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Book of Mormon Studies

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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.

faith-promoting incidents that stand among the richest of missionary experiences. "I thank God for sending two messengers to my door who are traveling as the Apostles of old traveled", were the words of one gentleman after he had freely shared his cupboard with us, and accompanied us some distance on our journey. After being supplied with supper, lodging and breakfast the following comforting words came from another: "I did not know that such an abiding faith existed in the religious world to-day as is exemplified in the sacrifice and conditions under which you missionaries strive to carry the Gospel." Many more similar incidents might be cited, together with the many prayers and wishes of success that people were wont to give us.

Many advantages to the Gospel cause and to the missionary can be derived from preaching without "purse or scrip"—among them, the close contact it is necessary to make with the people, as a result of which impressions are left with them that could have been left no other way. To the missionary comes the absolute necessity of humility, by which the public can best judge sincerity. With the entire experience comes a firmer conviction that a power higher than man's is actuating this latter-day work, a feeling of thankfulness to God for being engaged in His service, and a knowledge that the Lord will provide.

BOOK OF MORMON STUDIES*

THE WORDS of Amulek are outstanding among the teachings contained in Alma, chapters 32 to 35 inclusive, which are to be read and pondered for this lesson. Amulek relinquished wealth, friends and worldly position for the cause of truth. To the Zoramites, who had departed from paths of righteousness, he exclaimed: "For behold, this life is the time for men to prepare to meet God."

Did the Book of Mormon contain no other message to the children of men, this one divine precept would justify its claim to greatness. As to the Zoramites, so to Latter-day Saints and all mankind, this soul-penetrating reminder may go out as a spur to greater righteousness, increased diligence and the fuller use of life's opportunities: "This life is the time for men to prepare to meet God."

QUESTIONS

1. Alma teaches humility. Discuss the distinction he makes between those who are compelled to be humble and those who are humble voluntarily.
2. Compare faith and knowledge according to Alma's explanation. Which must come first? How must it be nourished and cultivated?

*Lesson 21 of the Relief Society Course of Study—for use on the first lesson night in November.

3. True worship is not confined to sanctuaries. What were Alma's views on this subject?

4. Recount the testimony of Amulek concerning the coming of the Christ. What evidences did he cite to prove his testimony?

5. Mercy and justice are oftentimes thought to be incompatible. Amulek shows that they are really co-workers. How?

6. What is the condition here and hereafter of men who delay repentance?

7. Those who believed on the words of Alma and Amulek were cast out from the Zoramites. Do the wicked always prevail? Do they ever prevail permanently?

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Swedish Mission Arrivals: The following missionaries have arrived to labour in the Swedish Mission since June 1st, 1928: Elder Wentworth R. Carlson, Minneapolis, Minnesota, arrived in Stockholm, by way of Oslo, June 28th.

Elder Otto A. Spjut, Salt Lake City, Utah, arrived in Göteborg, Sweden, July 14th.

Elder Wilford E. Hokanson, Grover, Wyoming, arrived in Göteborg, Sweden, September 26th.

Relief Society Conferences: Sunday, September 30th, the Relief Society of the Belfast Branch, Ulster District, held a conference. A well-planned program was rendered.

An excellent program was given under the direction of the Relief Society at the Autumn Conference in the Gainsboro Branch, Hull District, Sunday, October 7th.

A conference of the Norwich Branch Relief Society, of the Norwich District, was held Sunday, September 30th. Several of the Relief Society sisters of the Lowestoft Branch were in attendance.

On Sunday, September 9th, Relief Society Conferences were held in the Nottingham, Leicester, Hucknall and Derby Branches of the Nottingham District. The Relief Society sisters presented an excellent program in each instance.

The Oldham Branch Relief Society, of the Manchester District, held their annual conference on Sunday, October 14th. Much enthusiasm in the work was manifested.

Arrivals and Assignments: The following missionaries arrived at Liverpool on October 12th aboard the *Duchess of Bedford*; they have been thus assigned:

For the British Mission: John Waldo Adams, Cedar City, Utah, to the Birmingham District; Clarence Vance Bigler, Collinston, Utah, to the Liverpool District; Ralph Olpin, Pleasant Grove, Utah, to the Newcastle District; Lowell Redd Rich, Brigham