

Alma 4

Now it came to pass
Chapter

¹Now it came to pass
in the ~~six~~ sixth year of the Reign of the Judges over the People of Nephi
there was no contentions nor wars in the land of Zarahemla

²& the people being afflicted
yea greatly afflicted for the loss of their Brethren
& also ~~by~~ for the loss of their flocks & herds
& also for the loss of their fields of grain
which was troden under foot & destroyd by the Lamanites

³& so great was their affliction that every soul had cause to moun
& they believed that it was the Judgments of ~~of~~ God sent upon them
because of their wickedness & their Abominations
therefore they were awakened to a remembrance of their duty.

⁴And they began to establish the Church more fully.
yea & many were Baptised in the waters of Sidon
& were joined to the Church of God.
yea they were Baptised by the hand of Alma
who had been Consecrated the High Priest over the People of the Church,
by the hand of his Father Alma.

⁵And it came to pass in the seventh year of the Reign of the Judges
there was about three Thousand five hundred souls
that united themselves to the Church of God & were Baptised.
And thus ended the seventh year
of the Reign of the Judges over the People of Nephi
& there was Continual Peace in all that ~~and~~ time.

⁶And it came to pass in the Eighth year of the Reign of the Judges
that the People of the Church began to wax Proud
because of their exceeding Riches, & their fine silks & their fine twined linnen,
& because of their many flocks & herds
& their Gold & their Silver & all manner of precious things
which they had obtained by their Industry
& in all these things were they lifted up in the Pride of their eyes
for they began to wear very Costly Apparel.

⁷now this was the cause of much affliction to Alma
yea And to many of the People which Alma had consecrated
to be teachers & Priests And Elders over the church.
yea many of them were sorely grieved for the wickedness
which they saw had begun to be among their People

⁸for they saw & beheld with great sorrow
that the People of the church began to be lifted up in the pride of their Eyes
& to set their hearts upon riches & upon the vain things of the world
that they began to be scornful one towards another
& they began to persecute those that did not believe

according to their own will And pleasure.

⁹& thus in this Eighth Year of the Reign of the Judges
there began to be great Contentions among the ^{People of the} church,
yea there was envyings & strifes & malice And Persecutions & pride
even to exceed the pride of those who did not belong to the Church of God,
¹⁰and thus ended the Eighth year of the Reign of the Judges,
and the wickedness of the church was a great stumbling block
to those who did not belong to the church,
& thus the church began to fail in its progress,

¹¹And it came to pass in the commencement of the Ninth Year
Alma seeing the wickedness of the church.

& also that the Example of the Church
began to lead those who were unbelievers on
from one piece of iniquity to another
thus bringing on the destruction of the People

¹²yea seeing great unequality among the People,
some lifting themselves up with their pride despising others
turning their backs upon the needy & th naked
& those which were hungry & those which were athirst
& those which were sick & afflicted,

¹³now this was a great cause for lamentations among the People
while others were abaseing themselves
succoring those who stood in need of their succor
such as imparting their substance to the poor & the needy
feeding the hungry & suffering all manner of afflictions for Christs sake
which should come according to the spirit of Prophecy

¹⁴looking forward to that day
thus retaineing a remission of their sins
being filled with great joy
because of the resurrection of the dead
according to the will & power and deliverance of Jesus Christ
from the pains of death.

¹⁵And now it come to pass that
Alma having seen the afflictions of the humble followers of God.
& the persecutions which was heaped upon them by the remainder of his People
& seeing all their unequality
h^o began to be very sorrowful

Nevertheless the spirit of the Lord did not fail him

¹⁶and he selected a wise man which was among the Elder of the Church
and gave him power according to the voice of the people
that he might have power to enact Laws
according to the Laws which had been given
& to put them in force according to the wickedness & the crimes of the people—

¹⁷Now this mans name was Nephiah & he was appointed Chief Judge
& he sat ~~upon~~ in the Judgment seat to Judge & to govern the people,

¹⁸now Alma did not grant unto him the Office of High priest over the church but he retained the Office of high Priest unto himself, but he delivered the Judgment Seat unto Nephiah

¹⁹& this he did that he himself might go forth among his people or among the people of Nephi that he might Preach the word of God unto them to stir them up in remembrance of their duty & that he might pull down by the word of God all the pride & craftiness & all the contentions which was among his people seeing no way that he might reclaim them save it were in bearing down in pure testimony against them.

²⁰And thus in the ~~ninth~~ commencement¹ of the ninth year of the Judges over the people of Nephi Alma delivered up the Judgment Seat to Nephiah & confined himself wholly to the High Priesthood of the holy Order of God to the testi¹mony of the word according to the spirit of revelation and Prophecy—

¹ CHICAGO leaves Header = Alma preaches to the