
THE BOOK OF
MORMON
=
THE KEYSTONE

MOSIAH

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December 2023, Jan/Feb 2024

**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

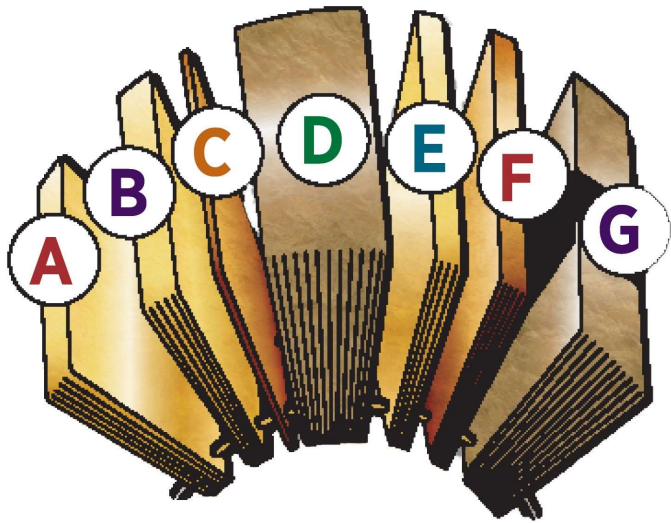
Peoples of Mesoamerica (Book of Mormon Lands)



Land of
Zarahemla

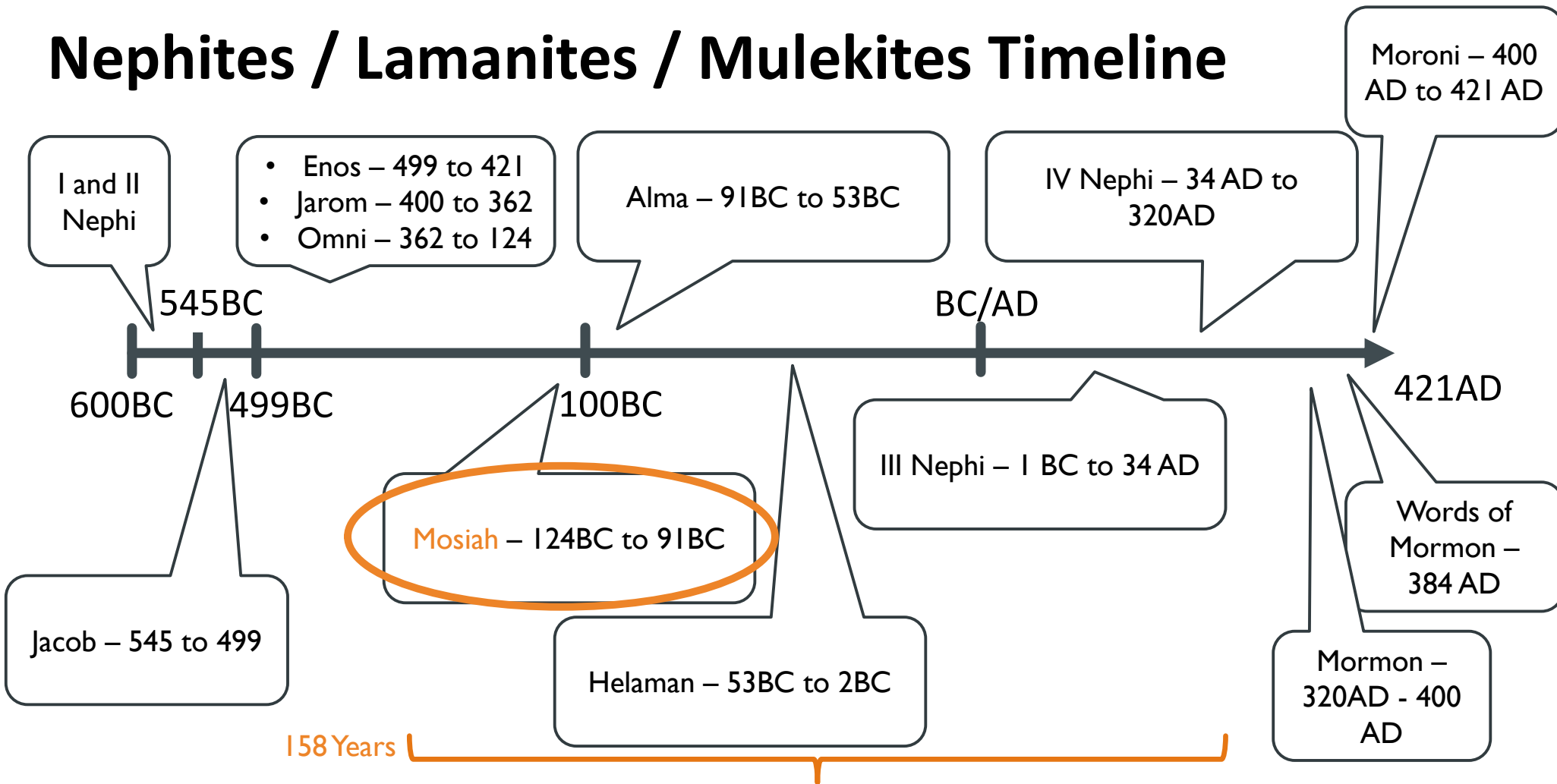
City of
Nephi

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

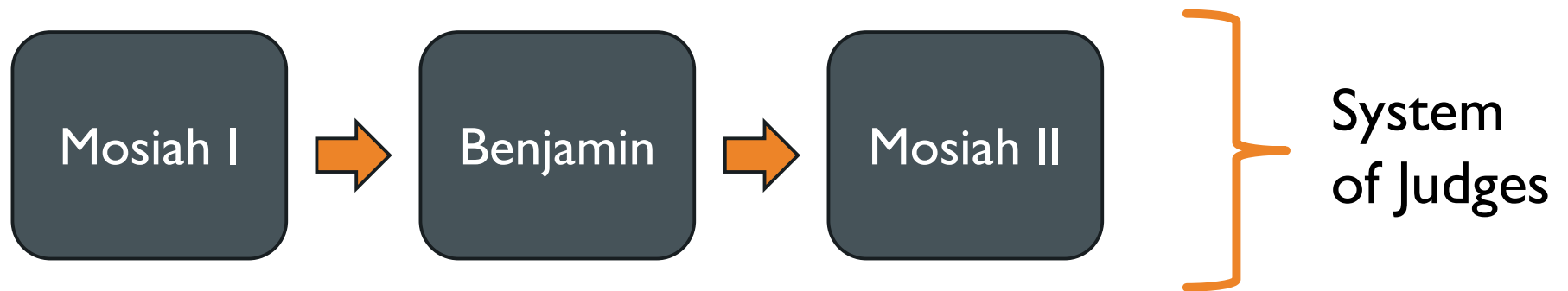
Part 2 – In the Land of Nephi

- 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

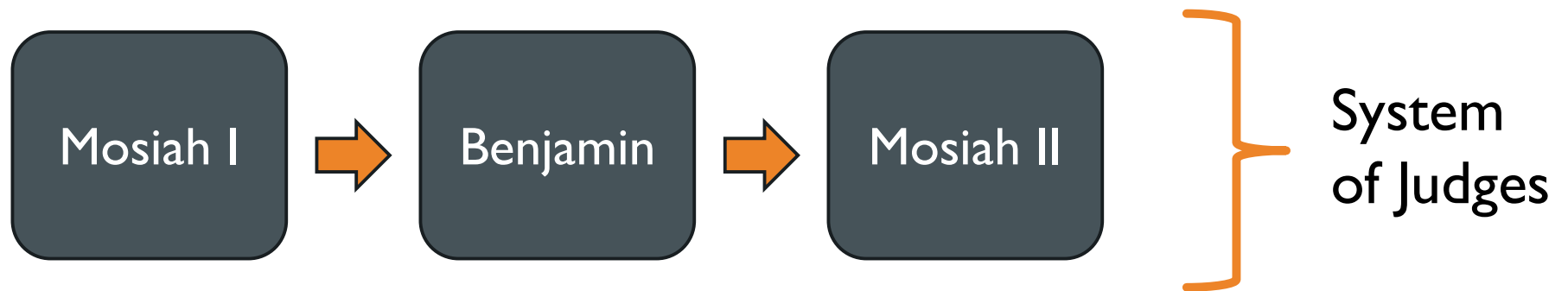
NEPHITES: REIGN OF THE KINGS



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 I, Benjamin, Mosiah 2, then reign of the Judges.

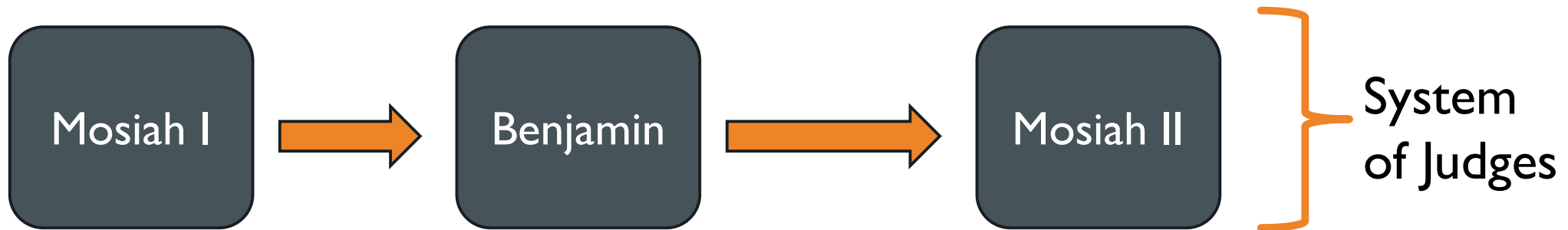
NEPHITES: REIGN OF THE JUDGES



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

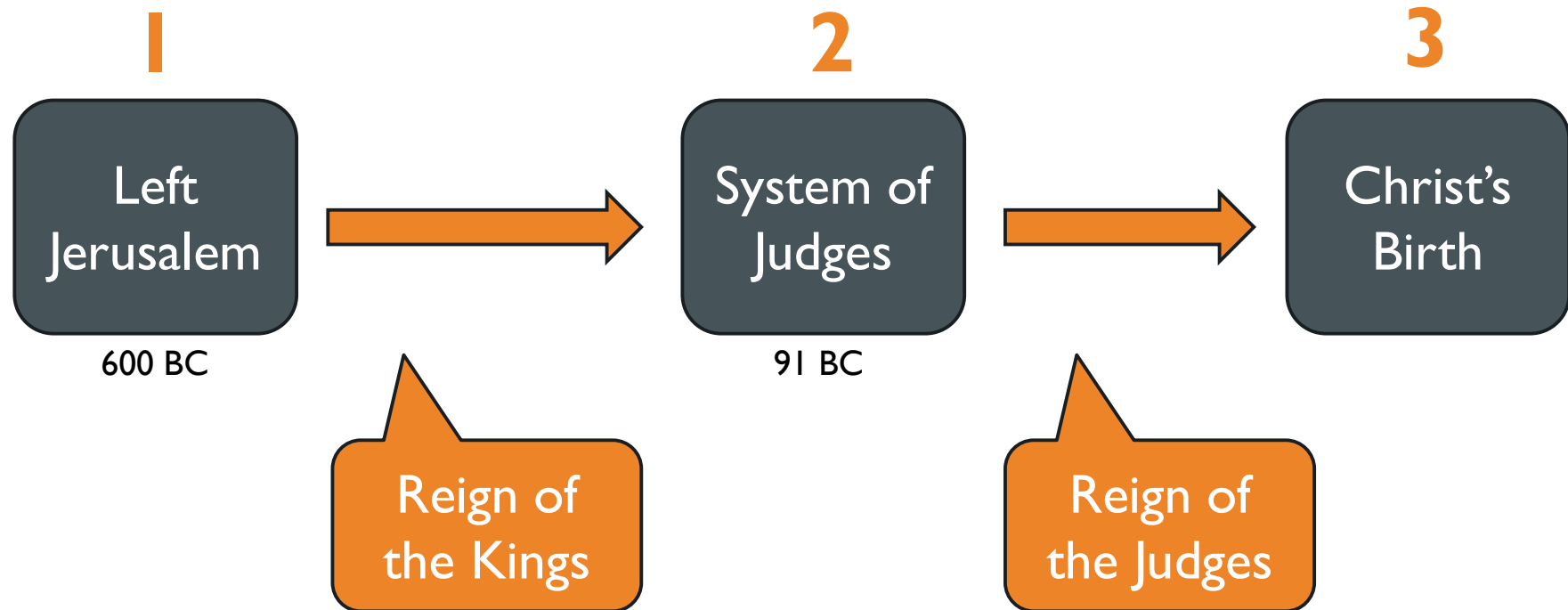


The only existing record of this king is 22 verses found in the “Amaleki section” of the book of Omni (Omni 1:19-40).

- 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

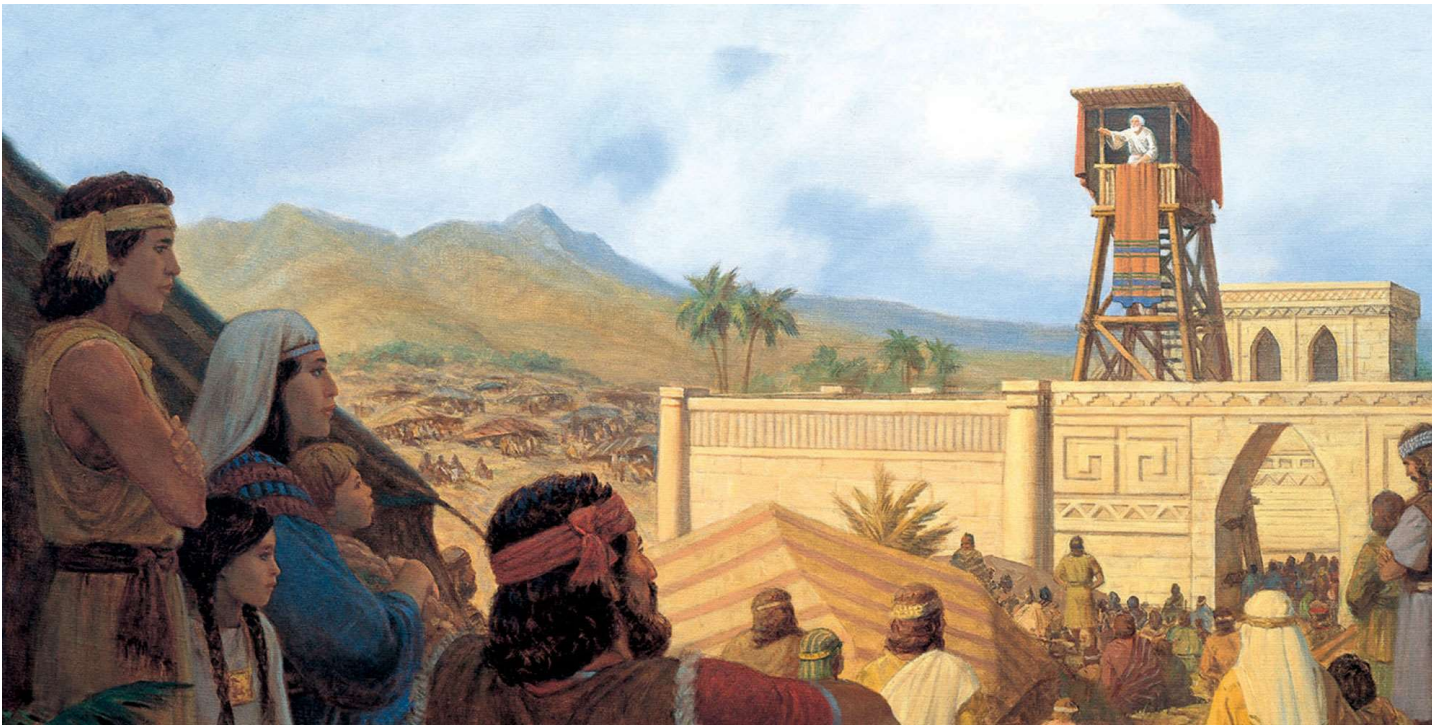
Remember:

- 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?

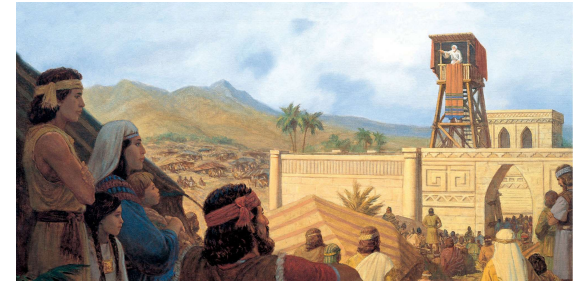
Likely Feast of Tabernacles Celebration



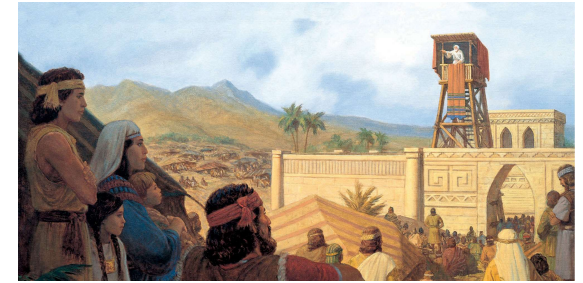
Feature	Old Testament	King Benjamin's Speech
Travel to the temple (with family)	Deuteronomy 16:14; 31:10-12	Mosiah 1:33
Remain in booths/tents	Leviticus 23:41+; Exodus 33:8; 1 Kings 8:55; Hosea 12:9	Mosiah 1:34
Speaker on platform	Nehemiah 8:4	Mosiah 1:35,36
Sacrifices	Numbers 29; Exodus 24:5	Mosiah 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



WHAT GOD REQUIRES



55 "And behold, **all that He requires of you** is to keep His commandments; And He hath promised you that if ye would keep His commandments, ye should prosper in the land;

56 And He never doth vary from that which He hath said; Therefore, if ye do keep His commandments, He doth bless you and prosper you.

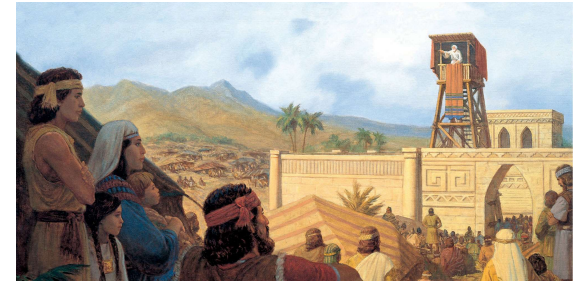
57 "And now in the first place, He hath created you and granted unto you your lives, for which ye are indebted unto Him.

58 "And secondly, He doth require that ye should do as He hath commanded you, for which, if ye do, He doth immediately bless you, And therefore, He hath paid you,

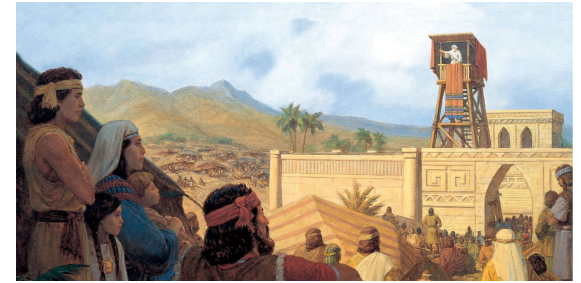
59 And ye are still indebted unto Him and art and will be forever and ever; Therefore, of what have ye to boast?

BENJAMIN -> MOSIAH II

- Benjamin can no longer serve as teacher nor king
- Benjamin named Mosiah as king (1:69)
- Just keep doing what you've been doing for me – follow his leadership (1:70-72)
- Good leaders enact God's commands, not their own (1:72)



REJECTING THE MESSAGE



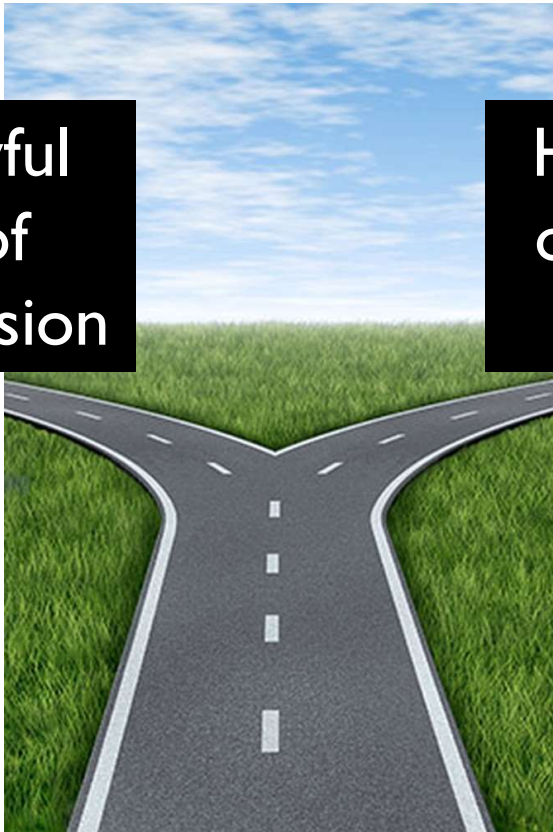
- If you continue to reject the message after having been taught, to the end of your days, you'll receive the punishment that you're due (1:77-85)
- An endless sense of your own guilt = like an unquenchable fire (vrs 83,84)
- Recalling your guilt forever, is never-ending torment



REMEMBER THAT THIS IS TRUE

Your awful
state of
transgression

Happy state
of following
God

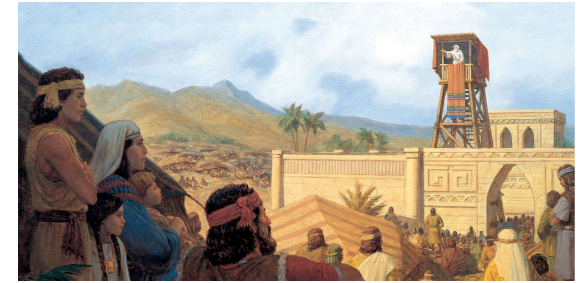


1:91 "O remember,
remember that these things
are true, **for the Lord God
hath spoken it!**

WAKE UP!



Awake and hear what I tell you!, the rest of his speech is the 'angel message'

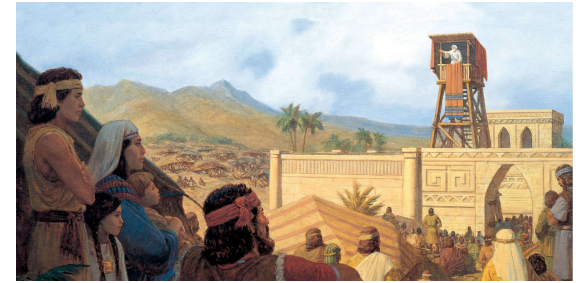


97 'For behold, the time cometh and is not far distant, that with power the Lord Omnipotent who reigneth, which was and is from all eternity to all eternity, Shall come down from heaven among the children of men, And shall dwell in a tabernacle of clay,

98 And shall go forth amongst men, Working mighty miracles, such as - healing the sick, raising the dead, causing the lame to walk, the blind to receive their sight, and the deaf to hear, and curing all manner of diseases;

99 And He shall cast out devils, or the evil spirits, which dwelleth in the hearts of the children of men.

JESUS CHRIST IS COMING!



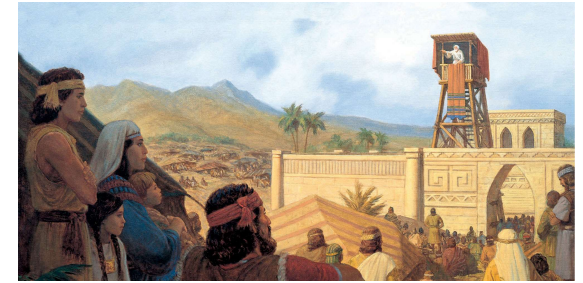
1:100 'And lo, He shall suffer temptations and pain of body, hunger, thirst and fatigue, even more than man can suffer, except it be unto death;

101 For behold, blood cometh from every pore, so great shall be His anguish for the wickedness and the abominations of His people.

102 'And He shall be called Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Father of heaven and of earth, the Creator of all things from the beginning; And His mother shall be called Mary;

103 And lo, He cometh unto His own **that salvation might come** unto the children of men, even through faith on His name.

ATONE FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW

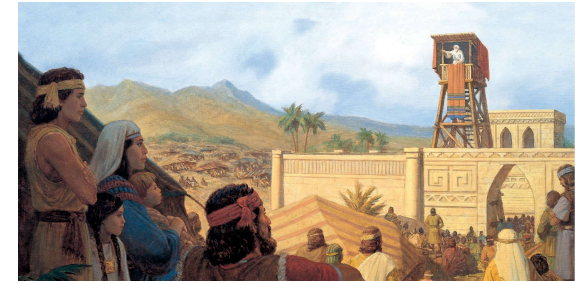


Mosiah 1:106 'And behold, all these things are done that a righteous judgment might come upon the children of men.

107 'For behold, and also His blood atoneth for the sins of those who have fallen by the transgression of Adam, who hath died not knowing the will of God concerning them and who have ignorantly sinned.

108 'But wo, wo unto him who knoweth that he rebelleth against God! For salvation cometh to none such, except it be through repentance and faith on the Lord Jesus Christ.

HE'S BEEN FORETELLING THIS



Mosiah 1:111 'And many signs and wonders and types and shadows showed He unto them concerning His coming;

112 And also holy prophets spake unto them concerning His coming,

113 And yet they hardened their hearts and understood not that the law of Moses availeth nothing, except it were through the atonement of His blood.

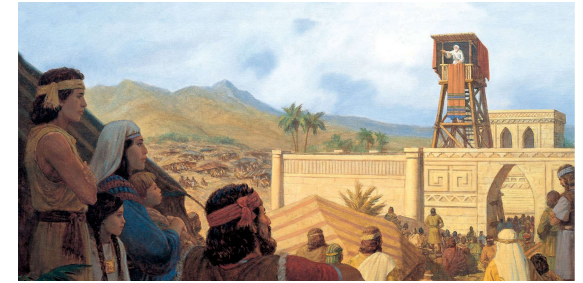
NO OTHER NAME



116 'And moreover, I say unto you that there shall be **no other name given**, nor no other way nor means whereby salvation can come unto the children of men - **Only in and through the name of Christ, the Lord Omnipotent.**

Jesus is the ONLY WAY!

THE WAY OF SALVATION

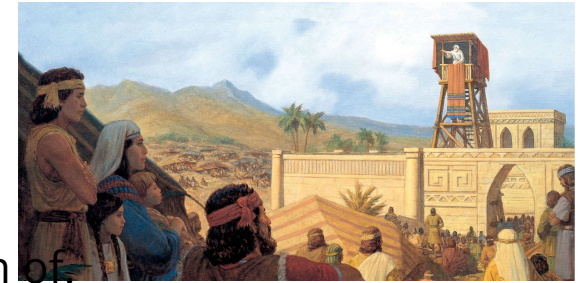


1:119 'For the natural man is an enemy to God and has been from the fall of Adam and will be forever and ever,

120 But if he yieldeth to the enticings of the Holy Spirit and putteth off the natural man - And he becometh a saint through the atonement of Christ the Lord, And becometh as a child - submissive, meek, humble, patient, full of love, willing to submit to all things which the Lord seeth fit to inflict upon him, even as a child doth submit to his father.

PARALLELISMS

And this is the means whereby **salvation** cometh,
And there is none other **salvation** save this which hath been spoken of.
Neither are there any **conditions** whereby man can be saved
Except the **conditions** which I have told you.
Believe in God, **believe** that he is
And that he created **all** things **both in heaven and in earth**.
Believe that he has **all** wisdom
And **all** power **both in heaven and in earth**.
Believe that man doth not **comprehend all** the things
Which the Lord can **comprehend**.
And again **believe that ye** must **repent** of your sins
And **forsake** them.
And **humble** yourselves before **God**
And **ask** in sincerity of heart that **he** would forgive you.
And now if **you** believe all **these things**
See that **ye** do **them**.



Mosiah 2:11-17

CHIASM

And now it shall come to pass,

(A) that whosoever shall not take upon him the **name** of Christ

(B) must be **called** by some other name;

(C) therefore, he findeth himself on the **left hand of God**.

(D) And I would that ye should **remember** also,
that this is the **name** that I said I should give unto you

(E) that never should be **blotted out**,

(F) except it be through **transgression**;

(F') therefore, take heed that ye do not **transgress**,

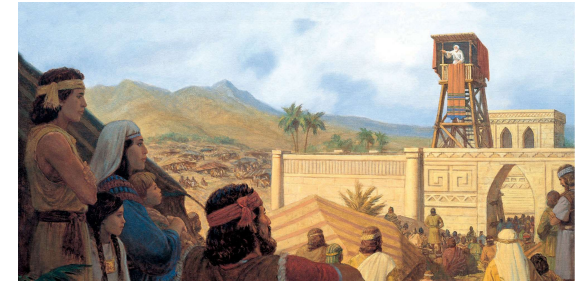
(E') that the name be not **blotted out** of your hearts.

(D') I say unto you, I would that ye should **remember**
to retain the **name** written always in your hearts,

(C') that ye are not found on the **left hand of God**,

(B') but that ye hear and know the voice by which ye shall be **called**,

(A') and also, the **name** by which he shall call you.



Mosiah 3:13-16

THE PEOPLE MADE A COVENANT



- Mosiah chapter 3 is where the Nephites made a covenant with God
- Benjamin gave them the new name that he had promised them

New Name = The Children of Christ

- 100% of Nephites present there had entered into a covenant with God (4:2)

SUMMARY OF MOSIAH

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

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124	Mosiah II	<div>Ammon →</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Linhi (king)• Alma I (prophet)	Laman II <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amulon (priest of Noah)



WHAT HAPPENED TO
THOSE WHO WENT
BACK TO LAND OF
NEPHI?

WHAT BECAME
OF THE PEOPLE
OF ZENIFF
(MOSIAH 5-9)

TIME FOR AN EXPEDITION

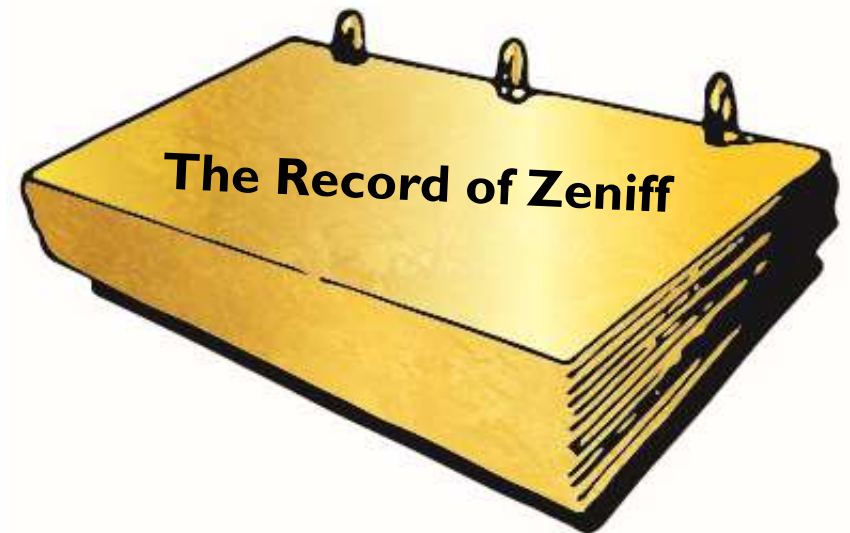
- Ammon to lead (he was a Mulekite)
- Took Amaleki, Helem, Hem along with 12 others (16 in total)
- Curious that Ammon was selected, since he didn't come from there, likely why they wandered for a while before finding their way to the destination (5:5)
- Meet King Limhi, son of Noah, son of Zeniff
- People of Limhi in bondage and heavily taxed by Lamanites, would prefer to be slaves to the Nephites
- Limhi gathers his people at the Temple; speech is 5:27-5:52
- Grievous burden = 50% taxation to the Lamanites

LIMHI SPEECH

- God blessed His people before, rejoice for He will bless and deliver us
 - God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
 - God who delivered Israelites out of Egypt
 - God who delivered Nephites out of Jerusalem
- People in bondage (spiritual and physical)
- They had slain Abinadi, but what he had preached was TRUE
- Sow filthiness and reap the consequences (chaff in the whirlwind, east wind of destruction – both references back to Abinadi's preaching)
- Turn now to the Lord and He will deliver us!

THE RECORD OF ZENIFF

- A set of plates detailing the history of the people of Limhi
- Goes back to when they left Zarahemla
 - Meaning covers the time of Zeniff, Noah, Limhi
- Will be included by Mormon as chapters 6-9 of Mosiah (not clear if directly translated or abridged)
 - Chapter 6 seems to be directly translated, Chapter 7+ seems to be more of an abridged summary by Mormon



LIMHI'S OWN EXPEDITIONARY TRIP

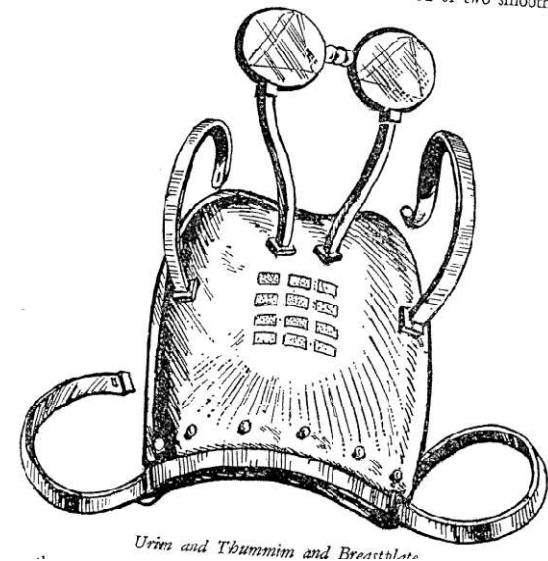
- Limhi looking for help from the Nephites, sent expedition of 43 people to go to Zarahemla
- Got lost, traveled in a land 'of many waters', found covered with bones of men and beasts and ruined buildings
- Brought back 24 gold plates of Ether; also large breastplates and rusted swords
- Limhi REALLY wanted to know the interpretation of the Jaredite history – know the cause of their destruction



*Those who don't study history
are doomed to repeat it*

THE INTERPRETERS (MOSIAH 5:72-83)

- Ammon tells Limhi that Mosiah II has the Interpreters and can translate with them
 - He already had them, not found with 24 gold plates
- Whomever has them is called a seer and can translate languages
- Seer > Prophet
- Seer = Revelator + Prophet
- Interpreters first referenced by Brother of Jared (Ether 1:88+) and given to him by God



The Interpreters

Different from the Urim and Thummim described in the Old Testament?

THE INTERPRETERS = URIM & THUMMIM?



Urim & Thummim

- Mentioned 7 times in the Old Testament
- Lev 8:8 says they were to be put into the breastplate, no biblical description
- Used by Levitical priests
- First described when God gave Moses directions on the breastplate (Ex 28,39)
- Used for receiving counsel or direction, NOT translation

The Interpreters

- First referenced in Ether 1:86-93
- Given by God to Brother of Jared for translation
- Described as two stones
- Use and purpose described – Mosiah 13:15-22 & 5:2-83

Perhaps were two different items?

What about D&C 3:1a, 15:1b, 17:2c?



THE RECORD OF ZENIFF

FLASHBACK
(MOSIAH 6-9)

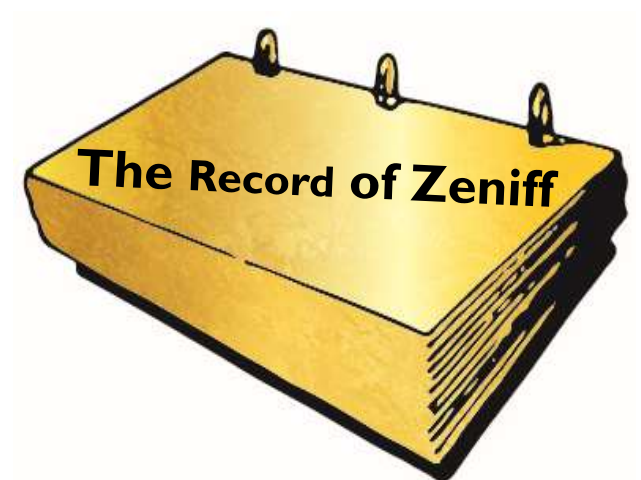
TIMELINES IN 3 LANDS

The Record of Zeniff

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THE RECORD OF ZENIFF OVERVIEW

- **Mosiah 6** – Written by Zeniff; Expeditions back to Land of Nephi, agreement with the Lamanites, Zeniff becomes king, battles with the Lamanites
- **Mosiah 7** – Noah takes over, departs from way that Zeniff ruled, doesn't appear to be written by him
 - Abinadi's first sermon
 - Abinadi's second sermon (2 years later)
 - Debate with priests of Noah
- **Mosiah 8** – Abinadi's second sermon completed
- **Mosiah 9** – Abinadi killed, Alma converted and begins to teach / baptize / church formed



MAIN ELEMENTS IN MOSIAH 6

1. Mosiah 6:1-5 – First Failed Attempt to Return to the Land of Nephi (Omni 1:48-50)
2. Mosiah 6:6 – Zeniff's Second Attempt to Return to the Land of Nephi (Omni 1:51-52)
3. Mosiah 6:7-12 – Zeniff's People Settle in the Two Cities of Lehi-Nephi & Shilom
4. Mosiah 6:13-33 – After A Brief Conflict With King Laman, 22 Years of Peace
5. Mosiah 6:34-43 – A New Lamanite King; Zeniff Fights in the Strength of God
6. Mosiah 6:44-53 – How the Lamanites Were Taught History Differently
7. Mosiah 6:54-58 – Though Deceived by the Lamanites, Zeniff Victorious Again in Battle

ZENIFF'S EXPLOITS – MOSIAH 6

- Omni 1:48-52 for context; after Lamanites beaten badly in Zarahemla (O 1:41,42)
- What was the civil war in the wilderness about for the first expedition? 6:1-5
- Second expedition – 6:6+
- Covenant with King Laman – Why did he give over the land so easily?
 - He was cunning and crafty and playing the long game
 - Perhaps he was also still afraid after being badly beaten by Benjamin in Zarahemla?
- 12 years of peace
- But the Lamanites were lazy and wanted to get some free handouts via bondage/taxation

STEPS TO SPIRITUAL SECURITY – MOSIAH 6

- Mosiah 6:26-29 : **Zeniff's efforts for physical security for his people**
 1. Establish the kingdom
 2. Possess the land in peace
 3. Make weapons of war (peace thru strength)
 4. Set guards
 5. Send out spies to discover the preparations of the enemy (vrs 36)
- “And thus I did guard my people and my flocks and keep them from falling into the hands of our enemies” (vrs 29)
- Analogy between physical warfare and spiritual warfare one of the reasons for multiple accounts of war within the Book of Mormon

LAMANITE INCORRECT TRADITIONS – MOSIAH 6:44-54

1. Lehi's party was driven out of Jerusalem
 2. Laman and Lemuel were wronged in the desert
 3. Laman and Lemuel were wronged while crossing the sea
 4. Laman and Lemuel were wronged in the land of their first inheritance
 - Taking away the privilege of ruling over the people
 - "Stealing" the Plates of Brass
-
- They have been teaching their children to have an eternal hatred of the children of Nephi (for over 400 years, they have been passing this down)

LIFE APPLICATION – TRUE HISTORY? - MOSIAH 6

Read Mosiah 6:46-53. How we teach history makes all the difference in the world. It shapes our perception of others. It instills a sense of morality. It gives the members of a particular culture a common worldview around which they can coalesce. It serves as a motivation for entering into military conflicts. In any conflict, the most important factor is for soldiers to be absolutely convinced about the rightness of their cause. All of the above is determined by how history is taught. In verses 46-53 of this chapter, we get the clearest description in the entire Book of Mormon how the Lamanites taught their children a fanciful and distorted history of their people. It was this Lamanite history that served as the basis for their “eternal hatred” of the Nephite people. **Is the history that I teach my children about my family, my religion and my country objectively accurate and demonstrably true? In the way that I teach history, am I supplying future generations with correct perceptions about the past? Would the history that I teach please God?**

LIFE APPLICATION – OVERZEALOUS? - MOSIAH 6

Read Mosiah 6:6 & 54. Zeniff had grown up in the city of Nephi in the southern highlands. He probably had wonderful memories of that place. After migrating north to Zarahemla with King Mosiah 1, these memories probably served as his motivation for wanting to return there. But in the Record of Zeniff, there are two verses where he admits that he was “overzealous” in wanting to return to the land of Nephi. In his naivete, Zeniff seemed to cling to the memories of his childhood and discount the hatred the Lamanites had for them. But in the 35 years that he reigned over this Nephite splinter group in the southern highlands, it became increasingly obvious to Zeniff that he had made a mistake. In verse 54 he made the candid observation that his “overzealousness” had exposed his own people to suffering and potential destruction.

Are there ways that I have been overly zealous and run ahead of the Lord, pursuing a personal goal that was not in keeping with God’s will? Have there been times when I did not first ask God to guide me in a particular endeavor?

WHAT ELSE HAPPENED IN ZENIFF'S DAYS – MOSIAH 6

- Times of warfare and peace (with a 22 year period of peace in between)
- King Laman died and his son, Laman, took over
- Some of their weapons listed – bow/arrow, sword, scimitar, club, sling (possibly Atlatl)
- Lifestyle details – farmed grain and fruits, made clothing from fine linens and cloth
- Had to enlist old men and young men to fight off the Lamanites

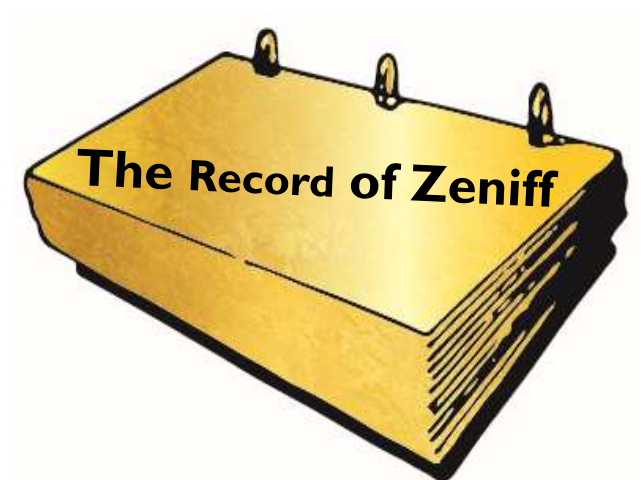
TIMELINES IN 3 LANDS

The Record of Zeniff

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) Ch 6	Laman
150	Benjamin	Noah (king) Ch 7-9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abinadi • Alma I 	Laman II
124	Mosiah II	Limhi (king) Ch 9-10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alma I (prophet) 	Laman II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amulon (priest of Noah)

THE RECORD OF ZENIFF OVERVIEW

- **Mosiah 6** – Written by Zeniff; Expeditions back to Land of Nephi, agreement with the Lamanites, Zeniff becomes king, battles with the Lamanites
- **Mosiah 7** – Noah takes over, departs from way that Zeniff ruled, doesn't appear to be written by him
 - Abinadi's first sermon
 - Abinadi's second sermon (2 years later)
 - Debate with priests of Noah
- **Mosiah 8** – Abinadi's second sermon completed
- **Mosiah 9** – Abinadi killed, Alma converted and begins to teach / baptize / church formed



NOAH TAKES OVER – MOSIAH 7

- Not like his father
 - Ignored God's commands, polygamy, very sinful leader
 - 20% tax, just to support his house and his leadership
- Brought in his own priests as corrupt as him
- The people worked hard to support iniquity (vrs 9)
- The people also became idolatrous because they were deceived by vain words and flattery
- Built elegant and elaborate structures, towers, vineyards and winepresses (vrs 21)
- Fixated on riches -> riotous living -> polygamy -> winebibber

Sound like today?

WHAT IS ZIFF? – MOSIAH 7:6

- Mentioned twice in the BoM
- Its an unknown material, likely a precious metal of some type given the context that it's listed with
- Hebrew word means “brightness”; therefore it was likely a lustrous metal – Chris Hartshorn
- John L. Sorenson speculated that it was tumbaga, a combo of gold and copper or silver

Tumbaga - Wikipedia

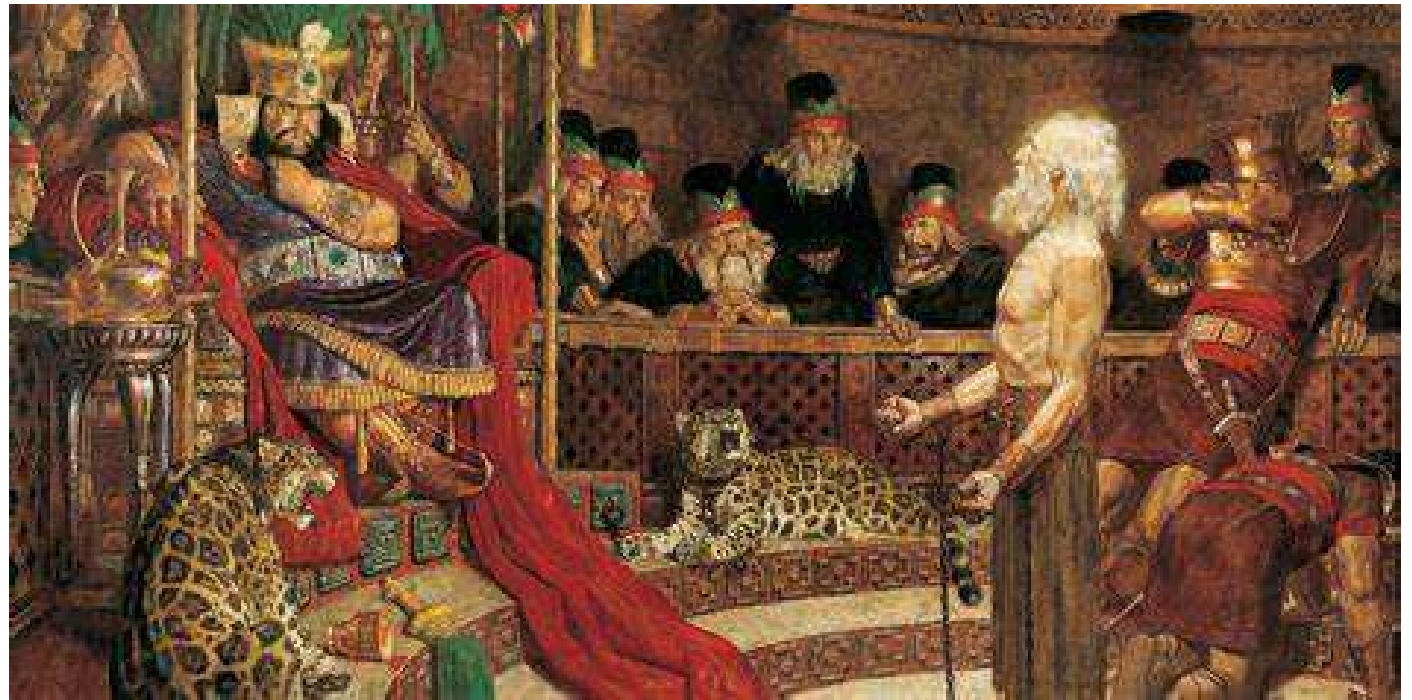
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tumbaga>

Tumbaga is the name for **a non-specific alloy of gold and copper given by Spanish Conquistadors to metals** composed of these elements found in widespread use in pre-Columbian Mesoamerica in North America and South America.



ABINADI ARRIVES ON THE SCENE – M 7:28

- Mosiah 7:28



ABINADI'S FIRST MESSAGE

- Mosiah 7:28-38
 - Chastisement from God
 - Repent or judgment and bondage are coming
 - God will be slow to hear their cries after judgment sets in
- People wanted to kill him; King Noah wanted to kill him
- Their eyes were blind, their hearts were hardened = no repentance was found
- Abinadi escaped and stayed hidden for 2 years

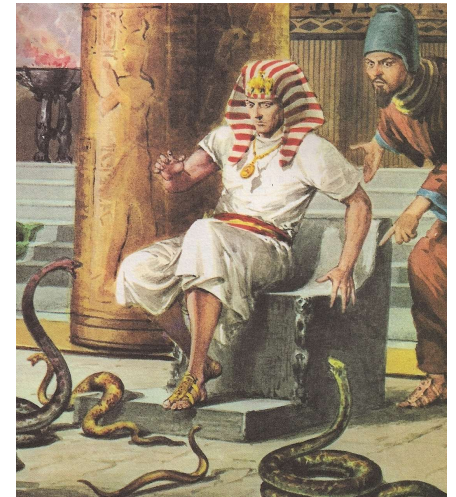
WHO IS THE LORD THAT HE SHOULD JUDGE ME?



■ Mosiah 7:41 King Noah



■ Genesis 5:4 Cain



■ Exodus 5:2 Pharaoh

Pride and arrogance always goes before the fall

ABINADI'S COSTUME AND WHY?

- Perhaps it was just in order for him to gain access back into the city
- Mosiah 7:106
- The eyes of the people were blinded (vrs 43)
- It doesn't say that they recognized him from before
- Sometimes we see similar approaches when a hard message must be delivered
- Many similarities to Moses going to Pharaoh
- The priests of Noah supposedly held Moses in such high regard, but were blind when a prophet comes in a similar way

ABINADI'S SECOND MESSAGE

- God will visit them in His anger BECAUSE they did not listen nor repent from prior calls
- Prophecy – unless repent:

1. Bondage is coming
2. Driven by men and slain
3. Wild beasts will devour them
4. King Noah's life valued like a garment in a fire
5. Sore afflictions of famine and pestilence
6. Burdens lashed upon their backs
7. Hail
8. Smitten with the east wind
9. Insect infestation and pestilence
10. Utter destruction

Mosiah 7:48-58

ABINADI STRETCHED FORTH HIS HAND

- Mosiah 7:48 – The Lord told Abinadi to “stretch forth thy hand and prophesy”
- Mosiah 8:70-71 – Abinadi obeys God’s commands
- Why did he do this while prophesying?
- Similar to other times where the Lord commands this type of behavior to emphasize the power and importance of the message and the potential consequences
 - Gen 22:12 – Abraham as was about to slay his son
 - Exodus 10:22 – Moses as 3 days of darkness were brought in Egypt
 - I Chron 21:15 – An angel was about to in order to bring destruction to Jerusalem and was stopped
 - I Nephi 5:163 – Nephi to his brothers to shock them

STRETCHED FORTH HIS HAND



- Prophets stretch their hands to condemn
- Jesus stretches his hand to catch or call all to Come Unto Him



*Matthew 14:26 And immediately Jesus **stretched forth his hand**, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?*

ABINADI'S IMPRISONMENT AND QUESTIONING

- Mosiah 7:69-75
- What does Isaiah 52:7-10 mean (vrs 7:76)
- Abinadi chastises the priests – they claim to teach law of Moses but don't understand it
- Path to gain wisdom (vrs 7:82-83)
- Walk the talk (vrs 7:85 – you claim to teach, why don't you keep?)
- Don't touch me until I finish delivering the message (vrs 7:101,102)
- His face shone (vrs 7:106 like Moses)
- What you do to me is a type and shadow of what's to come

ABINADI'S REMINDERS

- Mosiah 7:111,112
- Reads the 10 Commandments to them
- Self reflection : Are they written on our hearts?
- The commandments don't save us, we NEED the ATONEMENT (vrs 8:5)
- God HIMSELF shall come down among children of men and redeem His people (vrs 8:28)
 - Remember the message of the Book of Mormon is Jesus

“BANDS OF DEATH”

- Mosiah 8:34,35
 - First time this phrase appears in the BoM, used by Abinadi
 - Used 11 times in the BoM, only in Mosiah and Alma
- Exact phrasing not found in the Bible or D&C
- However, similarity of phrasing and imagery can't be overlooked, such as – Psalms 73:4; 107:14
 - Similar phrasing to Hebrew word “heveli mot” which can be translated as “bands of death” or “cords of death,” “ropes of death”, or “snares of death”
 - Psalms 18:5; 116:3
- There is deep correlation with the Hebrew phrasing to provide this imagery of what Christ accomplished thru his death and resurrection to complete the atonement

BREAK THE BANDS => 1ST RESURRECTION

- Mosiah 8:54
- “But behold, the bands of death shall be broken, and the Son reigneth, and hath power over the dead; therefore, he bringeth to pass the resurrection of the dead.”
- Mosiah 8:70-71 = Abinadi stretched forth his hand, all shall see the Salvation of the Lord and confess His judgments are just
- If Christ had not risen, could have been no resurrection for us (vrs 8:80)
- Mosiah 8:89-91
- “And now had ye not ought to tremble and repent of your sins, and remember only in and through Christ ye can be saved? Therefore, if ye teach the Law of Moses, also teach that it is a shadow of those things which are to come; Teach them that redemption cometh through Christ the Lord, who is the very eternal Father. Amen.”

TIMING OF ABINADI’S MESSAGE – PENTECOST?

- John W. Welch has persuasively argued that Abinadi’s trial happened close to the time of Pentecost.
- Pentecost came fifty days after the Passover, concluding the celebration of Israel’s escape from Egyptian bondage and the receiving of the Ten Commandments.
- It also coincided with the spring harvest, and was thus a time to celebrate the bounty of spring.
- “Abinadi reversed the festival’s blessings and rejoicing, and turned them into curses and predictions of gloom.”
- Correlations – the giving of the 10 commandments, Abinadi’s shining face, Pentecost lasted 3 days which might explain Abinadi’s trial postponement for 3 days (M 9:9), Psalms 50 likely sung at Pentecost and ideas used by Abinadi

CORRELATION WITH PENTECOST

“Charting the BoM”
By John W. Welch

Israelite Pentecost	Abinadi
Celebrating first grain harvest	Cursed the grain
Rejoicing in bounty	Sent hail, winds, insects
Fifty days after Passover	Specific day unknown
Remembering deliverance from bondage in Egypt	Prophesied that the people would be brought into bondage
Celebrating the giving of the Ten Commandments to Moses	Recited the Ten Commandments given to Moses
Moses' face shone	Abinadi's face shone
Sinai became a furnace	Prophesied that Noah's life would be like a garment in a furnace
3 day festival	Cast into prison for 3 days
Stern admonitions	Stern admonitions
Use of Psalm 50	Use of ideas from Psalm 50
Our God shall come	God... shall come down

ALMA BELIEVES – CHAPTER 9

- Alma converted
- He tries to convince Noah to spare Abinadi; thrown out and servants sent to kill him
- Alma wrote down Abinadi's words
- Abinadi tossed into prison for 3 days
- **Accusation for capital punishment** – he said God Himself should come down
 - However, Noah will waive if Abinadi just recants the things he said about Noah & the people
- Noah scared, wants to release him; priests convince him otherwise

ABINADI'S SCOURGING & DEATH

- Abinadi's curse – how I die is how you will die (M 9:21)
- Abinadi dies by fire
- He sealed the truth of his words by his death (9:27)
- Abinadi was only “one the scene” for a few brief days
- His prophetic impact was MUCH greater on Nephite culture that came after him



ALMA TEACHING THE WORDS OF ABINADI

- He repented and then began sharing the words of Abinadi
- He taught: (9:28-29)
 1. That which was to come
 2. Resurrection of the dead
 3. Redemption of the people
 4. Suffering and death of Christ
 5. His resurrection and ascension into heaven

THE LAND OF MORMON



The Waters of Mormon (9:38)

- Alma taught in a place called Mormon (9:32)
- In this land, the people repented, entered into a covenant with their Lord, were baptized, and were called the church of Christ from that time forward
- A great restoration took place here in the land of Mormon since the Nephites had departed from God a number of generations before
- This was ~ 20 years BEFORE King Benjamin was inspired to preach his sermon and lead those Nephites in Zarahemla to a covenant with the Lord

QUESTIONS TO ASK A BAPTISMAL CANDIDATE

- M9:38 And it came to pass that he said unto them, Behold, here are the waters of Mormon; for thus were they called.
- 39 And now, as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light;
- 40 Yea, and are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to stand as witnesses of God at all times, and in all things, and in all places that ye may be in, even until death, that ye may be redeemed of God, and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life:
- 41 Now I say unto you, If this be the desire of your hearts, what have you against being baptized in the name of the Lord, as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenant with him that ye will serve him and keep his commandments, that he may pour out his Spirit more abundantly upon you?
- 42 And now when the people had heard these words, they clapped their hands for joy, and exclaimed, This is the desire of our hearts.

THE CHURCH IN THE WILDERNESS

- 204 people baptized
- Called the church of Christ (no eraser in 9:49)
- Ordained 1 priest for every 50 members – to preach and teach about the Kingdom of God
- No contention within their ranks; one faith and one baptism
- Hearts knit together in unity and love
- Kept Sabbath day holy; gave thanks to God; all labored with their own hands
- Weekly worship
- Concepts of Oblation and Stewardship taught (9:60-64)

THE REAL MEANING OF MORMON

Recent BoM Developments, Vol 2
Pages 44,45 by David Lamb

- Mosiah 9:65-67
 - How important the Land of Mormon was
- Mosiah 11:121-124
 - Nephites were blessed because of what happened at the Waters of Mormon
- Helaman 2:66,68-69
 - Habit of naming children after good role models or important locations
- III Nephi 2:96
 - **Mormon was named after the Land of Mormon, where the church was established**
- Mormon 1:1,6
 - Mormon DOESN'T say that he was named after this father, just that his father's name was same
 - He called it the book of Mormon; but already told us he was named after the Land of Mormon

ESCAPE, CIVIL WAR, LAMANITES ATTACK

- The King had spies who found the church in the wilderness and sent army to kill them
- They learned of the plan and 450 of them escaped further into wilderness
- Gideon leads a rebellion against the king; about to slay him when the Lamanites attack
- King tells the people to flee the city into the wilderness
- Lamanites begin to overtake them, Noah leading the escape, he tells men to leave their families behind to save themselves
- Gave up daughters to Lamanites; all put into bondage; taxed 50% and pay more tribute in future

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)

THE END OF NOAH

- Limhi takes over; Gideon sends men to find the king; discovers that those men who had followed the king and left families were so angry, they burned king to death (9:96)
- What is the 'ceremony' referenced in M9:101
 - There are execution ceremonies referenced in the BoM – Nehor (Alma 1) and Zemnarihah (III N 2)
 - Other theories include a purification/cleansing ceremony or a surrender ceremony
- Nevertheless, found out that their wives and children had NOT been slain and all returned to Land of Nephi



PRIESTS OF NOAH STIR UP TROUBLE

- Escaped into the wilderness after Noah burned
- Kidnapped 24 of the daughters of the Lamanites
- Lamanites blame the Nephites and come to battle
- Nephites see from the tower and plan a surprise
- They beat back the Lamanites; capture the king (M 9:120)
- Discover the misunderstanding; king averts further war
- Gideon comments that the words of Abinadi have been fulfilled – M 9:133
 - Do we readily recognize and acknowledge our own sin and rebellion like Gideon?

LAMANITE AND NEPHITE STRIFE

**Do I humble
myself like they did
in trials? (9:153)**

- Skirmishes continue to spark between Lamanites and Nephites
- Nephites decide (against Limhi's direction) to go to battle, many die
- Heavy burdens under the Lamanite control over them; Lord slow to hear their cries
- Lots of widows left in the land; Limhi ensures they are taken care of (9:158)
- Priests had been stealing food from Nephites at night
- Now back from flashback and caught up to time when Ammon and search party had arrived (9:164)
 - Understand that Limhi had thought Ammon and others were priests of Noah, reason for throwing them immediately into prison

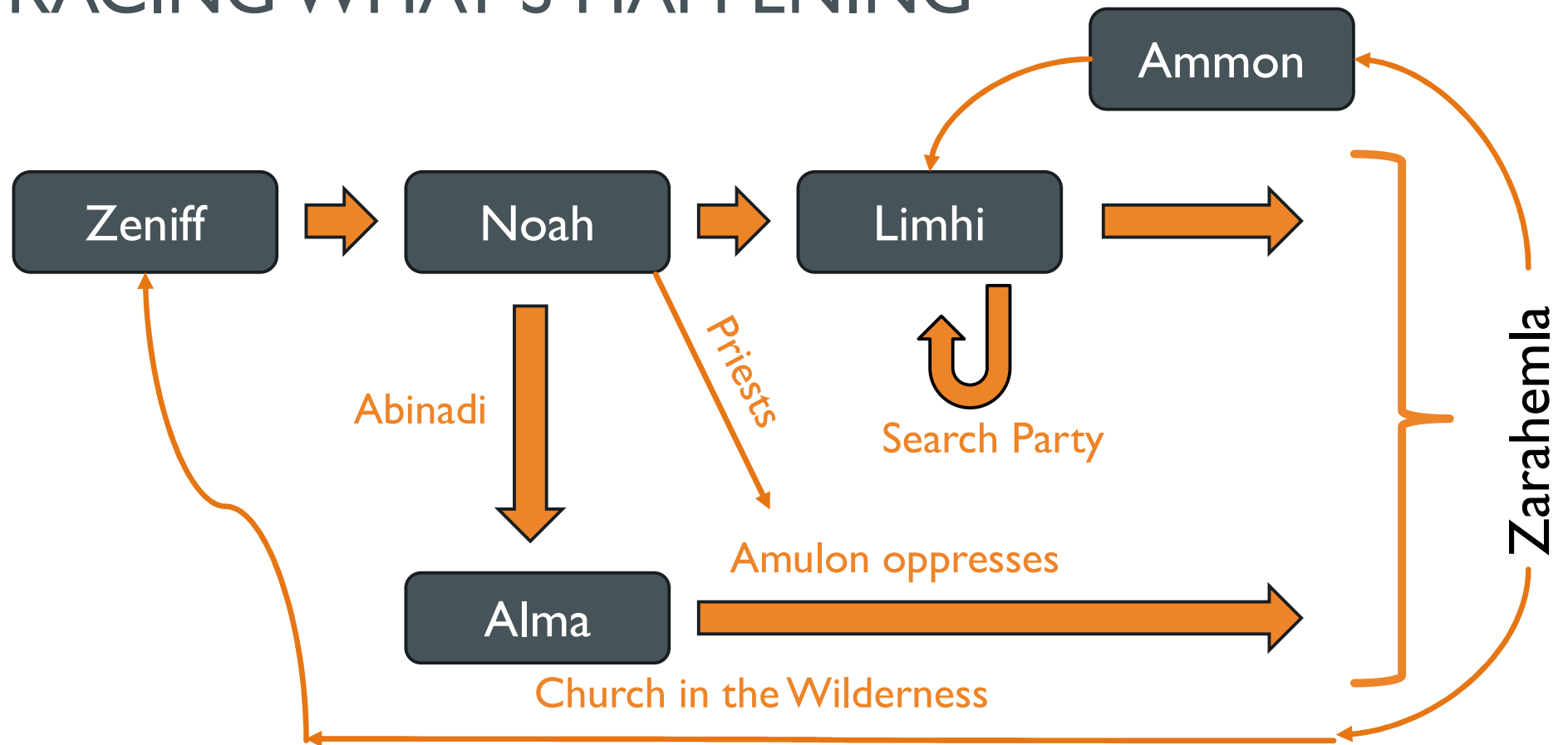
LIMHI'S SEARCH PARTY – MORE DETAILS

- Mosiah 9:166-170
 - Mosiah 5:60-70
- }]
- 43 people had been sent by Limhi to try to locate Zarahemla to seek help
 - They found a people and land who had been destroyed
 - They also found a record of 24 plates (the book of Ether), ruined buildings, armor, swords

AMMON'S SORROW AND SERMON

- Ammon and party were sad because: (9:171-173)
 1. So many of their brethren had been slain
 2. King Noah and his priests had convinced the people to sin so much
 3. Mourned the death of Abinadi
 4. Mourned the departure of Alma and the church and their unknown whereabouts
- Ammon's retelling of King Benjamin's speech had led Limhi to a covenant with God
 - Limhi and many others wanted to be baptized but couldn't; Ammon declined because he was a soldier (M 5:4), not an ordained priest
 - Spoiler alert: Will read about their baptism in Mosiah 11:94+
- Ammon and Limhi focused on figuring out an escape plan

TRACING WHAT'S HAPPENING



LIMHI'S ESCAPE – MOSIAH 10

- Flight over Fight
- Gideon's escape plan (M 10:5-11)
- Nephites return to Zarahemla – bring two sets of records with them
 - Record of Zeniff
 - 24 Plates – Record of Jaredites
- Lamanites attempted to follow them, but lost their trail after 2 days

