

4/18/20

Mosiah 1-3

B of M #15 Filled with Love towards God and All Man

GT

Sunday (or Saturday for the Jews) is just "a" sabbath. But there were others:
Three "Sabbatical Feasts" in ancient Israel: (Pilgrimage festivals)

- ① Passover: in the spring, after firstfruits of the Autumn planting seder, week of unleavened bread
symbolizes → God saved us from the plagues of Egypt, and we left in such a hurry that there was no time for bread to rise
- ② Shavuot: "weeks" or Pentecost → end of harvest that began at Passover
first full moon
7 weeks later (+1 day)
- ③ Fall Festival complex: Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year / Festival of Trumpets) at beginning of 7th month
Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) - judgment for the year
Sukkot → this is the actual Pilgrimage festival begins & ends with a sabbath
live in tents → face temple

Question from Torin:

Favorite Moments from Conf.:

Elder Gong: Hosanna & Hallelujah

Passover & ~~Good Friday~~ ^{Palm Sunday}: Hosanna

Easter: Hallelujah

Resurrection includes restoration of us → our works

First Passover → into our Lesson for the year

⊛ Also, sabbath years →
7th: no agriculture
50th: jubilee

Sukkot was the time for:

- ① Reading aloud the LW (or part of it) and getting the people's vocal agreement to it
- ② Coronation of New kings
- ③ Remembering the sacrifices & privations of ancestors
- ④ Dedication of Temple

Steven Ricks (BYU Professor) found these parallels: Exodus 19 w/ Mosiah 1-6

- ① Preamble - God is initiating a covenant & speaking through a prophet
Exodus 19:3 ↔ Mosiah 1:1 - 2:9
- ② History - God's relationship w/ Israel in review
Exodus 19:4 ↔ Mosiah 2:9-21, 23-30
- ③ "Terms" of the covenant - specific commandments & obligations
Exodus 19:5-6 ↔ Mosiah 4:4-30 (2:22, 31-41)
- ④ Formal witness - the people formally bind themselves to obey
Exodus 19:8 ↔ Mosiah 5:2-8
- ⑤ Blessings & curses - list of consequences of obedience & disobedience
Exodus 19:5 ↔ Mosiah 5:9-15 (3:24-27)
- ⑥ Recital of cov't & Deposit of text - provisions made for a written copy to be read to the people regularly
Exodus 19:7 ↔ Mosiah 6:1-3, 6 (2:8-9)

Sukkot was a time for a solemn assembly
(2 Chr. 6:13 brazen scaffold)

→ all these repeated (and more)
in Exodus 24 - first Sukkot
Moses made it a sabbath year commandment;
Deut 31:9-13

Why does it matter that Benjamin's address is so similar to Jewish Sukkot?

① The Nephites saw themselves as redeeming the history of the Israelites

a) Lehi was the new Abraham/Jacob

- received his own covenant, including blessings of posterity & land
- divided his descendants into tribes

Jacob 1:13, 4 Ne 1:36-38, Mormon 1:8, D&C 3:17-18

b) Nephi was the new Moses

- vision of all creation
- carved his words into permanent material
- my father dwelt in a tent | Ne 2:15
also "tent of my father"
- we dwell in tents: 2 Ne 5:7 (v 10 Law of Moses)

c) Benjamin was the new Solomon/David

- Constructed a temple
- Addressed the people from a tower
- Davidic Cov't ↔ born again by Christ

The three main covenants of the Old Testament have been echoed in the Book of Mormon (Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic)

Mosiah 1: King Benjamin was the son of another prophetic King who led his people out of bondage into a new land.

In his time there were:

- wars with the Lamanites
- dissensions to the Lamanites
- false Christs
- false prophets (W of M 1:13-18)

and he didn't even take a salary
compare his behavior with that of Solomon → 1000 wives & concubines

His plan: give his people a name

Ch. 2: Firstlings of flocks: Sukkot is the feast most marked by sacrifice in Israelite culture

King Benjamin constantly draws a contrast: the worthiness of God vs. the "nothingness" of man

- if I, your earthly king, merit thanks, how much you should thank your (heavenly King)!
- if you served him with your whole souls you would still be unprofitable

because of his worthiness in supporting & blessing you

v. 32 evil spirit

"Spoken of by my father Mosiah")

★ profound wisdom: when ye are in the service of your fellow beings, ye are only in the service of God → What does this tell us about God?

→ The concept of "open rebellion" which is sinning in full knowledge of the truth. The consequence (hell) is vividly described. An understanding of what was so important

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BoFM #15 cont.

Mosiah ch. 3

Chapter 3 is Mosiah's recounting of his angelic vision
glad tidings of great joy

→ This phrase comes from Isaiah. Search "good tidings" in your Gospel Library app

~~It's~~ It's always used to ~~the~~ describe the messenger who brings news of the victory of a king

Isaiah 40 → behold your God

Isaiah 52 → thy God reigneth

Isaiah 61 → liberating King will set you free

It meant this to the shepherds outside Bethlehem, and it meant this to Benjamin

Mosiah 3:4-8 are the good tidings. if you've ever wondered what the word "gospel" really meant, gospel is a word ~~directly~~ purposely formed to mean "good tidings" and Mosiah 3:4-8 is as good a definition as you will find anywhere in scripture

3:15 the law of Moses availeth nothing save it were through the atonement of his blood

3:17 "his is the only name" whereby salvation can come meaning there simply is no other behavior, path, person, or belief that will lead to eternal life

This is the important declaration of belief in Christ

This is why it matters to believe, and why prophets are willing to work and sacrifice so much.

3:17 ^{READ} Natural man is an enemy to God
compare 1 Cor 2 (502 E33)

v. 20 compare Jer. 31:34 - he is almost quoting

24-27 ANOTHER chapter ends w/ a vivid description of hell

BUT it is clear that "fire" is a metaphor

the consciousness of our own guilt is the punishment

What could be more just than that we are confronted with our own choices? ~~that~~

Similarly - what could be more merciful than that there would be provided some means of escape from the guilt that would otherwise plague us forever?