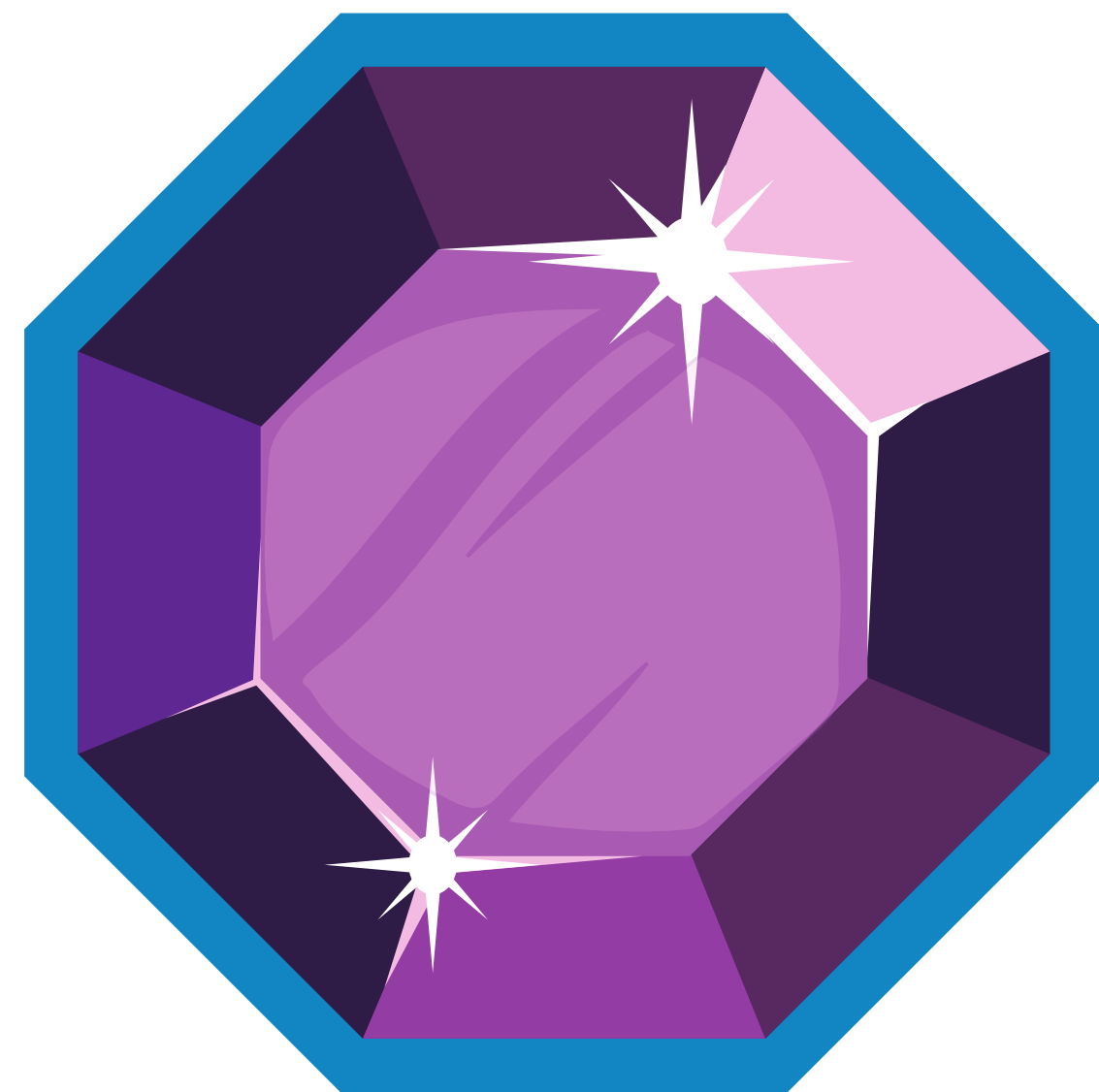
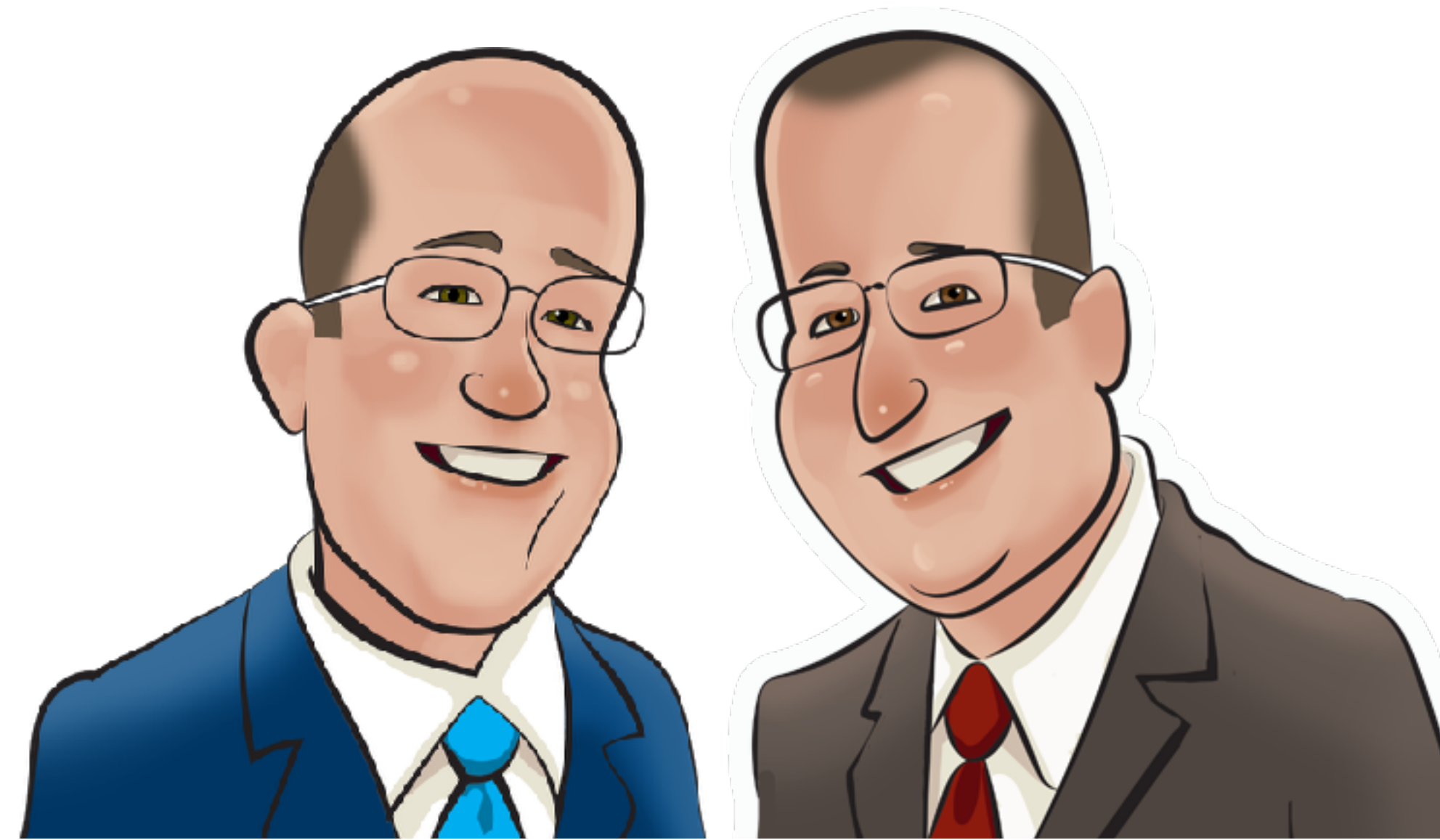
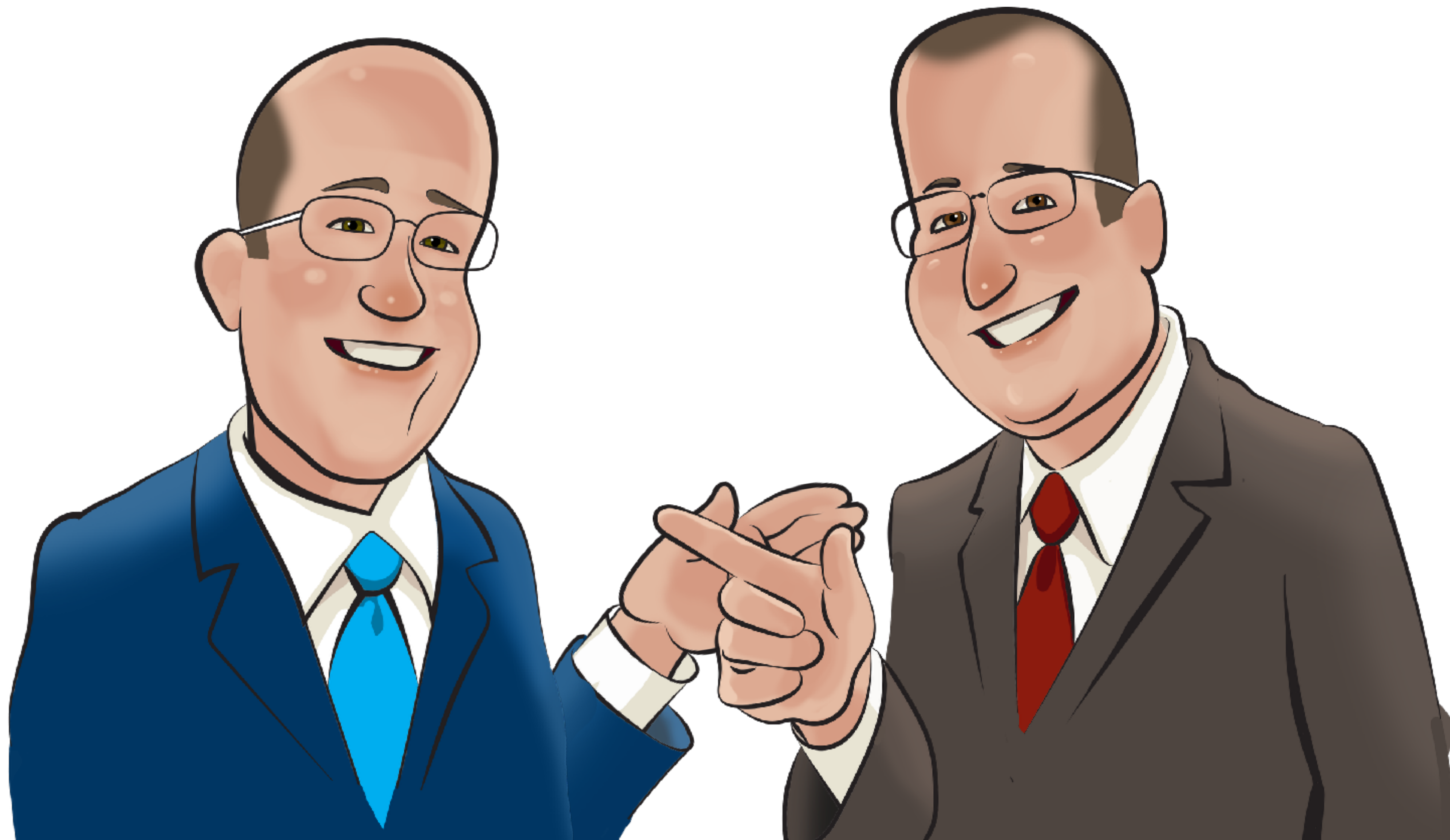


Episode 28



# Scripture GEMS

*July 20-26: Alma 36-38*







*July 20-26: Alma 36-38*

**Alma 36 - 1:00**

**Alma 37 - 18:40**

**Alma 38 - 43:14**



Corianton

# MY THREE SONS

Helaman

Shiblon



# Chiasmus

A rhetorical or literary figure in which words, grammatical constructions, or concepts are repeated in reverse order, in the same or a modified form

Remembering and Knowing

and their wives, and children, and their lands.

15 Now Alma, being <sup>a</sup>grieved for the iniquity of his people, yea for the wars, and the bloodsheds, and the contentions which were among them; and having been to declare the word, or sent to declare the word, among all the people in every city; and seeing that the hearts of the people began to wax hard, and that they began to be <sup>b</sup>offended because of the strictness of the word, his heart was exceedingly sorrowful.

16 Therefore, he caused that his sons should be gathered together, that he might give unto them every one his <sup>a</sup>charge, separately, concerning the things pertaining unto righteousness. And we have an account of his commandments, which he gave unto them according to his own record.

The commandments of Alma to his son Helaman.

Comprising chapters 36 and 37.

CHAPTER 36

*Alma testifies to Helaman of his conversion after seeing an angel—He suffered the pains of a damned soul; he called upon the name of Jesus, and was then born of God—Sweet joy filled his soul—He saw concourses of angels praising God—Many converts have tasted and seen as he has tasted and seen. About 74 B.C.*

MY <sup>a</sup>son, give ear to my words; for I swear unto you, that inasmuch as ye shall keep the commandments of God ye shall prosper in the land.  
2 I would that ye should do as I have done, in remembering the captivity of our fathers; for they were in <sup>a</sup>bondage, and none could

<sup>b</sup>deliver them except it was the <sup>c</sup>God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and he surely did deliver them in their afflictions.

3 And now, O my son Helaman, behold, thou art in thy youth, and therefore, I beseech of thee that thou wilt hear my words and learn of me; for I do know that whosoever shall put their <sup>a</sup>trust in God shall be supported in their <sup>b</sup>trials, and their troubles, and their afflictions, and shall be <sup>c</sup>lifted up at the last day.

4 And I would not that ye think that I <sup>a</sup>know of myself—not of the temporal but of the spiritual, not of the <sup>b</sup>carnal mind but of God.

5 Now, behold, I say unto you, if I had not been <sup>a</sup>born of God I should <sup>b</sup>not have known these things; but God has, by the mouth of his holy <sup>c</sup>angel, made these things known unto me, not of any <sup>d</sup>worthiness of myself;

6 For I went about with the sons of Mosiah, seeking to <sup>a</sup>destroy the church of God; but behold, God sent his holy angel to stop us by the way.

7 And behold, he spake unto us, as it were the voice of thunder, and the whole earth did <sup>a</sup>tremble beneath our feet; and we all fell to the earth, for the <sup>b</sup>fear of the Lord came upon us.

8 But behold, the voice said unto me: Arise. And I arose and stood up, and beheld the angel.

9 And he said unto me: If thou wilt of thyself be destroyed, seek no more to destroy the church of God.

10 And it came to pass that I fell to

the earth; and it was for the space of <sup>a</sup>three days and three nights that I could not open my mouth, neither had I the use of my limbs.

11 And the angel spake more things unto me, which were heard by my brethren, but I did <sup>a</sup>not hear them; for when I heard the words—If thou wilt be destroyed of thyself, seek no more to destroy the church of God—I was struck with such great fear and amazement lest perhaps I should be destroyed, that I fell to the earth and I did hear no more.

12 But I was racked with <sup>a</sup>eternal <sup>b</sup>torment, for my soul was <sup>c</sup>harrowed up to the greatest degree and racked with all my sins.

13 Yea, I did remember all my sins and iniquities, for which I was <sup>a</sup>tormented with the <sup>b</sup>pains of hell; yea, I saw that I had <sup>c</sup>rebelled against my God, and that I had not kept his holy commandments.

14 Yea, and I had <sup>a</sup>murdered many of his children, or rather led them away unto destruction; yea, and in fine so great had been my iniquities, that the very thought of coming into the presence of my God did rack my soul with inexpressible horror.

15 Oh, thought I, that I <sup>a</sup>could be banished and become extinct both soul and body, that I might not be brought to stand in the presence of my God, to be judged of my <sup>b</sup>deeds.

16 And now, for three days and for three nights was I racked, even with the <sup>a</sup>pains of a <sup>b</sup>damned soul.

17 And it came to pass that as I was thus <sup>a</sup>racked with torment, while I

was <sup>b</sup>harrowed up by the <sup>c</sup>memory of my many sins, behold, I <sup>d</sup>remembered also to have heard my father prophesy unto the people concerning the coming of one Jesus Christ, a Son of God, to atone for the sins of the world.

18 Now, as my mind caught hold upon this thought, I cried within my heart: O Jesus, thou Son of God, <sup>a</sup>have mercy on me, who am <sup>b</sup>in the <sup>c</sup>gall of bitterness, and am encircled about by the everlasting <sup>d</sup>chains of <sup>e</sup>death.

19 And now, behold, when I thought this, I could remember my <sup>a</sup>pains <sup>b</sup>no more; yea, I was harrowed up by the memory of my sins no more.

20 And oh, what <sup>a</sup>joy, and what marvelous light I did behold; yea, my soul was filled with joy as exceeding as was my pain!

21 Yea, I say unto you, my son, that there could be nothing so exquisite and so bitter as were my pains. Yea, and again I say unto you, my son, that on the other hand, there can be nothing so exquisite and sweet as was my joy.

22 Yea, methought I saw, even as our father <sup>a</sup>Lehi saw, God sitting upon his throne, surrounded with numberless concourses of angels, in the attitude of singing and <sup>b</sup>praising their God; yea, and my soul did long to be there.

23 But behold, my limbs did receive their <sup>a</sup>strength again, and I stood upon my feet, and did manifest

Alma Shares His Conversion Story

2b Deut. 26:8.

d <sup>rg</sup> Worthiness.

Sorrow.



My son give ear to my words (v.1)  
Keep the commandments and ye shall prosper in the land (v.1)  
Do as I have done (v.2)  
Remember the captivity of our fathers (v.2)  
They were in bondage (v.2)  
He surely did deliver them (v.2)  
Trust in God (v.3)  
Supported in trials, troubles, and afflictions (v.3)  
Lifted up at the last day (v.3)  
I know this not of myself but of God (v.4)  
Born of God (v.5)  
I sought to destroy the church (vv.6-9)  
My limbs were paralyzed (v.10)  
Fear of being in the presence of God (vv.14-15)  
Pains of a damned soul (v.16)  
Harrowed up by the memory of sins (v.17)  
I remembered Jesus Christ, a son of God (v.17)  
I cried, Jesus Christ, son of God (v.18)  
Harrowed by the memory of sins no more (v.19)  
Joy as exceeding as was the pain (v.20)  
Long to be in the presence of God (v.22)  
My limbs received strength again (v.23)  
I labored to bring souls to repentance (v.24)  
Born of God (v.26)  
Therefore my knowledge is of God (v.26)  
Supported under trials, troubles, and afflictions (v.26)  
Trust in him (v.27)  
He will deliver me (v.27)  
And raise me up at the last day (v.28)  
As God brought our fathers out of bondage and captivity (vv.28-29)  
Retain a remembrance of their captivity (v.29)  
Know as I do know (v.30)  
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*Mary to Nicodemus, "The Chosen"*

unto the people that I had been <sup>b</sup>born of God.

24 Yea, and from that time even until now, I have labored without ceasing, that I might bring souls unto <sup>a</sup>repentance; that I might bring them to <sup>b</sup>taste of the exceeding joy of which I did taste; that they might also be <sup>c</sup>born of God, and be <sup>d</sup>filled with the Holy Ghost.

25 Yea, and now behold, O my son, the Lord doth <sup>a</sup>give me exceedingly great joy in the fruit of my <sup>b</sup>labors;

26 For because of the <sup>a</sup>word which he has imparted unto me, behold, many have been born of God, and have <sup>b</sup>tasted as I have tasted, and have seen eye to eye as I have seen; therefore they do know of these things of which I have spoken, as I do know; and the knowledge which I have is of God.

27 And I have been supported under trials and troubles of every kind, yea, and in all manner of afflictions; yea, God has <sup>a</sup>delivered me from prison, and from bonds, and from death; yea, and I do put my trust in him, and he will still <sup>b</sup>deliver me.

28 And I know that he will <sup>a</sup>raise me up at the last day, to dwell with him in <sup>b</sup>glory; yea, and I will <sup>c</sup>praise him forever, for he has <sup>d</sup>brought our fathers out of Egypt, and he has swallowed up the <sup>e</sup>Egyptians in the Red Sea; and he led them by his power into the promised land; yea, and he has delivered them out of

bondage and captivity from time to time.

29 Yea, and he has also brought our fathers out of the land of Jerusalem; and he has also, by his everlasting power, delivered them out of <sup>a</sup>bondage and captivity, from time to time even down to the present day; and I have always retained in remembrance their captivity; yea, and ye also ought to retain in remembrance, as I have done, their captivity.

30 But behold, my son, this is not all; for ye ought to know as I do know, that <sup>a</sup>inasmuch as ye shall keep the commandments of God ye shall <sup>b</sup>prosper in the land; and ye ought to know also, that inasmuch as ye will not keep the commandments of God ye shall be cut off from his presence. Now this is according to his word.

#### CHAPTER 37

*The plates of brass and other scriptures are preserved to bring souls to salvation—The Jaredites were destroyed because of their wickedness—Their secret oaths and covenants must be kept from the people—Counsel with the Lord in all your doings—As the Liahona guided the Nephites, so the word of Christ leads men to eternal life. About 74 B.C.*

AND now, my son Helaman, I command you that ye take the <sup>a</sup>records which have been <sup>b</sup>entrusted with me;

2 And I also command you that ye keep a <sup>a</sup>record of this people, according as I have done, upon the plates of Nephi, and keep all these things

sacred which I have kept, even as I have kept them; for it is for a <sup>b</sup>wise purpose that they are kept.

3 And these <sup>a</sup>plates of brass, which contain these engravings, which have the records of the holy scriptures upon them, which have the <sup>b</sup>genealogy of our forefathers, even from the beginning—

4 Behold, it has been prophesied by our fathers, that they should be kept and <sup>a</sup>handed down from one generation to another, and be kept and preserved by the hand of the Lord until they should go forth unto every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, that they shall know of the <sup>b</sup>mysteries contained thereon.

5 And now behold, if they are kept they must retain their brightness; yea, and they will retain their brightness; yea, and also shall all the plates which do contain that which is holy writ.

6 Now ye may suppose that this is <sup>a</sup>foolishness in me; but behold I say unto you, that by <sup>b</sup>small and simple things are great things brought to pass; and small means in many instances doth confound the wise.

7 And the Lord God doth work by <sup>a</sup>means to bring about his great and eternal purposes; and by very <sup>b</sup>small means the Lord doth <sup>c</sup>confound the wise and bringeth about the salvation of many souls.

8 And now, it has hitherto been wisdom in God that these things should be preserved; for behold, <sup>a</sup>they have <sup>b</sup>enlarged the memory of this people, yea, and convinced many of the error of their ways, and brought them to the <sup>c</sup>knowledge of

their God unto the salvation of their souls.

9 Yea, I say unto you, <sup>a</sup>were it not for these things that these records do contain, which are on these plates, Ammon and his brethren could not have <sup>b</sup>convinced so many thousands of the Lamanites of the incorrect tradition of their fathers; yea, these records and their <sup>c</sup>words brought them unto repentance; that is, they brought them to the knowledge of the Lord their God, and to rejoice in Jesus Christ their Redeemer.

10 And who knoweth but what they will be the <sup>a</sup>means of bringing many thousands of them, yea, and also many thousands of our <sup>b</sup>stiff-necked brethren, the Nephites, who are now hardening their hearts in sin and iniquities, to the knowledge of their Redeemer?

11 Now these mysteries are not yet fully made known unto me; therefore I shall forbear.

12 And it may suffice if I only say they are preserved for a <sup>a</sup>wise purpose, which purpose is known unto God; for he doth <sup>b</sup>counsel in wisdom over all his works, and his paths are straight, and his course is <sup>c</sup>one eternal round.

13 O remember, remember, my son Helaman, how <sup>a</sup>strict are the commandments of God. And he said: <sup>b</sup>If ye will keep my commandments ye shall <sup>c</sup>prosper in the land—but if ye keep not his commandments ye shall be cut off from his presence.

14 And now remember, my son, that God has <sup>a</sup>entrusted you with these things, which are <sup>b</sup>sacred, which he has kept sacred, and also which he will keep and <sup>c</sup>preserve for a <sup>d</sup>wise purpose in him, that he

Since Alma's Conversion

Helaman is to Keep and Preserve the Sacred Records

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#### CHAPTER 37

**Nephihah was the first choice to care for the records (Alma 50:37-38)**

*As the Lord in all your doings. As the Liahona guided the Nephites, so the word of Christ leads men to eternal life. About 74 B.C.*

AND now, my son Helaman, I command you that ye take the <sup>a</sup>records which have been <sup>b</sup>entrusted with me;

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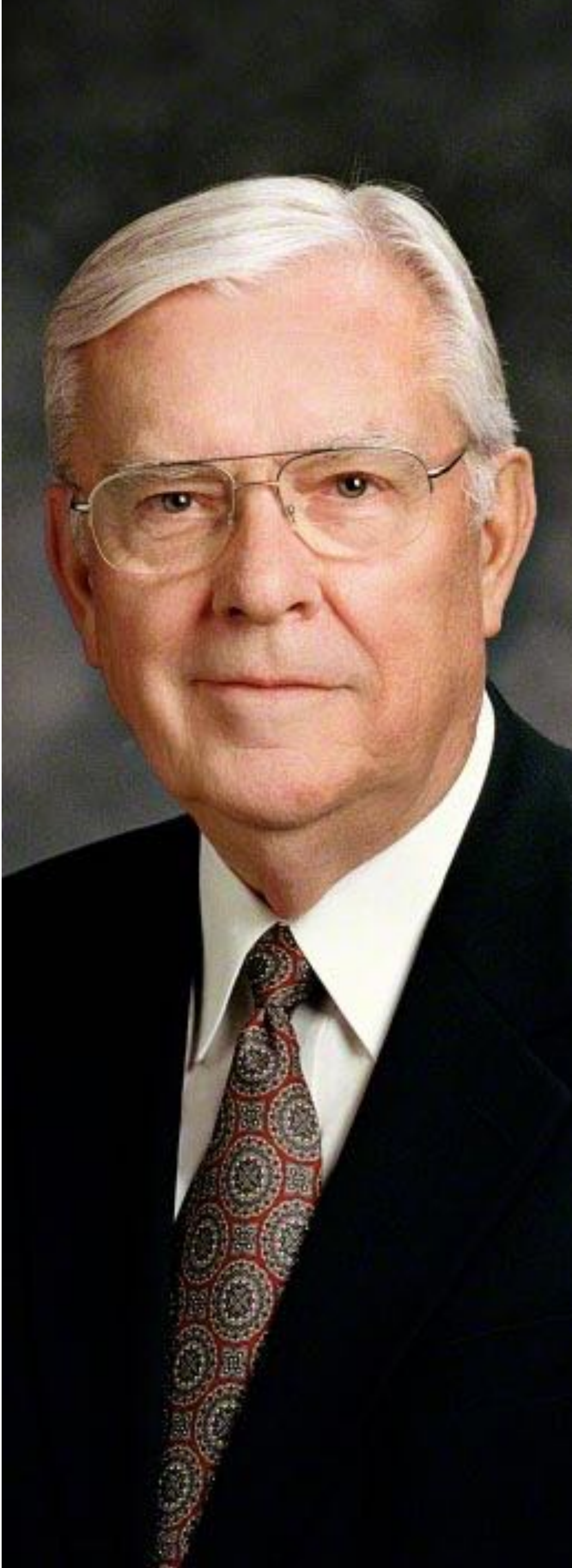
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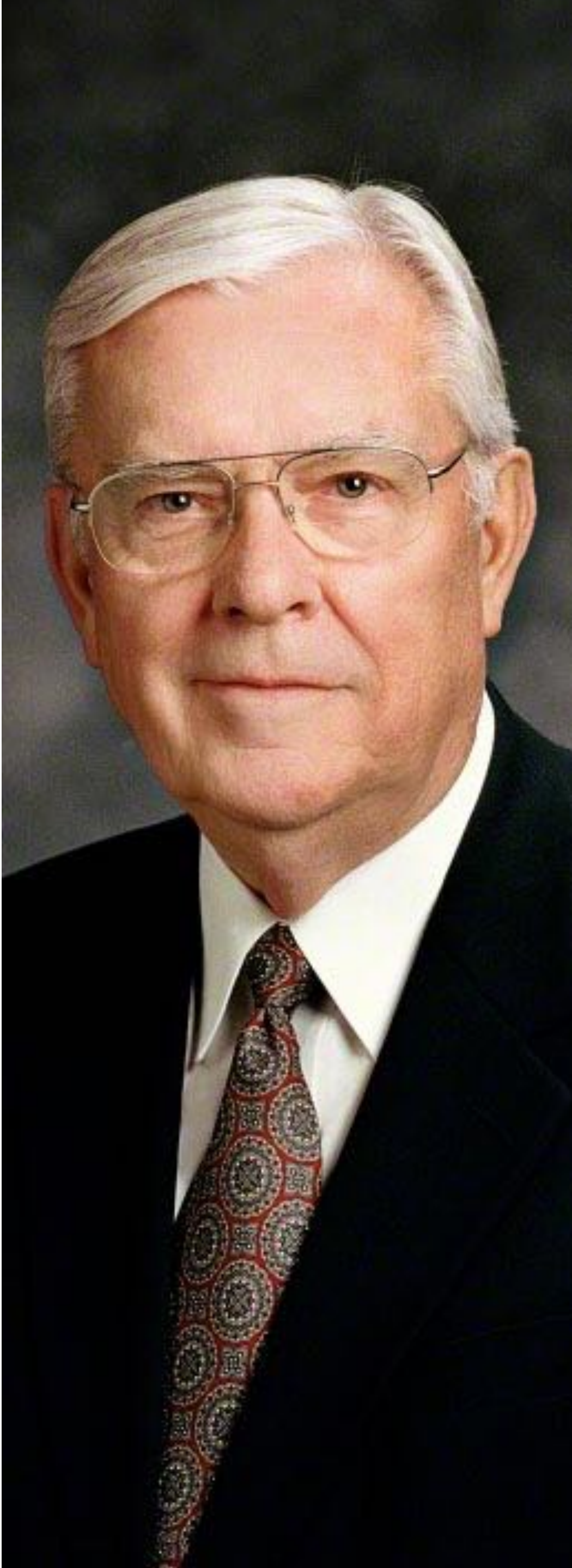
Helaman is to Keep and Preserve the Sacred Records



**“We observe vast, sweeping world events; however, we must remember that the purposes of the Lord in our personal lives generally are fulfilled through the small and simple things and not the momentous and spectacular. ...**

**“Great and marvelous events seem to motivate us, but small things often do not hold our attention. Noting that the Liahona worked by faith, Alma stated, ‘Nevertheless, because those miracles were worked by small means ... [the people of Lehi] were slothful, and forgot to exercise their faith and diligence and then those marvelous works ceased, and they did not progress in their journey’ (Alma 37:41).**

**“Is our journey sometimes impeded when we forget the importance of small things? (see Alma 37:46). Do we realize that small events and choices determine the direction of our lives just as small helms determine the direction of great ships? (see James 3:4; D&C 123:16). ...**



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**“... We need to have family and personal prayers; study the scriptures, particularly the Book of Mormon; hold family home evenings; follow the admonition of the Savior to love one another; and be thoughtful, kind, and gentle within the family. Through these and other similar small and simple things, we have the promise that our lives will be filled with peace and joy”**

*(Elder M. Russell Ballard in Conference Report, Apr. 1990, 4, 8; or Ensign, May 1990, 6, 8).*

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24 Yea, and from that time even until now, I have labored without ceasing, that I might bring souls unto <sup>a</sup>repentance; that I might bring them to <sup>b</sup>taste of the exceeding joy of which I did taste; that they might also be <sup>c</sup>born of God, and be <sup>d</sup>filled with the Holy Ghost.

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AND now, my son Helaman, I command you that ye take the <sup>a</sup>records which have been <sup>b</sup>entrusted with me; 2 And I also command you that ye keep a <sup>a</sup>record of this people, according as I have done, upon the plates of Nephi, and keep all these things

sacred which I have kept, even as I have kept them; for it is for a <sup>b</sup>wise purpose that they are kept.

3 And these <sup>a</sup>plates of brass, which contain these engravings, which have the records of the holy scriptures upon them, which have the <sup>b</sup>genealogy of our forefathers, even from the beginning—

4 Behold, it has been prophesied by our fathers, that they should be kept and <sup>a</sup>handed down from one generation to another, and be kept and preserved by the hand of the Lord until they should go forth unto every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, that they shall know of the <sup>b</sup>mysteries contained thereon.

5 And now behold, if they are kept they must retain their brightness; yea, and they will retain their brightness; yea, and also shall all the plates which do contain that which is holy writ.

6 Now ye may suppose that this is <sup>a</sup>foolishness in me; but behold I say unto you, that by <sup>b</sup>small and simple things are great things brought to pass; and small means in many instances doth confound the wise.

7 And the Lord God doth work by <sup>a</sup>means to bring about his great and eternal purposes; and by very <sup>b</sup>small means the Lord doth <sup>c</sup>confound the wise and bringeth about the salvation of many souls.

8 And now, it has hitherto been wisdom in God that these things should be preserved; for behold, <sup>a</sup>they have <sup>b</sup>enlarged the memory of this people, yea, and convinced many of the error of their ways, and brought them to the <sup>c</sup>knowledge of

their God unto the salvation of their souls.

9 Yea, I say unto you, <sup>a</sup>were it not for these things that these records do contain, which are on these plates, Ammon and his brethren could not have <sup>b</sup>convinced so many thousands of the Lamanites of the incorrect tradition of their fathers; yea, these records and their <sup>c</sup>words brought them unto repentance; that is, they brought them to the knowledge of the Lord their God, and to rejoice in Jesus Christ their Redeemer.

10 And who knoweth but what they will be the <sup>a</sup>means of bringing many thousands of them, yea, and also many thousands of our <sup>b</sup>stiff-necked brethren, the Nephites, who are now hardening their hearts in sin and iniquities, to the knowledge of their Redeemer?

11 Now these mysteries are not yet fully made known unto me; therefore I shall forbear.

12 And it may suffice if I only say they are preserved for a <sup>a</sup>wise purpose, which purpose is known unto God; for he doth <sup>b</sup>counsel in wisdom over all his works, and his paths are straight, and his course is <sup>c</sup>one eternal round.

13 O remember, remember, my son Helaman, how <sup>a</sup>strict are the commandments of God. And he said: <sup>b</sup>If ye will keep my commandments ye shall <sup>c</sup>prosper in the land—but if ye keep not his commandments ye shall be cut off from his presence.

14 And now remember, my son, that God has <sup>a</sup>entrusted you with these things, which are <sup>b</sup>sacred, which he has kept sacred, and also which he will keep and <sup>c</sup>preserve for a <sup>d</sup>wise purpose in him, that he

Since Alma's Conversion

Helaman is to Keep and Preserve the Sacred Records

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may show forth his power unto future generations.

15 And now behold, I tell you by the spirit of prophecy, that if ye transgress the commandments of God, behold, these things which are sacred shall be taken away from you by the power of God, and ye shall be delivered up unto Satan, that he may sift you as chaff before the wind.

16 But if ye keep the commandments of God, and do with these things which are sacred according to that which the Lord doth command you, (for you must appeal unto the Lord for all things whatsoever ye must do with them) behold, no power of earth or hell can <sup>a</sup>take them from you, for God is powerful to the fulfilling of all his words.

17 For he will fulfil all his <sup>a</sup>promises which he shall make unto you, for he has fulfilled his promises which he has made unto our fathers.

18 For he promised unto them that he would <sup>a</sup>preserve these things for a wise purpose in him, that he might show forth his power unto future generations.

19 And now behold, one purpose hath he fulfilled, even to the restoration of <sup>a</sup>many thousands of the Lamanites to the knowledge of the truth; and he hath shown forth his power in them, and he will also still show forth his power in them unto <sup>b</sup>future generations; therefore they shall be preserved.

20 Therefore I command you, my son Helaman, that ye be diligent in fulfilling all my words, and that ye be diligent in keeping the commandments of God as they are written.

21 And now, I will speak unto

## Concerning the Jaredite Plates and Interpreters

you concerning those <sup>a</sup>twenty-four plates, that ye keep them, that the <sup>b</sup>mysteries and the works of darkness, and their secret works, or the secret works of those people who have been destroyed, may be made <sup>c</sup>manifest unto this people; yea, all their murders, and robbings, and their plunderings, and all their wickedness and abominations, may be made manifest unto this people; yea, and that ye preserve these <sup>d</sup>interpreters.

22 For behold, the Lord saw that his people began to work in darkness, yea, work secret murders and abominations; therefore the Lord said, if they did not repent they should be destroyed from off the face of the earth.

23 And the Lord said: I will prepare unto my servant Gazelem, a <sup>a</sup>stone, which shall shine forth in darkness unto light, that I may <sup>b</sup>discover unto my people who serve me, that I may discover unto them the works of their brethren, yea, their secret works, their works of darkness, and their wickedness and abominations.

24 And now, my son, these <sup>a</sup>interpreters were prepared that the word of God might be fulfilled, which he spake, saying:

25 I will <sup>a</sup>bring forth out of darkness unto light all their secret works and their abominations; and except they repent I will <sup>b</sup>destroy them from off the face of the earth; and I will bring to light all their secrets and abominations, unto every nation that shall hereafter possess the land.

26 And now, my son, we see that they did not repent; therefore they have been destroyed, and thus far the word of God has been fulfilled;

yea, their <sup>a</sup>secret abominations have been brought out of darkness and made known unto us.

27 And now, my son, I command you that ye retain all their oaths, and their covenants, and their agreements in their secret abominations; yea, and all their <sup>a</sup>signs and their wonders ye shall <sup>b</sup>keep from this people, that they know them not, lest peradventure they should fall into darkness also and be destroyed.

28 For behold, there is a <sup>a</sup>curse upon all this land, that destruction shall come upon all those workers of darkness, according to the power of God, when they are fully ripe; therefore I desire that this people might not be destroyed.

29 Therefore ye shall keep these secret plans of their <sup>a</sup>oaths and their covenants from this people, and only their wickedness and their murders and their abominations shall ye make known unto them; and ye shall teach them to <sup>b</sup>abhor such wickedness and abominations and murders; and ye shall also teach them that these people were destroyed on account of their wickedness and abominations and their murders.

30 For behold, they <sup>a</sup>murdered all the prophets of the Lord who came among them to declare unto them concerning their iniquities; and the blood of those whom they murdered did cry unto the Lord their God for vengeance upon those who were their murderers; and thus the judgments of God did come upon these workers of darkness and secret <sup>b</sup>combinations.

31 Yea, and <sup>a</sup>cursed be the land forever and ever unto those workers of



# **The Plates of Ether - The Book of Mormon to the Book of Mormon People**



- **Tells the story of a people from a biblical time and place**
- **They are led from a wicked city through the wilderness**
- **They are brought across the great sea to a promised land in the Americas**
- **Tells of their righteousness and wickedness**
- **Introduces the danger of secret combinations**
- **The people become wicked and are destroyed in a massive civil war**
- **The last prophet writes the account on gold plates**
- **Hides them up**
- **Another nation led by God finds them and they are translated by the gift and power of God**

their God unto the salvation of their souls.

9 Yea, I say unto you, “were it not for these things that these records do contain, which are on these plates, Ammon and his brethren could not have <sup>b</sup>convinced so many thousands of the Lamanites of the incorrect tradition of their fathers; yea, these records and their <sup>c</sup>words brought them unto repentance; that is, they brought them to the knowledge of the Lord their God, and to rejoice in Jesus Christ their Redeemer.

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14 And now remember, my son, that God has <sup>a</sup>entrusted you with these things, which are <sup>b</sup>sacred, which he has kept sacred, and also which he will keep and <sup>c</sup>preserve for a <sup>d</sup>wise purpose in him, that he

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## Concerning the Jaredite Plates and Interpreters

darkness and secret combinations, even unto destruction, except they repent before they are fully <sup>b</sup>ripe.

32 And now, my son, remember the words which I have spoken unto you; trust not those secret plans unto this people, but teach them an everlasting <sup>a</sup>hatred against sin and iniquity.

33 <sup>a</sup>Preach unto them repentance, and faith on the Lord Jesus Christ; teach them to humble themselves and to be <sup>b</sup>meeke and lowly in heart; teach them to <sup>c</sup>withstand every <sup>a</sup>temptation of the devil, with their faith on the Lord Jesus Christ.

34 Teach them to never be weary of good works, but to be meek and lowly in heart; for such shall find <sup>a</sup>rest to their souls.

35 O, remember, my son, and <sup>a</sup>learn <sup>b</sup>wisdom in thy <sup>c</sup>youth; yea, learn in thy youth to keep the commandments of God.

36 Yea, and <sup>a</sup>cry unto God for all thy support; yea, let all thy <sup>b</sup>doings be unto the Lord, and whithersoever thou goest let it be in the Lord; yea, let all thy <sup>c</sup>thoughts be directed unto the Lord; yea, let the affections of thy heart be placed upon the Lord forever.

37 <sup>a</sup>Counsel with the Lord in all thy doings, and he will direct thee for <sup>b</sup>good; yea, when thou liest down at night lie down unto the Lord, that he may watch over you in your sleep; and when thou risest in the <sup>c</sup>morning let thy heart be full of thanks unto God; and if ye do these things, ye shall be lifted up at the last day.

38 And now, my son, I have somewhat to say concerning the thing which our fathers call a ball, or director—or our fathers called it <sup>a</sup>Liahona, which is, being interpreted, a compass; and the Lord prepared it.

39 And behold, there cannot any man work after the manner of so curious a workmanship. And behold, it was prepared to show unto our fathers the course which they should travel in the wilderness.

40 And it did work for them according to their <sup>a</sup>faith in God; therefore, if they had faith to believe that God could cause that those spindles should point the way they should go, behold, it was done; therefore they had this miracle, and also many other miracles wrought by the power of God, day by day.

41 Nevertheless, because those miracles were worked by <sup>a</sup>small means it did show unto them marvelous works. They were <sup>b</sup>slothful, and forgot to exercise their faith and diligence and then those marvelous works ceased, and they did not progress in their journey;

42 Therefore, they tarried in the wilderness, or did <sup>a</sup>not travel a direct course, and were afflicted with hunger and thirst, because of their transgressions.

43 And now, my son, I would that ye should understand that these things are not without a <sup>a</sup>shadow; for as our fathers were slothful to give heed to this compass (now these things were temporal) they

did not prosper; even so it is with things which are spiritual.

44 For behold, it is as easy to give heed to the <sup>a</sup>word of Christ, which will point to you a straight course to eternal bliss, as it was for our fathers to give heed to this compass, which would point unto them a straight course to the promised land.

45 And now I say, is there not a <sup>a</sup>type in this thing? For just as surely as this director did bring our fathers, by following its course, to the promised land, shall the words of Christ, if we follow their course, carry us beyond this vale of sorrow into a far better land of promise.

46 O my son, do not let us be <sup>a</sup>slothful because of the <sup>b</sup>ease of the <sup>c</sup>way; for so was it with our fathers; for so was it prepared for them, that if they would <sup>a</sup>look they might <sup>c</sup>live; even so it is with us. The way is prepared, and if we will look we may live forever.

47 And now, my son, see that ye take <sup>a</sup>care of these sacred things, yea, see that ye <sup>b</sup>look to God and live. Go unto this people and declare the word, and be sober. My son, farewell.

The commandments of Alma to his son Shiblon.

*Comprising chapter 38.*

## CHAPTER 38

*Shiblon was persecuted for righteousness' sake—Salvation is in Christ, who*

*is the life and the light of the world—Bridle all your passions. About 74 B.C.*

MY <sup>a</sup>son, give ear to my words, for I say unto you, even as I said unto Helaman, that <sup>b</sup>inasmuch as ye shall keep the commandments of God ye shall prosper in the land; and inasmuch as ye will not keep the commandments of God ye shall be <sup>c</sup>cut off from his <sup>a</sup>presence.

2 And now, my son, I trust that I shall have great joy in you, because of your <sup>a</sup>steadiness and your faithfulness unto God; for as you have commenced in your youth to look to the Lord your God, even so I hope that you will continue in keeping his commandments; for blessed is he that <sup>b</sup>endureth to the end.

3 I say unto you, my son, that I have had great joy in thee already, because of thy faithfulness and thy diligence, and thy patience and thy long-suffering among the people of the <sup>a</sup>Zoramites.

4 For I know that thou wast in bonds; yea, and I also know that thou wast stoned for the word's sake; and thou didst bear all these things with <sup>a</sup>patience because the Lord was <sup>b</sup>with thee; and now thou knowest that the Lord did deliver thee.

5 And now my son, Shiblon, I would that ye should remember, that as much as ye shall put your <sup>a</sup>trust in God even so much ye shall be <sup>b</sup>delivered out of your trials, and your <sup>c</sup>troubles, and your afflictions, and ye shall be lifted up at the last day.

6 Now, my son, I would not that ye should think that I know these

## The Symbolism of the Liahona





**“As we each press forward along the pathway of life, we receive direction from the Holy Ghost just as Lehi was directed through the Liahona. ...**

**“The Holy Ghost operates in our lives precisely as the Liahona did for Lehi and his family, according to our faith and diligence and heed. ...**

**“And the Holy Ghost provides for us today the means whereby we can receive, ‘by small and simple things’ (Alma 37:6), increased understanding about the ways of the Lord. ...**

**“The Spirit of the Lord can be our guide and will bless us with direction, instruction, and spiritual protection during our mortal journey”**

*(Elder David A. Bednar in Conference Report, Apr. 2006, 31; or Ensign, May 2006, 30–31).*

did not prosper; even so it is with things which are spiritual.

44 For behold, it is as easy to give heed to the <sup>a</sup>word of Christ, which will point to you a straight course to eternal bliss, as it was for our fathers to give heed to this compass, which would point unto them a straight course to the promised land.

45 And now I say, is there not a <sup>a</sup>type in this thing? For just as surely as this director did bring our fathers, by following its course, to the promised land, shall the words of Christ, if we follow their course, carry us beyond this vale of sorrow into a far better land of promise.

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47 And now, my son, see that ye take <sup>a</sup>care of these sacred things, yea, see that ye <sup>b</sup>look to God and live. Go unto this people and declare the word, and be sober. My son, farewell.

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## CHAPTER 38

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*is the life and the light of the world—Bridle all your passions. About 74 B.C.*

MY <sup>a</sup>son, give ear to my words, for I say unto you, even as I said unto Helaman, that <sup>b</sup>inasmuch as ye shall keep the commandments of God ye shall prosper in the land; and inasmuch as ye will not keep the commandments of God ye shall be <sup>c</sup>cut off from his <sup>a</sup>presence.

2 And now, my son, I trust that I shall have great joy in you, because of your <sup>a</sup>steadiness and your faithfulness unto God; for as you have commenced in your youth to look to the Lord your God, even so I hope that you will continue in keeping his commandments; for blessed is he that <sup>b</sup>endureth to the end.

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4 For I know that thou wast in bonds; yea, and I also know that thou wast stoned for the word's sake; and thou didst bear all these things with <sup>a</sup>patience because the Lord was <sup>b</sup>with thee; and now thou knowest that the Lord did deliver thee.

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6 Now, my son, I would not that ye should think that I know these

things of myself, but it is the Spirit of God which is in me which maketh these things known unto me; for if I had not been <sup>a</sup>born of God I should not have known these things.

7 But behold, the Lord in his great mercy sent his <sup>a</sup>angel to declare unto me that I must stop the work of <sup>b</sup>destruction among his people; yea, and I have seen an angel face to face, and he spake with me, and his voice was as thunder, and it shook the whole earth.

8 And it came to pass that I was <sup>a</sup>three days and three nights in the most bitter <sup>b</sup>pain and <sup>c</sup>anguish of soul; and never, until I did cry out unto the Lord Jesus Christ for mercy, did I receive a <sup>a</sup>remission of my sins. But behold, I did cry unto him and I did find peace to my soul.

9 And now, my son, I have told you this that ye may learn wisdom, that ye may learn of me that there is <sup>a</sup>no other way or means whereby man can be saved, only in and through Christ. Behold, he is the life and the <sup>b</sup>light of the world. Behold, he is the word of truth and <sup>c</sup>righteousness.

10 And now, as ye have begun to teach the word even so I would that ye should continue to teach; and I would that ye would be diligent and <sup>a</sup>temperate in all things.

11 See that ye are not lifted up unto pride; yea, see that ye do not <sup>a</sup>boast in your own wisdom, nor of your much strength.

12 Use <sup>a</sup>boldness, but not overbearance; and also see that ye <sup>b</sup>bridle all your passions, that ye may be filled with love; see that ye refrain from idleness.

13 Do not <sup>a</sup>pray as the Zoramites do, for ye have seen that they pray to be heard of men, and to be praised for their wisdom.

14 Do not say: O God, I thank thee that we are <sup>a</sup>better than our brethren; but rather say: O Lord, forgive my <sup>b</sup>unworthiness, and remember my brethren in mercy—yea, acknowledge your unworthiness before God at all times.

15 And may the Lord bless your soul, and receive you at the last day into his kingdom, to sit down in peace. Now go, my son, and teach the word unto this people. Be <sup>a</sup>sober. My son, farewell.

The commandments of Alma to his son Corianton.

Comprising chapters 39 through 42.

## CHAPTER 39

*Sexual sin is an abomination—Corianton's sins kept the Zoramites from receiving the word—Christ's redemption is retroactive in saving the faithful who preceded it. About 74 B.C.*

AND now, my <sup>a</sup>son, I have somewhat more to say unto thee than what I said unto thy brother; for behold, have ye not observed the steadiness of thy brother, his faithfulness, and his diligence in keeping the commandments of God? Behold, has he not set a good <sup>b</sup>example for thee?

2 For thou didst not give so much heed unto my words as did thy brother, among the people of the <sup>a</sup>Zoramites. Now this is what I have against thee; thou didst go on unto

**“Is self-denial wise because something is wrong with our passions, or because something is right with our passions? Alma taught his son: ‘See that ye bridle all your passions, that ye may be filled with love.’ (Alma 38:12; emphasis added.) He did not say eliminate or even suppress your passions, but bridle them—harness, channel, and focus them. Why? Because discipline makes possible a richer, deeper love”**

*(Elder Bruce C. Hafen, “The Belonging Heart” [1994], 302).*

did not prosper; even so it is with things which are spiritual.

44 For behold, it is as easy to give heed to the <sup>a</sup>word of Christ, which will point to you a straight course to eternal bliss, as it was for our fathers to give heed to this compass, which would point unto them a straight course to the promised land.

45 And now I say, is there not a <sup>a</sup>type in this thing? For just as surely as this director did bring our fathers, by following its course, to the promised land, shall the words of Christ, if we follow their course, carry us beyond this vale of sorrow into a far better land of promise.

46 O my son, do not let us be <sup>a</sup>slothful because of the <sup>b</sup>easiness of the <sup>c</sup>way; for so was it with our fathers; for so was it prepared for them, that if they would <sup>d</sup>look they might <sup>e</sup>live; even so it is with us. The way is prepared, and if we will look we may live forever.

47 And now, my son, see that ye take <sup>a</sup>care of these sacred things, yea, see that ye <sup>b</sup>look to God and live. Go unto this people and declare the word, and be sober. My son, farewell.

The commandments of Alma to his son Shiblon.

Comprising chapter 38.

## CHAPTER 38

*Shiblon was persecuted for righteousness' sake—Salvation is in Christ, who*

*is the life and the light of the world—Bridle all your passions. About 74 B.C.*

MY <sup>a</sup>son, give ear to my words, for I say unto you, even as I said unto Helaman, that <sup>b</sup>inasmuch as ye shall keep the commandments of God ye shall prosper in the land; and inasmuch as ye will not keep the commandments of God ye shall be <sup>c</sup>cut off from his <sup>d</sup>presence.

2 And now, my son, I trust that I shall have great joy in you, because of your <sup>a</sup>steadiness and your faithfulness unto God; for as you have commenced in your youth to look to the Lord your God, even so I hope that you will continue in keeping his commandments; for blessed is he that <sup>b</sup>endureth to the end.

3 I say unto you, my son, that I have had great joy in thee already, because of thy faithfulness and thy diligence, and thy patience and thy long-suffering among the people of the <sup>a</sup>Zoramites.

4 For I know that thou wast in bonds; yea, and I also know that thou wast stoned for the word's sake; and thou didst bear all these things with <sup>a</sup>patience because the Lord was <sup>b</sup>with thee; and now thou knowest that the Lord did deliver thee.

5 And now my son, Shiblon, I would that ye should remember, that as much as ye shall put your <sup>a</sup>trust in God even so much ye shall be <sup>b</sup>delivered out of your trials, and your <sup>c</sup>troubles, and your afflictions, and ye shall be lifted up at the last day.

6 Now, my son, I would not that ye should think that I know these

things of myself, but it is the Spirit of God which is in me which maketh these things known unto me; for if I had not been <sup>a</sup>born of God I should not have known these things.

7 But behold, the Lord in his great mercy sent his <sup>a</sup>angel to declare unto me that I must stop the work of <sup>b</sup>destruction among his people; yea, and I have seen an angel face to face, and he spake with me, and his voice was as thunder, and it shook the whole earth.

8 And it came to pass that I was <sup>a</sup>three days and three nights in the most bitter <sup>b</sup>pain and <sup>c</sup>anguish of soul; and never, until I did cry out unto the Lord Jesus Christ for mercy, did I receive a <sup>d</sup>remission of my sins. But behold, I did cry unto him and I did find peace to my soul.

9 And now, my son, I have told you this that ye may learn wisdom, that ye may learn of me that there is <sup>a</sup>no other way or means whereby man can be saved, only in and through Christ. Behold, he is the life and the <sup>b</sup>light of the world. Behold, he is the word of truth and <sup>c</sup>righteousness.

10 And now, as ye have begun to teach the word even so I would that ye should continue to teach; and I would that ye would be diligent and <sup>a</sup>temperate in all things.

11 See that ye are not lifted up unto pride; yea, see that ye do not <sup>a</sup>boast in your own wisdom, nor of your much strength.

12 Use <sup>a</sup>boldness, but not overbearance; and also see that ye <sup>b</sup>bridle all your passions, that ye may be filled with love; see that ye refrain from idleness.

13 Do not <sup>a</sup>pray as the Zoramites do, for ye have seen that they pray to be heard of men, and to be praised for their wisdom.

14 Do not say: O God, I thank thee that we are <sup>a</sup>better than our brethren; but rather say: O Lord, forgive my <sup>b</sup>unworthiness, and remember my brethren in mercy—yea, acknowledge your unworthiness before God at all times.

15 And may the Lord bless your soul, and receive you at the last day into his kingdom, to sit down in peace. Now go, my son, and teach the word unto this people. Be <sup>a</sup>sober. My son, farewell.

The commandments of Alma to his son Corianton.

Comprising chapters 39 through 42.

## Sober

1828 Websters: “having the regular exercise of cool dispassionate reason.” and “calm; not under the influence of passion”

commandments of God? Behold, has he not set a good <sup>b</sup>example for thee?

2 For thou didst not give so much heed unto my words as did thy brother, among the people of the <sup>a</sup>Zoramites. Now this is what I have against thee; thou didst go on unto

## Alma Counsels Helaman

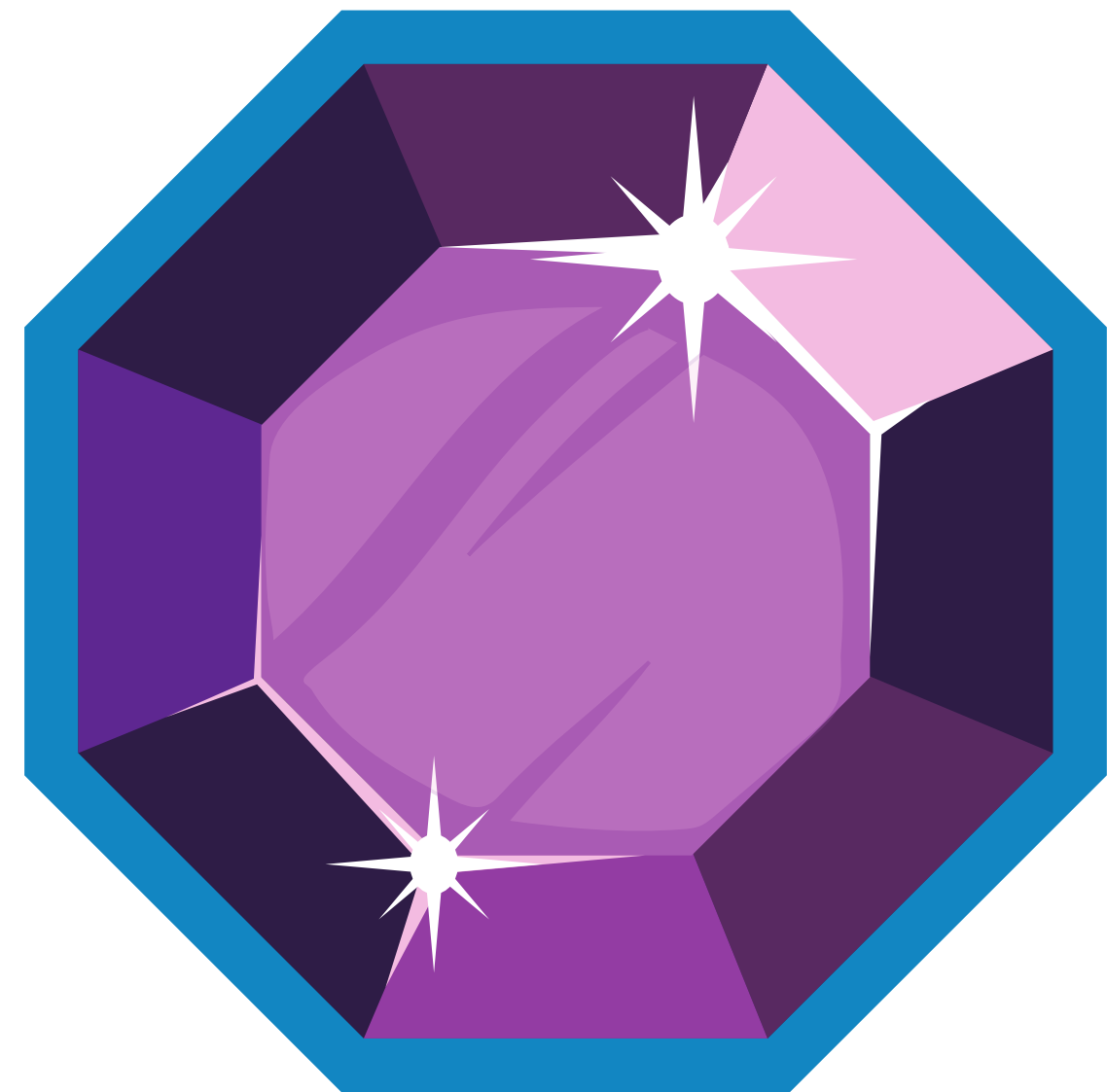
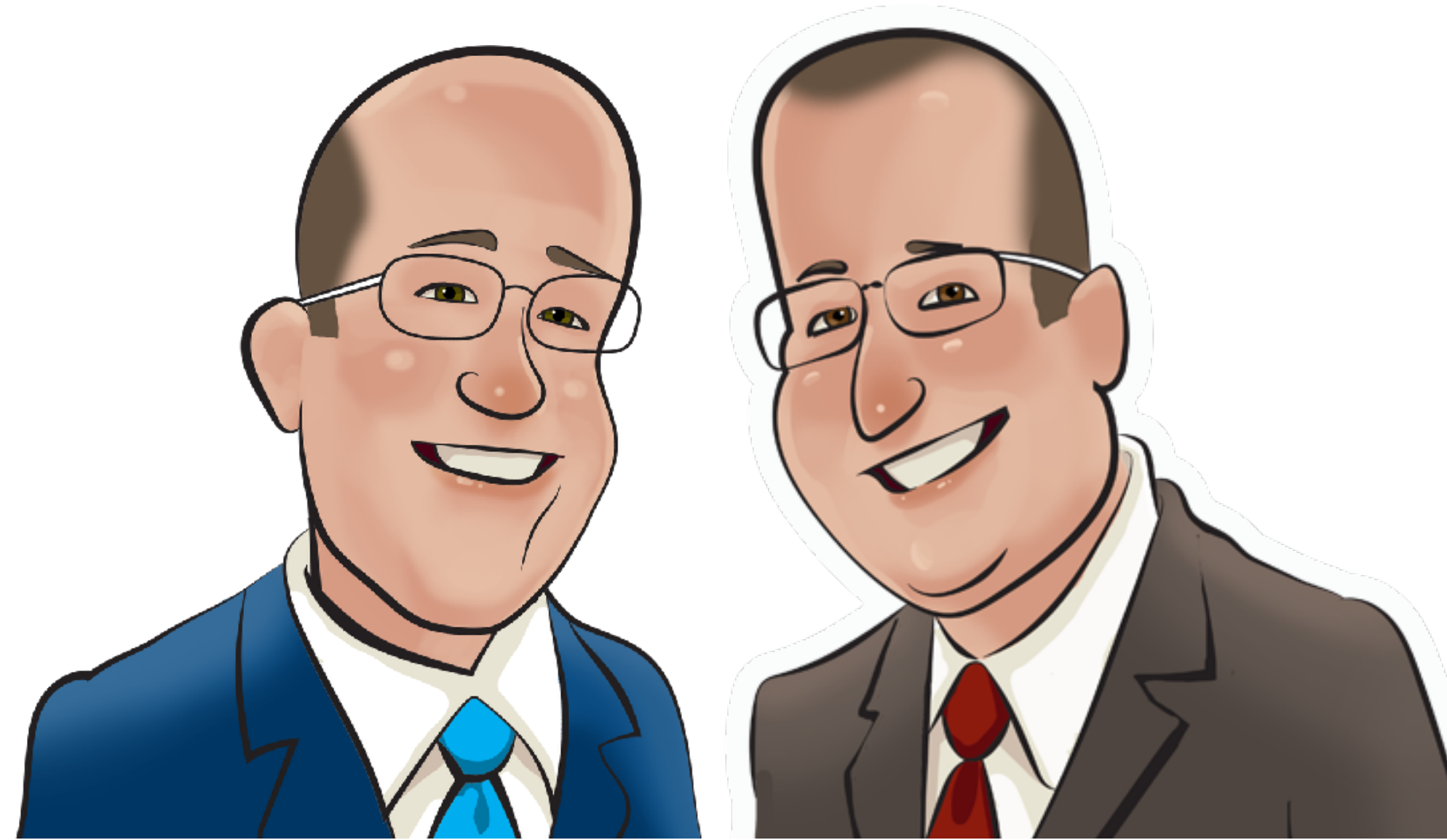




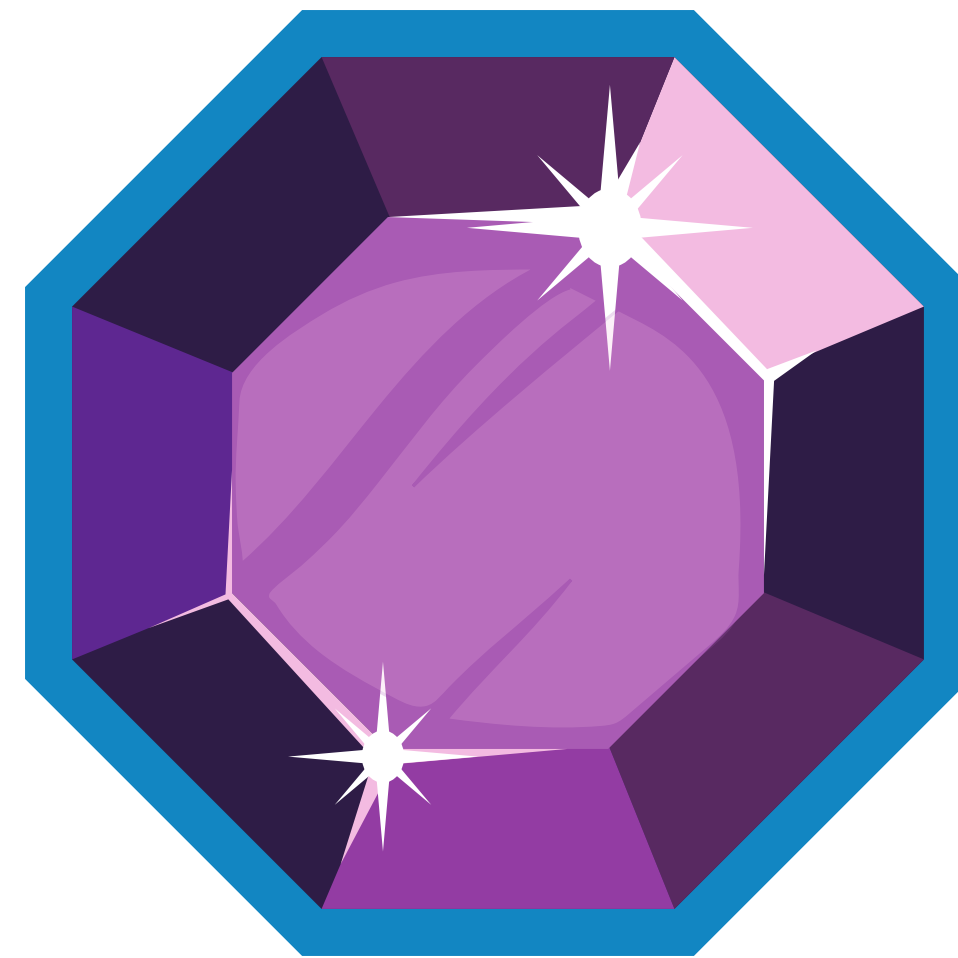
**“The scriptures contain the words of Christ and are a reservoir of living water to which we have ready access and from which we can drink deeply and long. You and I must look to and come unto Christ, who is ‘the fountain of living waters’ (1 Nephi 11:25; compare Ether 8:26; 12:28), by reading (see Mosiah 1:5), studying (see D&C 26:1), searching (see John 5:39; Alma 17:2), and feasting (see 2 Nephi 32:3) upon the words of Christ as contained in the holy scriptures. By so doing, we can receive both spiritual direction and protection during our mortal journey”**

*(Elder David A. Bednar, “A Reservoir of Living Water” [CES fireside for young adults, Feb. 4, 2007], 1).*





# Scripture GEMS



**Final music:**

**"Five Variants of 'Dives and Lazarus': 1st Movement" by Ralph Vaughan Williams, arranged by Jon Fullmer**

**Violin: Becky Fullmer**

**Cello: David Affleck**

**Outro Audio Production: David Affleck**