

Enos, Jareem, Omni, and Words of Mormon



And My Soul Did Hunger

Enos



Enos

He was the grandson of Sariah and Lehi, and the son of Jacob

He was a nephew of Nephi

He lived about 544 to 421 BC

He was a Nephite

He kept the records handed down to him by Jacob

He demonstrated an important lesson on prayer, repentance, and revelation

He heard the voice of the Lord

He prayed earnestly for his brethren the Lamanites and the Nephites

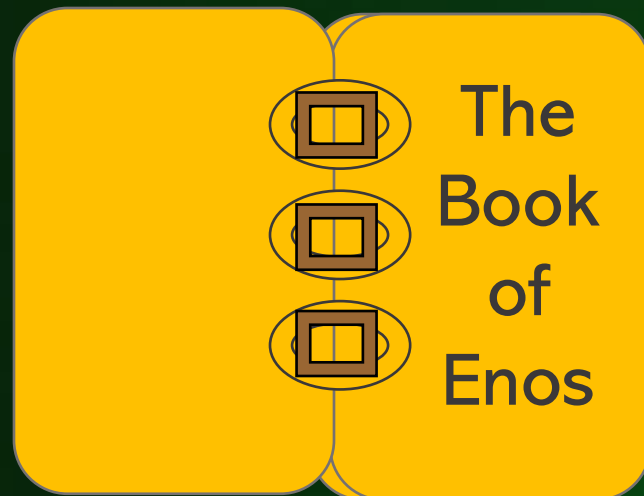
The Book of Enos is the first to describe in detail the apostate condition of the descendants of Laman and Lemuel (see Enos 1:20).



The Book of Enos—Small Plates

The Book of Enos illustrates the power of the Atonement of Jesus Christ to cleanse people from sin and make them whole. Enos wrestled before God in mighty prayer before his sins were forgiven.

He then prayed for the spiritual welfare of the Nephites and the Lamanites, and he spent the remainder of his life laboring for their salvation.



Who Are These Records For?

When Enos received the small plates from his father, he promised to engrave only the writings that he considered to be most precious, which included sacred teachings, revelation, and prophecy.

Enos knew that his people, the Nephites, eventually would be destroyed.

He prayed that the Lord would preserve a record of the Nephites *“that it might be brought forth at some future day unto the Lamanites, that, perhaps, they might be brought unto salvation”* (Enos 1:13).



“Wrestle With God”

Enos did not physically wrestle *with* God.

The record states that Enos wrestled *before* God in prayer.

Such wrestling is the struggle to find and express one’s real desires under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost.

Praying in this manner requires that a person eliminate vain, trite, or insincere repetitions and to pour the deepest desires of his or her heart into words.

...an expression of
yearning and desire
to do God’s will.



*“for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered”
(Romans 8:26).*



My Soul Hungered

Physical Hunger:

A Feeling of emptiness

Pain

Weakness

A desire to be full

Spiritual Emptiness:

Anxious feeling

Questionable testimony

Knowing that repentance is required

Longing for a spiritual experience

A Desire

What Enos Desired

Enos 1:2

Enos 1:3

Remission of Sins

Eternal Life

Joy of the Saints

What Enos Did

Enos 1:2

Enos 1:4

Enos 1:8

Wrestled--prayed

Kneeled down
before his Maker

Prayed all day long

Raised his voice to
the heavens

Had faith in the
Lord

Results of what Enos Did

Enos 1:5

Enos 1:6

Enos 1:8

His sins were
forgiven

His guilt was swept
away

His faith had made
him whole



Desires Today

Our Desires

Remission of Sins

Eternal Life

Joy for our families
and friends



What Can We Do?

Pray with real
intent

Kneel down in
private

Submit your will to
the Lord

Pray out loud

Praise Him in song

Have Faith in the
Lord

What will be the results?

Our sins will be
forgiven

We will no longer
feel guilty

Through our faith
in Jesus Christ we
will be made
whole



Spiritually Empty and Seeking Forgiveness

Why does sin cause us to feel spiritually empty?

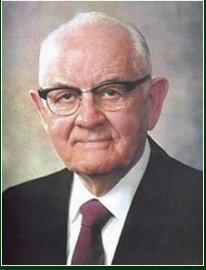
Sin causes the Holy Ghost to withdraw from us and we feel distanced from the Lord.

In what ways can we show our sincerity as we seek the Lord's forgiveness?

Our prayers may not need to be as long as Enos', but they need to be sincere.



Remission of Sins

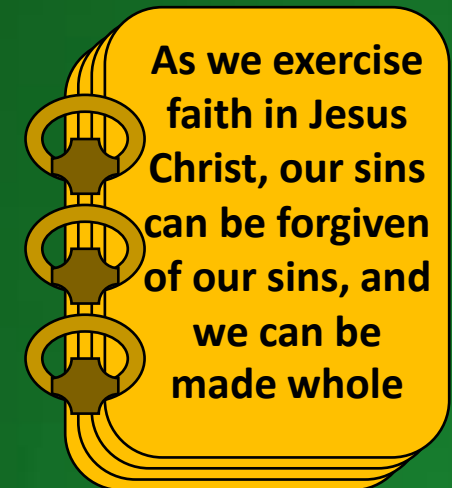


Enos did not mention the nature or extent of his sins, but rather described the process of repentance that we must each undertake to receive divine forgiveness.

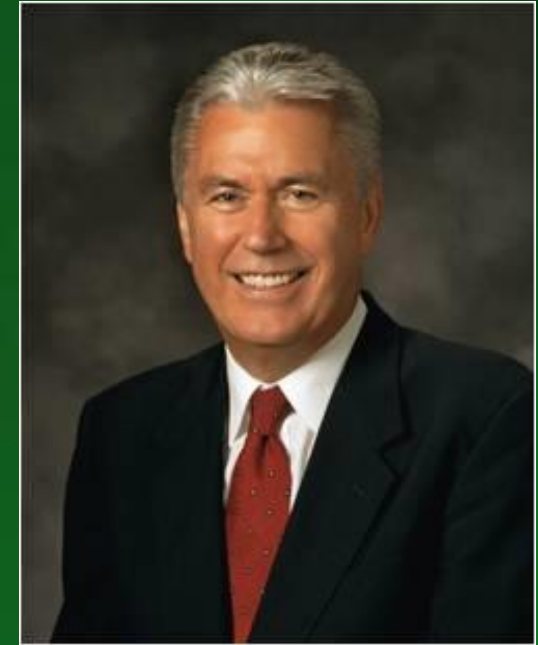
President Spencer W. Kimball taught:

“I have always loved the story of Enos, who had great need. Like all of us—for none of us is perfect—he had strayed. How dark were his sins I do not know, but he wrote, ‘I will tell you of the wrestle which I had before God, before I received a remission of my sins’. ...

“What a blessing and a joy for each of us to know that our Father lives and that he loves us, that he forgives us when repentance is forthcoming, that he is ever willing to help and give love to his beloved children.”



“Once we have truly repented, Christ will take away the burden of guilt for our sins. We can know for ourselves that we have been forgiven and made clean. The Holy Ghost will verify this to us; He is the Sanctifier. No other testimony of forgiveness can be greater.”



The Welfare of My Brethren

When Lehi partook of tree of life—his thought went immediately to his family, he was desirous for them also to have the fruit (truth).

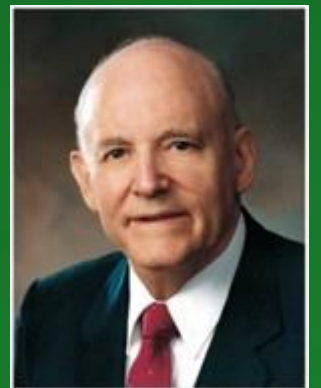
When Enos tasted of the goodness of God, he sought above all else that the promise given Joseph be given him that his brethren may share in the goodness of God also.



“Any time we experience the blessings of the Atonement in our lives, we cannot help but have a concern for the welfare of our brethren. ...

“A great indicator of one’s personal conversion is the desire to share the gospel with others”

Howard W. Hunter



Voice—Revelation—of the Lord's Promise

Holy Land—the promised land a land which is consecrated, dedicated, and set apart, a land blessed by the hand of the Lord for his service and his purposes.

JFM and RLM



Adam-ondi-Ahman—a place of New Jerusalem.

The birthplace of the book of Mormon and Restoration

JFM and RLM



Labor—the Power in Prayer

“There is a power in the prayer of the humble and diligent servant never to be known by the great master of eloquence who has not learned the grace of service and humility.”

JFM and RLM



“Those who obtain the promise of the Lord that they will receive according to their desires are those who have so attuned themselves with the mind and will of God”

JFM and RLM

The Savior taught:

“When thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. ...

“But thou, when thou prayest, ... pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. ...”

Matthew 6:5-6



The Gift by the Power of God

The Book of Mormon declares itself to have come forth by the “gift and power of God.”

This is a treasure to those descendants of Lehi and the family of Joseph

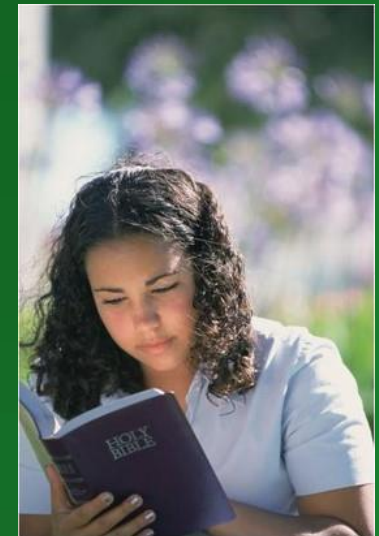
The book comes by the **power of God**

It is written by the **power of God**

It is preserved by the **power of God**

It is brought forth by the **power of God**

And it is only understood by the **power of God**



The Promise:
Read D&C 10:47-52

Like Enos...

Enos prayed for the Lamanites, who were considered his enemies.

The Lord answers our prayers according to our faith and diligence



I desire to receive a remission of my sins. I will show the Lord that I am sincere in this desire by...



I desire to help my family members and friends come unto Christ. One person I will seek to help is...I will seek to help this person by...



I want to show the Lord's love toward those who are unkind to me. One way I will do this is...



Faithfully Taught—and Testimony

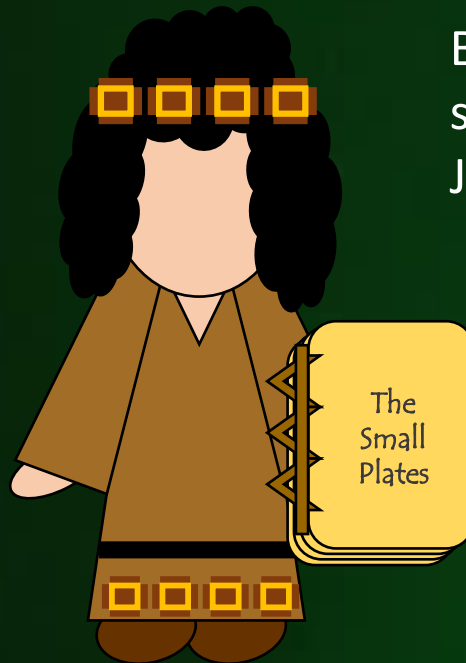
Throughout all his days Enos taught and prophesied to a 'stiffnecked' people (Enos 1:26)

His joy was full

He had been true and faithful in all things

He magnified his calling

“Then shall I see his face with pleasure, and he will say unto me: Come unto me, ye blessed, there is a place prepared for you in the mansions of my Father” (Enos 1:27).



Before his death, Enos passed the small plates of Nephi to his son Jarom (Jarom 1:1).



Sources:

Book of Mormon Student Manual, (2009), 130–35

Spencer W. Kimball *Pray Always Ensign*, Oct. 1981, 6.

Dieter F. Uchtdorf, “Point of Safe Return,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2007, 101).

Joseph Fielding McConkie and Robert L. Millet Doctrinal Commentary on the Book of Mormon Vol. 2 pg. 98-99

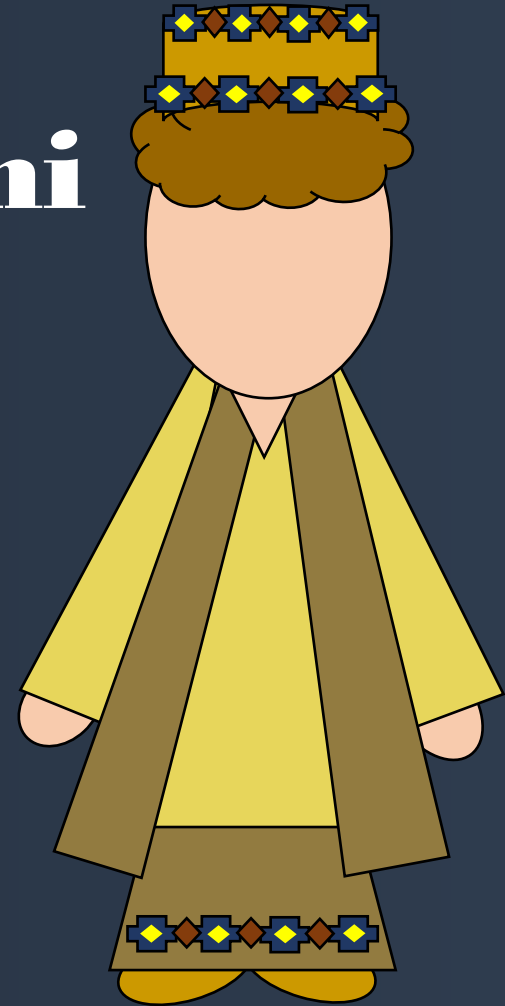
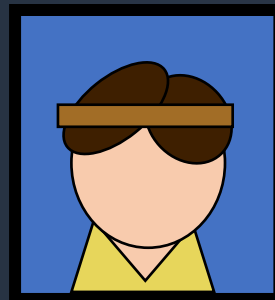
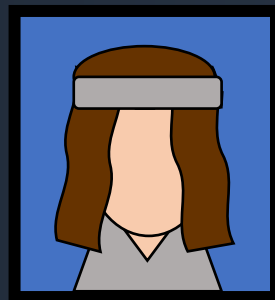
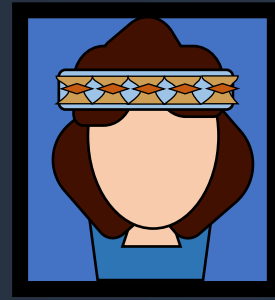
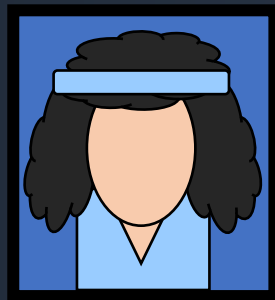
The Teachings of Howard W. Hunter, ed. Clyde J. Williams [1997], 248–49).



Faith in the Lord is trust in the Lord. We cannot have true faith in the Lord without also having complete trust in the Lord's will and in the Lord's timing. As a result, no matter how strong our faith is, it cannot produce a result contrary to the will of Him in whom we have faith. Remember that when your prayers do not seem to be answered in the way or at the time you desire. The exercise of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is always subject to the order of heaven, to the goodness and will and wisdom and timing of the Lord. When we have that kind of faith and trust in the Lord, we have true security and serenity in our lives. (Dallin H. Oaks, "The Atonement and Faith" [address given at the seminar for new mission presidents, June 2001])

The object of our prayers should not be to present a wish list or a series of requests but to secure for ourselves and for others blessings that God is eager to bestow, according to His will and timing. Every sincere prayer is heard and answered by our Heavenly Father, but the answers we receive may not be what we expect or come to us when we want or in the way we anticipate. ... Prayer is a privilege and the soul's sincere desire. We can move beyond routine and "checklist" prayers and engage in meaningful prayer as we appropriately ask in faith and act, as we patiently persevere through the trial of our faith, and as we humbly acknowledge and accept "not my will, but Thine, be done." (David A. Bednar, "Ask in Faith," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2008, 97)

Jarom and Omni



Jarom

He was the great grandson of Sariah and Lehi

He was the grandson of Jacob and son of Enos

He was a record keeper of the small plates of Nephi around 420 to 361 BC

Jarom is the shortest book in the Book of Mormon

He declines his own personal words of inspiration
(Jarom 1:2)

He described the 'hardness of hearts' of the people

He had the spirit of prophecy and revelation

He counsels Omni, his son, to read large plates for further history of the people



Book of Jarom

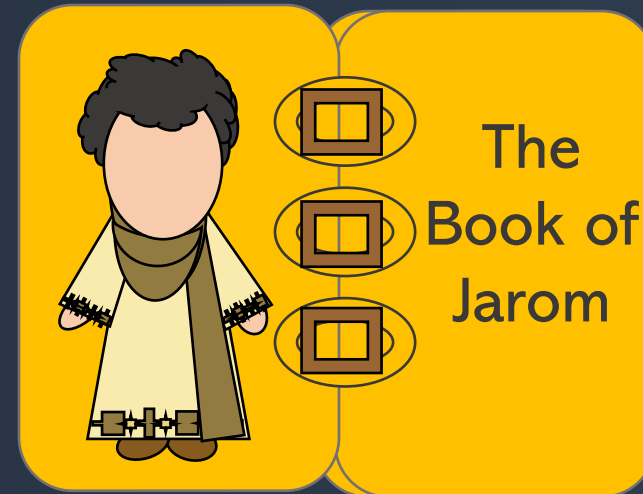
Written in commandment from his father.

Written for the benefit of his brethren the Lamanites.

Jarom did not record his own prophecies and revelations because he felt that his father's revelations were sufficient.

He described labors of the Nephite leaders during the time of his ministry.

Jarom observed that when the people chose to follow the counsel of their righteous leaders, they prospered and were able to fortify themselves against the Lamanites.



Jarom's Testimony:

“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” (Jarom 1:9)

Records

Adam—kept a record of faithful descendants = A Book of Remembrance



The Nephites who kept the record even at this early period understood that it would be for the benefit of the Lamanites



The Church keeps similar records today D&C 85

The Church urges us to keep our own personal family records

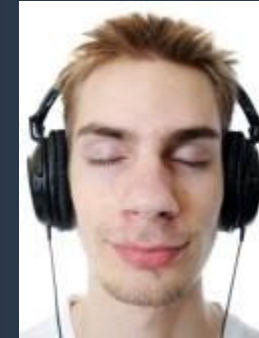
Apostasy

Apostasy was rampant among the Nephites



Hardness of Hearts

Deafness of Ears



Blindness of Mind

Stiffness of Necks



However:

God is merciful and hasn't swept them
off the face of the earth yet

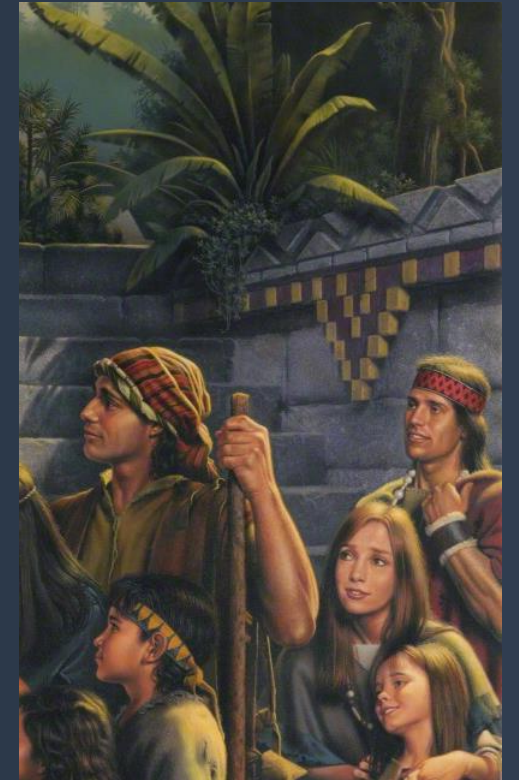
Believers

200 years had past

There was a strong group of believers who communed with the Holy Spirit and kept the commandments.

The faithful will not be without revelation

Without the Spirit we can neither preach or teach the gospel.



Without revelation there can be no religion

Law of Moses Kept

The Nephite laws were exceedingly strict

Our obligation to keep the Sabbath holy is a part of the fulness of the gospel (D&C 59:9-14)

“Some have falsely supposed that Sabbath observance commenced with the law of Moses. This is not the case. The commandment given on Sinai was to “remember the sabbath day” –beginning on the 7th day. (Genesis 2:2-3)



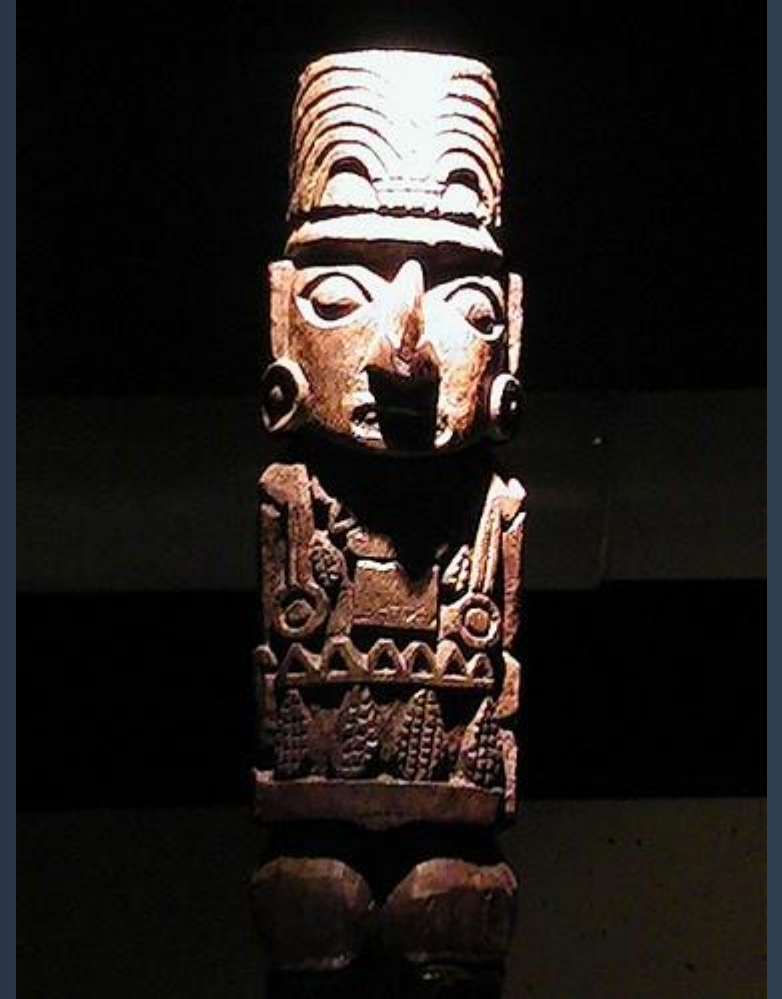
To profane is to pollute...to violate...to desecrate that which is sacred

Idolatry

Drink the Blood of their beasts--The Lamanites were worshiping physical idols and images of their own making

The Lamanites were more numerous than the Nephites and had degenerated into a primitive state of existence.

“To create one’s own god is to have control over the demands, and appetites of that god. It is said that religion is the system in which man serves a higher will, while magic is a system whereby man attempts to control higher powers. Such is the distinction that exists between true religion and idolatry.”



Great Leaders

The Nephites were led by men of great righteousness and thus prevailed in battle



“...it was not mighty warriors, men mighty in strength, but men mighty in the faith of the Lord that consistently led the Nephites to victory over their enemies, the Lamanites.”

Faith in God is a weapon more to be feared than the sharpness of a sword or the muscle and sinew that wields it (3 Nephi 3:19)

Exceedingly Rich

The Nephites expanded far beyond a simple agricultural form of society

Rich in gold and silver



Precious things

Fine workmanship of wood

Building and machinery

Tools (iron, copper, brass and steel) for the ground and for war



Those who are a righteous people will prosper in the land...



“And inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments, ye shall prosper, and shall be led to a land of promise; yea, even a land which I have prepared for you; yea, a land which is choice above all other lands.” 1 Nephi 2:20

The Word of God

Only constant preaching kept the Nephites from being destroyed by the Lamanites. Jarom says that their prophets “did prick their hearts with the word”

It was this principle that later motivated Alma to resign the position of chief judge in order to preach the gospel (Alma 4:19; 31:5)

Prick:

The word of God is “quick and powerful, sharper than a two-edged sword, to the dividing asunder of both joints and marrow” (D&C 6:2)



“I remember when I was preparing to be trained as a fighter pilot. We spent a great deal of our preliminary military training in physical exercise. I’m still not exactly sure why endless running was considered such an essential preparatory part of becoming a pilot. Nevertheless, we ran and we ran and we ran some more.



“As I was running I began to notice something that, frankly, troubled me. Time and again I was being passed by men who smoked, drank, and did all manner of things that were contrary to the gospel and, in particular, to the Word of Wisdom.

“I remember thinking, ‘Wait a minute! Aren’t I supposed to be able to run and not be weary?’ But I *was* weary, and I was overtaken by people who were definitely not following the Word of Wisdom. I confess, it troubled me at the time. I asked myself, was the promise true or was it not?”



Dieter F. Uchtdorf Story Continues....

“The answer didn’t come immediately. But eventually I learned that God’s promises are not always fulfilled as quickly as or in the way we might hope; they come according to His timing and in His ways.

Years later I could see clear evidence of the temporal blessings that come to those who obey the Word of Wisdom—in addition to the spiritual blessings that come immediately from obedience to any of God’s laws.

Looking back, I know for sure that the promises of the Lord, if perhaps not always swift, are always certain.”



Dieter F. Uchtdorf—actual pictures

Omni

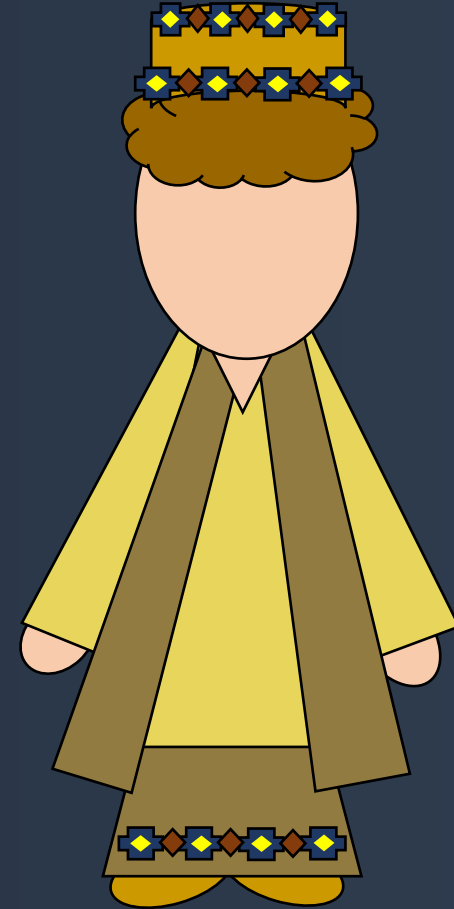
He was the grandson of Enos and son of Jarom

His record was recorded around 361 BC

He preserved the genealogy and records for 44 years during turmoil and warfare

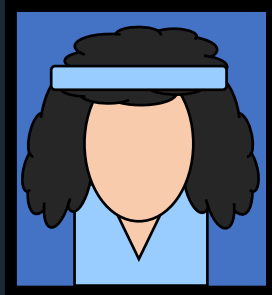
He had not 'kept statutes and commandments' as he should have

He was a defender of his people



Records Handed Down

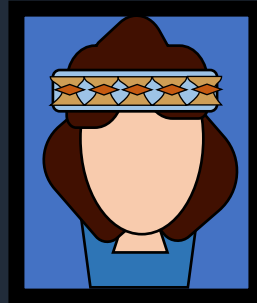
Son of Omni



Amaron

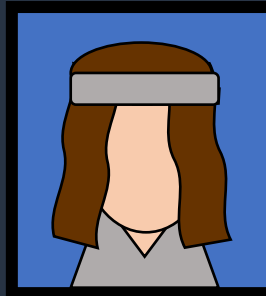


Brother of
Amaron

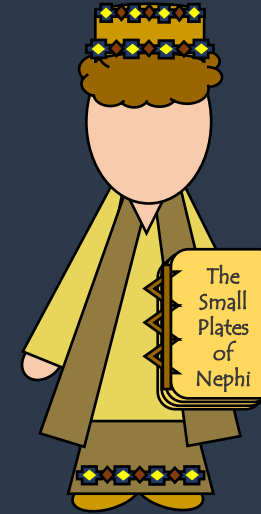


Chemish

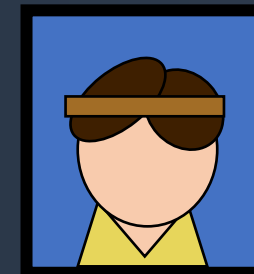
Son of
Chemish



Abinadom



Son of
Abinadom



Amaleki

Approximately between
500 – 130 BC

Book of Omni

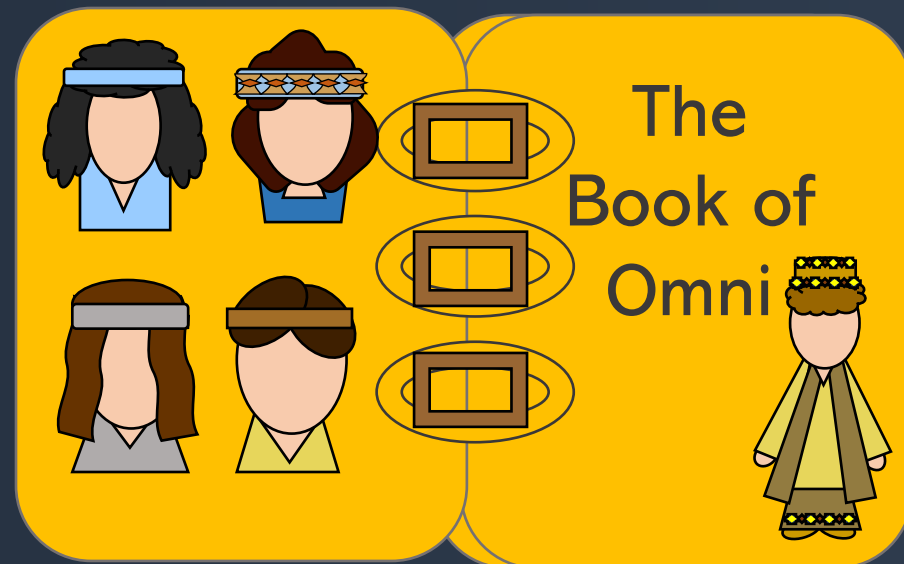
The book of Omni was written by five different men: Omni, Amaron, Chemish, Abinadom, and Amaleki.

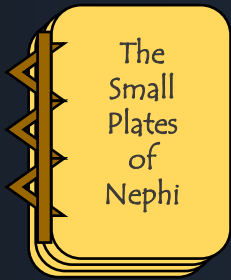
Each added small entries and the last entry of the small plates

Omni spans a longer period of time than any other book in the small plates.

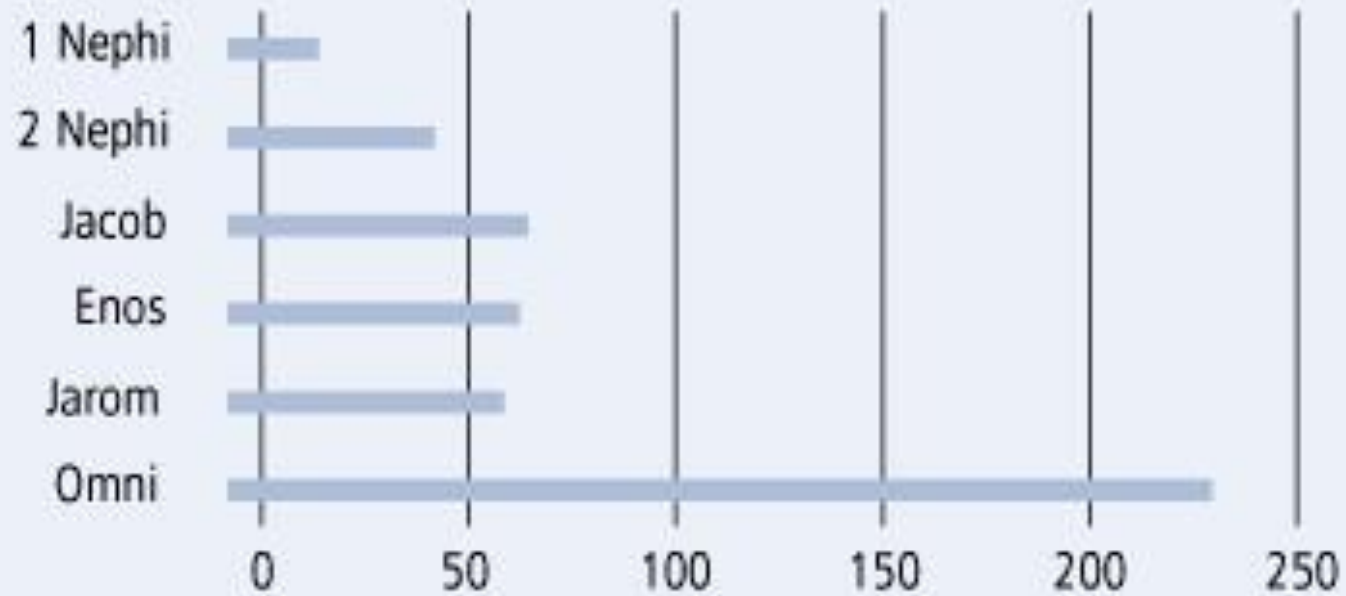
Abinadom's son Amaleki wrote most of the book of Omni and was the last person to write on the small plates of Nephi. He entrusted the plates to King Benjamin.

Omni wrote for the benefit of his descendants. The next three writers in the book of Omni do not address a particular audience or state a purpose for their writing. But Amaleki's invitation for all people to "come unto Christ ... and partake of his salvation" (Omni 1:26) indicates that he was concerned about the salvation of those who would read his words.





Approximate Number of Years Covered
by Each Book in the Small Plates

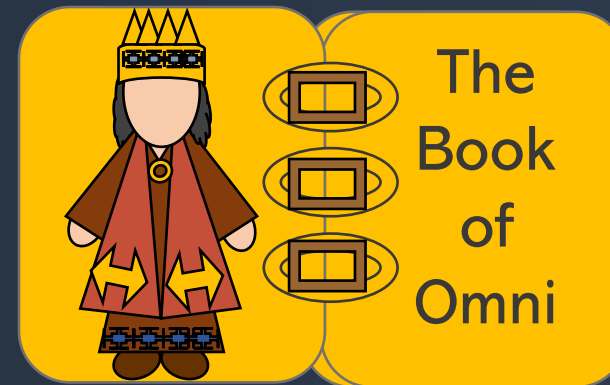


Other Facts on the Book of Omni

The Book of Omni also provides details about the reign of the first King Mosiah, who was the father of King Benjamin and grandfather of the second King Mosiah. The first King Mosiah led the righteous Nephites out of the land of Nephi and united them with the people of Zarahemla.

The Book of Omni relates that the Lord guided the people of Zarahemla (also known as the Mulekites) from Jerusalem to the land of promise not long after Lehi and his family departed from Jerusalem.

Omni is the first book in the Book of Mormon to mention the Jaredites. It also mentions that some Nephites left Zarahemla to return to the land of Nephi, foreshadowing the events recounted in Mosiah 7–24.



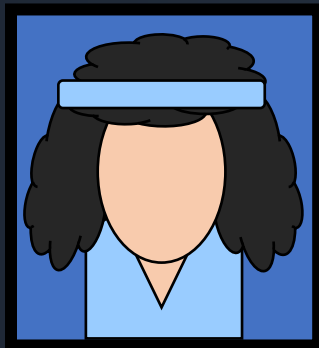
Finally, the Book of Omni introduces King Benjamin and explains why Amaleki entrusted him with the sacred records.

Omni Writes

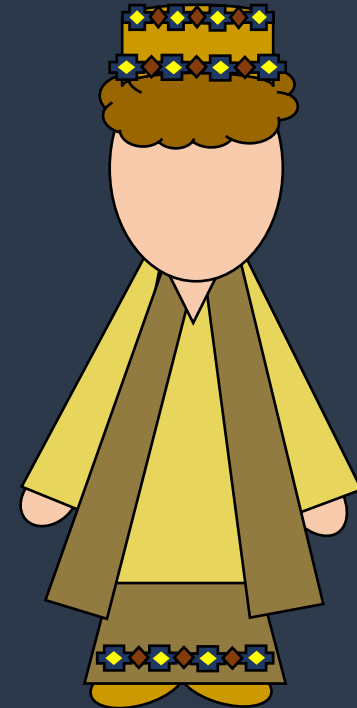
Omni writes only the first 3 verses:

He refers to himself as “a wicked man” because he had not kept the statues and commandments of the Lord

“It need not be supposed from such an admission that he was guilty of any gross immorality, but rather that he was not zealous in honoring the law of Moses and in keeping other religious obligation.”

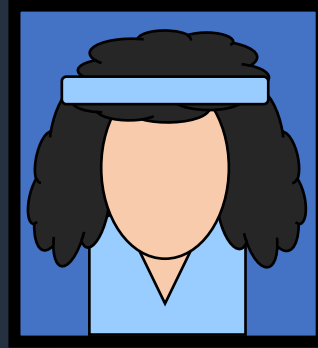


Not living by the Spirit will cause you to not be prepared to teach or write after the manner of the Spirit...therefore he found it necessary to pass the plates to his son, Amaron



Amaron and Chemish Write

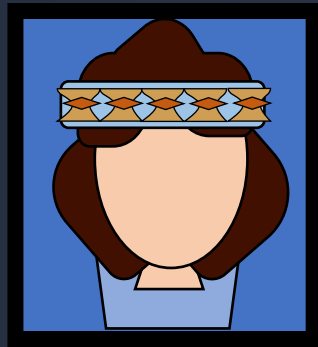
Amaron writes of the destruction of the more wicked part of the Nephites.



**Amaron understood that:
Those who acknowledge the hand
of the Lord in all things find
evidence of His word in all things.**

Chemish was the Brother of Amaron.

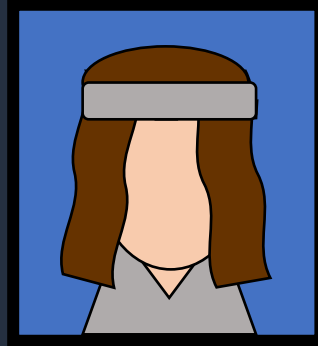
Chemish watched as Amaron wrote on the same day that Amaron turned the plates to Chemish.



**Chemish also keeps the
record according to the
commandments of our
fathers**

Abinadom Writes

Abinadom announced that the other authors were sufficient and passed the plates to his son Amaleki



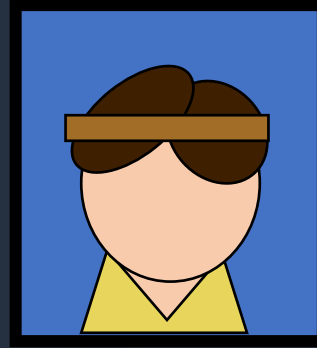
Abinadom was saying that there had been no revelation given at this time period.

Would you hand down information or records that you haven't written about?

The tradition to hand down records was still in effect with Abinadom even though nothing was added spirituality to it.

Amaleki Writes

Amaleki introduces a new epoch in the history of the Nephite peoples.



Mosiah's discovery of the Mulekites, a people who had fled Jerusalem in the days of King Zedekiah

Mosiah's kingship over the Land of Zarahemla

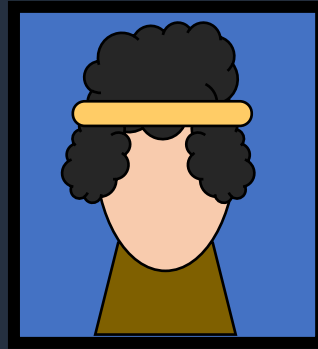
Taking refuge in the wilderness—a clear separation from the powers, authorities, and influences of worldly societies

Symbolic—among the children of God might find it necessary to leave the refinements of the world and find refuge in the simplicity of that which God created

How can you take yourself “away from it all”?

Zarahemla

Zarahemla was a descendant of
Mulek, son of Zedekiah
Mosiah 25:2



They brought no records with them

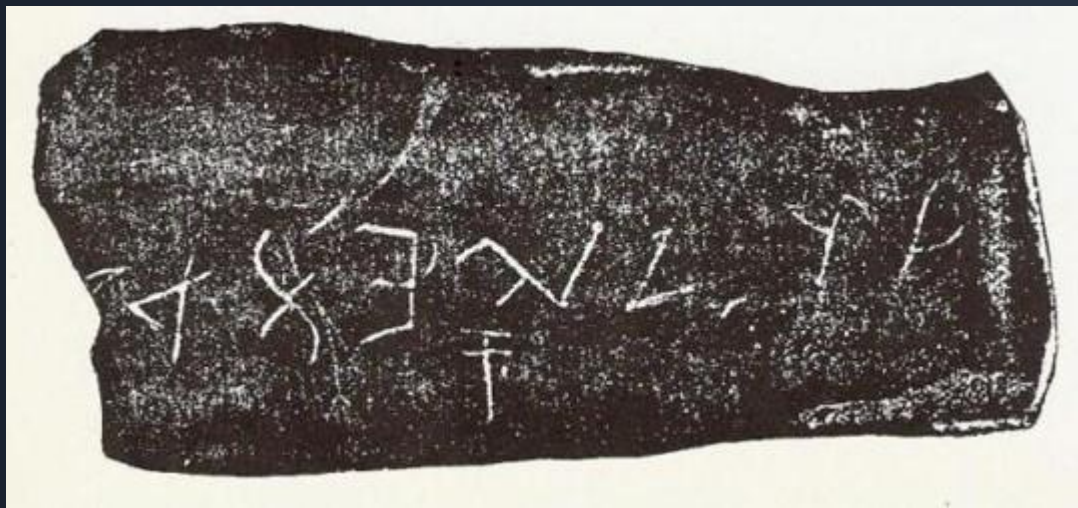
**They were taught in the language of
Mosiah and Zarahemla gave him his
genealogy of his fathers and are written
on the large plates**

The people of Zarahemla and
the people of Mosiah joined
together, and Mosiah was
appointed King.



The Stone

“And it came to pass in the days of Mosiah, there was a large stone brought unto him with engravings on it; and he did interpret the engravings by the gift and power of God.”



Mosiah, by the power of the Holy Spirit, was able to read this stone.



Peoples in Americas

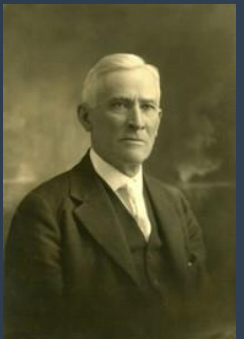
After King Mosiah and his followers fled the land of Nephi, they discovered a group of people who were called the people of Zarahemla (also called the Mulekites).

Besides the Mulekites, Lehi's group, and the Jaredites, there were likely other groups of people who came to the American continent.



“We must be careful in the conclusions that we reach. The Book of Mormon teaches the history of three distinct peoples ... who came from the old world to this continent. It does not tell us that there was no one here before them. It does not tell us that people did not come after. And so if discoveries are made which suggest differences in race origins, it can very easily be accounted for, and reasonably, for we do believe that other people came to this continent.”

Anthony W. Ivins





The Book of Mormon does not claim to be the record of all peoples who inhabited the ancient Americas. Besides the Jaredites, Mulekites, and Lehi's group, there were likely other groups of people who came to the American continent.



Coriantumr

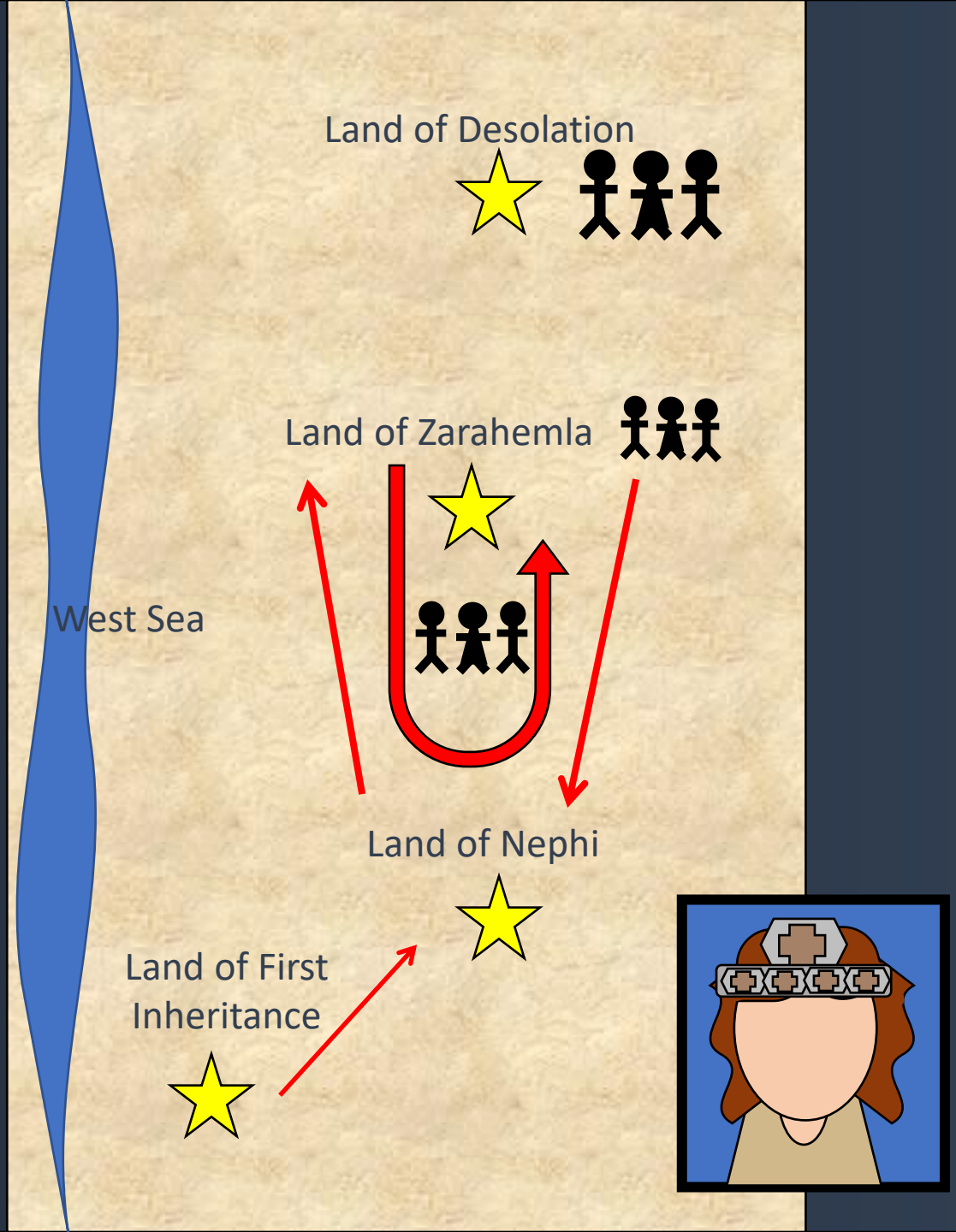
The people of Zarahemla encountered Coriantumr, who was one of the last two survivors of the Jaredite nation (the other was the prophet Ether).

Land of Desolation= “bones lay scattered”—Jaredite People—they were destroyed

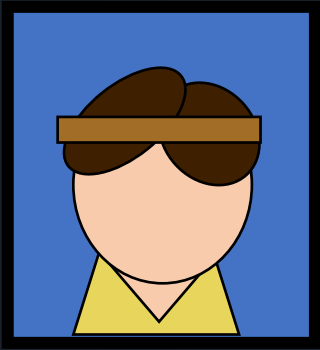
There were two groups from Zarahemla who attempted to return to the land of Nephi.

The first group failed and went back to Zarahemla.

As Amaleki closed his record, he mentioned that he did not know the fate of the second group.



An Invitation



Amaleki concluded his record.

He wrote an important invitation to those who would read his words.

Believe in the prophesying...
revelation...
ministering of angels...
gift of speaking with tongues...
gift of interpreting languages...
believing all things which are good...

**All Good comes from
the Lord**



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

Come Unto Him

If we come unto Christ and offer our whole souls unto Him, we will be saved.

Partake of His Salvation

The Power of Redemption

“When we covenant to live the law of sacrifice we are announcing that our sacrifice will in like manner be one of complete submission and total dedication.”

JFM and RLM



Sources:

Book of Mormon Student Manual Religion 121-122 pg. 147

Joseph Fielding McConkie and Robert L. Millet Doctrinal Commentary on the Book of Mormon
Vol. 2 pg. 106-110

Dieter F. Uchtdorf (“Continue in Patience,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2010, 58

Anthony W. Ivins (in Conference Report, Apr. 1929, 15).

Come Unto Christ:

Each of us is to come to Christ with ... uncompromised commitment to His gospel. ... In the vernacular of today's youth, we are to declare ourselves "all in."
(Jeffrey R. Holland, "The Greatest Possession," *Liahona*, Nov. 2021, 8)

Sacrifice:

\Real, personal sacrifice never was placing an animal on the altar. Instead, it is a willingness to put the animal in us upon the altar and letting it be consumed!
(Neal A. Maxwell, "Deny Yourselves of All Ungodliness," *Ensign*, May 1995, 68)

Giving our Will to the Lord:

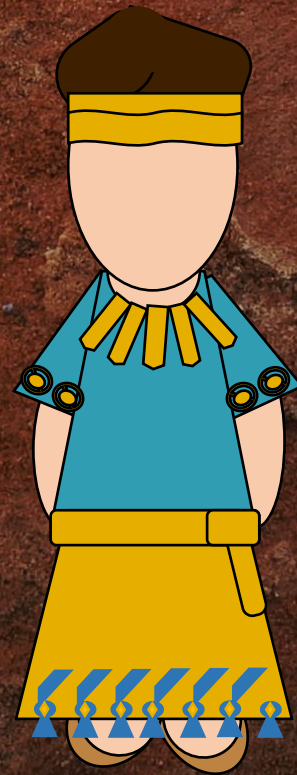
Giving our will to the Lord is something we do every day. It is not an isolated act. It is not the end, but just the beginning. We can say what He wants said. We can do what He wants done. We can be a witness to the world of God's Beloved Son—all because we *want* to do these things. When this change happens in our heart, our gratitude for the Atonement increases so much that we are strengthened by it continually. (Russell T. Osguthorpe, "I Will Give Myself to Him" [Church Educational System devotional for young adults, Nov. 3, 2013])

Submit to God:

As you submit your wills to God, you are giving Him the *only* thing you *can* actually give Him that is really yours to give. (Neal A. Maxwell, "Remember How Merciful the Lord Hath Been," *Ensign*, May 2004, 46)

Words of Mormon

A Bridge Between the Small and Large Plates



Mormon discovered the small plates of Nephi after he had already made an abridgment of part of the Nephite records.

This Book

Serves as a bridge between the small plates of Nephi (1 Nephi–Omni) and Mormon's abridgment of the large plates of Nephi (Mosiah–4 Nephi).

An understanding of which records Mormon abridged as he compiled the Book of Mormon.

This Book also introduces the faith and accomplishments of King Benjamin.

Who wrote this book?

Mormon

He was a prophet, a record keeper, and the abridger and compiler of the Book of Mormon.

He was also a righteous father and a military leader among the Nephites.

The prophet Moroni was his son.



On a Scale of 1-10

1

10

I believe in God.

I believe that He knows all things and has all power.

I believe that He prepares a way for me to succeed in my life.

I feel I can trust the counsel and promptings He gives me through the Holy Ghost.

A Prompting



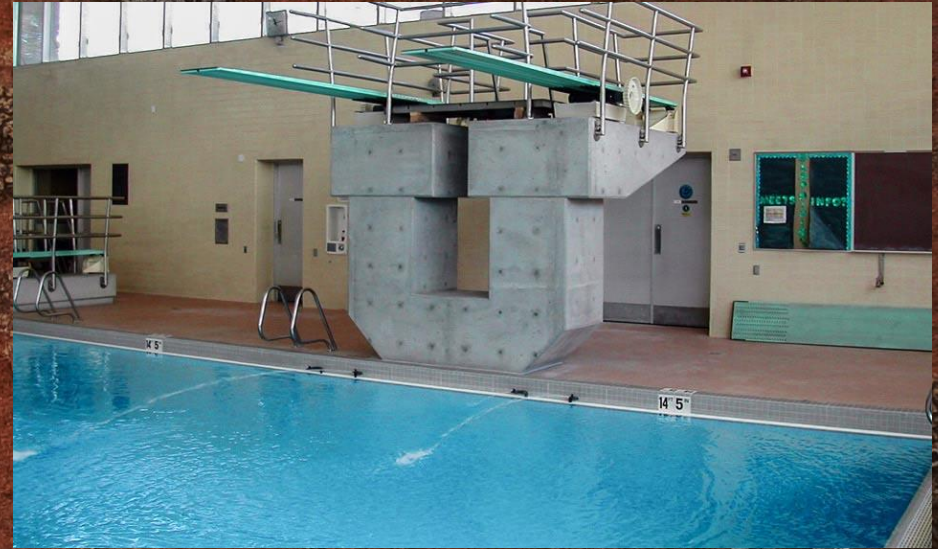
“On one occasion many years ago, I was swimming laps at the old Deseret Gym in Salt Lake City when I felt the inspiration to go to the University Hospital to visit a good friend of mine who had lost the use of his lower limbs because of a malignancy and the surgery which followed.

I immediately left the pool, dressed, and was soon on my way to see this good man...” Thomas S. Monson



“When I arrived at his room, I found that it was empty. Upon inquiry I learned that I would probably find him in the swimming pool area of the hospital, an area which was used for physical therapy.

Such turned out to be the case. He had guided himself there in his wheelchair and was the only occupant of the room. He was on the far side of the pool, near the deep end. I called to him, and he maneuvered his wheelchair over to greet me. We had an enjoyable visit, and I accompanied him back to his hospital room, where I gave him a blessing.



“I learned later from my friend that he had been utterly despondent that day and had been contemplating taking his own life. He had prayed for relief but began to feel that his prayers had gone unanswered. He went to the pool with the thought that this would be a way to end his misery—by guiding his wheelchair into the deep end of the pool. I had arrived at a critical moment, in response to what I know was inspiration from on high.

“... How pleased I am to have been an instrument in the Lord’s hands on that critical day at the swimming pool.”

Spiritual promptings are often quiet feelings or thoughts and that it may sometimes be difficult to know whether thoughts that we have come from us or from the Holy Ghost. Either way, if we have a thought or feeling to do something good, we should do it.



Mormon followed a prompting from the Spirit even though he did not understand all the reasons why he needed to do it.

Future Audience

Mormon addressed a future audience, with hope that his writings and the writings of his son Moroni “may profit them” (Words of Mormon 1:2).

Specifically, he wrote for the benefit of the Lamanites.

Mormon wrote this book in about AD 385, after having “witnessed almost all the destruction of [his] people, the Nephites”

Mormon did not record where he was when he wrote this book.

“My prayer to God is concerning my brethren, that they may once again come to the knowledge of God, yea, the redemption of Christ; that they may once again be a delightsome people”



500 Years After Amaleki

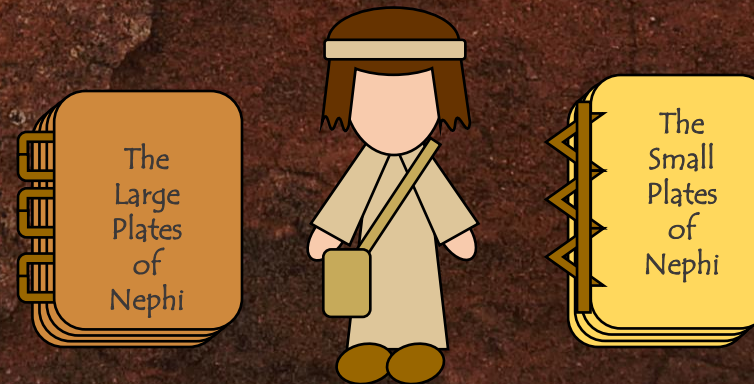
This short book interrupts the chronological order of books at the beginning of the Book of Mormon.

In this book, Mormon briefly explains his compilation and abridgment of the records of his people.

Remember that the Lord commanded Nephi to make two sets of plates for a “special” and “wise” purpose (see 1 Nephi 9:3, 5). One set of plates, often called the large plates, contained the secular history of the Nephites, while the other set, often called the small plates, contained a sacred record of the Nephites’ preaching, revelations, and prophecies (see 1 Nephi 9:2–4; Jacob 1:3–4).

Mormon discovered the small plates of Nephi after he had already made an abridgment of part of the large plates (see Words of Mormon 1:3).

Guided by the Spirit of the Lord, Mormon included the small plates with his abridgment of the large plates. He did this “for a wise purpose,” according to the Lord’s will (see Words of Mormon 1:4–7).



Joseph Smith Translated the Book

Joseph Smith started with Mormon's abridgment of the large plates of Nephi—the secular history.

Martin Harris, who was the Prophet's scribe for this portion of the translation, lost 116 pages of the manuscript.

The Lord revealed to Joseph Smith that wicked men had obtained those pages and changed the words (see D&C 10:8–10).

If Joseph had translated the same material again, those men would have claimed that he was not a prophet because he could not translate the book the same way twice (see D&C 10:11–19).

The Lord told Joseph not to translate that part again but to translate the small plates of Nephi that Mormon had included with his abridgment of the large plates (see D&C 10:30–45).

Thus, Words of Mormon helps us see how the Lord prepared a way to frustrate the plan of wicked men and to include scripture that not only covered the same time period as the lost manuscript but provided “greater views upon [the Lord's] gospel” (D&C 10:45).



Mormon

He was born around AD 310

At 10 years of age, he was visited by Ammaron (the Prophet who had the responsibility of the records) and gave Mormon the records (Mormon 1:2)

The following year Mormon was taken to Zarahemla by his father, also called Mormon

At age 15 he was visited by Jesus (Mormon 1:15)

He commanded the Nephite forces from the time he was sixteen until the final battle at Cumorah (Mormon 2:1-2)

At age 24 he went and got the plates and started to abridge the Nephite records

He was chosen to finalize the ultimate structure and content of the Book of Mormon, with the help of his son, Moroni

He witnessed the destruction of nearly a half million of his people (Mormon 6)

Mormon was killed by the Lamanites around AD 385 (Mormon 8:3,5) leaving Moroni to finish the work of the Lord

Who's Who



From Lehi to Benjamin

Two Assignments

1. Continue to record his own days on the large plates
2. He was to abridge the large plates themselves, writing this abridged record on what we now call the plates of Mormon



Intent and Choice

These things--Small Plates

To persuade men and women to come unto the God of their fathers and be saved.



Choosing those principles which are most important

The details of the story of the Nephites from the days of Amaleki to the end of Benjamin's reign (and the coronation of his son, Mosiah) are on the large plates



When someone writes in their journal and records how they felt, they usually write what is most important to them

A Wise Purpose--Influence of the Holy Ghost

Mormon included prophecies and revelations with his collection for “a wise purpose” in the Lord



Book of Lehi

Mormon had perfect confidence in the power of the Book of Mormon to turn men to Christ; to touch the hearts of sincere reader; to make all men “a delightsome people”

The Lord instructed Nephi to begin the small plates and Mormon to include the small plates, this because He knew that through the machinations (schemes) of the ungodly the 116 pages of manuscript would be lost to the Prophets Joseph Smith.

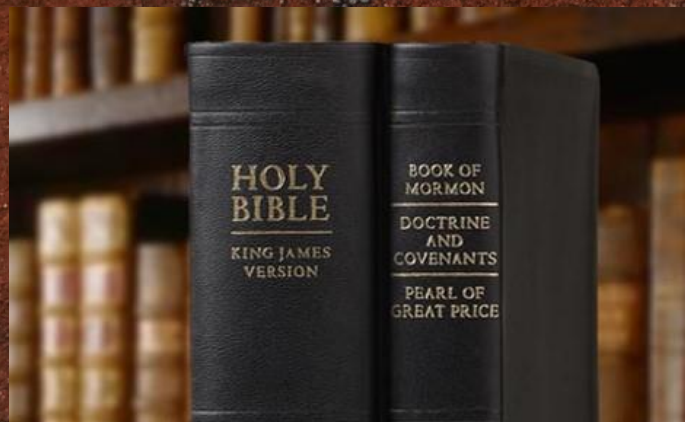
Records Preserved--Men Judged

Mormon knew that records had been preserved and that they would be preserved in the future

Mormon testifies that his brethren will be judged in the last days



“Men are judged according to the light and knowledge they have received”
D&C 20:13-14



Members of the Church

In the dispensation of the fulness of times will be judged by the doctrines and standards set forth in the Bible, the Book of Mormon, The Doctrine and Covenants, the Pearl of Great Price, and words of the living oracles

JMF and RLM



King Benjamin

Mormon said a few things about King Benjamin:

The contentions with his own people

The contentions with the Lamanites



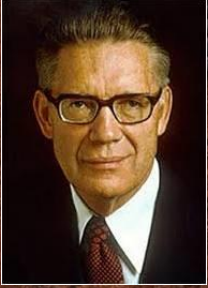
King Benjamin is best remembered as a powerful spiritual figure and also a courageous defender of the liberties of his people.

The Sword of Laban

King Benjamin led armies to battle against the Lamanites and wielded the sword with his own arm in their defense



False Christs



“A false Christ is not a person. It is a false system of worship; a false church...”
Bruce R. McConkie

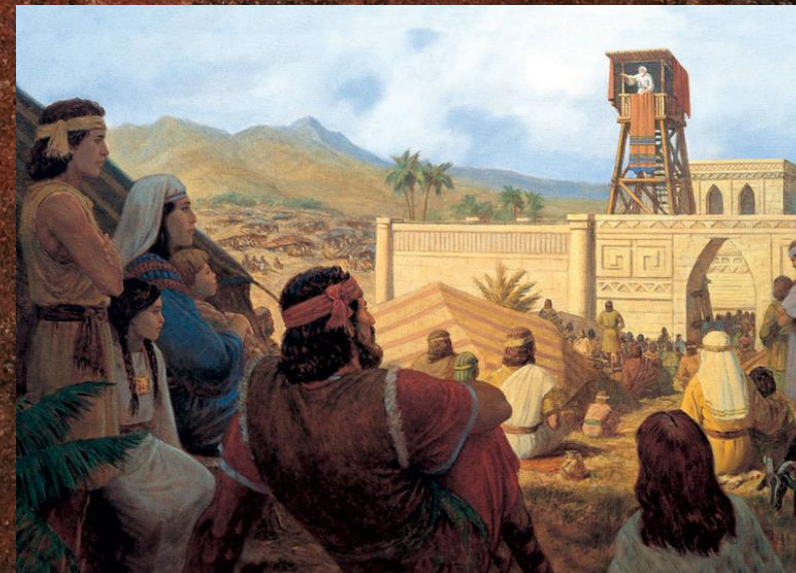


The Savior warns us against false Christs:

“...there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.”

Matthew 24:24

Mormon recognizes that through all of King Benjamin's labors the people did once again establish peace in the land



Sources:

Thomas S. Monson, "Consider the Blessings," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2012, 87

Joseph Fielding McConkie and Robert L. Millet Doctrinal Commentary on the Book of Mormon Vol. 2 pg. 123

Bruce R. McConkie *Millennial Messiah* pg 47-48

Who's Who (Book of Mormon) Ed J. Pinegar and Richard J. Allen pg 122-123

Increasing a desire to respond to spiritual promptings:

We must be confident in our first promptings. Sometimes we rationalize; we wonder if we are feeling a spiritual impression or if it is just our own thoughts. When we begin to second-guess, even third-guess, our feelings—and we all have—we are dismissing the Spirit; we are questioning divine counsel. ...

If we pay attention to the promptings that come to us, we will grow in the spirit of revelation and receive more and more Spirit-driven insight and direction. The Lord has said, “Put your trust in that Spirit which leadeth to do good” [Doctrine and Covenants 11:12]. (Ronald A. Rasband, “Let the Holy Spirit Guide,” *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2017, 95–96)

Mosiah 1
Were it Not For
These Plates



Mosiah

Mosiah was the father to King Benjamin and grandfather to Mosiah II and a descendent of Lehi

He lived in the southern area of the country where Lehi and his group from Jerusalem had first settled in the Promised Land.

He was warned of the Lord to leave the land (the land of Nephi) and fled north to Zarahemla

He and his followers discovered a people who were descendants of Mulek, the lone surviving son of King Zedekiah of Judah (Omni 1:16)

Mosiah carried the sacred records to preserve the written language of his forebears and the record of God's dealing with His people

He was active around 279 BC to 130 BC and the people brought to him a "large stone" displaying engravings that Mosiah was able to interpret. The stone told of the last days of Coriantumr, the final Jaredite ruler, who had been discovered by the people of Zarahemla and dwelt among them for the better part of a year

He was appointed king over the people and his son, King Benjamin, was his successor



King Benjamin

He was the son of the first Mosiah who was commanded of the Lord to depart from the land of Nephi.

He received custody of the sacred records from Amaleki and established peace in the land of Zarahemla

He taught his three sons, Mosiah II, Helorum, and Helaman the importance of the scriptures

He led armies to battle against the Lamanites and wielded the sword (the sword of Laban) with his own arm in their defense

He was one of the most beloved and oft-quoted personalities in the Book of Mormon

His discourse to his people, given about 124 BC, describes a Christ-centered life of service and spiritual integrity

Through revelation, his discourse is one of the most celebrated gospel sermons ever recorded (Mosiah 2:17)

Before his death he appointed Mosiah II to be king of the land and he gave the people a new name: “The name of Christ”



Mosiah II

Mosiah was a son of King Benjamin.

He was named after his grandfather Mosiah, who was also a king of Zarahemla (see Omni 1:12–13, 19).

He was 30 years old when he began his reign as king, and he was the last of the Nephite kings.

He was taught by his father in the ways of the Lord

Mosiah was a prophet, seer, revelator, and king who ruled in Zarahemla from approximately 124 to 91 BC

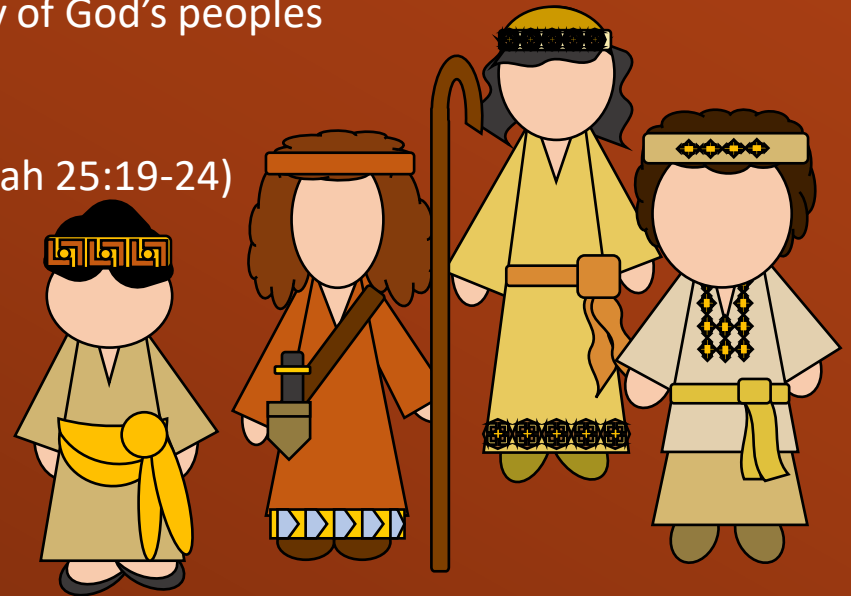
Because of his gift to translate ancient records his people benefited from the history of God's peoples over the ages

He gave authority to Alma the Elder to organize 7 congregations in Zarahemla (Mosiah 25:19-24)

He had 4 sons—Ammon, Aaron, Omner, and Himni

He originated the program to have governing judges instead of kings

He died at age 63 (Mosiah 29:46)



Book of Mosiah

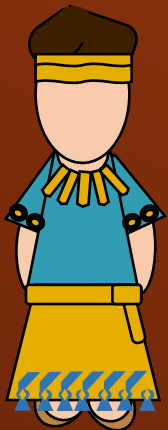
The book is named for Mosiah, who was a son of King Benjamin.

Mormon compiled and abridged the records of several other writers to create the Book of Mosiah.

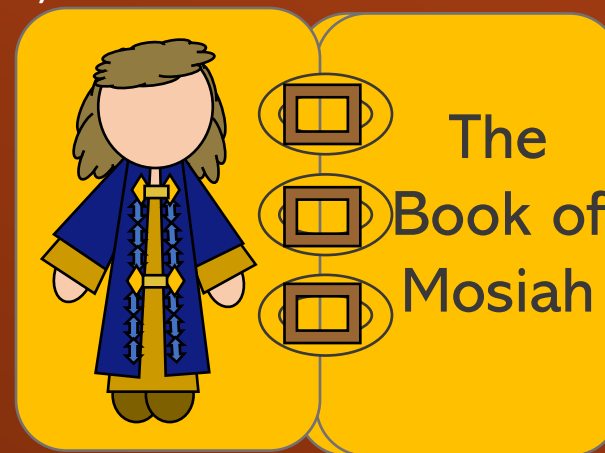
Mormon drew from a number of records to compile the Book of Mosiah. He abridged and quoted from the record kept by Mosiah on the large plates of Nephi, which detailed the history of the Nephite's in the land of Zarahemla (see Mosiah 1–7; 25–29).

He also drew from the record of Zeniff, which recounts the history of Zeniff's people from the time they left Zarahemla until they returned (see Mosiah 7–22).

Mormon quoted from and abridged portions of the writings of Alma, who preserved the words of Abinadi and kept a record of his own people (see Mosiah 17:4; 18; 23–24).



Written about 200 to 91 BC

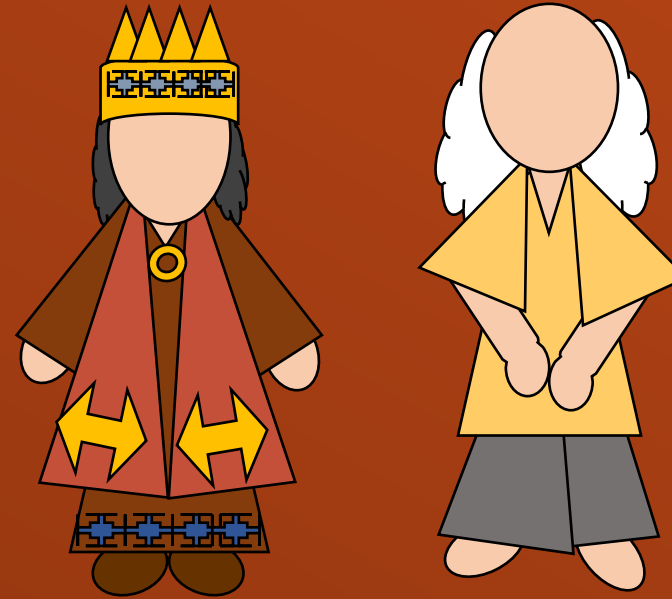


The Mission Statement

The book of Mosiah includes two discourses on the mission of Jesus Christ:

The words of King Benjamin in Mosiah 2–5

and the words of Abinadi in Mosiah 12–16.



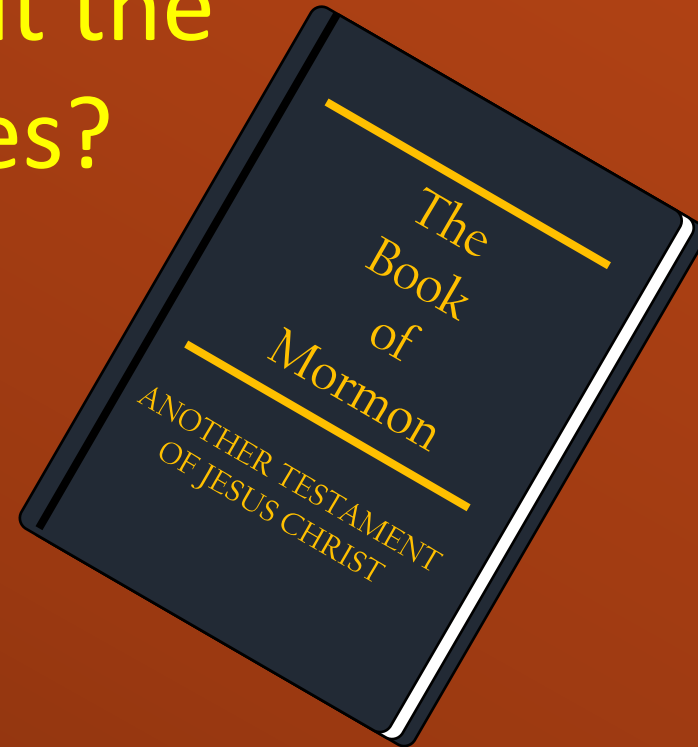
Mosiah is the first book that is an abridgement from the large plates of Nephi

The Book of Mosiah teaches about the abilities of a seer

The Book of Mosiah teaches about separate Nephite groups—those in Zarahemla, and in the Land of Nephi—Zeniff, Noah, Limhi, Alma, and Abinidi

The Book of Mosiah introduces the “Reign of the Judges”

What would your life be
like without the
scriptures?



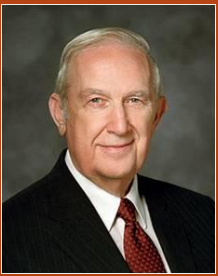
“Don’t yield to Satan’s lie that you don’t have time to study the scriptures.

Choose to take time to study them.

Feasting on the word of God each day is more important than sleep, school, work, television shows, video games, or social media.

You may need to reorganize your priorities to provide time for the study of the word of God. If so, do it!”

Richard G. Scott



If we do not read the scriptures continually, then we can gradually lose our faith. We will profit by searching the scriptures diligently

King Benjamin Teaches His Sons

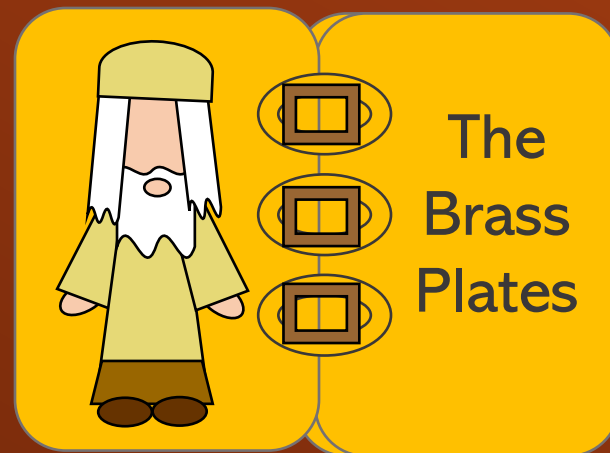
To learn from the scriptures in the language of his fathers

To learn about the commandments of God

That the records are true

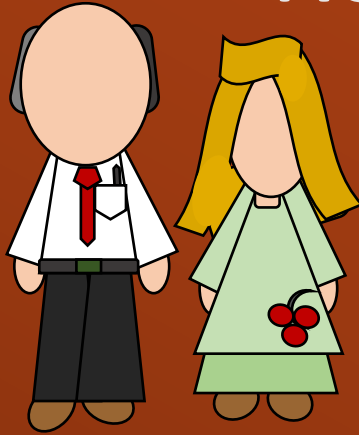
To search them diligently

Keep the commandments and
Prosper in the land



The Best Memory is no match for the written word

Responsibility of Parents



Teach their children the commandments of God

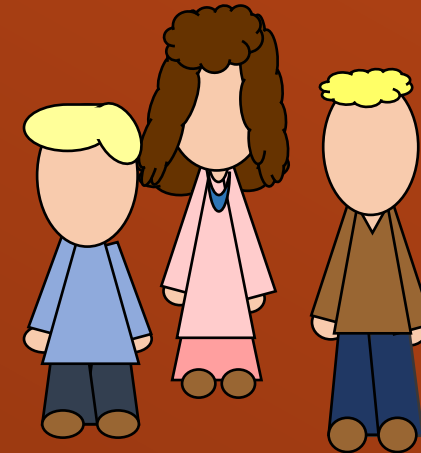
“Parenting is a godly responsibility necessary for the salvation of Father’s children and important for our preparation for eternal blessings.”

Patricia P. Pinegar



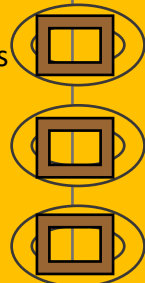
“You need more than your own wisdom in rearing [your children]. You need the help of the Lord. Pray for that help and follow the inspiration which you receive”

Gordon B. Hinckley



“And they shall also teach their children to pray, and to walk uprightly before the Lord”
(D&C 68:28).

“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”
(Mosiah 4:15).



**Our
Family
Book**



Passing the torch:

Each generation passes the “truth and light” to their children

Before I Die



Three years prior to his death Adam called the righteous of his posterity to a grand council

“...he called Seth, Enos, Cainan, Mahalaleel, Jared, Enoch, and Methuselah, who were all ^ahigh priests, with the residue of his posterity who were righteous, into the valley of ^bAdam-ondi-Ahman, and there bestowed upon them his last blessing.”
D&C 107:53



“And Jacob (Israel) called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you *that* which shall befall you in the last days.”
Genesis 49



“And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die, *and go unto my fathers; and I go down to my grave with joy. ...*”
JTS Genesis 50:24

Last Blessings



“And this *is* the blessing,
wherewith Moses the man of God blessed the
children of Israel before his death.”
Deut. 33



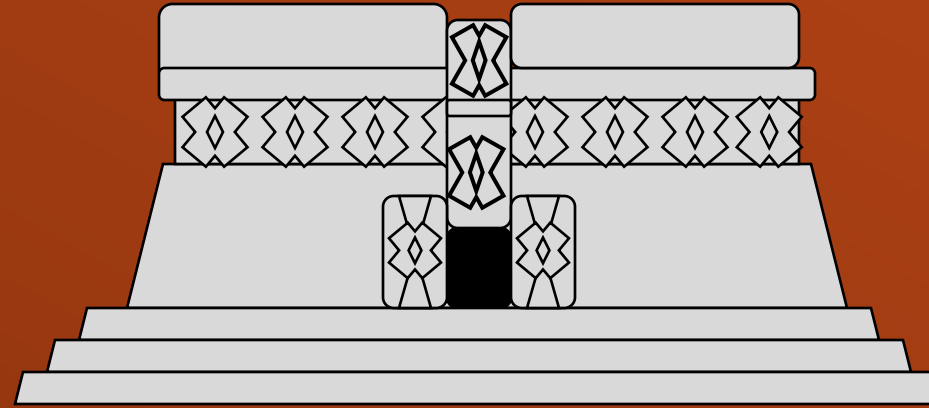
“...that he waxed old, and he saw that he
must very soon go the way of all the
earth; therefore, he thought it expedient
that he should confer the kingdom upon
one of his sons.

Therefore, he had Mosiah brought
before him; and these are the words
which he spake unto him, saying: My
son, I would that ye should make a
proclamation throughout all this land
among all this people, or the people of
Zarahemla,...



To Be A King and A Ruler

Mosiah is asked to make a proclamation to all his people—the people of Zarahemla

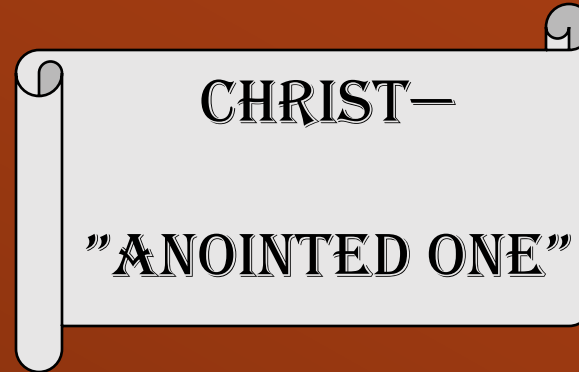


He was asked to gather all the people in the land

Then Mosiah was designated a king and a ruler

A Name Be Given

A name that they may be distinguished
above all the people



Those upon whom the title is
properly conferred are rightful
heirs of the powers and privileges
associated with the name

Conditions of acquiring this name:
Those who are righteous and keep the law of all
covenant, contracts, bonds, etc that are sealed
by the Holy Spirit of promise.
See D&C 132:7

CHRIST—

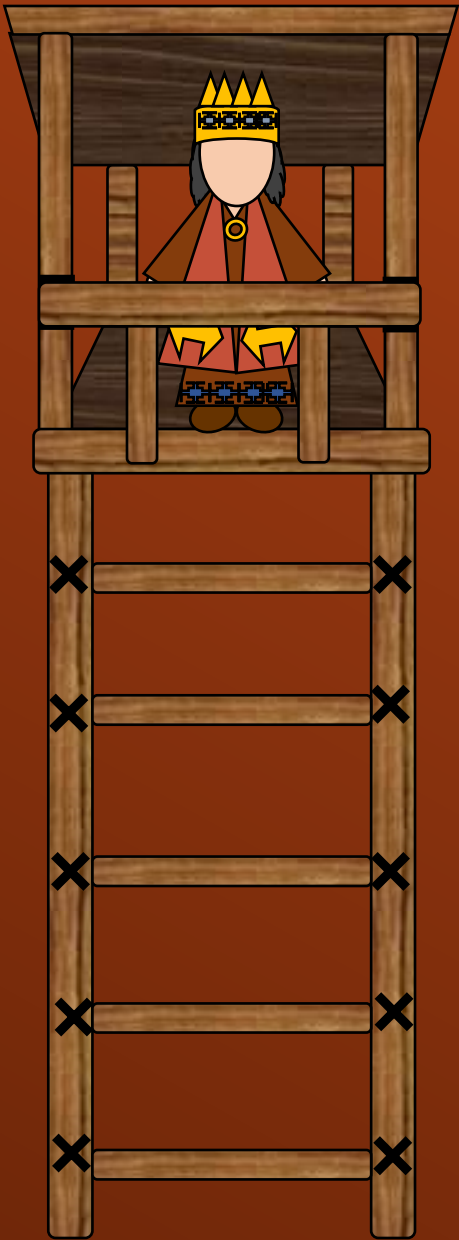
”ANOINTED ONE”

“As his followers, we cannot do a mean or shoddy or ungracious thing without tarnishing his image. Nor can we do a good and gracious and generous act without burnishing more rightly the symbol of him whose name we have taken upon ourselves.”

Gordon B. Hinckley



Questions Mosiah 1:10-18



What announcement did King Benjamin plan to make about his son Mosiah?

To make Mosiah a King and a Ruler over the people

What did King Benjamin say about “a name” to distinguish the people?

That they were diligent in keeping the commandments

Why hadn't the Nephites been destroyed by the Lamanites?

The Lord had 'extended his arm' in the preservation of their fathers and they had been faithful

What objects did King Benjamin ask Mosiah to take care of?

The plates of Nephi, the Sword of Laban, and the ball or director (Liahona)

Sources:

Patricia P. Pinegar *Caring for the Souls of Children* April 1997 Gen. Conf

Gordon B. Hinckley (“The Fabric and Faith of Testimony,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1995, 89).
Be Thou An Example pg 90

Who’s Who in the Book of Mormon by Ed J. Pinegar and Richard J. Allen

Richard G. Scott, “Make the Exercise of Faith Your First Priority,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2014, 93).

The Entire Book of Mosiah is Chiastically Arranged.

The following outline is based on Welch (1969):

- A. King Benjamin exhorts his sons
- B. Mosiah chosen to succeed his father
- C. Mosiah receives the records
- D. Benjamin's speech and the words of the angel
- E. People enter into a covenant
- F. Priests consecrated
- G. Ammon leaves Zarahemla for the land of Lehi-Nephi
- H. People in bondage. Ammon put in prison
- I. The 24 gold plates
- J. The record of Zeniff begins as he leaves Zarahemla
- K. Defense against the Lamanites
- L. Noah and his priests
- M. Abinadi persecuted and thrown into prison
- N. Abinadi reads old law to priests**
- N' Abinadi makes his own prophecies**
- M' Abinadi persecuted and killed
- L' Noah and his priests
- K' Lamanites threaten the people of Limhi
- J' Record of Zeniff ends as he leaves the land of Lehi-Nephi
- I' The 24 gold plates
- H' People of Alma in bondage
- G' Alma leaves the land of Lehi-Nephi for Zarahemla
- F' The church organized by Alma
- E' Unbelievers refuse to enter covenant
- D' The words of Alma and the words of the angel of the Lord
- C' Alma the Younger receives the records
- B' Judges chosen instead of a king
- A' Mosiah exhorts his people

According to Welch's analysis, the theme of repentance, as delivered by the prophet Abinadi [through the reading of the law and the proclamation of prophecy], is the chiastic center of the book of Mosiah. [Raymond C. Treat, "Chiasms in the Book of Mormon," in Recent Book of Mormon Developments, Vol. 1, pp. 64, 67]

The Entire Book of Mosiah is Chiastically Arranged.

The following outline is based on Welch (1969):

- A. King Benjamin exhorts his sons
- B. Mosiah chosen to succeed his father
- C. Mosiah receives the records
- D. Benjamin's speech and the words of the angel
- E. People enter into a covenant
- F. Priests consecrated
- G. Ammon leaves Zarahemla for the land of Lehi-Nephi
- H. People in bondage. Ammon put in prison
- I. The 24 gold plates
- J. The record of Zeniff begins as he leaves Zarahemla
- K. Defense against the Lamanites
- L. Noah and his priests
- M. Abinadi persecuted and thrown into prison
- N. Abinadi reads old law to priests**
- N' Abinadi makes his own prophecies**
- M' Abinadi persecuted and killed
- L' Noah and his priests
- K' Lamanites threaten the people of Limhi
- J' Record of Zeniff ends as he leaves the land of Lehi-Nephi
- I' The 24 gold plates
- H' People of Alma in bondage
- G' Alma leaves the land of Lehi-Nephi for Zarahemla
- F' The church organized by Alma
- E' Unbelievers refuse to enter covenant
- D' The words of Alma and the words of the angel of the Lord
- C' Alma the Younger receives the records
- B' Judges chosen instead of a king
- A' Mosiah exhorts his people

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