



THE BOOK OF MORMON

(*chapters 1–7*)

Mormon₂ to Receive the Records

[I] **1** And now I, Mormon, make a record of the things which I have both seen and heard, and call it the Book of Mormon.^a

²And about the time that Ammaron hid up the records unto the Lord,^b he came unto me, (I being about ten years of age, and I began to be learned somewhat after the manner of the learning of my people) and Ammaron said unto me, “I perceive that thou art a sober child, and art quick to observe; ³therefore, when ye are about twenty and four years old I would that ye should remember the things that ye have observed concerning this people; and when ye are of that age go to the land Antum,^c unto a hill which shall be called Shim; and there have I deposited unto the Lord all the sacred engravings concerning this people. ⁴And behold, ye shall take the plates of Nephi unto yourself, and the remainder shall ye leave in the place where they are; and ye shall engrave on the plates of Nephi all the things that ye have observed concerning this people.”^d

War between the Nephites and Lamanites

⁵And I, Mormon, being a descendant of Nephi, (and my father’s name was Mormon) I remembered the things which Ammaron commanded me. ⁶And it came to pass that I, being eleven years old,^e was carried by my father into the land southward, even to the land of Zarahemla. ⁷The whole face of the land had become covered with buildings, and the people were as numerous almost, as it were the sand of the sea.

^a₁ This smaller “Book of Mormon” was originally divided into three chapters, each of which Mormon₂ concluded by directly addressing the Gentiles, Israelites, or Lamanites among his latter-day readers. See Morm 3.17–22; 5.8–24; 7.1–10. ^b₂ +320 years; see 4 Ne 1.48–49 ^c₃ P, 1830 *land of Antum*

^d₄ Mormon₂ does not retrieve the plates of Nephi until he is about thirty-five; see Morm 2.16–17. He returns for the rest of the records when he is sixty-five; see Morm 4.16, 23. ^e₆ +321 years

⁸ And it came to pass in this year there began to be a war between the Nephites, who consisted of the Nephites and the Jacobites and the Josephites and the Zoramites; and this war was between the Nephites, and the Lamanites and the Lemuelites and the Ishmaelites. ⁹ Now the Lamanites and the Lemuelites and the Ishmaelites were called Lamanites, and the two parties were Nephites and Lamanites.

¹⁰ And it came to pass that the war began to be among them in the borders of Zarahemla, by the waters of Sidon. ¹¹ And it came to pass that the Nephites had gathered together a great number of men, even to exceed the number of thirty thousand. And it came to pass that they did have in this same year a number of battles, in which the Nephites did beat the Lamanites and did slay many of them. ¹² And it came to pass that the Lamanites withdrew their design, and there was peace settled in the land; and peace did remain for the space of about four years,^a that there was no bloodshed.

Wickedness Prevails

¹³ But wickedness did prevail upon the face of the whole land, insomuch that the Lord did take away his beloved disciples,^b and the work of miracles and of healing did cease because of the iniquity of the people. ¹⁴ And there were no gifts from the Lord, and the Holy Ghost did not come upon any, because of their wickedness and unbelief.

¹⁵ And I, being fifteen years of age and being somewhat of a sober mind, therefore I was visited of the Lord, and tasted and knew of the goodness of Jesus. ¹⁶ And I did endeavor to preach unto this people, but my mouth was shut, and I was forbidden that I should preach unto them; for behold they had wilfully rebelled against their God; and the beloved disciples were taken away out of the land, because of their iniquity. ¹⁷ But I did remain among them, but I was forbidden to preach unto them, because of the hardness of their hearts; and because of the hardness of their hearts the land was cursed for their sake.

¹⁸ And these Gadianton robbers, who were among the Lamanites, did infest the land, insomuch that the inhabitants thereof began to hide up their treasures in the earth; and they became slippery, because the Lord had cursed the land, that they could not hold them, nor retain^c them again. ¹⁹ And it came to pass that there were sorceries, and witchcrafts, and magics; and the power of the evil one was wrought upon all the face of the land, even unto the fulfilling of all the words of Abinadi, and also Samuel the Lamanite.^d

The Nephites Retreat

2 And it came to pass in that same year^e there began to be a war again between the Nephites and the Lamanites. And notwithstanding I being young, was large in stature; therefore the people of Nephi appointed me that I should be their leader, or the leader of their armies. ² Therefore it came to pass that in my sixteenth year I did go forth

^a12 That is, until +325 years ^b13 3 Ne 28.4–32; 4 Ne 1.30–33 ^c18 Perhaps *regain* [to be consistent with 1920 editing] ^d19 Hel 13.17–18, 31, 35–37; perhaps Mos 16.5 ^e1 +325 years

at the head of an army of the Nephites, against the Lamanites; therefore three hundred and twenty and six years had passed away.^a

³ And it came to pass that in the three hundred and twenty and seventh year^b the Lamanites did come upon us with exceedingly great power, insomuch that they did frighten my armies; therefore they would not fight, and they began to retreat towards the north countries. ⁴ And it came to pass that we did come to the city of Angola,^c and we did take possession of the city, and make preparations to defend ourselves against the Lamanites. And it came to pass that we did fortify the city with our might; but notwithstanding all our fortifications the Lamanites did come upon us and did drive us out of the city. ⁵ And they did also drive us forth out of the land of David. ⁶ And we marched forth and came to the land of Joshua, which was in the borders west by the seashore.

⁷ And it came to pass that we did gather in our people as fast as it were possible, that we might get them together in one body. ⁸ But behold, the land was filled with robbers and with Lamanites; and notwithstanding the great destruction which hung over my people, they did not repent of their evil doings; therefore there was blood and carnage spread throughout all the face of the land, both on the part of the Nephites and also on the part of the Lamanites; and it was one complete revolution throughout all the face of the land.

⁹ And now, the Lamanites had a king, and his name was Aaron; and he came against us with an army of forty and four thousand. And behold, I withstood him with forty and two thousand. And it came to pass that I beat him with my army that he fled before me. And behold, all this was done, and three hundred and thirty years had passed away.^d

Sorrow without Repentance

¹⁰ And it came to pass that the Nephites began to repent of their iniquity, and began to cry even as had been prophesied by Samuel the prophet;^e for behold no man could keep that which was his own, for the thieves, and the robbers, and the murderers, and the magic art, and the witchcraft which was in the land. ¹¹ Thus there began to be a mourning and a lamentation in all the land because of these things, and more especially among the people of Nephi.

¹² And it came to pass that when I, Mormon, saw their lamentation and their mourning and their sorrow^f before the Lord, my heart did begin to rejoice within me, knowing the mercies and the long-suffering of the Lord, therefore supposing that he would be merciful unto them that they would again become a righteous people. ¹³ But behold this my joy was vain, for their sorrowing was not unto repentance, because of the goodness of God; but it was rather the sorrowing of the damned, because the Lord would not always suffer them to take happiness in sin. ¹⁴ And they did not come unto Jesus with broken hearts and contrite spirits, but they did curse God, and wish to die. Nevertheless they would struggle with the sword for their lives.

^a2 +326 years

^b3 +327 years

^c4 P *Angolah* (cf. 1830 *Angelah*)

^d9 +330 years

^e10 Hel 13.31-37

^f12 P, 1830 *sorrowing*

¹⁵ And it came to pass that my sorrow did return unto me again, and I saw that the day of grace was passed^a with them, both temporally and spiritually; for I saw thousands of them hewn down in open rebellion against their God, and heaped up as dung upon the face of the land. And thus three hundred and forty and four years had passed away.^b

¹⁶ And it came to pass that in the three hundred and forty and fifth year^c the Nephites did begin to flee before the Lamanites; and they were pursued until they came even to the land of Jashon, before it was possible to stop them in their retreat.

Mormon₂ Updates the Records

¹⁷ And now, the city of Jashon was near the land where Ammaron had deposited the records unto the Lord, that they might not be destroyed.^d And behold I had gone according to the word^e of Ammaron, and taken the plates of Nephi, and did make a record according to the words of Ammaron.^f

¹⁸ And upon the plates of Nephi^g I did make a full account of all the wickedness and abominations; but upon these plates^h I did forbear to make a full account of their wickedness and abominations, for behold, a continual scene of wickedness and abominations has been before mine eyes ever since I have been sufficient to behold the ways of man. ¹⁹ And wo is me because of their wickedness; for my heart has been filled with sorrow because of their wickedness, all my days; nevertheless, I know that I shall be lifted up at the last day.

The Land Is Divided

²⁰ And it came to pass that in this year the people of Nephi again were hunted and driven. And it came to pass that we were driven forth until we had come northward to the land which was called Shem. ²¹ And it came to pass that we did fortify the city of Shem, and we did gather in our people as much as it were possible, that perhaps we might save them from destruction.

²² And it came to pass in the three hundred and forty and sixth yearⁱ they began to come upon us again. ²³ And it came to pass that I did speak unto my people, and did urge them with great energy, that they would stand boldly before the Lamanites and fight for their wives, and their children, and their houses, and their homes. ²⁴ And my words did arouse them somewhat to vigor, insomuch that they did not flee from before the Lamanites, but did stand with boldness against them.

²⁵ And it came to pass that we did contend with an army of thirty thousand against an army of fifty thousand. And it came to pass that we did stand before them with such firmness that they did flee from before us. ²⁶ And it came to pass that when they had fled we did pursue them with our armies, and did meet them again, and did beat them; nevertheless the strength of the Lord was not with us; yea, we were left to ourselves, that the Spirit of the Lord did not abide in us; therefore we had become weak like unto our brethren.

^a₁₅ 1830 past ^b₁₅ +344 ^c₁₆ +345 ^d₁₇ 4 Ne 1.48-49 ^e₁₇ P words ^f₁₇ Morm 1.2-4

^g₁₈ That is, the large plates of Nephi ^h₁₈ That is, on Mormon₂'s abridgment of the large plates of Nephi

ⁱ₂₂ +346 years

²⁷ And my heart did sorrow because of this the great calamity of my people, because of their wickedness and their abominations. But behold, we did go forth against the Lamanites and the robbers of Gadianton, until we had again taken possession of the lands of our inheritance. ²⁸ And the three hundred and forty and ninth year had passed away.^a

And in the three hundred and fiftieth year^b we made a treaty with the Lamanites and the robbers of Gadianton, in which we did get the lands of our inheritance divided. ²⁹ And the Lamanites did give unto us the land northward, yea, even to the narrow passage which led into the land southward. And we did give unto the Lamanites all the land southward.

A Chance for Repentance

3 And it came to pass that the Lamanites did not come to battle again until ten years more had passed away. And behold, I had employed my people, the Nephites, in preparing their lands and their arms against the time of battle.

² And it came to pass that the Lord did say unto me, “Cry unto this people: ‘Repent ye, and come unto me, and be ye baptized, and build up again my church, and ye shall be spared.’” ³ And I did cry unto this people, but it was in vain; and they did not realize that it was the Lord that had spared them, and granted unto them a chance for repentance. And behold they did harden their hearts against the Lord their God.

Nephite Victories Lead to War Fever

⁴ And it came to pass that after this tenth year had passed away, making, in the whole, three hundred and sixty years from the coming of Christ,^c the king of the Lamanites sent an epistle unto me, which gave unto me to know that they were preparing to come again to battle against us. ⁵ And it came to pass that I did cause my people that they should gather themselves together at the land Desolation, to a city which was in the borders, by the narrow pass which led into the land southward. ⁶ And there we did place our armies, that we might stop the armies of the Lamanites, that they might not get possession of any of our lands; therefore we did fortify against them with all our force.

⁷ And it came to pass that in the three hundred and sixty and first year^d the Lamanites did come down to the city of Desolation to battle against us; and it came to pass that in that year we did beat them, insomuch that they did return to their own lands again. ⁸ And in the three hundred and sixty and second year^e they did come down again to battle. And we did beat them again, and did slay a great number of them, and their dead were cast into the sea.

⁹ And now, because of this great thing which my people, the Nephites, had done, they began to boast in their own strength, and began to swear before the heavens that they would avenge themselves of the blood of their brethren who had been slain by their enemies.

¹⁰ And they did swear by the heavens, and also by the throne of God, that they would go up to battle against their enemies, and would cut them off from the face of the land.

^a28 +349 years

^b28 +350 years

^c4 +360 years

^d7 +361 years

^e8 +362 years

Mormon₂ Refuses to Lead His People into War

¹¹ And it came to pass that I, Mormon, did utterly refuse from this time forth to be a commander and a leader of this people, because of their wickedness and abomination.^a

¹² Behold, I had led them, notwithstanding their wickedness I had led them many times to battle, and had loved them, according to the love of God which was in me, with all my heart; and my soul had been poured out in prayer unto my God all the day long for them; nevertheless, it was without faith, because of the hardness of their hearts. ¹³ And thrice have I delivered them out of the hands of their enemies,^b and they have repented not of their sins.

¹⁴ And when they had sworn by all that had been forbidden them by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,^c that they would go up unto their enemies to battle, and avenge themselves of the blood of their brethren, behold the voice of the Lord came unto me, saying, ¹⁵ "Vengeance is mine, and I will repay;^d and because this people repented not after I had delivered them, behold, they shall be cut off from the face of the earth."

¹⁶ And it came to pass that I utterly refused to go up against mine enemies; and I did even as the Lord had commanded me; and I did stand as an idle witness to manifest unto the world the things which I saw and heard, according to the manifestations of the Spirit which had testified of things to come.^e

Mormon₂'s Message to Latter-Day Israel and the Gentiles

¹⁷ Therefore I write unto you, Gentiles, and also unto you, house of Israel, when the work shall commence, that ye shall be about to prepare to return to the land of your inheritance; ¹⁸ yea, behold, I write unto all the ends of the earth; yea, unto you, twelve tribes of Israel, who shall be judged according to your works by the twelve whom Jesus chose to be his disciples in the land of Jerusalem.^f ¹⁹ And I write also unto the remnant of this people, who shall also be judged by the twelve whom Jesus chose in this land;^g and they shall be judged by the other twelve whom Jesus chose in the land of Jerusalem.

²⁰ And these things doth the Spirit manifest unto me; therefore I write unto you all. And for this cause I write unto you, that ye may know that ye must all stand before the judgment-seat of Christ, yea, every soul who belongs to the whole human family of Adam; and ye must stand to be judged of your works, whether they be good or evil; ²¹ and also that ye may believe the gospel of Jesus Christ, which ye shall have among you; and also that the Jews, the covenant people of the Lord, shall have other witness^h besides him whom they saw and heard, that Jesus, whom they slew, was the very Christ and the very God. ²² And I would that I could persuade all ye ends of the earth to repent and prepare to stand before the judgment-seat of Christ.

^a₁₁ Mormon₂'s pacifist renunciation will last for more than thirteen years; see Morm 5.1. ^b₁₃ The first deliverance was at Morm 2.9, the second at 2.25–26, and the third at 3.7–8. ^c₁₄ 3 Ne 12.34–36; Morm 3.10
^d₁₅ Deut 32.35; Rom 12.19 ^e₁₆ See v. 20 below for the manifestations of things to come. ^f₁₈ See Mt 19.28; Lk 22.30. ^g₁₉ 1 Ne 12.8–10; 3 Ne 27.27 ^h₂₁ Poss other witnesses or another witness (the Book of Mormon?)

The Nephites Attack the Lamanites and Are Defeated

[II] 4 And now it came to pass that in the three hundred and sixty and third year^a the Nephites did go up with their armies to battle against the Lamanites, out of the land Desolation.² And it came to pass that the armies of the Nephites were driven back again to the land of Desolation. And while they were yet weary, a fresh army of the Lamanites did come upon them; and they had a sore battle, insomuch that the Lamanites did take possession of the city Desolation, and did slay many of the Nephites, and did take many prisoners.³ And the remainder did flee and join the inhabitants of the city Teancum. Now the city Teancum lay in the borders by the seashore; and it was also near the city Desolation.^b

⁴ And it was because the armies of the Nephites went up unto the Lamanites that they began to be smitten; for were it not for that, the Lamanites could have had no power over them.⁵ But, behold, the judgments of God will overtake the wicked; and it is by the wicked that the wicked are punished; for it is the wicked that stir up the hearts of the children of men unto bloodshed.

Nephite Gains and Losses; Great Wickedness^c

⁶ And it came to pass that the Lamanites did make preparations to come against the city Teancum.⁷ And it came to pass in the three hundred and sixty and fourth year^d the Lamanites did come against the city Teancum, that they might take possession of the city Teancum also.⁸ And it came to pass that they were repulsed and driven back by the Nephites. And when the Nephites saw that they had driven the Lamanites they did again boast of their own strength; and they went forth in their own might, and took possession again of the city Desolation.⁹ And now all these things had been done, and there had been thousands slain on both sides, both the Nephites and the Lamanites.

¹⁰ And it came to pass that the three hundred and sixty and sixth year had passed away,^e and the Lamanites came again upon the Nephites to battle; and yet the Nephites repented not of the evil they had done, but persisted in their wickedness continually.

¹¹ And it is impossible for the tongue to describe, or for man to write a perfect description of the horrible scene of the blood and carnage which was among the people, both of the Nephites and of the Lamanites; and every heart was hardened, so that they delighted in the shedding of blood continually.¹² And there never had been so great wickedness among all the children of Lehi, nor even among all the house of Israel, according to the words of the Lord,^f as was among this people.

¹³ And it came to pass that the Lamanites did take possession of the city Desolation, and this because their number did exceed the number of the Nephites.¹⁴ And they did also march forward against the city Teancum, and did drive the inhabitants forth out of

^a1 +363 years ^b3 Or (*Now the city . . . city Desolation.*) ^c6 Mormon₂'s letter at Moro 9 may have been written about this time. ^d7 +364 years ^e10 +366 years ^f12 Reference uncertain

her, and did take many prisoners both women and children,^a and did offer them up as sacrifices unto their idol gods.

¹⁵ And it came to pass that in the three hundred and sixty and seventh year,^b the Nephites being angry because the Lamanites had sacrificed their women and their children, that they did go against the Lamanites with exceedingly great anger, insomuch that they did beat again the Lamanites, and drive them out of their lands.

The Beginning of the End

¹⁶ And the Lamanites did not come again against the Nephites until the three hundred and seventy and fifth year.^c ¹⁷ And in this year they did come down against the Nephites with all their powers; and they were not numbered because of the greatness of their number. ¹⁸ And from this time forth did the Nephites gain no power over the Lamanites, but began to be swept off by them even as a dew before the sun.

¹⁹ And it came to pass that the Lamanites did come down against the city Desolation; and there was an exceedingly sore battle fought in the land Desolation, in the which they did beat the Nephites. ²⁰ And they fled again from before them, and they came to the city Boaz; and there they did stand against the Lamanites with exceeding boldness, insomuch that the Lamanites did not beat them until they had come again the second time. ²¹ And when they had come the second time, the Nephites were driven and slaughtered with an exceedingly great slaughter; their women and their children were again sacrificed unto idols. ²² And it came to pass that the Nephites did again flee from before them, taking all the inhabitants with them, both in towns and villages.

²³ And now I, Mormon, seeing that the Lamanites were about to overthrow the land, therefore I did go to the hill Shim, and did take up all the records which Ammaron had hid up unto the Lord.^d

The Nephites Retreat

5 And it came to pass that I did go forth among the Nephites, and did repent of the oath which I had made that I would no more assist them;^e and they gave me command again of their armies, for they looked upon me as though I could deliver them from their afflictions. ² But behold, I was without hope,^f for I knew the judgments of the Lord which should come upon them; for they repented not of their iniquities, but did struggle for their lives without calling upon that Being who created^g them.

³ And it came to pass that the Lamanites did come against us as we had fled to the city of Jordan; but behold, they were driven back that they did not take the city at that time. ⁴ And it came to pass that they came against us again, and we did maintain the city. And there were also other cities which were maintained by the Nephites, which strongholds did cut them off that they could not get into the country which lay before us, to destroy the inhabitants of our land. ⁵ But it came to pass that whatsoever lands

^a14 P, 1830 *many prisoners of women and children* ^b15 +367 years ^c16 +375 years ^d23 4 Ne 1.48-49;
Morm 1.3 ^e1 Morm 3.11-16 ^f2 P, 1830 *hopes* ^g2 P, 1830 *had created*

we had passed by, and the inhabitants thereof were not gathered in, were destroyed by the Lamanites, and their towns, and villages, and cities were burned with fire; and thus three hundred and seventy and nine years passed away.^a

⁶ And it came to pass that in the three hundred and eightieth year^b the Lamanites did come again against us to battle, and we did stand against them boldly; but it was all in vain, for so great were their numbers that they did tread the people of the Nephites under their feet. ⁷ And it came to pass that we did again take to flight, and those whose flight was swifter than the Lamanites'^c did escape, and those whose flight did not exceed the Lamanites' were swept down and destroyed.

A Message to Lamanites and Gentiles in the Last Days

⁸ And now behold, I, Mormon, do not desire to harrow up the souls of men in casting before them such an awful scene of blood and carnage as was laid before mine eyes; but I, knowing that these things must surely be made known, and that all things which are hid must be revealed upon the house-tops^d—⁹ and also that a knowledge of these things must come unto the remnant of these people, and also unto the Gentiles, who the Lord hath said should scatter this people,^e and this people should be counted as naught among them^f—therefore I write a small abridgment, daring not to give a full account of the things which I have seen, because of the commandment which I have received,^g and also that ye might not have too great sorrow because of the wickedness of this people.

¹⁰ And now behold, this I speak unto their seed, and also to the Gentiles who have care for the house of Israel, that realize and know from whence their blessings come.

¹¹ For I know that such will sorrow for the calamity of the house of Israel; yea, they will sorrow for the destruction of this people; they will sorrow that this people had not repented that they might have been clasped in the arms of Jesus.

¹² Now these things^h are written unto the remnant of the house of Jacob; and they are written after this manner, because it is known of God that wickedness will not bring them forth unto them; and they are to be hid up unto the Lord that they may come forth in his own due time. ¹³ And this is the commandment which I have received; and behold, they shall come forth according to the commandment of the Lord, when he shall see fit, in his wisdom.

¹⁴ And behold, they shall go unto the unbelieving of the Jews; and for this intent shall they go—that they may be persuaded that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God; that the Father may bring about, through his most Beloved, his great and eternal purpose, in restoring the Jews, or all the house of Israel, to the land of their inheritance, which the Lord their God hath given them, unto the fulfilling of his covenant; ¹⁵ and also that the seed of this people may more fully believe his gospel, which shall go forth unto them from the Gentiles.

^a5 +379 years ^b6 +380 years ^c7 Or *Lamanites* [with no apostrophe; twice in this verse]

^d8 See 2 Ne 27.11; cf. Lk 12.2–3. ^e9 3 Ne 16.8; 20.15, 27; 21.2. See also 1 Ne 13.14, 22.7, and 2 Ne 1.11, though the Lord is not the speaker in these verses. ^f9 Perhaps 3 Ne 16.9 ^g9 Morm 1.4; cf. 2.18 ^h12 That is, the Book of Mormon

For this people shall be scattered, and shall become a dark, a filthy, and a loathsome people, beyond the description of that which ever hath been amongst us, yea, even that which hath been among the Lamanites, and this because of their unbelief and idolatry.

¹⁶ For behold, the Spirit of the Lord hath already ceased to strive with their fathers; and they are without Christ and God in the world; and they are driven about as chaff before the wind.

¹⁷ They were once a delightsome people,
and they had Christ for their shepherd;
yea, they were led even by God the Father.

¹⁸ But now, behold, they are led about by Satan,
even as chaff is driven before the wind,
or as a vessel is tossed about upon the waves,
without sail or anchor,
or without anything wherewith to steer her;
and even as she is, so are they.

¹⁹ And behold, the Lord hath reserved their blessings,^a which they might have received in the land, for the Gentiles who shall possess the land.

²⁰ But behold, it shall come to pass that they shall be driven and scattered by the Gentiles; and after they have been driven and scattered by the Gentiles, behold, then will the Lord remember the covenant which he made unto Abraham and unto all the house of Israel. ²¹ And also the Lord will remember the prayers of the righteous, which have been put up unto him for them.^b

²² And then, O ye Gentiles, how can ye stand before the power of God, except ye shall repent and turn from your evil ways? ²³ Know ye not that ye are in the hands of God? Know ye not that he hath all power, and at his great command the earth shall be rolled together as a scroll? ²⁴ Therefore, repent ye, and humble yourselves before him, lest he shall come out in justice^c against you—

lest a remnant of the seed of Jacob
shall go forth among you as a lion,
and tear you in pieces,
and there is none to deliver.^d

Preparations for the Last Battle

[III] **6** And now I finish my record concerning the destruction of my people, the Nephites. And it came to pass that we did march forth before the Lamanites.

² And I, Mormon, wrote an epistle unto the king of the Lamanites, and desired of him that he would grant unto us that we might gather together our people unto the land of

^a19 P, 1830 *bleſſing* ^b21 See 2 Ne 3:19–21; 6:11; 26:15; Enos 1:15–18. ^c24 *Poſſ judgment*

^d24 Paraphraſe of Mic 5:8; cited at 3 Ne 20:16; 21:12

Cumorah, by a hill which was called Cumorah, and there we could^a give them battle. ³ And it came to pass that the king of the Lamanites did grant unto me the thing which I desired.

⁴ And it came to pass that we did march forth to the land of Cumorah, and we did pitch our tents around about the hill Cumorah; and it was in a land of many waters, rivers, and fountains; and here we had hope to gain advantage over the Lamanites. ⁵ And when three hundred and eighty and four years had passed away,^b we had gathered in all the remainder of our people unto the land of Cumorah.

⁶ And it came to pass that when we had gathered in all our people in one to the land of Cumorah, behold I, Mormon, began to be old; and knowing it to be the last struggle of my people, and having been commanded of the Lord that I should not suffer the records which had been handed down by our fathers, which were sacred, to fall into the hands of the Lamanites, (for the Lamanites would destroy them) therefore I made this record out of the plates of Nephi, and hid up in the hill Cumorah all the records which had been entrusted to me by the hand of the Lord, save it were these few plates which I gave unto my son Moroni.

The Last Battle

⁷ And it came to pass that my people, with their wives and their children, did now behold the armies of the Lamanites marching towards them; and with that awful fear of death which fills the breasts of all the wicked, did they await to receive them. ⁸ And it came to pass that they came to battle against us, and every soul was filled with terror because of the greatness of their numbers. ⁹ And it came to pass that they did fall upon my people with the sword, and with the bow, and with the arrow, and with the ax, and with all manner of weapons of war. ¹⁰ And it came to pass that my men were hewn down, yea, even my ten thousand who were with me, and I fell wounded in the midst; and they passed by me that they did not put an end to my life.

¹¹ And when they had gone through and hewn down all my people save it were twenty and four of us, (among whom was my son Moroni) and we having survived the dead of our people, did behold on the morrow, when the Lamanites had returned unto their camps, from the top of the hill Cumorah, the ten thousand of my people who were hewn down, being led in the front by me.

¹² And we also beheld the ten thousand of my people
who were led by my son Moroni.

¹³ And behold, the ten thousand of Gidgiddonah had fallen,
and he also in the midst.

¹⁴ And Lamah had fallen with his ten thousand;
and Gilgal had fallen with his ten thousand;
and Limhah had fallen with his ten thousand;
and Jeneum^c had fallen with his ten thousand;
and Cumenihah,

^a2 P, 1830 would

^b5 +384 years

^c14 P Joneum; 1981 Jeneum [ATV prefers Joneum]

and Moronihah,
 and Antionum,
 and Shiblom,
 and Shem,
 and Josh, had fallen with their ten thousand each.

¹⁵ And it came to pass that there were ten more who did fall by the sword, with their ten thousand each; yea, even all my people, save it were those twenty and four who were with me, and also a few who had escaped into the south countries, and a few who had deserted^a over unto the Lamanites, had fallen;^b and their flesh, and bones, and blood lay upon the face of the earth, being left by the hands of those who slew them to molder upon the land, and to crumble and to return to their mother earth.

Mormon₂'s Lamentation^c

¹⁶ And my soul was rent with anguish, because of the slain of my people,^d and I cried:

¹⁷ “O ye fair ones,
 how could ye have departed from the ways of the Lord!
 O ye fair ones,
 how could ye have rejected that Jesus,
 who stood with open arms to receive you!
¹⁸ Behold, if ye had not done this, ye would not have fallen.
 But behold, ye are fallen, and I mourn your loss.
¹⁹ O ye fair sons and daughters,
 ye fathers and mothers,
 ye husbands and wives,
 ye fair ones,
 how is it that ye could have fallen!
²⁰ But behold, ye are gone,
 and my sorrows cannot bring your return.

²¹ “And the day soon cometh that your mortal must put on immortality, and these bodies which are now moldering in corruption must soon become incorruptible bodies; and then ye must stand before the judgment-seat of Christ, to be judged according to your works; and if it so be that ye are righteous, then are ye blessed with your fathers who have gone before you.

²² “O that ye had repented before this great destruction had come upon you. But behold, ye are gone, and the Father, yea, the Eternal Father of heaven, knoweth your state; and he doeth with you according to his justice and mercy.”

^{a15} 1830 *dissented*; P, 1981 *deserted* [ATV prefers *dissented*] ^{b15} Or *all my people—save it were . . . unto the Lamanites—had fallen* ^{c16} Compare Jesus's lamentation for the fallen of his people at 3 Ne 10.4–5.

^{d16} Mormon₂'s response to the destruction of the Nephites matches that of Nephi₁ when he saw the same event in vision; see 2 Ne 26.7.

Mormon₂'s Counsel to Latter-Day Lamanites

7 And now, behold, I would speak somewhat unto the remnant of this people who are spared, if it so be that God may give unto them my words, that they may know of the things of their fathers; yea, I speak unto you, ye remnant of the house of Israel; and these are the words which I speak:

² Know ye that ye are of the house of Israel.

³ Know ye that ye must come unto repentance, or ye cannot be saved.

⁴ Know ye that ye must lay down your weapons of war, and delight no more in the shedding of blood, and take them not again, save it be that God shall command you.

⁵ Know ye that ye must come to the knowledge of your fathers, and repent of all your sins and iniquities, and believe in Jesus Christ, that he is the Son of God, and that he was slain by the Jews, and by the power of the Father he hath risen again, whereby he hath gained the victory over the grave; and also in him is the sting of death swallowed up. ⁶ And he bringeth to pass the resurrection of the dead, whereby man must be raised to stand before his judgment-seat. ⁷ And he hath brought to pass the redemption of the world, whereby he that is found guiltless before him at the judgment day hath it given unto him to dwell in the presence of God in his kingdom, to sing ceaseless praises with the choirs above, unto the Father, and unto the Son, and unto the Holy Ghost, which are one God, in a state of happiness which hath no end.

⁸ Therefore repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus, and lay hold upon the gospel of Christ, which shall be set before you, not only in this record^a but also in the record which shall come unto the Gentiles from the Jews,^b which record shall come from the Gentiles unto you. ⁹ For behold, this is written for the intent that ye may believe that; and if ye believe that ye will believe this also; and if ye believe this ye will know concerning your fathers, and also the marvelous works which were wrought by the power of God among them.

¹⁰ And ye will also know that ye are a remnant of the seed of Jacob; therefore ye are numbered among the people of the first covenant; and if it so be that ye believe in Christ, and are baptized, first with water, then with fire and with the Holy Ghost, following the example of our Savior,^c according to that which he hath commanded us,^d it shall be well with you^e in the day of judgment. Amen.

^a8 The Book of Mormon
1.29–34

^d10 3 Ne 12.1

^b8 The Bible

^c10 2 Ne 31.6–12; cf. Mt 3.13–17; Mk 1.9–11; Lk 3.21–22; Jn

^e10 Or are baptized—first with water . . . commanded us—it shall be well with you