
THE BOOK OF
MORMON
=
THE KEYSTONE

MOSIAH

Elder Eric English
December 2023

The Book of Mormon



**The
Keystone
of Our
Religion**

Summary

- 13 chapters; 1072 verses
- Abridged account of King Benjamin and Mosiah II reigns, institution of system of the judges
- Covers 33 years (~124BC – 91BC)
- 12.3% of the BoM
- Takes place primarily in the Land of Zarahemla with expedition in Land of Nephi
- Written by Mormon

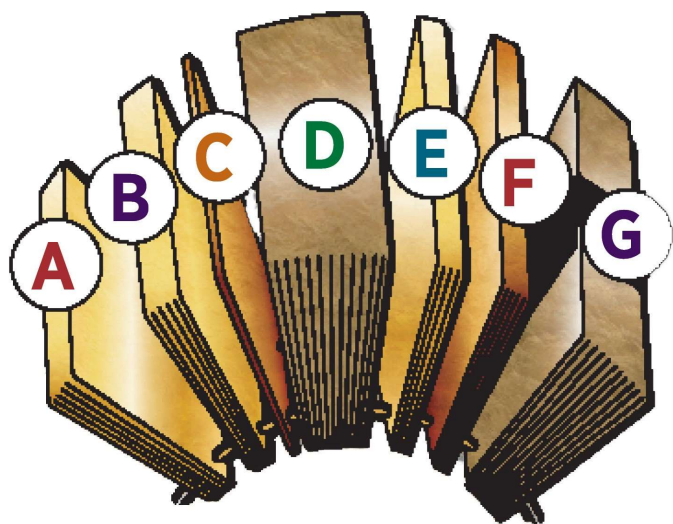
Peoples of Mesoamerica (Book of Mormon Lands)



Land of
Zarahemla

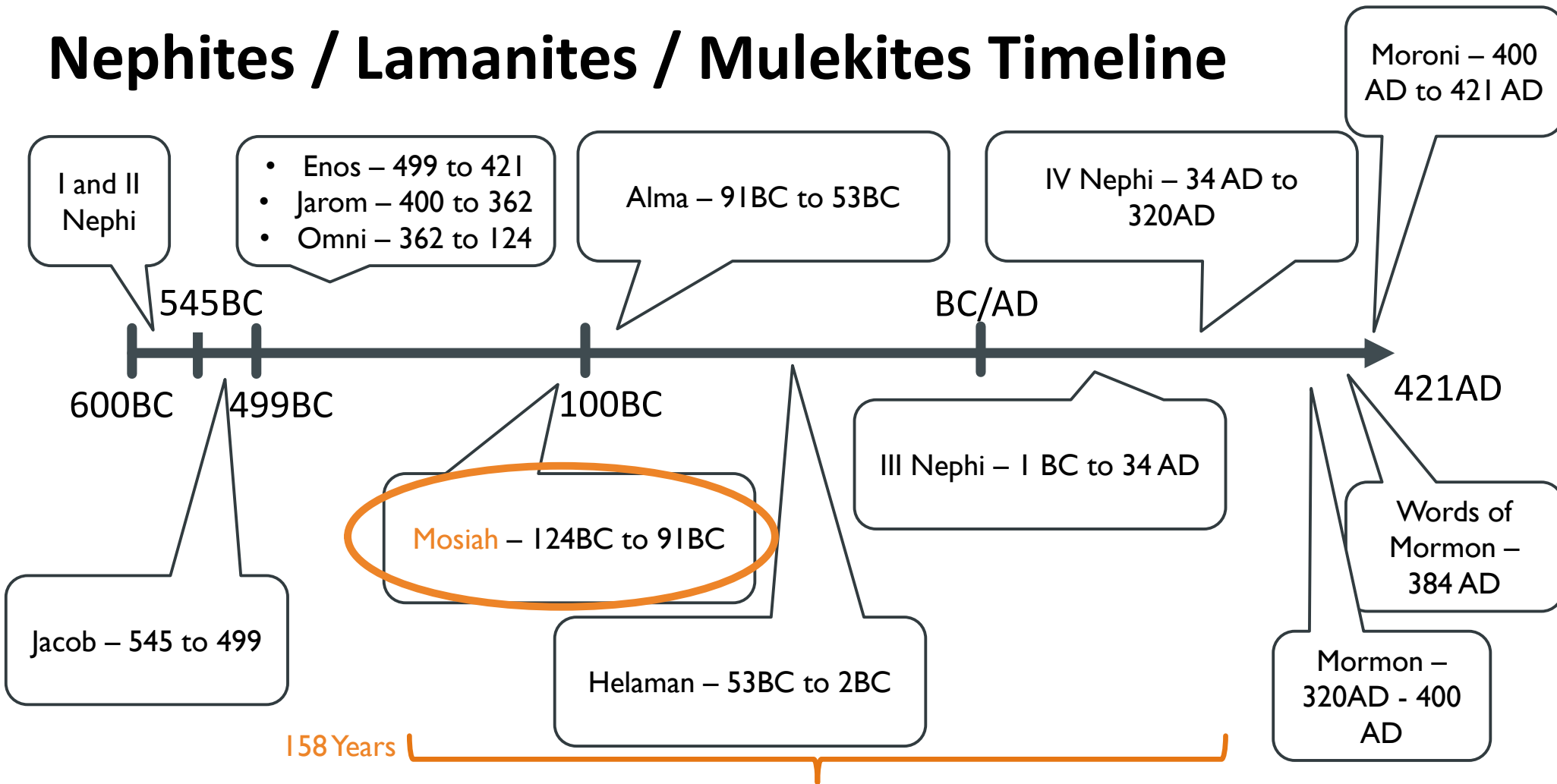
City of
Nephi

THE RECORDS INCLUDED IN THE PLATES



- A – Lost abridgement
- B – Small plates of Nephi (unabridged)
- C – Words of Mormon
- D – Large plates of Nephi (abridged)
- E – 24 Gold Plates (abridged)
- F – Moroni's writing
- G – Sealed Portion

Nephites / Lamanites / Mulekites Timeline



LESSONS FROM MOSIAH

- Continuation of Words of Mormon and King Benjamin's reign
- Benjamin appoints Mosiah II
- King Benjamin's famous speech (Ch 1-4)
- Discover what happened to Zeniff's group that left (Ch 5)
- Flashback (Ch 6-9) ; Parallel timeline occurring in Land of Nephi
- Escape to return to Zarahemla (Ch 10)
- Alma and the church escape to Zarahemla (Ch 11)
- Alma Jr and the Sons of Mosiah conversion
- Great missionary efforts (Ch 12)
- Shift to system of Judges (Ch 13)

SUMMARY OF MOSIAH

Part 1 – In the Land of Zarahemla

- Ch 1 – 4: King Benajmin's message; people make covenant; Benjamin dies; Mosiah II becomes king

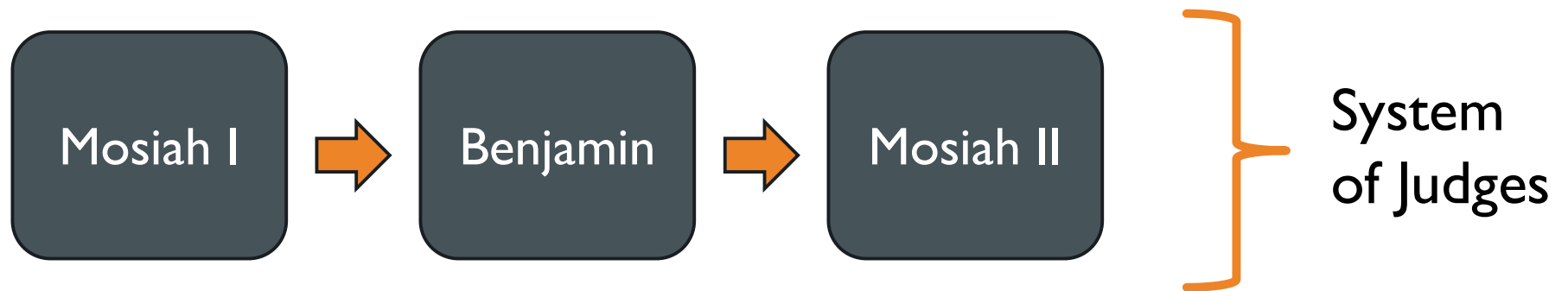
Part 2 – In the Land of Nephi

- Ch 5-11: Ammon and 16 men go to the land of Nephi and find Limhi
 - Flashback: Zeniff – Noah (Abinadi, Alma) – Limhi
 - Ammon returns to Zarahemla with Limhi
 - Alma I and his people gather

Part 3 – In the Land of Zarahemla

- Ch 11-13: Alma I establishes 7 churches
 - Conversion of Alma II and sons of Mosiah II
 - Mosiah II translates the 24 gold plates
 - Mosiah II is the last Nephite king; Alma II is first judge

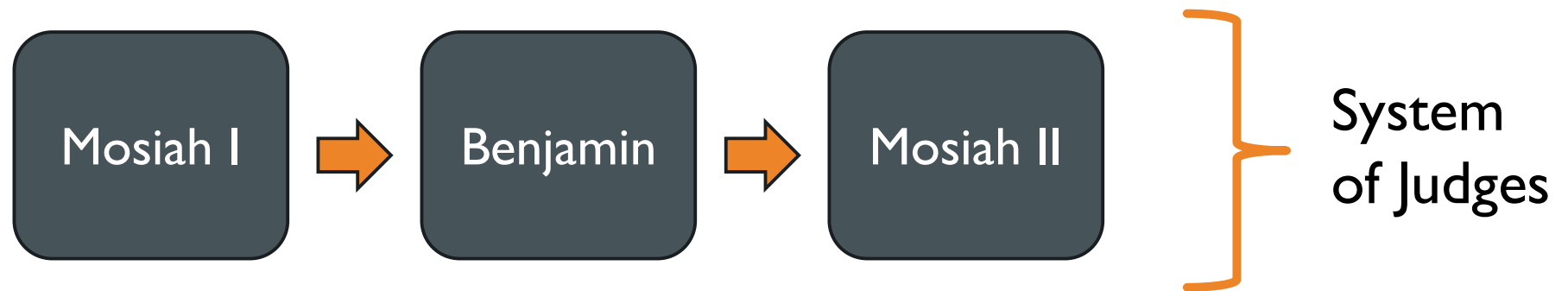
NEPHITES: REIGN OF THE KINGS



REIGN OF THE KINGS (570 BC to 91 BC) - 2 Nephi 4:27 to Mosiah 12:14

- From King Nephi in 570 BC to King Mosiah 2 in 91 BC.
- Last three kings: Mosiah 1, Benjamin, Mosiah 2, then reign of the Judges.

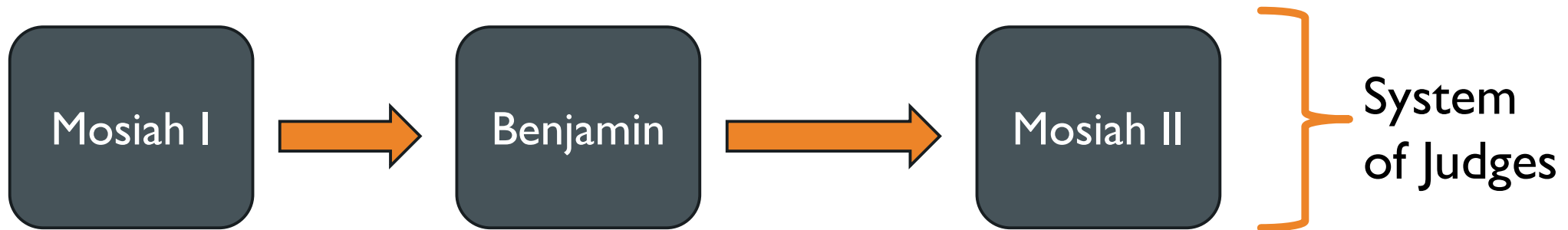
NEPHITES: REIGN OF THE JUDGES



REIGN OF THE JUDGES (begins in 91 BC) - Mosiah 12:14–13:68

- 1 Nephi 3:4 – Messiah would come 600 years from time Lehi left Jerusalem.
- Mosiah 13:67 – King Mosiah 2 died 509 years from time Lehi left Jerusalem.

THE LAST 3 NEPHITE KINGS

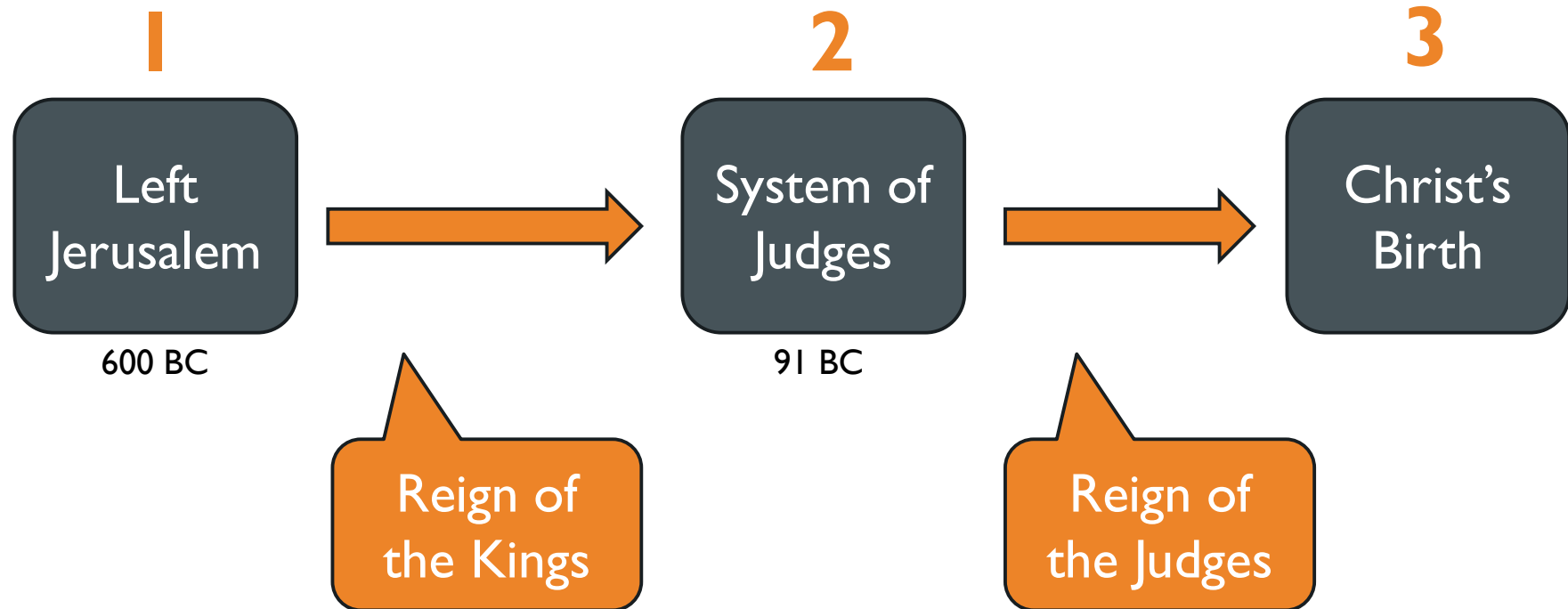


The only existing record of this king is 22 verses found in the “Amaleki section” of the book of Omni (Omni 1:19-40).

- First introduction to this king is in Omni 1:40.
- Most of what we know about him is in: Omni 1:40-43, Words of Mormon 1:15-27, Mosiah 1-3
- Benjamin passed away in Mosiah 4:7

- Begins to reign in Mosiah 4:5.
- Last of the Nephite kings
- With his death in Mosiah 13:67 the Reign of the Judges begins in 91 BC

KEEPING TIME – 3 CALENDAR RECKONINGS



TIMELINES IN 3 LANDS

Dates (BC)	Nephite Kings in Zarahemla	Zeniff's Colony in Land of Nephi	Lamanite Kings in Land of Nephi
200 – 180	Mosiah I	Zeniff (self made king)	Laman
150	Benjamin	Noah (king) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abinadi• Alma I	Laman II
124	Mosiah II	Limhi (king) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alma I (prophet)	Laman II <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amulon (priest of Noah)

IS THE BOOK OF MOSIAH ONE LARGE CHIASM?

BOOK OF MOSIAH	
A	King Benjamin teaches his sons (1:1-13)
B	Benjamin confers kingdom on his son Mosiah (1:14-16)
C	Mosiah II is given charge of the records (1:23)
D	Benjamin's proclamation, the words of the Lord, and the angel (1:36-2:50)
E	People believe and enter into a covenant (3:1-4:2)
F	Priests appointed to teach the people (4:4)
G	Ammon leaves Zarahemla for the land of Lehi-Nephi (5:4-8)
H	1st account: Ammon put in prison; King Limhi rejoices; 24 gold plates (5:9-86)
I	Flash-back: The record of Zeniff begins as he leaves Zarahemla (6:1)
J	Lamanites fight against people of Zeniff (6:14-57)
K	Zeniff confers kingdom upon his son (Noah) (6:58-7:1)
L	King Noah and priests wicked, lazy and idolatrous (7:1-21)
M	Abinadi prophesies Noah to be burned and judgments (7:28-38)
N	Abinadi confounds priests with law of Moses, repentance and hope in Christ; condemned to death (7:74-9:27) <i>old covenant</i>
N'	Alma I repents, teaches Abinadi's words, people enter into a covenant (9:28-68) <i>new covenant</i>
M'	King Noah suffers death by fire (9:96-97)
L'	Wicked priests flee into wilderness (9:100)
K'	Kingdom conferred by people upon Limhi, son of Noah (9:103-107)
J'	Lamanites threaten the people of Limhi (9:113-139)
I'	Flash-back ends (9:162)
H'	2nd account: Ammon in prison; Limhi rejoices; record [24 gold plates] (9:163-170)
G'	Ammon and people of King Limhi leave land of Nephi for Zarahemla; and then Alma I and his people (9:181-10:19; 11:66-76)
F'	Alma I establishes churches in land of Zarahemla (11:97-104)
E'	Unbelievers refuse to enter covenant (11:105-120)
D'	The words of Alma II, the Lord, and the angel (11:116-199)
C'	Mosiah II translates gold plates; Alma II receives the records (12:16-13:2)
B'	Judges appointed instead of a king (13:7-62)
A'	Mosiah II writes to his people (13:7-62)

THE SONS OF BENJAMIN

1. Mosiah II

2. Helorum

3. Helaman

The Book of Mosiah starts out in the middle of the timeline near the end of King Benjamin's life

THE SONS OF BENJAMIN – THEIR UPBRINGING

- Language
- Plates of Brass

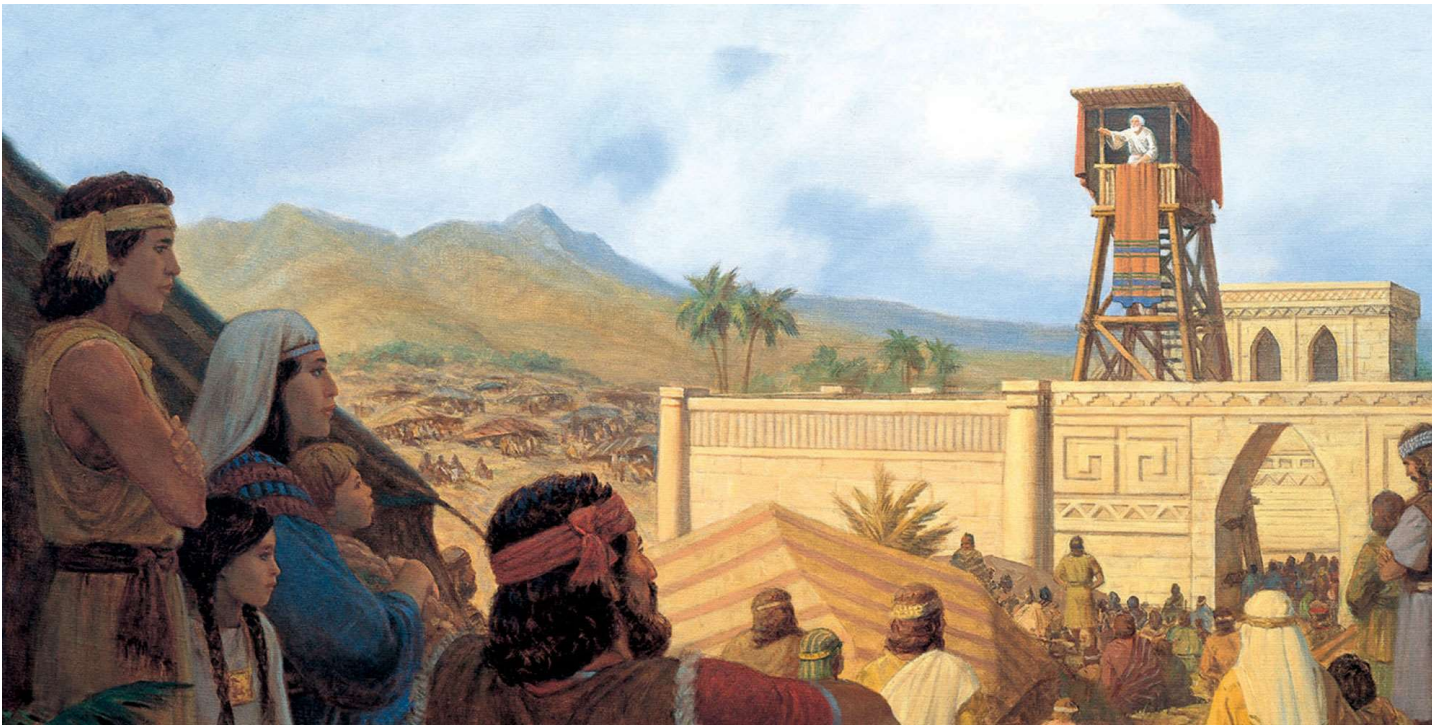
Remember:

- Plates helped avoid ignorance, understand God's mysteries, and remember His commands (1:4)
- God's sayings and the records are true (1:9)
- Search God's messages (1:11)

BENJAMIN -> MOSIAH (COUNSEL & TRANSITION)

1. Call everyone to the temple so I can address them
 - They were still segregated (vrs 15)
2. I'm going to name you as the next King
 - Clear transition of power; "out of mine own mouth" (vrs 16)
3. I'm going to give this people a name (1:17)
 - We need an identity as a people to integrate us together
4. Put him in charge; gave him all the sacred relics – records, sword of Laban, Liahona

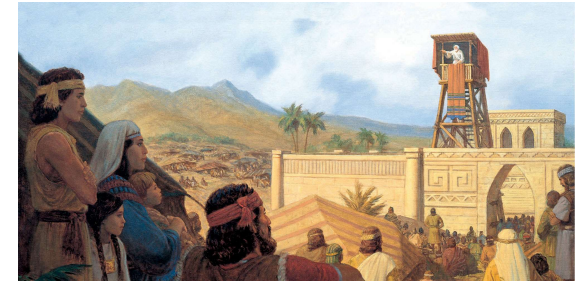
KING BENJAMIN'S SPEECH



- Everyone called to gather @ temple
- Built a tower to try to reach more
- Camped by family groups in tents
- Gave thanks – law of Moses, thanks for promised land, good teachers and leaders
- His speech written down

WHY TENTS?

Likely Feast of Tabernacles Celebration



Feature	Old Testament	King Benjamin's Speech
Travel to the temple (with family)	Deuteronomy 16:14; 31:10-12	Mosiah 1:33
Remain in booths/tents	Leviticus 23:41+; Exodus 33:8; 1 Kings 8:55; Hosea 12:9	Mosiah 1:34
Speaker on platform	Nehemiah 8:4	Mosiah 1:35,36
Sacrifices	Numbers 29; Exodus 24:5	Mosiah 1:30
Reading law and renewal of covenant; commandments	Deuteronomy 4; Nehemiah 8	Mosiah 1:44,45,55,70-72,88-91
Blood of the covenant applied to people	Exodus 24:8; Leviticus 16:14+	Mosiah 1:107, 113; 2:3
Blessings/curses	Deuteronomy 27:14-26	Mosiah 1:55, 74, 75
Ritual response, prostration on ground	Nehemiah 8:6	Mosiah 2:1-4

KING BENJAMIN'S SPEECH

- Open your ears – that you may hear
- Open your hearts – that you may understand
- Open your minds – that the mysteries of God may be unfolded to you
- Benjamin preserved by God just as his people, supported himself to keep taxes low
- “When you are in the service of your fellow beings, you are only in the service of your God” (1:49)
- God created us and preserves us all from day to day, lends us breath, gives us free will // we could serve Him all our days and still be unprofitable

