

Enos prays mightily and gains a remission of his sins

1 **B**ehold, it came to pass that I, Enos, knowing my father that he was a just man--for
 2 he taught me in his language, and also in the nurture and admonition of the
 3 Lord--and blessed be the name of my God for it-- ■ And I will tell you of the
 4 wrestle which I had before God, before I received a remission of my sins. ■ Behold, I went
 5 to hunt beasts in the forests; and the words which I had often heard my father speak
 6 concerning eternal life, and the joy of the saints, sunk deep into my heart. ■ And my soul
 7 hungered; and I kneeled down before my Maker, and I cried unto him in mighty prayer and
 8 supplication for mine own soul; and all the day long did I cry unto him; yea, and when the
 9 night came I did still raise my voice high that it reached the heavens.

5 And there came a voice unto me, saying:

“Enos, thy sins are forgiven thee, and thou shalt be blessed.”

6 And I, Enos, knew that God could not lie; wherefore, my guilt was swept away.

7 And I said:

“Lord, how is it done?”

8 And he said unto me:

***“Because of thy faith in Christ,
 whom thou hast never before heard nor seen.
 And many years pass away before he shall manifest himself in the flesh;
 wherefore, go to, thy faith hath made thee whole.”***

*The voice of the Lord comes into his mind promising salvation
 for the Lamanites in a future day*

9 Now, it came to pass that when I had heard these words I began to feel a desire for the
 10 welfare of my brethren, the Nephites; wherefore, I did pour out my whole soul unto God
 11 for them. ■ And while I was thus struggling in the spirit, behold, the voice of the Lord
 12 came into my mind again, saying:

***“I will visit thy brethren according to their diligence
 in keeping my commandments.
 I have given unto them this land, and it is a holy land;
 and I curse it not save it be for the cause of iniquity;
 wherefore, I will visit thy brethren according as I have said;
 and their transgressions will I bring down
 with sorrow upon their own heads.”***

Nephites sought to reclaim the Lamanites in their day

11 And after I, Enos, had heard these words, my faith began to be unshaken in the Lord; and I
 12 prayed unto him with many long strugglings for my brethren, the Lamanites.

12 And it came to pass that after I had prayed and labored with all diligence, the Lord said
 13 unto me:

“I will grant unto thee according to thy desires, because of thy faith.”

13 And now behold, this was the desire which I desired of him--that if it should so be, that my
 14 people, the Nephites, should fall into transgression, and by any means be destroyed, and
 the Lamanites should not be destroyed, that the Lord God would preserve a record of my
 people, the Nephites; even if it so be by the power of his holy arm, that it might be brought
 forth at some future day unto the Lamanites, that, perhaps, they might be brought unto
 salvation-- ■ For at the present our strugglings were vain in restoring them to the true

faith. And they swore in their wrath that, if it were possible, they would destroy our records and us, and also all the traditions of our fathers.

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Wherefore, I knowing that the Lord God was able to preserve our records, I cried unto him continually, for he had said unto me:

*“Whatsoever thing ye shall ask in faith,
believing that ye shall receive in the name of Christ,
ye shall receive it.”*

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And I had faith, and I did cry unto God that he would preserve the records; and he covenanted with me that he would bring them forth unto the Lamanites in his own due time. ■ And I, Enos, knew it would be according to the covenant which he had made; wherefore my soul did rest.

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And the Lord said unto me:

*“Thy fathers have also required of me this thing;
and it shall be done unto them according to their faith;
for their faith was like unto thine.”*

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And now it came to pass that I, Enos, went about among the people of Nephi, prophesying of things to come, and testifying of the things which I had heard and seen. ■ And I bear record that the people of Nephi did seek diligently to restore the Lamanites unto the true faith in God. But our labors were vain; their hatred was fixed, and they were led by their evil nature that they became wild, and ferocious, and a bloodthirsty people, full of idolatry and filthiness; feeding upon beasts of prey; dwelling in tents, and wandering about in the wilderness with a short skin girdle about their loins and their heads shaven; and their skill was in the bow, and in the cimeter, and the ax. And many of them did eat nothing save it was raw meat; and they were continually seeking to destroy us.

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And it came to pass that the people of Nephi did till the land, and raise all manner of grain, and of fruit, and flocks of herds, and flocks of all manner of cattle of every kind, and goats, and wild goats, and also many horses. ■ And there were exceedingly many prophets among us. And the people were a stiffnecked people, hard to understand. ■ And there was nothing save it was exceeding harshness, preaching and prophesying of wars, and contentions, and destructions, and continually reminding them of death, and the duration of eternity, and the judgments and the power of God, and all these things--stirring them up continually to keep them in the fear of the Lord. I say there was nothing short of these things, and exceedingly great plainness of speech, would keep them from going down speedily to destruction. And after this manner do I write concerning them. ■ And I saw wars between the Nephites and Lamanites in the course of my days.

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Enos rejoices in his Redeemer.

And it came to pass that I began to be old, *and an hundred and seventy and nine years had passed away from the time that our father Lehi left Jerusalem. ■ And I saw that I must soon go down to my grave, having been wrought upon by the power of God that I must preach and prophesy unto this people, and declare the word according to the truth which is in Christ. And I have declared it in all my days, and have rejoiced in it above that of the world. ■ And I soon go to the place of my rest, which is with my Redeemer; for I know that in him I shall rest. And I rejoice in the day when my mortal shall put on immortality, and shall stand before him; then shall I see his face with pleasure, and he will say unto me:

“Come unto me, ye blessed, there is a place prepared

for you in the mansions of my Father.”

Amen.

THE BOOK OF JAROM

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Now behold, I, Jarom, write a few words according to the commandment of my father, Enos, that our genealogy may be kept. ■ And as these plates are small, and as these things are written for the intent of the benefit of our brethren the Lamanites, wherefore, it must needs be that I write a little; but I shall not write the things of my prophesying, nor of my revelations. For what could I write more than my fathers have written? For have not they revealed the plan of salvation? I say unto you, Yea; and this sufficeth me.

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The Nephites keep the law of Moses

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Behold, it is expedient that much should be done among this people, because of the hardness of their hearts, and the deafness of their ears, and the blindness of their minds, and the stiffness of their necks; nevertheless, God is exceedingly merciful unto them, and has not as yet swept them off from the face of the land. ■ And there are many among us who have many revelations, for they are not all stiffnecked. And as many as are not stiffnecked and have faith, have communion with the Holy Spirit, which maketh manifest unto the children of men, according to their faith.

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399 B.C.

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And now, behold, *two hundred years had passed away, and the people of Nephi had waxed strong in the land. They observed to keep the law of Moses and the sabbath day holy unto the Lord. And they profaned not; neither did they blaspheme. And the laws of the land were exceedingly strict. ■ And they were scattered upon much of the face of the land, and the Lamanites also. And they were exceedingly more numerous than were they of the Nephites; and they loved murder and would drink the blood of beasts.

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And it came to pass that they came many times against us, the Nephites, to battle. But our kings and our leaders were mighty men in the faith of the Lord; and they taught the people the ways of the Lord; wherefore, we withstood the Lamanites and swept them away out of our lands, and began to fortify our cities, or whatsoever place of our inheritance. ■ And we multiplied exceedingly, and spread upon the face of the land, and became exceedingly rich in gold, and in silver, and in precious things, and in fine workmanship of wood, in buildings, and in machinery, and also in iron and copper, and brass and steel, making all manner of tools of every kind to till the ground, and weapons of war--yea, the sharp pointed arrow, and the quiver, and the dart, and the javelin, and all preparations for war. And thus being prepared to meet the Lamanites, they did not prosper against us. But the word of the Lord was verified, which he spake unto our fathers, saying that: Inasmuch as

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ye will keep my commandments ye shall prosper in the land.

Many prophets labor to keep them in the way of truth.

Nephites look forward to the coming of Christ, and prosper in the land

And it came to pass that the prophets of the Lord did threaten the people of Nephi, according to the word of God, that if they did not keep the commandments, but should fall into transgression, they should be destroyed from off the face of the land. ■ Wherefore, the prophets, and the priests, and the teachers, did labor diligently, exhorting with all long-suffering the people to diligence; teaching the law of Moses, and the intent for which it was given; persuading them to look forward unto the Messiah, and believe in him to come as though he already was. And after this manner did they teach them. ■ And it came to pass that by so doing they kept them from being destroyed upon the face of the land; for they did prick their hearts with the word, continually stirring them up unto repentance.

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361 B.C.

And it came to pass that *two hundred and thirty and eight years had passed away--after the manner of wars, and contentions, and dissensions, for the space of much of the time. And I, Jarom, do not write more, for the plates are small. But behold, my brethren, ye can go to the other plates of Nephi; for behold, upon them the records of our wars are engraven, according to the writings of the kings, or those which they caused to be written. And I deliver these plates into the hands of my son Omni, that they may be kept according to the commandments of my fathers.

THE BOOK OF OMNI

Record of Omni

Behold, it came to pass that I, Omni, being commanded by my father, Jarom, that I should write somewhat upon these plates, to preserve our genealogy-- Wherefore, in my days, I would that ye should know that I fought much with the sword to preserve my people, the Nephites, from falling into the hands of their enemies, the Lamanites. But behold, I of myself am a wicked man, and I have not kept the statutes and the commandments of the Lord as I ought to have done.

323 B.C.

And it came to pass that *two hundred and seventy and six years had passed away, and we had many seasons of peace; and we had many seasons of serious war and bloodshed. Yea, and in fine, *two hundred and eighty and two years had passed away, and I had kept these plates according to the commandments of my fathers; and I conferred them upon my son Amaron. And I make an end.

317 B.C.

Record of Amaron

And now I, Amaron, write the things whatsoever I write, which are few, in the book of my father. ■ Behold, it came to pass that *three hundred and twenty years had passed away, and the more wicked part of the Nephites were destroyed. ■ For the Lord would not suffer, after he had led them out of the land of Jerusalem and kept and preserved them from falling into the hands of their enemies, yea, he would not suffer that the words should not be verified, which he spake unto our fathers, saying that:

279 B.C.

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“Inasmuch as ye will not keep my commandments ye shall not prosper in the land.”

Wherefore, the Lord did visit them in great judgment; nevertheless, he did spare the righteous that they should not perish, but did deliver them out of the hands of their enemies. ■ And it came to pass that I did deliver the plates unto my brother Chemish.

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Record of Chemish

Now I, Chemish, write what few things I write, in the same book with my brother; for behold, I saw the last which he wrote, that he wrote it with his own hand; and he wrote it in the day that he delivered them unto me. And after this manner we keep the records, for it is according to the commandments of our fathers. And I make an end.

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Record of Abinadom

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Behold, I, Abinadom, am the son of Chemish. Behold, it came to pass that I saw much war and contention between my people, the Nephites, and the Lamanites; and I, with my own sword, have taken the lives of many of the Lamanites in the defence of my brethren. ■ And behold, the record of this people is engraven upon plates which is had by the kings, according to the generations; and I know of no revelation save that which has been written, neither prophecy; wherefore, that which is sufficient is written. And I make an end.

Record of Amaleki

Mosiah discovers the people of Zarahemla who came from Jerusalem in the days of Zedekiah

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Behold, I am Amaleki, the son of Abinadom. Behold, I will speak unto you somewhat concerning Mosiah, who was made king over the land of Zarahemla; for behold, he being warned of the Lord that he should flee out of the land of Nephi, and as many as would hearken unto the voice of the Lord should also depart out of the land with him, into the wilderness-- ■ And it came to pass that he did according as the Lord had commanded him. And they departed out of the land into the wilderness, as many as would hearken unto the voice of the Lord; and they were led by many preachings and prophesyings. And they were admonished continually by the word of God; and they were led by the power of his arm, through the wilderness, until they came down into the land which is called the land of Zarahemla. ■ And they discovered a people, who were called the people of Zarahemla. Now, there was great rejoicing among the people of Zarahemla; and also Zarahemla did rejoice exceedingly, because the Lord had sent the people of Mosiah with the plates of brass which contained the record of the Jews.

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Behold, it came to pass that Mosiah discovered that the people of Zarahemla came out from Jerusalem at the time that Zedekiah, king of Judah, was carried away captive into Babylon. ■ And they journeyed in the wilderness, and were brought by the hand of the Lord across the great waters, into the land where Mosiah discovered them; and they had dwelt there from that time forth. ■ And at the time that Mosiah discovered them, they had become exceedingly numerous. Nevertheless, they had had many wars and serious contentions, and had fallen by the sword from time to time; and their language had become corrupted; and they had brought no records with them; and they denied the being of their Creator; and Mosiah, nor the people of Mosiah, could understand them. ■ But it came to pass that Mosiah caused that they should be taught in his language. And it came to pass that after they were taught in the language of Mosiah, Zarahemla gave a genealogy of his fathers, according to his memory; and they are written, but not in these plates.

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Mosiah is made king over them

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And it came to pass that the people of Zarahemla, and of Mosiah, did unite together; and Mosiah was appointed to be their king. ■ And it came to pass in the days of Mosiah, there was a large stone brought unto him with engravings on it; and he did interpret the engravings by the gift and power of God.

21 *The Mulekites had discovered Coriantumr, the last of the Jaredites*
And they gave an account of one Coriantumr, and the slain of his people. And Coriantumr
22 was discovered by the people of Zarahemla; and he dwelt with them for the space of nine
moons. ■ It also spake a few words concerning his fathers. And his first parents came out
from the tower, at the time the Lord confounded the language of the people; and the
severity of the Lord fell upon them according to his judgments, which are just; and their
bones lay scattered in the land northward.

23 *King Benjamin succeeds Mosiah*
24 Behold, I, Amaleki, was born in the days of Mosiah; and I have lived to see his death; and
Benjamin, his son, reigneth in his stead. ■ And behold, I have seen, in the days of king
Benjamin, a serious war and much bloodshed between the Nephites and the Lamanites.
But behold, the Nephites did obtain much advantage over them; yea, insomuch that king
Benjamin did drive them out of the land of Zarahemla.

25 And it came to pass that I began to be old; and, having no seed, and knowing king
Benjamin to be a just man before the Lord, wherefore, I shall deliver up these plates unto
him, exhorting all men to come unto God, the Holy One of Israel, and believe in
prophesying, and in revelations, and in the ministering of angels, and in the gift of speaking
with tongues, and in the gift of interpreting languages, and in all things which are good; for
there is nothing which is good save it comes from the Lord; and that which is evil cometh
from the devil.

26 *Men should offer their souls as an offering to Christ.*
And now, my beloved brethren, I would that ye should come unto Christ, who is the Holy
One of Israel, and partake of his salvation, and the power of his redemption. Yea, come
unto him, and offer your whole souls as an offering unto him, and continue in fasting and
praying, and endure to the end; and as the Lord liveth ye will be saved.

27 And now I would speak somewhat concerning a certain number who went up into the
28 wilderness to return to the land of Nephi; for there was a large number who were desirous
to possess the land of their inheritance. ■ Wherefore, they went up into the wilderness.
And their leader being a strong and mighty man, and a stiffnecked man, wherefore he
caused a contention among them; and they were all slain, save fifty, in the wilderness, and
they returned again to the land of Zarahemla.

29 And it came to pass that they also took others to a considerable number, and took their
30 journey again into the wilderness. ■ And I, Amaleki, had a brother, who also went with
them; and I have not since known concerning them. And I am about to lie down in my
grave; and these plates are full. And I make an end of my speaking.

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THE WORDS OF MORMON

1 *Mormon abridges their history onto the plates of Mormon*
2 **A**nd now I, Mormon, being about to deliver up the record which I have been making
into the hands of my son Moroni, behold I have witnessed almost all the
destruction of my people, the Nephites. ■ And it is many hundred years after the
coming of Christ *that I deliver these records into the hands of my son; and it supposeth
me that he will witness the entire destruction of my people. But may God grant that he
may survive them, that he may write somewhat concerning them, and somewhat

About
A.D. 385

concerning Christ, that perhaps some day it may profit them.

3 *Mormon inserts the plates of Nephi into the abridgment*

And now, I speak somewhat concerning that which I have written; for after I had made an abridgment from the plates of Nephi, down to the reign of this king Benjamin, of whom Amaleki spake, I searched among the records which had been delivered into my hands, and I found these plates, which contained this small account of the prophets, from Jacob down to the reign of this king Benjamin, and also many of the words of Nephi. ■ And the things which are upon these plates pleasing me, because of the prophecies of the coming of Christ; and my fathers knowing that many of them have been fulfilled; yea, and I also know that as many things as have been prophesied concerning us down to this day have been fulfilled, and as many as go beyond this day must surely come to pass-- ■ Wherefore, I chose these things, to finish my record upon them, which remainder of my record I shall take from the plates of Nephi; and I cannot write the hundredth part of the things of my people.

6 **Page 144**

But behold, I shall take these plates, which contain these prophesyings and revelations, and put them with the remainder of my record, for they are choice unto me; and I know they will be choice unto my brethren. ■ And I do this for a wise purpose; for thus it whispereth me, according to the workings of the Spirit of the Lord which is in me. And now, I do not know all things; but the Lord knoweth all things which are to come; wherefore, he worketh in me to do according to his will. And my prayer to God is concerning my brethren, that they may once again come to the knowledge of God, yea, the redemption of Christ; that they may once again be a delightsome people.

9 **About A.D. 385**

And now I, Mormon, *proceed to finish out my record, which I take from the plates of Nephi; and I make it according to the knowledge and the understanding which God has given me. ■ Wherefore, it came to pass that after Amaleki had delivered up these plates into the hands of king Benjamin, he took them and put them with the other plates, which contained records which had been handed down by the kings, from generation to generation until the days of king Benjamin. ■ And they were handed down from king Benjamin, from generation to generation until they have fallen into my hands. And I, Mormon, pray to God that they may be preserved from this time henceforth. And I know that they will be preserved; for there are great things written upon them, out of which my people and their brethren shall be judged at the great and last day, according to the word of God which is written.

12 *King Benjamin establishes peace in the land.*

And now, concerning this king Benjamin--he had somewhat of contentions among his own people. ■ And it came to pass also that the armies of the Lamanites came down out of the land of Nephi, to battle against his people. But behold, king Benjamin gathered together his armies, and he did stand against them; and he did fight with the strength of his own arm, with the sword of Laban. ■ And in the strength of the Lord they did contend against their enemies, until they had slain many thousands of the Lamanites. And it came to pass that they did contend against the Lamanites until they had driven them out of all the lands of their inheritance.

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16 And it came to pass that after there had been false Christs, and their mouths had been shut, and they punished according to their crimes; ■ And after there had been false prophets, and false preachers and teachers among the people, and all these having been punished according to their crimes; and after there having been much contention and many
17 dissensions away unto the Lamanites, behold, it came to pass that king Benjamin, with the

18 assistance of the holy prophets who were among his people-- ■ For behold, king Benjamin was a holy man, and he did reign over his people in righteousness; and there were many holy men in the land, and they did speak the word of God with power and with authority; and they did use much sharpness because of the stiffneckedness of the people— Wherefore, with the help of these, king Benjamin, by laboring with all the might of his body and the faculty of his whole soul, and also the prophets, did once more establish peace in the land.