

7/10/20

Alma 30-31

GT

The Virtue of the Word of God B of M #27

Alma 30:

⊕ epistemological claims
⊕ religious claims
⊕ lies

Shereem Nehor Korihor
Moses/No God No God
 christ saves period
 All

start with his preaching

v. 13 ⊕ no man can know of anything which is to come
epistemology: what separates truth from opinion?
origin, nature, and limits of knowledge

Ether Ch. 7
Nehor → Corihor
city wicked ruler

v. 15 ⊕ ye cannot know of things which ye do not see

v. 17 ~~is~~ every man fared according to the management of the creature
- prospered according to genius
- conquered according to strength → reversal of God's creation of man in his image. Instead, man is another beast
- whatsoever deed is no crime

v. 25 O yesay this people is a guilty and fallen people (just fallen)
Daniel 7

v. 27 O that ye may glut yourself with the labors of their hands

v. 28 ⊕ God has never been seen or known, and never was nor ever will be

v. 32-35 Alma utterly refutes the chief claim of Korihor, that priests get gain

v. 40 Alma strikes at the heart of the matter. It is ~~is~~ not incumbent on a believer to prove the existence of God, but upon an anti-theist to prove his nonexistence

v. 42 Alma knows Korihor believes in God.

v. 480 "I do not deny the existence of a God"

v. 51 ~~is~~ dumb and deaf.

v. 52-53 Devil appeared in the form of an angel - same pattern of lies & inconsistency as Korihor.

v. 58 they did all repent

v. 3 Law of Moses - taught explicitly that it was a type of Christ, rather than implicitly (as in Israel) - conscious imagery

v. 7, 11 - a law dictating beliefs would put men on unequal grounds

Alma's words to Nehor: if priestcraft were to be enforced by the sword, it would mean the entire destruction of this people. That's what such a law would be - priestcraft enforced by sword killed by Zoramites. Coincidence? Was this when Alma learned of their apostasy?

Unto whom do Korihor's teachings appeal (i.e. who wants to believe him enough that they overlook his lies and inconsistencies?)

His tactic → embarrass people into not thinking logically, both in opposition and acquiescence

- so those who are easily embarrassed about what they believe

tactic → lie about his knowledge of God and nature

- those who want to believe something other than what they were taught because they have desire to resist current tradition

tactic → lie about the greed of high priests, create "victims" where there was no crime

- those who wanted a victim status to avoid responsibility (Zeezrom / Ammoniah)

Ch 31

Zoramites' origins? Are they all or part of the Lehiite tribe?

dissenters — separated from Nephites. Not yet Lamanites. Lamanites' chief teaching:

v. 15-18 Nephi stole the rule from us. Appeal again to those desiring victim status.

Remember prayer

- thou art a spirit: denies resurrection, which is always tied to judgment in the BoM

- we're special, predestined to be saved

- everyone else is damned

- No Christ

To whom does this appeal (i.e. why worship still if you're already saved?)

The question can be boiled down to "Why do they go to church?"

v. 24-25 gold, silver, fine goods, boasting, pride

Matt 6:5-8 "that they may be seen of men"

They have a war of status, and only those whose opinions "matter" can confer status, and therefore everyone else isn't welcome in the synagogue.

Religion has become about status. God himself is polluted

v. 30-35 Alma's prayer: he often talks about remembering the captivity of their fathers. Well he does just that, praying not to be freed from his troubles but that he may have strength to get through them. His prayers are answered.

personal apostasy ch. 30

general apostasy ch 31

Why did J.S. lose the part of the BoM that he did — or why was the part we still have preserved?

- establishment of church

- missionary work

- apostasy and war

- disintegration of society

- widespread destruction and disaster
- persecution of faithful
- coming of Christ