

May 27–June 2

Mosiah 25–28

“They Were Called the People of God”



Alma Organizes the Church

Mosiah 25:19-23

What made it possible for them to be “all one church” even though they assembled together in different congregations?

Lauri Hlavaty

“The Church is the same wherever you go!’ I grew up hearing this from returning vacationers and from missionaries reporting their missions. And I understood what they meant.... They meant the gospel felt the same wherever they went. This resulted from the presence of the Holy Spirit, which is the universal way we recognize the things of God. It's the same when you learn something new or see something from a new slant, and suddenly it all makes sense. You know it's right, because it feels right and is consistent with other glimpses of truth that you've had.” (Book of Mormon Symposium Series, 1988, pg. 105)

Alma Organizes the Church

Mosiah 26:1-4

What was it that kept the rising generation from understanding the words of king Benjamin?

Dieter F. Uchtdorf

“Spiritual darkness can draw a veil of forgetfulness around even those who once walked in the light and rejoiced in the Lord.... In the days of Alma there were many who struggled to accept spiritual things, and ‘because of their unbelief,, God’s light and truth could not enter their souls ‘and their hearts were hardened.’”
(CR, Oct. 2017)

Alma Organizes the Church

Mosiah 26:6,13

Alma Organizes the Church

Mosiah 26:29-32

What did the Lord tell Alma to do with those members who would not forsake their sins?

Harold B. Lee

“When we let members lead a double and destructive life, instead of doing them a favor as we suppose, we damage them, sometimes, irreparably. We must let the light of gospel standards shine fully, and not try to deflect the penetrating rays of its standards. The gospel is to save man, not to condemn them, but to save, it is sometimes necessary to confront and to discipline as the Lord has directed us. When individuals are on the wrong path, our task is to redirect them lovingly, and not to watch idly from our vantage point on the straight and narrow path.” (The Teachings of Harold B. Lee, pg. 117-8)

Alma Organizes the Church

Mosiah 26:14,20

What great covenant does the Lord make to Alma?

D&C 132:49

I am the Lord thy God, and will be with thee even unto the end of the world, and through all eternity; *for verily I seal upon you your exaltation*, and prepare a throne for you in the kingdom of my Father with Abraham your father.

Alma the Younger

Mosiah 27:8-9

How does Mormon describe Alma's son?

What impact did his wickedness have on the church?

Alma the Younger

Mosiah 27:11-16

What reason did the angel give for appearing to Alma and demonstrating “the power and authority of God”?

What event in Alma’s life does the angel remind him of where Alma witnessed the unmistakable power of God?

What does the angel warn Alma will become of him if he continues to fight against the things that he knows are true?

Orson F. Whitney

“The Prophet Joseph Smith declared—and he never taught a more comforting doctrine—that the eternal sealings of faithful parents and *the divine promises made to them for valiant service in the Cause of Truth*, would save not only themselves, but likewise their posterity. Though some of the sheep may wander, the eye of the Shepherd is upon them, and sooner or later they will feel the tentacles of Divine Providence reaching out after them and drawing them back to the fold. Either in this life or the life to come, they will return.” (CR, April 1929)

Boyd K. Packer

“Alma knew personally the pain of punishment and the joy of repentance. He himself had once greatly disappointed his own father, Corianton’s grandfather. He rebelled and went about ‘seeking to destroy the church.’ He was struck down by an angel, *not because he deserved it* but because of the prayers of his father and others.” (CR, April 2006)

Alma the Younger

Mosiah 27:17-20

Born Again

Mosiah 27:19-24

What did Alma mean when he said that he had been “born of the Spirit”?

What needs to take place in order for us to be born of the Spirit?

Bruce R. McConkie

"The new birth takes place only for those who actually enjoy the gift or companionship of the Holy Ghost, only for those who are fully converted, who have given themselves without restraint to the Lord. Thus Alma addressed himself to his 'brethren of the church,' and pointedly asked them if they had 'spiritually been born of God,' received the Lord's image in their countenances, and had the 'mighty change' in their hearts which always attends the birth of the Spirit. (Alma 5:14-31)." (Mormon Doctrine, pg. 101)

Mark E. Petersen

"That birth of the spirit means something more than most of us normally realize. Through proper teaching, a conviction is born in our soul. Faith develops. Through it we see how important it is to become like Christ. We see ourselves as we are in contrast to a Christlike soul. A desire for a change-over is born within us. The change-over begins. We call it repentance. Through our faith and as part of our conversion or change from one state to another, we begin to see sin in its true light.... We strive with all our souls to become like the Savior." (Address to seminary and institute of religion personnel, BYU, July 11, 1956)

Neal A. Maxwell

“The very process of being born again spiritually is not a one-time occurrence. Hence, Paul said that he died 'daily' (1Cor 15:31). Such is the process of putting off the old self as one becomes a woman or a man of God. Quick change artists are rare. I have not seen many put off the old and put on the new very rapidly.” (BYU Fireside, Dec. 2, 1984)

Born Again

Mosiah 27:25-29

How does Alma describe what it means to be born of the Spirit?

Dallin H. Oaks

"The miracle of forgiveness was wrought in his life, and the bitter pain of sin was replaced by the sweet joy of redemption....

"Alma learned the eternal truth that the pain and misery that come from sin can only be erased by repentance. Physical pain ends with death. Spiritual pain, or misery, is everlasting, unless we repent." (CR Oct. 1991)

The Sons of Mosiah

Mosiah 27:35-37

How is it clear that Alma and the sons of Mosiah had experienced “a mighty change of heart”?

Robert D. Hales

"His joy came because of his contrite repentance. From that time forth, Alma and all those who were with him, including the sons of Mosiah, went about trying 'to repair all the injuries which they had done to the church, confessing all their sins' and bringing souls unto Christ.

"Only by repentance and asking for forgiveness of the Lord was Alma able to put his pain behind him and receive of the joy and light of the gospel. The Lord taught the Nephites that knowledge of the truth, diligent faith, and true repentance bring about a change of heart. Alma experienced a mighty change of heart."
(CR, Oct. 1998)

The Sons of Mosiah

Mosiah 28:1-4

What caused the sons of Mosiah to have such a strong desire to teach the gospel of Christ among the Lamanites?

Carlos E. Asay

"This and other scriptures describe a marvelous phenomenon which occurs among men when the light of the gospel illuminates their lives. Almost instinctively, it seems, that light of truth sparks a desire to share. When our minds are expanded by new knowledge, we want others to know; when our spirits are elevated by heavenly influence, we want others to feel; and when our lives are filled with goodness, we want others, particularly those whom we love, to enjoy similar experiences." (CR, Oct. 1976)

Mary Ellen W. Smoot

"Our own conversion must come first. The most important conversion for any of us is our own. If we are to bring the light of the gospel into others' lives, it must shine brightly in our own. Once converted, the sons of Mosiah labored without ceasing to share the gospel with others, 'for they could not bear that any human soul should perish' (Mosh 28:3). Only when we are converted to the Lord Jesus Christ are we in a position to strengthen others. And only then do we begin to understand that our lives truly do have meaning, purpose, and direction, and that as sisters united in our devotion to Jesus Christ our calling is to be a light to the world." (CR, Oct. 2000)

The Sons of Mosiah

Mosiah 28:7

Next Week:

June 3–9

Mosiah 29–Alma 4

“They Were Steadfast and Immovable”

