

Selections from
Mormon

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An abridgment of the Book of Mormon. Verse references such as ^{1:7} indicate the original source of the text, but don't imply a full quotation.

Jarom

^{1:9} The word of the Lord 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 God, and continue in fasting and praying, and endure to the end; and as God liveth ye will be saved.

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 be-

gan 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 unto 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.