

Mosiah 2

¹& it came to pass that after Mosiah had done as his father had commanded him & had made a proclamation throughout all the land that the People gathered themselves together throughout all the land that they might go up to the temple to hear the words which King Benjamin should speak unto them
²& there were a great number even so many that they did not number them for they had multiplied exceedingly & waxed great in the land
³& they also took of the firstlings of their flocks that they might offer sacrifice & burnt offerings according to the law of Moses
⁴& also that they might give thanks to the Lord their God who had brought them out of the land of Jerusalem & who had delivered them out of the hands of their enemies & had appointed just men to be their teachers & also a just man to be their King who had established peace in the land of Zarahemla & who had taught them to keep the commandments of God that thereby they might rejoice & be filled with love towards God & all men

⁵& it came to pass that when they came up to the temple they pitched their tents round about every man according to his family consisting of his wife & his Sons & his daughters & their Sons & their daughters from the eldest down to the youngest every family ~~have~~^{being} ~~separate~~ separate one from another

⁶& they pitched their tents round about the temple every man having his tent with the door thereof towards the temple that thereby they might remain in their tents & hear the words which King Benjamin should speak unto them

⁷~~For~~ for the multitude being so great that King Benjamin could not teach them all within the walls of the temple therefore he caused a tower to be erected that thereby his People might hear the words which he should speak unto them

⁸& it came to pass that he began to speak to his People from the tower & they could not all hear his words because of the greatness of the multitude therefore he caused that the words which he spake should be written & sent forth among those that were not under the sound of his voice that they might also receive his words

⁹& these are the words which he spake & caused to be written saying——
My Brethren all ye that have assembled yourselves to gether
you that can hear my words which I shall speak unto you this day
for I have not commanded you to come up hither
to trifle with the words which I shall speak
but that you should hearken unto you
& open your ears that ye may hear
& your hearts that ye may understand
& your minds that the mysteries of God may be unfolded to your view

¹⁰I have not commanded you to come up hither that ye should fear me
or that ye should think that I of myself am more than a mortal man

¹¹but I am like as yourselves
subject to all manner of infirmities in body & mind
yet as I have been chosen by this People
& was consecrated by my father
& was suffered by the hand of the Lord
that I should be a ruler & a king over this People
& have been kept & preserved by his matchless power
to serve thee with all the might mind & strength
which the Lord hath granted unto me

¹²I say unto you that as I have been suffered
to spend my days in your service even up to this time
& have not sought gold nor silver
nor no manner of riches of you

¹³neither have I suffered that ye should be confined in dungeons
nor that ye should make slaves one with another
or that ye should murder or plunder or steel or commit adultery
or even I have not suffered that ye should commit any manner of wickedness
& have taught you that ye should keep the commandments of the Lord
in all things which he hath commanded you

¹⁴& even I myself have laboured with mine ~~own~~^{own} hands that I might serve you
& that ye should not be laden with taxes
& that there should nothing come upon you which was grievous to bourne
& of all these things which I have spoken
ye yourselves are witnesses this day

¹⁵yet my Brethren I have not done these things that I might boast
neither do I tell these things that thereby I ~~my~~ might accuse you
but I tell you these things that ye may know
that I ^{can} answer a clear conscience before God this day

¹⁶behold I say unto you that
because I said unto you that I had spent my days in your service
I do not desire to boast
for I have only been in the service of God

¹⁷& behold I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom
that ye may learn that when ye are in the service of your fellow beings
ye are only in the service of your God

¹⁸ behold ye have called me your king
& if I whom ye call your king do labour to serve you
then had not ye ought to labour to serve one another
¹⁹ & behold also if I who ye call your king
who has spent his days in your service
& yet hath been in the service of God
doth merit any thanks from you
O how had you ought to thank your heavenly King

²⁰ I say unto you my Brethren
that if you should render all the thanks & praise
which your whole souls hath power to possess
to that God who hath created you
& hath kept & preserved you
& hath caused that ye should rejoice
& hath granted that ye should live in peace one with another

²¹ I say unto you that
if ye should serve him who hath created you from the beginning
& art preserveing you from day to day by lending you breath
that ye may live & move & do according to your own will
& even supporting you from one moment to another
I say if ye should serve him with all your whole soul
& yet ye would be unprofitable servants

²² & behold all that he requires of you is to keep his commandments
& he hath promised you that if ye would keep his commandments
ye should prosper in the land
& he never doth vary from that which he hath said
therefore if ye do keep his commandments
he doth bless you & prosper you

²³ & now in the first place he hath created you
& granted unto you your lives
for which ye are in debted unto him

²⁴ & secondly he doth require
that ye should do as he hath commanded you
for which if ye do
he doth immediately bless you
& therefore he hath paid you
& ye are still in debted unto him
& are & will be forever & ever
therefore of what have ye to boast

²⁵ & now I ask can
ye say ought of yourselves
I answer you nay
ye cannot say that thou art even as mu^tch as the dust of the earth
yet thou wast created of the dust of the earth
but behold it belongeth to him who created ~~it~~ you

²⁶& I even I whom ye call your king am no better then ye yourselves are
for I am also of the dust
& thou beholdest that I am old
& am about to yield up this mortal frame to its Mother earth

²⁷therefore as I said unto you
that I had served you walking with a clear conscience before God
even so I at this time^{have} caused that ye should assemble yourselves together
that I might be found blameless
& that your blood should not come up on me
when I shall stand to be Judged of God of the things
whereof he hath commanded me concerning you

²⁸I say unto you that I have caused that ye should assemble yourselves together
that I might rid my garments of your blood
at this period of time when I am about to go down to my grave
that I might go down in peace
& my immortal spirit may join the choirs above
in singing the praises of a Just God

²⁹& moreover I say unto you
that I have caused that ye should assemble yourselves together
that I might declare unto you
that I can no longer be your teacher nor your king

³⁰for even at this time my whole frame doth tremble exceedingly
while attempting to speak unto you
but the Lord God doth support me
& hath suffered me that I should speak unto ~~m~~^{you}e
& hath commanded me that I should declare unto you this day
that my Son Mosiah ^{is}~~as~~ a king & a ruler over you

³¹& now my Brethren I would that ye should do as ye hath hitherto done
as ye have kept my commandments
& also the commandments of my father
& have prospered & have been kept
from falling into the hands of your enemies
even so if ye shall keep the commandments of my Son
or the commandments of God which shall be delivered unto ~~him~~^{you} by ~~ye~~^{him}~~t~~
ye shall prosper in the land
& your enemies shall have no power over you

³²but O my People beware lest there shall arise contentions among you
& ye list to obey the evil spirit which was spoken by my father Mosiah

³³for behold there is a wo ~~promised~~ pronounced upon him that listeth to obey that Spirit
for if he listeth to obey him & remaineth & dieth in ~~h~~^{his}s sins
the same drinketh damnation to his own soul
for he receiveth for his wages an everlasting punishment
having transgressed the law of God conterary to his own knowledge

³⁴I say unto you that there are not one among you
except it be your little Children
that have not been taught concerning these things
but what knoweth that ye are eternally indebted to your heavenly Father
to render to him all that you have & are
& also have been taught concerning the records
which contain the prophesies which hath been spoken by the holy Prophets
even down to the time our father Lehi left Jerusalem
³⁵& also all that hath been spoken by our fathers untill now
& behold also they spoke that which was commanded them of the Lord
therefore they are Just & true

³⁶& now I say unto you my Brethren that
after ye have known & have been taught all these things
if ye should transgress & go conterary to that which hath been spoken
that ye do with draw yourselves from the spirit of the Lord
that it may have no place in you to guide you in wisdoms paths
that ye may be blessed prospered & preserved

³⁷I say unto you that the man that doeth these things
the same cometh out in open rebellion against God
therefore he listeth to obey the evil spirit
& becometh an enemy to all righteousness
therefore the Lord hath no place in him
for he dwelleth not in unholy temples

³⁸therefore if that man repent^{eth} not
& remaineth & dieth an enemy to God
the demands of divine Justice doth awaken his immortal soul
to a lively sense of his own guilt
which doth cause him to shrink from the presance of the Lord
& doth fill his breast with guilt & pain & anguish
which is like an unquenchable fire whose flames ascendeth up forever & ever
³⁹& now I say unto you that mercy hath no claim on that man
therefore his final doom is to endure a never ending torment

⁴⁰O all ye old men & also ye young men
& you little children which can understand my words
for I have spoken plain unto you that ye might understand
I pray that ye should awake to a remembrance of the awful situation
of those that have fallen into transgression

⁴¹& moreover I would desire
that ye should consider on the ~~blessed~~ blessed & hapy state
of those that keep the commandments of God
for behold they are blessed in all things both temporal & spiritual
& if they hold out faithful to the end
they are received into ~~the~~ heaven
that thereby they may dwell with God in a state of neverending happiness
O remember remember that these things are true
for the Lord God hath spoken it