

# Mosiah 23

## Chapter

An account of Alma & the people of the Lord  
which was driven into the wilderness by the people of king Noah——

<sup>1</sup>Now Alma having been warned of the Lord  
that the armies of king Noah would come upon them  
& had made it known to his people  
therefore they gathered together their flocks & ~~too~~ took of their grain  
& departed into the wilderness before the armies of king Noah  
<sup>2</sup>& the Lord did strengthen them  
that the people of king Noah could not overtake them to destroy them  
<sup>3</sup>& it came to pass that  
they fled eight days journey into the wilderness  
<sup>4</sup>& they came to a land  
yea even a verry beautiful & pleasant land  
a land of pure water  
<sup>5</sup>& it came to pass that they pitched their tents  
& began to till the ground & began to build buildings .&C.  
yea they were industrious & did labour excedingly

<sup>6</sup>& it came to pass that the people were desireous  
that Alma should be their king  
for he was beloved by his people  
<sup>7</sup>but he saith unto them  
behold it is not expediant that we should have a king  
for thus saith the Lord  
ye shall not esteem one flesh above another  
or one man shall not think himself above another  
therefore I say unto you  
it is not expediant that ye should have a king  
<sup>8</sup>nevertheless if it were possible  
that ye could always have a just man to be your kings  
it would be well for you to have a king  
<sup>9</sup>but remember the iniquity of king Noah & his priests  
& I myself was caught in a snare  
& did many things which was abominable in the sight of ~~God~~ the Lord  
which caused me sore repentance  
<sup>10</sup>nevertheless after much tribulation the Lord did hear my cries  
& did answer my prayres  
& hath made me an instrument in his hands  
in bringing so many of you to a knowledge of his truth  
<sup>11</sup>nevertheless in this I do not glory  
for I am unworthy to glory of myself

<sup>12</sup>& now I say unto you  
as you have been ~~opposed~~ oppressed by king Noah  
& have been in bondage to him & his priests  
& have been brought into iniquity by them  
therefore ye were bound with the bands of iniquity  
<sup>13</sup>& now as ye have been delivered by the power of God out of these bonds  
yea out of the hands of king Noah & his people  
& also from the bonds of iniquity  
even so I desire that ye should stand fast in this liberty  
wherewith ye have been made free  
& that ye s<sup>o</sup> trust no man to be a king over you  
<sup>14</sup>& also trusting no one to be your teachers nor your ministers  
except he be a man of God  
walking in his ways & keeping his commandments  
<sup>15</sup>thus did Alma teach his people  
that every man should love his neighbor as himself  
that there should be no contention among them

<sup>16</sup>& now Alma was their high Priest  
he being the founder of their church  
<sup>17</sup>& it came to pass that  
none received authority to preach or to teach  
except it were by him from God  
therefore he consecrated all their priests & all their teachers  
& none were consecrated except it were just men  
<sup>18</sup>therefore they did watch over their people  
& did nourish them with things pertaining to righteousness

<sup>19</sup>& it came to pass that  
they began to prosper exceedingly in the land  
& they called the land Helaman  
<sup>20</sup>& it came to pass that  
they did multiply & prosper exceedingly ~~exceedingly~~ in the land of Helaman  
& they built a city which they called the city of Helaman  
<sup>21</sup>nevertheless the Lord seeth fit to chasten his people  
yea he tryeth their patience & their faith  
<sup>22</sup>nevertheless whosoever patteth his trust in him  
the same shall be lifted up at the last day  
yea & thus it was with this people  
<sup>23</sup>for behold I will shew unto you  
that they were brought into bondage  
& none could deliver them but the Lord their God  
yea even the God of Abraham & of Isaac & of Jacob  
<sup>24</sup>& it came to pass that he did deliver them  
& he did shew forth his mighty power unto them  
& great was their rejoyceings

<sup>25</sup>for behold it came to pass that  
while they were in the land of Helaman  
yea in the city of Helaman  
while tilling the land round about  
behold an army of the Lamanites were in the borders of the land  
<sup>26</sup>now it came to pass that the Brethren of Alma fled from their fields  
& gathered themselves together into the city of Helaman  
& they were much frightened because of the appearance of the Lamanites  
<sup>27</sup>but Alma went forth & stood among them  
& exhorted them that they should not be frightened  
but that they should remember the Lord their  $\diamond$  God  
& he would deliver them  
<sup>28</sup>therefore they hushed their fears  
& began to cry unto the Lord  
that he would soften the hearts of the Lamanites  
that they would spare them & their wives & children  
<sup>29</sup>& it came to pass that the Lord did soften the hearts of the Lamanites  
& Alma & his brethren went forth  
& delivered themselves up into their hands  
& the Lamanites took possession of the Land of Helaman

<sup>30</sup>now the armies of the Lamanites  
which had followed after the people of king Limhi  
had been lost in the wilderness for many days  
<sup>31</sup>& behold they had found those priests of king Noah  
in a place which they called Amulon  
& they had begun to possess the land of Amulon  
& had begun to till the ground  
<sup>32</sup>now the name of the leader of those priests was Amulon  
<sup>33</sup>& it came to pass that Amulon did plead with the Lamanites  
& he also sent forth their wives  
which were the daughters of the Lamanites  
to plead with their brethren  
that they should not destroy their husbands  
<sup>34</sup>& it came to pass that  
the Lamanites had compassion on Amulon & his brethren  
& did not destroy them because of their wives  
<sup>35</sup>& Amulon & his brethren did join ~~the~~ Lamanites  
& they were traveling in the wilderness in search of the land of Nephi  
when they discovered the land of Helaman  
which was possessed by Alma & his brethren

<sup>36</sup>& it came to pass that the Lamanites promised unto Alma & his brethren that if they would shew them the way which led to the land of Nephi that they would grant unto them their lives & their liberty

<sup>37</sup>but it came to pass that

after Alma had shewn them the way that lead to the land of Nephi the Lamanites would not keep their promise

but they set guards round about the land of Helaman over Alma & his brethren

<sup>38</sup>& the remainder of them went to the land of Nephi

& a part of them returned to the land of Helaman

& also brought with them the wives & the children of the guards which had been left in the land

<sup>39</sup>& the king of the Lamanites had granted unto Amulon

that he should be a king & a ruler over his people

which was in the land of Helaman

nevertheless he should have no power to do any thing

conterary to the will of the king of the Lamanites