

Selections from
Mormon

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An abridgment of the Book of Mormon. Verse references such as ^{1:9} indicate the original source of the text, but don't imply a full quotation.

Jacob

^{1:2} Nephi gave me, Jacob, a commandment that I should write a few of the things which I consider to be most precious. ⁴ And if there were preaching which was sacred, or revelation which was great, or prophesying, that I should write the heads of them.

^{1:15} And now the people began to grow hard in their hearts, and indulge themselves somewhat in wicked practices, such as desiring many wives and concubines. ¹⁶ Yea, and they also began to search

much gold and silver, and began to be lifted up somewhat in pride.
¹⁷ Wherefore I, Jacob, gave unto them these words.

^{2:3} I this day am weighed down with much more desire and anxiety for the welfare of your souls than I have hitherto been. ⁴ For behold, as yet, ye have been obedient unto the word of God, which I have given unto you. ⁵ But behold, hearken ye unto me, and know that I can tell that ye are beginning to labor in sin, which sin appeareth very abominable unto me, yea, and abominable unto God. ⁷ And also it grieveth me that I must use so much boldness of speech concerning you, before your wives and your children, many of whose feelings are exceedingly tender and chaste and delicate.

2:12 Many of you have begun to search for gold, and for silver, and for all manner of precious ores, in the which this land doth abound most plentifully. ¹³ And the hand of providence hath smiled upon you most pleasingly, that you have obtained many riches; and because some of you have obtained more abundantly than that of your brethren ye are lifted up in the pride of your hearts because of the costliness of your apparel, and persecute your brethren because ye suppose that ye are better than they. ¹⁴ And now, my brethren, do ye suppose that God justifieth you in this thing? Behold, I say unto you, Nay. But he condemneth you, and if ye persist in these things his judgments must speedily come unto you.

2:17 Think of your brethren like un-

to yourselves, and be familiar with all and free with your substance, that they may be rich like unto you. ¹⁸ But before ye seek for riches, seek ye for the kingdom of God. ¹⁹ And after ye have obtained a hope in Christ ye shall obtain riches, if ye seek them; and ye will seek them for the intent to do good — to clothe the naked, and to feed the hungry, and to liberate the captive, and administer relief to the sick and the afflicted.

^{2:20} And now, my brethren, I have spoken unto you concerning pride; and those of you which have afflicted your neighbor, and persecuted him because ye were proud in your hearts of the things which God hath given you, what say ye of it? ²¹ Do ye not suppose that such things are abominable unto him who created all flesh? And the one

being is as precious in his sight as the other.

2:22 And now I make an end of speaking unto you concerning this pride. And I must speak unto you concerning a grosser crime. ²³ For behold, thus saith God: “This people begin to wax in iniquity; they understand not the scriptures, for they seek to excuse themselves in committing whoredoms, because of the things which were written concerning David, and Solomon his son. ²⁴ Behold, David and Solomon truly had many wives and concubines, which thing was abominable before me.”

2:27 Wherefore, my brethren, hear me, and hearken to the word of God: “For there shall not any man among you have save it be one wife; and concubines he shall have none; ²⁸ For I, the Lord God, delight in

the chastity of women. And whoredoms are an abomination before me. ³⁰ For if I will raise up seed unto me, I will command my people; otherwise they shall hearken unto these things.”

2:31 “For behold, I, God, have seen the sorrow, and heard the mourning of the daughters of my people because of the wickedness and abominations of their husbands.

³² And I will not suffer that the cries of the fair daughters of this people shall come up unto me against the men of my people, ³³ for they shall not commit whoredoms, like unto them of old.”

2:35 Ye have broken the hearts of your tender wives, and lost the confidence of your children, because of your bad examples before them; and the sobbings of their hearts ascend up to God against you.

3:1 But behold, I, Jacob, would speak unto you that are pure in heart. Look unto God with firmness of mind, and pray unto him with exceeding faith, and he will console you in your afflictions.

4:8 Behold, great and marvelous are the works of God. How unsearchable are the depths of the mysteries of him; and it is impossible that man should find out all his ways. And no man knoweth of his ways save it be revealed unto him; wherefore, brethren, despise not the revelations of God. ¹⁰ Wherefore, brethren, seek not to counsel God, but to take counsel from his hand. For behold, ye yourselves know that he counseleth in wisdom, and in justice, and in great mercy, over all his works.

6:12 O be wise; what can I say more?
13 Finally, I bid you farewell, until I shall meet you before the pleasing bar of God. Amen. 7:27 And I, Jacob, said unto my son Enos, “Take these plates.”

Enos

1:1 I, Enos, knowing my father that he was a just man — for he taught me in his language, and also in the nurture and admonition of God —
3 I went to hunt beasts in the forests; and the words which I had often heard my father speak concerning eternal life, and the joy of the saints, sunk deep into my heart.

1:4 My soul hungered; and I kneeled down before my Maker, and I cried

unto him in mighty prayer and supplication for mine own soul; ⁵ And there came a voice unto me, saying: “Enos, thy sins are forgiven thee, and thou shalt be blessed.”

^{1:9} Now, it came to pass that when I had heard these words I began to feel a desire for the welfare of my people; wherefore, I did pour out my whole soul unto God for them. ¹⁹ And now it came to pass that I, Enos, went about among my people, prophesying of things to come, and testifying of the things which I had heard and seen.

^{1:26} I have declared it in all my days, and have rejoiced in it above that of the world. ²⁷ And I soon go to the place of my rest, which is with my Redeemer. 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.

Jarom

^{1:9} The word of God was verified, which he spake unto our fathers, saying that: “Inasmuch as ye will keep my commandments ye shall prosper in the land.”

Omni

^{1:5} The more wicked part of my people were destroyed. ⁶ For God 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: "Inasmuch as ye will not keep my commandments ye shall not prosper in the land."

⁷ Wherefore, God 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.

^{1:25} There is nothing which is good save it comes from God; and that which is evil cometh from the devil.

²⁶ Offer your whole souls as an offering unto Christ, and continue in fasting and praying, and endure to the end; and as God liveth ye will be saved.

Zeniff

*Taken from chapters 9-24 of the
Book of Mosiah.*

^{9:1} I, Zeniff, had a knowledge of the land of our fathers' first inheritance. ³ Being over-zealous to inherit the land of our fathers, I collected as many as were desirous to go up to possess the land, and started on our journey into the wilderness to go up to the land. ⁵ I went into the city, in unto the king, that I might know if I might go in with my people and possess the land in peace. ⁶ He covenanted with me that I might possess the land.

^{9:8} We began to build buildings, and to repair the walls of the city, ⁹ and to till the ground; and we did begin to multiply and prosper in

the land.

^{11:1} And now Zeniff conferred the kingdom upon Noah, one of his sons; therefore Noah began to reign in his stead; and he did not walk in the ways of his father. ² For behold, he did not keep the commandments of God, but he did walk after the desires of his own heart. And he had many wives and concubines. ³ And he laid a tax of one fifth part of all the people possessed. ⁴ And all this did he take to support himself, and his wives and his concubines; and also his priests, and their wives and their concubines; thus he had changed the affairs of the kingdom.

^{11:20} There was a man whose name was Abinadi; and he went forth among the people, and began to prophesy, saying: "Thus saith God, 'Wo be unto this people, for I have

seen their abominations, and their wickedness, and their whoredoms.

²¹ And except they repent behold, I will deliver them into the hands of their enemies; yea, and they shall be brought into bondage.”

^{11:27} Now when king Noah had heard of the words which Abinadi had spoken unto the people, he was wroth; and he said: “Who is Abinadi, that I and my people should be judged of him, or who is God, that shall bring upon my people such great affliction? ²⁸ I command you to bring Abinadi hither, that I may slay him.” ²⁹ The people sought from that time forward to take him.

^{12:1} After the space of two years Abinadi came among the people in disguise, and they knew him not, and he began to prophesy among

them, saying, ² “Thus saith God, ‘It shall come to pass that this generation, because of their iniquities, shall be brought into bondage.’”

^{12:9} They were angry with him; and they took him and carried him bound before the king. ¹⁷ King Noah caused that Abinadi should be cast into prison, and he commanded that the priests should gather themselves together. ¹⁹ And the priests began to question Abinadi, that they might cross him, but he answered them boldly, and withstood all their questions, to their astonishment.

^{12:25} And now Abinadi said unto them, ²⁷ “What teach ye this people?”

^{12:28} And they said: “We teach the law of Moses.”

12:29 He said unto them: "If ye teach the law of Moses why do ye not keep it? Why do ye set your hearts upon riches? Why do ye commit whoredoms and spend your strength with harlots?"

13:1 When the king had heard these words, he said unto his priests: "Away with this fellow, and slay him."

13:2 And they attempted to lay their hands on him; but he withstood them, and said unto them: ³ "Touch me not, for I have not delivered the message which God sent me to deliver. ⁴ Because I have told you the truth ye are angry with me."

15:26 "But behold, and fear, and tremble before God, for ye ought to tremble; for God redeemeth none such that have wilfully rebelled a-

gainst him, that have known the commandments of God, and would not keep them.”

^{17:1} When Abinadi had finished these sayings, the king commanded that the priests should take him and cause that he should be put to death.

^{17:2} There was one among them whose name was Alma, and he was a young man, and he believed the words which Abinadi had spoken; therefore he began to plead with the king that Abinadi might depart in peace. ³ But the king was more wroth, and sent his servants after Alma that they might slay him.

⁴ But he fled from before them and hid himself that they found him not. And he being concealed for many days did write all the words which Abinadi had spoken.

17:5 The king caused that his guards should surround Abinadi and take him. ⁷ And he said unto him: “Abinadi, thou art worthy of death.

⁸ Thou shalt be put to death unless thou wilt recall all the words which thou hast spoken evil concerning me and my people.”

17:9 Now Abinadi said unto him: “I will not recall the words which I have spoken unto you concerning this people, for they are true.

¹⁰ Yea, and I will suffer even until death, and I will not recall my words, and they shall stand as a testimony against you.”

17:11 And now king Noah was about to release him, for he feared that the judgments of God would come upon him. ¹² But the priests lifted up their voices saying: “He has reviled the king.” Therefore the king was stirred up in anger against him,

and he delivered him up that he might be slain.

^{17:13} They took him and bound him, and scourged his skin with fagots, yea, even unto death. ¹⁴ When the flames began to scorch him, he cried unto them, saying: ¹⁶ “Ye shall be afflicted with all manner of diseases because of your iniquities. ¹⁷ Ye shall be smitten on every hand, and shall be driven and scattered to and fro. ¹⁸ Ye shall be hunted, and taken by the hand of your enemies, and then ye shall suffer, as I suffer, the pains of death by fire.”

^{17:20} When Abinadi had said these words, he fell, having suffered death by fire; yea, having been put to death because he would not deny the commandments of God, having sealed the truth of his words by his death.

18:1 Alma, who had fled from the servants of king Noah went about privately among the people, and began to teach the words of Abinadi. ³ He taught them privately, that it might not come to the knowledge of the king. And many did believe his words. ⁴ As many as did believe him did go forth to a place which was in the borders of the land.

18:8 He said unto them: “As ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another’s burdens, that they may be light; ⁹ Yea, and are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things, and in all places that ye may be in, even until death — ¹⁰ if this be the desire of your

hearts, what have you against being baptized in the name of God, as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenant with him, that ye will serve him and keep his commandments?”

18:11 When the people had heard these words, they exclaimed: “This is the desire of our hearts.” ¹⁶ And Alma did baptize every one that went forth.

18:31 These things were done in the borders of the land, that they might not come to the knowledge of the king. ³² But behold, the king sent his servants to watch them. Therefore they were discovered unto the king. ³³ The king said that Alma was stirring up the people to rebellion against him; therefore he sent his army to destroy them.

23:1 Now Alma, having been warned of God that the armies of king Noah would come upon them, and having made it known to his people, therefore they gathered together their flocks, and took of their grain, and departed into the wilderness before the armies of king Noah. ³ And they fled eight days' journey into the wilderness.

23:4 They came to a very beautiful and pleasant land, a land of pure water. ⁵ And they pitched their tents, and began to till the ground, and began to build buildings; yea, they were industrious, and did labor exceedingly.

23:6 The people were desirous that Alma should be their king, for he was beloved by his people. ⁷ But he said unto them: "Behold, it is not expedient that we should have a king; for thus saith God: 'Ye shall

not esteem one flesh above another, or one man shall not think himself above another;' therefore I say unto you it is not expedient that ye should have a king. ⁸ Nevertheless, if it were possible that ye could always have just men to be your kings it would be well for you to have a king. ⁹ But remember the iniquity of king Noah and his priests. ¹² Ye have been oppressed by king Noah, and have been in bondage to him and his priests. ¹³ And now as ye have been delivered out of the hands of king Noah and his people, even so I desire that ye trust no man to be a king over you."

^{23:15} Thus did Alma teach his people, that every man should love his neighbor as himself, that there should be no contention among them.

Mosiah

^{1:2} King Benjamin had three sons, and he caused that they should be taught in all the language of his fathers, that thereby they might become men of understanding; and that they might know concerning the prophecies which had been spoken by the mouths of their fathers, which were delivered them by the hand of God.

^{1:3} And he also taught them concerning the records which were engraven on the plates, saying: “My sons, ⁴ it were not possible that our father, Lehi, could have remembered all these things, except it were for the help of these plates; therefore he could read these engravings, and teach them to his children, that thereby they could teach them to their children, even

down to this present time.”

1:9 And it came to pass that king Benjamin waxed old, and he saw that he must very soon go the way of all the earth. ¹⁰ Therefore, he had his son Mosiah brought before him, saying: “My son, I would that ye should make a proclamation throughout all this land that thereby the people may be gathered together.”

1:18 And Mosiah went and did as his father had commanded him, and proclaimed unto all the people that thereby they might gather themselves together to hear the words which his father should speak unto them.

2:5 When they arrived, they pitched their tents round about, every man according to his family, consisting

of his wife, and his sons, and his daughters, and their sons, and their daughters, from the eldest down to the youngest, every family being separate one from another. ⁶ And they pitched their tents that they might remain in their tents and hear the words which king Benjamin should speak unto them.

2:8 He began to speak to his people, and they could not all hear his words because of the greatness of the multitude; therefore he caused that the words which he spake should be written and sent forth among those that were not under the sound of his voice, that they might also receive his words.

2:9 And these are the words which he spake, saying: My brethren, I have not commanded you to come up hither to trifle with the words which I shall speak. ¹⁰ I have not

commanded you to come up hither that ye should fear me, or that ye should think that I of myself am more than a mortal man. ¹¹ But I am like as yourselves, subject to all manner of infirmities in body and mind; yet I have been chosen by this people, and was suffered by the hand of God that I should be a king over this people; to serve you with all the might, mind and strength which God hath granted unto me.

^{2:12} I have been suffered to spend my days in your service, even up to this time, and have not sought gold nor silver nor any manner of riches of you. ¹³ Neither have I suffered that ye should be confined in dungeons, nor that ye should make slaves one of another, nor that ye should murder, or plunder, or steal, or commit adultery. ¹⁴ And even

I, myself, have labored with mine own hands that I might serve you, and that ye should not be laden with taxes.

2:15 Yet, my brethren, I have not done these things that I might boast, ¹⁶ for I have only been in the service of God. ¹⁷ I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom; that ye may learn that when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God.

2:18 If I, whom ye call your king, do labor to serve you, then ought not ye to labor to serve one another?

¹⁹ If I, whom ye call your king, who has spent his days in your service, do merit any thanks from you, O how you ought to thank your heavenly King!

2:21 If ye should serve him with all

your whole souls yet ye would be unprofitable servants. ²³ In the first place, he hath created you, and granted unto you your lives, for which ye are indebted unto him. ²⁴ And secondly, he doth require that ye should do as he hath commanded you; for which if ye do, he doth immediately bless you; and therefore he hath paid you. And ye are still indebted unto him, and are, and will be, forever and ever; therefore, of what have ye to boast?

^{2:41} Moreover, I would desire that ye should consider on the blessed and happy state of those that keep the commandments of God. For behold, they are blessed in all things, both temporal and spiritual; and if they hold out faithful to the end they are received into heaven, that thereby they may dwell with God

in a state of never-ending happiness.

3:1 I have somewhat more to speak unto you. ⁵ For behold, the time cometh, and is not far distant, that God shall come down from heaven among the children of men, and shall go forth amongst men, working mighty miracles, such as healing the sick, raising the dead, causing the lame to walk, the blind to receive their sight, and the deaf to hear, and curing all manner of diseases. ⁶ And he shall cast out devils, or the evil spirits which dwell in the hearts of the children of men.

3:7 And lo, he shall suffer temptations, and pain of body, hunger, thirst, and fatigue, even more than man can suffer, except it be unto death. ⁸ And he shall be called Jesus Christ, and his mother shall

be called Mary.

3:9 Even after all this they shall say that he hath a devil, and shall scourge him, and shall crucify him. ¹⁰ And he shall rise the third day from the dead. ¹¹ For behold, and also his blood atoneth for the sins of those who have died not knowing the will of God concerning them, or who have ignorantly sinned.

3:19 The natural man is an enemy to God, and will be, forever and ever, unless he putteth off the natural man and becometh as a child, submissive, meek, humble, patient, full of love, willing to submit to all things which God seeth fit to inflict upon him, even as a child doth submit to his father.

4:9 Believe in God; believe that he

is, and that he created all things, both in heaven and in earth; believe that he has all wisdom; believe that man doth not comprehend all the things which God can comprehend. ¹⁰ And again, believe that ye must repent of your sins and forsake them, and humble yourselves before God; and ask in sincerity of heart that he would forgive you; and now, if you believe all these things see that ye do them.

4:11 I would that ye should remember, and always retain in remembrance, the greatness of God, and your own nothingness, and his goodness and long-suffering towards you, unworthy creatures, and humble yourselves even in the depths of humility, calling on the name of God daily.

4:12 I say unto you that if ye do this

ye shall always rejoice, ¹³ and ye will not have a mind to injure one another, but to live peaceably, and to render to every man according to that which is his due.

4:14 And ye will not suffer your children that they go hungry, or naked; neither will ye suffer that they transgress the laws of God, and fight and quarrel one with another.

¹⁵ But ye will teach them to walk in the ways of truth and soberness; ye will teach them to love one another, and to serve one another.

4:16 And also, ye yourselves will succor those that stand in need of your succor; ye will administer of your substance unto him that standeth in need; and ye will not suffer that the beggar putteth up his petition to you in vain, and turn him out to perish.

4:17 Perhaps thou shalt say, "The man has brought upon himself his misery; therefore I will not give unto him of my food, nor impart unto him of my substance that he may not suffer, for his punishments are just." ¹⁸ But I say unto you, whosoever doeth this hath great cause to repent; and except he repenteth of that which he hath done he perisheth forever, and hath no interest in the kingdom of God.

4:19 For behold, are we not all beggars? Do we not all depend upon the same being, even God, for all the substance which we have, for both food and raiment, and for gold, and for silver, and for all the riches which we have of every kind?

4:21 If God, who has created you, on whom you are dependent for your lives and for all that ye have and are, doth grant unto you what-

soever ye ask that is right, in faith, believing that ye shall receive, O then, how ye ought to impart of the substance that ye have one to another.

4:22 If ye judge the man who putteth up his petition to you for your substance that he perish not, and condemn him, how much more just will be your condemnation for withholding your substance, which doth not belong to you but to God.

23 Wo be unto that man, for his substance shall perish with him; and now, I say these things unto those who are rich as pertaining to the things of this world.

4:24 I say unto the poor, ye who have not and yet have sufficient, that ye remain from day to day; I mean all you who deny the beggar, because ye have not; I would that

ye say in your hearts that: "I give not because I have not, but if I had I would give." ²⁵ If ye say this in your hearts ye remain guiltless, otherwise ye are condemned; and your condemnation is just for ye covet that which ye have not received.

4:26 For the sake of retaining a remission of your sins: I would that ye should impart of your substance to the poor, every man according to that which he hath, such as feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and administering to their relief, both spiritually and temporally, according to their wants.

4:27 And see that all these things are done in wisdom and order; for it is not requisite that a man should run faster than he has strength. And again, it is expedient that he should be diligent, that thereby he

might win the prize; therefore, all things must be done in order.

4:28 I would that ye should remember, that whosoever among you borroweth of his neighbor should return the thing that he borroweth, according as he doth agree, or else thou shalt commit sin; and perhaps thou shalt cause thy neighbor to commit sin also.

4:29 Finally, I cannot tell you all the things whereby ye may commit sin. ³⁰ But this much I can tell you, that if ye do not watch yourselves, and your thoughts, and your words, and your deeds, and observe the commandments of God, even unto the end of your lives, ye must perish. And now, O man, remember, and perish not.

5:13 How knoweth a man the master

whom he has not served, and who is a stranger unto him, and is far from the thoughts and intents of his heart? ¹⁴ Doth a man take an ass which belongeth to his neighbor, and keep him? I say unto you, Nay; he will not even suffer that he shall feed among his flocks, but will drive him away, and cast him out. ¹⁵ Therefore, I would that ye should be steadfast and immovable, always abounding in good works, that Christ, may seal you his, that you may be brought to heaven, that ye may have everlasting salvation and eternal life. Amen.

^{6:4} Mosiah began to reign in his father's stead. ⁵ And king Benjamin lived three years and he died.

^{25:1} King Mosiah caused that all the people should be gathered to-

gether.

^{25:5} He read the records of Zeniff to his people. ⁶ And he also read the account of Alma and his brethren, and all their afflictions.

^{25:7} When Mosiah had made an end of reading the records, his people were struck with wonder and amazement. ¹⁴ And Mosiah desired that Alma should also speak to the people. ¹⁵ And Alma did speak unto them; preaching unto the people repentance and faith on God.

^{26:1} There were many of the rising generation that could not understand the words of king Benjamin, being little children at the time he spake unto his people.

^{26:5} In the reign of Mosiah they were not half so numerous as the

people of God; but because of dissensions among the brethren they became more numerous.

27:8 Now the sons of Mosiah were numbered among the unbelievers; and also one of the sons of Alma was numbered among them, he being called Alma, after his father; nevertheless, he became a very wicked and an idolatrous man. And he was a man of many words, and did speak much flattery to the people; therefore he led many of the people to do after the manner of his iniquities. ⁹ And he caused much dissension among the people.

27:10 While he was going about to destroy the church of God, ¹¹ the angel of God appeared unto them; ¹² And so great was their astonishment, that they fell to the earth, ¹⁹ and Alma could not open his mouth; and he became weak, even

that he could not move his hands.

^{27:23} After two days and two nights, the limbs of Alma received their strength, and he stood up and began to speak unto them, bidding them to be of good comfort:

²⁴ For, said he, “I have repented of my sins, ²⁵ And God said unto me: ‘Marvel not that all men and women must be changed from their carnal state, to a state of righteousness; ²⁶ and unless they do this, they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God.’”

^{27:32} Alma began, from this time forward, to teach the people, and those who were with Alma at the time the angel appeared. ³⁴ And four of them were the sons of Mosiah; and their names were Ammon, and Aaron, and Omner, and Himni. ³⁵ They traveled throughout all the land, zealously striving to repair all

the injuries which they had done.

28:10 Now king Mosiah had no one to confer the kingdom upon, for there was not any of his sons who would accept of the kingdom. ¹¹ Therefore he took the records ²⁰ and conferred them upon Alma, who was the son of Alma; yea, all the records, and commanded him that he should keep and preserve them, and also keep a record of the people, handing them down from one generation to another.

29:4 King Mosiah sent a written word among the people, saying:
⁵ “Behold, ye my people are desirous to have a king. ⁶ He to whom the kingdom doth rightly belong has declined, and will not take upon him the kingdom. ⁷ If there should be another appointed in his stead, I fear there would rise con-

tentions among you which would cause wars among you, which would destroy the souls of many people.”

¹⁰ “Let us be wise and look forward to these things, and do that which will make for the peace of this people. ¹¹ Therefore I will be your king the remainder of my days; nevertheless, let us appoint judges, to judge this people according to our law; and we will newly arrange the affairs of this people.”

^{29:13} “If it were possible that you could have just men to be your kings, if this could always be the case then it would be expedient that ye should always have kings to rule over you. ¹⁶ Because all men are not just it is not expedient that ye should have a king or kings to rule over you. ¹⁷ For behold, how much iniquity doth one wicked king cause to be committed, yea, and

what great destruction!”

29:21 “Ye cannot dethrone an iniquitous king save it be through much contention, and the shedding of much blood. ²² For behold, he has his friends in iniquity, and he keepeth his guards about him; and he teareth up the laws of those who have reigned in righteousness before him; and he trampleth under his feet the commandments of God; ²³ And he enacteth laws after the manner of his own wickedness; and whosoever doth not obey his laws he causeth to be destroyed.”

29:25 “Therefore, choose you by the voice of this people, judges, that ye may be judged according to the laws which have been given you by our fathers. ²⁶ This shall ye observe and make it your law — to do your business by the voice of the people.”

29:28 “If ye have judges, and they do not judge you according to the law which has been given, ye can cause that they may be judged of a higher judge. ²⁹ If your higher judges do not judge righteous judgments, ye shall cause that a small number of your lower judges should be gathered together, and they shall judge your higher judges, according to the voice of the people.”

29:37 After king Mosiah had sent these things forth among the people, they were convinced of the truth of his words. ³⁸ Therefore they relinquished their desires for a king.

29:40 The people did wax strong in love towards Mosiah; for they did not look upon him as a tyrant who was seeking for gain, yea, for that lucre which doth corrupt the

soul; for he had not exacted riches of them, neither had he delighted in the shedding of blood; but he had established peace in the land, and he had granted unto his people that they should be delivered from all manner of bondage; therefore they did esteem him beyond measure.

^{29:41} They did appoint judges to rule over them, or to judge them according to the law; and this they did throughout all the land. ⁴² And Alma was appointed to be the first chief judge. ⁴⁷ And thus ended the reign of the kings over the people.

Alma

The account of Alma, who was the son of Alma; the first, and chief

judge over the people, and also the high priest over the Church.

^{1:2} In the first year of the reign of Alma in the judgment seat, there was a man brought before him to be judged, and his name was Nehor. ³ He had gone about among the people, preaching that every priest and teacher ought to become popular; and they ought not to labor with their hands, but that they ought to be supported by the people. ⁵ He did teach these things so much that many did believe on his words, even so many that they began to support him and give him money. ⁶ He began to be lifted up in the pride of his heart, and to wear very costly apparel.

^{1:7} As he was going to preach to those who believed on his word, Nehor met a man and he began to contend with him sharply, but the

man withstood him, admonishing him with the words of God. ⁸ Now the name of the man was Gideon. ⁹ Because Gideon withstood him with the words of God Nehor 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 was slain by the sword.

^{1:10} Nehor was taken by the people of the church, and was brought before Alma, to be judged according to the crimes which he had committed.

^{1:12} Alma said unto him: "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. Were priestcraft to

be enforced among this people it would prove their entire destruction. ¹³ Thou hast shed the blood of a righteous man. ¹⁴ Therefore thou art condemned to die, according to the law which has been given us by Mosiah, our last king.”

^{1:15} They took him, and they carried him upon the top of a hill and there he suffered an ignominious death. ¹⁶ 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 for the sake of riches and honor.

^{1:21} Now there was a strict law among the people of the church that there should not any man persecute those that did not belong to the church. ²⁷ 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.

1:29 Because of the steadiness of the church they began to be exceedingly rich, having abundance of all things whatsoever they stood in need. ³⁰ Thus, in their prosperous circumstances, they did not send away any who were naked, or that were hungry, or that were sick. They did not set their hearts upon riches; therefore they were liberal to all.

4:6 In the eighth year of the reign of the judges, the people of the church began to wax proud, because of their exceeding riches which they had obtained by their industry; and

they were lifted up in the pride of their eyes, for they began to wear very costly apparel. ⁷ Now this was the cause of much affliction to Alma.

4:9 There began to be great contentions among the people of the church; yea, there were envyings, and strife, and malice, and persecutions, and pride.

4:15 And now Alma, seeing all their inequality, began to be very sorrowful. ¹⁶ And he selected a wise man, ¹⁷ whose name was Nephihah, and he was appointed chief judge. ¹⁸ Now Alma delivered the judgment seat unto Nephihah.

4:19 This he did that he himself might go forth among his people to stir them up in remembrance of their duty, and that he might pull down all the pride and craftiness

and all the contentions which were among his people.

4:20 And thus in the ninth year of the reign of the judges, Alma delivered up the judgment seat, and confined himself wholly to the priesthood of God.

5:1 Alma began to deliver the word of God unto the people throughout all the land. ² These are the words which he spake to the people, according to his own record, saying:

5:11 “Did not my father Alma believe in the words which were delivered by the mouth of Abinadi? 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. ¹³ And behold, he preached the word unto your fa-

thers, and a mighty change was also wrought in their hearts, and they humbled themselves and put their trust in God.”

5:14 “And now, I ask of you, my brethren of the church, have ye experienced this mighty change in your hearts? ¹⁵ Do you look forward and view this mortal body raised in immortality to stand before God to be judged according to the deeds which have been done in the mortal body?”

5:17 “Do ye imagine to yourselves that ye can lie unto God in that day, and say, ‘God, our works have been righteous works,’ and that he will save you?”

5:26 “If ye have experienced a change of heart, 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? ²⁸ Behold, are ye stripped of pride? If ye are not, ye are not prepared to meet God.”

^{5:29} “Behold, is there one among you who is not stripped of envy? Such an one is not prepared; and I would that he should prepare quickly; for such an one is not found guiltless. ³⁰ 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!”

^{5:33} “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. ³⁵ Yea, come unto me

and bring forth works of righteousness.”

5:53 “Can ye withstand these sayings; yea, can ye lay aside these things, 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. ⁵⁵ Yea, and will you persist in turning your backs upon the poor, and the needy, and in withholding your substance from them?”

5:57 “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.”

5:61 “And now I, Alma, do command you to observe to do the words which I have spoken unto you.”

6:8 Alma went and began to declare the word of God unto the church which was established in the valley of Gideon.

7:1 “Behold my beloved brethren, seeing that I have been permitted to come unto you, therefore I attempt to address you in my language. ² 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.”

7:7 “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 cometh among his people. ¹⁰ He shall be born of Mary, at Jerusalem, she being a virgin, a precious and chosen vessel, who shall conceive, 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.”

^{7:15} “Yea, 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.”

7:22 “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. ²³ 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.”

7:27 “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. Amen.”

8:1 Alma returned from the land of Gideon, after having taught the people. He returned to his own house to rest himself from the labors which he had performed.

8:6 Alma came to a city which was called Ammonihah. ⁸ He began to preach the word of God unto them.

8:13 The people 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. ¹⁴ While he was journeying, an angel appeared unto him, saying: ¹⁶ “Return to the city of Ammon-

ihah, and preach again unto the people of the city.”

8:18 Alma returned speedily to the land of Ammonihah, and entered the city by another way. ¹⁹ As he entered the city he said to a man: “Will ye give to an humble servant of God something to eat?”

8:20 The man said unto him: “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.”

8:21 The man was called Amulek; and he brought forth bread and meat and set before Alma. ²⁷ Alma tarried many days with Amulek before he began to preach unto the people.

8:30 Alma went forth, and also Amulek, among the people, to declare the words of God unto them.

9:1 I, Alma, having been commanded of God that I should take Amulek and go forth and preach again unto this people, 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? ⁶ Who is God, that sendeth no more authority than one man among this people?”

9:7 I did boldly testify unto them, saying: ⁸ “How soon ye have forgotten the commandments of God. ¹³ Do ye not remember the words which he spake saying that: ‘Inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments, ye shall prosper in the land?’”

9:31 When I, Alma, had spoken these words, behold, the people were wroth with me because I said unto them that they were a hard-hearted and a stiffnecked people.

32 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 prison.

9:34 Amulek went and stood forth, and began to preach unto them also, 10:1 saying: 2 “I am Amulek.

4 I am also a man of no small reputation; 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 God.

6 I did harden my heart, for I was called many times and I would not

hear; therefore I went on rebelling against God, in the wickedness of my heart, even until the fourth day of this seventh month.”

10:7 “As I was journeying to see a very near kindred, behold an angel of God appeared unto me and said: ‘Amulek, return to thine own house, for thou shalt receive a prophet of God into thy house and feed him, and he shall bless thee and thy house.’ ⁸ I obeyed the voice of the angel, and returned towards my house. As I was going thither I found the man, and behold it was this same man who has been speaking unto you concerning the things of God.”

10:12 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 ac-

cused.

^{10:13} 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 be slain or cast into prison, according to the crime which they could make appear. ¹⁴ 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 before the judges.

^{10:16} They began to question Amulek, that thereby they might make him contradict the words which he should speak.

^{10:17} As they began to question him, he perceived their thoughts, and he said unto them: "O ye wicked and

perverse generation, for ye are laying traps and snares to catch the holy ones of God.”

10:19 “Yea, well did Mosiah say that if the time should come that the voice of this people should choose iniquity, they would be ripe for destruction.”

10:24 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.”

10:31 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 business to do among the people.

10:32 Now the object of these lawyers was to get gain; and they got gain according to their employ.

11:1 Now it was in the law of Mosiah that every man who was a judge of the law should receive wages according to the time which they labored to judge those who were brought before them.

11:20 Now, it was for the sole purpose to get gain, 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 the people against Alma and Amulek.

11:22 Zeezrom said unto Amulek: "Behold, here are six pieces of silver, and all these will I give thee if thou wilt deny the existence of a

supreme being.”

^{11:23} 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 pieces of silver, which are of great worth, I will give unto thee,’ when thou hadst it in thy heart to retain them from me.”

^{12:7} Zeezrom began to tremble, for he was convinced that Alma and Amulek knew the thoughts and intents of his heart. ⁸ And Zeezrom began to inquire of them diligently, that he might know more concerning the kingdom of God. And he

said unto Alma: “What does this mean which Amulek hath spoken that all are brought to stand before God to be judged according to their works?”

^{12:9} Alma began to expound these things unto him, saying: “God shall not impart unto the children of men only 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.”

^{12:12} “Amulek hath spoken plainly concerning death, and being brought before God, to be judged according to our works. ¹⁴ For our words will condemn us, yea, all our works will condemn us, and our thoughts will also condemn us.”

12:24 “We see that death comes upon mankind. 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. ³⁷ And now, my brethren, seeing we know these things, and they are true, let us repent, and harden not our hearts.”

13:27 “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, and not procrastinate the day of your repentance; ²⁸ But that ye would humble yourselves before God, and watch and pray continually, that ye may not be tempted above that which ye can bear, becoming humble, meek, submissive, patient, full of love and all long-suffering;

²⁹ Having faith on God; having a hope that ye shall receive eternal life; having the love of God always in your hearts.”

^{13:31} And Alma spake many more words unto the people, which are not written in this book.

^{14:1} After he had made an end of speaking unto the people many of them did believe on his words, and began to repent, and to search the scriptures. ² But the more part of them were desirous that they might destroy Alma and Amulek; for they were angry with Alma, because of the plainness of his words.

^{14:4} They took them and bound them with strong cords, and took them before the chief judge of the land. ⁵ And the people witnessed against them before the chief judge.

14:6 Zeezrom was astonished at the words which had been spoken; and his soul began to be harrowed up under a consciousness of his own guilt. ⁷ He began to cry unto the people, saying: "Behold, I am guilty, and these men are spotless before God." And he began to plead for them from that time forth; but they reviled him, and spit upon him, and cast him out from among them, and also all those who believed in the words which had been spoken by Alma and Amulek, and sent men to cast stones at them.

14:8 They brought their wives and children together, and whosoever believed in the word of God they caused that they should be cast into the fire, and they also brought forth their records which contained the holy scriptures, and cast them into the fire also.

14:9 They took Alma and Amulek, and carried them forth to the place of martyrdom, that they might witness the destruction of those who were consumed by fire. ¹⁰ When Amulek saw the pains of the women and children who were consuming in the fire, he also was pained.

14:12 Amulek said unto Alma: "Perhaps they will burn us also."

14:13 Alma said: "Be it according to the will of God."

14:14 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, and said unto them: "After what ye have seen, will ye preach again unto this peo-

ple?”

14:17 Alma and Amulek answered him nothing; and he smote them again, and delivered them to the officers to be cast into prison.

14:18 When they had been cast into prison three days, there came many lawyers, and judges, and priests, and teachers in unto the prison to see them, and they questioned them about many words; but they answered them nothing.

14:19 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.

14:20 Many came forth also, and smote them, saying: “Will ye stand

again and judge this people, and condemn our law?" and spitting upon them, saying: "How shall we look when we are damned?"

^{14:22} 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.

^{14:23} After they had thus suffered for many days, 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. ²⁷ And the earth shook mightily, and the walls of the prison were rent in twain; and the chief judge, and the lawyers, and

priests, and teachers, were slain by the fall thereof.

14:28 And Alma and Amulek came forth out of the prison, and they were not hurt.

15:1 Alma and Amulek departed, and went into the land of Sidom. There they found all the people who had departed out of the land of Ammonihah, who had been cast out and stoned, because they believed in the words of Alma.

15:16 Amulek having forsaken all his gold, and silver, and his precious things, which were in the land of Ammonihah, he being rejected by those who were once his friends and also by his father and his kindred; ¹⁸ 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.

^{17:1} As Alma was journeying, he met the sons of Mosiah. ⁶ Having taken leave of their father, Mosiah, in the first year of the judges; having refused the kingdom which their father was desirous to confer upon them; ⁷ Nevertheless they departed out of the land of Zarahemla, ⁸ into the wilderness to go up to the land of Nephi, to preach the word of God.

^{17:13} When they arrived in the borders of the land, ¹⁷ they separated themselves one from another, and went forth among them, every man alone.

^{17:19} Ammon went to the land of Ishmael. ²⁰ And as Ammon en-

tered the land, he was bound and²¹ carried before the king who was over the land; and his name was Lamoni.

^{17:22} The king inquired of Ammon if it were his desire to dwell in the land among his people.

^{17:23} Ammon said unto him: "Yea, I desire to dwell among this people for a time; yea, and perhaps until the day I die."

^{17:24} King Lamoni was much pleased with Ammon, and caused that his bands should be loosed; and he would that Ammon should take one of his daughters to wife. ²⁵ But Ammon said unto him: "Nay, but I will be thy servant." Therefore Ammon became a servant to king Lamoni. And he was set among other servants to watch the flocks of Lamoni.

17:27 As Ammon and the servants of the king were driving forth their flocks to the place of water, behold, a certain number of men stood and scattered the flocks of the king.

17:28 Now the servants of the king began to murmur, saying: “Now the king will slay us, as he has our brethren because their flocks were scattered.”

17:31 Alma flattered them by his words, saying: “My brethren, be of good cheer and let us go in search of the flocks, and we will gather them together and bring them back unto the place of water; and thus we will preserve the flocks unto the king and he will not slay us.”

17:32 They went in search of the flocks, and did follow Ammon, and did head the flocks of the king, and did gather them together again to

the place of water.

17:33 Those men again stood to scatter their flocks; but Ammon said unto his brethren: “Encircle the flocks round about that they flee not; and I go and contend with these men who do scatter our flocks.”

17:34 He went forth and stood to contend with them; and they were in number not a few. ³⁵ Therefore they did not fear Ammon, for they supposed that one of their men could slay him according to their pleasure. ³⁶ But Ammon stood forth and began to cast stones at them with his sling; and thus he slew a certain number of them. They came forth with clubs to slay him. ³⁷ But behold, every man that lifted his club to smite Ammon, he smote off their arms with his sword; insomuch that they began to flee

before him.

17:39 When he had driven them afar off, he returned and they watered their flocks and returned them to the pasture of the king, and then went in unto the king, bearing the arms of those who sought to slay Ammon for a testimony of the things which they had done.

18:2 When they had all testified to the things which they had seen, and he had learned of Ammon's great power in contending against those who sought to slay him, he was astonished exceedingly, and said: "Surely, this is more than a man. ⁴ This is the Great Spirit of whom our fathers have spoken."

18:8 King Lamoni inquired of his servants, saying: "Where is this man that has such great power?"

18:9 They said unto him: “He is feeding thy horses.” Now the king had commanded his servants, previous to the time of the watering of their flocks, that they should prepare his horses.

18:10 When king Lamoni heard this, he was more astonished, saying: “Surely there has not been any servant among all my servants that has been so faithful as this man; for even he doth remember all my commandments to execute them.”

18:12 When Ammon had made ready the horses, he went in unto the king, and he saw that the countenance of the king was changed; therefore he was about to return out of his presence. ¹³ One of the king’s servants said unto him, “The king desireth thee to stay.”

18:14 Therefore Ammon turned him-

self unto the king, and said unto him: “What wilt thou that I should do for thee, O king?” And the king answered him not for the space of an hour, for he knew not what he should say unto him.

18:15 Ammon said unto him again: “What desirest thou of me?” But the king answered him not.

18:16 Ammon said unto him: “Is it because thou hast heard that I defended thy servants and thy flocks; behold, is it this that causeth thy marvelings? ¹⁷ Behold, I am a man, and am thy servant; therefore, whatsoever thou desirest which is right, that will I do.”

18:18 When the king had heard these words, he marveled again, for he beheld that Ammon could discern his thoughts. King Lamoni said unto him: “Who art thou?

Art thou that Great Spirit, who knows all things?”

18:19 Ammon answered, “I am not.”

18:20 The king said, “How knowest thou the thoughts of my heart? Also tell me by what power ye slew my brethren that scattered my flocks. ²¹ If thou wilt tell me concerning these things, whatsoever thou desirest I will give unto thee.”

18:24 Ammon said unto him, “Believest thou that there is a God?”

18:25 He answered, “I do not know what that meaneth.”

18:26 Then Ammon said, “Believest thou that there is a Great Spirit?”

18:27 He said, “Yea.”

18:28 Ammon said, “This is God.”

18:33 King Lamoni said, "I believe all these things which thou hast spoken. Art thou sent from God?"

18:34 Ammon said unto him, "I am a man; and I am called to teach these things unto this people, that they may be brought to a knowledge of that which is just and true."

18:36 Now when Ammon had said these words, he rehearsed and laid before him the records and the holy scriptures of the people. ⁴⁰ After he had said all these things, and expounded them to the king, the king believed all his words.

19:31 And he went forth to teach his people the words which he had heard from Ammon; and as many as heard his words believed, and were converted unto God. ³² But there were many among them who

would not hear his words.

19:36 And thus we see that the arm of God is extended to all people who will repent and believe on his name.

20:1 When they had established a church in that land, king Lamoni desired that Ammon should go with him to the land of Nephi, that he might show him unto his father.

20:2 The voice of God came to Ammon saying, "Thou shalt not go up to the land of Nephi, for behold, the king will seek thy life; but thou shalt go to the land of Middoni; for behold, thy brethren are in prison."

20:7 Lamoni said unto Ammon, "I will go with thee to the land of Middoni, and there I will plead with the king that he will cast thy brethren out of prison."

20:8 As Ammon and Lamoni were journeying, they met the father of Lamoni, who was king over all the land. ⁹ He said unto Lamoni, “Why did ye not come when I made a feast unto my sons, and unto my people? ¹⁰ Whither art thou going?”

20:11 Lamoni rehearsed unto him whither he was going. ¹³ His father was angry with him, and said, “He is come amongst us that he may deceive us, that he may rob us of our property.”

20:14 Now the father of Lamoni commanded him that he should slay Ammon with the sword, and that he should not go to the land of Middoni. ¹⁵ But Lamoni said unto him, “I will not slay Ammon, but I go to the land of Middoni that I may release the brethren of Ammon, for I know that they are

just men and holy prophets.”

20:16 When his father had heard these words, he was angry with him, and he drew his sword that he might smite him to the earth.

17 But Ammon stood forth and said unto him, “Thou shalt not slay thy son; nevertheless, it were better that he should fall than thee, for behold, he has repented of his sins.”

20:19 Now when Ammon had said these words unto him, he answered him, saying, “It is thou that hast sought to destroy him.” 20 And he stretched forth his hand to slay Ammon. But Ammon withstood his blows, and also smote his arm that he could not use it.

20:23 Now the king, fearing he should lose his life, said, “If thou wilt spare me I will grant unto thee

whatsoever thou wilt ask, even to half of the kingdom.”

20:24 Ammon said unto him, “If thou wilt grant that my brethren may be cast out of prison, and also that Lamoni may retain his kingdom, and grant that he may do according to his own desires, then will I spare thee; otherwise I will smite thee to the earth.”

20:26 When he saw that Ammon had no desire to destroy him, he was astonished exceedingly, and said: “Because this is all that thou hast desired, I will grant unto you that my son may retain his kingdom from this time and forever; and I will govern him no more. ²⁷ I will also grant unto thee that thy brethren may be cast out of prison.”

20:28 Ammon and Lamoni pro-

ceeded on their journey towards the land of Middoni, and the brethren of Ammon were brought forth out of prison.

^{22:1} The brethren of Ammon departed from the land of Middoni to the house of the king; the father of Lamoni. ¹³ And Aaron did expound unto him the scriptures.

^{22:27} The king sent a proclamation throughout all the land, ^{23:1} among all his people, that they should not lay their hands on Ammon, or Aaron, or their brethren who should go forth preaching the word of God. ³ And thus they might go forth and preach that they might be convinced that they were all brethren, and that they ought not to murder, nor to plunder, nor to steal, nor to commit adultery, nor to commit any manner of wicked-

ness.

23:5 Thousands were brought to the knowledge of God. Thousands were taught the records and prophecies which were handed down.

23:6 As many as believed never did fall away. ⁷ For they became a righteous people. They did lay down the weapons of their rebellion, that they did not fight against God any more, neither against any of their brethren. ¹³ They laid down the weapons of their rebellion, yea, all their weapons of war.

23:16 The king and those who were converted were desirous that they might have a name, that thereby they might be distinguished from their brethren. ¹⁷ They called their names Anti-Nephi-Lehies.

23:18 And they began to be a very

industrious people.

24:1 Those who had not been converted were stirred up to anger against their brethren. ² Therefore, they took up arms against the people of Anti-Nephi-Lehi.

24:6 Now there was not one soul among all the people who had been converted unto God that would take up arms against their brethren; nay, they would not even make any preparations for war; yea, and also their king commanded them that they should not.

24:7 These are the words which he said unto the people concerning the matter: ¹¹ “Since it has been all that we could do to repent of all our sins and the many murders which we have committed, ¹² let us stain our swords no more

with the blood of our brethren.

¹⁵ Let us hide our swords away that they may be kept bright, as a testimony to God that we have not stained our swords in the blood of our brethren since he imparted his word unto us.”

^{24:17} When the king had made an end of these sayings, all the people took their swords, and all the weapons which were used for the shedding of man’s blood, and they did bury them deep in the earth.

¹⁸ It being, in their view, a testimony to God, and also to men, that they never would use weapons again for the shedding of man’s blood; covenanting with God, that rather than shed the blood of their brethren they would give up their own lives; and rather than take away from a brother they would give unto him; and rather than spend

their days in idleness they would labor abundantly with their hands.

^{24:20} Their enemies made preparations for war, for the purpose of destroying the king, and the people of Anti-Nephi-Lehi. ²¹ When the people saw that they were coming against them they went out to meet them, and prostrated themselves before them; and thus they were in this attitude when their enemies began to slay them with the sword. ²² Without meeting any resistance, they did slay a thousand and five of them.

^{24:23} When their enemies saw that they would not flee from the sword, but that they would lie down and perish, ²⁴ they did forbear from slaying them; for they repented of the things which they had done. ²⁵ They threw down their weapons

of war, and they would not take them again, for they were stung for the murders which they had committed.

^{24:26} The people of God were joined that day by more than the number who had been slain. ²⁷ Thus we see that the Lord worketh in many ways to the salvation of his people.

^{27:4} When Ammon and his brethren saw this great work of destruction, they were moved with compassion, and they said unto the king, ⁵ “Let us gather together this people of the Lord, and let us go down to the land of Zarahemla, and flee out of the hands of our enemies, that we be not destroyed.”

^{27:14} And they gathered together all their people, and all their flocks and herds, and departed out of the

land, and came into the land of Zarahemla.

27:21 The chief judge sent a proclamation throughout all the land, desiring the voice of the people concerning the admitting the people of Anti-Nephi-Lehi. 22 The voice of the people came, saying, “The land Jershon is the land which we will give unto our brethren for an inheritance. 23 We will set our armies that we may protect our brethren in the land Jershon; and this we do for our brethren, on account of their fear to take up arms lest they should commit sin. 24 We will guard them from their enemies, on condition that they will give us a portion of their substance to assist us that we may maintain our armies.”

27:26 They went down into the land of Jershon; and they were called

the people of Ammon; therefore they were distinguished by that name ever after. ²⁷ They were distinguished for their zeal towards God, and also towards men; for they were perfectly honest and upright in all things. ²⁸ And they did look upon shedding the blood of their brethren with the greatest abhorrence; and they never could be prevailed upon to take up arms against their brethren. ²⁹ They would suffer death in the most aggravating and distressing manner before they would take the sword to smite them.

^{29:2} I, Alma, would declare unto every soul repentance, that they should repent and come unto God, that there might not be more sorrow upon all the face of the earth. ⁵ I know that he that knoweth not good from evil is blameless.

29:8 God doth grant unto all nations, of their own nation and tongue, to teach his word, yea, in wisdom, all that he seeth fit that they should have.

29:10 When I see many of my brethren truly penitent, then is my soul filled with joy; then do I remember his merciful arm which he extended towards me.

30:6 In the end of the seventeenth year, there came a man into the land of Zarahemla who began to preach against the coming of Christ.

30:7 Now there was no law against a man's belief. ⁹ If a man desired to serve God, it was his privilege; but if he did not believe in him there was no law to punish him.

30:12 This man, whose name was

Korihor, began to preach unto the people that there should be no Christ. And after this manner did he preach, saying, ¹⁴ “These things which ye call prophecies, are foolish traditions of your fathers. ¹⁵ Ye cannot know of things which ye do not see. ¹⁶ Ye say that ye see a remission of your sins. But behold, it is the effect of a frenzied mind; and this derangement of your minds comes because of the traditions of your fathers, which lead you away into a belief of things which are not so.” ¹⁷ And many more such things did he say unto them, telling them that whatsoever a man did was no crime.

^{30:31} He did rise up in great swelling words before Alma, and did revile against the priests, accusing them of leading away the people after the silly traditions of their fathers,

for the sake of glutting on the labors of the people.

^{30:32} Alma said unto him, “Thou knowest that we do not glut ourselves upon the labors of this people. I have labored with mine own hands for my support. ³³ Notwithstanding the many labors which I have performed in the church, I have never received so much as one penny for my labor; neither has any of my brethren.” ⁴⁰ “What evidence have ye that there is no God? ⁴¹ I have all things as a testimony that these things are true. ⁴⁴ All things denote there is a God; yea, even the earth, and all things that are upon the face of it, and its motion, and also all the planets which move in their regular form.”

^{30:48} Korihor said unto him, “I do not believe that there is a God; and except ye show me a sign, I

will not believe.”

30:49 Alma said unto him, “This will I give unto thee for a sign, that ye shall no more have utterance.”

30:50 Now when Alma had said these words, Korihor was struck dumb. ⁵² Korihor put forth his hand and wrote, saying: “I always knew that there was a God, ⁵³ but the devil hath deceived me, and I have taught his words. I taught them because they were pleasing unto the carnal mind; and I taught them, insomuch that I believed that they were true.” ⁵⁸ And Korihor did go about from house to house, begging food for his support.

31:1 After the end of Korihor, Alma received tidings that Zoram was leading the hearts of the people to

bow down to idols. ⁵ And now, as the preaching of the word had a great tendency to lead the people to do that which was just — yea, it had had more powerful effect upon the minds of the people than the sword, or anything else which had happened unto them — therefore Alma thought it was expedient that they should try the virtue of the word of God. ⁷ Therefore he went among the Zoramites, to preach unto them the word.

^{32:2} After much labor among them, they began to have success among the poor class of people; for behold, they were cast out of the synagogues because of the coarseness of their apparel.

^{32:5} One among them said, “They have cast us out of our synagogues and we have no place to worship our God. What shall we do?”

32:6 When Alma heard this, he beheld that their afflictions had truly humbled them and that they were in a preparation to hear the word. ⁷ Therefore he said unto them, ¹⁰ “Do ye suppose that ye cannot worship God save it be in your synagogues only? ¹¹ Do ye suppose that ye must worship God only once in a week?”

32:12 “It is well that ye are cast out of your synagogues, that ye may be humble, and that ye may learn wisdom. ²² God is merciful unto all who believe on his word. ²³ He imparteth his word unto men, yea, women also. Now this is not all; little children do have words given unto them many times which confound the wise and the learned.”

32:28 “We will compare the word unto a seed. If ye give place, that a seed may be planted in your heart,

ye will begin to say within yourselves, 'It is a good seed, for it beginneth to enlighten my understanding.'"

^{32:33} "Because ye have tried the experiment, and planted the seed,
³⁴ ye know that the word hath sprouted up, that your understanding doth begin to be enlightened, and your mind doth begin to expand."

^{32:37} "As the tree beginneth to grow, ye will say: 'Let us nourish it with great care, that it may bring forth fruit.'³⁸ But if ye neglect the tree, and take no thought for its nourishment, it withers away.
³⁹ Now, this is not because the seed was not good, neither is it because the fruit thereof would not be desirable; but it is because ye will not nourish the tree."

^{33:2} Alma said unto them, “Ye have said that ye could not worship God because ye are cast out of your synagogues. But ye do greatly err. ³ Do ye remember what Zenos, the prophet of old, has said concerning prayer? ⁴ He said, ‘Thou art merciful, O God, for thou hast heard my prayer, even when I was in the wilderness, ⁵ and when I did cry unto thee in my field. ⁶ And again, when I did turn to my house, thou didst hear my prayer. ⁸ Thou art merciful unto thy children when they cry unto thee, to be heard of thee and not of men, and thou wilt hear them.’”

^{34:1} After Alma had spoken these words, Amulek began to teach them, saying, ¹⁷ “May God grant unto you, that ye may begin to call upon his holy name. ²⁰ Cry unto him when ye are in your fields, over

all your flocks. ²¹ Cry unto him in your houses, over all your household, both morning, mid-day, and evening. ²⁴ Cry unto him over the crops of your fields, that ye may prosper in them. ²⁵ Cry over the flocks of your fields, that they may increase. ²⁶ But this is not all; ye must pour out your souls in your secret places, and in your wilderness.”

^{34:28} “Do not suppose that this is all; if ye turn away the needy, and the naked, and visit not the sick and afflicted, and impart of your substance, if ye have, to those who stand in need, your prayer is vain, and availeth you nothing, and ye are hypocrites. ³² For behold, this life is the day for men to perform their labors.”

^{34:33} “I beseech of you that ye do not procrastinate the day of your

repentance. If we do not improve our time while in this life, then cometh the night of darkness wherein there can be no labor performed.”

34:40 “I would exhort you to have patience, and that ye bear with all manner of afflictions; that ye do not revile against those who cast you out because of your exceeding poverty, lest ye become sinners like them.”

35:15 Alma, being grieved for the iniquity of his people, ¹⁶ caused that his sons should be gathered together, that he might give unto them charge concerning righteousness.

37:1 My son Helaman, I command you that ye take the records which have been entrusted with me; ² and also that ye keep a record of this people.

37:6 Now ye may suppose that this is foolishness; but by small and simple things are great things brought to pass. ⁸ These things have enlarged the memory of this people, and convinced many of the error of their ways.

37:35 Remember, my son, and learn wisdom in thy youth; yea, learn in thy youth to keep the commandments of God.

37:47 Be sober. My son, farewell.

38:1 My son Shiblon, give ear to my words. ¹⁰ I would that ye would be diligent and temperate in all things. ¹¹ See that ye are not lifted up unto pride; yea, see that ye do not boast in your own wisdom, nor of your much strength. ¹² Use boldness, but not overbearance; and also see that ye bridle all your passions,

that ye may be filled with love; see that ye refrain from idleness.

38:14 Do not say, “O God, I thank thee that we are better than our brethren.” Rather say, “O God, forgive my unworthiness, and remember my brethren in mercy.”

38:15 Be sober. My son, farewell.

39:1 My son Corianton, ² this is what I have against thee; thou didst go on unto boasting in thy strength and thy wisdom. ³ And this is not all. Thou didst go after a harlot. ⁵ Know ye not, that these things are an abomination in the sight of God?

39:9 I would that ye should repent and forsake your sins, and go no more after the lusts of your eyes. ¹¹ Suffer not yourself to be led away by any vain or foolish thing.

¹⁴ Seek not after riches nor the vain things of this world; for behold, you cannot carry them with you.

^{41:14} My son, see that you are merciful unto your brethren; deal justly, judge righteously, and do good continually. ¹⁵ For that which ye do send out shall return unto you again.

^{42:27} Whosoever will come may come and partake of the waters of life freely; and whosoever will not come the same is not compelled to come.

^{42:31} My son, go thy way, declare the word with truth and soberness.

^{45:18} Alma departed out of the land and he was never heard of more. As to his death or burial we know not of.

45:20 In the nineteenth year of the reign of the judges, Helaman went forth among the people to declare the word unto them. ²¹ For behold, because of their wars and the many little dissensions and disturbances which had been among the people, it became expedient that the word of God should be declared among them.

63:1 In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of the judges, Shiblon took possession of those sacred things which had been delivered unto Helaman by Alma.

63:2 He was a just man, and he did walk uprightly before God; and he did observe to do good continually, to keep the commandments of God.

63:11 It became expedient for Shiblon to confer those sacred things,

before his death, upon the son of Helaman, who was called Helaman.
¹⁷ Thus ended the account of Alma, and Helaman his son, and Shiblon, who was his son.

Helaman

^{1:1} In the fortieth year of the reign of the judges, there began to be a serious difficulty among the people.

² For behold, the chief judge had died, and there began to be a serious contention among his sons concerning who should have the judgment seat. ³ These are their names: Pahoran, Paanchi, and Pacumeni.

⁴ Therefore, they did cause three divisions among the people.

^{1:5} Pahoran was appointed by the voice of the people to be chief judge. ⁷ Paanchi was exceedingly

wroth, and was about to rise up in rebellion, ⁸ and was condemned unto death.

^{1:9} Those who were desirous that Paanchi should be their governor murdered Pahoran.

^{1:13} Pacumeni was appointed, according to the voice of the people, to be a chief judge in the stead of his brother Pahoran. ²¹ A man did smite Pacumeni, insomuch that he died.

^{2:1} There was no one to fill the judgment seat. ² Helaman, who was the son of Helaman, was appointed by the voice of the people. ¹² Thus ended the forty-second year of the reign of the judges.

^{3:20} Helaman did fill the judgment seat with justice and equity. He did that which was right in the sight of

God continually.

3:36 The fifty-second year ended in peace, save it were the exceedingly great pride which had gotten into the hearts of the people; and it was because of their exceedingly great riches and their prosperity in the land.

3:37 In the fifty-third year of the reign of the judges, Helaman died, and his eldest son Nephi began to reign in his stead. He did fill the judgment seat with justice and equity.

4:18 In the sixty-second year of the reign of the judges, ^{5:1} Nephi delivered up the judgment seat to a man whose name was Cezoram.

² For the people who chose evil were more numerous than they who chose good, therefore they were

ripening for destruction. ⁴ Nephi had become weary because of their iniquity; and he yielded up the judgment seat, and took it upon him to preach the word of God all the remainder of his days, and his brother Lehi also. ⁵ For they remembered the words which their father Helaman spake unto them:

^{5:6} “My sons, I desire that ye should remember to keep the commandments of God; and that ye should declare unto the people these words; ⁸ and that ye may not do these things that ye may boast.”

^{5:12} “Remember that it is upon the rock of our Redeemer, who is Christ, that ye must build your foundation; that when the devil shall send forth his mighty winds, yea, when all his hail and his mighty storm shall beat upon you, it shall have no power to drag you

down to the gulf of misery and endless wo, because of the rock upon which ye are built.”

5:14 They did remember his words, and therefore they went forth to teach the word of God among all the people.

6:7 There was peace in all the land, insomuch that the people did go into whatsoever part of the land they would. ⁸ Thus they did have free intercourse one with another, to buy and to sell, and to get gain, according to their desire. ⁹ They became exceedingly rich, and they did have an exceeding plenty of gold, and of silver, and of all manner of precious metals.

6:11 There were also curious workmen, who did work all kinds of ore and did refine it. ¹² They did

raise grain in abundance, and they did raise many flocks and herds.

¹³ They did toil and spin, and make cloth of every kind to clothe their nakedness. And thus the sixty-fourth year did pass away in peace.

^{6:15} In the sixty-sixth year of the reign of the judges, Cezoram was murdered. His son, who had been appointed by the people in his stead, was also murdered.

^{6:16} In the sixty-seventh year the people began to grow exceedingly wicked again. ¹⁷ For God had blessed them so long with the riches of the world that they began to set their hearts upon their riches. They began to seek to get gain that they might be lifted up one above another. Therefore they began to commit secret murders, and to rob and to plunder, that they might get gain.

6:18 Those murderers and plunderers were a band who had been formed by Gadianton. ²² They did have signs, and secret words that they might distinguish a brother who had entered into the covenant, that whatsoever wickedness he should do he should not be injured by those who did belong to his band. ²³ Thus they might murder, and plunder, and steal, and commit whoredoms and all manner of wickedness, contrary to the laws of their country and also the laws of God.

7:1 In the sixty-ninth year of the reign of the judges, Nephi, the son of Helaman, returned to the land.

7:4 He saw the people in a state of awful wickedness, and those Gadianton robbers filling the judgment seats, having usurped the

authority of the land; ⁵ letting the guilty go unpunished because of their money; and moreover being held in office at the head of government, to rule that they might get gain and glory of the world, that they might more easily commit adultery, and steal, and kill.

^{7:6} Now this great iniquity had come upon the people in the space of not many years.

^{7:10} Nephi went upon a tower which was by the highway which led to the chief market. ¹¹ The people came together in multitudes. ¹² Nephi beheld the multitudes who had gathered together.

^{7:13} He said unto them, “Behold, why have ye gathered yourselves together? That I may tell you of your iniquities? ¹⁶ How could you have

given way to the enticing of him who is seeking to hurl your souls to misery and wo? ¹⁷ Turn ye unto God.”

^{7:20} “How could you have forgotten God? ²¹ Behold, it is to get gain, and to be praised of men. Ye have set your hearts upon the riches and the vain things of this world, for the which ye do murder, and plunder, and steal, and bear false witness against your neighbor. ²⁶ Wo shall come unto you because of that pride which ye have suffered to enter your hearts, which has lifted you up because of your exceedingly great riches!”

^{8:25} “Ye have rejected the truth, and rebelled against God. Instead of laying up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where nothing doth corrupt, ye are heaping up for yourselves wrath against the day of

judgment.”

^{10:17} He did go forth, from multitude to multitude, declaring the word of God, even until he had declared it unto all the people.

¹⁸ They would not hearken unto his words, and there began to be contentions, insomuch that they began to slay one another with the sword. ¹⁹ Thus ended the seventy-first year of the reign of the judges.

^{11:1} In the seventy-second year of the reign of the judges, the contentions did increase, insomuch that there were wars throughout all the land. ² This war did last all that year, and in the seventy-third year.

^{11:3} And Nephi did cry unto God, saying, ⁴ “Do not suffer that this people shall be destroyed by the sword; but rather let there be a

famine in the land, to stir them up in remembrance, and perhaps they will repent.”

11:5 And so it was done, according to the words of Nephi, and there was a great famine upon the land. In the seventy-fourth year the famine did continue, and the work of destruction did cease by the sword but became sore by famine. ⁶ And this work of destruction did also continue in the seventy-fifth year. For the earth was smitten that it was dry, and did not yield forth grain in the season of grain.

11:7 The people saw that they were about to perish, and they began to remember God, and the words of Nephi. ⁸ They plead with Nephi, “We know that thou art a man of God, and therefore cry unto God that he turn away from us this famine.”

^{11:9} Nephi saw that the people had repented and did humble themselves. He cried again unto God, saying, ¹⁰ “Behold this people repenteth. ¹¹ Because of their humility wilt thou ¹² cause that this famine may cease in this land, ¹³ and send forth rain upon the face of the earth, that she may bring forth grain.”

^{11:17} In the seventy-sixth year God caused that rain should fall upon the earth, insomuch that it did bring forth grain in the season. ¹⁸ And the people did rejoice and glorify God. ²⁰ And the people began to prosper again in the land.

^{11:21} The seventy-sixth year did end in peace. They did have exceedingly great peace in the land in the seventy-seventh year. ²² And also they had peace in the seventy-

eighth year.

^{11:23} In the seventy-ninth year there began to be much strife. Nephi and Lehi, did preach unto the people, insomuch that they did put an end to their strife in that same year.

^{11:24} In the eightieth year of the reign of the judges, there were a certain number of dissenters who commenced a war with their brethren. ²⁵ And they did commit murder and plunder.

^{11:26} In the space of not many years, they became an exceedingly great band of robbers. ³² And they did cause great fear to come unto the people. ³³ For they did kill many, and did carry away others captive into the wilderness, and more especially their women and their children.

11:36 They began again to forget God, and to wax strong in iniquity. 37 They did wax stronger and stronger in their pride, and in their wickedness. 38 And thus ended the eighty-fifth year.

12:1 And thus we can behold the unsteadiness of the hearts of the children of men. 2 We may see at the very time when God doth prosper his people, doing all things for the welfare and happiness of his people, then is the time that they do harden their hearts, and do forget God, and this because of their ease, and their exceedingly great prosperity.

12:3 Except God doth chasten his people, they will not remember him.

12:4 O how foolish, and how vain, and how quick to do iniquity, and

how slow to do good, are the children of men; yea, how quick to set their hearts upon the vain things of the world! ⁵ How quick to be lifted up in pride; how quick to boast; and how slow are they to remember God, and to give ear unto his counsels; how slow to walk in wisdom's paths!

^{12:6} Behold, they do not desire that God, who hath created them, should rule them. They do set at naught his counsels, and they will not that he should be their guide.

^{12:23} Blessed are they who will repent and hearken unto the voice of God.

^{13:1} In the eighty-sixth year, ² there was one Samuel, a Lamanite, who came into the land, and did preach, many days, repentance unto the

people, and they did cast him out, and he was about to return to his own land. ³ But behold, the voice of God came unto him, that he should return, and prophesy unto the people whatsoever things should come into his heart.

^{13:4} They would not suffer that he should enter into the city; therefore he got upon the wall thereof, and prophesied unto the people. ⁵ And he said unto them, "I, Samuel, say unto this people that four hundred years pass not away save the sword of justice falleth upon this people. ⁶ Yea, heavy destruction awaiteth this people, and nothing can save this people save it be repentance and faith on Jesus Christ, who surely shall come into the world, and shall suffer many things and shall be slain."

^{13:8} "Therefore, thus saith God, 'Be-

cause of the hardness of the hearts of the people, except they repent I will take away my word from them. ¹⁰ There shall be those of the fourth generation who shall live, of your enemies, to behold your utter destruction. ²¹ Behold your riches are cursed because ye have set your hearts upon them, and have not hearkened unto the words of him who gave them unto you. ²² Ye do not remember God in the things with which he hath blessed you, but ye do always remember your riches, not to thank God for them; yea, your hearts do swell with great pride, unto boasting, and unto envyings, strifes, malice, persecutions and murders, and all manner of iniquities.’”

13:24 “Wo unto this people, because ye do cast out the prophets, and do mock them, and cast stones at

them, and do slay them, even as they did of old time. ²⁵ And now ye say, ‘If our days had been in the days of our fathers of old, we would not have slain the prophets; we would not have stoned them, and cast them out.’”

13:26 “Behold ye are worse than they. If a prophet come among you and declareth unto you your sins and iniquities, ye are angry with him, and seek all manner of ways to destroy him. You will say that he is a false prophet, because he testifieth that your deeds are evil.”

13:27 “But behold, if a man shall come among you and shall say, ‘Do this, and there is no iniquity. Walk after the pride of your eyes, and do whatsoever your heart desireth,’ ye will say that he is a prophet. ²⁸ Ye will clothe him with costly apparel, because he speaketh flattering

words unto you, and he saith that all is well.”

14:30 “And now remember, remember, that ye are free; ye are permitted to act for yourselves; for behold, God ³¹ hath given unto you that ye might know good from evil, and that ye might choose life or death; and ye can do good and have that which is good restored unto you; or ye can do evil, and have that which is evil restored unto you.”

16:1 There were many who heard the words of Samuel, and believed on his word, and confessed their sins. ² But as many as there were who did not believe in the words of Samuel were angry with him; and they cast stones and shot arrows at him as he stood upon the wall; but they could not hit him. ⁶ When

they saw that they could not hit him, they cried unto their captains, saying, “Take this fellow and bind him, and away with him.”

^{16:7} As they went forth to lay their hands on him, he did cast himself down from the wall, and did flee out of their lands. ⁸ And he was never heard of more.

^{16:9} Thus ended the eighty-sixth year.

^{16:12} There was but little alteration in the affairs of the people through the eighty-ninth year of the reign of the judges. ²⁵ Thus ended the book of Helaman, according to the record of Helaman and his sons.

3 Nephi

^{1:1} Now the ninety-first year had passed away. ² And Nephi, the son of Helaman, ³ departed out of the land, and whither he went, no man knoweth; and his son Nephi did keep the records in his stead.

^{1:4} In the ninety-second year, the prophecies of the prophets began to be fulfilled. ⁵ But there were some who began to say that the time was past for the words to be fulfilled, which were spoken by Samuel.

^{1:9} There was a day set apart by the unbelievers, that all those who believed should be put to death except the sign should come to pass, which had been given by Samuel the prophet.

^{1:10} When Nephi, the son of Nephi, saw this wickedness, his heart was

exceedingly sorrowful. ¹¹ He went out and bowed himself down upon the earth, and cried to God. ¹² And the voice of God came unto him saying, ¹³ “Be of good cheer; for on this night shall the sign be given.”

^{1:15} And the words which came unto Nephi were fulfilled. ²⁶ And thus the ninety-second year did pass away.

^{1:27} The ninety-third year did pass away in peace, save it were for the Gadianton robbers, who did commit many murders, and did do much slaughter among the people.

^{1:28} In the ninety-fourth year the robbers began to increase in great degree. ²⁹ And there was much sorrow among the people; for behold, they had many children who did join those Gadianton robbers. ³⁰ And thus the people began to

decrease as to their faith and righteousness, because of the wickedness of the rising generation.

2:3 The people began to wax strong in wickedness and abominations.

4 And thus did pass away the ninety-sixth, ninety-seventh, ninety-eighth, and ninety-ninth years.

2:7 Nine years had passed away since the sign was given that Christ should come into the world. 8 The people began to reckon their time from when the sign was given, or from the coming of Christ; therefore, nine years had passed away.

2:10 The people did still remain in wickedness; and thus passed away the tenth and eleventh year in iniquity.

2:11 In the thirteenth year the Ga-

dianton robbers had become so numerous, and did slay so many of the people, that all the people¹² were compelled, for the safety of their lives and their women and their children, to take up arms against those Gadianton robbers, to maintain their freedom and their liberty.

2:17 In the fourteenth year, the people did gain some advantage of the robbers. ¹⁸ In the fifteenth year, because of the wickedness of the people, and their many contentions and dissensions, the Gadianton robbers did gain many advantages over them.

3:22 In the seventeenth year, the people had taken their flocks, and their herds, and their grain, and all their substance, and did march forth to the place which had been appointed that they should gath-

er themselves together, to defend themselves against their enemies. ²⁵ And they did fortify themselves against their enemies. ²⁶ And they did make weapons of war of every kind.

^{4:1} In the eighteenth year, armies of robbers began to take possession of the lands which had been deserted by the people, and the cities which had been left desolate. ⁴ Therefore, there was no chance for the robbers to plunder and to obtain food. The people had reserved for themselves provisions, that they might subsist for the space of seven years, in the which time they did hope to destroy the robbers.

^{4:18} Behold, it was impossible for the robbers to lay siege sufficiently long to have any effect upon the people, because of their much provision which they had laid up in

store, ¹⁹ And because of the scantiness of provisions among the robbers, ²⁰ they were about to perish with hunger.

4:27 There were many thousands who did yield themselves up prisoners, and the remainder of them were slain.

5:7 And thus had the twenty-second, twenty-third, twenty-fourth, and twenty-fifth years passed away.

⁸ And there had many things transpired which, in the eyes of some, would be great and marvelous; nevertheless, they cannot all be written in this book.

6:1 The people did all return to their own lands in the twenty-sixth year, every man with his family, his flocks and his herds, and all things whatsoever did belong unto them.

² They had not eaten up all their provisions; therefore they did take with them all that they had not devoured, of all their grain, and their gold, and their silver, and they did return to their own lands and their possessions.

^{6:3} They granted unto those robbers who had entered into a covenant to keep the peace, lands, that they might have, with their labors, wherewith to subsist upon; and thus they did establish peace in all the land.

^{6:4} They began again to prosper; and the twenty-seventh year passed away, and there was great order in the land. ⁵ There was nothing in all the land to hinder the people from prospering continually, except they should fall into transgression.

^{6:7} There were many cities built

anew, and there were many old cities repaired. ⁸ There were many roads made, which led from city to city. ⁹ And thus passed away the twenty-eighth year, and the people had continual peace.

^{6:10} In the twenty-ninth year there began to be some disputings among the people; and some were lifted up unto pride and boastings because of their exceedingly great riches, yea, even unto great persecutions.

^{6:12} The people began to be distinguished by ranks, according to their riches and their chances for learning, yea, some were ignorant because of their poverty, and others did receive great learning because of their riches. ¹⁴ And thus there became a great inequality in all the land, insomuch that the church began to be broken up.

6:15 Now the cause of this iniquity was this: the people were puffing up with pride, seeking for power, and authority, and riches, and the vain things of the world.

6:17 In the thirtieth year, the people were in a state of awful wickedness.

18 They did not sin ignorantly, for they knew the will of God, for it had been taught unto them. They did wilfully rebel against God.

6:20 There began to be men inspired from heaven and sent forth, preaching of the sins and iniquities of the people, and testifying unto them concerning the death, sufferings, and resurrection of Christ.

6:23 Now there were many of those who testified of the things pertaining to Christ who were taken and put to death secretly by the judges.

²⁴ This was contrary to the laws of the land, ²⁵ therefore a complaint came up to the governor of the land, against these judges. ²⁶ They were taken before the judge to be judged according to the law.

^{6:27} Those judges had many friends and kindreds who did gather themselves together ²⁸ and enter into a covenant one with another ²⁹ to deliver those who were guilty of murder from the grasp of justice.

4 Nephi

^{1:2} The people were all converted unto God, and there were no contentions and disputations among them, and every man did deal justly one with another. ³ And they had all things common among them; therefore there were not rich

and poor, bond and free, but they were all made free, and partakers of the heavenly gift, ⁴ and there still continued to be peace in the land.

^{1:15} There was no contention in the land, because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people. ¹⁶ There were no envyings, nor strifes, nor tumults, nor whoredoms, nor lyings, nor murders, nor any manner of lasciviousness. Surely there could not be a happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God.

^{1:24} When one hundred sixty-five years had passed, there began to be among them those who were lifted up in pride, such as the wearing of costly apparel, and all manner of fine pearls, and of the fine things of the world. ²⁵ From that time forth,

they did have their goods and their substance no more common among them.

1:26 They began to be divided into classes; and they began to build up churches unto themselves to get gain. ³⁴ Thus they did dwindle in unbelief and wickedness, from year to year.

1:41 They did build up churches unto themselves, and adorn them with all manner of precious things. ⁴³ And also they began to be proud in their hearts, because of their exceeding riches, and become vain.

1:45 When ninety-nine years had passed, the people had become exceedingly wicked.

Mormon

^{1:1} I, Mormon, make a record of the things which I have both seen and heard.

^{1:2} Ammaron came unto me, (I being about ten years of age, and I began to be learned somewhat after the manner of the learning of my people) and Ammaron said unto me: “I perceive that thou art a sober child, and art quick to observe; ³ Therefore, when ye are about twenty-four years old go to the place where I have deposited all the sacred engravings concerning this people. ⁴ And behold, ye shall take the engravings unto yourself; and ye shall engrave all the things that ye have observed concerning this people.”

^{1:6} I, being eleven years old, was

carried by my father into the land southward. ⁸ In this year there began to be a war in the land.

^{2:2} In my sixteenth year I did go forth at the head of an army.

^{2:10} The people began to repent of their iniquity. ¹² When I saw their lamentation and their mourning and their sorrow before God, my heart did begin to rejoice within me, knowing the mercies and the long-suffering of God, therefore supposing that he would be merciful unto them that they would again become a righteous people. ¹³ But behold my joy was vain, for their sorrowing was not unto repentance, because of the goodness of God; but it was rather the sorrowing of the damned, because God would not always suffer them to take happiness in sin.

2:18 Behold, a continual scene of wickedness and abominations has been before mine eyes ever since I have been sufficient to behold the ways of man. ¹⁹ And wo is me because of their wickedness; for my heart has been filled with sorrow because of their wickedness, all my days.

3:8 Our enemies did come down again to battle. And we did beat them again, and did slay a great number of them. ⁹ The people began to boast in their own strength, and began to swear before the heavens that they would avenge themselves of the blood of their brethren who had been slain by their enemies. ¹⁰ They did swear by the heavens that they would go up to battle against their enemies, and would cut them off from the face of the land.

3:11 I did utterly refuse from this time forth to be a leader of this people, because of their wickedness and abomination. ¹² Notwithstanding their wickedness I had led them many times to battle, and had loved them, according to the love of God which was in me, with all my heart; nevertheless, it was without faith, because of the hardness of their hearts. ¹³ And thrice have I delivered them out of the hands of their enemies, and they have repented not of their sins.

3:16 I utterly refused to go up against mine enemies; and I did stand as an idle witness to manifest unto the world the things which I saw and heard.

4:5 Behold, the judgments of God will overtake the wicked; and it is by the wicked that the wicked are punished; for it is the wicked

that stir up the hearts of men unto bloodshed.

4:9 And now there had been thousands slain on both sides. ¹¹ And it is impossible for the tongue to describe, or for man to write a perfect description of the horrible scene of the blood and carnage which was among the people.

4:23 And now, seeing that our enemies were about to overthrow the land, therefore I did take up all the records which Ammaron had hid.

6:6 Behold I, Mormon, began to be old; and knowing it to be the last struggle of my people, and having been commanded of God that I should not suffer the records which had been handed down by our fathers, which were sacred, to fall into the hands of our enemies (for

they would destroy them) therefore I hid in a hill all the records which had been entrusted to me, save it were these few which I gave unto my son Moroni.

8:1 Behold I, Moroni, do finish the record of my father, Mormon. I have but few things to write, which things I have been commanded by my father. ² After the great and tremendous battle, behold, those who had escaped into the country southward were hunted by our enemies, until they were all destroyed. ³ And my father also was killed by them, and I even remain alone to write the sad tale of the destruction of my people. And whether they will slay me, I know not. ⁵ My father hath been slain in battle, and all my kinsfolk, and I have not friends nor whither to go; and how long God will suffer that I

may live I know not.

8:12 Whoso receiveth this record, and shall not condemn it because of the imperfections which are in it, the same shall know of greater things than these. ¹⁹ For behold, the same that judgeth rashly shall be judged rashly again; for according to his works shall his wages be. ²⁰ Behold what the scripture says, “Man shall not smite, neither shall he judge; for judgment is mine, saith God, and vengeance is mine also, and I will repay.”

8:22 For the eternal purposes of God shall roll on, until all his promises shall be fulfilled.

8:31 There shall be many who will say, “Do this, or do that, and it mattereth not, for God will uphold such at the last day.” But wo un-

to such for they are in the gall of bitterness and in the bonds of iniquity. ³² Yea, there shall be churches built up that shall say, "Come unto me, and for your money you shall be forgiven of your sins." ³³ O ye wicked and perverse and stiffnecked people.

8:36 And I know that ye do walk in the pride of your hearts, unto the wearing of very fine apparel, unto envying, and strifes, and malice, and persecutions, and all manner of iniquities. ³⁷ For behold, ye do love money, and your substance, and your fine apparel, and the adorning of your churches, more than ye love the poor and the needy, the sick and the afflicted.

8:39 Why do ye adorn yourselves with that which hath no life, and yet suffer the hungry, and the needy, and the naked, and the sick and

the afflicted to pass by you, and notice them not?

9:27 Doubt not, but be believing, and come unto God with all your heart, and work out your own salvation with fear and trembling before him. ²⁸ Be wise in the days of your probation; strip yourselves of all uncleanness; ask not, that ye may consume it on your lusts, but ask with a firmness unshaken, that ye will yield to no temptation, but that ye will serve the true and living God.

9:31 Condemn me not because of mine imperfection, neither my father, because of his imperfection, neither them who have written before him; but rather give thanks unto God that he hath made manifest unto you our imperfections, that ye may learn to be more wise

than we have been.

Moroni

^{7:1} I, Moroni, write a few of the words of my father Mormon, for after this manner did he speak unto the people.

^{7:2} I, Mormon, speak unto you, my beloved brethren. ⁵ I remember the word of God, which saith by their works ye shall know them; for if their works be good, then they are good also. ⁶ For behold, God hath said, a man being evil cannot do that which is good; for if he offereth a gift, or prayeth unto God, except he shall do it with real intent it profiteth him nothing. ⁷ For behold, it is not counted unto him for righteousness. ⁸ For behold,

if a man being evil giveth a gift, he doeth it grudgingly; wherefore it is counted unto him the same as if he had retained the gift; wherefore he is counted evil before God.

7:9 Likewise also is it counted evil unto a man, if he shall pray and not with real intent of heart; yea, and it profiteth him nothing, for God receiveth none such. ¹⁰ Wherefore, a man being evil cannot do that which is good. ¹¹ For behold, a bitter fountain cannot bring forth good water; neither can a good fountain bring forth bitter water.

7:13 Behold, that which is of God inviteth and enticeth to do good continually; wherefore, every thing which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to love God, and to serve him, is inspired of God. ¹⁴ Wherefore, take heed that ye do not judge that which is evil to be

of God, or that which is good and of God to be of the devil. ¹⁸ See that ye do not judge wrongfully; for with that same judgment which ye judge ye shall also be judged.

^{7:23} God declared unto prophets that Christ should come. ²⁴ And behold, there were divers ways that he did manifest things unto the children of men, which were good.

^{7:44} If a man have not charity he is nothing; wherefore he must needs have charity. ⁴⁵ And charity suffereth long, and is kind, and envieth not, and is not puffed up, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, and rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoiceth in the truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

7:46 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, if ye have not charity, ye are nothing, for charity never faileth. Wherefore, cleave unto charity, which is the greatest of all, for all things must fail, ⁴⁷ but charity endureth forever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with him.

10:1 Now I, Moroni, write somewhat as seemeth me good. ³ Behold, I would exhort you that when ye shall read these things, that ye would remember how merciful God hath been unto the children of men, and ponder it in your hearts.

10:8 I exhort you, my brethren, that ye deny not the gifts of God, for they are many; and they come from the same God. And there are different ways that these gifts are administered; but it is the

same God who worketh all in all;
and they are given to profit men.
⁹ For behold, to one is given, that
he may teach the word of wis-
dom; ¹⁰ And to another, that he
may teach the word of knowledge.
¹¹ And to another, exceedingly
great faith; and to another, the
gifts of healing; ¹² And to another,
that he may work mighty mira-
cles; ¹³ And to another, that he
may prophesy concerning all things;
¹⁴ And to another, the beholding
of angels and ministering spirits;
¹⁵ And to another, all kinds of
tongues; ¹⁶ And to another, the
interpretation of languages. ¹⁷ And
all these gifts come unto every man
severally, according as he will.

^{10:21} Except ye have charity ye can
in nowise be saved; neither can
ye be saved if ye have not faith;
neither can ye if ye have no hope.

²² And if ye have no hope ye must needs be in despair; and despair cometh because of iniquity.

^{10:34} Now I bid unto all, farewell. I soon go to rest in the paradise of God.