

7/12/20

Alma 32-35

GT

# BofM #28 Plant This Word in Your Hearts

## Questions:

Jacklyn, Phoenix "clapped his hands upon them"

paul, blue mountains, AUSTRALIA "what do the scriptures say about hell?"

## Things I forgot from last week:

See the starred items:

- 1) Korihor's teachings were intended to reverse the creation, i.e. man is not in God's image - man is simply another "thing," not anything special whose choices matter
- 2) Ramcumpton: god is a spirit → intended to deny resurrection & hence, need for Christ
- 3) All the Zoramite missionaries are repentant sinners

## Ch 32

v. 3 they were poor as to the things of the world, and they were poor in heart  
Matt 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

v. 5 their question: we have no place to worship <sup>there</sup> ~~is~~ is a lot of this does not mean they are ready to change. ~~work~~ work to be done in their conversion still.

v. 8 I behold that ye are lowly in heart; and if so, blessed are ye???

v. 12 it is well that ye are cast out of your synagogues

- reason given: ye may be humble
- reason not given: your church is false

v. 14 compelled to be humble (Alma the Younger) vs. humbled himself (Alma the Elder)

v. 16 blessed is he who is baptized without being compelled to know before he will believe

v. 17-21 faith vs. knowledge. He seems to imply it is more blessed to believe

v. 27 desire to believe v. 28 compare to a seed, which grows v. 29 knowledge is not yet perfect

... but, before long it swelleth, sprouteth, beginneth to grow → Now your knowledge is perfect?

- yes, in that thing (i.e. the seed is good, or there's something there)

faith is dormant? discuss (imagine a sprouted seed)  
- you still don't have the fruit

v. 30-39 nourish the tree. If you don't, it won't be the seed's fault you don't get fruit

v. 40 Tree identified as "tree of life."

★ This is Alma using genesis language, teaching that the gospel reverses the fall. Contrast with Korihor, whose teachings attempted to reverse the creation.

## Ch 33.

v. 1. ok what specifically should we believe?

— Alma has, to this point, only taught epistemology. He has not instructed about Christ or God or any of it. This aligns quite well with the fact that people conceive a desire to believe first and then sort facts where they belong.

v. 3-11 we learn more about Zenos. Nephi was also a huge fan, as was Malachi

We would have had more of his writings, presumably, in the lost manuscript, but we learn he taught explicitly that the Messiah was a spiritual savior and the Son of God, and was persecuted cruelly for it, and rescued by God.

Now, Alma has taught them 3 things:

- 1) recourse to the scriptures when in doubt about doctrine
- 2) you can worship at any time & place - John 4:20-23, Jesus taught the place is less important than the manner
- 3) Christ is the source of God's mercy

Zenock - v. 16

Moses & the brazen (brass) serpent. Invite to read Numbers 21:4-9. Notice it does not relate that anyone refused to look. Numbers is sparse on the details we learn only from Alma that it was a type and that people wouldn't look. This is a profound teaching that must have been in the brass plates

v. 21 "would ye not behold quickly?"

★ v. 22 resurrection paired with judgment. - Romeumption: God is a spirit - no resurrection/judgment

## Ch 34

v. 5 the great question in your minds: whether the word be in the Son of God, as taught by prophets of old and by us, or no Christ, as taught by those who cast you out

- rich man eye of the needle

v. 2 it's impossible that you're ignorant of these teachings

v. 6 I know of myself that these things are true

v. 11 how could someone pay the penalty for another's sin? | Sam 25 - David, Nabal, Abigail

v. 14 whole law points to a great & best sacrifice, infinite & eternal

- the sacrifice will change the very nature of consequence for sin, not undo it

v. 17-27 echoes the teachings of Zenos as taught by Alma - pray at all times & in all places

28-29 secure your salvation by sharing of your substance

30-38 impart a sense of urgency

## Ch 35

Why is planned (i.e. procrastinated) repentance a bad idea?

v. 5-6 deceptive referendum → intended to out the believers

The people of Ammon are so angry with those who converted, that they are willing to wage war on the people of Ammon for sheltering them. Why?

Many were converted. Alma & his brethren were responsible for saving the tribe of Zoram.

★ Who made up this group? Alma, Amulek, Ammon, Aaron, Omner, Shiblon, Corianton, Zeezrom  
Sinners all, except Shiblon. This is the greatest example of the B of M missionary cycle, proof the Lord works through imperfect vessels to accomplish much good.