



Type: Magazine Article

Book of Mormon Studies

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Source: *The Latter-Day Saints' Millennial Star*, Vol. 90, No. 38 (20 September 1928)

Published by: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Page(s): 606

Abstract: This is a series of articles intended for Relief Society course study. It discusses the importance of the Book of Mormon, its coming forth (i.e., the translation, the witnesses, the publication, Joseph Smith), brief overview of its contents, and explains the text from 1 Nephi 1 through Alma 58. Each article features several questions that are helpful in synthesizing and applying the Book of Mormon to daily life.

On the 17th of January, 1840, a council was held at the home of Willard Richards. It was decided that Elders John Taylor and Joseph Fielding should go to Liverpool; Elder Wilford Woodruff, to the Staffordshire Potteries; Elder Theodore Turley, to Birmingham; Elder Willard Richards, wherever the Spirit might direct him, and Elder William Clayton, to preside over the branch in Manchester. At early dates the brethren left for the fields assigned.

These men were among those who in the weeks and months to come converted the inhabitants of whole towns and villages, and who baptized entire congregations and their preachers.

BOOK OF MORMON STUDIES*

SIX CHAPTERS are to be studied for this lesson: Alma 17 to 22. They are not long, and they deal with one of the most interesting periods of Nephite history. The four sons of Mosiah who refused to inherit the kingdom that they might teach righteousness to their unbelieving brethren, become splendid examples to all people at all times in all lands.

They decided to give their lives to helping the Lamanites see the error of their ways. They separated on the borders of their land. Amnon, the eldest son, fills a noble ministry in the land of Ishmael; while the younger brothers, Aaron, Omner, and Himni, take different courses, that they might reach as many as possible of their brethren who dwelt in darkness. They began their journeyings about ninety-two years before Christ, and the events related in these chapters occupy about ten years.

QUESTIONS

1. What are the events of interest related in Alma, chapter 16?
2. Why did "the Lord pour out His Spirit on all the face of the land"?
3. Relate the story of Amnon's sojourn in the land of Ishmael.
4. Why and how was King Lamoni converted?
5. Explain the condition of Abish the Lamanitish woman and the part she played in bringing witnesses to the conversion of the king's household.
6. Tell the story concerning King Lamoni's father. How was he saved from murder and with what result to his own spiritual condition?
7. In what condition did Amnon find his brethren, and in what land did he meet them?
8. Recite from memory the first two verses of "O Stop and Tell Me Red Man", No. 224 *Songs of Zion*.

*Lesson 19 of the Relief Society Course of Study—for use on the first lesson night in October.