

& now it came to pass that Alma who had fled from the servants of King Noah repented of his Sins & iniquities & went about privately among the People & began to teach the words of Abinadi

yea concerning that which was to come & also concerning the resurrection of the dead & the redemption of the People which was to be brought to pass through the power & sufferings & death of Christ & his resurrection & ascension into heaven

& as many as would hear his word he did teach & he taught them privately that it might not come to the knowledge of the King & many did believe his words

& it came to pass that as many as did believe him did go forth to a place which was called Mormon having received its name from the King being in the borders of the land having been infested by times or at seasons by wild **145** beasts

now there was in Mormon a fountain of pure water & Alma resorted thither there being near the water a thicket of small trees where he did hide himself in the daytime from the searches of the King

& it came to pass that as many as believed him went ~~forth~~ thither to hear his words

& it came to pass after many day there were a goodly number gathered together to the place of Mormon to hear the words of Alma yea all were gathered together that believed ~~on~~ on his word to hear him & he did teach them & did preach unto them repentance & redemption & faith on the Lord

& it came to pass that he said unto them behold here is the water of Mormon for thus were they called & now as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God & to be called his People & are willing to bear one another's burdens that they may be light

CHAPTER 18

Alma preaches in private—He sets forth the covenant of baptism and baptizes at the waters of Mormon—He organizes the Church of Christ and ordains priests—They support themselves and teach the people—Alma and his people flee from King Noah into the wilderness. About 147–145 B.C.

¹**And** now, it came to pass that Alma, who had fled from the servants of **king** Noah, repented of his **sins and** iniquities, **and** went about privately among the **people, and** began to teach the words of Abinadi—

²**Yea**, concerning that which was to come, **and** also concerning the resurrection of the dead, **and** the redemption of the **people**, which was to be brought to pass through the power, **and** sufferings, **and** death of Christ, **and** his resurrection **and** ascension into heaven.

³**And** as many as would hear his word he did teach. **And** he taught them privately, that it might not come to the knowledge of the **king. And** many did believe his words.

⁴**And** it came to pass that as many as did believe him did go forth to a place which was called Mormon, having received its name from the **king**, being in the borders of the land having been infested, by times or at seasons, by wild beasts.

⁵**Now**, there was in Mormon a fountain of pure water, **and** Alma resorted thither, there being near the water a thicket of small trees, where he did hide himself in the daytime from the searches of the **king.**

⁶**And** it came to pass that as many as believed him went **[X]** thither to hear his words.

⁷**And** it came to pass after many **days** there were a goodly number gathered together **at** the place of Mormon, to hear the words of Alma. **Yea**, all were gathered together that believed **[X]** on his word, to hear him. **And** he did teach them, **and** did preach unto them repentance, **and** redemption, **and** faith on the Lord.

⁸**And** it came to pass that he said unto them: **Behold**, here **are** the waters of Mormon (for thus were they called) **and** now, as ye are desir[]ous to come into the fold of God, **and** to be called his **people, and** are willing to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light;

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yea & are willing to mourn with those that mourn yea & comfort those that stand in need of comfort & to stand as witnesses of God at all times & in all things & in all places that ye may be in even untill death that ye may be redeemed of God & be numbered with those of the first resurrection that ye may have eternal life

now I say unto you if this be the desires of your hearts what have you against being Baptised in the name of the Lord as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenant with him that ye will serve him & keep his commandments that he may pour out his spirit more abundantly upon you

& now when the People had heard these words they claped their hands for Joy & exclaimed this is the desires of our hearts

& now it came to pass that Alma took Helaman he being one of the first & went & stood forth in the water & cried saying O Lord pour out thy spirit upon thy servant that he may do this work with holiness of heart

& when he had said these words the spirit of the Lord was upon him & he said Helaman I baptise thee having from the Almighty God as a testimony that ye have entered into a covenant to serve him untill you are dead as to the Mortal body & may the spirit of the Lord be poured out upon you & may he grant unto you eternal life through the redemption of Christ which he hath prepared from the foundation of the world

& after Alma had said these words both Alma & Helaman were buried in the water & they arose & came forth out of the water rejoicing being filled with the spirit

& again Alma took another & went forth a second time into the water & baptised him according to the first only he did not bury himself again in the water

& after this manner he did baptise every one that went forth to the place of Mormon & they were in number about two hundred & four souls & they were baptised in the waters of Mormon & were filled with the grace of God

⁹Yea, **and** are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, **and** comfort those that stand in need of comfort, **and** to stand as witnesses of God at all times **and** in all things, **and** in all places that ye may be in, even until [] death, that ye may be redeemed of God, **and** be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life—

¹⁰Now I say unto you, if this be the desire [] of your hearts, what have you against being **baptized** in the name of the Lord, as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenant with him, that ye will serve him **and** keep his commandments, that he may pour out his **Spirit** more abundantly upon you?

¹¹**And** now when the **people** had heard these words, they **clapped** their hands for **joy**, **and** exclaimed: **This** is the desire [] of our hearts.

¹²**And** now it came to pass that Alma took Helam [], he being one of the first, **and** went **and** stood forth in the water, **and** cried, saying: O Lord, pour out thy **Spirit** upon thy servant, that he may do this work with holiness of heart.

¹³**And** when he had said these words, the **Spirit** of the Lord was upon him, **and** he said: Helam [], I baptize thee, having **authority** from the Almighty God, as a testimony that ye have entered into a covenant to serve 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 unto you eternal [] life, through the redemption of Christ, **whom** he has [] prepared from the foundation of the world.

¹⁴**And** after Alma had said these words, **both** Alma **and** Helam [] **were** buried in the water; **and** they arose **and** came forth out of the water rejoicing, being filled with the **Spirit**.

¹⁵**And** again, Alma took another, **and** went forth a second time into the water, **and** baptised him according to the first, only he did not bury himself again in the water.

¹⁶**And** after this manner he did baptize every one that went forth to the place of Mormon; **and** they were in number about two hundred **and** four souls; **yea, and** they were baptized in the waters of Mormon, **and** were filled with [] the grace of God.

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& they were ~~filled~~ called the church of God or the church of Christ from that time forward & it came to pass that who soever was baptised by the power & authority of God they was ~~ad~~^{added} to his church

& it came to pass that Alma having authority from God ordained Priests ^{even one priest} to every fifty of their number did he ordain to preach unto them & to teach them concerning the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God

& he com^{mand} **146** manded them that they should teach nothing save it were the things which he had taught & which had been spoken by the mouth of the holy Prophets

yea even he commanded them that they should Preach nothing save it were repentance & faith on the Lord who hath ~~de~~ redeemed his People

& he commanded them that there should be no contention one with another but that they should look forward with one eye having one faith & one baptism having their hearts knit together in unity & in love one towards another

& thus he commandeth them to preach & thus they became the children of God

& he commanded them that they should observe the sabbath day & keep it holy & also every day they should give thanks to the Lord their God

& he also commanded them that the Priests which he had ordained should labour with their own hands for their support

& there was one day in every week that was set apart that they should gather themselves together to teach the People & to worship the Lord their God & also as often as it was in their power to assemble themselves together

& the Priests was not to depend upon the People for their support but for their labour they were to receive the grace of God that they might wax strong in the spirit having the knowledge of God that they might teach with power & authority from God

¹⁷**And** they were **[X]** called the church of God, or the church of Christ, from that time forward. **And** it came to pass that who **[]**soever was baptised by the power **and** authority of God **[X]** was **[]** **added** **[]** to his church.

¹⁸**And** it came to pass that Alma, having authority from God, ordained **priests; even one priest** to every fifty of their number did he ordain to preach unto them, **and** to teach them concerning the things pertaining to the **kingdom** of God.

¹⁹**And** he commanded them that they should teach nothing save it were the things which he had taught, **and** which had been spoken by the mouth of the holy **prophets**.

²⁰**Yea**, even he commanded them that they should **preach** nothing save it were repentance **and** faith on the Lord, who had **[] []** redeemed his **people**.

²¹**And** he commanded them that there should be no contention one with another, but that they should look forward with one eye, having one faith **and** one baptism, having their hearts knit together in unity **and** in love one towards another.

²²**And** thus he commanded them to preach. **And** thus they became the children of God.

²³**And** he commanded them that they should observe the sabbath day, **and** keep it holy, **and** also every day they should give thanks to the Lord their God.

²⁴**And** he also commanded them that the **priests whom** he had ordained should labo **[]** r with their own hands for their support.

²⁵**And** there was one day in every week that was set apart that they should gather themselves together to teach the **people**, **and** to worship the Lord their God, **and** also, as often as it was in their power, to assemble themselves together.

²⁶**And** the **priests were** not to depend upon the **people** for their support; but for their labo **[]** r they were to receive the grace of God, that they might wax strong in the **Spirit**, having the knowledge of God, that they might teach with power **and** authority from God.

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& again Alma commanded that the People of the Church should impart of their substance every one according to that which he hath if he have more abundantly he should impart more abundantly & he that hath but little but little should be required & to him that hath not should be given

& thus they should impart of their substance of their own free will & good desires towards God

& this he said unto them having been commanded of God & they did walk uprightly before God imparting to one another both temporally & spiritually according to their needs & their wants

& now it came to pass that all this was done in Mormon yea by the waters of Mormon in the forest that was near the waters of Mormon yea the place of Mormon the waters of Mormon the forest of Mormon how beautiful are they to the eyes of them who there came to the knowledge of their redeemer yea & how blessed are they for they shall sing to his ~~pa~~ praise forever

& these things were done in the borders of the land that they might not come to the knowledge of the king

but behold it came to pass that the king discovered a movement among the People sent his servants to watch them therefore on the day that they were assembling themselves together to hear the word of the Lord they were ~~discovers~~^{discovered} unto the King

& now the king saith that Alma was a stirring up the People to a rebellion against him therefore he sent his army to destroy them

And it came to pass that Alma & the People of the Lord were apprised of the coming of the Kings army therefore they took their tents & their families & departed into the wilderness

& they were in number about four hundred & fifty souls

²⁷**And** again Alma commanded that the **p**eople of the **ch**urch should impart of their substance, every one according to that which he had[]; if he have more abundantly he should impart more abundantly; **and of him** that had[] but little, but little should be required; **and** to him that had[] not should be given.

²⁸**And** thus they should impart of their substance of their own free will **and** good desires towards God, **and to those priests that stood in need, yea, and to every needy, naked soul.**

²⁹**And** this he said unto them, having been commanded of God; **and** they did walk uprightly before God, imparting to one another both temporally **and** spiritually according to their needs **and** their wants.

³⁰**And** now it came to pass that all this was done in Mormon, yea, by the waters of Mormon, in the forest that was near the waters of Mormon; yea, the place of Mormon, the waters of Mormon, the forest of Mormon, how beautiful are they to the eyes of them who there came to the knowledge of their **Redeemer**; yea, **and** how blessed are they, for they shall sing to his [] praise forever.

³¹**And** these things were done in the borders of the land, that they might not come to the knowledge of the king.

³²**But** behold, it came to pass that the king, **having** discovered a movement among the **p**eople, sent his servants to watch them. **T**herefore on the day that they were assembl[]ing themselves together to hear the word of the Lord they were [_ _ _ _ _] **discovered** unto the **k**ing.

³³**And** now the king said[] that Alma was [X] stirring up the **p**eople to [X] rebellion against him; therefore he sent his army to destroy them.

³⁴And it came to pass that Alma **and** the **p**eople of the Lord were apprised of the coming of the **k**ing's army; therefore they took their tents **and** their families **and** departed into the wilderness.

³⁵**And they were in number about four hundred and fifty souls.**