

June 24–30

Alma 13–16

“Enter Into the Rest of the Lord”



Priesthood

Alma 13:1-2

Why does the Lord ordain priests after His holy order?

When did the Lord start ordaining priests?

Abraham 1:2

I sought for the blessings of the fathers, and the right whereunto I should be ordained to administer the same; having been myself a follower of righteousness, desiring also to be one who possessed great knowledge, and to be a greater follower of righteousness, and to possess a greater knowledge, and to be a father of many nations, a prince of peace, and desiring to receive instructions, and to keep the commandments of God, I became a rightful heir, a High Priest, holding the right belonging to the fathers

Priesthood

Alma 13:3

When were these high priests “called and prepared” to receive the priesthood?

How did they demonstrate in their per-mortal life that they were worthy to be foreordained to receive the Melchizedek Priesthood?

What is the purpose of the “holy calling”?

Joseph Smith

“Every man who has a calling to minister to the inhabitants of the world was ordained to that very purpose in the Grand Council of heaven before this world was.” (TPJS, pg. 365)

James J. Hamula

"Their valiance and nobility were demonstrated in the pre-earth struggle with Satan. There, 'being left to choose good or evil,' they '[chose] good' and exhibited 'exceedingly great faith' and 'good works.' Such are the traits that are now needed to sustain the work of God in the earth and to save the souls of men from the intensifying wrath of the adversary." (CR, Oct.2008)

Elaine S. Dalton

"You are not ordinary men. Because of your valiance in the premortal realms, you qualified to be leaders and to possess priesthood power. There you exhibited 'exceeding faith and good works,' and you are here now to do the same." (CR, Oct. 2011)

Priesthood

Alma 13:4-6

With this calling and ordination to priesthood, what are these men expected to do?

What reason does Alma give for some receive this calling while others do not?

Spencer W. Kimball

“Before we came here, faithful women were given certain assignments while faithful men were foreordained to certain priesthood tasks. While we do not now remember the particulars, this does not alter the glorious reality of what we once agreed to. You are accountable for those things which long ago were expected of you just as are those we sustain as prophets and apostles!” (CR, Oct. 1979)

Neal A. Maxwell

"Premortality is not a relaxing doctrine. For each of us, there are choices to be made, incessant and difficult chores to be done, ironies and adversities to be experienced, time to be well spent, talents and gifts to be well employed.... Whether foreordination for men, or foredesignation for women, those called and prepared must also prove 'chosen, and faithful.'" (CR, Oct 1985)

D&C 121:34-35

[34] Behold, there are many called, but few are chosen.
And why are they not chosen?

[35] Because their hearts are set so much upon the things of this world, and aspire to the honors of men

Priesthood

Alma 13:10-12

What blessings await those who “work righteousness” with “exceeding faith and repentance”?

What are some of the fruits of being sanctified?

Bruce R. McConkie

"There are no blessings reserved for apostles that are not freely available to all the elders of the kingdom; blessings come because of obedience and personal righteousness, not because of administrative positions....

"Blessing three: We can be sanctified by the Spirit, have dross and evil burned out of us as though by fire, become clean and spotless, and be fit to dwell with gods and angels.

"The Holy Ghost is the Sanctifier. Those who magnify their callings in the priesthood 'are sanctified by the Spirit unto the renewing of their bodies' (D&C 84:33). They are born again; they become new creatures of the Holy Ghost; they are alive in Christ.

"Of such faithful persons among the ancients, Alma says: '... [they] were sanctified, and their garments were washed white through the blood of the Lamb.'" (CR, Oct. 1977)

Priesthood

Alma 13:17-19

How does the example of Melchizedek counter the teachings of Nehor?

Afflictions

Alma 14:1-5

Why do you think the people of Ammonihah were so angry with Alma and Amulek?

Afflictions

Alma 14:8-10

What did Amulek believe could be done to save the people?

Afflictions

Alma 14:11-13

What two reasons does Alma give for being constrained by the Spirit from saving the people?

What can we learn about afflictions given that the Lord allowed this terrible thing to happen?

Afflictions

Alma 14:24-26

D&C 121:7-9

[7] My son, peace be unto thy soul; thine adversity and thine afflictions shall be but a small moment;

[8] And then, if thou endure it well, God shall exalt thee on high; thou shalt triumph over all thy foes.

[9] Thy friends do stand by thee, and they shall hail thee again with warm hearts and friendly hands.

D&C 121:34-35

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Afflictions

Alma 16:2,9-11

Next Week:

July 1–7

Alma 17–22

“I Will Make an Instrument of Thee”

