

& it came to pass that after King Limhi had made an en of speaking to his People for he spake many things unto them & only a few of them have I written in this Book he told his People all the things concerning their Brethren which were in the land of Zarahemla

& he caused that Ammon should stand up before the multitude & rehearse unto them all that had happened unto their Brethren from the time that Zeniff went up out of the land even untill ◊ time that he himself came up out of the land

& he also rehearsed unto them the last words which King Benjamin had taught them & explained them to the People of King Limhi so that they might understand all the words which he spake

& it came to pass that after he had done all this that King Limhi dismissed the multitude & caused that they should return every one unto his own house

& it came to pass that he caused that the plates which contained the record of his People from the time that they left the land of Zarahemla should be brought before Ammon that he might read them

now as soon as Ammon had read the record the king inquired of him to know **131** if he could interpret languagees & Ammon told him that he could not

& the king sayeth unto him I being grieved for the afflictions of my People I caused that forty & three of my People should take a journey into the wilderness that thereby they might find the land of Zarahemla that we might appeal unto our Brethren to deliver us out of bondage

**CHAPTER 8**

*Ammon teaches the people of Limhi—He learns of the twenty-four Jaredite plates—Ancient records can be translated by seers—No gift is greater than seership. About 121 B.C.*

<sup>1</sup>**And** it came to pass that after **king** Limhi had made an **end** of speaking to his **people**, for he spake many things unto them **and** only a few of them have I written in this **book**, he told his **people** all the things concerning their **brethren** **who** were in the land of Zarahemla.

<sup>2</sup>**And** he caused that Ammon should stand up before the multitude, **and** rehearse unto them all that had happened unto their **brethren** from the time that Zeniff went up out of the land even until **[ ] the** time that he himself came up out of the land.

<sup>3</sup>**And** he also rehearsed unto them the last words which **king** Benjamin had taught them, **and** explained them to the **people** of **king** Limhi, so that they might understand all the words which he spake.

<sup>4</sup>**And** it came to pass that after he had done all this, that **king** Limhi dismissed the multitude, **and** caused that they should return every one unto his own house.

<sup>5</sup>**And** it came to pass that he caused that the plates which contained the record of his **people** from the time that they left the land of Zarahemla, should be brought before Ammon, that he might read them.

<sup>6</sup>**Now**, as soon as Ammon had read the record, the king inquired of him to know if he could interpret language **[ ]s**, **and** Ammon told him that he could not.

<sup>7</sup>**And** the king **said** unto him: **[X]** Being grieved for the afflictions of my **people**, I caused that forty **and** three of my **people** should take a journey into the wilderness, that thereby they might find the land of Zarahemla, that we might appeal unto our **brethren** to deliver us out of bondage.

# BOOK of MORMON COMPARATIVE

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& they were lost in the wilderness for the space of many days yet they were diligent & found not the land of Zarahemla but returned to this land having traveled in a land among many waters having discovered a land which was covered with bones of men & of beasts .&C. & was also covered with ruins of buildings of every kind having discovered a land which had been Peopled with a People which were a numerous as the hosts of Israel

& for a testimony that the things that they ~~had~~<sup>have</sup> said ~~were~~<sup>is</sup> true they have brought twenty four plates which are filled with engravings & they are of pure Gold

& behold also they have brought breast plates which are large & they are of Brass & of copper & are perfectly sound

& again they have brought swords the hilts thereof hath perished & the blades thereof were cankered with rust & there is no one <sup>in the land</sup> that is able to interpret the language or the engravings that are on the plates therefore I said unto the<sup>e</sup> canst thou translate

& I say unto thee again knowest thou of any one that can translate for I am desire<sup>ous</sup> ~~able~~ that these records should be translated into our language for perhaps they will give us a knowledge of a remnant of the People which have been destroyed from whence these records came or perhaps they will give us a knowledge of this very People which hath been destroyed & I am desirous to know the cause of their destruction

now Ammon ~~s~~<sup>s</sup>saith; unto him I can assuredly tell thee O king of a man that can tr<sup>ans</sup>late the records for <sup>he</sup> hath wherewith that he can look & translate all records that are of antient date & it is a gift from God & the things are called interpreters & no man can look in them except he be commanded lest he should look for that he had not ought & he should perish & whosoever is commanded to look in them the same is called seer

& behold the king of the People which is in the land of Zarahemla is the man that is commanded to do these things & which hath this high gift from God

<sup>8</sup>**And** they were lost in the wilderness for the space of many days, yet they were diligent, **and** found not the land of Zarahemla but returned to this land, hav[ ]ing traveled in a land among many waters, having discovered a land which was covered with bones of men, **and** of beasts [X\_ ], **and** was also covered with ruins of buildings of every kind, having discovered a land which had been peopled with a people **who** were as numerous as the hosts of Israel.

<sup>9</sup>**And** for a testimony that the things that they [X] had[ ] said [ ]are[ \_ \_ ] true they have brought twenty-four plates which are filled with engrav[ ]ings, **and** they are of pure gold.

<sup>10</sup>**And** behold, also, they have brought breast[ ]plates, which are large, **and** they are of brass **and** of copper, **and** are perfectly sound.

<sup>11</sup>**And** again, they have brought swords, the hilts thereof **have** perished, **and** the blades thereof were cankered with rust; **and** there is no one **in the land** that is able to interpret the language or the engravings that are on the plates. **Therefore** I said unto the<sup>e</sup>: **Canst** thou translate?

<sup>12</sup>**And** I say unto thee again: **Knowest** thou of any one that can translate? **For** I am desir[ ]ous[ \_ \_ ] that these records should be translated into our language; for, perhaps, they will give us a knowledge of a remnant of the people **who** have been destroyed, from whence these records came; or, perhaps, they will give us a knowledge of this ver[ ]y people **who** have been destroyed; **and** I am desir[ ]ous to know the cause of their destruction.

<sup>13</sup>**Now** Ammon [ \_ ]said[ ] unto him: I can assuredly tell thee, O king, of a man that can tr<sup>ans</sup>late the records; for **he** has[ ] wherewith that he can look, **and** translate all records that are of ancient date; **and** it is a gift from God. **And** the things are called interpreters, **and** no man can look in them except he be commanded, lest he should look for that he [X\_X] ought **not and** he should perish. **And** whosoever is commanded to look in them, the same is called seer.

<sup>14</sup>**And** behold, the king of the people **who are** in the land of Zarahemla is the man that is commanded to do these things, **and who** has[ ] this high gift from God.

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& the king saith that a seer is greater then  
a<sup>Prophet</sup> ~~Prop~~

& Ammon saith that a seer is a revelator &  
a prophet also & a gift which is greater can no  
man have except he should possess the power of  
God

but a seer can know of things which has past  
& also of things which is to come & by them  
shall all things be revealed or rather shall secret  
things be made manifest & hidden things shall  
com<sup>e</sup> to light & things ~~which~~ which <sup>is</sup>as  
not known shall be made known by them & also  
things shall be made known by them which  
otherwise could not be known

thus God hath provided a means that man  
through faith might work mighty miracles therefore  
he becometh a great benefit to his fellow beings

& now when Ammon had made an end of  
speaking these words the king rejoiced exceedingly  
& gave thanks to God saying doubtless a  
great mystery is conta **132** ined within these  
plates ~~& th~~ & these interpreters was  
doubtless prepared for the purpose of unfolding  
all such mysteries to the children of men

O how marvelous are the works of Lord &  
how long doth he suffer with his People yea &  
how blind & impenetrable are the  
understandings of the children of men for they  
will not seek wisdom neither do they desire that  
she should rule over them

yea they are as a wild flock which fleeth from the  
shepherd & scattereth & are driven & are  
devoured by the beasts of the forest

<sup>15</sup>**And** the king said[\_] that a seer is greater than  
a[\_]prophet [\_ \_ \_ \_].

<sup>16</sup>**And** Ammon said[\_] that a seer is a revelator **and**  
a prophet also; **and** a gift which is greater can no  
man have, except he should possess the power of  
God, **which no man can; yet a man may have  
great power given him from God.**

<sup>17</sup>**But** a seer can know of things which **are** past,  
**and** also of things which **are** to come, **and** by them  
shall all things be revealed, or, rather, shall secret  
things be made manifest, **and** hidden things shall  
come to light, **and** things [\_ \_ \_ \_] which **are[X]**  
not known shall be made known by them, **and** also  
things shall be made known by them which  
otherwise could not be known.

<sup>18</sup>**Thus** God has[\_] provided a means that man,  
through faith, might work mighty miracles; therefore  
he becometh a great benefit to his fellow beings.

<sup>19</sup>**And** now, when Ammon had made an end of  
speaking these words the king rejoiced exceedingly,  
**and** gave thanks to God, saying: **D**oubtless a  
great mystery is contained within these  
plates, **[X \_ \_]** **and** these interpreters **were**  
doubtless prepared for the purpose of unfolding  
all such mysteries to the children of men.

<sup>20</sup>O how marvelous are the works of **the** Lord, **and**  
how long doth he suffer with his **people**; yea, **and**  
how blind **and** impenetrable are the  
understandings of the children of men; for they  
will not seek wisdom, neither do they desire that  
she should rule over them!

<sup>21</sup>**Yea**, they are as a wild flock which fleeth from the  
shepherd, **and** scattereth, **and** are driven, **and** are  
devoured by the beasts of the forest.