

And now it came to pass that the persecutions which was inflicted on the church by the unbelivers became so great that the church began murmur & complain to their leaders concerning the matter and they did complain to Alma & Alma laid the case before their King Mosiah and Mosiah consulted with his priests,

and it came to pass that King Mosiah sent a proclamation throughout the **161** land round about, that there should not any unbeliever persecute any of those which belonged to the church of God,

& there was a strict command throughout all the churches that there should be no persecutions among them that there should be an equality among all men

that they should let no pride nor haughtiness disturb their peace that every man should esteem his neighbor as himself - labouring with their own hands for their support

yea and all their priests & teachers should labour with their own hands for their support in all cases save it were in sickness or in much want & doing these things they did abound in the grace of God

and there began to be much peace again in the land and the people began to be very numerous and began to scatter abroad upon the face of the earth yea on the north & on the South on the east & on the west building large cities and vilages in all quarters of the land

& the Lord did visit them and prosper them & they became a large & a wealthy people.

CHAPTER 27

Mosiah forbids persecution and enjoins equality—Alma the younger and the four sons of Mosiah seek to destroy the Church—An angel appears and commands them to cease their evil course—Alma is struck dumb—All mankind must be born again to gain salvation—Alma and the sons of Mosiah declare glad tidings. About 100–92 B.C.

¹And now it came to pass that the persecutions which **were** inflicted on the church by the unbelivers became so great that the church began **to murmur, and** complain to their leaders concerning the matter; and they did complain to Alma. **And** Alma laid the case before their **king, Mosiah. And** Mosiah consulted with his priests.

²And it came to pass that **king** Mosiah sent a proclamation throughout the land round about[] that there should not any unbeliever persecute any of those **who** belonged to the church of God.

³**And** there was a strict command throughout all the churches that there should be no persecutions among them, that there should be an equality among all men;

⁴That they should let no pride nor haughtiness disturb their peace; that every man should esteem his neighbor as himself, [] labo[]ring with their own hands for their support.

⁵Yea, and all their priests **and** teachers should labo[]r with their own hands for their support, in all cases save it were in sickness, or in much want; **and** doing these things, they did abound in the grace of God.

⁶And there began to be much peace again in the land; and the people began to be very numerous, and began to scatter abroad upon the face of the earth, yea, on the north **and** on the south, on the east **and** on the west, building large cities and villages in all quarters of the land.

⁷**And** the Lord did visit them and prosper them, **and** they became a large **and [X]** wealthy people.

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Now the Sons of Mosiah was numbered among the unbelievers & also one of the sons of Alma was numbered among them he being called Alma after his Father nevertheless he became a very wicked & an Idolitrous man & he was a man of many words & did speak much flattery to the people therefore he led many of the people to do after the manner of his iniquities

& he became a great hinderment to the prosperity of the church of God stealing away the hearts of the people causing much discention among the people giving a chance for the enemy of God exercise his power over them

& now ~~of God to exercise his power~~ it came to pass that while he was going about to destroy the church of God for he did go about secretly with the sons of Mosiah seeking to destroy the church & to lead astray the people of the Lord contrary to the commandments of God or even the King

& as I said unto you as they were going about reb^eling against God behold the angel of the Lord appeared unto them & he descended as is wre in a cloud & he spake as it were with a voice of thunder which caused the earth shake upon which they stood,

& so great was their astonishment that they fell to the earth & understood not the words which he spake unto them

nevertheless he cried again saying Alma arise & stand forth for why persecutest thou the church of God for the Lord hath said this is my church & I will establish it & nothing shall overthrow it save it is the transgressions of my people

& again the angel sayeth behold the Lord hath heard the prayers of his people & also the prayers of his servant Alma which is thy Father for he hath prayed with much faith **162** concerning thee that thou mightest be brought to the knowledge of the truth threfore for this purpose have I come to convince thee of the power & authority of God that the prayers of his servants might be answered according to thier faith.

& now behold can ye dispute the power of God for behold doth not my voice shake the earth & can ye not also behold me before you & I am sent from God.

⁸Now the **sons** of Mosiah **were** numbered among the unbelievers; **and** also one of the sons of Alma was numbered among them, he being called Alma, after his **father**; nevertheless, he became a very wicked **and** an **idolatrous** man. **And** he was a man of many words, **and** did speak much flattery to the people; therefore he led many of the people to do after the manner of his iniquities.

⁹**And** he became a great hinderment to the prosperity of the church of God; stealing away the hearts of the people; causing much **dis**sension among the people; giving a chance for the enemy of God **to** exercise his power over them.

¹⁰**And** now **[X X X X X X]** it came to pass that while he was going about to destroy the church of God, for he did go about secretly with the sons of Mosiah seeking to destroy the church, **and** to lead astray the people of the Lord, contrary to the commandments of God, or even the **king**—

¹¹**And** as I said unto you, as they were going about reb^elling against God, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto them; **and** he descended as **it were** in a cloud; **and** he spake as it were with a voice of thunder, which caused the earth **to** shake upon which they stood;

¹²**And** so great was their astonishment, that they fell to the earth, **and** understood not the words which he spake unto them.

¹³Nevertheless he **cried** again, saying: Alma, arise **and** stand forth, for why persecutest thou the church of God? **For** the Lord hath said: **This** is my church, **and** I will establish it; **and** nothing shall overthrow it, save it is the transgression^[] of my people.

¹⁴**And** again, the angel **said**: Behold, the Lord hath heard the prayers of his people, **and** also the prayers of his servant, Alma, **who** is thy **father**; for he has^[] prayed with much faith concerning thee that thou mightest be brought to the knowledge of the truth; th^[]erefore, for this purpose have I come to convince thee of the power **and** authority of God, that the prayers of his servants might be answered according to **their** faith.

¹⁵**And** now behold, can ye dispute the power of God? **For** behold, doth not my voice shake the earth? **And** can ye not also behold me before you? **And** I am sent from God.

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now I say unto thee go, & remember the captivity of thy Fathers in the land of Helem & in the land of Nephi & remember how great things he hath done for them for they were in bondage & he hath delivered them & now I say unto thee Alma go thy way & seek to destroy the church no more that their prayers may ~~understood~~ answered & this even if thou wilt of thyself be cast off,

& now it came to pass that these were the lost words which the angel spake unto Alma & he departed

& now Alma & those that were with him fell again to the earth for great was their astonishment for with their own eyes they had beheld an angel of the Lord & his voice was as thunder which shook the earth & they knew ^{that} there was nothing save the power of God that could shake the earth & cause it to tremble as though it would part asunder

& now the astonishment of Alma was so great that he became dumb that he could not open his mouth yea & he became weak even that he could not move his hands therefore he was taken by those that were with him & carried helpless even until was laid before his Father

& they rehearst unto his Father all that had happened unto them & his Father rejoiced for he knew that it was the power of God

& he caused that a multitude should be gathered together that they might witness what the Lord had done for his son & also for those that were With him

& he caused that the priests should assemble themselves together & they began to fast & to pray to their Lord their God that he would open the mouth of Alma that he might speak & also that his limbs might receive their strength that the eyes of the people might be opened to see and know of the goodness & glory of God,

& it came to pass after they had fasted and prayed for the space of two days and two nights the limbs of Alma received their strength & he stood up & began to speak unto them bidding them to be of good comfort

¹⁶Now I say unto thee: **Go, and** remember the captivity of thy **fathers** in the land of **Helam, and** in the land of **Nephi; and** remember how **great** things he has~~[_]~~ done for them; for they were in bondage, **and** he has~~[_]~~ delivered them. **And** now I say unto thee, Alma, go thy way, **and** seek to destroy the church no more, that their prayers may **be [X]** answered, **and** this even if thou wilt of thyself be cast off.

¹⁷**And** now it came to pass that these were the **last** words which the angel spake unto Alma, **and** he departed.

¹⁸**And** now Alma **and** those that were with him fell again to the earth, for great was their astonishment; for with their own eyes they had beheld an angel of the Lord; **and** his voice was as thunder, which shook the earth; **and** they knew **that** there was nothing save the power of God that could shake the earth **and** cause it to tremble as though it would~~[_]~~ part asunder.

¹⁹**And** now the astonishment of Alma was so great that he became dumb, that he could not open his mo~~[_]~~uth; yea, **and** he became weak, even that he could not move his hands; therefore he was taken by those that were with him, **and** carried helpless, even until **he** was laid before his **father**.

²⁰**And** they rehearsed unto his **father** all that had happened unto them; **and** his **father** rejoiced, for he knew that it was the power of God.

²¹**And** he caused that a multitude should be gathered **together** that they might witness what the Lord had done for his son, **and** also for those that were **with** him.

²²**And** he caused that the priests should assemble themselves together; **and** they began to fast, **and** to pray to the~~[_]~~ Lord their God that he would open the mouth of Alma, that he might speak, **and** also that his limbs might receive their strength— that the eyes of the people might be opened to see and know of the goodness **and** glory of God.

²³**And** it came to pass after they had fasted and prayed for the space of two days and two nights, the limbs of Alma received their strength, **and** he stood up **and** began to speak unto them, bidding them to be of good comfort:

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for said he I have repented of my sins & have been redeemed of the Lord, behold I am born of the spirit

& the Lord unto me marvel not that all makind yea men & women all nations kindreds tongues & people must be born again yea born of God changed of their carnal & fallen state to a state of righteousness being redeemed of God becoming his sons & daughters

& thus they become new creatures & unless they do this they can **163** in nowise inherit the kingdom of God,

I say unto you unless this be the case they must be cast off. and this I know bcause I was like to be cast off.

nevertheless after wadein~~g~~ through much tribulation repenting nigh unto death the Lord in mercy hath seen fit to snatch me out of an everlasting burning & I am born of God

my ^{soul} hath been redeemed from the gall of bitterness & bonds of iniquity I was in the darkest abyss but now I behold the marvilous light of God my soul was wrecked with Eternal torment but I am snatched & my soul is pained no more

I rejected my redeemer & denied that which had been spoken of by our Fathers but now that they may foresee that he will come & that he remembereth every creature of his creating & he will make himself manifest unto all,

yea every knee shall bow & every tongue confess before him yea even at the last day when all men shall stand to be Judged of him then shall they confess that he is God then shall they confess who live without God in the world that the Judgment of an everlasting punishment is Just upon them & they shall quake & tremble & shrink bneath the glance of his allsearching eye,

& now it came to pass that Alma began from this time forward to teach the people & those ~~that~~ which were with Alma at the time the angel appeared unto them traveling round about through all the land publishing to all the people the things which they had heard & seen & preaching the word of God in much tribulation being greatly persecuted by those which were unbelievers being smitten by many of them

²⁴For, said he, I have repented of my sins, **and** have been redeemed of the Lord; behold I am born of the **S**pirit.

²⁵**And** the Lord **said** unto me: **Marvel** not that all **m**ankind, yea, men **and** women, all nations, kindreds, tongues **and** people, must be born again; yea, born of God, changed **from** their carnal **and** fallen state, to a state of righteousness, being redeemed of God, becoming his sons **and** daughters;

²⁶**And** thus they become new creatures; **and** unless they do this, they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God.

²⁷I say unto you, unless this be the case, they must be cast off; and this I know, **b**ecause I was like to be cast off.

²⁸Never theless, after wad in g through much tribulation, repenting nigh unto death, the Lord in mercy hath seen fit to snatch me out of an everlasting burning, **and** I am born of God.

²⁹**My soul** hath been redeemed from the gall of bitterness **and** bonds of iniquity. I was in the darkest abyss; but now I behold the **marvelous** light of God. **My** soul was racked with **e**ternal torment; but I am snatched, **and** my soul is pained no more.

³⁰I rejected my **Redeemer**, **and** denied that which had been spoken of by our **f**athers; but now that they may foresee that he will come, **and** that he remembereth every creature of his creating, **[X]** he will make himself manifest unto all.

³¹**Yea**, every knee shall bow, **and** every tongue confess before him. **Yea**, even at the last day, when all men shall stand to be **j**udged of him, then shall they confess that he is God; then shall they confess, who live without God in the world, that the **j**udgment of an everlasting punishment is **j**ust upon them; **and** they shall quake, **and** tremble, **and** shrink **b**eneath the glance of his all-searching eye.

³²**And** now it came to pass that Alma began from this time forward to teach the people, **and** those **[X]** **who** were with Alma at the time the angel appeared unto them, traveling round about through all the land, publishing to all the people the things which they had heard **and** seen, **and** preaching the word of God in much tribulation, being greatly persecuted by those **who** were **unbelievers**, being smitten by many of them.

