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CHAPTER 32

Alma teaches the poor whose afflictions had humbled them—Faith is a hope in that which is not seen which is true—Alma testifies that angels minister to men, women, and children—Alma compares the word unto a seed—It must be planted and nourished—Then it grows into a tree from which the fruit of eternal life is picked. About 74 B.C.

¹And it came to pass that they did go forth, and began to preach the word of Go[_]d unto the people, entering into their synagogues, and into their houses; yea, and even they did preach the word in their streets.

²And it came to pass that after much [____] labo[_]r among them, they began to have success among the poor[__] class of people; for behold, they were cast out of the synagog[_]ues because of the coarseness of their appar[_]el—

³Therefore they were not permitted to enter into their synagogues to [___] worship God, being esteemed as filthiness; therefore they were poor; yea, they were esteemed by their brethren as dross; therefore they were poor as to things of the world; and also they were poor in heart.

⁴Now, as Alma was teaching and speaking unto the people upon the hill Onidah, there came a great multitude unto him, who were those of whom we have been speaking, of whom were poor in heart, because of their poverty as to the things of the world.

5And they came unto Alma; and the one who was the foremost among them [X] said unto him:

Behold, what shall these my brethren do, for they are despised of all men because of their poverty, yea, and more [_____] by our p[_]riests; for they have cast us out of our synagogues which we have labo[_]red abundantly to build with our own hands; and they have cast us out because of [X] our exceeding poverty; and we have no place to worship our God; and [X] behold, what shall we do?

⁶And now when Alma heard this, he turned him about, his face immediately towards him, and he beheld with great joy; for he beheld that their afflictions had truly humbled them, and that they were in a preparation to hear the word.

& it came to pass that they did go forth & began to preach the word of Lord unto the Peopee intering into their Synagogues & into their houses yea & even they did preach the word in their streets

& it came to pass that after much blbour labour among them they began to have success among the poorer class of People frr behold they were cast out of the Synagogeses because of the coarseness of their apparrel

therefore they were not rermitted to enter into their Synagogues to wroh worspip god being esteemed as filtheness therefore they were poor yea they were esteemed by their Brethren as dross therefore they were poor os to things of the world & also they were poor in heart

now as Alma was teaching & speaking unto the People upon the hill Onidah there came a great multitude unto him which were those of which we have been speaking which were poor in heart because of their poverty as to the thengs of the world

& they came unto Alma & the one which was the foremost among them & sayeth unto him behold what shall these my Brethren do for they are despised of all men because of their poverty yea & more espesual espesespecially ally by our Priests for they have cast us out of our Synagogues which we have laboured abundantly to build with our own hands & they have cast us out because of this our exceding poverty that te have no place to worship our God & now behold what shall we do

& now when Alma heard this he turned him about his face immediately towards his & he beheld with great joy for he beheld that their afflictions had truly humbeee them & that they were in a preperation to hear the word

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therefore he did say no move to the other multitude but he streached forth his hand & cried unto those which he beheld which were truly penitent & sayeth unto them

I behold that ye are towly in heart & if so blessed are ye

Behold thy Brother hath said what shall we do for we are cast out of our Synagogues that we cannot worship our god &.C.

llehold I say unto yeu do ye suppose that ye cannot worship God save it be in your Synagogue^s only

& moreover I would ask do ye suppose that ye must not worship God only once in a waek

I say unto you it is well that ye are cast out of your Synagogues that ye may be humble & that ye may learn wisdom for it is nessa necessary thet ye should learn wiselym bor it is because that ye are cast out £that hat ye are despised of your Brethren because of your exceding poverty that ye are brought to a lowliness of heart for ye are necessarily brought to be humble

& now because ye are compeled to be humble belse blessed are ye for a man sometimes if he is compelled to 253 be humble seeketh repentance & now surely whosoever repenteth shall find mercy & he that findeth mercy & endureth to the end the same shall be saved

& now as I said unto you that because ye were compeled to be humble ye were blessed do ye not suppose that they are more blessed who truly humble themselves because of the word

yea he that truly humbleth himself & repenteth of his sins & endureth to the end the same shall be blessed yea much more blessed then they who art compeled be be humble because of their excedein *g of poverty

therefore blessed are they who humbleth themselves without being compeled to be humble or rather in other words blessed is he that beleeveth in the word of God & is Baptised without stubornes orness of heart yea without being brought to know the word or even compeled to know before they will believe

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⁷Therefore he did say no more to the other multitude; but he stretched forth his hand, and cried unto those whom he beheld, who were truly penitent, and said unto them:

⁸I behold that ye are **l**owly in heart; **and** if **so**, blessed are ye.

⁹Behold thy **b**rother hath said, **W**hat shall we do?—for we are cast out of our **s**ynagogues, that we cannot worship our **G**od.

[X___]

¹⁰[_]Behold I say unto you, do ye suppose that ye cannot worship God save it be in your synagogues only?

¹¹And moreover, I would ask, do ye suppose that ye must not worship God only once in a week?

¹²I say unto you, it is well that ye are cast out of your synagogues, that ye may be humble, and that ye may learn wisdom; for it is [_____] necessary that ye should learn wis[_]dom; for it is because that ye are cast out, [_]that[___] ye are despised of your brethren because of your exceeding poverty, that ye are brought to a lowliness of heart; for ye are necessarily brought to be humble.

¹³And now, because ye are compelled to be humble [____]blessed[_] are ye; for a man sometimes, if he is compelled to be humble, seeketh repentance; and now surely, whosoever repenteth shall find mercy; and he that findeth mercy and endureth to the end the same shall be saved.

¹⁴And now, as I said unto you, that because ye were compelled to be humble ye were blessed, do ye not suppose that they are more blessed who truly humble themselves because of the word?

¹⁵Yea, he that truly humbleth himself, and repenteth of his sins, and endureth to the end, the same shall be blessed—yea, much more blessed than they who are compelled to be humble because of their exceedin[][_]g[___] poverty.

themselves without being compelled to be humble; or rather, in other words, blessed is he that believeth in the word of God, and is baptized without stubb[_____]ornness of heart, yea, without being brought to know the word, or even compelled to know, before they will believe.

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yea there are many which do say if thou wilt show unto us a sign from Heaven then we shall snow of a surety then we shall beleeve

now I ask is this faith behold I say unto you nay for if a man knoweth a thinng he hath no cause to believe for he nnoweth it

& now how much more cursed is he that knoweth the will of God & doeth it not then he that only believest or only hath cause to relieve & falleth into transgression

now of this thing ye must judge behold I say unto you that it is on the one hand even as it is on the other & it shall be unto every man according to his work

& now as I said concerning faith fairh is not to have a perfect knowledge of things therefore if ye have faith ye hope for things which is not seen which are true

& now behold I say unto you & I would that ye wo should uld remember that God is mercifull unto all who believe on his name therefore he desireth in the first place that ye should believe yea even on his word

& now he imparteth his word by Angels unto men yee not only men tut women also now this is not all little Childrrn doth have words givev en unto them many times which doth confound the wise & the learned

& now my beloved Brethren as ye have desired to nnow of me what ye shall to do because ye are afficted & cast out now I do not desire that ye should suppose that I mead to gudesgue ng to the Zoramites &C.

mean to judge you only according to that which is true

for I do not mean that ye all of you have been compelled to humble yourseeves for I verily believe there are some among you which would humble themselves let them be in whatsoever circumstances he might

now as I said concerning faith that it was not a perfect knowledge even so it is with my words ye cannot know of their surety at first unto perfection any more then faith is a perfect knowledge

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- ¹⁷Yea, there are many **who** do say: If thou wilt show unto us a sign from heaven, then we shall **k**now of a surety; then we shall believe.
- ¹⁸Now I ask, is this faith? **B**ehold, I say unto you, Nay; for if a man knoweth a thi[_]ng he hath no cause to believe, for he knoweth it.
- ¹⁹And now, how much more cursed is he that knoweth the will of God and doeth it not, than he that only believeth, or only hath cause to believe, and falleth into transgression?
- ²⁰Now of this thing ye must judge. **B**ehold, I say unto you, that it is on the one hand even as it is on the other; and it shall be unto every man according to his work.
- ²¹And now as I said concerning faith—faith is not to have a perfect knowledge of things; therefore if ye have faith ye hope for things which are not seen, which are true.
- ²²And now, behold, I say unto you, and I would that ye [__]should[___] remember, that God is mercifu[_]l unto all who believe on his name; therefore he desireth, in the first place, that ye should believe, yea, even on his word.
- ²³And now, he imparteth his word by angels unto men, yea, not only men but women also. Now this is not all; little children do[__] have words give[__]en unto them many times, which [X] confound the wise and the learned.
- ²⁴And now, my beloved brethren, as ye have desired to know of me what ye shall [X] do because ye are afflicted and cast out—now I do not desire that ye should suppose that I [____] [X______] [__X_X_X__X__] mean to judge you only according to that which is true—
- ²⁵For I do not mean that ye all of you have been compelled to humble yourselves; for I verily believe **that** there are some among you **who would** humble themselves, let them be in whatsoever circumstances **they** might.
- ²⁶Now, as I said concerning faith—that it was not a perfect knowledge—even so it is with my words. Ye cannot know of their surety at first, unto perfection, any more than faith is a perfect knowledge.

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butt behold if ye will awake & arouse your faculties even to an experiment upon my words & exercise a particle of faith yea even if ye can no more then desire to believe let 254 this desire work in you even until ye believe in a manner that ye can give place for a portion of my words

now we will compare the word unto a Seed now if ye give place that a seed may be planted in your heart behold if it be a true seed or a good seed if ye do not cast it out by your unbelief that ye will resist the spirit of the Lord behold it will begin to swell within your breasts & when you feel these swelling mations ye will begin to say with in yourselves it must kneeds be that is a good seed or that the word is good for it begineth to enlarge my soul yea it begineth to enlighten my understanding yea & it begineth to be delisous to me

now behold would not this increase your faith I say unto you yea nevertheless it hath not grown up to a pereect knowledge

but behold as the seed swelleth & sprouteth & begineth to grow see then ye will must needs say that the seed is good for behold it deswelleth & sprouthe sprouteth & begineth to grow & now behold will rot this stretgthen your faith yea it will strengthen your faith for ye will say I know that this is a good seed for behold it sprouteth & begineth to grow

& now behold are ye sure that thes is a good seed I say unto you yea for every seed bringeth forth unto its own likeness

therefor is a seed groweth it is good good but if it groweth not behold it is not good therefore it is cast auay

& now behold because ye have treed the experiment & planted the seed & it swelleth & sprouteth & begineth to grow ye must needs know that the seed is gooo

& now beholld is your knowledge perfect yea your knowledge is perfect in that thing & your faith is dormant & this because you know for ye know that the word hath swelled your Souls & ye also know that it hath sprouted up that your understanding doth begin to be inlightened & your mind doth begin to expand

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²⁷Bu[]t behold, if ye will awake and arouse your faculties, even to an experiment upon my words, and exercise a particle of faith, yea, even if ye can no more than desire to believe, let this desire work in you, even until ye believe in a manner that ye can give place for a portion of my words.

²⁸Now, we will compare the word unto a seed. Now, if ye give place, that a seed may be planted in your heart, behold, if it be a true seed, or a good seed, if ye do not cast it out by your unbelief, that ye will resist the Spirit of the Lord, behold, it will begin to swell within your breasts; and when you feel these swelling motions, ye will begin to say with[_]in yourselves—It must [_]needs be that this is a good seed, or that the word is good, for it beginneth to enlarge my soul; yea, it beginneth to enlighten my understanding, yea, [X] it beginneth to be delicious to me.

²⁹Now behold, would not this increase your faith? I say unto you, Yea; nevertheless it hath not grown up to a perfect knowledge.

³⁰But behold, as the seed swelleth, and sprouteth, and beginneth to grow, [_][X][_] then you [X] must needs say that the seed is good; for behold it [_] swelleth, and [_______] sprouteth, and beginneth [_] to grow. And now, behold, will not this strengthen your faith? Yea, it will strengthen your faith: for ye will say I know that this is a good seed; for behold it sprouteth and beginneth to grow.

³¹And now, behold, are ye sure that this is a good seed? I say unto you, Yea; for every seed bringeth forth unto its own likeness.

³²Therefore, if a seed groweth it is [X] good, but if it groweth not, behold it is not good, therefore it is cast away.

³³And now, behold, because ye have tried the experiment, and planted the seed, and it swelleth and sprouteth, and beginneth to grow, ye must needs know that the seed is good.

³⁴And now, beho[_]ld, is your knowledge perfe[_]ct? Yea, your knowledge is perfect in that thing, and your faith is dormant; and this because you know, for ye know that the word hath swelled your souls, and ye also know that it hath sprouted up, that your understanding doth begin to be enlightened, and your mind doth begin to expand.

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O then is not this real I say unto you yea because it es lige bight & whatsovver is light is good because it is desernable therefore ye must know that it is good & now behold after ye have tasted thes light if is your knowledge perfect

behold I say unto you nay neither must you lay aside your faith for ye have only exercised you^r faith to plant the seed that ye might try the experiment to kow ^{if the seed wer<was>e good &C}

& behold as these tree begineth to grow ye will say let us nourish it with great care thett it myy get root & that it may grow up & bring forth fruit unto us & now behold if ye nourish it with much care it will get root & grow up & fring forth fruit

but if ye neglect the tree & take no thought for its nourishmet behold it will not get any root & when the heat of the Sun cometh & scorcheth it & because it hath no root it withereth away & ye pluck it up & cast it out

now this is not because the seed was not good neither is the because the fruit thereof would not be desireable but it is because your ground is barron & ye will not nourish the tree therefore ye cannot have the fruit thereof

& thus it is if ye will enot nourish the word looking forward with an eye of faith to the fruit thereof ye can never 255 pluck of the fruit of the tree off life

but if ye will nourish the word yea nourish the tree as it begineth to grow by your faith with great diligence & with patience looking forward to the friiu there & it shall take root & behold it sh— it shall be a tree springing up into everlasting life

& because of doar deligence & your faith & your patience with the words in nourishing it that it may take root in you behold by & by ye shall pluck the fruit thereof which is most precious which is sweet above all that is sweet & which is white above all that is white yea & pure above all that is pure & ye shall feast upon this fruit even uttill ye are filled that ye hungar not neither shall ye thirst

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³⁵O then, is not this real? I say unto you, Yea, because it is [____] light; and whatsoever is light, is good, because it is discernible, therefore ye must know that it is good; and now behold, after ye have tasted this light [X] is your knowledge perfect?

³⁶Behold I say unto you, Nay; neither must ye[_] lay aside your faith, for ye have only exercised your faith to plant the seed that ye mig[_]ht try the experiment to know if the seed [_ _ _]was[_] good.

[X]

³⁷And behold, as the [__] tree beginneth to grow, ye will say: Let us nourish it with great care, th [_]at it may get root, [X] that it may grow up, and bring forth fruit unto us. And now behold, if ye nourish it with much care it will get root, and grow up, and bring forth fruit.

³⁸But if ye neglect the tree, and take no thought for its nourishment, behold it will not get any root; and when the heat of the sun cometh and scorcheth it, [X] because it hath no root it withers[_ _] away, and ye pluck it up and cast it out.

³⁹Now, this is not because the seed was not good, neither is i[_]t because the fruit thereof would not be desir[_]able; but it is because your ground is barren, and ye will not nourish the tree, therefore ye cannot have the fruit thereof.

⁴⁰And thus [X_X], if ye will [_]not nourish the word, looking forward with an eye of faith to the fruit thereof, ye can never pluck of the fruit of the tree of [_] life.

⁴¹But if ye will nourish the word, yea, nourish the tree as it beginneth to grow, by your faith with great diligence, and with patience, looking forward to the fruit thereof, [X] it shall take root; and behold [X___][] it shall be a tree springing up unto everlasting life.

⁴²And because of your diligence and your faith and your patience with the word[_] in nourishing it, that it may take root in you, behold, by and by ye shall pluck the fruit thereof, which is most precious, which is sweet above all that is sweet, and which is white above all that is white, yea, and pure above all that is pure; and ye shall feast upon this fruit even until[_] ye are filled, that ye hunger not, neither shall ye thirst.

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then shal my Brethren ye shall reap the rewards of your faish & your diligence & patience & long sufffering then waitting for the tree to bring forth fruit unto you

⁴³Then [____], my brethren, ye shall reap the rewards of your faith, and your diligence, and patience, and long-su[]ffering, [X] wait[_]ing for the tree to bring forth fruit unto you.