

ALMA THE YOUNGER AND MOSIAH'S SONS PREACH

(Mosiah 11:185-207)

V185-199

After two days and nights of the priests fasting, Alma revives and relates his conversion to them (v. 185). Alma junior tells them he has repented of his sins and has been spiritually born again (v. 186). He relates to them that the Lord told him that all people must change from their carnal ways to become spiritual and the children of God (v. 187-188). Unless they are spiritually born again they cannot obtain the kingdom of God (v. 188), so they will be cast off, even as he was destined to be cast off (v. 189).

However, he was not cast off, because he repented, and the Lord in his mercy chose to forgive him (v. 190). He has been redeemed from the terrible misery he faced, so he is no longer in pain over his sins (v. 191-193).

He confesses he had rejected the Lord as his Redeemer, but he sees plainly now the day will come when the Lord will manifest Himself to all people (v. 194-196). Then all will bow before Him and confess He is Lord, and will be in fear of His judgment (v. 197-199)

V200-207

From this time onward, the younger Alma and the sons of Mosiah (v. 203) preach and teach to all the Nephite people in order to make up for their previous persecution of the church (v. 204-205), even suffering great persecutions as they do so (v. 200-201). This strengthens the church greatly (v. 202) as they are acting as instruments in the hands of God (v. 206), and they are greatly blessed for it (v. 207).

Alma and the sons of Mosiah are all converted, although we hear little of the nature of the conversion of the sons of Mosiah. A part of their conversion process spiritually required them to attempt to undo the damage they had done, and so they travel through the land “publishing to all the people the things which they had heard and seen.” Nevertheless, they are not met with universal approval. We may easily understand that this situation created the condition where they would be “preaching the word of God in much tribulation, being greatly persecuted by those who were unbelievers, being smitten by many of them.”

These final verses repeat the idea that they traveled trying to teach what they had learned. The difference is that the first occasion was only clear about Alma the Younger. In these verses, the four sons of Mosiah are explicitly added to the body of those who travel about.

Alma the Younger, Ammon, Aaron, Omner, and Himni all preach the word. Where the earlier discussion of Alma the Younger’s mission also included a note that they were persecuted for doing so, this final conclusion leaves that detail out. Mormon elects to leave the story on the most positive level. These men who began by denying the Lord, now actively declare him.

- 1. What did Alma the younger teach about being "born again"?**
- 2. What did Alma and his friends do to try to "repair" the damage they had done?**