

# A lma 17

## Chapter

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An account of the Sons of Mosiah  
which rejected their rights to the Kingdom for the word of God  
& went up to the land of Nephi to preach to the Lamanites—

Their sufferings & deliverance according to the record of Alma—

<sup>1</sup>And now it came to pass that as Alma was journeying  
from the land of Gideon southward away to the land of Manti  
behold to his astonishment he met the Sons of Mosiah  
ajourneying towards the land of Zarahemla

<sup>2</sup>now these Sons of Mosiah were with Alma  
~~w~~<sup>at the time</sup> ~~hen~~ the Angel first appeared unto him  
therefore Alma did rejoice exceedingly to see his brethren  
& what added  $\diamond$  more to his joy  
they were still his brethren in the Lord  
yea & they had waxed strong in the knowledge of the truth  
for they were men of a sound understanding  
& they had searched the scriptures diligently  
that they might know the word of God

<sup>3</sup>but this is not all  
they had given themselves to much prayer & fasting  
therefore they had the spirit of Prophecy & the spirit of revelatio<sup>n</sup>  
& when they taught they taught with power & authority  
even as with the power & authority of God  
<sup>4</sup>& they had been teaching the word of God  
fore the space of fourteen years among the Lamanites  
having had much success in bringing many to the knowledge of the truth  
yea by the power of their words many were brought before the altar of God  
to call on his name & confess their sins before him

<sup>5</sup>now these are the circumstances which attended them in their journeyings  
for they had many afflictions  
they did suffer much <sup>both</sup> in body & in mind  
such as hunger thirst & fateague & also much labour in the spirit

<sup>6</sup>now these were their journeyings  
having taken leave of their father Mosiah  
in the first year of the reign of the Judges  
having refused the Kingdom which their father was desirous to confer upon them  
& also this was the minds of the people

<sup>7</sup>nevertheless they departed out of the land of Zarahemla  
& took their swords & their spears  
& their bows & their arrows & their slings  
& this they done that they might provide food for themselves  
while in the wilderness

<sup>8</sup>& thus they departed into the wilderness  
with their numbers which they had selected  
to go up to the land of Nephi to preach the word unto the Lamanites

<sup>9</sup>& it came to pass that they journeyed many days in the wilderness  
& they fasted much & prayed much  
that the Lord would grant unto them a portion of his spirit  
to go with them & abide with them  
that they might be an instrument in the hands of God  
to bring<sup>s</sup> if it were possible their brethren the Lamanites  
to the knowelde of the truth  
to the knowledge of the baseness of the traditions of their fathers  
which were not correct

<sup>10</sup>& it came to pass that  
the Lord did visit them with his spirit  
& said unto them be comforted  
& they were comforted

<sup>11</sup>& the Lord said unto them also  
go forth among the Lamanites thy brethren & establish my word  
yet ye shall be patient in long suffering & afflictions  
that ye may shew forth good exampels unto them in me  
& I will make an instrument of thee in my hands  
unto the salvation of many souls

<sup>12</sup>& it came to pass that the hearts of the Sons of Mosiah  
& also those which were with them  
took courage to go forth unto the Lamanites  
to declare unto them the word<sup>of God</sup>

<sup>13</sup>& it came to pass  
when they had arived in the borders of the land of the Lamanites  
that they seperated themselves & departed one from another  
trusting in the Lord that they should meet again at the close of their harvest  
for they supposed that great was they work which they had undertaken

<sup>14</sup>& assuredly it was great  
for they had undertaken to preach the word of God  
to a wild & a hardoned & a ferocious people a people  
which delighted in the murdering the Nephites  
& robing & plundering them  
& their hearts were set upon riches  
or upon gold & silver & precious stones  
yet they sought to obtain these things by murdering & plundering  
that they might not labour for them with their own hands

<sup>15</sup>thus they were a verry indolent people  
many of whom did worship Idols  
& the curse of God had fell upon them because of the traditions of their fathers  
notwithstanding the promises of the Lord were extended unto them  
on the conditions of repentance

<sup>16</sup>therefore this was the cause  
for which the Sons of Mosiah had undertaken the work  
that perhaps they might bring them unto repentance  
that perhaps they might bring them to know of the plan of redemption  
<sup>17</sup>therefore they seperated themselves one from another  
& went forth among them every man alone  
according to the word & power of God which was given unto him  
<sup>18</sup>now Ammon being the chief among them  
or rather he did minister unto them  
he departed from them  
after having blessed them according to their several stations  
having imparted the word of God unto them  
or administered unto them before his departure  
& thus they took their several journeys throughout the land

<sup>19</sup>& Ammon went to the land of Ishmael  
the land being called after the Sons of Ishmael which also became Lamanites  
<sup>20</sup>& as Ammon entered the land of Ishmael  
the Lamanites took him & bound him  
as was their custom to bind all the Nephites which fell into their hands  
& carry them before the king  
& thus it was left to the pleasure of the king to slay them  
or to retain them in captivity  
or to cast them into prison  
or to cast them out of his land  
according to his will & pleasure

<sup>21</sup>& thus Ammon was carried before the king which was over the land of Ishmael  
& his name was Lamoni & he was a desendant of Ishmael  
<sup>22</sup>& the king enquired of Ammon  
if it were his desires to dwell in the land  
among the Lamanites or among his people  
<sup>23</sup>& Ammon said unto him  
yea I desire to dwell among this people for a time  
yea & perhaps until the day<sup>1</sup> of die  
<sup>24</sup>& it came to pass that King Lamoni was much pleased with Ammon  
& caused that his bands should be loosed  
& he would that Ammon should take one of his daughters to wife  
<sup>25</sup>but Ammon saith unto him  
nay but I will be thy servant  
therefore Ammon became a servant to king Lamoni

& it came to pass that he was set among other servants  
to watch the flocks of Lamoni according to the custom of the Lamanites  
<sup>26</sup>& it came to pass that after he had been in the service of the king three days  
that as he was with the Lamanitish servants  
agoing forth with their flocks to the place of water  
which was called the water of Sebus  
& all the Lamanites drive their flocks hither that they might have water

<sup>27</sup> therefore <sup>as</sup> Ammon & the servants of the king  
were driving forth there flocks to this place of water  
behold a certain number of the Lamanites  
who had been with their flocks to water  
stood & scattered the flock of Ammon & the servants of the king  
& they scattered them insomuch that they fled many ways

<sup>28</sup> now the servants of the king began to murmur saying  
now the king will slay us as he has our brethren  
because their flocks were scattered by the wickedness of these men  
& they began to weep exceedingly saying  
behold our flocks are scattered already

<sup>29</sup> now they wept because of the fear of being slain  
now when Ammon saw this his heart was swollen within him with joy  
for said he I will shew forth my power unto these my fellow servants  
or the power which is in me  
in restoreing these flocks unto the king  
that I may win the hearts of these my fellow servants  
that I may lead them to believe in my words

<sup>30</sup> now these were the thoughts of Ammon  
when he saw the affliction of those which he termed to be his brethren

<sup>31</sup> & it came to pass that he flattered them by his words saying  
my brethren be of good cheer  
& let us go in search of the flocks  
& we will gather them together  
& bring them back unto the place of water  
& thus we will reserve the flocks unto the king  
& he will not slay us

<sup>32</sup> & it came to pass that they went in search of the flocks  
& they did follow Ammon  
& they rushed forth with much swiftness  
& did head the flocks of the king  
& did gather them together again to the place of water

<sup>33</sup> & those men again stood to scatter their flocks  
but Ammon saith unto his brethren  
ensercle the flocks round about that they flee not  
& I go & contend with these men which do scatter our flocks

<sup>34</sup> therefore they did as Ammon had commanded them

& he went forth & stood to contend with those  
which stood by the waters of Sebus  
& they were not in number a verdy few

<sup>35</sup> therefore they did not fear Ammon  
for they supposed that one of their men could slay him  
according to their pleasure  
for they knew not that the Lord had promised Mosiah  
that he would deliver his Sons out of their hands  
neither did they know any thing concerning the Lord  
therefore they delighted in the destruction of their brethren  
& for this cause they stood to scatter the flocks of the king

<sup>36</sup> but Ammon stood forth & began to cast stones at them with his sling  
yea with mighty power he did sling stones amongst them  
& thus he slew a certain number of them  
insomuch that they began to be astonished at his power  
nevertheless they ~~w~~<sup>were</sup> as angry because of the slain of their brethren  
& they were determined that he should fall  
therefore seeing that they could not hit him with their stones  
they came forth with clubs to slay him

<sup>37</sup> but behold every man that lifted his club to smite Ammon  
he smote off their arms with his sword  
for he did withstand their blows  
by smiting their arms with the edge of his sword  
insomuch that they began to be astonished & began to flee before him  
yea & they were not few in number  
& he caused them to flee by the strength of his arm

<sup>38</sup> now six of them had fallen by the sling  
but he slew none save it were their leader  
& he smote off as many of their arms as was lifted against him  
& they were not a few

<sup>39</sup> & when ~~t~~<sup>he</sup> ~~hey~~ had driven them afar off he returned  
& they watered their flocks & returned them to the pastures of the king  
& then went in unto the king  
bearing the arms which had been smote off by the sword of Ammon  
of those who sought to slay him  
& they were carried in unto the king  
for a testimony of the things which they had done