

ALMA TESTIFIES OF THE TRUTH OF THE DOCTRINE

(Alma 3:71-108)

V71-91

Alma now explains why they should listen to what he is saying. He tells them what he is saying is according to the order of the Priesthood, it is his calling and responsibility (v.71-86). He then explains to them it is the Spirit which impels him to preach repentance and the kingdom of God, so the people will not be cut off from it (v. 87-91).

Alma is called to testify (v. 73) of things revealed to him by the Holy Spirit (v. 78-80). These are not things he has come up with himself (v. 75-77).

The priesthood is to have a sanctifying effect and the priests are to perform sacred acts. Their role is to bring about the sanctification of Israel. This is precisely what Alma is saying his calling is. He is called to preach the words of the Holy Spirit to the people (v. 78-82). He is to testify of Christ (v. 82-84), and call the people to repentance (v. 87-91). He is to act as a mediator between the Nephites and the Lord, to sanctify them by getting them to repent.

V92-106

The final call to repentance (v. 92-97) and summoning of the righteous out from among the wicked (v. 98-106).

Those who persist in pride, materialism (v. 92-93), persecution (v. 94-95), and selfishness (v. 96) will be cast off to a spiritual death unless they repent (v. 97).

Those who are humble followers of Christ, and those who are willing to repent are told to separate themselves from the wicked. The wicked will have their names blotted out of the rolls of the church (v. 97-98) while the righteous will have their names entered into the Lord's Book of Life (v. 100-102).

The Lord will do this because He will not permit his faithful followers to be harmed. He would rather destroy those that seek to harm his people, than see his faithful followers harmed by them (v. 103-106).

V107-108

Alma concludes his remarks with an authority statement. Being the high priest he speaks by way of commandment, and he commands the members of the church to repent. Those who aren't members of the church are invited to join by baptism that they may enjoy spiritual blessings.