

THE BOOK of ENOS

(The Son of Jacob)

Chapter One.

I, Enos, beheld my father, a just man who instructed me in his language, and in the ways of the Lord. Praise be to my God for it!

Now, I shall recount the struggle I faced before God, seeking the remission of my sins. While hunting in the forests, my father's teachings about eternal life and the joy of the saints deeply affected me. My soul hungered, and I knelt before my Maker, crying out in fervent prayer for my own soul. All day long, my voice reached the heavens, continuing even into the night.

A voice came to me, saying: Enos, your sins are forgiven, and you shall be blessed. I, Enos, knew that God could not lie, and my guilt was swept away.

I inquired: Lord, how is this possible?

He replied: Because of your faith in Christ, whom you have not seen or heard before. Many years will pass before He manifests Himself in the flesh. Therefore, your faith has made you whole.

After hearing these words, my concern turned to the welfare of my Nephite brethren, and I poured out my soul in prayer for them. The voice of the Lord returned, assuring me that He would visit my brethren according to their diligence in keeping His commandments. The land was holy, and He would curse it only for iniquity.

Strengthened in faith, I prayed fervently for my Lamanite brethren. The Lord promised to grant my desires due to my faith. I desired that if the Nephites fell into transgression and were destroyed, a record of my people would be preserved for the Lamanites to bring them to salvation. The Lamanites swore to destroy our records and traditions, and my prayers continued for the preservation of our records.

The Lord covenanted to bring forth the records among the Lamanites in His own time. I rested in the assurance of this covenant. The Lord revealed that my fathers had also sought this preservation, and it would be done according to their faith.

Encouraged by the Lord's words, I went among the people, prophesying of future events and testifying of the things I had heard and seen. I bear witness that the Nephites diligently sought to restore the Lamanites to the true faith, but their efforts were in vain. The Lamanites became wild, ferocious, bloodthirsty, and idolatrous, causing much distress to the Nephites.

Despite the Nephites' efforts in agriculture and raising livestock, and the presence of many prophets, the people remained stiffnecked and difficult to understand. Only preaching of wars, contentions, destructions, and reminders of death, eternity, and the power of God kept them from speedy destruction. I record these things plainly, as I saw wars between the Nephites and Lamanites during my lifetime.

Having reached the age of one hundred and seventy-nine, I saw the need to preach and prophesy to the people, declaring the truth in Christ.

I recognized that my mortal life would soon end, and I looked forward to resting with my Redeemer. Rejoicing in the day when my mortal would put on immortality, I anticipated standing before Him and hearing: Come unto me, ye blessed, there is a place prepared for you in the mansions of my Father. Amen.