yea, a wise man as to the wisdom of the world, he being after the order of
the man that slew Gideon by the sword, who was executed according to the law-- ■ Now
3 this Amlici had, by his cunning, drawn away much people after him; even so much that
they began to be very powerful; and they began to endeavor to establish Amlici to be king
over the people. ■ Now this was alarming to the people of the church, and also to all those
4 who had not been drawn away after the persuasions of Amlici; for they knew that
according to their law that such things must be established by the voice of the people.
Therefore, if it were possible that Amlici should gain the voice of the people, he, being a
5 wicked man, would deprive them of their rights and privileges of the church; for it was his
6 intent to destroy the church of God.

5 And it came to pass that the people assembled themselves together throughout all the land,
every man according to his mind, whether it were for or against Amlici, in separate bodies,
6 having much dispute and wonderful contentions one with another. ■ And thus they did
assemble themselves together to cast in their voices concerning the matter; and they were
7 laid before the judges. ■ And it came to pass that the voice of the people came against
8 Amlici, that he was not made king over the people. ■ Now this did cause much joy in the
hearts of those who were against him; but Amlici did stir up those who were in his favor to
anger against those who were not in his favor.

9 And it came to pass that they gathered themselves together, and did consecrate Amlici to
10 be their king. ■ Now when Amlici was made king over them he commanded them that they
should take up arms against their brethren; and this he did that he might subject them to
11 him. ■ Now the people of Amlici were distinguished by the name of Amlici, being called
12 Amlicites; and the remainder were called Nephites, or the people of God. ■ Therefore the
people of the Nephites were aware of the intent of the Amlicites, and therefore they did
prepare to meet them; yea, they did arm themselves with swords, and with cimeters, and
with bows, and with arrows, and with stones, and with slings, and with all manner of
13 weapons of war, of every kind. ■ And thus they were prepared to meet the Amlicites at the

time of their coming. And there were appointed captains, and higher captains, and chief captains, according to their numbers.

14 And it came to pass that Amlici did arm his men with all manner of weapons of war of
every kind; and he also appointed rulers and leaders over his people, to lead them to war
15 against their brethren. ■ And it came to pass that the Amlicites came upon the hill Amnihu, **Page 212**
which was east of the river Sidon, which ran by the land of Zarahemla, and there they
16 began to make war with the Nephites. ■ Now Alma, being the chief judge and the governor
of the people of Nephi, therefore he went up with his people, yea, with his captains, and
17 chief captains, yea, at the head of his armies, against the Amlicites to battle. ■ And they
began to slay the Amlicites upon the hill east of Sidon. And the Amlicites did contend with
the Nephites with great strength, insomuch that many of the Nephites did fall before the
18 Amlicites. ■ Nevertheless the Lord did strengthen the hand of the Nephites, that they slew
19 the Amlicites with great slaughter, that they began to flee before them. ■ And it came to
pass that the Nephites did pursue the Amlicites all that day, and did slay them with much
slaughter, insomuch that there were slain of the Amlicites twelve thousand five hundred
thirty and two souls; and there were slain of the Nephites six thousand five hundred sixty
and two souls.

20 And it came to pass that when Alma could pursue the Amlicites no longer he caused that
his people should pitch their tents in the valley of Gideon, the valley being called after that
Gideon who was slain by the hand of Nehor with the sword; and in this valley the Nephites
21 did pitch their tents for the night. ■ And Alma sent spies to follow the remnant of the
Amlicites, that he might know of their plans and their plots, whereby he might guard
22 himself against them, that he might preserve his people from being destroyed. ■ Now those
whom he had sent out to watch the camp of the Amlicites were called Zeram, and Amnor,
and Manti, and Limher; these were they who went out with their men to watch the camp of
the Amlicites.

23 And it came to pass that on the morrow they returned into the camp of the Nephites in
great haste, being greatly astonished, and struck with much fear, saying:

24 *“Behold, we followed the camp of the Amlicites, and to our great astonishment,
in the land of Minon, above the land of Zarahemla, in the course of the land
of Nephi, we saw a numerous host of the Lamanites; and behold, the Amlicites
25 have joined them; ■ And they are upon our brethren in that land; and they are
fleeing before them with their flocks, and their wives, and their children, towards
our city; and except we make haste they obtain possession of our city, and our
fathers, and our wives, and our children be slain.”*

26 And it came to pass that the people of Nephi took their tents, and departed out of the valley
27 of Gideon towards their city, which was the city of Zarahemla. ■ And behold, as they were
crossing the river Sidon, the Lamanites and the Amlicites, being as numerous almost, as it
28 were, as the sands of the sea, came upon them to destroy them. ■ Nevertheless, the
Nephites being strengthened by the hand of the Lord, having prayed mightily to him that he
would deliver them out of the hands of their enemies, therefore the Lord did hear their
cries, and did strengthen them, and the Lamanites and the Amlicites did fall before them.

29 And it came to pass that Alma fought with Amlici with the sword, face to face; and they **Page 213**
did contend mightily, one with another.

30 And it came to pass that Alma, being a man of God, being exercised with much faith,
cried, saying:

*“O Lord, have mercy and spare my life, that I may be an instrument in thy hands
to save and preserve this people.”*

31 Now when Alma had said these words he contended again with Amlici; and he was
32 strengthened, insomuch that he slew Amlici with the sword. ■ And he also contended with
the king of the Lamanites; but the king of the Lamanites fled back from before Alma and
33 sent his guards to contend with Alma. ■ But Alma, with his guards, contended with the
34 guards of the king of the Lamanites until he slew and drove them back. ■ And thus he
cleared the ground, or rather the bank, which was on the west of the river Sidon, throwing
the bodies of the Lamanites who had been slain into the waters of Sidon, that thereby his
people might have room to cross and contend with the Lamanites and the Amlicites on the
west side of the river Sidon.

35 And it came to pass that when they had all crossed the river Sidon that the Lamanites and
the Amlicites began to flee before them, notwithstanding they were so numerous that they
36 could not be numbered. ■ And they fled before the Nephites towards the wilderness which
was west and north, away beyond the borders of the land; and the Nephites did pursue
37 them with their might, and did slay them. ■ Yea, they were met on every hand, and slain
and driven, until they were scattered on the west, and on the north, until they had reached
the wilderness, which was called Hermounts; and it was that part of the wilderness which
38 was infested by wild and ravenous beasts. ■ And it came to pass that many died in the
wilderness of their wounds, and were devoured by those beasts and also the vultures of the
air; and their bones have been found, and have been heaped up on the earth.

CHAPTER THREE

The Amlicites had marked themselves according to the prophetic word

The Lamanites had been cursed for their rebellion

Men bring their own curses upon themselves

The Nephites defeat another Lamanite army.

1 And it came to pass that the Nephites who were not slain by the weapons of war, after
having buried those who had been slain--now the number of the slain were not numbered,
because of the greatness of their number--after they had finished burying their dead they all
2 returned to their lands, and to their houses, and their wives, and their children. ■ Now
many women and children had been slain with the sword, and also many of their flocks and
their herds; and also many of their fields of grain were destroyed, for they were trodden
3 down by the hosts of men. ■ And now as many of the Lamanites and the Amlicites who
had been slain upon the bank of the river Sidon were cast into the waters of Sidon; and
4 behold their bones are in the depths of the sea, and they are many. ■ And the Amlicites
were distinguished from the Nephites, for they had marked themselves with red in their
foreheads after the manner of the Lamanites; nevertheless they had not shorn their heads
5 like unto the Lamanites. ■ Now the heads of the Lamanites were shorn; and they were
naked, save it were skin which was girded about their loins, and also their armor, which
6 was girded about them, and their bows, and their arrows, and their stones, and their slings,
and so forth. ■ And the skins of the Lamanites were dark, according to the mark which was
set upon their fathers, which was a curse upon them because of their transgression and
their rebellion against their brethren, who consisted of Nephi, Jacob, and Joseph, and Sam,
7 who were just and holy men. ■ And their brethren sought to destroy them, therefore they
were cursed; and the Lord God set a mark upon them, yea, upon Laman and Lemuel, and
8 also the sons of Ishmael, and Ishmaelish women. ■ And this was done that their seed
might be distinguished from the seed of their brethren, that thereby the Lord God might
preserve his people, that they might not mix and believe in incorrect traditions which
9 would prove their destruction. ■ And it came to pass that whosoever did mingle his seed
10 with that of the Lamanites did bring the same curse upon his seed. ■ Therefore, whosoever
suffered himself to be led away by the Lamanites was called under that head, and there

11 was a mark set upon him. ■ And it came to pass that whosoever would not believe in the
tradition of the Lamanites, but believed those records which were brought out of the land
of Jerusalem, and also in the tradition of their fathers, which were correct, who believed in
12 the commandments of God and kept them, were called the Nephites, or the people of
Nephi, from that time forth-- ■ And it is they who have kept the records which are true of
13 their people, and also of the people of the Lamanites. ■ Now we will return again to the
Amlicites, for they also had a mark set upon them; yea, they set the mark upon themselves,
14 yea, even a mark of red upon their foreheads. ■ Thus the word of God is fulfilled, for these
are the words which he said to Nephi:

*“Behold, the Lamanites have I cursed,
and I will set a mark on them
that they and their seed may be separated from thee and thy seed,
from this time henceforth and forever,
except they repent of their wickedness and turn to me
that I may have mercy upon them.”*

15 And again:

*“I will set a mark upon him that mingleth his seed with thy brethren,
that they may be cursed also.”*

16 And again:

“I will set a mark upon him that fighteth against thee and thy seed.”

17 And again,

*“I say he that departeth from thee shall no more be called thy seed;
and I will bless thee, and whomsoever shall be called thy seed,
henceforth and forever;”*

and these were the promises of the Lord unto Nephi and to his seed.

18 Now the Amlicites knew not that they were fulfilling the words of God when they began to
mark themselves in their foreheads; nevertheless they had come out in open rebellion
19 against God; therefore it was expedient that the curse should fall upon them. ■ Now I
would that ye should see that they brought upon themselves the curse; and even so doth
every man that is cursed bring upon himself his own condemnation.

Page 215

20 Now it came to pass that not many days after the battle which was fought in the land of
Zarahemla, by the Lamanites and the Amlicites, that there was another army of the
Lamanites came in upon the people of Nephi, in the same place where the first army met
21 the Amlicites. ■ And it came to pass that there was an army sent to drive them out of their
land. ■ Now Alma himself being afflicted with a wound did not go up to battle at this time
22 against the Lamanites; ■ But he sent up a numerous army against them; and they went up
and slew many of the Lamanites, and drove the remainder of them out of the borders of
23 their land. ■ And then they returned again and began to establish peace in the land, being
troubled no more for a time with their enemies. ■ Now all these things were done, yea, all
24 these wars and contentions were commenced and ended in the *fifth year of the reign of the
judges. ■ And in one year were thousands and tens of thousands of souls sent to the eternal
25 world, that they might reap their rewards according to their works, whether they were good
or whether they were bad, to reap eternal happiness or eternal misery, according to the
26 spirit which they listed to obey, whether it be a good spirit or a bad one. ■ For every man
receiveth wages of him whom he listeth to obey, and this according to the words of the
27 spirit of prophecy; therefore let it be according to the truth.

87 B.C.

And thus endeth the fifth year of the reign of the judges.

CHAPTER FOUR

*Alma baptizes thousands of converts
Iniquity enters the Church, and the Church's progress is hindered
Nephihah is appointed chief judge
Alma, as high priest, devotes himself to the ministry.*

1 Now it came to pass in the *sixth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi, **86 B.C.**
2 there were no contentions nor wars in the land of Zarahemla; ■ But the people were
afflicted, yea, greatly afflicted for the loss of their brethren, and also for the loss of their
3 flocks and herds, and also for the loss of their fields of grain, which were trodden under
foot and destroyed by the Lamanites. ■ And so great were their afflictions that every soul
had cause to mourn; and they believed that it was the judgments of God sent upon them
4 because of their wickedness and their abominations; therefore they were awakened to a
remembrance of their duty. ■ And they began to establish the church more fully; yea, and
many were baptized in the waters of Sidon and were joined to the church of God; yea, they
were baptized by the hand of Alma, who had been consecrated the high priest over the
people of the church, by the hand of his father Alma.

5 And it came to pass in the *seventh year of the reign of the judges there were about three **85 B.C.**
thousand five hundred souls that united themselves to the church of God and were
baptized. And thus endeth the seventh year of the reign of the judges over the people of **Page 216**
Nephi; and there was continual peace in all that time.

6 And it came to pass in the *eighth year of the reign of the judges, that the people of the **84 B.C.**
church began to wax proud, because of their exceeding riches, and their fine silks, and
their fine-twined linen, and because of their many flocks and herds, and their gold and their
silver, and all manner of precious things, which they had obtained by their industry; and in
7 all these things were they lifted up in the pride of their eyes, for they began to wear very
costly apparel. ■ Now this was the cause of much affliction to Alma, yea, and to many of
the people whom Alma had consecrated to be teachers, and priests, and elders over the
church; yea, many of them were sorely grieved for the wickedness which they saw had
8 begun to be among their people. ■ For they saw and beheld with great sorrow that the
people of the church began to be lifted up in the pride of their eyes, and to set their hearts
upon riches and upon the vain things of the world, that they began to be scornful, one
9 towards another, and they began to persecute those that did not believe according to their
own will and pleasure. ■ And thus, in this eighth year of the reign of the judges, there
began to be great contentions among the people of the church; yea, there were envyings,
and strife, and malice, and persecutions, and pride, even to exceed the pride of those who
10 did not belong to the church of God. ■ And thus ended the eighth year of the reign of the
judges; and the wickedness of the church was a great stumbling-block to those who did not
belong to the church; and thus the church began to fail in its progress.

11 And it came to pass in the *commencement of the ninth year, Alma saw the wickedness of **83 B.C.**
the church, and he saw also that the example of the church began to lead those who were
unbelievers on from one piece of iniquity to another, thus bringing on the destruction of the
12 people. ■ Yea, he saw great inequality among the people, some lifting themselves up with
their pride, despising others, turning their backs upon the needy and the naked and those
who were hungry, and those who were athirst, and those who were sick and afflicted.
13 Now this was a great cause for lamentations among the people, while others were abasing
themselves, succoring those who stood in need of their succor, such as imparting their
substance to the poor and the needy, feeding the hungry, and suffering all manner of
afflictions, for Christ's sake, who should come according to the spirit of prophecy;
14 Looking forward to that day, thus retaining a remission of their sins; being filled with great

joy because of the resurrection of the dead, according to the will and power and deliverance of Jesus Christ from the bands of death.

15 And now it came to pass that Alma, having seen the afflictions of the humble followers of
God, and the persecutions which were heaped upon them by the remainder of his people,
16 and seeing all their inequality, began to be very sorrowful; nevertheless the Spirit of the
Lord did not fail him. ■ And he selected a wise man who was among the elders of the
church, and gave him power according to the voice of the people, that he might have power
17 to enact laws according to the laws which had been given, and to put them in force
according to the wickedness and the crimes of the people. ■ Now this man's name was
Nephihah, and he was appointed chief judge; and he sat in the judgment-seat to judge and
18 to govern the people. ■ Now Alma did not grant unto him the office of being high priest
over the church, but he retained the office of high priest unto himself; but he delivered the
19 judgment-seat unto Nephihah. ■ And this he did that he himself might go forth among his
people, or among the people of Nephi, that he might preach the word of God unto them, to
stir them up in remembrance of their duty, and that he might pull down, by the word of
God, all the pride and craftiness and all the contentions which were among his people,
20 seeing no way that he might reclaim them save it were in bearing down in pure testimony
against them. ■ And thus in the commencement of the ninth year of the reign of the judges
over the people of Nephi, Alma delivered up the judgment-seat to Nephihah, and confined
himself wholly to the high priesthood of the holy order of God, to the testimony of the
word, according to the spirit of revelation and prophecy.

Page 217

CHAPTER FIVE

*The words which Alma the High Priest according to the holy order of God,
delivered to the people in their cities and villages throughout the land.
Comprising Chapter 5.*

*To gain salvation, men must repent and keep the commandments, be born again,
cleanse their garments through the blood of Christ,
be humble and strip themselves from pride and envy, and do works of righteousness
The Good Shepherd calleth his people
Those who do evil works are children of the devil
Alma testifies of the truth of his doctrine and commands men to repent
Names of the righteous shall be written in the book of life.*

1 Now it came to pass that *Alma began to deliver the word of God unto the people, first in
2 the land of Zarahemla, and from thence throughout all the land. ■ And these are the words
which he spake to the people in the church which was established in the city of Zarahemla,
according to his own record, saying:

83 B.C.

3 *“I, Alma, having been consecrated by my father, Alma,
to be a high priest over the church of God,
he having power and authority from God to do these things,
behold, I say unto you
that he began to establish a church
in the land which was in the borders of Nephi;
yea, the land which was called the land of Mormon; yea,
and he did baptize his brethren in the waters of Mormon.
4 And behold, I say unto you,
they were delivered out of the hands of the people of king Noah,*

Page 218

by the mercy and power of God.
5 And behold, after that,
they were brought into bondage by the hands of the Lamanites in the wilderness;
yea, I say unto you,
they were in captivity,
and again the Lord did deliver them
out of bondage by the power of his word;
and we were brought into this land,
and here we began to establish the church of God throughout this land also.

6 And now behold, I say unto you, my brethren, you that belong to this church,
have you sufficiently retained in remembrance the captivity of your fathers?
Yea, and have you sufficiently retained in remembrance
his mercy and long-suffering towards them?
And moreover, have ye sufficiently retained in remembrance
that he has delivered their souls from hell?

7 Behold, he changed their hearts;
yea, he awakened them out of a deep sleep, and they awoke unto God.
Behold, they were in the midst of darkness;
nevertheless, their souls were illuminated by the light of the everlasting word;
yea, they were encircled about by the bands of death,
and the chains of hell, and an everlasting destruction did await them.

8 And now I ask of you, my brethren,
were they destroyed?

Behold, I say unto you,
Nay, they were not.

9 And again I ask, were the bands of death broken,
and the chains of hell which encircled them about, were they loosed?

I say unto you,
Yea, they were loosed, and their souls did expand,
and they did sing redeeming love.

And I say unto you that they are saved.

10 And now I ask of you on what conditions are they saved?
Yea, what grounds had they to hope for salvation?
What is the cause of their being loosed from the bands of death,
yea, and also the chains of hell?

11 Behold, I can tell you--
did not my father Alma believe in the words which were delivered
by the mouth of Abinadi?

And was he not a holy prophet?
Did he not speak the words of God, and my father Alma believe them?

12 And according to his faith there was a mighty change wrought in his heart.

Behold I say unto you
that this is all true.

13 And behold, he preached the word unto your fathers,
and a mighty change was also wrought in their hearts,
and they humbled themselves and put their trust in the true and living God.
And behold, they were faithful until the end;
therefore they were saved.

- 14 *And now behold, I ask of you, my brethren of the church,
have ye spiritually been born of God?
Have ye received his image in your countenances?
Have ye experienced this mighty change in your hearts?*
- 15 *Do ye exercise faith in the redemption of him who created you?
Do you look forward with an eye of faith,
and view this mortal body raised in immortality,
and this corruption raised in incorruption,
to stand before God to be judged according to the deeds
which have been done in the mortal body?*
- 16 *I say unto you, can you imagine to yourselves
that ye hear the voice of the Lord, saying unto you, in that day:
“Come unto me ye blessed,”
for behold, your works have been the works of righteousness upon the face of the
earth? ■ Or do ye imagine to yourselves that ye can lie unto the Lord in that day, and
say--
“Lord, our works have been righteous works upon the face of the earth”
--and that he will save you?*
- 18 *Or otherwise, can ye imagine yourselves brought before the tribunal of God
with your souls filled with guilt and remorse,
having a remembrance of all your guilt,
yea, a perfect remembrance of all your wickedness,
yea, a remembrance that ye have set at defiance the commandments of God?*
- 19 *I say unto you,
can ye look up to God at that day with a pure heart and clean hands?*
- 20 *I say unto you,
can you look up, having the image of God engraven upon your countenances?*
- 21 *I say unto you,
can ye think of being saved when you have yielded yourselves
to become subjects to the devil?
I say unto you,
ye will know at that day that ye cannot be saved;
for there can no man be saved except his garments are washed white;
yea, his garments must be purified until they are cleansed from all stain,
through the blood of him of whom it has been spoken by our fathers,
who should come to redeem his people from their sins.*
- 22 *And now I ask of you, my brethren,
how will any of you feel, if ye shall stand before the bar of God,
having your garments stained with blood and all manner of filthiness?
Behold, what will these things testify against you?*
- 23 *Behold will they not testify that ye are murderers,
yea, and also that ye are guilty of all manner of wickedness?*
- 24 *Behold, my brethren, do ye suppose that such an one can have a place to sit down
in the kingdom of God, with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob,
and also all the holy prophets,
whose garments are cleansed and are spotless, pure and white?*
- 25 *I say unto you,
Nay; except ye make our Creator a liar from the beginning,
or suppose that he is a liar from the beginning,
ye cannot suppose that such can have place in the kingdom of heaven;*

but they shall be cast out for they are the children of the kingdom of the devil.

- 26 *And now behold, I say unto you, my brethren,
if ye have experienced a change of heart,
and if ye have felt to sing the song of redeeming love,
I would ask, can ye feel so now?*
- 27 *Have ye walked, keeping yourselves blameless before God?
Could ye say, if ye were called to die at this time, within yourselves,
that ye have been sufficiently humble?
That your garments have been cleansed and made white through the blood of Christ,
who will come to redeem his people from their sins?*
- 28 *Behold, are ye stripped of pride?
I say unto you,
if ye are not ye are not prepared to meet God.
Behold ye must prepare quickly;
for the kingdom of heaven is soon at hand,
and such an one hath not eternal life.*
- 29 *Behold, I say, is there one among you who is not stripped of envy?
I say unto you
that such an one is not prepared;
and I would that he should prepare quickly,
for the hour is close at hand,
and he knoweth not when the time shall come;
for such an one is not found guiltless.*
- 30 *And again I say unto you,
is there one among you that doth make a mock of his brother,
or that heapeth upon him persecutions?*
- 31 *Wo unto such an one, for he is not prepared,
and the time is at hand that he must repent or he cannot be saved!*
- 32 *Yea, even wo unto all ye workers of iniquity;
repent, repent, for the Lord God hath spoken it!*
- 33 *Behold, he sendeth an invitation unto all men,
for the arms of mercy are extended towards them, and he saith:
“Repent, and I will receive you.”*
- 34 *Yea, he saith:
**“Come unto me and ye shall partake of the fruit of the tree of life;
yea, ye shall eat and drink of the bread and the waters of life freely;
Yea, come unto me and bring forth works of righteousness,
and ye shall not be hewn down and cast into the fire--”***
- 35 *For behold, the time is at hand
that whosoever bringeth forth not good fruit,
or whosoever doeth not the works of righteousness,
the same have cause to wail and mourn.*
- 36 *O ye workers of iniquity;
ye that are puffed up in the vain things of the world,
ye that have professed to have known the ways of righteousness
nevertheless have gone astray, as sheep having no shepherd,
notwithstanding a shepherd hath called after you
and is still calling after you,
but ye will not hearken unto his voice!*
- 37 *Behold, I say unto you,*
- 38

*that the good shepherd doth call you;
yea, and in his own name he doth call you,
which is the name of Christ;
and if ye will not hearken unto the voice of the good shepherd,
to the name by which ye are called,
behold, ye are not the sheep of the good shepherd.*

39 *And now if ye are not the sheep of the good shepherd,
of what fold are ye?
Behold, I say unto you,
that the devil is your shepherd, and ye are of his fold;
and now, who can deny this?*

*Behold, I say unto you,
whosoever denieth this is a liar and a child of the devil.*

40 *For I say unto you that whatsoever is good cometh from God,
and whatsoever is evil cometh from the devil.*

41 *Therefore, if a man bringeth forth good works
he hearkeneth unto the voice of the good shepherd,
and he doth follow him;
but whosoever bringeth forth evil works,
the same becometh a child of the devil,
for he hearkeneth unto his voice, and doth follow him.*

42 *And whosoever doeth this
must receive his wages of him;
therefore, for his wages he receiveth death,
as to things pertaining unto righteousness, being dead unto all good works.*

43 *And now, my brethren, I would that ye should hear me,
for I speak in the energy of my soul;
for behold, I have spoken unto you plainly that ye cannot err,
or have spoken according to the commandments of God.*

44 *For I am called to speak after this manner,
according to the holy order of God, which is in Christ Jesus;
yea, I am commanded to stand and testify unto this people the things
which have been spoken by our fathers concerning the things which are to come.*

45 *And this is not all.
Do ye not suppose that I know of these things myself?
Behold, I testify unto you that I do know
that these things whereof I have spoken are true.
And how do ye suppose that I know of their surety?*

46 *Behold, I say unto you they are made known unto me by the Holy Spirit of God.
Behold, I have fasted and prayed many days that I might know these things of myself.
And now I do know of myself that they are true;
for the Lord God hath made them manifest unto me by his Holy Spirit;
and this is the spirit of revelation which is in me.*

47 *And moreover, I say unto you
that it has thus been revealed unto me,
that the words which have been spoken by our fathers are true,
even so according to the spirit of prophecy which is in me,
which is also by the manifestation of the Spirit of God.*

48 *I say unto you,
that I know of myself that whatsoever I shall say unto you,
concerning that which is to come, is true;*

and I say unto you,
that I know that Jesus Christ shall come, yea, the Son,
the Only Begotten of the Father, full of grace, and mercy, and truth.
And behold, it is he that cometh to take away the sins of the world,
yea, the sins of every man who steadfastly believeth on his name.

49 And now I say unto you that this is the order after which I am called, yea,
to preach unto my beloved brethren, yea, and every one that dwelleth in the land;
yea, to preach unto all, both old and young, both bond and free;
yea, I say unto you the aged, and also the middle aged, and the rising generation;
yea, to cry unto them that they must repent and be born again.

50 Yea, thus saith the Spirit:

**“Repent, all ye ends of the earth,
for the kingdom of heaven is soon at hand;
yea, the Son of God cometh in his glory,
in his might, majesty, power, and dominion.”**

Yea, my beloved brethren, I say unto you, that the Spirit saith:

**“Behold the glory of the King of all the earth;
and also the King of heaven shall very soon shine forth
among all the children of men.”**

51 And also the Spirit saith unto me, yea, crieth unto me with a mighty voice, saying:

**“Go forth and say unto this people--
Repent, for except ye repent ye can in nowise
inherit the kingdom of heaven”**

52 And again I say unto you, the Spirit saith:

**“Behold, the ax is laid at the root of the tree;
therefore every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit
shall be hewn down and cast into the fire,
yea, a fire which cannot be consumed,
even an unquenchable fire.”**

Behold, and remember, the Holy One hath spoken it.

53 And now my beloved brethren, I say unto you,
can ye withstand these sayings;
yea, can ye lay aside these things,
and trample the Holy One under your feet;
yea, can ye be puffed up in the pride of your hearts;
yea, will ye still persist in the wearing of costly apparel
and setting your hearts upon the vain things of the world, upon your riches?

54 Yea, will ye persist in supposing that ye are better one than another;
yea, will ye persist in the persecution of your brethren,
who humble themselves and do walk after the holy order of God,
wherewith they have been brought into this church,
having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit,
and they do bring forth works which are meet for repentance--

55 Yea, and will you persist in turning your backs upon the poor,
and the needy, and in withholding your substance from them?

56 And finally, all ye that will persist in your wickedness,
I say unto you that
these are they who shall be hewn down and cast into the fire
except they speedily repent.

57 *And now I say unto you,*
all you that are desirous to follow the voice of the good shepherd,
come ye out from the wicked, and be ye separate,
and touch not their unclean things;
and behold, their names shall be blotted out,
that the names of the wicked shall not be numbered
among the names of the righteous,
that the word of God may be fulfilled, which saith:
“The names of the wicked shall not be mingled
with the names of my people;
58 ***For the names of the righteous shall be written in the book of life,***
and unto them will I grant an inheritance at my right hand.”

And now, my brethren, what have ye to say against this?
I say unto you, if ye speak against it, it matters not,
for the word of God must be fulfilled.
59 *For what shepherd is there among you having many sheep doth not watch over them,*
that the wolves enter not and devour his flock?
And behold, if a wolf enter his flock doth he not drive him out?
Yea, and at the last, if he can, he will destroy him.

60 *And now I say unto you*
that the good shepherd doth call after you;
and if you will hearken unto his voice
he will bring you into his fold, and ye are his sheep;
and he commandeth you that ye suffer no ravenous wolf to enter among you,
that ye may not be destroyed.

Page 223

61 *And now I, Alma, do command you in the language of him who hath commanded me,*
that ye observe to do the words which I have spoken unto you.
62 *I speak by way of command unto you that belong to the church;*
and unto those who do not belong to the church
I speak by way of invitation, saying:
“Come and be baptized unto repentance,
that ye also may be partakers of the fruit of the tree of life.”

CHAPTER SIX

The Church in Zarahemla is cleansed and set in order
Alma goes to Gideon to preach.

1 And now it came to pass that after Alma had made an end of speaking unto the people of
the church, which was established in the city of Zarahemla, he ordained priests and elders,
by laying on his hands according to the order of God, to preside and watch over the
2 church. ■ And it came to pass that whosoever did not belong to the church who repented of
3 their sins were baptized unto repentance, and were received into the church. ■ And it also
came to pass that whosoever did belong to the church that did not repent of their
wickedness and humble themselves before God--I mean those who were lifted up in the
pride of their hearts--the same were rejected, and their names were blotted out, that their
4 names were not numbered among those of the righteous. ■ And thus they began to
5 establish the order of the church in the city of Zarahemla. ■ Now I would that ye should
understand that the word of God was liberal unto all, that none were deprived of the

6 privilege of assembling themselves together to hear the word of God. ■ Nevertheless the children of God were commanded that they should gather themselves together oft, and join in fasting and mighty prayer in behalf of the welfare of the souls of those who knew not God.

7 And now it came to pass that when Alma had made these regulations he departed from them, yea, from the church which was in the city of Zarahemla, and went over upon the east of the river Sidon, into the valley of Gideon, there having been a city built, which was called the city of Gideon, which was in the valley that was called Gideon, being called after
8 the man who was slain by the hand of Nehor with the sword. ■ And Alma went and began to declare the word of God unto the church which was established in the valley of Gideon, according to the revelation of the truth of the word which had been spoken by his fathers, and according to the spirit of prophecy which was in him, according to the testimony of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who should come to redeem his people from their sins, and the holy order by which he was called.

And thus it is written.
Amen.

CHAPTER SEVEN

*The words of Alma which he delivered to the people in Gideon, according to his own record.
Comprising chapter 7.*

Christ shall be born of Mary

*He shall loose the bands of death and bear the sins of his people
Those who repent, are baptized, and keep the commandments shall have eternal life
Filthiness cannot inherit the kingdom of God
Humility, faith, hope, and charity are required.*

Page 224

1 “Behold my beloved brethren,
 *seeing that I have been permitted to come unto you,
 therefore I attempt to address you in my language;
 yea, by my own mouth, seeing that it is the first time
 that I have spoken unto you by the words of my mouth,
 I having been wholly confined to the judgment-seat,
 having had much business that I could not come unto you.*
2 *And even I could not have come now at this time
 were it not that the judgment-seat hath been given to another,
 to reign in my stead;
 and the Lord in much mercy hath granted that I should come unto you.*
3 *And behold, I have come having great hopes and much desire
 that I should find that ye had humbled yourselves before God,
 and that ye had continued in the supplicating of his grace,
 that I should find that ye were blameless before him,
 that I should find that ye were not in the awful dilemma
 that our brethren were in at Zarahemla.*
4 *But blessed be the name of God,
 that he hath given me to know, yea, hath given unto me
 the exceedingly great joy of knowing that they are established again
 in the way of his righteousness.*
5 *And I trust, according to the Spirit of God which is in me,*

that I shall also have joy over you;
nevertheless I do not desire that my joy over you should come
by the cause of so much afflictions and sorrow
which I have had for the brethren at Zarahemla,
for behold, my joy cometh over them after
wading through much affliction and sorrow.

6 But behold, I trust that ye are not in a state of so much unbelief
as were your brethren;

I trust that ye are not lifted up in the pride of your hearts;
yea, I trust that ye have not set your hearts upon riches
and the vain things of the world;
yea, I trust that you do not worship idols,
but that ye do worship the true and living God,
and that ye look forward for the remission of your sins,
with an everlasting faith, which is to come.

7 For behold, I say unto you there be many things to come;
and behold, there is one thing which is of more importance than they all--
for behold, the time is not far distant that the Redeemer liveth
and cometh among his people.

8 Behold, I do not say that he will come among us
at the time of his dwelling in his mortal tabernacle;
for behold, the Spirit hath not said unto me that this should be the case.
Now as to this thing I do not know;

but this much I do know, that the Lord God hath power
to do all things which are according to his word.

9 But behold, the Spirit hath said this much unto me, saying:

***“Cry unto this people, saying--
Repent ye, and prepare the way of the Lord,
and walk in his paths, which are straight;
for behold, the kingdom of heaven is at hand,
and the Son of God cometh upon the face of the earth.***

10 ***And behold, he shall be born of Mary,
at Jerusalem which is the land of our forefathers,
she being a virgin, a precious and chosen vessel,
who shall be overshadowed and conceive by the power of the Holy Ghost,
and bring forth a son, yea, even the Son of God.***

11 ***And he shall go forth, suffering pains and afflictions
and temptations of every kind;
and this that the word might be fulfilled which saith
he will take upon him the pains and the sicknesses of his people.***

12 ***And he will take upon him death,
that he may loose the bands of death which bind his people;
and he will take upon him their infirmities,
that his bowels may be filled with mercy, according to the flesh,
that he may know according to the flesh how to succor his people
according to their infirmities.”***

13 Now the Spirit knoweth all things;
nevertheless the Son of God suffereth according to the flesh
that he might take upon him the sins of his people,
that he might blot out their transgressions
according to the power of his deliverance;
and now behold, this is the testimony which is in me.

14 *Now I say unto you that ye must repent,
 and be born again;
for the Spirit saith if ye are not born again
 ye cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven;
therefore come and be baptized unto repentance,
 that ye may be washed from your sins,
 that ye may have faith on the Lamb of God,
 who taketh away the sins of the world,
 who is mighty to save and to cleanse from all unrighteousness.*

15 *Yea, I say unto you come and fear not, and lay aside every sin,
 which easily doth beset you,
 which doth bind you down to destruction,
yea, come and go forth, and show unto your God
 that ye are willing to repent of your sins
 and enter into a covenant with him to keep his commandments,
 and witness it unto him this day by going into the waters of baptism.*

16 *And whosoever doeth this, and keepeth the commandments of God from thenceforth,
 the same will remember that I say unto him,
 yea, he will remember that I have said unto him,
 he shall have eternal life, according to the testimony of the Holy Spirit,
 which testifieth in me.*

17 *And now my beloved brethren, do you believe these things?
Behold, I say unto you,
 yea, I know that ye believe them;
and the way that I know that ye believe them
 is by the manifestation of the Spirit which is in me.
And now because your faith is strong concerning that,
 yea, concerning the things which I have spoken, great is my joy.*

18 *For as I said unto you from the beginning,
 that I had much desire that ye were not in the state of dilemma
 like your brethren,
 even so I have found that my desires have been gratified.*

19 *For I perceive that ye are in the paths of righteousness;
I perceive that ye are in the path which leads to the kingdom of God;
yea, I perceive that ye are making his paths straight.*

20 *I perceive that it has been made known unto you, by the testimony of his word,
 that he cannot walk in crooked paths;
neither doth he vary from that which he hath said;
neither hath he a shadow of turning from the right to the left,
 or from that which is right to that which is wrong;
therefore, his course is one eternal round.*

21 *And he doth not dwell in unholy temples;
 neither can filthiness or anything which is unclean
 be received into the kingdom of God;
therefore I say unto you the time shall come,
 yea, and it shall be at the last day,
 that he who is filthy shall remain in his filthiness.*

22 *And now my beloved brethren,
 I have said these things unto you
 that I might awaken you to a sense of your duty to God,*

*that ye may walk blameless before him,
that ye may walk after the holy order of God,
after which ye have been received.*

23 *And now I would that ye should be humble,
and be submissive and gentle;
easy to be entreated;
full of patience and long-suffering;
being temperate in all things;
being diligent in keeping the commandments of God at all times;
asking for whatsoever things ye stand in need, both spiritual and temporal;
always returning thanks unto God for whatsoever things ye do receive.*

24 *And see that ye have faith, hope, and charity,
and then ye will always abound in good works.*

25 *And may the Lord bless you, and keep your garments spotless,
that ye may at last be brought to sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
and the holy prophets who have been ever since the world began,
having your garments spotless even as their garments are spotless,
in the kingdom of heaven to go no more out.*

26 *And now my beloved brethren,
I have spoken these words unto you according to the Spirit which testifieth in me;
and my soul doth exceedingly rejoice,
because of the exceeding diligence and heed
which ye have given unto my word.*

27 *And now, may the peace of God rest upon you,
and upon your houses and lands,
and upon your flocks and herds,
and all that you possess, your women and your children,
according to your faith and good works,
from this time forth and forever.*

*And thus I have spoken.
Amen.”*

CHAPTER EIGHT

*Alma preaches and baptizes in Melek--He is rejected in Ammonihah and leaves
An angel commands his to return and cry repentance unto the people
He is received by Amulek, and the two of them preach in Ammonihah.*

1 And now it came to pass that Alma returned from the land of Gideon, after having taught the people of Gideon many things which cannot be written, having established the order of the church, according as he had before done in the land of Zarahemla, yea, he returned to his own house at Zarahemla to rest himself from the labors which he had performed.

2 And thus ended the ninth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.

3 And it came to pass in the commencement of the *tenth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi, that Alma departed from thence and took his journey over into the land of Melek, on the west of the river Sidon, on the west by the borders of the wilderness. **82 B.C.**

4 And he began to teach the people in the land of Melek according to the holy order of God, by which he had been called; and he began to teach the people throughout all the land of Melek.

5 And it came to pass that the people came to him throughout all the borders of the land

6 which was by the wilderness side. And they were baptized throughout all the land; ■ So
that when he had finished his work at Melek he departed thence, and traveled three days'
7 journey on the north of the land of Melek; and he came to a city which was called
Ammonihah. Now it was the custom of the people of Nephi to call their lands, and their
cities, and their villages, yea, even all their small villages, after the name of him who first
possessed them; and thus it was with the land of Ammonihah.

8 And it came to pass that when Alma had come to the city of Ammonihah he began to
9 preach the word of God unto them. ■ Now Satan had gotten great hold upon the hearts of
the people of the city of Ammonihah; therefore they would not hearken unto the words of
10 Alma. ■ Nevertheless Alma labored much in the spirit, wrestling with God in mighty
prayer, that he would pour out his Spirit upon the people who were in the city; that he
11 would also grant that he might baptize them unto repentance. ■ Nevertheless, they
hardened their hearts, saying unto him:

*“Behold, we know that thou art Alma; and we know that thou art high priest over
the church which thou hast established in many parts of the land, according to
12 your tradition; and we are not of thy church, and we do not believe in such foolish
traditions. ■ And now we know that because we are not of thy church we know that
thou hast no power over us; and thou hast delivered up the judgment-seat unto
Nephihah; therefore thou art not the chief judge over us.”*

13 Now when the people had said this, and withstood all his words, and reviled him, and spit
upon him, and caused that he should be cast out of their city, he departed thence and took
his journey towards the city which was called Aaron.

14 And it came to pass that while he was journeying thither, being weighed down with sorrow,
wading through much tribulation and anguish of soul, because of the wickedness of the
people who were in the city of Ammonihah, it came to pass while Alma was thus weighed
down with sorrow, behold an angel of the Lord appeared unto him, saying:

15 *“Blessed art thou, Alma;
therefore, lift up thy head and rejoice,
for thou hast great cause to rejoice;
for thou hast been faithful in keeping the commandments of God
from the time which thou receivedst thy first message from him.
Behold, I am he that delivered it unto you.
16 And behold, I am sent to command thee
that thou return to the city of Ammonihah,
and preach again unto the people of the city;
yea, preach unto them.
Yea, say unto them,
except they repent the Lord God will destroy them.
17 For behold, they do study at this time
that they may destroy the liberty of thy people, (for thus saith the Lord)
which is contrary to the statutes, and judgments, and commandments
which he has given unto his people.”*

18 Now it came to pass that after Alma had received his message from the angel of the Lord
he returned speedily to the land of Ammonihah. And he entered the city by another way,
19 yea, by the way which is on the south of the city of Ammonihah. ■ And as he entered the
city he was an hungered, and he said to a man:

“Will ye give to an humble servant of God something to eat?”

20 And the man said unto him:

“I am a Nephite, and I know that thou art a holy prophet of God,

for thou art the man whom an angel said in a vision:

“Thou shalt receive”.

*Therefore, go with me into my house and I will impart unto thee of my food;
and I know that thou wilt be a blessing unto me and my house.”*

21 And it came to pass that the man received him into his house; and the man was called Amulek; and he brought forth bread and meat and set before Alma.

22 And it came to pass that Alma ate bread and was filled; and he blessed Amulek and his
23 house, and he gave thanks unto God. ■ And after he had eaten and was filled he said unto Amulek:

24 *“I am Alma, and am the high priest over the church of God throughout the land.
And behold, I have been called to preach the word of God among all this people,
according to the spirit of revelation and prophecy; and I was in this land and they
would not receive me, but they cast me out and I was about to set my back towards
25 this land forever. ■ But behold, I have been commanded that I should turn again
and prophesy unto this people, yea, and to testify against them concerning their
26 iniquities. ■ And now, Amulek, because thou hast fed me and taken me in, thou art
blessed; for I was an hungered, for I had fasted many days. “*

27 And Alma tarried many days with Amulek before he began to preach unto the people.

28 And it came to pass that the people did wax more gross in their iniquities.

29 And the word came to Alma, saying:

***“Go; and also say unto my servant Amulek,
go forth and prophesy unto this people, saying--
Repent ye, for thus saith the Lord,
except ye repent I will visit this people in mine anger;
yea, and I will not turn my fierce anger away.”***

30 And Alma went forth, and also Amulek, among the people, to declare the words of God
31 unto them; and they were filled with the Holy Ghost. ■ And they had power given unto them, insomuch that they could not be confined in dungeons; neither was it possible that any man could slay them; nevertheless they did not exercise their power until they were bound in bands and cast into prison. Now, this was done that the Lord might show forth his power in them.

32 And it came to pass that they went forth and began to preach and to prophesy unto the people, according to the spirit and power which the Lord had given them.

*The words of Alma, and also the words of Amulek,
which were declared unto the people who were in the land of Ammonihah.
And also they are cast into prison, and delivered by the miraculous power of God
which was in them, according to the record of Alma.
Comprising chapters 9 to 14 inclusive.*

CHAPTER NINE

Alma commands the people to repent.

The Lord will be merciful to the Lamanites in the last days

If the Nephites forsake the light, they shall be destroyed by the Lamanites

The Son of God soon cometh

He shall redeem those who repent and are baptized and have faith in his name.

1 And again, I, Alma, having been commanded of God that I should take Amulek and go
forth and preach again unto this people, or the people who were in the city of Ammonihah,
it came to pass as I began to preach unto them, they began to contend with me, saying:

2 *“Who art thou? Suppose ye that we shall believe the testimony of one man,
although he should preach unto us that the earth should pass away?”*

3 Now they understood not the words which they spake; for they knew not that the earth
4 should pass away. ■ And they said also:

*“We will not believe thy words if thou shouldst prophesy that this great city
should be destroyed in one day.”*

5 Now they knew not that God could do such marvelous works, for they were a hard-hearted
6 and a stiffnecked people. ■ And they said:

*“Who is God, that sendeth no more authority than one man among this people,
to declare unto them the truth of such great and marvelous things?”*

7 And they stood forth to lay their hands on me; but behold, they did not. And I stood with
boldness to declare unto them, yea, I did boldly testify unto them, saying:

8 *“Behold, O ye wicked and perverse generation,
how have ye forgotten the tradition of your fathers;
yea, how soon ye have forgotten the commandments of God.*

9 *Do ye not remember that our father, Lehi, was brought out of Jerusalem
by the hand of God?*

Do ye not remember that they were all led by him through the wilderness?

10 *And have ye forgotten so soon how many times he delivered our fathers
out of the hands of their enemies,
and preserved them from being destroyed,
even by the hands of their own brethren?*

11 *Yea, and if it had not been for his matchless power,
and his mercy, and his long-suffering towards us,
we should unavoidably have been cut off from the face of the earth
long before this period of time,
and perhaps been consigned to a state of endless misery and woe.*

12 *Behold, now I say unto you
that he commandeth you to repent;
and except ye repent, ye can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God.*

*But behold, this is not all--
he has commanded you to repent,
or he will utterly destroy you from off the face of the earth;
yea, he will visit you in his anger,
and in his fierce anger he will not turn away.*

13 *Behold, do ye not remember the words which he spake unto Lehi, saying that:*

***“Inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments,
ye shall prosper in the land?”***

And again it is said that:

***“Inasmuch as ye will not keep my commandments
ye shall be cut off from the presence of the Lord.”***

14 *Now I would that ye should remember,
that inasmuch as the Lamanites have not kept the commandments of God,
they have been cut off from the presence of the Lord.*

*Now we see that the word of the Lord has been verified in this thing,
and the Lamanites have been cut off from his presence,*

- 15 *from the beginning of their transgressions in the land.*
Nevertheless I say unto you,
that it shall be more tolerable for them in the day of judgment than for you,
if ye remain in your sins, yea, and even more tolerable for them
in this life than for you, except ye repent.
- 16 *For there are many promises which are extended to the Lamanites;*
for it is because of the traditions of their fathers
that caused them to remain in their state of ignorance;
therefore the Lord will be merciful unto them and prolong their existence in the land.
- 17 *And at some period of time they will be brought to believe in his word,*
and to know of the incorrectness of the traditions of their fathers;
and many of them will be saved,
for the Lord will be merciful unto all who call on his name.
- 18 *But behold, I say unto you*
that if ye persist in your wickedness
that your days shall not be prolonged in the land,
for the Lamanites shall be sent upon you;
and if ye repent not
they shall come in a time when you know not,
and ye shall be visited with utter destruction;
and it shall be according to the fierce anger of the Lord.
- 19 *For he will not suffer you that ye shall live in your iniquities,*
to destroy his people.
I say unto you, Nay;
he would rather suffer that the Lamanites might destroy all his people
who are called the people of Nephi,
if it were possible that they could fall into sins and transgressions,
after having had so much light and so much knowledge
given unto them of the Lord their God;
- 20 *Yea, after having been such a highly favored people of the Lord;*
yea, after having been favored above every other nation, kindred, tongue, or people;
after having had all things made known unto them,
according to their desires, and their faith, and prayers,
of that which has been, and which is, and which is to come;
- 21 *Having been visited by the Spirit of God;*
having conversed with angels,
and having been spoken unto by the voice of the Lord;
and having the spirit of prophecy,
and the spirit of revelation,
and also many gifts,
the gift of speaking with tongues,
and the gift of preaching,
and the gift of the Holy Ghost,
and the gift of translation;
- 22 *Yea, and after having been delivered of God out of the land of Jerusalem,*
by the hand of the Lord;
having been saved from famine,
and from sickness,
and all manner of diseases of every kind;
and they having waxed strong in battle,
that they might not be destroyed;
having been brought out of bondage time after time,

*and having been kept and preserved until now;
and they have been prospered until they are rich in all manner of things--*

23 *And now behold I say unto you,
that if this people,
who have received so many blessings from the hand of the Lord,
should transgress contrary to the light and knowledge which they do have,
I say unto you that if this be the case,
that if they should fall into transgression,
it would be far more tolerable for the Lamanites than for them.*

24 *For behold, the promises of the Lord are extended to the Lamanites,
but they are not unto you if ye transgress;
for has not the Lord expressly promised and firmly decreed,
that if ye will rebel against him
that ye shall utterly be destroyed from off the face of the earth?*

25 *And now for this cause, that ye may not be destroyed,
the Lord has sent his angel to visit many of his people,
declaring unto them that they must go forth
and cry mightily unto this people, saying:*

***“Repent ye,
for the kingdom of heaven is nigh at hand;
And not many days hence the Son of God shall come in his glory;
and his glory shall be the glory of the Only Begotten of the Father,
full of grace, equity, and truth, full of patience, mercy, and long-suffering,
quick to hear the cries of his people and to answer their prayers.
And behold, he cometh to redeem those who will be baptized unto repentance,
through faith on his name.
Therefore, prepare ye the way of the Lord,
for the time is at hand that all men shall reap a reward of their works,
according to that which they have been--
if they have been righteous they shall reap the salvation of their souls,
according to the power and deliverance of Jesus Christ;
and if they have been evil
they shall reap the damnation of their souls,
according to the power and captivation of the devil.”***

29 *Now behold, this is the voice of the angel,
crying unto the people.*

30 *And now, my beloved brethren,
for ye are my brethren, and ye ought to be beloved,
and ye ought to bring forth works which are meet for repentance,
seeing that your hearts have been grossly hardened against the word of God,
and seeing that ye are a lost and a fallen people.”*

31 Now it came to pass that when I, Alma, had spoken these words, behold, the people were
32 wroth with me because I said unto them that they were a hard-hearted and a stiffnecked
people. ■ And also because I said unto them that they were a lost and a fallen people they
were angry with me, and sought to lay their hands upon me, that they might cast me into
33 prison. ■ But it came to pass that the Lord did not suffer them that they should take me at
that time and cast me into prison.

34 And it came to pass that Amulek went and stood forth, and began to preach unto them also. And now the words of Amulek are not all written, nevertheless a part of his words are written in this book.

CHAPTER TEN

Lehi descended from Manasseh

Amulek recounts the angelic command that he care for Alma

The prayers of righteous cause the people to be spared

Unrighteous lawyers and judges lay the foundation of the destruction of the people.

1 Now these are the words which Amulek preached unto the people who were in the land of Ammonihah, saying:

2 *“I am Amulek; I am the son of Giddonah,
who was the son of Ishmael,
who was a descendant of Aminadi;
and it was the same Aminadi who interpreted the writing
which was upon the wall of the temple,
which was written by the finger of God.*

3 *And Aminadi was a descendant of Nephi,
who was the son of Lehi,
who came out of the land of Jerusalem,
who was a descendant of Manasseh,
who was the son of Joseph who was sold into Egypt by the hands of his brethren.*

4 *And behold, I am also a man of no small reputation among all those who know me;
yea, and behold, I have many kindreds and friends,
and I have also acquired much riches by the hand of my industry.*

5 *Nevertheless, after all this,
I never have known much of the ways of the Lord,
and his mysteries and marvelous power.
I said I never had known much of these things;
but behold, I mistake, for I have seen much of his
mysteries and his marvelous power;
yea, even in the preservation of the lives of this people.*

6 *Nevertheless, I did harden my heart,
for I was called many times and I would not hear;
therefore I knew concerning these things,
yet I would not know;
therefore I went on rebelling against God, in the wickedness of my heart,
even until the fourth day of this seventh month,
which is in the tenth year of the reign of the judges.*

7 *As I was journeying to see a very near kindred,
behold an angel of the Lord appeared unto me and said:*

*“Amulek, return to thine own house,
for thou shalt feed a prophet of the Lord;
yea, a holy man, who is a chosen man of God;
for he has fasted many days because of the sins of this people,
and he is an hungered,
and thou shalt receive him into thy house and feed him,
and he shall bless thee and thy house;
and the blessing of the Lord shall rest upon thee and thy house.”*

8 *And it came to pass that I obeyed the voice of the angel,*

and returned towards my house.
And as I was going thither
I found the man whom the angel said unto me:
“Thou shalt receive into thy house”
--and behold it was this same man who has been speaking unto you
concerning the things of God.
9 And the angel said unto me
“he is a holy man;”
wherefore I know he is a holy man because it was said by an angel of God.
10 And again, I know that the things whereof he hath testified are true;
for behold I say unto you,
that as the Lord liveth, even so has he sent his angel
to make these things manifest unto me;
and this he has done while this Alma hath dwelt at my house.
11 For behold, he hath blessed mine house,
he hath blessed me, and my women, and my children,
and my father and my kinsfolk;
yea, even all my kindred hath he blessed,
and the blessing of the Lord hath rested upon us
according to the words which he spake.”

12 And now, when Amulek had spoken these words the people began to be astonished, seeing
there was more than one witness who testified of the things whereof they were accused,
and also of the things which were to come, according to the spirit of prophecy which was
13 in them. ■ Nevertheless, there were some among them who thought to question them, that
by their cunning devices they might catch them in their words, that they might find witness
against them, that they might deliver them to their judges that they might be judged
according to the law, and that they might be slain or cast into prison, according to the
14 crime which they could make appear or witness against them. ■ Now it was those men who
sought to destroy them, who were lawyers, who were hired or appointed by the people to
administer the law at their times of trials, or at the trials of the crimes of the people before
15 the judges. ■ Now these lawyers were learned in all the arts and cunning of the people; and
16 this was to enable them that they might be skilful in their profession. ■ And it came to pass
that they began to question Amulek, that thereby they might make him cross his words, or
17 contradict the words which he should speak. ■ Now they knew not that Amulek could
know of their designs. But it came to pass as they began to question him, he perceived
their thoughts, and he said unto them:

“O ye wicked and perverse generation, ye lawyers and hypocrites,
for ye are laying the foundation of the devil;
for ye are laying traps and snares to catch the holy ones of God.
18 Ye are laying plans to pervert the ways of the righteous,
and to bring down the wrath of God upon your heads,
even to the utter destruction of this people.
19 Yea, well did Mosiah say, who was our last king,
when he was about to deliver up the kingdom,
having no one to confer it upon,
causing that this people should be governed by their own voices--
yea, well did he say that if the time should come
that the voice of this people should choose iniquity,
that is, if the time should come that this people should fall into transgression,
they would be ripe for destruction.

20 And now I say unto you
 that well doth the Lord judge of your iniquities;
 well doth he cry unto this people, by the voice of his angels:
 **“Repent ye, repent,
 for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”**

21 Yea, well doth he cry, by the voice of his angels that:
 **“I will come down among my people,
 with equity and justice in my hands.”**

22 Yea, and I say unto you
 that if it were not for the prayers of the righteous,
 who are now in the land,
 that ye would even now be visited with utter destruction;
 yet it would not be by flood, as were the people in the days of Noah,
 but it would be by famine, and by pestilence, and the sword.

23 But it is by the prayers of the righteous that ye are spared;
 now therefore,
 if ye will cast out the righteous from among you
 then will not the Lord stay his hand;
 but in his fierce anger he will come out against you;
 then ye shall be smitten by famine, and by pestilence,
 and by the sword; and the time is soon at hand
 except ye repent.”

24 And now it came to pass that the people were more angry with Amulek, and they cried out,
 saying:
 *“This man doth revile against our laws which are just,
 and our wise lawyers whom we have selected.”*

25 But Amulek stretched forth his hand, and cried the mightier unto them, saying:
 *“O ye wicked and perverse generation,
 why hath Satan got such great hold upon your hearts?
 Why will ye yield yourselves unto him
 that he may have power over you, to blind your eyes,
 that ye will not understand the words which are spoken,
 according to their truth?”*

26 For behold, have I testified against your law?
 Ye do not understand;
 ye say that I have spoken against your law;
 but I have not,
 but I have spoken in favor of your law, to your condemnation.

27 And now behold, I say unto you,
 that the foundation of the destruction of this people
 is beginning to be laid by the unrighteousness
 of your lawyers and your judges.”

28 And now it came to pass that when Amulek had spoken these words the people cried out
 against him, saying:
 *“Now we know that this man is a child of the devil, for he hath lied unto us; for
 he hath spoken against our law. And now he says that he has not spoken against it.*

29 And again, he has reviled against our lawyers, and our judges. “

30 And it came to pass that the lawyers put it into their hearts that they should remember
 these things against him.

31 And there was one among them whose name was Zeezrom. Now he was the foremost to
accuse Amulek and Alma, he being one of the most expert among them, having much
32 business to do among the people. ■ Now the object of these lawyers was to get gain; and
they got gain according to their employ.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Nephite coinage set forth

Amulek contends with Zeezrom

Christ will not save people in their sins

Only those who inherit the kingdom of heaven are saved

All men shall rise in immortality

There is no death after the resurrection.

1 Now it was in the law of Mosiah that every man who was a judge of the law, or those who
were appointed to be judges, should receive wages according to the time which they
labored to judge those who were brought before them to be judged.

2 Now if a man owed another, and he would not pay that which he did owe, he was
complained of to the judge; and the judge executed authority, and sent forth officers that
the man should be brought before him; and he judged the man according to the law and the
evidences which were brought against him, and thus the man was compelled to pay that
which he owed, or be stripped, or be cast out from among the people as a thief and a
3 robber. ■ And the judge received for his wages according to his time--a senine of gold for a
day, or a senum of silver, which is equal to a senine of gold; and this is according to the
4 law which was given. ■ Now these are the names of the different pieces of their gold, and
of their silver, according to their value. And the names are given by the Nephites, for they
did not reckon after the manner of the Jews who were at Jerusalem; neither did they
measure after the manner of the Jews; but they altered their reckoning and their measure,
according to the minds and the circumstances of the people, in every generation, until the
5 reign of the judges, they having been established by king Mosiah. ■ Now the reckoning is
thus--

Page 235

a senine of gold, a seon of gold, a shum of gold,
and a limnah of gold.

6 A senum of silver, an amnor of silver, an ezrom of silver,
and an onti of silver.

7 A senum of silver was equal to a senine of gold,
and either for a measure of barley,
and also for a measure of every kind of grain.

8 Now the amount of a seon of gold was twice the value of a senine.

9 And a shum of gold was twice the value of a seon.

10 And a limnah of gold was the value of them all.

11 And an amnor of silver was as great as two senums.

12 And an ezrom of silver was as great as four senums.

13 And an onti was as great as them all.

14 Now this is the value of the lesser numbers of their reckoning--

15 A shiblon is half of a senum;
therefore, a shiblon for half a measure of barley.

16 And a shiblum is a half of a shiblon.

17 And a Leah is the half of a shiblum.

18 Now this is their number, according to their reckoning.

19 Now an antion of gold is equal to three shiblons.

20 Now, it was for the sole purpose to get gain, because they received their wages according to their employ, therefore, they did stir up the people to riotings, and all manner of disturbances and wickedness, that they might have more employ, that they might get money according to the suits which were brought before them; therefore they did stir up

21 the people against Alma and Amulek. ■ And this Zeezrom began to question Amulek, saying:
“Will ye answer me a few questions which I shall ask you?”
 Now Zeezrom was a man who was expert in the devices of the devil, that he might destroy that which was good; therefore, he said unto Amulek:
“Will ye answer the questions which I shall put unto you?”

22 And Amulek said unto him:
*“Yea, if it be according to the Spirit of the Lord, which is in me;
 for I shall say nothing which is contrary to the Spirit of the Lord.”*
 And Zeezrom said unto him:
*“Behold, here are six onties of silver,
 and all these will I give thee if thou wilt deny the existence of a Supreme Being.”*

23 Now Amulek said:
*“O thou child of hell, why tempt ye me?
 Knowest thou that the righteous yieldeth to no such temptations?
 24 Believest thou that there is no God?
 I say unto you, Nay, thou knowest that there is a God,
 but thou lovest that lucre more than him.
 25 And now thou hast lied before God unto me.
 Thou saidst unto me--
 “Behold these six onties, which are of great worth,
 I will give unto thee”
 --when thou hadst it in thy heart to retain them from me;
 and it was only thy desire that I should deny the true and living God,
 that thou mightest have cause to destroy me.
 And now behold, for this great evil thou shalt have thy reward.”*

26 And Zeezrom said unto him:
“Thou sayest there is a true and living God?”

27 And Amulek said:
“Yea, there is a true and living God.”

28 Now Zeezrom said:
“Is there more than one God?”

29 And he answered,
“No.”

30 Now Zeezrom said unto him again:
“How knowest thou these things?”

31 And he said:
“An angel hath made them known unto me.”

32 And Zeezrom said again:
“Who is he that shall come? Is it the Son of God?”

33 And he said unto him,
“Yea.”

34 And Zeezrom said again:
“Shall he save his people in their sins?”
 And Amulek answered and said unto him:
“I say unto you he shall not, for it is impossible for him to deny his word.”

35 Now Zeezrom said unto the people:
*“See that ye remember these things; for he said there is but one God; yet he saith
that the Son of God shall come, but he shall not save his people--as though he had
authority to command God.”*

36 Now Amulek saith again unto him:
*“Behold thou hast lied,
for thou sayest that I spake as though I had authority to command God
because I said he shall not save his people in their sins.*

37 *And I say unto you again
that he cannot save them in their sins;
for I cannot deny his word,
and he hath said that no unclean thing can inherit the kingdom of heaven;
therefore, how can ye be saved,
except ye inherit the kingdom of heaven?
Therefore,
ye cannot be saved in your sins.”*

38 Now Zeezrom saith again unto him:
“Is the Son of God the very Eternal Father?”

39 And Amulek said unto him:
*“Yea, he is the very Eternal Father of heaven and of earth,
and all things which in them are;
he is the beginning and the end, the first and the last;*

40 *And he shall come into the world to redeem his people;
and he shall take upon him the transgressions of those who believe on his name;
and these are they that shall have eternal life, and salvation cometh to none else.*

41 *Therefore the wicked remain as though there had been no redemption made,
except it be the loosing of the bands of death;
for behold, the day cometh
that all shall rise from the dead and stand before God,
and be judged according to their works.*

42 *Now, there is a death which is called a temporal death;
and the death of Christ shall loose the bands of this temporal death,
that all shall be raised from this temporal death.*

43 *The spirit and the body shall be reunited again in its perfect form;
both limb and joint shall be restored to its proper frame,
even as we now are at this time;
and we shall be brought to stand before God,
knowing even as we know now,
and have a bright recollection of all our guilt.*

44 *Now, this restoration shall come to all,
both old and young,
both bond and free,
both male and female,
both the wicked and the righteous
and even there shall not so much as a hair of their heads be lost;
but every thing shall be restored to its perfect frame,
as it is now, or in the body,
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,
whethertthey be good or whether they be evil.*

45 *Now, behold, I have spoken unto you concerning the death of the mortal body,
 and also concerning the resurrection of the mortal body.
I say unto you that this mortal body is raised to an immortal body,
 that is from death, even from the first death unto life,
 that they can die no more;
 their spirits uniting with their bodies, never to be divided;
 thus the whole becoming spiritual and immortal,
 that they can no more see corruption”*

46 Now, when Amulek had finished these words the people began again to be astonished, and also Zeezrom began to tremble. And thus ended the words of Amulek, or this is all that I have written.

CHAPTER TWELVE

Alma contends with Zeezrom

*The mysteries of God can be given only to the faithful
Men are judged by their thoughts, beliefs, words, and works
The wicked shall suffer a spiritual death
This mortal life is a probationary state
The plan of redemption brings to pass the resurrection and,
 through faith, a remission of sins
The repentant have a claim on mercy through the Only Begotten Son.*

1 Now Alma, seeing that the words of Amulek had silenced Zeezrom, for he beheld that Amulek had caught him in his lying and deceiving to destroy him, and seeing that he began to tremble under a consciousness of his guilt, he opened his mouth and began to speak unto him, and to establish the words of Amulek, and to explain things beyond, or to unfold the scriptures beyond that which Amulek had done. ■ Now the words that Alma spake unto Zeezrom were heard by the people round about; for the multitude was great, and he spake on this wise:

2 “ Now Zeezrom, seeing that thou hast been taken in thy lying and craftiness, for thou hast not lied unto men only but thou hast lied unto God; for behold, he knows all thy thoughts, and thou seest that thy thoughts are made known unto us by his Spirit;
3 And thou seest that we know that thy plan was a very subtle plan, as to the subtlety of the devil, for to lie and to deceive this people that thou mightest set them against us, to revile us and to cast us out-- ■ Now this was a plan of thine adversary, and he hath exercised his power in thee. Now I would that ye should remember that what I say
4 unto thee I say unto all. ■ And behold I say unto you all that this was a snare of the adversary, which he has laid to catch this people, that he might bring you into
5 subjection unto him, that he might encircle you about with his chains, that he might chain you down to everlasting destruction, according to the power of his captivity.”

6 Now when Alma had spoken these words, Zeezrom began to tremble more exceedingly, for he was convinced more and more of the power of God; and he was also convinced that Alma and Amulek had a knowledge of him, for he was convinced that they knew the thoughts and intents of his heart; for power was given unto them that they might know of these things according to the spirit of prophecy. ■ And Zeezrom began to inquire of them diligently, that he might know more concerning the kingdom of God. And he said unto Alma:

7 “What does this mean which Amulek hath spoken concerning the resurrection of the

dead, that all shall rise from the dead, both the just and the unjust, and are brought to stand before God to be judged according to their works?"

9 And now Alma began to expound these things unto him, saying:

*"It is given unto many to know the mysteries of God;
nevertheless they are laid under a strict command
that they shall not impart only according to the portion of his word
which he doth grant unto the children of men,
according to the heed and diligence which they give unto him.*

10 *And therefore, he that will harden his heart,
the same receiveth the lesser portion of the word;
and he that will not harden his heart,
to him is given the greater portion of the word,
until it is given unto him to know the mysteries of God
until he know them in full.*

11 *And they that will harden their hearts,
to them is given the lesser portion of the word
until they know nothing concerning his mysteries;
and then they are taken captive by the devil,
and led by his will down to destruction.*

Now this is what is meant by the chains of hell.

12 *And Amulek hath spoken plainly concerning death,
and being raised from this mortality to a state of immortality,
and being brought before the bar of God,
to be judged according to our works.*

13 *Then if our hearts have been hardened, yea,
if we have hardened our hearts against the word,
insomuch that it has not been found in us,
then will our state be awful,
for then we shall be condemned.*

14 *For our words will condemn us, yea,
all our works will condemn us;
we shall not be found spotless;
and our thoughts will also condemn us;
and in this awful state
we shall not dare to look up to our God;
and we would fain be glad
if we could command the rocks and the mountains
to fall upon us to hide us from his presence.*

15 *But this cannot be;
we must come forth and stand before him in his glory,
and in his power, and in his might, majesty, and dominion,
and acknowledge to our everlasting shame that all his judgments are just;
that he is just in all his works,
and that he is merciful unto the children of men,
and that he has all power to save every man that believeth on his name
and bringeth forth fruit meet for repentance."*

16 *And now behold, I say unto you then cometh a death,
even a second death, which is a spiritual death;
then is a time that whosoever dieth in his sins, as to a temporal death,
shall also die a spiritual death;
yea, he shall die as to things pertaining unto righteousness.*

17 *Then is the time when their torments shall be as a lake of fire and brimstone,
whose flame ascendeth up forever and ever;
and then is the time that they shall be chained down to an everlasting destruction,
according to the power and captivity of Satan,
he having subjected them according to his will.*

18 *Then, I say unto you,
they shall be as though there had been no redemption made;
for they cannot be redeemed according to God's justice;
and they cannot die, seeing there is no more corruption.”*

19 Now it came to pass that when Alma had made an end of speaking these words, the people
20 began to be more astonished; ■ But there was one Antionah, who was a chief ruler among
them, came forth and said unto him:

21 *“What is this that thou hast said, that man should rise from the dead and be changed
from this mortal to an immortal state that the soul can never die? ■ What does the
scripture mean, which saith that God placed cherubim and a flaming sword on the
east of the garden of Eden, lest our first parents should enter and partake of the fruit
of the tree of life, and live forever? And thus we see that there was no possible
chance that they should live forever.”*

22 Now Alma said unto him:

23 *“This is the thing which I was about to explain, now we see that Adam did fall by the
partaking of the forbidden fruit, according to the word of God; and thus we see, that
by his fall, all mankind became a lost and fallen people. ■ And now behold, I say unto
you that if it had been possible for Adam to have partaken of the fruit of the tree of
life at that time, there would have been no death, and the word would have been void,
making God a liar, for he said:*

“If thou eat thou shalt surely die.”

24 *And we see that death comes upon mankind, yea, the death which has been spoken of
by Amulek, which is the temporal death; nevertheless there was a space granted unto
man in which he might repent; therefore this life became a probationary state; a time
to prepare to meet God; a time to prepare for that endless state which has been
25 spoken of by us, which is after the resurrection of the dead. ■ Now, if it had not been
for the plan of redemption, which was laid from the foundation of the world, there
could have been no resurrection of the dead; but there was a plan of redemption laid,
which shall bring to pass the resurrection of the dead, of which has been spoken.*

26 *And now behold, if it were possible that our first parents could have gone forth and
partaken of the tree of life they would have been forever miserable, having no
preparatory state; and thus the plan of redemption would have been frustrated, and
27 the word of God would have been void, taking none effect. ■ But behold, it was not
so; but it was appointed unto men that they must die; and after death, they must come
to judgment, even that same judgment of which we have spoken, which is the end.*

28 *And after God had appointed that these things should come unto man, behold, then
he saw that it was expedient that man should know concerning the things whereof he
had appointed unto them; ■ Therefore he sent angels to converse with them, who
29 caused men to behold of his glory. ■ And they began from that time forth to call on
his name; therefore God conversed with men, and made known unto them the plan of
30 redemption, which had been prepared from the foundation of the world; and this he
made known unto them according to their faith and repentance and their holy works.*

31 *Wherefore, he gave commandments unto men, they having first transgressed the first
commandments as to things which were temporal, and becoming as Gods, knowing
good from evil, placing themselves in a state to act, or being placed in a state to act*

32 according to their wills and pleasures, whether to do evil or to do good-- ■ Therefore
God gave unto them commandments, after having made known unto them the plan of
redemption, that they should not do evil, the penalty thereof being a second death,
which was an everlasting death as to things pertaining unto righteousness; for on
33 such the plan of redemption could have no power, for the works of justice could not
be destroyed, according to the supreme goodness of God. ■ But God did call on men,
in the name of his Son, (this being the plan of redemption which was laid) saying:

***“If ye will repent and harden not your hearts,
then will I have mercy upon you,
through mine Only Begotten Son;
34 Therefore, whosoever repenteth, and hardeneth not his heart,
he shall have claim on mercy through mine Only Begotten Son,
unto a remission of his sins;
and these shall enter into my rest.***

35 ***And whosoever will harden his heart and will do iniquity,
36 behold, I swear in my wrath that he shall not enter into my rest.”***

And now, my brethren, behold I say unto you, that if ye will harden your hearts ye
shall not enter into the rest of the Lord; therefore your iniquity provoketh him that he
sendeth down his wrath upon you as in the first provocation, yea, according to his
word in the last provocation as well as the first, to the everlasting destruction of your
souls; therefore, according to his word, unto the last death, as well as the first.

37 And now, my brethren, seeing we know these things, and they are true, let us repent,
and harden not our hearts, that we provoke not the Lord our God to pull down his
wrath upon us in these his second commandments which he has given unto us; but let
us enter into the rest of God, which is prepared according to his word.”

Page 241

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

*Men are called as high priests because of their exceeding faith and good works
They are to teach the commandments
Through righteousness they are sanctified and enter into the rest of the Lord
Melchizedek was one of these
Angels are declaring glad tidings throughout the land
They will reveal the actual coming of Christ.*

1 “And again, my brethren, I would cite your minds forward to the time when the Lord
God gave these commandments unto his children; and I would that ye should
2 remember that the Lord God ordained priests, after his holy order, which was after
the order of his Son, to teach these things unto the people. ■ And those priests were
ordained after the order of his Son, in a manner that thereby the people might know
in what manner to look forward to his Son for redemption.

3 And this is the manner after which they were ordained--
being called and prepared from the foundation of the world
according to the foreknowledge of God,
on account of their exceeding faith and good works;
in the first place being left to choose good or evil;
therefore they having chosen good, and exercising exceedingly great faith,
are called with a holy calling,
yea, with that holy calling which was prepared with,
and according to, a preparatory redemption for such.

4 And thus they have been called to this holy calling on account of their faith,

*while others would reject the Spirit of God
on account of the hardness of their hearts and blindness of their minds,
while, if it had not been for this
they might have had as great privilege as their brethren.*

5 *Or in fine, in the first place they were on the same standing with their brethren;
thus this holy calling being prepared from the foundation of the world
for such as would not harden their hearts,
being in and through the atonement of the Only Begotten Son,
who was prepared--*

6 *And thus being called by this holy calling,
and ordained unto the high priesthood of the holy order of God,
to teach his commandments unto the children of men,
that they also might enter into his rest--*

7 *This high priesthood being after the order of his Son,
which order was from the foundation of the world;
or in other words, being without beginning of days or end of years,
being prepared from eternity to all eternity,
according to his foreknowledge of all things--*

8 *Now they were ordained after this manner--
being called with a holy calling,
and ordained with a holy ordinance,
and taking upon them the high priesthood of the holy order,
which calling, and ordinance, and high priesthood, is without beginning or end--*

9 *Thus they become high priests forever,
after the order of the Son, the Only Begotten of the Father,
who is without beginning of days or end of years,
who is full of grace, equity, and truth.*

And thus it is. Amen.

10 *Now, as I said concerning the holy order, or this high priesthood, there were many
who were ordained and became high priests of God; and it was on account of their
exceeding faith and repentance, and their righteousness before God, they choosing to
repent and work righteousness rather than to perish; ■ Therefore they were called
after this holy order, and were sanctified, and their garments were washed white
11 through the blood of the Lamb. ■ Now they, after being sanctified by the Holy Ghost,
12 having their garments made white, being pure and spotless before God, could not
look upon sin save it were with abhorrence; and there were many, exceedingly great
many, who were made pure and entered into the rest of the Lord their God.*

13 *And now, my brethren, I would that ye should humble yourselves before God, and
14 bring forth fruit meet for repentance, that ye may also enter into that rest. ■ Yea,
humble yourselves even as the people in the days of Melchizedek, who was also a
high priest after this same order which I have spoken, who also took upon him the
15 high priesthood forever. ■ And it was this same Melchizedek to whom Abraham paid
tithes; yea, even our father Abraham paid tithes of one-tenth part of all he possessed.
16 Now these ordinances were given after this manner, that thereby the people might
look forward on the Son of God, it being a type of his order, or it being his order,
and this that they might look forward to him for a remission of their sins, that they
might enter into the rest of the Lord.*

17 *Now this Melchizedek was a king over the land of Salem; and his people had waxed*

18 *strong in iniquity and abomination; yea, they had all gone astray; they were full of*
all manner of wickedness; ■ But Melchizedek having exercised mighty faith, and
received the office of the high priesthood according to the holy order of God, did
preach repentance unto his people. And behold, they did repent; and Melchizedek
19 *did establish peace in the land in his days; therefore he was called the prince of*
peace, for he was the king of Salem; and he did reign under his father. ■ Now, there
were many before him, and also there were many afterwards, but none were greater;
20 *therefore, of him they have more particularly made mention. ■ Now I need not*
rehearse the matter; what I have said may suffice. Behold, the scriptures are before
you; if ye will wrest them it shall be to your own destruction.”

21 *And now it came to pass that when Alma had said these words unto them, he stretched*
forth his hand unto them and cried with a mighty voice, saying:

22 *“Now is the time to repent, for the day of salvation draweth nigh; ■ Yea, and the*
voice of the Lord, by the mouth of angels, doth declare it unto all nations; Yea, doth
declare it, that they may have glad tidings of great joy; yea, and he doth sound these
23 *glad tidings among all his people, yea, even to them that are scattered abroad upon*
the face of the earth; wherefore they have come unto us. ■ And they are made known
unto us in plain terms, that we may understand, that we cannot err; and this because
24 *of our being wanderers in a strange land; therefore, we are thus highly favored, for*
we have these glad tidings declared unto us in all parts of our vineyard. ■ For
behold, angels are declaring it unto many at this time in our land; and this is for the
25 *purpose of preparing the hearts of the children of men to receive his word at the time*
of his coming in his glory. ■ And now we only wait to hear the joyful news declared
unto us by the mouth of angels, of his coming; for the time cometh, we know not how
26 *soon. Would to God that it might be in my day; but let it be sooner or later, in it I*
will rejoice. ■ And it shall be made known unto just and holy men, by the mouth of
angels, at the time of his coming, that the words of our fathers may be fulfilled,
according to that which they have spoken concerning him, which was according to
the spirit of prophecy which was in them.

27 *And now, my brethren, I wish from the inmost part of my heart, yea,*
with great anxiety even unto pain,
that ye would hearken unto my words,
and cast off your sins,

28 *and not procrastinate the day of your repentance;*
But that ye would humble yourselves before the Lord,
and call on his holy name,
and watch and pray continually,
that ye may not be tempted above that which ye can bear,
and thus be led by the Holy Spirit,
becoming humble, meek, submissive, patient, full of love
and all long-suffering;

29 *Having faith on the Lord;*
having a hope that ye shall receive eternal life;
having the love of God always in your hearts,
that ye may be lifted up at the last day and enter into his rest.

30 *And may the Lord grant unto you repentance,*
that ye may not bring down his wrath upon you,
that ye may not be bound down by the chains of hell,
that ye may not suffer the second death.”

31 And Alma spake many more words unto the people, which are not written in this book.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

*Alma and Amulek are imprisoned and smitten
The believers and their holy scriptures are burned by fire
These martyrs are received by the Lord in glory
The prison walls are rent and fall
Alma and Amulek are delivered and their persecutors are slain.*

Page 244

1 And it came to pass after he had made an end of speaking unto the people many of them
2 did believe on his words, and began to repent, and to search the scriptures. ■ But the more
3 part of them were desirous that they might destroy Alma and Amulek; for they were angry
4 with Alma, because of the plainness of his words unto Zeezrom; and they also said that
5 Amulek had lied unto them, and had reviled against their law and also against their lawyers
6 and judges. ■ And they were also angry with Alma and Amulek; and because they had
7 testified so plainly against their wickedness, they sought to put them away privily. ■ But it
8 came to pass that they did not; but they took them and bound them with strong cords, and
9 took them before the chief judge of the land. ■ And the people went forth and witnessed
10 against them--testifying that they had reviled against the law, and their lawyers and judges
11 of the land, and also of all the people that were in the land; and also testified that there was
12 but one God, and that he should send his Son among the people, but he should not save
13 them; and many such things did the people testify against Alma and Amulek. Now this
14 was done before the chief judge of the land. ■ And it came to pass that Zeezrom was
15 astonished at the words which had been spoken; and he also knew concerning the blindness
16 of the minds, which he had caused among the people by his lying words; and his soul
17 began to be harrowed up under a consciousness of his own guilt; yea, he began to be
18 encircled about by the pains of hell.

7 And it came to pass that he began to cry unto the people, saying:
8 *“Behold, I am guilty, and these men are spotless before God.”*
9 And he began to plead for them from that time forth; but they reviled him, saying:
10 *“Art thou also possessed with the devil?”*
11 And they spit upon him, and cast him out from among them, and also all those who
12 believed in the words which had been spoken by Alma and Amulek; and they cast them
13 out, and sent men to cast stones at them. ■ And they brought their wives and children
14 together, and whosoever believed or had been taught to believe in the word of God they
15 caused that they should be cast into the fire, and they also brought forth their records
16 which contained the holy scriptures, and cast them into the fire also, that they might be
17 burned and destroyed by fire.

9 And it came to pass that they took Alma and Amulek, and carried them forth to the place
10 of martyrdom, that they might witness the destruction of those who were consumed by fire.
11 And when Amulek saw the pains of the women and children who were consuming in the
12 fire, he also was pained; and he said unto Alma:
13 *“How can we witness this awful scene? Therefore let us stretch forth our hands, and
14 exercise the power of God which is in us, and save them from the flames.”*

11 But Alma said unto him:
12 *“The Spirit constraineth me that I must not stretch forth mine hand; for behold the
13 Lord receiveth them up unto himself, in glory; and he doth suffer that they may do
14 this thing, or that the people may do this thing unto them, according to the hardness
15 of their hearts, that the judgments which he shall exercise upon them in his wrath
16 may be just; and the blood of the innocent shall stand as a witness against them, yea,*

Page 245

and cry mightily against them at the last day.”

12 Now Amulek said unto Alma:

“Behold, perhaps they will burn us also.”

13 And Alma said:

“Be it according to the will of the Lord. But, behold, our work is not finished; therefore they burn us not.”

14 Now it came to pass that when the bodies of those who had been cast into the fire were consumed, and also the records which were cast in with them, the chief judge of the land came and stood before Alma and Amulek, as they were bound; and he smote them with his hand upon their cheeks, and said unto them:

15 *“After what ye have seen, will ye preach again unto this people, that they shall be cast into a lake of fire and brimstone? ■ Behold, ye see that ye had not power to save those who had been cast into the fire; neither has God saved them because they were of thy faith.”*

And the judge smote them again upon their cheeks, and asked:

“What say ye for yourselves? “

16, 17 Now this judge was after the order and faith of Nehor, who slew Gideon. ■ And it came to pass that Alma and Amulek answered him nothing; and he smote them again, and delivered them to the officers to be cast into prison. ■ And when they had been cast into prison three days, there came many lawyers, and judges, and priests, and teachers, who were of the profession of Nehor; and they came in unto the prison to see them, and they questioned them about many words; but they answered them nothing. ■ And it came to pass that the judge stood before them, and said:

“Why do ye not answer the words of this people?

Know ye not that I have power to deliver you up unto the flames?”

And he commanded them to speak; but they answered nothing.

20 And it came to pass that they departed and went their ways, but came again on the morrow; and the judge also smote them again on their cheeks. And many came forth also, and smote them, saying:

“Will ye stand again and judge this people, and condemn our law?

If ye have such great power why do ye not deliver yourselves?”

21 And many such things did they say unto them, gnashing their teeth upon them, and spitting upon them, and saying:

“How shall we look when we are damned?”

22 And many such things, yea, all manner of such things did they say unto them; and thus they did mock them for many days. And they did withhold food from them that they might hunger, and water that they might thirst; and they also did take from them their clothes that they were naked; and thus they were bound with strong cords, and confined in prison.

23 And it came to pass after they had thus suffered for many days, (and it was on the twelfth day, in the *tenth month, in the tenth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi) that the chief judge over the land of Ammonihah and many of their teachers and their lawyers went in unto the prison where Alma and Amulek were bound with cords.

24 And the chief judge stood before them, and smote them again, and said unto them:

“If ye have the power of God deliver yourselves from these bands, and then we will believe that the Lord will destroy this people according to your words.”

25 And it came to pass that they all went forth and smote them, saying the same words, even until the last; and when the last had spoken unto them the power of God was upon Alma and Amulek, and they rose and stood upon their feet. ■ And Alma cried, saying:

26

*“How long shall we suffer these great afflictions, O Lord?
O Lord, give us strength according to our faith which is in Christ,
even unto deliverance.”*

And they broke the cords with which they were bound; and when the people saw this, they began to flee, for the fear of destruction had come upon them.

27 And it came to pass that so great was their fear that they fell to the earth, and did not
obtain the outer door of the prison; and the earth shook mightily, and the walls of the
prison were rent in twain, so that they fell to the earth; and the chief judge, and the
lawyers, and priests, and teachers, who smote upon Alma and Amulek, were slain by the
28 fall thereof. ■ And Alma and Amulek came forth out of the prison, and they were not hurt;
for the Lord had granted unto them power, according to their faith which was in Christ.
And they straightway came forth out of the prison; and they were loosed from their bands;
and the prison had fallen to the earth, and every soul within the walls thereof, save it were
29 Alma and Amulek, was slain; and they straightway came forth into the city. ■ Now the
people having heard a great noise came running together by multitudes to know the cause
of it; and when they saw Alma and Amulek coming forth out of the prison, and the walls
thereof had fallen to the earth, they were struck with great fear, and fled from the presence
of Alma and Amulek even as a goat fleeth with her young from two lions; and thus they
did flee from the presence of Alma and Amulek.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

*Alma and Amulek go to Sidom and establish a church
Alma heals Zeezrom, who joins the Church
Many are baptized and the Church prospers
Alma and Amulek go to Zarahemla.*

1 And it came to pass that Alma and Amulek were commanded to depart out of that city; and
they departed, and came out even into the land of Sidom; and behold, there they found all
the people who had departed out of the land of Ammonihah, who had been cast out and
2 stoned, because they believed in the words of Alma. ■ And they related unto them all that
had happened unto their wives and children, and also concerning themselves, and of their
3 power of deliverance. ■ And also Zeezrom lay sick at Sidom, with a burning fever, which
was caused by the great tribulations of his mind on account of his wickedness, for he
supposed that Alma and Amulek were no more; and he supposed that they had been slain
because of his iniquity. And this great sin, and his many other sins, did harrow up his
mind until it did become exceedingly sore, having no deliverance; therefore he began to be
4 scorched with a burning heat. Now, when he heard that Alma and Amulek were in the land
of Sidom, his heart began to take courage; and he sent a message immediately unto them,
desiring them to come unto him.

5 And it came to pass that they went immediately, obeying the message which he had sent
unto them; and they went in unto the house unto Zeezrom; and they found him upon his
bed, sick, being very low with a burning fever; and his mind also was exceedingly sore
because of his iniquities; and when he saw them he stretched forth his hand, and besought
them that they would heal him.

6 And it came to pass that Alma said unto him, taking him by the hand:

“Believest thou in the power of Christ unto salvation?”

7 And he answered and said:

“Yea, I believe all the words that thou hast taught.”

8 And Alma said:

“If thou believest in the redemption of Christ thou canst be healed.”

9 And he said:

“Yea, I believe according to thy words.”

10 And then Alma cried unto the Lord, saying:

*“O Lord our God, have mercy on this man,
and heal him according to his faith which is in Christ.”*

11 And when Alma had said these words, Zeezrom leaped upon his feet, and began to walk;
and this was done to the great astonishment of all the people; and the knowledge of this
12 went forth throughout all the land of Sidom. ■ And Alma baptized Zeezrom unto the Lord;
13 and he began from that time forth to preach unto the people. ■ And Alma established a
church in the land of Sidom, and consecrated priests and teachers in the land, to baptize
unto the Lord whosoever were desirous to be baptized.

14 And it came to pass that they were many; for they did flock in from all the region round
15 about Sidom, and were baptized. ■ But as to the people that were in the land of
Ammonihah, they yet remained a hard-hearted and a stiffnecked people; and they repented
not of their sins, ascribing all the power of Alma and Amulek to the devil; for they were of
the profession of Nehor, and did not believe in the repentance of their sins.

16 And it came to pass that Alma and Amulek, Amulek having forsaken all his gold, and
silver, and his precious things, which were in the land of Ammonihah, for the word of God,
he being rejected by those who were once his friends and also by his father and his kindred;
17 Therefore, after Alma having established the church at Sidom, seeing a great check, yea,
seeing that the people were checked as to the pride of their hearts, and began to humble
themselves before God, and began to assemble themselves together at their sanctuaries to
worship God before the altar, watching and praying continually, that they might be
18 delivered from Satan, and from death, and from destruction-- ■ Now as I said, Alma
having seen all these things, therefore he took Amulek and came over to the land of
Zarahemla, and took him to his own house, and did administer unto him in his tribulations,
19 and strengthened him in the Lord. ■ And thus ended the tenth year of the reign of the
judges over the people of Nephi.

Page 248

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

*The Lamanites destroy the people of Ammonihah
Zoram leads the Nephites to victory over the Lamanites
Alma and Amulek and many others preach the word
They teach that after his resurrection Christ will appear to the Nephites.*

1 And it came to pass in the eleventh year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi,
on the fifth day of the second month, there having been much peace in the land of
Zarahemla, there having been no wars nor contentions for a certain number of years, even
until the fifth day of the second month in the eleventh year, there was a cry of war heard
2 throughout the land. ■ For behold, the armies of the Lamanites had come in upon the
wilderness side, into the borders of the land, even into the city of Ammonihah, and began
to slay the people and destroy the city.

3 And now it came to pass, before the Nephites could raise a sufficient army to drive them
out of the land, they had destroyed the people who were in the city of Ammonihah, and
also some around the borders of Noah, and taken others captive into the wilderness.

4 Now it came to pass that the Nephites were desirous to obtain those who had been carried
5 away captive into the wilderness. ■ Therefore, he that had been appointed chief captain

over the armies of the Nephites, (and his name was Zoram, and he had two sons, Lehi and Aha)--now Zoram and his two sons, knowing that Alma was high priest over the church, and having heard that he had the spirit of prophecy, therefore they went unto him and desired of him to know whither the Lord would that they should go into the wilderness in search of their brethren, who had been taken captive by the Lamanites.

6 And it came to pass that Alma inquired of the Lord concerning the matter. And Alma returned and said unto them:

“Behold, the Lamanites will cross the river Sidon in the south wilderness, away up beyond the borders of the land of Manti. And behold there shall ye meet them, on the east of the river Sidon, and there the Lord will deliver unto thee thy brethren who have been taken captive by the Lamanites.”

7 And it came to pass that Zoram and his sons crossed over the river Sidon, with their
8 armies, and marched away beyond the borders of Manti into the south wilderness, which
9 was on the east side of the river Sidon. ■ And they came upon the armies of the Lamanites,
10 and the Lamanites were scattered and driven into the wilderness; and they took their
11 brethren who had been taken captive by the Lamanites, and there was not one soul of them
12 had been lost that were taken captive. And they were brought by their brethren to possess
13 their own lands. ■ And thus ended the eleventh year of the judges, the Lamanites having
14 been driven out of the land, and the people of Ammonihah were destroyed; yea, every
15 living soul of the Ammonihahites was destroyed, and also their great city, which they said
16 God could not destroy, because of its greatness. ■ But behold, in one day it was left
17 desolate; and the carcasses were mangled by dogs and wild beasts of the wilderness.
18 Nevertheless, after many days their dead bodies were heaped up upon the face of the earth,
19 and they were covered with a shallow covering. And now so great was the scent thereof
20 that the people did not go in to possess the land of Ammonihah for many years. And it
was called Desolation of Nehors; for they were of the profession of Nehor, who were slain;
and their lands remained desolate. ■ And the Lamanites did not come again to war against
the Nephites *until the fourteenth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.
And thus for three years did the people of Nephi have continual peace in all the land.

Page 249

78 B.C.

13 And Alma and Amulek went forth preaching repentance to the people in their temples, and
14 in their sanctuaries, and also in their synagogues, which were built after the manner of the
15 Jews. ■ And as many as would hear their words, unto them they did impart the word of
16 God, without any respect of persons, continually. ■ And thus did Alma and Amulek go
17 forth, and also many more who had been chosen for the work, to preach the word
18 throughout all the land. And the establishment of the church became general throughout
19 the land, in all the region round about, among all the people of the Nephites.

16 And there was no inequality among them; the Lord did pour out his Spirit on all the face of
17 the land to prepare the minds of the children of men, or to prepare their hearts to receive
18 the word which should be taught among them at the time of his coming-- ■ That they might
19 not be hardened against the word, that they might not be unbelieving, and go on to
20 destruction, but that they might receive the word with joy, and as a branch be grafted into
the true vine, that they might enter into the rest of the Lord their God.

18 Now those priests who did go forth among the people did preach against all lyings, and
19 deceivings, and envyings, and strifes, and malice, and revilings, and stealing, robbing,
20 plundering, murdering, committing adultery, and all manner of lasciviousness, crying that
these things ought not so to be-- ■ Holding forth things which must shortly come; yea,
holding forth the coming of the Son of God, his sufferings and death, and also the
resurrection of the dead. ■ And many of the people did inquire concerning the place where

the Son of God should come; and they were taught that he would appear unto them after his resurrection; and this the people did hear with great joy and gladness. ■ And now after the church had been established throughout all the land--having got the victory over the devil, and the word of God being preached in its purity in all the land, and the Lord pouring out his blessings upon the people--thus ended the fourteenth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.