

Mosiah 29

¹now when Mosiah had Done this
he sent out through all the land among all the people
Desireing ~~them~~ to know their will concerning who Should be their King
²and it came pass that the voice of the people came Saying
wee are Desireous that Aaron thy Son Should Be our king and our ruler
³now Aaron had gone up to the land of nephi
therefore the king could not confer the kingdom upon him
neither was any of the Sons of Mosiah willing to take upon them the kingdom

⁴therefore king Mosiah Sent again among the people
yea even a ~~writing~~ written word Sent he a Among the people
and these were the words that were ~~writ~~ written Saying
⁵Behold O ye my people or my Bretheren
for I esteem you as such
for I Desire that ye Should consider the cause which yea are called to consider
for ye ar Desireous to have a king
⁶now I Declair unto you that he to whom that the kingdom Doth wrightly Belong
hath Declared And will not take upon him the kingdom
⁷and now if their should Be another appointed I in his stead
Behold I fear their would rise comtentions Among ~~the~~ you~~r~~
and who knoweth But what my Sons to whom the kingdom Doth Belong
Should ~~th~~ turn to Be A^{angry}nd Draw a way a part of this people after him
which will cause ~~w~~ wars & contentions among you~~r~~
which would Be the cause of shedding mutch Blood
And perverting the way of the Lord
yea and Destroy the Souls of mtch people

⁸Now I Say unto you
let us be wise and consider these things
for wee have no wr^right to Destroy my Son
neither Should wee have any wright to Destroy an other
if he Should Be appointed in his Stead
⁹and if ^mmy Son Should turn again to his pride and vain things
he would recall the things which he had Said
and claim his right to the kingdom
which would cause him and also this ~~to comit~~ people to commit much Sin

¹⁰and now let us Be wise and look forward to these things
and Doo that which will make for the peace of this people
¹¹therefore I will Be your king the remainder of my Days
nevertheless let us ~~acquaint~~ ~~apoi~~ Appoint Judges to Judge this people according to our law
and wee will newly arange the affairs of this people
for we will appoint wise men to Be Judges
that will Judge this people according to the commandments of ~~the Lord~~ god

¹²now it is Better that a man Should Be Judged of god than of man
for the Judgements of god are allways Just
but the Judgements of ~~god~~ not man are not allways Just
¹³therefore if it was possible that ye Could have Just men to be your Judges kings
which would establish the laws of god
and Judge this people accordeng^{to} his commandments
yea if ye could have men for your kings
which would Do even as my father Benjamin Did for this people
I say unto you
if this could ~~be~~ allway Be the Case
then it would Be exp^edient
that ye sould allways have kings to rule over you

¹⁴and Even I my self have laboured
with all the power and ~~facult~~ of faculties which I have possessed
to teach you the Commandments of god
and to Establish peace through out the land
that their Should Be no wars nor Contentions
no Stealling nor plundering nor murdering nor no manner of anniqity
¹⁵and whosoever hath Committid aniqity
him have I punished according to the Crime which he hath Committed
according to the law which hath been given to us by our farthers

¹⁶now I say unto you that because all men are not Just
it is not Expedient that ye Should ha^v a king or kings to rule over you
¹⁷for behold how muthch iniqity Doth one wicked king Case to be Committed
yea and what greate Destruction
¹⁸yea remmbering N^oah his wickedness and his abominations
and also the wickedness and abomimations of his people
behold what greate Distruction Did Come upon them
and also bcause of their Eniquities they were braught into bondage
¹⁹and were it not for the iterposition of they allwise Creator
and this because of their Cinsere ripentance
thou must unavoidably remain in bondage until now,
²⁰but behold he did deliver them
bcause they ~~did~~ did humble themself before him
& they cryed mightily unto him
he did deliver them out of bondage
& thus doth the Lord work with his Power
in all cases among the children of men
extending the arm of mercy towards them that put their trust in him,

²¹& behold, now I say unto you
yea cannot death remove an iniquitous King
save it be through much contention & the shedding of much blood,

²²for behold he hath his friends in iniquity
& he keepeth his guards about him
and he teareth up the Laws of those
which have reigned in righteousness before him
& he trampleth under his feet the commandments of God
²³& he enacteth Laws & sendeth them forth among his people,
yea Laws after ^{the} manner of his own wickedness
& whosoever doth not obey his Laws
he causeth to be destroyed
& whosoever doth rebel against him
he will send his armies against them to war
& if he can he will destroy them
& thus an unrighteous King doth pervert the ways of all righteousness.

²⁴And now behold I say unto you
it is not expedien^t that such abominations should come upon you
²⁵therefore choose you by the voice of the people Judges
that ye may be Judged according to the Laws
which hath been given you by our^t Fathers
which are correct
& which was given them by the hand of the Lord,
²⁶now it is not common that the voice of the poeple desireth anything
contrary to that which is right
but it is common for the lesser part of the people
to desire that which is not right,
therefore this shall ye observe & make it your law
to do your business by the voice of the people

²⁷& if the time comeeth that the voice of the people doth choose iniquity
then is the time that the Judgments of God will come upon you
yea then is the time he will visit you with great destruction
even as he hath h^htherto visited this land

²⁸and now if ye have Judges
& they do not Judge you according to the law which has been given
ye can cause that he may be Judged of a higher Judge

²⁹if your hier Judges Doth not Judge righteous Judgements
yea Shall cause that a Small number of your lower Judges
Should be gethered to gether
and they Sholl Juddge ~~hie~~ your hier Judges
according to the ~~€~~ voice of the people

³⁰& I Commanded you to Do these thing in the fear of the lord
& I Commanded you to Do these things & that ye have no king
that if these people Commit Sins and iniquity
they Shall be answered upon thier own heads

³¹for behold I Say unto you
the Sins of many poeple have been Causd by the Eniquities of their kings
therefore ~~thei~~r Eniquities are answered upon the heads of their kings

³²and now I desire that this ~~people~~ unequaility Should be no more is this land
Espesally among this my people
but I Desire that this land be a land of liberty
and Every man may Enjoy his wrights and priveleiges alike
so long as the lord Seas fit that wee may live and iherit the land
yea Even as long as any of our posterity remaineth upon the face of the land

³³and many more things Did king Mosiah wrte unt them
unfolding unto them all the treyals and troubals a righto^ous king
yea all the travels of Soul for their people
and also all the murmerings of the people
to their king and he Explained it all unto them

³⁴and he told them that these things had not ought to be
but that the burden Should Come upon all the people
that Every man might bear his part

³⁵and he also unfolded unto them all the disdvantages they ~~shoud~~ laboured under
by having an unrighteous King to rule over them

³⁶yea all his iniquities & abominations
and all the wars and Contentions and blood shed
and the stealing and the plundering,
and the committing of whoredoms
and all manner of iniquities which cannot be innumrated
telling them that these things aught not to be
that they was expressly repugnant to the command ments of God.

³⁷And now it came to pass
aftir King Mosiah had sent these things forth among the people
the were convinced of the truth of his words

³⁸therefore they relinquished their desires for a King
and became exceedingly anxious
that every man should have an equal chance throughout all the land
yea & every man exprest a willingness to answer for his own sins,

³⁹therefore it came to pass that
they assembled themselves together in bodies throughout the land
to cast in their voices concerning who should be their Judges
to Judge them according to the Law which had been given them
& they were exceedingly rejoiced
because of the liberty which had been granted unto them

⁴⁰& they did wax strong in love towards Mosiah
yea they did esteem him more than any other man
for they did not look upon him as a Tyrant who was seeking for gain
yea for that luker which doth corrupt the Soul
for he had not exacted Riches of them
neither had he delighted in shedding of
blood but he had established Peace in the land
& he had granted unto his people
that they should be deliver^ed from all manner of bondage.
therefore they did esteem him
yea exceedingly beyond measure.

⁴¹And it came to pass that they did appoint Judges to rule over them
or to Judges them according to the law
& this they done throughout all the land.

⁴²And it came to pass that Alma was appointed to be the Chief Judge
he being also the High Priest
his Father having confered the office upon him

& had given him the charge concerning all the offairs of the church,
⁴³and now it came to pass ~~that~~ that Alma did walk in the ways of the Lord
& he did keep his commandments
& he did Judge righteous Judgments
& there was continual Peace through the land

⁴⁴& thus commenced the Reign of the Judges throughout all the land of Zarahemla
among all the people which was called the Nephites,
And Alma^o was the first & Chief Judge.

⁴⁵And now it came to pass that his Father Died
being Eighty and two years old
having lived to fulfill the commandments of God.

⁴⁶And It came to pass ~~that~~ that
Mosiah died also in the thirty & third year of his Reign
being sixty and three years,
making in the whole Five Hundred & Nine years
from the time Lehi left Jerusalem,

⁴⁷And thus Ended the Reign of the Kings over the people of Nephi,
and this ended the days of Alma
who was the founder of their Church