# The Church of Jesus Christ

# Scriptural Lessons

Taken from the

**Book of Mormon** 

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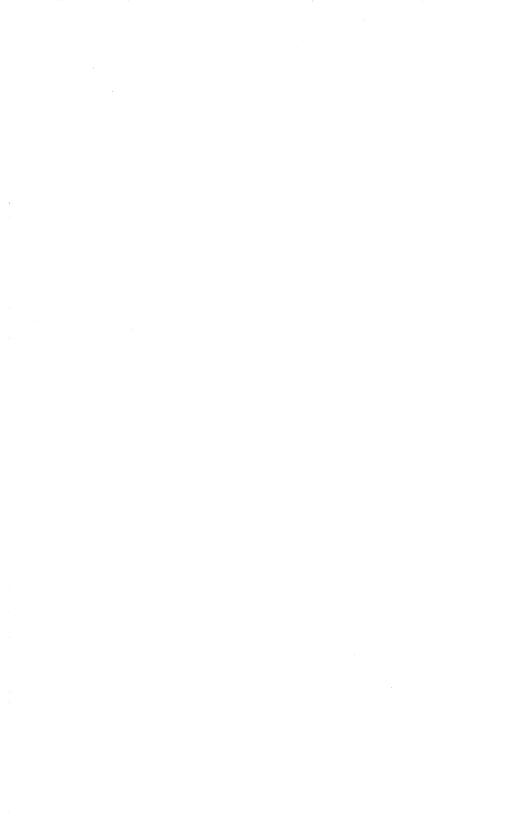
# **Book of Mormon**

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# **Preface**

The contents of this "Lesson Book" are lessons arranged from the Book of Mormon. They are very appropriate for Sabbath School study, also for the Missionary Benevolent Association, and for the Ladies' Uplift Circle. In fact, these lessons will prove to be very instructive for both old and young. We recommend them to all, and especially to the members of The Church of Jesus Christ.

The material that can be purchased from the various Publishing Houses is not always suitable or agreeable to our understanding of the Word of God, hence, the need of literature in lesson form for instruction among our people.

These lessons were composed by Brothers John and Thomas Ross of Aliquippa, PA, and were examined by a committee of brethren delegated to become thoroughly conversant with their texts in order to properly instruct others or their classes.

### The Confounding of Languages

Lesson 1 Ether 1

Many years passed after the flood, and the earth began to be repopulated. On a great plain lived many people, and they said, "Let us build a tower that the top may reach unto heaven. Let us make a name lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the earth." But the Lord came down to see the city and tower which the children of men were building. And the Lord saw that they had but one language. Then he confounded their language so they could not understand each other. This confused them so they had to stop building the tower. The place was called Babel because the Lord confounded the language of all the earth. And from thence, the Lord scattered them abroad upon the face of all the earth. In the Book of Mormon – the Book of Ether, we read of two brothers. One was called Jared, and the other is known as the brother of Jared. This brother of Jared was a large and mighty man. He was highly favored of the Lord. Jared, his brother, said unto him, "Pray unto the Lord that He will not confound us that we may not understand our words." And the brother of Jared did pray to the Lord. And the Lord had compassion upon them, and He did not confound the language of the two brothers nor their families. Then Jared said to his brother, "Pray again to the Lord for those who are our friends and it may be that He will turn away His anger from them so that He may not confound their language." And again the brother of Jared prayed to the Lord and the Lord answered his prayer so that their friends and their families also were not confounded. Again Jared told his brother to pray to the Lord and to ask Him whether He would drive them out of that land, and if so, to ask the Lord where they should go. Then Jared said, "And who knows maybe the Lord will carry us forth unto a land which is choice above all the earth?" Then he said unto them, "And if so, let us be faithful to the Lord, that we may receive it for our inheritance." And the brother of Jared did pray to the Lord and did ask Him the things that Jared had spoken. The Lord again heard the prayer of the brother of Jared and spoke to him and said, "Go gather together your family and the family of your brother, Jared, and also your friends and their families, and the friends

of Jared and their families. And gather together all your flocks, both male and female, of every kind. And also the seed of the earth, of every kind. When you have done this you shall lead them down into a valley which is northward and there will I meet you. And I will lead you into a land which is choice above all other lands of the earth. On this land I will bless all of you and will make a great nation of you. There shall be none greater than you. All these things will I do unto you because you have prayed unto Me for a long time."

- 1. What did the people build many years after the flood?
- 2. Who interrupted their work?
- 3. How did He?
- 4. What was the city called?
- 5. Where did they go when the Lord scattered them?
- 6. Whom do we read of in the Book of Mormon?
- 7. What were the names of these brothers?
- 8. What kind of man was the brother of Jared?
- 9. Was he highly favored of the Lord?
- 10. What did Jared tell his brother to do when the Lord was going to confound the language of the people?
- 11. Did the brother of Jared do so?
- 12. What was the result?
- 13. Then what did Jared tell his brother to do for his friends?
- 14. Did the Lord answer the prayer of the brother of Jared again?
- 15. How did He?
- 16. What did Jared tell his brother to do again?
- 17. What kind of land did they desire to inherit?
- 18. Did the Lord answer the brother of Jared?
- 19. What did the Lord say they were to do?
- 20. And when they had done this, where was the brother of Jared to lead them?
- 21. What would the Lord do when they would arrive at this valley?
- 22. Where would the Lord lead them?
- 23. And what did God promise them when they would reach this

choice land?

- 24. Why did the Lord do all these things?
- 25. What must we do when we want something?

## The Journey Started

Lesson 2 Ether 2

It came to pass that Jared, his brother and their families, and their friends and their families started on their journey towards the valley which was northward. They took with them their flocks which they had gathered and also seeds of every kind. The name of this valley was called Nimrod – being called after a mighty hunter named Nimrod. On their journey to the Valley Nimrod, they did lay snares and did catch fowls of the air. They also made a vessel in which they carried with them the fish of the waters. They also took with them swarms of bees. When they reached the Valley Nimrod, the Lord came down in a cloud and talked with the brother of Jared. The brother of Jared could hear the Lord, but could not see Him. The Lord spoke and commanded them to go forth in the wilderness and to go into the part of the wilderness where men had never been. And the Lord went before them in a cloud and He instructed them as to what course they should travel. While traveling through the wilderness, they built barges to cross the many waters, or the sea. The hand of the Lord directed them continually in their journey, because the Lord wanted them to come and inherit this choice land of America, which is choice above all other lands upon the face of the earth. The Lord also told the brother of Jared that whatsoever nation should possess this land of America must serve Him. And if the people that possessed this land would not serve Him, then the Lord would destroy that people. So it came to pass that they crossed the wilderness, and they came by the great sea which divided that land from this land. Then they pitched their tents by the seashore, and after they had settled themselves, they forgot the Lord their God. Instead of their coming directly to America. they were made to stay by the seashore for the space of four years,

because they had forgotten the Lord. And at the end of the fourth year by the seashore, the Lord came in a cloud and spoke to the brother of Jared again. For the space of three hours did the Lord talk with him. And the Lord did chasten him because he had forgotten to call upon the name of the Lord. Then the brother of Jared repented of the evil that he had done and he did call upon the Lord and asked the Lord to forgive them one and all, because of the evil that they had done. And the Lord answered and said, "I will forgive you and all your brethren of your sins, but do not sin anymore."

- 1. Did the brother of Jared and all who were with him start on their journey?
- 2. What did they take with them?
- 3. What was the name of this valley to which they were going?
- 4. Whom was it named after?
- 5. While on their journey towards the Valley Nimrod, what else did they do?
- 6. When they reached the Valley Nimrod, who came down and talked with the brother of Jared?
- 7. Did the brother of Jared see the Lord?
- 8. Why?
- 9. Where did the Lord command them to go?
- 10. What part of the wilderness?
- 11. Who directed their course?
- 12. How did they cross the waters that they met while on their journey?
- 13. Did the hand of the Lord direct them continually?
- 14. Why?
- 15. Which land is choice above all other lands?
- 16. What does the Lord want of the people that possess this land?
- 17. What did the Lord say He would do if the people on this land would not serve Him?
- 18. When they had crossed the wilderness, where did they stop?
- 19. Did they remember the Lord after they settled themselves by the seashore?
- 20. How long did they stay on the seashore?

- 21. When did the Lord appear to the brother of Jared again?
- 22. How long did He talk with him?
- 23. Why did the Lord chasten the brother of Jared?
- 24. Did the brother of Jared repent of this evil?
- 25. What did the brother of Jared ask the Lord to do to them?
- 26. What did the Lord answer?
- 27. Whom must we ask for forgiveness when we sin?

# The Jaredites Prepare to Cross the Sea

Lesson 3 Ether 2

After the Lord had chastened the brother of Jared and had forgiven them of their evils, He further instructed the brother of Jared saying, "Go to work and build barges as you have done before." So the Jaredites (as we call them from now on) began to build these barges according to the instructions of the Lord. These barges were small and light upon the waters just like a fowl. They were watertight and were peaked at both ends. The scripture tells us that they were as long as a tree. There was one door in each, and it was made so that when closed, it would also be watertight. After they built eight barges, the brother of Jared cried to the Lord and said, "O Lord, I have performed the work which Thou hast commanded me. But in the barges, there is no light. How shall we steer them? Surely we will perish because we cannot get any air." And the Lord answered and said, "You shall make two holes in each barge - one in the top and one in the bottom. When you need air, always unstop the hole that is above the water. If water starts to come in when you have unstopped the hole, close the hole again so that you may not perish in these great waters." Again the brother of Jared cried to the Lord because there was no light in the barges. He said, "O Lord wilt Thou suffer us to cross these great waters in darkness?" And the Lord answered him and said, "What do you want me to do so that you may have light? You cannot have any windows because they would be dashed to pieces, and you cannot take any fire with you. Therefore you cannot go by the light of fire. For behold, you shall be like a whale in the middle of the sea and mountains of waves shall dash upon you. Nevertheless I, the Lord, will bring you up again out of the depths of the sea, because I have made the winds and all the waters and they must obey Me. Unless I prepare the way before you, you could never cross the deep sea." So the Lord questioned the brother of Jared again and said, "What do you want me to prepare for you so that you may have light when you will be swallowed in the depths of the sea?" The Lord asked the brother of Jared this question so that He might see what he would do or say.

- 1. What did the Lord tell the brother of Jared that they should do?
- 2. What is the name of this people?
- 3. Whose instructions did they follow when building?
- 4. Explain how these barges were made.
- 5. Could water seep in?
- 6. How many barges did they make?
- 7. After they finished building, why did the brother of Jared cry to the Lord?
- 8. What did the Lord tell them to do so they could get air?
- 9. If they would leave the hole open and if water would come in, what would happen?
- 10. Did the brother of Jared repeat his cries for the light, which they did not have?
- 11. What did he say to the Lord?
- 12. What did the Lord answer?
- 13. Why could they not have windows on the barges?
- 14. Could they carry fire with them?
- 15. What were they to be like in the middle of the sea?
- 16. Who would bring them up again out of the depths of the sea?
- 17. Must the sea and winds obey the Lord?
- 18. Why?
- 19. Could they cross the deep sea without the help of the Lord?
- 20. What question did the Lord ask the brother of Jared?
- 21. Why did the Lord ask him this question?

#### The Brother of Jared Goes to Mount Shelem

Lesson 4 Ether 3

After the Lord questioned the brother of Jared as to what He. the Lord, should prepare for them that they might have light when crossing the sea, the brother of Jared went to a mountain called Shelem, because of its exceeding height. And he did melt out of a rock sixteen small stones. These stones were white, clear like transparent glass; and he carried them in his hands to the top of the mountain. Then he cried again to the Lord, saying, "Oh Lord, thou hast said that we must be encompassed about by the floods. Now behold, O Lord, do not be angry with me because of my weakness before Thee, for we know that Thou art holy and dwellest in the heavens and that we are unworthy before Thee and because of the fall our natures have become evil continually. Nevertheless, O Lord, Thou hast given us a commandment that we must call upon Thee, that from Thee we may receive according to our desires. Behold, O Lord, Thou hast smitten us because of our iniquity. Thou hast driven us forth and for these many years we have been in the wilderness. Nevertheless, Thou hast been merciful unto us. O Lord, look upon me in pity and turn away Thy anger from us, Thy people. Do not suffer that we shall go forth across this raging deep in darkness. But look at these things which I have melted out of the rock. I know, O Lord, that Thou hast all power and canst do what Thou desirest for the benefit of man. Therefore, touch these, O Lord, with Thy finger and prepare them that they may shine forth in the darkness. And they shall shine forth unto us in the vessels which we have prepared, that we may have light while we cross the sea. Behold, O Lord, Thou canst do this. We know that Thou art able to show forth great power which looks small unto men's understanding." After the brother of Jared had said these words, the Lord stretched forth His hand and touched the stones one by one with His finger, and the brother of Jared was permitted to see the finger of the Lord. It was as the finger of a man with flesh and blood, and the brother of Jared was struck with fear, and he fell down before the Lord. The Lord saw that he had fallen to the ground and said to him, "Arise, why have you fallen?" And he said, "I saw the finger of the Lord and I

feared lest He should smite me, for I did not know that the Lord had flesh and blood." Then the Lord said to him, "Because of your faith, you have seen that I shall take upon me flesh and blood and never has man come before me with such exceeding faith as you have, for if it were not so, you could not have seen my finger."

- 1. Where did the brother of Jared go?
- 2. Why was this mountain called Shelem?
- 3. What did he melt out of a rock?
- 4. What were these stones like?
- 5. Where did he go with these sixteen small stones?
- 6. Why did he ask the Lord not to be angry with him?
- 7. Where does the Lord dwell?
- 8. Are we worthy before God?
- 9. Why have we become evil?
- 10. What commandment did the Lord give to man?
- 11. And if man calls upon the Lord continually, what does he receive?
- 12. Why did they remain in the wilderness so many years?
- 13. Even then, was the Lord merciful to them?
- 14. In what manner did the brother of Jared want the Lord to look upon him?
- 15. What things did he want the Lord to look upon?
- 16. Who is the one that the brother of Jared points to as having all power?
- 17. What did he want the Lord to do to those stones?
- 18. Why?
- 19. Did he know that the Lord could do that?
- 20. And what did the Lord do?
- 21. What did the brother of Jared see?
- 22. What did the finger of the Lord look like?
- 23. And when he had seen the finger of the Lord, what happened to him?
- 24. What did the Lord tell him to do?
- 25. What did he answer the Lord?

- 26. Why was the brother of Jared permitted to see that the Lord would take upon Himself flesh and blood?
- 27. Did any other man ever go before the Lord with such faith?
- 28. Unless he had such faith, could he have seen God's finger?
- 29. What is faith?

# What Happened on Mount Shelem?

Lesson 5 Ether 3-4

We learned that the brother of Jared saw the finger of the Lord because of his exceeding faith in God. Then the Lord asked him, "Did you see more than My finger?" And he answered, "No, Lord. Show Thyself to me." And the Lord said to him, "Do you believe the words that I shall speak?" And he answered, "Yes, Lord, I know that You speak the truth, for Thou are the God of Truth, and canst not lie." And when he said these words, the Lord showed himself to him. And said, "Because you know these things you are redeemed from the fall. Therefore, you are brought back to my presence. Therefore, I show myself to you. Behold, I am He who was prepared from the foundation of the world to redeem my people. Behold, I am Jesus Christ, I am the Father and the son. In me shall all mankind have light, and that eternally, even they who shall believe in my name and they shall become my sons and daughters. I have never showed myself unto man whom I have created, for never has man believed in me as you have. Do you see that you are created after my own image? Yea, even all men were created in the beginning after my own image. Look, this body which you now see, is the body of my spirit; and I have created man the same as the body of my spirit; and even as I appear to you to be in the spirit will I appear to my people in the flesh." Then the Lord commanded the brother of Jared not to make the things which he had seen and heard known to the world or man. The things he had seen were to be kept secret until after Christ came into the world in the flesh and died upon the cross and rose again from the dead. Then the Lord commanded him to write the things that he had seen and heard, and to seal them up. Thus, no one could interpret them, because only the Jaredites knew that language. Remember, all languages were confounded at Babel. So the Lord gave him two stones, which were to be sealed up with their records, and in God's own due time, these two stones were to be used as interpreters or translators. The Lord also showed the brother of Jared all the inhabitants of the earth or persons who had lived, and all who would be born from that day on. This means that the brother of Jared saw us too. In the Book of Mormon, we do not have one per cent of the Jaredite record; but the Lord said that when the Gentiles would exercise great faith in Him, the same as the brother of Jared, then He would manifest to them all the things that the brother of Jared saw. And the Lord would also unfold all His revelations to them. Therefore, the Lord made the Gentiles a great promise if we exercise great faith in Him, then these records will come forth according to the word of God.

- 1. What did the Lord ask the brother of Jared?
- 2. What did he answer and what did he want the Lord to do?
- 3. What did God then ask him?
- 4. What was his answer?
- 5. What manner of God did he say the Lord was?
- 6. Should we lie?
- 7. What did the Lord do then?
- 8. Why would he be redeemed?
- 9. Since when was the Lord prepared for the redemption of His people?
- 10. What did He say His name was?
- 11. When do men and women become the sons and daughters of God?
- 12. Had the Lord ever showed Himself to man?
- 13. Why not?
- 14. After what image is man created?
- 15. How would the Lord appear to His people?
- 16. Was the brother of Jared to make the things that he had seen and heard known?
- 17. When were they to be made known?

- 18. What did the Lord tell him to do about the things which he had seen and heard?
- 19. Could anyone interpret their writings?
- 20. Why?
- 21. What were the two stones to be used for?
- 22. What else did the brother of Jared see?
- 23. Did he see us?
- 24. How much of the Jaredite record do we have in the Book of Mormon?
- 25. When will the Gentiles receive all the records?

# Arrival of the Jaredites Upon the Promised Land

Lesson 6 Ether 6

After the Lord had prepared the stones to shine and the brother of Jared had seen and conversed with the Lord, he came down from the mountain. He then placed one stone in each end of the eight vessels. These stones did illuminate the interior of the vessels or barges. Then they prepared all manner of food for themselves, for their flocks, herds and for whatsoever beast, animal or fowl they should take with them. When this was accomplished, they got aboard their vessels and they put their trust in God for protection. These vessels were not power-driven as our modern ships, and were without any mechanisms. So the Lord caused that there should be a furious wind to blow upon the waters and the wind carried them towards the promised land. They were buried many times in the depths of the sea, because of the mountainous waves which broke upon them and the great, terrible tempests which were caused by the fierceness of the wind. But it could not harm them because their vessels were waterproof—the same as Noah's Ark. When they were in the deep of the sea, they prayed to the Lord and the Lord would bring them to the top of the water again. The wind never ceased blowing towards the promised land. Often they sang praises to the Lord. The brother of Jared sang praises and did thank the Lord all the day long. Even at night they ceased not to praise the Lord. During their voyage, no monster of the sea could praise the Lord. During their voyage, no monster of the sea could break them, nor could any whale hurt them. They had light continually, whether above or under the water. Their voyage lasted 344 days. They landed on the shore of the promised land, America. When they set foot on the shores of America, they bowed down and humbled themselves before the Lord. They shed tears of joy before the Lord, because of the multitude of His tender mercies over them.

- 1. What is the name of the mountain that the brother of Jared came down from?
- 2. Where did the brother of Jared place the stones?
- 3. What did these stones do?
- 4. What did they prepare for themselves?
- 5. For whom else did they prepare food?
- 6. When all things were accomplished, what did they do?
- 7. In whom did they put their trust?
- 8. Did the vessels have machinery to drive them?
- 9. What method did the Lord use to drive these vessels?
- 10. Could the waves or tempests harm them?
- 11. Why?
- 12. When they were in the deep of the sea, what did they do?
- 13. Would the Lord answer their prayers?
- 14. Did the wind ever cease blowing?
- 15. What did they do during their voyage upon the sea?
- 16. Could any monster or whale hinder their progress?
- 17. Did the stones ever cease to give light?
- 18. How long did it take them to cross the sea?
- 19. On what shores did they land?
- 20. What did they do when they set foot upon the promised land?
- 21. What manner of tears did they shed?

# The Jaredites' Settlement Upon the Promised Land

Lesson 7 Ether 6-7

After the Jaredites landed they went forth and began to till the ground. As time passed, they began to multiply and spread upon the promised land. They worked the soil, sowed and reaped. They became a numerous people. Years rolled on and the brother of Jared grew to be an old man and knew he would soon die. Therefore, he told Jared to gather the people together to learn how many they were in number and to ask the people what they desired of them. After the people were gathered and numbered, they wished to have one of the sons of the brother of Jared, or one of the sons of Jared to be anointed as their king. When Jared and his brother heard this they became grieved; but the brother of Jared warned the people that monarchs or kings would lead them into captivity. Jared spoke to his brother and said, "Let them have a king." The brother of Jared spoke to the people and said, "Choose from among our sons whom you desire to be your king." The people then chose one of the sons of the brother of Jared. But he refused. The people wished his father would constrain him to be their king. But he answered and said, "Constrain no man to be your king." All the sons of the brother of Jared refused; but one of the sons of Jared accepted and became the first Jaredite king, the name of the king was Orihah. During his reign the people prospered and became rich. The brother of Jared and Jared died. But Orihah reigned in righteousness and walked humbly before God. He remembered the great things the Lord had done to his father. He also taught the people the great things the Lord had done for their fathers. After Orihah's righteous reign, the people began to be wicked. Princes would overthrow their fathers from power and would set themselves up as kings. They began to worship idols and to do many other wicked things. The Lord sent prophets among them who prophesied against their wickedness and idolatry. God warned them that they were bringing a curse upon the land, but they mocked the prophets and did not believe them. Then a certain good king made a law that the prohets could preach to the people and forbade the people from reviling against them. And by the preaching of the prophets, the people did repent and they began to prosper again.

- 1. After the Jaredites landed, what did they begin to do?
- 2. And as time passed, what did they do?
- 3. When the brother of Jared was an old man, what did he know he would soon do?
- 4. What did he tell his brother, Jared, to do?
- 5. What did the people wish?
- 6. When Jared and his brother heard this, how did they react?
- 7. What warning were the people given about monarchs?
- 8. What did Jared tell his brother?
- 9. What did the brother of Jared tell the people to do?
- 10. Whom did the people choose?
- 11. Did he accept?
- 12. What did they wish his father to do?
- 13. What was his answer?
- 14. Did any of the sons of the brother of Jared accept?
- 15. Who became king?
- 16. What was his name?
- 17. During Orihah's reign, did the people prosper?
- 18. What happened to Jared and his brother?
- 19. Was Orihah a good king?
- 20. What did he remember and what did he teach?
- 21. After Orihah's reign, what did the people do?
- 22. Who would overthrow the kings?
- 23. What did they begin to worship?
- 24. Why did the Lord send prophets?
- 25. What did the good king do?
- 26. Did the people repent?
- 27. Were they prosperous when they served God?

# Wars, Wickedness, and the Last Warning

Lesson 8 Ether 8-13

The Jaredites became wicked time and again. They formed secret societies and made secret plans to obtain kingdoms and great glory. By these secret plans they would murder and overthrow governments. At one time because of wickedness, the Lord punished them by famine and poisonous serpents, etc. But every time they repented of their evils, the blessing of God was upon them and they would prosper in the land. They had gold, silver, iron, copper, silk, linen, and all kinds of cloth. Also all kinds of tools used for plowing, sowing, reaping, and harvest; also beasts of burden, etc. There could not have been a more blessed people. If only they would have served God, they would have remained in this blessed state; but they did not remain so, because they fought many wars among themselves and forgot the Lord their God who had marvelously brought their fathers upon this choice land. The decree of God from the beginning was that whatsoever people possessed this land must serve Him, or otherwise be destroyed and the land given to another people. When the people became too wicked, we learn that God sent prophets among the people, warning them to repent otherwise they would all perish. One of these prophets, named Ether, cried to the people from morning until night. But the people rejected his words. He tried to bring the people to the knowledge of God again by prophesying things from the creation of man until the end of time. But they cast him out and he had to hide in the cavity of a rock. While he was hiding in this cavity, he wrote the remainder of the Jaredite record. He would leave his hiding place at night and view the destruction of the people due to their warfare, and he would write it upon plates. During Ether's second year of hiding, the Lord told him to go and prophesy to King Coriantumr and tell him to repent. If he would do so, the kingdom would be restored to him and the people would be spared. If not, the Lord would destroy all the people and only he (Coriantumr) would live to see the word of God fulfilled, by seeing another people take possession of the land.

#### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 8**

- 1. Did the Jaredites serve God continuously?
- 2. What did they form?
- 3. What did they do with their secret plans?
- 4. At one instance, how did the Lord punish them?
- 5. Why?
- 6. When they repented and served God, what was their state?
- 7. What kind of products, tools, and beasts did they have?
- 8. If they served God continuously, in what state would they have remained?
- 9. Did they remain in this blessed state?
- 10. Why?
- 11. What was the decree of God upon the choice land?
- 12. When the people became too wicked, what did God do?
- 13. What warning was given the people?
- 14. Who was one of these prophets?
- 15. Did the people believe Ether?
- 16. What did they do to Ether?
- 17. Where did he hide?
- 18. What did he write while hiding?
- 19. When would he view destruction of the people?
- 20. Where would he write these occurrences?
- 21. Where did the Lord send Ether?
- 22. What was he to say to King Coriantumr?
- 23. If he did not repent, what would take place?

# The Jaredite Nation Destroyed

## Lesson 9 Ether 13-15

Ether's warning went unheeded, and the king and his people did not repent. The people became divided into bands, and they fought for supremacy. After much warfare, they became reduced to two bodies of people—one being the people of King Coriantum and the other the people of Shiz, Shiz being their leader. The people of Coriantum and the people of Shiz fought one battle after another. So great was the destruction of one another, that the bodies of their dead covered the land; this included men, women, and children. The scent of the unburied dead was very troublesome to them, but they had no time for burials, due to their unceasing warfare and the large numbers of their dead. They became cursed because of their wickedness and abominations. Before their final downfall, they gathered all the people together. It took them four years to do so. Some joined the ranks of Coriantumr, while others the ranks of Shiz. All men, women and children were armed for their last and final stand against one another. Coriantum and his people pitched their tents by a hill called Raman. This hill is now known as Cumorah—located in the state of New York. Shiz gathered his people in the land southward called Ogath. Then they marched one against the other and fought from morning until night. At night they would cease fighting and in the morning they would start again and so on. They kept this up until all were destroyed, and the only survivor was Coriantumr. Let us not forget that the prophet Ether was also alive, for he saw and wrote of the destruction of this people while in the cavity of the rock. After the destruction of this people, the Lord told Ether to leave his hiding place. He did so, and saw that the word of God had been fulfilled. Then he finished his record upon the plates and hid them up. Ether's last words were, "Whether the Lord will that I be translated, or that I die, it does not matter—if it so be that I am saved in the kingdom of God." So we do not know what happened to the prophet Ether. But Coriantumr lived on and he was found alive by a new people whom God had brought to this land that they might take possession of it—fulfilling the word of God that Coriantumr would see another people take possession of this land after the Jaredite downfall. Coriantum lived with this new people nine months and then he died. In our coming lessons we will learn who this people is and how they came to this choice land or America.

- 1. Did they give heed to Ether's warning?
- 2. How were the people divided?

- 3. After much warfare, how many bodies of people were they reduced to?
- 4. How were they named?
- 5. Did they have many battles?
- 6. Of what was the land covered?
- 7. What was troublesome to them?
- 8. Why did they not bury their dead?
- 9. Why did they become cursed?
- 10. How long did it take them to gather all the people together?
- 11. What ranks did they join?
- 12. Who carried arms?
- 13. Where did the people of Coriantum pitch their tents?
- 14. Where and what is the name of this hill today?
- 15. Where did the people of Shiz pitch their tents?
- 16. What did they then do?
- 17. How long would they battle?
- 18. How long did they keep this up?
- 19. Who remained alive?
- 20. Where did the downfall of the Jaredites take place?
- 21. Who was alive aside from Coriantumr?
- 22. Who saw and wrote these things?
- 23. What did Ether see when he came out of hiding?
- 24. What did Ether do then?
- 25. What were Ether's last words?
- 26. By whom was Coriantumr found?
- 27. Who had brought this other people upon the land?
- 28. Whose word did this fulfill?
- 29. How long did Coriantum live with this new people?

# Lehi the Prophet

Lesson 10 1 Nephi 1

It was the year 600 B.C., the first year of the reign of Zedekiah, king of Judah. The people of God in Judah had become wicked; therefore, the Lord sent many prophets to the people, telling them that

they must repent, or the great city, Jerusalem, must be destroyed. A good man named Lehi, lived in Jerusalem at that time. He went forth and prayed to the Lord with all his heart in behalf of his people. And while praying, a pillar of fire appeared upon a rock that was in front of him. And he saw and heard many things by the power of God. Because of the things he had seen and heard, he quaked and trembled very much. He returned to his home in Jerusalem and lay upon his bed, as he was overcome with the spirit and the things he had seen. Being thus overcome with the spirit, he saw a vision. He saw God sitting upon His throne and unnumbered concourses of Angels singing and praising their God. He also saw the Son of God descending out of the midst of heaven with twelve others following Him and they traveled upon the earth. But first they came before Lehi and gave him a book and told him to read it. As he read, he was filled with the spirit of the Lord. The things he read were the destruction of Jerusalem and its inhabitants. Many would perish by the sword and many would be carried away into captivity. After Lehi had read and seen these great and marvelous things, he praised the Lord God Almighty because of His power, goodness and mercy over all the inhabitants of the earth, and because He was merciful, He would not allow those who sought Him to perish. In this manner Lehi praised the Lord and rejoiced because of the things the Lord had shown him. Then Lehi went among the people and began to prophesy and to declare the things he had seen and heard. But the Jews mocked him because he testified of their wickedness and abominations. He also testified that the things he had seen, heard, and read in the book showed plainly the coming of the Son of God and the redemption of the world. But when the Jews heard these things, they became angry with him and tried to kill him.

- 1. What year was it and who began to reign as king in the land of Judah?
- 2. Who had become wicked?
- 3. Why did the Lord send prophets?
- 4. What good man lived in Jerusalem?
- 5. What did he do in behalf of his people?

- 6. What happened while Lehi prayed?
- 7. Why did Lehi lay upon his bed?
- 8. Being overcome with the spirit, what did he see?
- 9. After he saw God and the Angels, what else did he see?
- 10. What did they give Lehi?
- 11. What was Lehi to do with the book?
- 12. What did he read in the book?
- 13. Why did Lehi praise the Lord?
- 14. Why did he rejoice?
- 15. Then what did Lehi do?
- 16. Did the Jews believe him?
- 17. What did he testify?
- 18. Who was coming to redeem the world?
- 19. When the Jews heard these things, what did they do?

# Lehi and His Family Leave Jerusalem

Lesson 11 1 Nephi 2

After Lehi had prophesied to the Jews and they had tried to kill him, the Lord spoke to him in a dream, saying, "Lehi, you are blessed because you have been faithful and have declared to this people the things which I commanded you, they seek to take away your life." God then commanded Lehi to take his family and depart into the wilderness. Lehi was obedient to the word of the Lord. He took his family, which consisted of his wife, Sariah, and his four sons; namely, Laman, Lemuel, Sam, and Nephi and they departed into the wilderness. He left all his possessions behind and took with him only tents and provisions as they went down by the borders near the Red Sea. After traveling for three days, they pitched their tents in a valley beside a river. Then Lehi built an altar out of stones and made an offering and gave thanks to the Lord their God. Lehi named the river Laman. and named the valley Lemuel. When he saw that the river emptied into the Red Sea, he spoke to his son Laman, saying, "Oh that you might be like this river, continually running into the fountain of all righteousness!" He also spoke to his other son, Lemuel, saying, "Oh that you might be like this valley, firm and steadfast and immovable in keeping the commandments of the Lord!" The reason he spoke in this manner to Laman and Lemuel was because of their unbelief. They murmured against their father, saying that because he was a visionary man, he had led them out of the land of Jerusalem and left behind all possesions and brought them to perish in the wilderness. They spoke thus because they believed as the Jews in Jerusalem. They did not believe the vision and prophetic utterances of their father. But Lehi being filled with the Spirit of the Lord spoke with power unto them until their bodies shook before him and he confounded them, that they dared not speak against him, and when he commanded them, they obeyed.

- 1. How did the Lord speak to Lehi?
- 2. Why did the Lord bless Lehi?
- 3. What did the Lord command Lehi to do?
- 4. Did Lehi obey the Lord?
- 5. How many were in his family?
- 6. Where did they go?
- 7. What did they take with them?
- 8. After traveling three days, what did they do?
- 9. What did Lehi then do?
- 10. What did Lehi name the river and the valley?
- 11. What did Lehi say to Laman?
- 12. What did he say to Lemuel?
- 13. Why did he speak thus to Laman and Lemuel?
- 14. In what manner did Laman and Lemuel murmur?
- 15. Unto whom were Laman and Lemuel likened?
- 16. How did Lehi react to their murmurings?
- 17. After Lehi confounded them, did they dare speak against him?
- 18. Did they obey their father?

# The Lord Blesses Nephi

Lesson 12 1 Nephi 2-3

Nephi, the youngest son of Lehi, was large in stature, but very young in age. He had great desires to know the mysteries of God. Therefore, he cried to the Lord and the Lord visited him with His Spirit and softened his heart so that he believed all the words that his father had spoken. Nephi did not rebel against his father as Laman and Lemuel had done. He spoke to his brother, Sam, and told him the things that the Lord had manifested to him by His Holy Spirit. Sam believed the things Nephi told him, but Laman and Lemuel did not hearken to Nephi's words. Nephi then became grieved because of the hardness of their hearts, and he cried to the Lord in their behalf. Then the Lord spoke to Nephi and said, "Nephi, you are blessed because of your faith, for you have sought me diligently and with lowliness of heart. Inasmuch as you shall keep my commandments, you shall prosper and shall be led to a land of promise; Yea, a land which is choice above all others and inasmuch as your brethren shall rebel against you, they shall be cut off from my presence. Inasmuch as you shall keep my commandments, you shall be made a ruler and a teacher over your brethren. For behold in that day that they shall rebel against me, I will curse them even with a sore curse and they shall have no power over your seed, except they shall rebel against me also. And if your seed shall rebel against me, then they shall be a scourge to your seed, to stir them up in the ways of remembrance." After Nephi had been blessed of the Lord, he returned to his father's tent. His father told him he had a dream in which the Lord commanded him to send his sons back to Jerusalem. They were to go to the house of one called Laban and to obtain the record of the Jews and the genealogy of their forefathers which were engraven upon plates of brass, and bring them back with them into the wilderness.

- 1. What desire did Nephi have?
- 2. What did Nephi do?

- 3. What did the Lord do to Nephi?
- 4. What did Nephi tell his brother, Sam?
- 5. Did Sam believe Nephi?
- 6. Did Laman and Lemuel hearken to Nephi's words?
- 7. Why did Nephi become grieved?
- 8. What did Nephi do in behalf of his brothers?
- 9. Who spoke to Nephi?
- 10. Why did the Lord bless Nephi?
- 11. How much would Nephi prosper?
- 12. Where would he be led?
- 13. What manner of land was it?
- 14. If Nephi's brethren would rebel against God, what would happen?
- 15. What would Nephi be over his brethren?
- 16. When would Nephi's brethren have power over his seed?
- 17. How would the Lord curse Nephi's brethren?
- 18. Who would be a scourge to Nephi's seed if they rebelled against God?
- 19. When he returned to his father's tent, what did Lehi tell him?
- 20. Who had these plates of brass?
- 21. What did the plates contain?
- 22. Where were they to bring this record?

#### Lehi's Sons Return to Jerusalem

# Lesson 13 1 Nephi 3

After Lehi had told Nephi of the commandment that God had given him in the dream, he rehearsed to Nephi what Laman and Lemuel had said. Laman and Lemuel had murmured and told him that it was a hard thing which he required of them. But he said, "I have not required it myself. It is the commandment of the Lord." Then he told Nephi, "Go my son and you shall be favored of the Lord, because you have not murmured." Nephi answered and said, "I will go and do the things the Lord has commanded, for I know that the Lord does not give commandments unto the children of men unless He prepares

a way for them to accomplish the things He commands." When Lehi heard this, he was very glad for he knew the Lord had blessed Nephi. Nevertheless, his brethren went with him and they began their journey into the wilderness to go to the land of Jerusalem. When they reached Jerusalem, they consulted one another and they cast lots to see who would go to the house of Laban. The lot fell upon Laman, and he went to Laban's house and told him of his mission concerning the plates of brass which contained the genealogy of his father. Laban became angry when he heard this and he thrust him out of his house and took him for a robber and tried to slay him. But Laman fled and returned to his brethren and told them of Laban's actions and they became discouraged and wanted to return to their father's abode in the wilderness. But Nephi spoke to them saying, "As the Lord lives and as we live, we will not return to our father until we have accomplished the commandment of the Lord. Let us be faithful in keeping the Lord's commandments. Therefore, let us go to the land of our father's inheritance which he left when we departed from Jerusalem. He left behind gold, silver, and all manner of riches, because he obeyed the commandments of the Lord. Our father knew that Jerusalem must be destroyed because of the wickedness of the people. For behold, they have rejected the words of the prophets, and if our father should remain after being warned, he would perish also. Wherefore, it was necessary that he flee out of the land "

- 1. What did Laman and Lemuel tell their father?
- 2. What did Lehi say concerning their murmurings?
- 3. Where did Lehi tell his son, Nephi, to go?
- 4. What did Nephi answer his father?
- 5. What was Nephi's prediction concerning the commandments of the Lord?
- 6. Why was Lehi glad?
- 7. Did they all return towards Jerusalem?
- 8. Why did they cast lots?
- 9. How did Laban react?
- 10. Who wanted to return to their father's abode in the wilderness?

- 11. What did Nephi tell them?
- 12. Where did Nephi say they were all to go?
- 13. What had their father left behind?
- 14. Why did Lehi leave all his riches?
- 15. Why would Jerusalem be destroyed?
- 16. What would have happened if Lehi had remained after the warning?

# Nephi Persuades His Brethren to Carry On

Lesson 14 1 Nephi 3

Nephi continued speaking to his brethren, "And it is also the wisdom of God that we should obtain these records, that we may preserve for our children the language of our fathers, and that we may also preserve for them the words spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets, which were delivered unto them by the spirit and power of God since the world began and even down to this present time." By these words, Nephi persuaded his brethren to be faithful in keeping the commandments of God. They all went to their father's home, gathered their riches and took them to the house of Laban. They desired of Laban to give them the records in return for their gold, silver, and precious things. When Laban saw their possessions were great, he desired to have them, but without relinquishing the records. So he thrust them out of his home and sent his servants after them to slav them so that he could obtain their riches. But Nephi and his brethren fled from Laban's servants and were obliged to leave their riches in their flight. Their riches fell into the hands of Laban. They fled into the wilderness as the servants of Laban did not overtake them. Then they hid themselves in a cavity of a rock. Laman and Lemuel then became angry with Nephi and his father, and they spoke many hard words against their younger brothers, Nephi and Sam. They also smote them with a rod, and while smiting Nephi and Sam, an angel of the Lord came and stood before them and said, "Why do you smite your younger brother with a rod? Do you not know that the Lord has chosen him to be a ruler over you because of your iniquities? Behold, you shall go up to Jerusalem and the Lord will deliver Laban into your hands." The angel departed, and Laman and Lemuel began to murmur, saying, "How is it possible that the Lord will deliver Laban into our hands? Behold, he is a mighty man and he can command fifty and he can slay fifty, then why not us?"

#### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 14**

- 1. Explain why they should have these records.
- 2. Did Nephi persuade his brethren to be faithful?
- 3. What did they do when they went to their father's home?
- 4. Where did they take their riches?
- 5. What did they want in return for their riches?
- 6. Who desired their riches?
- 7. What were Laban's intentions?
- 8. What did Laban do to Nephi and his brethren?
- 9. Did Laban's servants capture them?
- 10. What happened to their riches?
- 11. Where did they hide?
- 12. Who became angry?
- 13. Whom did Laman and Lemuel smite?
- 14. Who stopped them?
- 15. Why was Nephi chosen to be a ruler over his brethren?
- 16. What did the angel predict to them?
- 17. What did Laman and Lemuel do after the angel's departure?
- 18. Did they believe the words the angel had spoken?
- 19. What did they say?

### Nephi Returns Again to Jerusalem

# Lesson 15 1 Nephi 4

When the angel had departed and Nephi's brethren had declared Laban to be a mighty man, Nephi spoke to them, saying, "Let us go again to the land of Jerusalem. Let us be faithful in keeping the commandments of the Lord. For behold, the Lord is mightier than all

the earth. Then why not mightier than Laban and his fifty, or even his ten thousands? Therefore, let us go and let us be strong as was Moses. For he truly spoke to the waters of the Red Sea and they divided and our forefathers passed through on dry ground and escaped captivity. Then when Pharaoh's armies followed they were drowned. Behold, you know that this is true and you also know that an angel has spoken to you. How then can you doubt? So let us go; the Lord is able to deliver us, even as He did our forefathers and He can destroy Laban, even as He did the Egyptians." When Nephi finished speaking, they were still mad and continued to murmur. Nevertheless, they accompanied Nephi and Sam to the walls of the city of Jerusalem. They arrived at night. Nephi made them hide outside the wall as he crept into the city and went towards the house of Laban. He was led by the spirit of the Lord, not knowing what he should do. As he came near the house of Laban, he saw a man lying on the ground drunk. As Nephi drew closer, he saw the man was Laban. Nephi noticed Laban's sword and drew it out of its sheath and noticed its fine workmanship. The hilt was of pure gold and the blade of good steel. The Spirit then constrained Nephi to kill Laban. But Nephi spoke within himself, saying, "I have never shed the blood of man." He did not desire to kill him. But the Spirit spoke to him again, saying, "Behold, the Lord has delivered him unto your hands." Nephi knew Laban had tried to kill him, still he would not kill Laban. He knew Laban would not hearken to the commandments of the Lord. Then the Spirit spoke to him again, saying, "Slay him for the Lord has delivered him into your hands. For behold, the Lord slays the wicked to bring forth his righteous purposes. It is better that one man perish rather than a nation should dwindle and perish in unbelief."

- 1. Where did Nephi tell his brethren that they should go again?
- 2. Who did Nephi say was mightier than all the earth?
- 3. Who was mightier than Laban and all his thousands?
- 4. With whose strength did Nephi wish to compete?
- 5. What did Nephi remind his brethren concerning Moses?
- 6. Who did Nephi say was able to deliver them?

- 7. Did they accompany Nephi and Sam?
- 8. Who hid outside the wall?
- 9. Who went into Jerusalem?
- 10. Did he know beforehand what he should do?
- 11. When he came near Laban's house, what did he see?
- 12. Who was this drunkard?
- 13. What did Nephi take away from Laban?
- 14. Who constrained Nephi to kill Laban?
- 15. What did Nephi say within himself?
- 16. What did he know concerning Laban?
- 17. Who slays the wicked and what for?
- 18. Why was it better that Laban should die?

# Nephi Obtains the Plates by Strategy

Lesson 16 1 Nephi 4

When Nephi heard the words the Spirit spoke to him, he remembered the words the Lord had spoke to him, that inasmuch as his seed would keep God's commandments, they would prosper in the land of promise. Nephi thought that they could not keep the commandments of the Lord according to the law of Moses, unless they had that law. He knew the law was engraven upon the plates that were in Laban's possession. Nephi knew the Lord had delivered Laban into his hands for the reason that he might obtain the plates. Then Nephi obeyed the voice of the Spirit. He took Laban by the hair and smote off his head with his own sword. He took off Laban's clothes and put them on. Then he went to Laban's treasury and met the servant of Laban who had the keys to the treasury. Nephi imitated Laban's voice and commanded this servant to go with him into the treasury. Zoram, the servant, did not recognize Nephi. He thought it was Laban, his master. He began to speak to Nephi concerning the Elders of the Jews. Zoram knew his master had been out at night among them, but Nephi continued speaking as if he were Laban. He told Zoram that he was going to carry the engravings which were upon the brass plates to his elder brethren who were outside the wall of the city. He told Zoram to follow him. Zoram thought he was speaking of the brethren of the church and so followed Nephi disguised as Laban. On their journey to the walls of the city, Zoram continued speaking to Nephi concerning the Elders of the Jews. When they reached there, Laman, Lemuel, and Sam became frightened and began running away. They thought Laban had killed Nephi and had come to kill them too. Nephi called after them. They recognized his voice and stopped their flight. Zoram began to tremble when he saw Nephi's brethren, and he was about to flee. But Nephi, being large and having received much strength from the Lord, seized Zoram and held him. He spoke to Zoram and told and promised him he would be free as they were, providing he would go with them. Zoram was convinced and promised to remain with them. Nephi and his brethren desired that Zoram remain with them so the Jews could not know of their flight, lest they should pursue and destroy them. So Zoram promised and their fears ceased. They all departed towards the wilderness where Lehi waiting. They took with them the plates of brass which contained the word of God and their genealogy. They took Laban's sword, too.

- 1. What did Nephi remember?
- 2. What were Nephi's thoughts?
- 3. Who had delivered Laban into his hands?
- 4. What did Nephi do to Laban?
- 5. How did Nephi disguise himself as Laban?
- 6. Whom did he meet at the treasury?
- 7. Where did he tell Zoram he was taking the plates?
- 8. Who became frightened when they reached the city wall?
- 9. How did Nephi's brethren recognize him?
- 10. Who was about to flee?
- 11. Who held him?
- 12. What did Nephi promise Zoram?
- 13. Why did they desire that Zoram remain?
- 14. What was their destination when they departed from Jerusalem?

### Lehi and Sariah Rejoice on the Return of Their Sons

Lesson 17 1 Nephi 5

We do not know how long it took Nephi and his brethren to go to Jerusalem, obtain the plates and return to their parents in the wilderness. But while they were away, their mother mourned; she believed they had perished. Thus she complained against her husband, saying, "Because you are a visionary man, you have led us away from the land of our inheritance and my sons have perished and we will also perish in the wilderness." But Lehi answered, saying, "I know I am a visionary man, for if I had not seen the things of God in a vision I should not have known the goodness of God and thus, remained at Jerusalem and perished with my brethren. But behold, I have obtained the land of promise and I rejoice and know the Lord will deliver my sons out of the hands of Laban and will bring them again to us." She was comforted by these words. When Nephi, his brethren and Zoram returned to them, they rejoiced and were very glad. Then Sariah spoke, saying, "Now I know for sure that the Lord has commanded my husband to flee into the wilderness and know for sure that the Lord has protected my sons and delivered them out of Laban's hands, so that they could accomplish the thing the Lord commanded." Lehi and Sariah rejoiced exceedingly and offered sacrifices, burnt offerings and gave thanks to the Lord. Afterwards, Lehi took the records and searched them from the beginning. He beheld they contained the five Books of Moses which gave an account of the creation of the world, of Adam and Eve, our first parents, and the record of the Jews from the beginning until the commencement of Zedekiah's reign, king of Judah. They also contained the prophecies of the holy prophets from the beginning and many prophecies of the prophet, Jeremiah, whom the Jews had cast into prison at that time. He found his genealogy upon the plates and he knew he was a descendant of Jacob's son, Joseph, who was sold into Egypt. He noticed that Laban was a descendant of Joseph. Laban and his forefathers had kept the records which he was reading. When Lehi beheld all this, he was filled with the Spirit and began to prophesy concerning his seed, saying that those plates should go forth to all nations, kindred, tongues, and people who were of his seed and those plates would never perish; time could not dim them. He prophesied many other things.

### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 17**

- 1. Who mourned for Nephi and his brethren?
- 2. What did she believe had happened?
- 3. What did she say to her husband?
- 4. What did Lehi answer her?
- 5. When did they rejoice?
- 6. What did Sariah then say?
- 7. Who offered sacrifices and gave thanks?
- 8. Describe what those records contained?
- 9. Whom had the Jews cast into prison?
- 10. Lehi was a descendant of whom?
- 11. Who had kept those records?
- 12. Describe Lehi's prophecy concerning the plates.

### Ishmael and His Household

## Lesson 18 1 Nephi 7

When Lehi ended the prophecies concerning his seed, the Lord spoke to him again and told him that he should not take his family alone into the wilderness. His sons were to marry so that they could increase upon the promised land. Thus God commanded Lehi to send Nephi and his brethren again to the land of Jerusalem to take Ishmael and his family with them. Lehi then told his sons, and they started on their journey. When they reached Jerusalem, they went to Ishmael's house and spoke to him the words of the Lord. The Lord softened Ishmael's heart and also his household which consisted of his wife, five daughters, two sons and their families. They believed their words and followed Nephi and his brethren on their journey towards the wilderness. As they journeyed, Laman and Lemuel and two daughters of Ishmael and the two sons of Ishmael and their families rebelled

against Nephi, Sam, Ishmael, his wife and the other three daughters. In their rebellion, they desired to return to Jerusalem. Nephi then became grieved for their hardness of heart and began to speak to Laman and Lemuel, saying, "You are my older brethren and how is it that you are so hard of heart and so blind in mind that I, your younger brother, should speak to you and set an example for you? How is it that you have not hearkened to the word of the Lord? How is it that you have forgotten the angel that you have seen? How is it that you have forgotten how the Lord delivered us from the hands of Laban? Yes, how is it that you have forgotten that the Lord is able to do all things according to His will for the children of men if they exercise faith in Him. Wherefore let us be faithful to Him and if we are faithful we shall obtain the land of promise."

### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 18**

- 1. What did the Lord tell Lehi?
- 2. What commandment did He give Lehi?
- 3. When Lehi's sons reached Jerusalem, where did they go?
- 4. What did the Lord do to Ishmael and his household?
- 5. Did they follow Nephi and his brethren?
- 6. Who rebelled?
- 7. Against whom did they rebel?
- 8. What did those who rebelled want to do?
- 9. Who became grieved?
- 10. What did Nephi say to his older brethren?
- 11. State all that Nephi told them.

# Nephi Is Bound with Cords

Lesson 19 1 Nephi 7

Nephi continued speaking to his rebellious brethren saying, "You shall know in some future period of time, that the word of the Lord shall be fulfilled concerning the destruction of Jerusalem. The word of the Lord shall be fulfilled upon them because His Spirit will soon cease

to strive with them. They rejected the prophets. They tried to kill our father insomuch that they have driven him out of the land. Now I say to you that if you return to Jerusalem, you will also perish with them. Now, if you have choice, go to the land of Jerusalem, and remember the words I am telling you, that if you go, you will also perish. The Spirit of the Lord constrains me to speak thus." After Nephi spoke these words his brethren became angry. They caught him and bound him with cords. They wanted to kill him and leave him in the wilderness to be devoured by wild beasts. But Nephi prayed to the Lord. saying, "O Lord, according to my faith which is in Thee, wilt Thou deliver me from my brethren? Yes, even give me strength that I may burst these bands that bind me." And when Nephi had said these words, the bands fell from his hands and feet and he stood before his brethren and again spoke to them. Again they became angry and wanted to lay hands on Nephi. But one of Ishmael's daughters and her mother, and one of Ishamel's sons pleaded with Laman and Lemuel and insomuch that they softened their hearts and ceased trying to kill Nephi. Then Laman and Lemuel realized their wickedness and they became so sorrowful that they bowed down before Nephi and pleaded for forgiveness. He forgave them and exhorted them to pray to the Lord their God for forgiveness. Laman and Lemuel did so and after their prayer, they again began their journey towards Lehi's tent. Upon their arrival, they gave thanks to the Lord their God and offered sacrifices and burnt offerings.

- 1. What did Nephi tell his brethren they would know in the future?
- 2. What did Nephi predict would happen to them if they would return to Jerusalem?
- 3. Who constrained Nephi to speak those things?
- 4. What did they do to Nephi?
- 5. What did Npehi do?
- 6. How was his prayer answered?
- 7. Who intervened when they tried to lay hands on Nephi again?
- 8. When Laman and Lemual realized their wickedness, what did they do?

- 9. What did Nephi do and say to them?
- 10. Did they do so?
- 11. Who began their journey toward Lehi's tent?
- 12. What did they do upon arriving?

#### Lehi's Dream of the Tree

Lesson 20 1 Nephi 8

While Lehi and those who were with him tarried in the Valley of Lemuel, they gathered seed of grain and fruit of all kinds. Then Lehi spoke of a dream he had or in other words a vision he had seen. He said that he rejoiced in the Lord because he had seen that Nephi, Sam and many of their descendants would be saved in the kingdom of God. But he told Laman and Lemuel that he feared exceedingly for them. Then he related the dream as follows: He found himself in a dark and dreary wilderness. He saw a man in a white robe. This man came and stood before Lehi and bade him to follow him. Lehi followed and found himself in a dark and dreary waste. After he traveled for many hours in darkness, he began to pray to the Lord to be merciful to him, according to the multitude of His tender mercies. After his prayer, he saw a large, spacious field, and in it he saw a tree whose fruit was desirable to make one happy. He went forth and partook of its fruit. He found the flavor to be sweeter than any fruit he had ever tasted. Its color, being white, exceeded all whiteness. As he partook of the fruit, it filled his soul with great joy, and he began to be desirous that his family should partake of it also, for he knew the fruit to be desirable above all others. As he looked round about that perhaps he might discover his family, he beheld a river and it ran along near the tree. He looked to see where this river came from, and he saw the origin a little way off. At the head of this river, he saw his wife, Sariah, and his two sons, Nephi and Sam. They stood there as if they did not know where to go. He then beckoned to them and cried with a loud voice for them to come to him and partake of the desirable fruit. They gave heed and partook of the fruit. He was desirous that Laman and Lemuel should do so too. So he cast his eyes towards the head of the

river and he saw them there. But they refused to go and partake of the fruit.

### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 20**

- 1. What did they do while in the Valley Lemuel?
- 2. What did Lehi tell them he had seen?
- 3. For whom did Lehi rejoice?
- 4. What did he tell Laman and Lemuel?
- 5. Where did Lehi find himself in the dream?
- 6. Whom did he see and what did he tell Lehi to do?
- 7. Where did Lehi find himself and what did he do?
- 8. What did he see after his prayer?
- 9. What did he do then?
- 10. Describe the taste and color of the fruit.
- 11. As he partook of the fruit, what happened to Lehi?
- 12. What was his desire?
- 13. When he looked for his family, what did he see?
- 14. Where were Sariah, Nephi and Sam? Did it seem to Lehi that they knew where to go?
- 15. What did Lehi then do and did they give heed to him?
- 16. What was Lehi's other desire? Did they give heed to his call?

## Lehi's Dream (continued)

# Lesson 21 1 Nephi 8

In the same dream Lehi saw a rod of iron extending along the bank of the river, a straight and narrow path which came along with the rod of iron and both led to the tree where he stood. They also led by the head of the fountain or the river's origin and on into a large and spacious field, as if it were a world. He then saw numberless concourses of people and many were pressing forward that they might obtain the path that led to the tree, and they went forth and commenced in the path. Then there arose a very great mist of darkness. insomuch that they lost their way and wandered off and were lost. He

saw others pressing forward, and they caught the end of the rod of iron and clinging to it they traversed the mist of darkness and partook of the fruit of the tree. After they had partaken of the fruit, they cast their eyes about as if they were ashamed. Lehi then looked about and beheld on the other side of the river, a great and spacious building standing as it were in the air, high above the earth. It was filled with people of all ages, and they were dressed very finely and were in the attitude of mocking and pointing their fingers towards those who had gone to the tree and were partaking of its fruit. Lehi then understood why the partakers of the fruit were ashamed. After they had tasted the fruit, they became ashamed because of those who were scoffing at them, and they fell away into forbidden paths and were lost. He saw other multitudes pressing forward; they caught hold of the rod of iron and continued forward, holding fast to it until they reached the tree and partook of its fruit. Other multitudes were feeling their way towards the great and spacious building; many drowned in the depths of the fountain and many were lost from view, wandering in strange roads. But great was the multitude that entered that strange building and after they entered, they pointed the finger of scorn at Lehi and those who were partaking of the fruit. But they heeded them not, and as many as heeded them fell away. This ended the dream. Lehi told his audience that Laman and Lemuel did not partake of the fruit, and he feared exceedingly for them lest they should be cast off from the Lord's presence. So he exhorted Laman and Lemuel with all the feeling of a tender parent, that perhaps the Lord would be merciful and not cast them off. He preached to them and prophesied many things as he bade them to keep the commandments of the Lord.

- 1. What did Lehi see along the bank of the river? Describe it.
- 2. Why did some who commenced on the path get lost?
- 3. How did the others succeed in obtaining the fruit?
- 4. Who became ashamed?
- 5. What did Lehi see when he looked about?
- 6. What happened to those who were ashamed?
- 7. Did others go to partake of the fruit after those that were

- ashamed fell away?
- 8. What happened to many who wished to enter the building?
- 9. Did many succeed in entering the building and what did they do after they entered?
- 10. Did Lehi and those with him give heed to them?
- 11. What happened to those who did?
- 12. Who did not partake of the fruit?
- 13. In what manner did Lehi exhort his two sons?
- 14. What else did Lehi do?

### Lehi's Predictions

Lesson 22 1 Nephi 10

After Lehi related his dream and exhorted his sons to keep the commandments of the Lord, he spoke to them concerning the Jews and the city of Jerusalem which they had left behind. He said that after the city of Jerusalem and some of the Jews would be destroyed, many would be carried away captive into babylon. In God's own due time they would be brought out of captivity and would inherit their land again. Also that 600 years from the time he (Lehi) left Jerusalem, the Lord God would raise up among the Jews a Messiah or Savior of the world. He told them that a great number of prophets had testified of the coming of the Messiah or Redeemer of the world to whom Lehi referred; that all mankind was in a lost and fallen state and ever would be unless they relied on this Redeemer. He foretold the coming of John the Baptist and that he would come to prepare the way of the Lord. He would call the people to repentance and baptize them with water. He would baptize the Messiah, and after he baptized Him, John would bear record that he had baptized the Lamb of God who should take away the sins of the world. Lehi continued his predictions and made known to them the Gospel that would be preached among the Jews and how the Jews would reject it because of unbelief, and they would slay the Messiah, but He would resurrect and by the Holy Ghost manifest Himself to the Gentiles. Lehi spoke many things concerning the Gentiles and the House of Israel or the 12 tribes, showing

that the House of Israel was compared to an olive tree whose branches would be broken off and scattered all over the earth. He further said, "It must needs be that we should be led with one accord into the land of promise and fulfill the word of the Lord—that we should be scattered all over the earth." Lehi included himself and his associates in the scattering because they were of the House of Israel of the tribe of Joseph. He also said that after the House of Israel was scattered, they again would be gathered together. He predicted when this gathering would take place, saying that after the Gentiles received the fulness of the Gospel, the natural branches of the olive tree, or remnants of the House of Israel, would be grafted in or come to the knowledge of the true Messiah, their Lord and Redeemer.

- 1. What would happen to the Jews and Jerusalem?
- 2. When would they be brought out of captivity?
- 3. When would the Messiah come?
- 4. Who else testified of the Messiah?
- 5. What happens to those who do not rely on Him?
- 6. Who would come to prepare the way of the Lord and what would he do?
- 7. What would be preached among the Jews? Did they believe?
- 8. What would they then do to the Messiah? Who is the Messiah?
- 9. How would He manifest Himself to the Gentiles?
- 10. To what was the House of Israel compared?
- 11. Whose word was Lehi and his associates fulfilling by coming to the promised land?
- 12. Why did Lehi include himself in the scattering?
- 13. What would be gathered together again and when will they be grafted in?
- 14. Have the Gentiles received this Gospel? When? Where?
- 15. And now what do we expect or look forward to?

## Nephi's Wonderful Vision

Lesson 23 1 Nephi 11

Nephi, having heard his father's experiences, desired to know the things his father had seen, and he believed the Lord was able to make them known to him. As he sat pondering in his heart, he was caught away in the Spirit of the Lord to an exceeding high mountain which he had never seen nor set foot upon. Then the Spirit spoke and asked what he desired. He answered he desired to see the things that his father had seen. The Spirit asked him if he believed that his father saw the tree which he spoke of. He answered, "Yes, Thou knowest I believe all the words of my father." When Nephi answered thus, the Spirit cried with a loud voice, saying, "Hosanna to the Lord, the most high God, for He is God over all the earth and above all and blessed art thou Nephi, because thou believest in the son of the most high God, wherefore, thou shalt see the things thou hast desired to see. And behold, this thing shall be given thee for a sign that after thou hast seen the tree that bore the fruit which thy father tasted, thou shall see a man descending out of the heaven and after thou hast seen him, thou shalt bear record that He is the Son of God." Then Nephi was told to look. Nephi looked and saw a tree. It was the tree his father had seen; it was most beautiful and its color was whiter than snow. Then he said to the Spirit, "I see Thou hast shown me the tree which is precious above all." The Spirit answered, "What dost thou desire?" Nephi answered, "I want to know the interpretation of it." Nephi was speaking to the Spirit as if he were a man, for he saw that the Spirit was in the form of man. Yet in spite of that he knew it was the Spirit of the Lord. Then the Spirit again told Nephi to look. Nephi looked as if to look at him. But the Spirit had left his presence and Nephi did not see him. Then it came to pass that Nephi looked and saw the city of Jerusalem and other cities, including Nazareth. In the city of Nazareth he beheld a virgin; she was exceedingly fair and white. Then he beheld the heavens open and an angel came down and stood before him and said, "Nephi, what dost thou see?" He answered, saying, "A virgin most beautiful and fair above all others." The angel asked him, "Knowest thou the condescension of God?" Nephi answered, saying, "I know that He loves His children. However, I do not know the meaning of all things." The angel answered and said to him, "Behold, the virgin that thou seest is the mother of the Son of God according to the flesh." And then Nephi saw that she was carried away in the Spirit and he did not see her for a space of time.

### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 23**

- 1. What did Nephi desire and what was his belief?
- 2. What happened as he pondered?
- 3. Who spoke to him, and what did he ask?
- 4. What was Nephi's answer?
- 5. What did the Spirit ask him?
- 6. What was Nephi's answer?
- 7. What happened after Nephi's answer?
- 8. Why was Nephi blessed and what sign was to follow?
- 9. Describe what Nephi saw when he looked.
- 10. What did Nephi desire after he saw the tree?
- 11. What else did Nephi see?
- 12. Whom did Nephi see in the city of Nazareth?
- 13. Whom did the angel say she was?

## Nephi Visions the Coming of Christ

### Lesson 24 1 Nephi 11

Nephi did not see the Virgin for a space of time for she had disappeared from his view and the angel again told him to look. Nephi looked and saw her again with a child in her arms, and the angel said to him, "Behold the Lamb of God, the Son of the Eternal Father! Knowest thou the meaning of the tree, which thy father saw?" Nephi answered, "Yea, it is the love of God which sheds itself abroad in the hearts of the people. Wherefore, it is the most desirable above all things." The angel then said, "Yea, and most joyous to the soul." And then he told Nephi to look again. Nephi looked and saw the Son of God go forth among the people and many people fell down at His feet

and worshipped Him. Nephi saw that the rod of iron, which his father had seen, was the word of God which led to the fountain of living waters or the tree of life and that this fountain represents the love of God, and the tree of life also represents the love of God. Then the angel said, "Look and behold the condescension of God!" Nephi looked and beheld the Redeemer of the world of whom his father, Lehi, had spoken. He saw the prophet that prepared the way of the Lord and how the Son of God was baptized by him. After the baptism, Nephi saw the heavens open and the Holy Ghost come down out of heaven in the form of a dove and abide upon the Lord. Then he went forth ministering to the people in power and great glory, and multitudes of people gathered to hear Him speak. But they cast Him out of their midst. Nephi also beheld that twelve men followed the Son of God and they vanished from Nephi's sight. Then he beheld the heavens opened and angels descended and ministered to the people. He saw the Son of God go forth among the people and by His power He healed multitudes who were sick and afflicted with all kinds of diseases. He cast out devils and unclean spirits. Finally the Son of God was taken by the people, judged and then lifted upon a cross and slain for the sins of the world. After the death of the Son of God, Nephi beheld that the multitudes of the earth gathered together to fight against the twelve apostles of the Son of God. Nephi saw these multitudes in a large and spacious building like the building his father had seen. And the angel said to him, "Behold the world and its wisdom, yea, behold the house of Israel has gathered together to fight against the twelve apostles." Thus Nephi saw and bears record that the great and spacious building is the pride of the world. He beheld its fall and great was the fall thereof. And the angel said, "Thus shall be the destruction of all nations, kindreds, tongues and people, that shall fight against the twelve apostles of the Son of God."

- 1. Who was the child that the Virgin held in her arms?
- 2. What did Nephi say about the tree?
- 3. What is the rod of iron?
- 4. What do the fountain of living waters and the tree of life repre-

sent?

- 5. What prophet did Nephi see?
- 6. What did he do?
- 7. Describe what Nephi saw after the baptism.
- 8. Who are these twelve?
- 9. Who healed the sick, cast out devils and did many good things?
- 10. Describe what happened to the Son of God.
- 11. Who gathered to fight the twelve apostles?
- 12. Where did Nephi see the multitude then?
- 13. What did the angel tell him?
- 14. What does this building represent and what happened to it?
- 15. Repeat what the angel said to Nephi after he saw the building fall.
- 16. If we reject the teachings of the apostles, do you not think we also fight against them?

## Nephi Visions the Land of Promise

### Lesson 25 1 Nephi 12

The angel continued showing Nephi things that would occur far beyond his time. Nephi beheld his posterity and his brethren's also upon the land of promise; he saw wars and great slaughter among his people. He saw a mist of darkness and lightnings, and heard tumultuous noises and thunderings. The earth quaked and rocks rent, mountains tumbled into pieces, plains were broken up and many cities sank and many burned. After this, the darkness disappeared and Nephi saw multitudes who had died because of the judgments of the Lord. The heavens opened and the Son of God descended and showed Himself to those who were spared. Nephi saw the Holy Ghost fall upon twelve men who were chosen and ordained of God. The angel then said to him, "Behold the twelve disciples of the Son of God who are chosen to minister to thy posterity. Dost thou remember the twelve apostles of the Son of God? Behold the twelve apostles shall judge the twelve tribes of Israel. Wherefore, the twelve ministers of thy posterity shall be judged by them, for ye are of the house of Israel. And the twelve ministers thou now seest shall judge thy posterity. Behold they are righteous forever and their garments are made white in the blood of the Lamb of God because of their faith in Him." Nephi beheld three generations pass away in righteousness and their garments were as white as those of the Son of God, because of their faith in Him. Many of the fourth generation passed away likewise, but finally wars broke out again. The angel said to Nephi, "Behold the fountain of filthy water and the river which thy father saw. Their depths are the depths of hell and the mists of darkness are the temptations of the devil, which lead the people into broad roads and they perish. The large and spacious building is the vain imaginations and the pride of the people. And a great and terrible gulf divides them—Yea, even the word of the justice of the Eternal God, and the Messiah who is the Lamb of God and of whom the Holy Ghost bears record from the beginning of the world until now and henceforth and forever." As the angel spoke thus, Nephi saw his brethren's posterity contend against his posterity who, because of their pride and sin, were finally destroyed. The posterity of Nephi's brethren then fought among themselves and many generations passed away in those conditions. The angel said to Nephi, "Behold these shall dwindle in unbelief." Nephi beheld that they dwindled in unbelief and became a dark, loathsome. filthy and idle people. They are now known as Indians.

- 1. Tell what Nephi saw upon the promised land.
- 2. Tell what happened when darkness covered the land.
- 3. Who appeared when the darkness vanished?
- 4. What were the twelve disciples to do?
- 5. Who would judge them and also the house of Israel?
- 6. Why were they righteous and their garments white?
- 7. How many generations passed away in righteousness?
- 8. What happened in the fourth generation?
- 9. What do the filthy fountain and the spacious building represent?
- 10. What does the gulf that divides the wicked from the just represent?
- 11. Why was Nephi's posterity overcome?
- 12. Describe the conditions among his brethren's posterity. Who are they?

#### The Gentile Nations Seen in Vision

Lesson 26 1 Nephi 13

After Nephi saw his posterity destroyed and his brethren's posterity dwindle to an awful state, the angel showed him many nations and kingdoms of the Gentiles. Among them he saw the foundation of a great church. The angel told him this church was most abominable above all other churches; that it would slay the saints of God and torture, bind and voke them with an iron voke and bring them down into captivity. Nephi saw the devil was the foundation of this church and that it was very rich. The angel said to him that gold, silver, silks, scarlets, fine-twined linen and precious clothing were its desires; that for the praise of the world it would destroy the saints and bring them down into captivity. Then Nephi saw many waters or an ocean. These waters separated the Gentiles from his brethren's posterity, and the angel told him the wrath of God was upon his brethren's posterity, the Indians. Nephi saw among the Gentiles a man upon whom the Spirit of God worked. He saw him cross the ocean and come to the promised land. This man was Christopher Columbus. Then Nephi beheld the Spirit of God work upon other Gentiles. They went forth out of captivity and crossed the ocean and came to the promised land. Then Nephi beheld the Gentiles were numerous upon the land of promise and because of the wrath of God upon his brethren's posterity, they were scattered and smitten by the Gentiles. On the other hand, the Spirit of the Lord was upon the Gentiles insomuch that they prospered and possessed the land. Nephi noticed these Gentiles were white and exceedingly fair and beautiful, even as his people had been before their downfall. These Gentiles who had escaped from captivity humbled themselves before the Lord and the power of the Lord was with them. Then Nephi beheld their mother Gentiles, or the nations from whence they came, were gathered upon land and sea to battle against them. But the power of God was with those who were upon the promised land and the wrath of God upon those who had gathered to battle against them. And Nephi beheld, that by the power of God, the Gentiles upon the promised land were delivered out of the hands of all nations.

### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 26**

- 1. What did Nephi see after the downfall of his posterity?
- 2. What church was founded among the Gentiles?
- 3. What would it do?
- 4. Who was the foundation of it?
- 5. Why would it destroy the saints?
- 6. Whom did many waters separate?
- 7. Whose wrath was upon the Indians?
- 8. Who did Nephi see among the Gentiles? What was his name?
- 9. What inspired him to do what he did?
- 10. Who else came to the promised land?
- 11. Why did they prosper?
- 12. What did Nephi notice?
- 13. Why was the power of the Lord with the Gentiles?
- 14. If we want the power of the Lord to rest upon us, what must we do?
- 15. Who gathered to battle against the Gentiles?
- 16. What took place?

## The Bible, a Record of the Jews

### Lesson 27 1 Nephi 13

After Nephi saw the Gentiles' prosperity in America, he beheld a book carried forth among them. The angel explained this book was a record of the Jews, or the Bible, which contained the Lord's covenants, which He had made to the house of Israel and also many prophecies of the holy prophets. It was a record similar to the engravings which were upon the brass plates of Laban, except that there were not so many. However, it contained the Lord's covenants to Israel and therefore, was of great worth to the Gentiles. Then the angel said to him, "Thou seest the book which came from the Jews; and when it came forth from them it contained the plainness of the gospel of the Lord, of whom the twelve apostles bore record. And after it went forth in purity from the twelve apostles to the Gentiles,

thou seest the foundation of a great and abominable church. Behold. that church has taken away from the Lord's Gospel many parts which were plain and most precious and also many of the Lord's covenants. All this have they done that they might blind the eyes and harden the hearts of the people. And after the book has passed through the hands of this church and they have mutilated it as mentioned, it then goes forth to all Gentile nations, including those upon the promised land. Because of the things which were taken away, which were plain for the people to understand, according to the plainness which is in the Son of God, a very great many stumble, insomuch that Satan has great power over them. Nevertheless, thou seest that the Gentiles who have gone forth out of captivity, have been lifted up by the power of God above all other nations, upon the land which the Lord God promised to thy father and his posterity; wherefore thou seest that the Lord God will not allow the Gentiles to utterly destroy thy brethren's posterity nor the mixture of thy posterity among them."

- 1. What record did Nephi see among the Gentiles?
- 2. What did it contain?
- 3. What records were similar to the Bible?
- 4. To whom was it of great worth?
- 5. Describe the condition of this record when it went forth from the twelve apostles.
- 6. Who took away many plain things from the Bible?
- 7. Why did this church do so?
- 8. When did the Bible go forth to all Gentile nations?
- 9. Why do a very great many people stumble?
- 10. Who has great power over them?
- 11. Tell what the Lord would not allow the Gentiles to do.

# God's Mercy to the Gentiles

Lesson 28 1 Nephi 13

The angel, after telling Nephi the Lord would not allow the Gentiles to utterly destroy neither his nor his brethren's posterity, then said to him, "Nor will the Lord suffer that the Gentiles shall remain in that awful state of darkness forever because of what that wicked church has done. For that reason, the Son of God saith, 'I will be merciful to the Gentiles, by visiting the remnant of the house of Israel—thy father's posterity, in great judgment. And after they are smitten by the Gentiles and after the Gentiles stumble greatly, because of what was taken away from the Bible, I will be merciful to the Gentiles in that day. insomuch that I will bring forth to them in my own power, much of my gospel, which shall be plain and precious." This is the coming forth of the Book of Mormon. The angel quoted to Nephi more of the words of the Lord as follows: "I will manifest myself to thy posterity (Nephi's) and they shall write many things which I shall minister to them, which shall be plain and precious; and after thy posterity is destroyed and dwindles in unbelief, and also thy brethren's posterity, behold, these things shall be hid up, to come to the Gentiles by my gift and power. And in them shall be written my gospel and my rock and salvation, and blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion in that day, for they shall have the gift and power of the Holy Ghost; and if they endure to the end they shall have the gift and power of the Holy Ghost; and if they endure to the end they shall be lifted up at the last day, and shall be saved in my everlasting kingdom." After this Nephi beheld the Bible go to his brethren's posterity or Indians by way of the Gentiles. Also he beheld other books go forth by the power of the Lord, from the Gentiles to them, for the convincing of the Gentiles. Indians and also Jews who were scattered all over the earth, that the records of the prophets and of the twelve apostles are true.

- 1. In what state would the Lord not allow the Gentiles to remain?
- 2. What put the Gentiles in that awful state?

- 3. Who would be merciful to the Gentiles?
- 4. In what manner would the Lord be merciful?
- 5. What would the Lord bring forth to the Gentiles?
- 6. What book is this?
- 7. Describe how the Book of Mormon would be written.
- 8. When would it be hid up? Why?
- 9. What would be written in it?
- 10. On whom did the Lord pronounce his blessings?
- 11. What must we do to be saved?
- 12. We must endure to the end doing what?
- 13. What did Nephi see go forth to the Indians by way of the Gentiles?
- 14. What else did Nephi see?
- 15. Why would these other books come forth?

## One God and One Shepherd

#### Lesson 29

1 Nephi 13-14

Nephi was told that the last records he saw among the Gentiles would establish the truth of the first, which were of the twelve apostles. and make known the plain and precious things which were taken away from the first; that they would make known to all mankind that the Lamb of God is the Son of the Eternal Father, and that all mankind must come to Him, or they cannot be saved. These records come according to the words which would be established by the mouth of the Lord, and the Lord's words would be made known in the records of Nephi's posterity, or Book of Mormon, which is a part of those records, as well as in the records of the twelve apostles, or Bible. Both would be established in one, for there is one God, and one Shepherd over all the earth, and the time would come when God would manifest Himself to all nations, both Jew and Gentile. After He would manifest Himself to the Jews and also the Gentiles, He would manifest Himself to the Gentiles and also the Jews, and the last would be first, and the first last. The angel further declared, "If the Gentiles shall hearken to the Lord in that day that He manifests Himself to them in word, and also in power, in every deed, by taking away their stumbling blocks—and they do not harden their hearts against the Lord. they shall be numbered among thy father's posterity, and among the house of Israel; and they shall be a blessed people upon the promised land forever; they shall no more be brought down into captivity; and the house of Israel no more be confounded. And that great pit which was dug by that great, wicked church for the destruction of mankind shall be filled by those who dug it, to their utter destruction; not the destruction of the soul, but only its being cast into that hell which has no end. This is the reward of those who do evil. Thou hast beheld that if the Gentiles repent it shall be well with them; and thou also knowest concerning the Lord's covenants to the house of Israel. And those who do not repent must perish. Therefore, wo be to the Gentiles if they harden their hearts against the Lord. For the Lord saith, The time is coming that I will work a great and marvelous work among the people; a work which shall be everlasting, either to their being convinced to peace and life eternal, or delivered to bondage and destruction, both temporally and spiritually."

- 1. Tell what the last records would establish and make known.
- 2. Where would the Lord's words be made known?
- 3. Why would the Bible and Book of Mormon be established in one?
- 4. Do you understand what is meant by the last shall be first and first last?
- 5. What blessing is pronounced upon the Gentiles provided they repent?
- 6. Who dug the great pit?
- 7. Who shall fill it?
- 8. Will the soul be destroyed?
- 9. Does it pay to be wicked? Why?
- 10. What will happen to those who do not repent?
- 11. What is pronounced upon the Gentiles if they harden their hearts?
- 12. What will the Lord do among the people?

## The End of Nephi's Vision

Lesson 30 1 Nephi 14

The angel, upon quoting the words of the Lord to Nephi, asked him if he remembered the covenants of God to the house of Israel. Nephi answered that he remembered. Then the angel said, "Behold that great wicked church, which is the mother of abominations, whose foundation is the devil. Behold there are only two churches; one is the church of the Son of God, and the other is the church of the devil: wherefore, those who do not belong to the church of the Son of God belong to that great wicked church." Then Nephi saw this great church had dominion over all the earth, among all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people. He beheld the church of the Son of God, or The Church of Jesus Christ, and it was few in numbers, because of the wickedness and abominations of the great church. Nevertheless, The Church of Jesus Christ, who were the saints of God, was also all over the earth. Nephi beheld the great, wicked church gather together multitudes among all Gentile nations, to fight against The Church of Jesus Christ. But the power of the Lord descended upon the saints and upon the Lord's covenant people. They were armed with righteousness and the power of God in great glory. And the wrath of God was poured out upon that wicked church, insomuch that there were wars and rumors of wars among all nations which belonged to it. Then the angel said, "When the day comes that the wrath of God is poured out upon that wicked church, the work of the Father shall commence in fulfilling His covenants to His people, the house of Israel." Nephi then saw a man robed in white, whom the angel identified as the Apostle John. The angel told Nephi that he should not write the things he was going to see from then on, because John would write them, and also many things which had passed and concerning the end of the world. Those things would be written in the Bible, and we have those writings today in the Bible—the Book of Revelation. Nephi was also told that others, who had lived in the past, had been shown by the Lord, all things and they had written them. They were sealed up to come forth in their purity, in the Lord's own due time, to the house of Israel. Nephi did not write what he saw from then on, and tells us that he wrote but a small part of all that he saw.

#### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 30**

- 1. How many churches did the angel say there are?
- 2. To whom do they belong?
- 3. If one does not belong to The Church of Jesus Christ, to which church does one belong?
- 4. Where did this great church have dominion?
- 5. Why was The Church of Jesus Christ few in numbers?
- 6. What were those who belonged to The Church of Jesus Christ called?
- 7. Describe its dominions in comparison with that great wicked church.
- 8. What did Nephi see that wicked church do?
- 9. What descended upon the saints and the Lord's covenant people?
- 10. What happened to those that belonged to that wicked church?
- 11. Tell what the angel told Nephi.
- 12. Whom did Nephi see?
- 13. Why was Nephi forbidden to write the remainder of his vision?
- 14. Where do we have John's writings? Name them.
- 15. What else was Nephi told?

## Nephi Unfolds the Mysteries of God

### Lesson 31 1 Nephi 15

After Nephi saw wonderful visions—the greater part of which he did not write, he returned to his father's tent in the valley Lemuel. He found Laman and Lemuel disputing concerning the things their father had spoken. They could not understand what he meant by the natural branches of the olive tree, and also concerning the Gentiles. Nephi inquired if they had asked the Lord for knowledge. They answered they had not, for they believed that the Lord would not make known such things to them. Nephi then rebuked them for this, and reminded them what the Lord had said; that if they would not harden their hearts and ask Him in faith, believing that they would receive, with diligence in keeping His commandments, He would surely make

those things plain to them. Following this, Nephi expounded to them the parable of the olive tree and also rehearsed the words of the prophet Isaiah, which foretell the restoration of the house of Israel in the latter days. When they heard this, they were pacified and they humbled themselves before the Lord. They asked Nephi to expound the meaning of the tree, the rod of iron, and the river their father had seen. Nephi explained the tree represented the tree of life, the rod of iron was the word of God that led to it, and whosoever would hear the word of God and hold fast to it, would never perish; and Satan could not harm them. Nephi diligently exhorted them to give heed to the word of God and to remember to keep His commandments. They asked Nephi what was the meaning of the river their father had seen. Nephi answered the water was filthiness. His father had not noticed it to be so, because his mind had been occupied in the other things. Nephi pointed out the river was an awful gulf which separated the wicked from the tree of life, and represented that awful hell, which was prepared for the wicked; and their father had also seen the justice of God divided the wicked from the righteous and that the brightness of that justice was like a brightly flaming fire which ascends up to God forever and ever, without end.

- 1. When Nephi returned to the valley Lemuel, what did he find?
- 2. Why were they disputing?
- 3. What did Nephi ask them?
- 4. What was their answer?
- 5. What did Nephi do and remind them of?
- 6. What did Nephi expound and rehearse to them?
- 7. What did Laman and Lemuel then do?
- 8. What did they ask Nephi to expound?
- 9. Can Satan harm those that hold fast to the rod of iron or the word of God?
- 10. What did Nephi exhort them to do?
- 11. What did they then ask Nephi to expound?
- 12. Describe the river.
- 13. Why had Lehi not noticed the filthiness of the river?

- 14. What did the river represent?
- 15. For whom was hell prepared?
- 16. What did the justice of God divide?
- 17. Describe the justice of God.

### The Ball or Director Is Given

Lesson 32 1 Nephi 16

Nephi was not satisfied with having enlightened the minds of his brethren in regard to the justice of God. He exhorted them diligently to keep the commandments of the Lord. Then Laman and Lemuel humbled themselves before the Lord, insomuch that Nephi had joy and great hopes that they would walk in righteous paths. After some time Nephi, Sam, Laman, and Lemuel married into Ishmael's family, and Zoram married the oldest daughter of Ishmael, thus fulfilling the commandment the Lord had given to Lehi, that his sons should marry. Lehi fulfilled all the commandments the Lord had given him thus far. Then the Lord spoke to Lehi one night and commanded that on the following day, they should leave the valley Lemuel and journey into the wilderness. In the morning Lehi arose and went to the tent door, and to his astonishment, he saw a round, brass ball of curious workmanship. It had two spindles or pointers, one which pointed in the direction they should pursue. They gathered the things they were going to carry with them, including the remainder of their provisions which the Lord had provided, and also the seeds they had gathered. They took up their tents, crossed the river Laman, and departed into the wilderness. They traveled a nearly south-southeast direction for four days, and then pitched their tents again. They called the place Shazer. After they settled, the men took their bows and arrows and went hunting in the wilderness. When they had slain enough game to supply their families with food, they returned to them. Again they took up their journey, following the same direction, keeping in the most fertile parts, which were near the borders of the Red Sea. The ball directed them in that course as they traveled many days. On their journey, they slew game for food with their bows and arrows, stones and slings.

After traveling many days, they pitched their tents again, so that they could rest and obtain food for their families.

### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 32**

- 1. What caused Nephi to rejoice?
- 2. Into whose family did Lehi's sons and Zoram marry?
- 3. What commandment was fulfilled?
- 4. Who spoke to Lehi one night?
- 5. What did God command?
- 6. What did Lehi see from the tent door? Describe it.
- 7. Tell what they did.
- 8. How long did they travel?
- 9. Where did they pitch their tents?
- 10. What did the men do?
- 11. After they returned to their tents, what did they do?
- 12. What directed their course?
- 13. How long did they travel?
- 14. What weapons did they use to kill game for food?
- 15. Why did they stop again?

## The Crossing of the Sea

#### Lesson 33

1 Nephi 17-18

Lehi and his followers traveled in the wilderness eight years and finally reached the seashore amid great rejoicing. Though their journey had been long and their sufferings great, yet the Lord had blessed them abundantly. Nephi was very faithful and encouraging, urging them to trust in God who was always leading them. The colony camped along the seashore for a length of time and named the place Bountiful because of its plenteousness of fruit and wild honey. During their stay here, Nephi received a commandment from God to build a ship in which they were to cross the ocean. When Nephi set about following the instructions of God in building the ship, his brethren mocked him and refused to help him. Nephi patiently reminded them of how God

worked in ages past to deliver and prosper His people, particularly in the time of Moses. When Nephi's brethren persisted in rebelling and wanted to throw him into the ocean, the power of God filled Nephi insomuch that they feared to touch him. They were confounded! Later Nephi simply touched them and they were shocked by the power of God. This humbled them to repentance, and then they joined Nephi in building the ship. When it was completed, the Lord commanded the colony to board the ship. After loading their provisions, they boarded the ship and put forth into the sea. Some time afterward, Nephi's brethren and their wives and Ishmael's sons and their wives began to dance, sing, and speak rudely. Nephi endeavored to teach and correct them for fear God would punish them all. But they rebelled and bound him with cords. At this point the compass ceased to work and a terrible storm broke and the ship began drifting backwards. The tears and pleas of Nephi's wife, children, Lehi and Sariah that Nephi be unbounded were in vain. Only after drifting backward for four days amid a raging tempest did Nephi's brethren become frightened insomuch that they unbound him. As soon as Nephi took the compass in hand, the ship sailed forward toward the promised land. Nephi prayed to the Lord and immediately the tempest was stilled. There was a great calm. They sailed many days and finally arrived upon the promised land. After disembarking, they went forth on the land and pitched their tents. In the course of time, they tilled the earth and their harvests were plentiful. In their travels they saw all kinds of animals such as cows, oxen, horses, goats, and also many wild animals. They also found ores; namely, gold, silver, and copper.

- 1. How many years did the colony travel in the wilderness?
- 2. Though the journey was long and difficult, did the Lord forget them?
- 3. What did God do?
- 4. Who was faithful and encouraging?
- 5. Why did they name the land near the seashore Bountiful?
- 6. What commandment did Nephi receive from God?
- 7. Did Nephi complain or refuse to obey?

- 8. Who mocked Nephi and refused to help him?
- 9. What did Nephi tell his brethren?
- 10. What did they try to do?
- 11. What happened at this point?
- 12. What did God do when the ship was completed?
- 13. Did they obey?
- 14. Whom did Nephi endeavor to teach?
- 15. Why?
- 16. What happened after Nephi was bound?
- 17. What did Nephi do after he was unbound?
- 18. Why did the ship sail forward and the tempest cease?
- 19. What did the colony do after disembarking?
- 20. What did they see and find upon the promised land?

## The Separation

#### Lesson 34

2 Nephi 15

Lehi had grown old and realizing that he must go down to his grave, he caused that his people should gather to him that he might pronounce a blessing upon them. Lehi's blessing upon each one was great, but the blessing upon Joseph, his last born, was truly great. Lehi pointed out that his family were descendants of Joseph who was sold into Egypt. He said the Lord had made great covenants to their forefather, Joseph, and had promised that his posterity or descendants would be blessed richly and become a great and righteous people. Lehi also quoted the prophecy of his forefather, Joseph, that the Lord would raise up a Choice Seer from among his descendants who is to be great like Moses. His name is to be Joseph. As Moses was used to deliver Israel from Egypt, so will Joseph, the Choice Seer, be used to deliver Israel in the latter days, even to bringing them to a knowledge of the Gospel of Christ. In conclusion, Lehi said to Joseph, "Blessed are thou, Joseph. Behold, thou are little; therefore, hearken to the words of thy brother, Nephi, and it shall be done to thee even as I have spoken. Remember the words of thy father. Amen. Lehi died and was buried. Soon after the death of Lehi, Laman and Lemuel

became rebellious toward Nephi and sought to kill him. The Lord warned Nephi to flee into the wilderness with those who would go with him. Nephi and his family, together with his brothers, Sam, Joseph, Jacob, his sisters and also Zoram and his family, in fact, all who believed in the revelation of God, took up their journey into the wilderness. After traveling many days, they finally settled. Nephi's followers named the place Nephi and called themselves the people of Nephi. Nephi had brought with him the ball or director, the plates of brass containing the records, and the law which enabled them to observe the commandments of God in all things. They tilled the earth and raised flocks and herds of all kinds. Nephi taught his people to be industrious and to labor with their hands. They constructed a temple for the worship of God and also built buildings. While the people of Nephi prospered, Laman and his followers were cursed by God because of their iniquity. The Lord caused a skin of blackness to come upon them, as they became loathsome to the people of Nephi. They also dwindled to idleness and instead of laboring with their hands as the people of Nephi, they hunted in the wilderness for beasts of prev for their food. Nephi wrote 30 years had passed away since the time they left Jerusalem; they lived happily. Nephi kept a record of his people upon plates which he had made of metal. He did this in obedience to the commandment of God.

- 1. What did Lehi realize in his old age?
- 2. What did he do and why?
- 3. Of whom was Lehi and family descendants?
- 4. What promise did God make to their forefather, Joseph?
- 5. Of whom did Joseph prophesy?
- 6. The Choice Seer shall be like whom?
- 7. Was Lehi's son, Joseph, a man when Lehi blessed him?
- 8. What finally happened to Lehi?
- 9. What took place soon after Lehi's death?
- 10. Why did Nephi and others flee into the wilderness?
- 11. What did the people name the place where they settled?
- 12. What sacred things did Nephi bring with him when they fled?

- 13. What did Nephi teach his people?
- 14. What happened to Laman and his followers and why?
- 15. How many years had passed since the time they left Jerusalem?
- 16. What did Nephi make out of metal?
- 17. What did he write or keep upon them?
- 18. Why did Nephi keep a record of his people?

# The Death of Nephi

Lesson 35 Jacob 1

Fifty-five years had passed away since the time Lehi left Jerusalem. Nephi, now an old man and knowing he would soon die, turned to his brother, Jacob, and gave him charge of the plates or history he had been keeping. Nephi instructed Jacob to keep a record of his people and of God's dealings with them, even as he had done. Nephi also anointed a man to be king and ruler over his people. Now the people loved Nephi exceedingly, for he had been a great protector for them and had labored much for their welfare and happiness. It was their desire to retain in remembrance Nephi's name; therefore, the man whom Nephi anointed king over them was called second Nephi, and whoever would be the next king was to be called third Nephi and so forth, regardless of the name of the new king. In his dying testimony, Nephi declared that he had charity for Jews and Gentiles, meaning he had a love for everybody, not only his people. He appealed to all people to believe in Christ and to walk in His ways. Finally, Nephi died. Jacob and Joseph had been consecrated priests and teachers over the people by their brother, Nephi, and they taught the word of God diligently that the people might not become wicked but rather more righteous. Jacob was obedient to the instructions and commandments of Nephi concerning the plates of Nephi. He kept a record of the people on the plates. When he grew old, he told his son, Enos, to take charge of the plates. He told Enos the same things that Nephi had told him. Enos promised his father that he would obey the commandments he had given him. Enos prayed to God and asked Him to preserve the record of the Nephites by the power of

His holy arm, that it might be brought forth to his brethren, the Lamanites, at some future time. It was the desire of Enos that the Lamanites might be brought to the knowledge of God and to salvation. The Lamanites are those God cursed with a dark skin and who sought to destroy the people of Nephi, or the Nephites. The Lord told Enos that others before him had desired the same thing, and He would grant their desire. The Nephites sought diligently to restore the Lamanites to the true faith of God. But their labors were in vain, as the Lamanites became a wild people. They lived in tents and hunted for beasts of prey or game for their food. They continually sought to destroy the Nephites. When Enos had grown old, he commanded his son to take charge of the plates of Nephi and to keep a record upon them. Thus the record of the Nephites was handed down from father to son, and preserved according to the promise of God.

- 1. When Nephi gave his brother, Jacob, charge of the plates, how many years had passed away since Lehi left Jerusalem?
- 2. What was Nephi at this time?
- 3. Why did Nephi give Jacob charge of the plates?
- 4. What commands or instructions did Nephi give to Jacob?
- 5. What other important thing did Nephi do?
- 6. Who loved Nephi exceedingly and why?
- 7. What did the people of Nephi desire?
- 8. How was Nephi remembered by his people?
- 9. In his dying testimony, what did Nephi declare?
- 10. What was Nephi's appeal?
- 11. Did Jacob fulfill or do the commands of his brother?
- 12. Who was Enos?
- 13. What did Enos promise when his father gave him the plates of Nephi?
- 14. What was the prayer of Enos?
- 15. What was God's answer?
- 16. Who are the Lamanites?
- 17. Who are the Nephites?
- 18. What did the Nephites seek diligently to do?

- 19. Did they succeed?
- 20. Who received the plates when Enos had grown old?
- 21. What was handed down from father to son and preserved?

## King Mosiah I

Lesson 36 Omni

The record of the Nephites finally came into the possession of one Amaleki, a descendant of Jacob, the brother of Nephi. He wrote an account of Mosiah, king of the Nephites. Mosiah was warned by the Lord to flee the land of Nephi with as many as would hearken to the voice of the Lord. Mosiah was obedient to the command of God and departed into the wilderness with as many as believed the warning of the Lord. They were led by the power of God and were admonished or taught continually by His word as they journeyed through the wilderness. Finally they came to a land that was called the land of Zarahemla. They found a people called the people of Zarahemla. But Mosiah and his people did not immediately learn the name of this people, nor the name of their land, nor their history, because this people spoke a language different from that spoken by Mosiah and his people. Therefore, Mosiah caused that they should be taught in his language. When this people learned the Nephite language, one of them whose name was Zarahemla, gave their history, according to his memory. He told how his forefathers came out of Jerusalem at the time that King Zedekiah was carried captive into Babylon. The people of Zarahemla left Jerusalem about ten years after Lehi. Lehi left in the first year of King Zedekiah's reign, while the people of Zarahemla left when the king was carried captive into Babylon, or in the eleventh year of his reign. The date of the king's captivity is according to the Bible, II Kings, Chapter 25, verses 1-7. The people of Zarahemla were led by the hand of the Lord out of Jerusalem, through the wilderness and across the great waters into the land where Mosiah discovered them. They became a numerous people and had serious wars. They brought no records with them. Their language finally became corrupted or changed. They even denied the existence of their Creator, God. They were in this pitiful condition when the Nephites found them. The people of Zarahemla rejoiced greatly because they had been found by the Nephites. They and the Nephites united and Mosiah was retained as their king. One day a large stone with engravings or writings on it was brought to Mosiah. He translated them by the gift and power of God. The engravings gave an account of one Coriantumr and the slain of his people. This same Coriantumr was found by the people of Zarahemla; he lived with them for nine months. He had lived to see the downfall of his people, the Jaredites, and saw another nation, who was the people of Zarahemla, take possession of the land—See Lesson 9. Amaleki, who wrote about Mosiah, also wrote about a band of Nephites, one of whom was Amaleki's brother, and they set out to return to the land of Nephi to possess it. But Amaleki never heard of them anymore.

- 1. What came into the possession of Amaleki?
- 2. Who was Amaleki?
- 3. What did Amaleki do?
- 4. What warning did Mosiah receive?
- 5. Did the king obey?
- 6. Who led them?
- 7. To what place and people did the Lord lead them?
- 8. Did Mosiah and his people understand the language of this people?
- 9. What did the king do?
- 10. What did one of them do after they had learned the Nephite language?
- 11. What was his name?
- 12. Where did the people of Zarahemla come from?
- 13. Who was carried captive into Babylon?
- 14. How many years after Lehi's departure from Jerusalem did the people of Zarahemla leave?
- 15. How can we prove this?
- 16. Who led them to the land where Mosiah found them?
- 17. Who united and who was retained as king?
- 18. What was brought to Mosiah?
- 19. What did the king do?

- 20. What account did the engravings give?
- 21. What else did Amaleki write about?

## King Benjamin

Lesson 37 Mosiah 1

Amaleki lived to see the death of Mosiah. Benjamin, the son of Mosiah, became king. Amaleki was old and he had no children to whom he could deliver the record of the Nephites. Now Amaleki knew that Benjamin was a just man before the Lord, and he delivered the plates to him. A serious war happened in the days of Benjamin. The Lamanite armies attacked the Nephites and Benjamin gathered an army to defend themselves. Even Benjamin joined the battle as he fought with the sword of Laban. Finally the Lamanites were driven out of the land of Zarahemla. But other troubles arose throughout the land. False prophets and teachers caused dissentions among the people. Benjamin, being a holy man, labored with all his strength to establish peace. He was assisted by holy prophets that went about teaching the word of God with power and authority, until peace was restored. The false prophets and teachers who mislead many people by their lies and untruths, were then punished according to their crimes. There was no more contention and discord in the land of Zarahemla, so that Benjamin had continual peace the remainder of his days. Benjamin had three sons whose names were Mosiah, Helorum and Helaman, and he saw that they should be taught in the language of their father. They became men of understanding. He taught them concerning the records which were engraven upon plates, pointing out that they had been preserved by the hand of God. This record now enabled them to serve God in the true way. When Benjamin grew old, he made a proclamation to the people that they should gather to the temple to hear him proclaim Mosiah as king. Then Benjamin gave Mosiah charge of the affairs of the kingdom. He also entrusted him with the plates, the sword of Laban and the ball or director, both of which had been handed down from Nephi together with the plates. Mosiah made the proclamation to the people. When they gathered at

the temple, they were so numerous there was not room for all of them. Therefore, Benjamin caused a tower to be erected, and he spoke from the tower. He commanded that his words be written and sent forth to those who could not hear him. Benjamin, in delivering his farewell address to his people, proclaimed his son, Mosiah, as king, as God had commanded him. He taught his people how to be better servants of God and told them of Christ, who should come. After Benjamin finished his address, all his people, yea, every single one except little children, made a covenant with God to serve Him. The Spirit of God wrought a mighty change in the hearts of the people as Benjamin addressed them. They were now determined to do good continually. Mosiah began to reign as king. Benjamin lived three years and died.

- 1. Who succeeded Mosiah as king?
- 2. To whom did Amaleki deliver the record?
- 3. What happened in the days of Benjamin?
- 4. Who gathered an army and joined the battle?
- 5. What weapon did the king use?
- 6. Who was victorious?
- 7. What other troubles arose?
- 8. How was peace restored?
- 9. Who was punished?
- 10. How many sons had Benjamin?
- 11. Name them.
- 12. What were they taught?
- 13. Who was brought before Benjamin?
- 14. What did Benjamin tell his son to do?
- 15. What did Mosiah's father entrust him with?
- 16. Did Mosiah obey his father?
- 17. Did the people obey the proclamation?
- 18. What was erected and why?
- 19. What other commandment did the king give?
- 20. Why did Benjamin proclaim his son, Mosiah, as king?
- 21. What else did the king say?

- 22. Who made a covenant with God?
- 23. How long after this did Benjamin live?

## King Mosiah II

Lesson 38 Mosiah 6-8

Mosiah served God faithfully as he set a good example to his people, laboring with his hands that he would not be burdensome to them. Mosiah and his people desired to learn some news of the people who returned to the land of Nephi, one of whom was the brother of Amaleki. Mosiah permitted sixteen strong men to journey to the land of Nephi to inquire of their brethren. They were led by Ammon. After traveling for 40 days in the wilderness, they came to the land of Nephi. Ammon and three others went to inquire of their brethren. They met the king of the land and his guards outside the walls of the city. The king ordered his guards to surround and bind them. They were placed in prison. After two days, they were brought before the king to be questioned. The king identified himself as Limhi, son of Noah, who was the son of Zeniff who left the land of Zarahemla along with others and had come to the land of Nephi. Then Limhi gave Ammon permission to speak. Ammon told the king he had come to inquire concerning his brethren who had left the land of Zarahemla to return to the land of Nephi. When Limhi heard this he rejoiced to know that his brethren in the land of Zarahemla were yet alive. Ammon and the other three were then unbound and returned to the place where the rest of the band had remained. Ammon brought them to the city. They were fed and then rested from their journey. Limhi made a proclamation to the people to gather at the temple. When the people had gathered, Limhi broke the good news to them that Ammon and a few men had come from the land of Zarahemla. Limhi told his people to rejoice for they would soon be freed from their bondage of the Lamanites. This great evil had come upon them because of their transgression. Ammon addressed the people and briefly told them what happened in the land of Zarahemla since their forefathers left that land. Later, Limhi presented the record of his people to Ammon, and he read it. Limhi

asked Ammon if he could translate, and Ammon said he could not. Then the king told Ammon how a band of his people had set out to find the land of Zarahemla and failed to find it. Nevertheless, they discovered a land that was covered with bones of men and beasts. They saw many ruins of buildings of every kind which gave evidence of a numerous people who once lived there. They found twenty-four plates with engravings thereon; they were of pure gold. They brought them back, but no one could read them. Limhi desired to know the history of the people who had been destroyed. For this reason, he asked Ammon if he could translate. Ammon told the king that Mosiah, who was king in the land of Zarahemla, had a gift from God to translate. This news caused Limhi to rejoice and give thanks to God.

- 1. Whom did Mosiah serve faithfully?
- 2. What good example did he set?
- 3. What was the desire of the king and his people?
- 4. Who were permitted to go to the land of Nephi and why?
- 5. Who was the leader?
- 6. How many days did they travel?
- 7. What land did they come to?
- 8. Who went forth to inquire concerning their brethren?
- 9. Who did they meet?
- 10. What did the king order his guards to do?
- 11. How long were Ammon and the other three in prison?
- 12. Why were they brought before the king?
- 13. What did the king tell about himself?
- 14. Who permitted Ammon to speak?
- 15. Was the king glad to hear what Ammon said?
- 16. After being unbound, what did Ammon and the other three do?
- 17. What proclamation did the king make?
- 18. What good news did the king tell the people?
- 19. What was presented to Ammon?
- 20. What did Ammon say he could not do?
- 21. Who had tried to find the land of Zarahemla and failed?
- 22. What did they discover and see?

- 23. What did they find and bring back to the land of Nephi?
- 24. What did the king desire?
- 25. What caused the king to rejoice and give thanks to God?

#### The Record of Zeniff

Lesson 39 Mosiah 9-11

The plates, or record of his people which Limhi presented to Ammon to read are known as the Record of Zeniff. Zeniff was the grandfather of Limhi, and he led a colony of people out of the land of Zarahemla to the land of Nephi. The Lamanites were now in possession of the land. Zeniff took four men with him and went into the city to the king whose name was Laman. Zeniff sought permission from King Laman to go forth with his people and possess the land in peace. The king covenanted with Zeniff that he could possess the land in peace. Laman commanded his own people to depart out of the land of Nephi so that Zeniff and his people could possess it. Zeniff was made king over his people and they began to repair the walls of the city of Nephi and to erect buildings. They also tilled the ground and they began to prosper. They had peace and prosperity for twelve years and King Laman began to fear lest they should become a mighty people. King Laman desired to overpower Zeniff and his people and bring them into bondage. Thus he stirred up his people to make war with Zeniff and his people. But Zeniff and his people cried to God in prayer for help as they armed themselves. They went forth in the strength of the Lord and drove the Lamanites out of the land. Peace was established again in the land of Nephi, and the people of Zeniff prospered. Finally, after ten years of peace, they were again attacked by the Lamanites. Although he was an old man, Zeniff led his people in battle, and in the strength of the Lord, they were victorious and drove them out of the land. In his old age, Zeniff conferred the kingdom upon Noah, one of his sons. Noah did not prove to be a good king as his father had been. He did not keep the commandments of God. Because of wicked King Noah, many people began to commit sin.

Noah laid a heavy tax upon the people, which was one-fifth of all they possessed. The people were compelled to give the king one-fifth of their gold, silver and other precious metals; also one-fifth of their flocks and grain. All these riches the wicked king spent in riotous living with his priests who also were wicked. Noah built many elegant and spacious buildings as he set his heart upon riches. A war broke out between the people of Noah and the Lamanites, but the Lamanites were driven back for a space of time. The people began to boast in their own strength because of their great victory. They boasted that 50 of their men could stand against thousands of Lamanites. The people had become wicked because of the wickedness and bad example of King Noah and his priests.

- 1. Name the record that Limhi presented to Ammon for him to read.
- 2. Who was Zeniff?
- 3. What did Zeniff do?
- 4. Who was in possession of the land of Nephi?
- 5. Where did Zeniff go?
- 6. What did Zeniff seek?
- 7. Who gave him permission to possess the land?
- 8. What did King Laman command his people?
- 9. Who was made king?
- 10. What did the people do?
- 11. How long did they have peace?
- 12. Why did King Laman make war with Zeniff and his people?
- 13. In whose strength did Zeniff and his people fight?
- 14. Who was victorious?
- 15. What happened ten years later?
- 16. Who, in his old age, led his people in battle and to victory?
- 17. On whom did Zeniff confer the kingdom?
- 18. Was Noah a good king?
- 19. Did he keep God's commandments?
- 20. What did Noah lay upon the people?
- 21. What were the people compelled to give to the king?
- 22. How did he spend his riches?

- 23. What did the king build?
- 24. What happened to King Noah and his people?
- 25. What boast did the people make?
- 26. Why had the people become wicked?

# **Abinadi the Prophet**

Lesson 40 Mosiah 11-17

While Noah and his people boasted in their victory over the Lamanites, a man, whose name was Abinadi, appeared among them. Abinadi began to prophesy saying, "The Lord has commanded me to say to you, 'Wo be unto this people, for I the Lord have seen their abominations and wickedness and except they repent and turn to me, I will visit them in anger, and they shall be brought into bondage and be afflicted by their enemies." When the king and his people heard these words they became angry and sought to slay Abinadi, but the Lord delivered him out of their hands and he fled. Noah hardened his heart against the word of the Lord and did not repent of his evil doings. Two years passed away, and Abinadi came again among them in disguise; they knew him not as he gave the warning of the Lord that if they would not repent, God would bring them into bondage and destruction. This time the people took and bound Abinadi and brought him before Noah. The people told the king that Abinadi had prophesied evil of his people. They had brought Abinadi before the king to be judged. They believed they had not committed any sins and Abinadi had lied about them. On hearing this, the king caused Abinadi to be imprisoned, and he gathered his priests to hold a council or meeting to decide what to do with Abinadi. At the request of the priests, Noah had Abinadi brought before them to be questioned. Now the priests sought to cross Abinadi so that they could accuse him, but he answered them boldly and confounded them. Abinadi began to recite the ten commandments and accused the priests of not obeying them and not teaching the people to obey them. This made the king angry, and he said, "Away with this fellow and slay him." But when they tried to take him, Abinadi spoke with the power of God and said, "Touch

me not, for God shall smite you if you lay your hands upon me for I must finish the message which God has sent me to deliver." The priests were afraid to touch Abinadi, for the Spirit of the Lord was on him and his face shone bright, even as Moses' face shone while he spoke with the Lord on Mount Sinai. Abinadi spoke concerning some of the prophecies of Moses and Isaiah which told that Christ should come with power to redeem His people. He spoke about the resurrection and judgment. Abinadi appealed to them to repent and come unto Christ. Only one of the priests believed in what Abinadi had spoken. He was a young man named Alma, a descendant of Nephi. Alma made a plea to the king to release Abinadi, but the king became angry. He commanded that Alma be slain, but Alma fled and hid. The priests and king held a council for three days. The king finally pronounced the sentence of death upon Abinadi. The wicked king caused Abinadi to suffer death by fire, and while the flames scorched him, Abinadi cried out, "Behold, you shall be smitten on every hand and taken by your enemies and then you shall suffer, as I suffer, the pains of death by fire." Abinadi's last words were, "O God, receive my soul." When he said these words, Abinadi fell, having suffered death by fire rather than to deny the commandments of God.

- 1. Who appeared among the people of King Noah?
- 2. What did he prophesy?
- 3. Did the people believe Abinadi and receive him?
- 4. Who delivered Abinadi?
- 5. What did the king do?
- 6. What happened when two years had passed away?
- 7. Why did the people not know Abinadi?
- 8. What happened to Abinadi?
- 9. What did the people accuse Abinadi of?
- 10. After putting Abinadi in prison, what did the king do?
- 11. Why was Abinadi brought before the priests?
- 12. Did the priests cross or confound Abinadi?
- 13. What did Abinadi accuse the priests of?
- 14. What did the king say?

- 15. What powerful words did Abinadi speak?
- 16. Why were the priests afraid to touch him?
- 17. What else did Abinadi say?
- 18. Who believed the words of Abinadi?
- 19. What plea did Alma make to the king?
- 20. What happened to Alma?
- 21. What did King Noah pronounce upon Abinadi?
- 22. How was he put to death?
- 23. What did Abinadi cry out as the flames scorched him?
- 24. What were his last words?
- 25. Why did Abinadi choose death by fire?

#### Alma Forms a Church

#### Lesson 41

Mosiah 18-23

When Alma, the young priest, fled from King Noah, he repented of his sins and went about teaching the words of Abinadi secretly among the people. Many believed Alma's words, and they went forth into the forest and gathered near a fountain of pure water in a place called Mormon. Here, Alma taught them the word of God. One day a goodly number gathered to hear Alma and he said, "Behold! Here are the waters of Mormon. Now that you desire to come into the fold of God and be called His people and stand as a witness of God at all times, even until death, that you might be redeemed of God and have eternal life, will you be baptized in the name of the Lord and make a covenant with Him to serve Him and keep His commandments?" When the people heard these words, they clapped their hands for joy and exclaimed, "This is the desire of our hearts." Then Alma took Helam down into the water, and he cried to God to help him do this work with holiness of heart. The Spirit of the Lord was upon Alma and he said, "Helam, I baptize you, having authority from Almighty God, as a testimony that you have entered into a covenant with Him until you are dead as to the mortal body; and may the Spirit of the Lord be poured out upon you and may He grant you eternal life through the redemption of Christ whom He has prepared from the foundation of the world."

After these words, Alma buried Helam and himself in the water. They arose and came forth out of the water rejoicing. Alma then baptized others as he had baptized Helam, only he did not bury himself again in the water. There were 204 souls baptized in the waters of Mormon, and they were called the Church of Christ. Alma ordained one priest to every 50 souls that they might teach the people concerning the kingdom of God. Alma also commanded the priests to labor with their own hands and not depend upon the people for their support. One day in every week was set apart to gather and worship God, and as often as it was in their power to assemble. When Noah discovered this movement among his people, he feared that Alma was stirring up a rebellion against him. He sent an army to destroy them, but Alma had been warned by the Lord, and they fled into the wilderness. Alma and his people now numbered about 450 souls. After traveling in the wilderness for eight days, they came to a land that was beautiful and pleasant. They settled in this land and began to till the earth and erect buildings. The people loved Alma and desired he should be their king. Alma refused to be king and told the people if they could always have just men to be their kings, it would be well to have a king. But Alma reminded them of the iniquity of King Noah and his priests; how the people and been oppressed by them, and it was the power of God that delivered them. Alma taught his people that every man should love his neighbor as himself and to be peaceful. The people prospered, and they built a city. They named their land and city Helam.

- 1. What did Alma do when he fled from the king?
- 2. What did he do secretly?
- 3. Did anyone believe Alma?
- 4. Where did they gather?
- 5. What did Alma teach them?
- 6. What did Alma say one day?
- 7. What did the people do and say?
- 8. Who went down into the water?
- 9. What did Alma say?
- 10. What did Alma do?

- 11. How were the others baptized?
- 12. Do we baptize as Alma baptized?
- 13. How many were baptized?
- 14. What were they called?
- 15. How many priests did Alma ordain?
- 16. What did he command them?
- 17. When did the people gather to worship God?
- 18. Why did Noah send an army to destroy Alma and his people?
- 19. Who warned them to flee?
- 20. How many souls did they number now?
- 21. How long did they travel?
- 22. What did they find?
- 23. What did the people do?
- 24. Why do you think the people loved Alma?
- 25. Why did Alma refuse to be king?
- 26. What did Alma teach the people?
- 27. What did they name their land and city?

#### The Return to Zarahemla

Lesson 42 Mosiah 19-24

Noah's army failed to find Alma and his people, and they returned to their land. One day the Lamanites came upon them to make war, and Noah commanded his people to flee; but the Lamanites pursued and began to slay them. The king and some of the people forsook their families and fled without them. Many refused to leave their families, and they begged the Lamanites to have mercy on them. The Lamanites spared them and promised them the land of Nephi would be theirs if they would surrender King Noah and give the Lamanites one half of all they possessed every year. They agreed to this, and a few men were sent to search for the king. They met those who had fled with him, and they told how they rebelled against Noah and put him to death by fire, even as he and his priests had done to Abinadi. They returned to the land of Nephi and rejoiced to see their families alive. A just man named Limhi, who was the son of Noah,

was made king by the people. He made a covenant with the Lamanites that his people should pay tax to them, even one half of all they possessed. The people of Limhi lived under this burden for a time and then they rebelled against the Lamanites. They battled with the Lamanites three times and were driven back each time. At last the people humbled themselves and cried to God, and the Lord began to ease their burdens. At this time Ammon and fifteen men from Zarahemla arrived in the land—See Lesson 38. Now Ammon, Limbi and the people began to study a way to escape from the Lamanites. A man named Gideon suggested Limhi tell the people to gather their flocks and prepare to depart by night. Gideon told the king he would give wine to the Lamanites who guarded them so that they would become drunken. When the people had prepared themselves, Limhi sent wine to the Lamanite guards, and they became drunken and fell asleep. During the night, King Limhi and his people departed into the wilderness. The next day the Lamanites discovered that Limhi's people had fled, and they followed their tracks in the wilderness for two days and became lost. The people of Limhi were led by Ammon and his men. After traveling many days, they arrived in the land of Zarahemla, and King Mosiah received them with joy. Alma and his people enjoyed peace for a time in the land of Helam; but one day an army of the Lamanites came and took possession of their land. This was the army that had become lost while following the tracks of Limhi and his people. The Lamanites promised Alma and his people their freedom if they would show them the way to the land of Nephi. But after Alma showed them the way, the Lamanites did not keep their promise, and they put Alma and his people in bondage. The persecutions and burdens became so great, they began to cry to God and the Lord eased their burdens, even as He had done to Limhi's people. At last the Lord told Alma to gather the people and make ready to depart. During the night, the people prepared themselves and when morning came, the Lord caused a deep sleep to come upon the Lamanites as Alma and the people departed into the wilderness. They traveled twelve days and finally arrived in the land of Zarahemla where King Mosiah received them with joy.

#### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 42**

- 1. Who made war with the people of King Noah?
- 2. Did Noah's people fight back?
- 3. What did the king and some of the people do?
- 4. Was the king brave or cowardly?
- 5. Who begged for mercy?
- 6. What did the Lamanites promise?
- 7. What happened to Noah?
- 8. Who became king?
- 9. What covenant did Limhi and the Lamanites make?
- 10. How many times did the people battle the Lamanites?
- 11. Did they win?
- 12. What did they do at last?
- 13. Did God answer their prayers?
- 14. Who arrived in the land?
- 15. What did Gideon suggest?
- 16. Tell how the people of Limhi fled to the land of Zarahemla.
- 17. Who received Limhi's people?
- 18. Who took possession of the land of Helam?
- 19. What army was this?
- 20. How did the Lamanites deceive Alma?
- 21. Why did the people cry to God?
- 22. What did God do for them?
- 23. What did God tell Alma to do?
- 24. Tell how the people fled to Zarahemla.

## Change in Government

#### Lesson 43

Mosiah 25-29

The people of Alma and Limhi joined the people of Mosiah. Mosiah read the record of Zeniff and the account of Alma to his people. They rejoiced to behold those whom God had delivered out of bondage, but they mourned for those who were slain by the Lamanites. The people also sorrowed for the Lamanites because of their sinful

and polluted state. After this, Alma went about preaching repentance and faith on the Lord. Limbi and his people were baptized by Alma. Alma regulated the affairs of the church and many were received and baptized. Alma's son, Alma, and the sons of Mosiah were unbelievers and sought to destroy the church. But one day an angel appeared to them and spoke as with a voice of thunder and the earth shook. Alma and the sons of Mosiah fell to the earth for fear, and the angel cried, "Alma, why do you persecute the church of God? Nothing can overthrow it except the transgressions of the people. Go and seek no more to destroy the church." Alma was so astonished that he became helpless and speechless. He was carried to his father who rejoiced for he knew it was the power of God. Now after he and the priests had fasted and prayed, Alma received strength and stood up. Alma said, "I have repented of my sins. I was in the darkest abyss; but now I behold the marvelous light of God." From this time forward, Alma and the sons of Mosiah began to preach the word of God. Mosiah's sons, namely: Ammon, Aaron, Omner and Himni, rejected their rights to become king and desired to preach to the Lamanites. Mosiah prayed to God about the matter, and the Lord answered that his sons could go and that many Lamanites would be converted. Mosiah's sons selected a few men, and they began their journey to the land of Nephi. Mosiah translated the 24 plates which had been found by the people of Limhi. He looked through two stones set in rims which were fastened together and they were called interpreters. The translation proved to be a history of the people who had been destroyed, back to the time of the great tower; it was a history of the Jaredites. Then Mosiah conferred upon Alma, the son of Alma, all the records and things which had been kept. Mosiah sent a written message to the people and advised them not to have a king anymore. He reminded them of wicked King Noah and said that all men are not just. Mosiah suggested that they elect judges to judge the people. Then if they would not judge righteously, they would be judged by a higher judge. Thus the people could have justice, whereas under a wicked king, they would be oppressed. The people were convinced of Mosiah's wisdom, and they assembled in bodies and elected judges according to the law that Mosiah made. Alma, the son of Alma, was elected Chief Judge, and the people rejoiced in their liberty. The people loved Mosiah immensely, and there was continual peace throughout the land. Alma's father, Alma, who was the founder of the church, died at the age of 82 years, and Mosiah died at the age of 63 years.

- 1. Who joined the people of Mosiah?
- 2. What did the king read?
- 3. Why did the people both rejoice and sorrow?
- 4. How did they feel about the Lamanites?
- 5. What did Alma preach?
- 6. Whom did Alma baptize?
- 7. Did the church prosper?
- 8. Who sought to destroy the church?
- 9. Tell what happened one day.
- 10. What did Alma say when he stood up?
- 11. What did Alma and Mosiah's sons do after this?
- 12. What did Mosiah's sons reject?
- 13. Why did they journey toward the land of Nephi?
- 14. How did the king translate the plates of gold?
- 15. What did the translation prove to be?
- 16. What did the king then do?
- 17. What advice did Mosiah give to the people?
- 18. What did he suggest?
- 19. Was the suggestion accepted?
- 20. What did the people do?
- 21. Who was elected Chief Judge?
- 22. Why was King Mosiah loved immensely?
- 23. Who died?
- 24. How old were they?

# Alma Preaches Throughout the Land

Lesson 44 Alma 1-8

The Nephites enjoyed peace and prosperity under the new government. Those who committed crimes were punished according to the laws that Mosiah had made. Some of the people who belonged to the church became sinful, lifted up in pride. Their names were blotted out of the church record or roll. In the fifth year of the reign of judges, a cunning man named Amlici tried to make himself king; but the people assembled, and the majority voted against Amlici and he was not made king. Amlici became angry and led an army to battle the Nephites. Alma led his people in defending themselves, and the Lord heard their prayers and strengthened them in battle. They were victorious, and peace was established again in the land. As time rolled on, the people of the church became lifted up in pride. This condition was a stumbling block to those who did not belong to the church, and the church began to fail in its progress. When Alma saw this condition of failure in the church, he became very sorrowful; nevertheless, the Spirit of the Lord did not fail him. He selected a wise man named Nephihah, who was an elder of the church, to take his place as Chief Judge. Nephihah was elected Chief Judge by the people, but Alma retained the office of High Priest, which was conferred upon him by his father. Alma resigned as Chief Judge so that he could be free to go among the people and preach the word of God. He began to preach in the city of Zarahemla, and then went to the cities and villages throughout the land. He labored much to stir up the people to a remembrance of their duty. He diligently told them of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who should come to redeem His people. Not all the cities received Alma. He was rejected in the city of Ammonihah. He was cast out of the city, and he went away sorrowing. An angel appeared to Alma and comforted him. This was the same angel that appeared to Alma when he sought to destroy the church. The angel was sent to command Alma to return to the city and preach repentance, and if the people would not repent they would be destroyed. Alma obeyed the command of God and speedily returned to the city. He entered the city by another way and he met a man. Alma was hungry, and he asked the man for

something to eat. The man replied, "I know that you are a holy prophet of God, for in a vision, an angel told me to receive you." He took Alma to his house and fed him. This man's name was Amulek, and Alma told him he was the High Priest over the church. Alma also told Amulek the people had cast him out of the city, but he was commanded to return and preach repentance again. Alma tarried many days with Amulek. One day he was commanded of God to take Amulek and go forth and preach again to the people. Both Alma and Amulek obeyed the command of God, and they went forth to declare the warning of God to the people in the city of Ammonihah.

- 1. What did the new government bring to the people?
- 2. Did the new government permit or allow crime?
- 3. Whose names were blotted out?
- 4. What happened in the fifth year of the reign of judges?
- 5. Why were the Nephites victorious?
- 6. Why did the church begin to fail in its progress?
- 7. How did Alma feel when he saw this condition?
- 8. What did Alma do?
- 9. How did Nephihah become Chief Justice?
- 10. What office did Alma retain?
- 11. Why did Alma give up his position as Chief Judge?
- 12. Where did Alma preach?
- 13. Who rejected Alma?
- 14. What happened as Alma went away sorrowing?
- 15. What did the angel command him to do?
- 16. Was Alma obedient?
- 17. What did Alma ask the man he met?
- 18. What did the man say and do?
- 19. What was the man's name?
- 20. What did Alma tell Amulek?
- 21. How long did Alma stay with Amulek?
- 22. What did God command Alma to do?
- 23. Did Alma and Amulek obey God's command?

#### Alma and Amulek's Labors

Lesson 45 Alma 9-16

Alma began to preach to the people of Ammonihah, but they contended with him saying, "Who are you? We will not believe you if you should prophesy that this great city could be destroyed in one day." Alma boldly told them they had forgotten the commandments of God and His mercy in delivering their fathers from their enemies. He also said God had favored the Nephites above every other people and had firmly decreed that if they would rebel against Him, they would be utterly destroyed. They became angry with Alma and tried to take him and put him into prison, but the Lord did not permit them to lay hands on Alma. Amulek then began to speak and recounted his conversation. There were lawyers among the people who sought gain and they questioned Amulek, trying to confound him, but Amulek withstood them boldly. A lawyer named Zeezrom offered Amulek a sum of money if he would deny the existence of a Supreme Being. Amulek refused the offered and said to Zeezrom, "You know that there is a God, but you love money more than Him." Zeezrom asked Amulek many questions about God, death and the resurrection. When Amulek finished speaking, the people were astonished and Zeezrom began to tremble. On seeing this condition, Alma began to speak again, and he unfolded the scriptures beyond what Amulek had done. Zeezrom was convinced more and more of the power of God and also many people believed Alma, but the greater part desired to destroy Alma and Amulek. Zeezrom confessed to the people that he was guilty; that Alma and Amulek were spotless before God. But they cast him out of the city and all those who believed Alma and Amulek. These wicked people then took the wives and children of the men whom they had thrust out of the city and cruelly burned them to death. They even threw the holy scripture into the fire to be burned. Alma and Amulek were bound and put into prison, and the wicked priests and judges abused them. They withheld food and water from them and spit upon them. After many days, they went before Alma and Amulek again. One by one they smote Alma and Amulek saying, "If you have the power of God, deliver yourselves from these bands and then we will believe the Lord will destroy this people." At last the power of God was upon Alma and Amulek and they stood up. Alma cried, "O Lord give us strength according to our faith in Christ, even to deliverance." They broke the cords which bound them, and those who had abused them fell to the earth for fear. The earth shook mightily, and the prison walls crumbled down upon them to their destruction; only Alma and Amulek were saved. They departed into the land of Sidom, and here they found Zeezrom and those who had been cast out with him. Zeezrom repented, and Alma baptized him unto the Lord. After establishing the church in that land, Alma and Amulek returned to Zarahemla. One day the Lamanites came and in one day destroyed all the people in Ammonihah and their city, which they said could not be destroyed.

- 1. Did the people believe Alma's words?
- 2. What did Alma accuse them of?
- 3. What did the people try to do?
- 4. What did God not permit?
- 5. What did Amulek say?
- 6. Who tried to confound Amulek?
- 7. What did Zeezrom do?
- 8. What did Amulek reply?
- 9. Did the people believe Amulek?
- 10. What did Alma do?
- 11. Were the people and Zeezrom convinced?
- 12. What was Zeezrom's confession?
- 13. Tell what happened after this.
- 14. What happened to Alma and Amulek?
- 15. How were they treated?
- 16. What happened after many days?
- 17. What was Alma's prayer?
- 18. What do you think caused the earth to shake?
- 19. Who perished?
- 20. Where did Alma and Amulek go?
- 21. What did they do there?
- 22. Who returned to Zarahemla?
- 23. What happened one day?

## Conversion of the Lamanites

Lesson 46 Alma 17-27

As Alma was traveling one day, he met the sons of Mosiah; they rejoiced to see one another. Mosiah's sons were returning to Zarahemla after having taught the word of God for fourteen years among the Lamanites. They had left with a few others in the first year of the judges; their prayer to God was for guidance and to help them bring the Lamanites to a knowledge of the truth. When they arrived in the land of the Lamanites, they separated, trusting in the Lord to meet again at the close of their harvest. Ammon went to the land of Ishmael where he was taken, bound and put into prison. He was brought before the king, whose name was Lamoni. He asked Ammon if he desired to dwell among this people. Ammon replied, "Yes, I desire to dwell among this people for a time and perhaps until I die." This pleased the king. He ordered Ammon be unbound, and he became a servant to the king. As Ammon and other servants watched the king's flocks. some Lamanites began to scatter the flocks. Ammon contended with them and slew seven of them. When the king's servants saw the strength of Ammon against so many, they went and told the king. The king thought Ammon was the Great Spirit, which is the tradition or belief of the Lamanites about God. But Ammon explained many things about God, and the king believed all of his words. King Lamoni then cried to God for mercy, and he fell to the earth as if he were dead. He lay there for two days, and on the third day, the king arose and glorified God saying, "I have seen my Redeemer." He sank down again and the queen also sank down, being overpowered by the Spirit of God. At this point, Ammon knelt down in thanksgiving to God for what He had done, and again he sank down for great joy. When they arose, Ammon spoke to the people who had gathered around them. Many believed and were baptized. God revealed to Ammon that his brother and two others were in prison in the land of Middoni, and he went with the king and delivered them. Ammon and the king returned to the land of Ishmael. Aaron and the other two who were delivered from prison, went forth again to declare the word, even in the land of Nephi where Lamoni's father was king. As Aaron unfolded the scriptures,

the king believed and cried to God and he sank down, as his son, and was converted. Many others were converted and thus, thousands of Lamanites were brought to a knowledge of God through the preaching of Ammon and his brethren. The converted Lamanites buried their weapons and chose to be killed, rather than fight any more. Finally, Ammon, his brethren and the converted Lamanites left that land and went to the land of Zarahemla where the Nephites gladly received them. They gave the Lamanites the land of Jershon, and they settled there.

- 1. Whom did Alma meet?
- 2. Where had the sons of Mosiah been and how long?
- 3. What had they done?
- 4. When had they left?
- 5. What was their prayer?
- 6. When did they separate?
- 7. What happened to Ammon?
- 8. Why was he unbound?
- 9. What did Ammon become?
- 10. How did Ammon preserve the king's flocks?
- 11. Who gave Ammon such power?
- 12. What did the king think Ammon was?
- 13. What did Ammon explain?
- 14. Did the king believe?
- 15. What happened to the king?
- 16. What did he say when he arose?
- 17. Tell what happened after this.
- 18. Did others believe?
- 19. Who was delivered from prison?
- 20. Where did Aaron and his brethren preach?
- 21. Tell how Lamoni's father was converted.
- 22. How many Lamanites were converted?
- 23. What did the converted Lamanites do?
- 24. Who went to the land of Zarahemla?
- 25. Where did the Lamanites settle?

## Moroni

Lesson 47 Alma 43-63

In the 18th year of the judges, the Lamanites began to make war with the Nephites. The leader of the Nephites was a young man named Moroni. He took full command of their armies when he was only 25 years old. The Lord helped them, and they won a great battle over the Lamanites. The people of Nephi rejoiced and gave thanks to God for delivering them again from their enemies. Alma came to his son Helaman, who had the sacred record. He blessed him and his other sons and the church. Alma departed out of the land of Zarahemla, and he was not heard of any more. Some believed the Lord received Alma in the spirit unto Himself. While the Lamanites were gathering an army to attack the Nephites, Moroni was preparing the minds of his people to be faithful to God. He directed the people to erect forts and build stone walls around the cities. Thus the people were prepared to defend themselves; to support their liberty, their lands, their families, their peace and that they might be free to serve God. Moroni was a strong and mighty man; a man of perfect understanding, and his soul rejoiced in the liberty of his country. He labored exceedingly for the welfare and safety of his people. He was firm in the faith of Christ and had determined to defend his people, country and religion even to the death. Helaman and the sons of Alma also served the people. They preached the word of God and baptized all repentant believers. Not long after, the Nephites were compelled to take up arms against the Lamanites who again began to attack them. This war was a serious one and lasted many years. Moroni and his brave captains and armies fought valiantly. Many of their cities were taken by the Lamanites, then retaken by the Nephites. When those converted Lamanites saw the afflictions of the Nephites, they became sorrowful and wanted to take up arms to assist the Nephites in defending their country. But Helaman persuaded them not to break their oath that they would never take up arms any more. Now the sons of the converted Lamanites had not made the oath their parents made. So 2000 of these young men took up arms and they chose Helaman as their leader. They joined the Nephites in a great battle with the Lamanites and were victorious. When the battle was over, Helaman feared that many had been slain, but to his great joy, not one had fallen. After much fighting, the Lamanites were driven out of the land and peace was established. Helaman and his brethren went forth preaching, and they baptized many people. Helaman died a few years later, and Moroni died about a year after.

- 1. What happened in the 18th year of the judges?
- 2. Who was the commander of the Nephite armies?
- 3. How old was Moroni?
- 4. Why did the people thank God?
- 5. What did Alma do?
- 6. What became of Alma?
- 7. What did some suppose about Alma?
- 8. Tell what Moroni did for the people and why?
- 9. Tell all you can about Moroni.
- 10. Who preached and baptized?
- 11. What happened after this?
- 12. Who fought valiantly?
- 13. Who wanted to assist the Nephites?
- 14. What did Helaman do?
- 15. Who chose Helaman as their leader?
- 16. Whom did they join to battle with the Lamanites?
- 17. Who was victorious?
- 18. Who rejoiced and why?
- 19. Who was driven out of the land?
- 20. What did Helaman and his brethren do?
- 21. When did Helaman die?
- 22. When did Moroni die?

## Nephi and Lehi, Sons of Helaman

Lesson 48 Helaman 1-16

Helaman's brother, Shiblon, took charge of those sacred things which Alma had delivered to Helaman. Before he died, Shiblon conferred those sacred things upon Helaman, the son of Helaman. Helaman was appointed Chief Judge, and he did that which was right in the sight of God. He had two sons whom he named Nephi and Lehi, and they began to grow up unto the Lord. When Helaman died, his son Nephi was made Chief Judge, and he walked in the ways of his father. A contention arose among the people of Nephi. Then the Lamanites came to battle with them. Nephi became weary of the iniquity of his people and he yielded the judgment-seat to one Cezoram. Nephi and Lehi went forth preaching the word of God with great power. Many Nephites were brought to repentance and also 8000 of the Lamanites who were in the land of Zarahemla and round about were convinced and baptized. Nephi and Lehi then went to the land of Nephi to preach to the Lamanites there, but they were put into prison; it was the same prison into which Ammon and his brethren were cast by King Limhi's guards. They went many days without food. Then the Lamanites came to slay them. At this point Nephi and Lehi were encircled, as it were, by fire, but they were not burned. The Lamanites feared to touch them lest they should be burned. Nephi and Lehi said, "Fear not. God has shown you this marvelous thing." Then the earth shook and the prison walls trembled as if they would fall, but they did not. A cloud of darkness overshadowed the Lamanites; then a still small voice was heard saying, "Repent! Repent!", and the walls trembled again. The voice came a second and a third time as the prison walls trembled each time. One of the Lamanites, Aminadab, was a Nephite by birth, but he had left the church and joined the Lamanites. He saw through the darkness the faces of Nephi and Lehi and their faces shone as faces of angels. When the Lamanites asked what they should do that the darkness might be removed, Aminadab told them to repent and cry to the voice. They cried to the voice of Him who had shaken the earth and the darkness disappeared; and each one was encircled by a pillar of fire, while Nephi and Lehi were in the midst of them. Then angels came down out of heaven and ministered to them. There were about 300 souls who saw and heard these things. They went forth declaring all these things to the people, and the more part of the Lamanites believed and were converted. Nephi and Lehi went throughout all the land preaching the word of God. Nephi had great power and authority given to him from God, and the people esteemed him as a great prophet and a man of God. Lehi, his brother, was not a whit behind him as to things pertaining to righteousness.

- 1. What did Shiblon do?
- 2. What did Shiblon confer upon Helaman?
- 3. Who was appointed Chief Judge?
- 4. Was he a good judge?
- 5. How many sons did Helaman have?
- 6. Name the sons of Helaman.
- 7. Who succeeded Helaman as Chief Judge?
- 8. Why did Nephi become weary?
- 9. What did he do?
- 10. What did Nephi and Lehi do?
- 11. Who repented?
- 12. How many Lamanites were baptized?
- 13. Where did Nephi and Lehi go?
- 14. What happened to them?
- 15. Who was put into the same prison many years before?
- 16. How did God preserve Nephi and Lehi from being slain?
- 17. What happened after Nephi and Lehi spoke?
- 18. What was heard?
- 19. How many times was the voice heard?
- 20. Whose voice do you think it was?
- 21. Tell what took place after this?
- 22. How many Lamanites saw and heard those things?
- 23. How many Lamanites were converted?
- 24. What did the people think of Nephi?
- 25. What about Lehi?

#### Samuel the Lamanite

Lesson 49 Helaman 13-16

While Nephi and Lehi were going about preaching in power, Samuel, a Lamanite, came into the land of Zarahemla and began to preach to the people. Samuel was put out of the city. As he was about to return to is own land, the Lord told him to return and preach again. Samuel obeyed and went back to the city, but the people refused to let him into the city. So Samuel got up on the city wall and began to warn the people of the judgments of God. Samuel also told the people that after five more years the Son of God would come into the world. For a sign of His coming, Samuel said there would be great lights in heaven insomuch that in the night before the Lord would come, there would be no darkness and it would appear as day. Thus there would be a day and a night and a day, as if it were one day. Samuel also said a new star would appear, one they had never seen. Samuel told the people that Christ must die that salvation may come. He gave them a sign of His death; that when the Lord would die, the sun would be darkened, also the moon and stars and there would be no light upon the land for three days, from the time of his death to the time that He would rise from the dead. There would be earthquakes, thunderings and lightnings, and many highways would be broken up and many cities destroyed. Many people heard Samuel as he spoke from the city wall, and all those who believed went to Nephi, the brother of Lehi, to be baptized. There were many who did not believe the words of Samuel. They threw stones and shot arrows at him, but he was not hit for the Spirit of the Lord was with him. The people became angry when they saw they could not hit Samuel with their stones and arrows; so they went forth to lay their hands on him, but Samuel jumped from the wall and fled. He went to his own country where he began to preach to his people. Many signs and wonders were wrought among the people of the Lord and many miracles, yet Satan stirred the people to do iniquity continually. Nephi, the son of Helaman, gave charge to his oldest son, Nephi, concerning the records and things that had been kept sacred since the departure of Lehi out of Jerusalem. Then Nephi departed out of the land of Zarahemla and could nowhere be found in all the land.

#### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 49**

- 1. Who came into the land of Zarahemla?
- 2. What did he do?
- 3. Was Samuel welcomed?
- 4. What did the Lord tell Samuel?
- 5. Did he obey?
- 6. Was Samuel received this time?
- 7. What did he do and say?
- 8. Who would come after five more years?
- 9. What would be the sign of His coming?
- 10. Why must Christ die?
- 11. What would be the sign of His death?
- 12. How many days would it be dark?
- 13. When would the darkness begin and end?
- 14. Did anyone believe Samuel?
- 15. What did the believers do?
- 16. What did the unbelievers do?
- 17. Why did they become angry?
- 18. What did they try to do?
- 19. What did Samuel do?
- 20. What was done among the people of God?
- 21. Did the people do good?
- 22. What did Nephi do?
- 23. Who could not be found?

# The Sign of the Birth of Christ

Lesson 50 3 Nephi 1

Almost five years had passed away since Samuel gave the sign, and it was 600 years from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem. There began to be greater signs and miracles wrought among the people. But there were some who began to say the time was past for the words to be fulfilled spoken by Samuel, the Lamanite. They made a great uproar throughout the land; and the people who believed began

to be very sorrowful. But they watched steadfastly for that sign. Now there was a day set apart by the unbelievers that all those who believed in the coming of Christ should be put to death except the sign should appear. When Nephi, the son of Nephi, saw this wickedness among his people, he became sorrowful and cried to God in behalf of those who were about to be destroyed because of their faith in God. The Lord spoke to Nephi saying, "Be of good cheer; for behold the time is at hand, and tomorrow I come into the world." The word of God was fulfilled very soon, for when the sun went down that same day that Nephi prayed, there was no darkness. The unbelievers fell to the earth for fear of their iniquity and unbelief, and they now realized that the Son of God must shortly appear. There was no darkness in all that night, but it was light as midday. The sun rose in the morning according to its proper order; and the people knew that it was the day that the Lord should be born. Jesus was born in Bethlehem at night, while in this land it was day. Also a new star appeared according to the word of Samuel. From this time forth, Satan sent forth lies among the people to harden their hearts that they might not believe in the signs and wonders which they had seen. But the greater part of the people believed and were converted to the Lord. Nephi and many others went forth baptizing all repentant believers, and the people began again to have peace in the land.

- 1. How many years had passed away since Samuel gave the sign?
- 2. How many years was it since Lehi left Jerusalem?
- 3. What was wrought among the people?
- 4. What did some say?
- 5. What did the believers do?
- 6. What great evil did the unbelievers plan?
- 7. Who felt sorrowful and why?
- 8. What did Nephi do?
- 9. What was God's answer?
- 10. Was God's word fulfilled?
- 11. What happened that same day?
- 12. What happened to the unbelievers?

- 13. What did they realize?
- 14. Describe that night.
- 15. When the sun rose in the morning, what did the people know?
- 16. Where and when was the Lord Jesus born?
- 17. Was it day or night in this land when the Lord was born?
- 18. What else appeared?
- 19. Who sent forth lies and why?
- 20. How many people were converted?
- 21. What did Nephi and many others do?
- 22. Did they have peace?

# **Prosperity and Pride**

### Lesson 51

3 Nephi 2-7

After a few years passed away since the sign appeared, the people began to forget the signs and wonders which they had seen. They began to be less astonished at a sign or wonder in heaven, insomuch that their hearts became hardened, their minds blind, and they even began to disbelieve all that they had heard and seen. Now the Nephites began to reckon their time from the time that the sign appeared, or from the coming of Christ. In the 13th year from the time the sign was given, the curse was taken from the converted Lamanites. Their skin became white like the Nephites, and they were no more called Lamanites, but were called Nephites. A few years later a terrible war happened between the Nephites and a large band of robbers. The Nephites humbled themselves themselves before God and repented of their sins. When those robbers came, the Nephites met them in the strength of the Lord and overcame them in battle. They rejoiced and praised God for His great goodness in delivering them out of the hands of their enemies. After a few years of peace and prosperity, contention and pride began to spring up among the people. Some were lifted up in pride, others were humble; the church began to be broken up. There began to be men inspired from heaven sent forth in all the land that testified boldly of the iniquities of the people. Many of these holy men were taken and put to death secretly by

wicked judges. These same wicked judges also murdered the Chief Judge. The people became divided one against another and they formed tribes. The more righteous part of the people had nearly all become wicked, and there were but few righteous people among them. When Nephi, the son of Nephi, saw this awful condition, he sorrowed and went forth to preach repentance and remission of sins through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The people became angry with Nephi because he had greater power than they. Nephi raised from the dead his brother, whom the people had stoned to death. He did many miracles in the name of Jesus. Nephi began to preach in the 31st year since the sign of the birth of Christ, and he preached for about three years. Only a few people were baptized in the 31st and 32nd years, but in the 33rd year, many were baptized.

- 1. What did the people begin to forget?
- 2. What did they begin to disbelieve?
- 3. What change did the Nephites make in reckoning their time?
- 4. What happened in the 13th year?
- 5. Who do you think did this for the Lamanites?
- 6. Why did the Lord preserve the Nephites in battle?
- 7. What happened after a few years of peace?
- 8. Who were sent forth to rebuke the people?
- 9. What happened to those holy men?
- 10. What other sinful thing did the wicked judges do?
- 11. What did the people do?
- 12. What became of the more righteous part of the people?
- 13. How many righteous people were to be found?
- 14. Who went forth and began to preach to the people?
- 15. Why were the people angry with Nephi?
- 16. What great miracle did Nephi perform?
- 17. In whose name did Nephi perform miracles?
- 18. How many years did Nephi preach?
- 19. How many people were baptized in the 31st and 32nd years.
- 20. How many were baptized in the 33rd year?

## The Sign of the Crucifixion of Christ

Lesson 52

III Nephi 8-10

When the 33rd year had passed away, the people began to look with great earnestness for the sign which had been given by the prophet Samuel, the Lamanite. The sign was that there should be darkness for three days upon the land. On the fourth day of the first month of the 34th year, there was a great storm such as had never been known. There was also a great tempest and thunder which shook the earth, also sharp lightnings which had never been known in all the land. The highways and level roads were broken up and spoiled. Many great and notable cities were sunk, many were burned and the buildings of many cities fell to the earth. Many people were slain. The face of the land became deformed or changed. This terrible destruction lasted for about three hours. Then a thick darkness settled over the land, and the people who had not perished could feel the vapor of darkness. There could be no light, not even from candles or torches, and fire could not be kindled with wood. The darkness lasted for three days. The people mourned and wept because of the destruction which had come upon them. A voice was heard by the people crying, "Woe to this people and to all the people of the whole earth, except they repent. Many great destructions have I caused to come upon this land and upon this people because of their wickedness. O all you that are spared because you were more righteous, will you not now return to Me, and repent of your sins and be converted that I may heal you? Behold, I am Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Who repents and comes to Me as a little child, him will I receive." The people were astonished at the sayings of Jesus. They ceased lamenting, and there was silence throughout the land. The voice of Jesus was heard again saying if those whom He spared would repent and return to him, He would gather them. If they would not, the places of their dwellings would become desolate. At the end of three days, the darkness disappeared and it was morning. The people gave praise and thanks to the Lord Jesus Christ, their Redeemer.

#### **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 52**

- 1. When did the people begin to look for the sign?
- 2. What was the sign given by Samuel?
- 3. When did a great storm arise?
- 4. What else happened?
- 5. What was broken up and spoiled?
- 6. What became of many great cities?
- 7. What happened to many buildings?
- 8. What happened to many people?
- 9. What was deformed or changed?
- 10. How long did the destruction last?
- 11. What happened after this?
- 12. Was there any light at all?
- 13. Could the people have light from torches or candles?
- 14. How long was there darkness?
- 15. Why did the people mourn and weep?
- 16. What did they hear?
- 17. What did the voice say?
- 18. Why did the destruction come?
- 19. Whose voice was it?
- 20. Tell what happened after this.
- 21. What did Jesus say the second time He spoke?
- 22. What happened at the end of three days?
- 23. What did the people do?

# Jesus Descends Among the Nephites

#### Lesson 53

3 Nephi 11-17

A multitude of the Nephites gathered about the temple in the land Bountiful, and they were wondering and talking about the great change that had taken place. They were conversing about Jesus Christ, and suddenly they heard a voice as if it came out of heaven; but they could not understand the voice. The voice came a second time, and they still did not understand it. Then the third time, the people looked

steadfastly toward heaven from where the sound came, and they understood the voice; and it said, "Behold My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, in whom I have glorified My name—hear ye Him." As the people were listening and looking towards heaven, they saw a man clothed in a white robe descending out of heaven. He came and stood in the midst of them. The Nephites thought this personage was an angel, but they were afraid to speak and could only look upon mim. Then he said, "Behold, I am Jesus Christ, whom the prophets testified shall come into the world. I have glorified the Father in taking upon me the sins of the world." When the people heard this, they fell to the earth, for they remembered that it had been prophesied that Christ should show Himself to them after His ascension into heaven. The Lord Jesus told them to arise and come to Him to feel His side, and the prints of the nails in His hands and feet, that they might know that He had been slain for the sins of the world. The people went forth, one by one, and felt the Lord's side and the prints of the nails in His hands and feet. They knew He was the Lord and they worshiped Him. Jesus called Nephi and eleven others and gave them power to baptize the people after He would again ascend into heaven. The Lord instructed the twelve to baptize the people by immersion in the water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. The Lord began to teach the people many of the same things He taught the Jews in Palestine. The Lord told them he had fulfilled the law of Moses so that it was now ended. Jesus then told the Nephites to keep His commandments or teachings from now on. He also said He was going to visit the lost tribes of Israel and the people desired that He should stay longer. The Lord Jesus told them to bring forth all their sick, blind, lame, deaf and afflicted people and when this was done, the Lord healed every one. At this point all the people bowed down at the feet of the Lord Jesus and worshiped Him.

- 1. Where had the multitude of Nephites gathered?
- 2. What was their conversation?
- 3. What did they hear?
- 4. Did the people understand the voice?

- 5. How many times did they hear the voice?
- 6. When did they understand the voice?
- 7. Can you tell whose voice it was?
- 8. What did people see?
- 9. Did the Nephites know who this personage was?
- 10. How did they learn who He was?
- 11. What did the people do?
- 12. What did the Lord tell them to do?
- 13. What did they know and do after they felt the Lord's side, hands and feet?
- 14. To how many did the Lord give power to baptize?
- 15. How were they to baptize the people?
- 16. Is this the way our Church baptizes?
- 17. What else did the Lord teach?
- 18. Whom did Jesus say He was going to visit?
- 19. What did the Lord do for the people?
- 20. How did the people express or show their thankfulness to the Lord?

## **Baptism of the Twelve Disciples**

#### Lesson 54

3 Nephi 17-19

The Lord commanded the people to bring forth their children. When they were brought forth, He stood in the midst of them. Then Jesus and the multitude knelt down to pray to the Father; tongue cannot repeat the words of Jesus as He prayed, neither can they be written, nor can the joy that filled the Nephites be described. When Jesus arose, He took their children and blessed them one by one, praying to the Father for them. The heavens opened and angels descended in the midst of fire and encircled those little ones. The multitude saw all these wonders. They were in number about 2500 souls, consisting of men, women and children. The Lord also administered bread and wine, or the Lord's Supper to the twelve disciples, and they in turn, administered it to the multitude. Jesus told them to do this always to remember Him. After the Lord ascended into heaven, the people returned to



their homes. The next day the people gathered again, and Nephi and the other eleven disciples taught them the same things that Jesus taught. They also knelt down and prayed to God in the name of Jesus. When they arose, they went down near the water and Nephi was baptized. being the first. Nephi then baptized the other eleven disciples. The Holy Ghost came upon them. They were encircled by fire that came down from heaven; angels came down out of heaven and ministered to them. Then Jesus came and stood in the midst of them. He commanded the multitude to kneel upon the ground. He also commanded the disciples to pray as He went a little way off and bowed in prayer to the Father. When Jesus returned to His disciples, they were still praying, and He smiled upon them. The light of the face of Jesus shone upon His disciples, and they were as white as the face and garments of Jesus. Jesus went a little way off and again prayed. When He returned, the twelve disciples were still praying. Again Jesus smiled upon them and they were as white as Jesus. For the third time Jesus went a little way off to pray, and tongue cannot tell the words of Jesus as He prayed, neither can they be written. After this the Lord Jesus commanded the people to arise and they did so.

- 1. What did Jesus command the people to do?
- 2. Did they obey?
- 3. Where did Jesus stand?
- 4. What did Jesus and the people do?
- 5. What are we told about the prayer that Jesus offered?
- 6. What did Jesus do after this?
- 7. What happened next?
- 8. Can you tell why Jesus blessed those little ones?
- 9. How many people were gathered there?
- 10. What did Jesus administer to the twelve?
- 11. What did the twelve do?
- 12. What did Jesus say?
- 13. When did the people return to their homes?
- 14. When did they gather again?
- 15. What did the twelve teach them?

- 16. After praying, where did they go?
- 17. Who was the first one baptized?
- 18. What did Nephi then do?
- 19. Tell how they were blessed.
- 20. Who appeared?
- 21. What did Jesus tell them to do?
- 22. What did Jesus do?
- 23. How many times did Jesus do this?
- 24. Who were as white as Jesus?
- 25. What caused this?
- 26. Describe the prayer of Jesus.

# Jesus Unfolds the Scriptures

#### Lesson 55

3 Nephi 20-27

Jesus began to unfold the scriptures and prophesies concerning the Nephites, the whole House of Israel as well as the Gentiles. The Lord said the remnants of the House of Israel that would be scattered abroad upon the earth, would be gathered again at some future time and be brought to a knowledge of the Lord their God. Jesus told the Nephites the Gentiles would be established in this land of America and be set up as a free people by the power of God. Then these things or writings, or as we know them, the Book of Mormon, would be first revealed to the Gentiles for this reason, that if they would repent and come to Jesus and be baptized in His name, they would be numbered among the House of Israel. Jesus further told the Nephites the Book of Mormon would go forth from the Gentiles to their descendants, or as they are commonly known, the Indians. When the Indians are cleansed from sin through obeying the Gospel of Christ, they will build a city on this land which shall be called the New Jerusalem. They will be assisted by the Gentiles who repent and as many of the House of Israel as shall obey the Gospel. Jesus said the power of heaven shall come down among them and He will be in the midst of them. Finally, the work of God will begin among all nations, in preparing the way whereby His people may be gathered home to the lands of their inheritance. Jesus explained many things to the Nephites, even from the beginning, until the time that He shall come in His glory, even to the great and last day when all the people shall stand before God to be judged of their works, whether they have been good or evil. The twelve disciples whom Jesus chose began to baptize and teach as many as would come to them. Some trouble arose among the people concerning the name they should give the Church. The twelve gathered and prayed about the matter, and Jesus appeared to them. He told them to call the church in His name. Jesus also said, "Whatsoever you ask the Father in my name shall be given to you. Therefore, ask and you shall receive, knock and it shall be opened unto you."

- 1. What did Jesus unfold or explain?
- 2. Who should be gathered and when?
- 3. What did Jesus say about the Gentiles?
- 4. What was to be revealed to the Gentiles?
- 5. Has this happened yet?
- 6. What are the Gentiles promised if they repent and obey the Gospel?
- 7. Who else was to receive the Gospel?
- 8. After they are cleansed, what will they do?
- 9. What will the city be named?
- 10. Who will assist them to build it?
- 11. What will take place after the city is built?
- 12. What is to begin among the nations and why?
- 13. Tell what Jesus said of the great and last day.
- 14. Who began to baptize and teach?
- 15. What arose among the people?
- 16. What did the twelve do?
- 17. Who appeared to them?
- 18. What did Jesus tell them?
- 19. Does our Church have the correct name?
- 20. What did Jesus teach the twelve?
- 21. Can we receive anything if we do not ask?

# Three Disciples Are Not to Die

Lesson 56 3 Nephi 28

Jesus spoke to the 12 disciples asking them, "What is it that you desire of me after I am gone to the Father?" Nine of them replied, "We desire that after we have lived to the age of man and our ministry is ended, that we may speedily come to Thee in Thy kingdom." Jesus said, "Blessed are you, therefore when you are 72 years old, you shall come to me in my kingdom and you shall find rest." Then Jesus turned to the three who had not replied and asked them what they desired. but they were silent. Jesus told them He knew their thoughts, that they desired the same thing that John the Apostle had desired of Him when He was in Palestine. They desired they should never die so they could bring many souls to Christ as long as the world should stand. Then Jesus said, "More blessed are you, for you shall never taste of death. but you shall live until all things shall be fulfilled according to the will of the Father. You shall have no pain while you live in the flesh, neither sorrow, except it be for the sins of the world. You shall have fullness of joy and you shall sit down in the kingdom of my Father." After this. Jesus touched each of His disciples with His finger, except the three who should tarry or never die, and He departed. The three disciples were caught up to heaven, and they saw and heard unspeakable things which they were forbidden by the Lord to tell. When they were brought back to earth, they went forth preaching and baptizing as many people as believed in their preaching. The Lord made a change on their bodies so that nothing could harm them, neither could death have power over their bodies. The Lord forbade their names should be written. and that is why we do not know the names of the three beloved disciples. When the Lord sees fit in His wisdom, they shall minister or preach to all the scattered tribes of Israel and to all nations, kindreds, tongues and people, and shall bring many souls to Jesus. In the next lesson, we will learn a little more about the three disciples who should tarry.

## **QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 56**

- 1. What did Jesus ask the twelve?
- 2. How many answered?
- 3. What was their desire?
- 4. What did Jesus tell them?
- 5. Did the other three reveal their desire?
- 6. What did Jesus say to them?
- 7. What was their desire?
- 8. Did Jesus grant their desire?
- 9. Would they suffer pain or sorrow?
- 10. What did Jesus do after this?
- 11. What glorious experience did the three disciples have?
- 12. What did they do afterwards?
- 13. What did the Lord do to the three disciples? Why?
- 14. Do we know their names?
- 15. What will they do among the scattered tribes of Israel?
- 16. To whom else will they minister?
- 17. When will they do this?
- 18. What will they bring to Jesus?

## A Blessed People

Lesson 57 4 Nephi

Through the preaching of the disciples of Jesus, many people repented of their sins and were baptized in the name of Jesus. The Lord blessed them. Within two years after the Lord had visited them, the people were all converted to the Lord, both Nephites and Lamanites. They had all things in common among them; there were no rich or poor, they were all equal and treated one another justly. The disciples of Jesus wrought many miracles in His name. They healed the sick, raised the dead, caused the lame to walk, the blind to see, and the deaf to hear. The Lord prospered them and they built cities again where cities had been burned. They did not keep the law of Moses anymore, but they obeyed the commandments of Jesus. They

gathered oft to pray and hear the word of the Lord. When 100 years had passed away since the birth of Jesus, the people still enjoyed peace. The disciples of Jesus had all gone to the paradise of God, except the three who should tarry or never die. Other men were ordained in the places of the disciples who died, and thus the number of disciples continued to be twelve. Because of the love of God in the hearts of the people, there were no robbers, no murderers, and neither were they called Nephites and Lamanites anymore, but they were as one in Christ. Surely there could not have been a happier people among all the people whom God had created. Nephi, who had kept the records, died and his son Amos began to write the history of the people. This Nephi who died was the son of Nephi, one of the disciples of Jesus. Amos kept the record for 84 years, and when he died, his son Amos kept the record. The people multiplied and became rich, but in the 201st year, some became lifted up in pride. They were no more equal, but were divided into classes. Many churches rose up, some denying part of the Gospel and other churches even denying Christ. The true Church of Christ and the three who should tarry were persecuted. The beloved disciples were put into prison, but they were delivered by the power of God. They were thrown into furnaces of fire, and they came forth unharmed. They were also thrown into dens of wild beasts, but they played with the beasts as a child would play with a lamb, and they were not harmed. The people were again known as Nephites and Lamanites and both had become wicked. From this time forth, the disciples began to sorrow for the sins of the world.

- 1. What did many people do?
- 2. What happened within two years?
- 3. What change took place in the lives of the people?
- 4. What were the miracles wrought by the disciples?
- 5. What did the people build?
- 6. What did they obey?
- 7. What became of the twelve?
- 8. What peaceful condition did the love of God bring?
- 9. Were the people happy?

- 10. Who died?
- 11. Who was the father of Nephi?
- 12. How long did Amos keep the record?
- 13. Who kept the record after Amos died?
- 14. What happened in the 201st year?
- 15. What rose up?
- 16. What did these churches deny?
- 17. Who was persecuted?
- 18. Who were delivered from prison?
- 19. What else happened to the beloved disciples?
- 20. What happened to the people?
- 21. What did the disciples do from this time?

## **Mormon Leads the Nephites**

Lesson 58 Mormon 1-5

When Amos died, his brother Ammaron began to keep the record. Ammaron was inspired by the Spirit of God to hide the sacred records which had been handed down through hundreds of years. After this, Ammaron went to a little boy named Mormon. Mormon was only 10 years old, but Ammaron noticed that he was a sober child, quick to observe, bright. Ammaron told Mormon that when he would be 24 years old, he should go to hill Shim in the land of Antum, take a part of the record, and write a history of the people who were living at that time. Mormon did not forget the instructions that Ammaron gave him. Wickedness became so widespread among the people that the Lord removed the beloved disciples. These three disciples are living among the people today, but people do not know them. They can appear to anyone they wish. When Mormon was 16 years old, the Nephites appointed him as their leader. He led them in their battles with the Lamanites. When Mormon was 24 years old, he went to the hill Shim where Ammaron had hidden the records. In obedience to Ammaron's instructions, Mormon took a part of the records and began to write a history of his people. The Nephites and Lamanites made a treaty of peace, and there were no wars for 10 years. During this time, Mormon went forth preaching repentance, but the people would not repent. The Lamanites attacked the Nephites again, but the Nephites were victorious and drove them out of the land. Now the Nephites began to boast in their own strength, and from this time on, Mormon refused to be their leader because of their wickedness. War broke out again between the Nephites and Lamanites, and this time the Nephites had no power over their enemies, but they were driven and smitten. When Mormon saw that the Lamanites were about to overthrow the land, he went to the hill Shim and took all the records which Ammaron had hidden there. Mormon felt sorry for the Nephites, and he went forth to assist them. He was again made commander of their armies. They looked upon Mormon as one who could deliver them from their afflictions. He led them in battle again. Although the Nephites and Mormon fought bravely, they suffered many serious losses, and finally were forced to flee from the Lamanites.

- 1. Who kept the record after the death of Amos?
- 2. What did Ammaron do?
- 3. To whom did Ammaron go?
- 4. How old was the boy?
- 5. What did Ammaron notice about Mormon?
- 6. What instructions did he give Mormon?
- 7. Did Mormon forget these instructions?
- 8. What did the Lord do and why?
- 9. What became of the beloved disciples?
- 10. What can they do?
- 11. What do you know of Mormon when he was 16 years old?
- 12. What did he do when he was 24 years old?
- 13. How long did the people have peace?
- 14. What did Mormon do?
- 15. Did the people obey?
- 16. Why did the Nephites boast?
- 17. Why did Mormon refuse to lead them anymore?
- 18. Tell what happened.
- 19. Did the Nephites win?

- 20. Tell what Mormon did.
- 21. Why did Mormon go to assist the Nephites?
- 22. Why did the people make him their leader again?
- 23. What happened to the Nephites?

#### The Battle of Cumorah

Lesson 59 Mormon 6-8

Mormon gathered all his people and they marched to a hill called Cumorah. They prepared themselves to battle with the Lamanites. Mormon realized the coming battle would be the last struggle of his people. Now Mormon was an old man; 384 years had passed away since the birth of Christ. Mormon made an abridgement of the record of the Nephites. Then he hid in hill Cumorah, all the sacred records which had been entrusted in his hands by the Lord. After this, Mormon gave a few plates to his son, Moroni, so he could finish writing the history of the people. Finally, the armies of the Lamanites came upon the Nephite people and a terrible battle took place. Mormon fell wounded during the struggle, but the Lamanites passed by him and did not end his life. The Lamanites left the scene of battle and returned to their camps, All the Nephite people perished in battle except Mormon and 24 others, including Moroni and a few who escaped into the south countries and a few who joined the Lamanites. Mormon and the 24 survivors stood on top of hill Cumorah and gazed down upon their people who had been slain. Mormon's soul was pained because of his people who had fallen, and he cried, "O ye fair ones, how could you have departed from the ways of the Lord! How could you have rejected that Jesus who stood with open arms to receive you! Behold, if you had not done this, you would not have fallen. But behold, you are gone, and my sorrows cannot bring your return. O that you had repented before this great destruction had come upon you. Behold, you are gone, and the Father of heaven knows your state, and He will do with you according to His justice and mercy." Some time after this, Mormon was killed by the Lamanites. Those Nephites who had escaped to the south countries were hunted by the Lamanites until they were all destroyed. Moroni began to finish the record of his father. He was left alone to write the sad tale of the destruction of his people. All his relatives had been slain; he had no friends or place to visit. This awful destruction of the Nephites fulfilled the vision of Nephi in which he saw his posterity or descendants would finally be overcome by the posterity of his brethren. It also fulfilled the decree of God that the people who possess this choice land should serve God, or otherwise be destroyed.

- 1. What did Mormon do?
- 2. Where did the people go and why?
- 3. What did Mormon realize?
- 4. Who was old?
- 5. What year was it now?
- 6. What did Mormon make or write?
- 7. What did Mormon do after this?
- 8. Who was Moroni?
- 9. What did Mormon give him and why?
- 10. What happened?
- 11. Was Mormon killed?
- 12. How many were left alive with Mormon after the battle?
- 13. Who else was not slain?
- 14. What did Mormon and the other 24 survivors do?
- 15. Whose soul was pained and why?
- 16. What did Mormon say that the people had departed from?
- 17. What had caused their fall?
- 18. What did Mormon say God would do with them?
- 19. What happened after this?
- 20. Who was left alone?
- 21. Whose vision was fulfilled?
- 22. What had Nephi seen?
- 23. What decree of God was fulfilled?
- 24. How can we continue to possess this land of liberty?

#### Moroni's Farewell Address

Lesson 60 Moroni 10

Moroni proceeded to finish the record of the Nephites. He was forced to wander and flee from the Lamanites lest they should destroy him. He did not know whether he would be slain or not, but it was his determination to finish his writing and then hide the record in the earth. Moroni wrote some teachings of the Lord and some of his father's teachings. He also wrote some of the prophecies concerning the Gentiles who should receive the records he was now finishing. Moroni wrote an appeal to the Lamanites which he expected them to read at some future time when they would receive this record. He declared, "Behold, I would exhort you that when you shall read these things, that you would remember how merciful the Lord has been to the children of men since the creation of Adam. And when you shall receive these things, I would exhort you to ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if you shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, He will manifest the truth of it to you, by the power of the Holy Ghost." Although Moroni addressed this appeal to the Lamanites, even the Gentiles and Jews have the privilege of praying to God concerning the truth of this record, the Book of Mormon, as it is now known. Finally, Moroni appealed to all the people of the whole earth to come unto Christ, to be perfected in Him, and to love God with all their might, mind and strength. Moroni's last words were, "And now I bid unto all, farewell, until I meet you before the pleasing bar of the Great Jehovah. Amen." Moroni then hid the record or plates in the earth. More than 420 years had passed away since the birth of Christ. The plates lay hidden in the earth for some 1400 years, until an angel appeared to Joseph Smith in the year, 1827, and told him where to find them. This angel's name was Moroni, and he was the one who had hidden the record or plates. Moroni was not a mortal man now, but he was an angel of God. Joseph Smith found the plates in a hill that is now known as Cumorah. By means of a stone given him by the Angel Moroni, he translated the ancient writing on the plates into the English language. To their great joy, Joseph Smith and others found in this record, the

pure Gospel of Jesus. They were baptized and established the Church on earth again. Let us thank God for the coming forth of the Book of Mormon and the Restoration of the Gospel, the true way that Jesus taught.

- 1. What was Moroni forced to do and why?
- 2. What was Moroni's determination?
- 3. What did Moroni write?
- 4. To whom did Moroni write an appeal?
- 5. What did he tell them?
- 6. What did he tell them to ask God?
- 7. What is God's promise if they do this?
- 8. Who else has the same privilege of praying to God concerning the truth of the Book of Mormon?
- 9. What was Moroni's last appeal to all people?
- 10. What were Moroni's last words?
- 11. When did Moroni hide the record or plates?
- 12. How long were the plates hidden?
- 13. What happened in the year 1827?
- 14. Who was this angel?
- 15. Was he a mortal man now?
- 16. Where did Joseph Smith find the plates?
- 17. How did Joseph Smith translate the ancient writing into our language?
- 18. What did Joseph Smith and others find in this record?
- 19. What did they do?
- 20. Why should we thank God?

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