

5/23/20

Bof M#20

Mosiah 25-28

They Were Called the People of God

(GT)

Ch. 25

Everyone is ~~reunited~~ reunited - they all learn about each other's struggles
Limhi's people are baptized & Alma establishes a church

Ch. 26

Church vs. tribe

Church members are tempted and persecuted - How do we deal with those who profess to be of the faith but aren't?

John 1:12 Jesus gave power to those who believed to be reborn
- So unlike the lineage of the Israelites, which was by birth, this is a lineage of choice, and instead of a tribe, those of this lineage are gathered in a church.

~~the church~~ - Likewise, those who want to leave a tribe can't. But God decreed that those who want to leave the church can. There are consequences

Ch 27 Persecutions heighten.

Freedom not to believe threatened the freedom to believe. Both must be protected

Alma and the sons of Mosiah (and several others) are stopped by an angel from destroying the church.

From the depths of despair they transform into mighty missionaries willing to suffer to carry the word messenger

Ch 28

end of chap. 27 → quotes Is. 52:7 and Mosiah 15 - they became the message/gospel
Sons of Mosiah leave on a mission - Mosiah translates record of Jaredites and shares it with everyone - confers relics on Alma

ch 29 (bonus)

Mosiah reorganizes his people as a democracy - warns of the dangers of monarchy
brambles - Judges 9:8-15; they have rejected me - 1 Sam 8:7

Lessons:

- The Mulekites were adopted into the tribe of Nephi, following the custom prescribed for accepting strangers (foreigners) in the Law of Moses

Deut. 31:12

Although, the "~~strange~~" stranger in Israel had a second-class status for a generation or more. But the Mulekites were immediately assimilated, perhaps because of their membership in the house of Israel.

- Amulonites as well (Lev. 25:12)

Alma established a church. - -

- this hadn't been done before, not even by Nephi. (Mosiah 29:47 - founder)

As was the case after the life of Jesus, it seems that, once a people has taken upon themselves the "new" covenant of Jeremiah, rather than by tribe. Thus Alma the elder (and younger) have a similar place in history as does Paul the apostle.

Book of Mosiah main theme

- Remember, the first part of the Book of Mosiah, that recounted the story of Mosiah, and his escape, is lost. If we include it in our critical analysis, we see a clear main idea in the Book of Mosiah.

- 1 Sam 8:7 - When the Israelites chose a king, they were rejecting God

- Mosiah is filled with examples showing how wicked kings can lead their people astray, and even righteous kings are short-lived.

- Alma is a symbol for every person caught up in sin. God brought about his change.

- When individuals change, they change their society.

Pattern: individuals: wicked → righteous, worship/identity: tribe → church, politics: monarchy → democracy
As individuals change through Christ, they bring their society with them.
When they chose liberty (and responsibility) the Nephites were undoing the Israelites' rejection of God

Question to ponder and discuss: Why did God intervene in the life of Alma the Younger, but not in the lives of so many others?