

AMMON GLORIES IN THE LORD

Alma 26

And now, these are the words of Ammon to his brethren, which say thus:

- AA A₁ My brothers and my brethren, behold I say unto you, how great reason have we to rejoice; for could we have supposed when we started from the land of Zarahemla that God would have granted unto us such great blessings? 2
 And now, I ask,
 what great blessings
 has he bestowed upon us? Can ye tell? 3
- A₂ Behold, I answer for you; for our brethren, the Lamanites,
- A₃ were in darkness, yea, even in the darkest abyss, but behold, how many of them are brought to behold the marvelous light of God!
- B And this is the blessing which hath been bestowed upon us, that we have been made instruments in the hands of God to bring about this great work. 4
- C Behold, thousands of them do rejoice, and have been brought into the fold of God. 5
 Behold, the field was ripe, and blessed are ye, for ye did thrust in the sickle, and did reap with your might, yea, all the day long did ye labor;
 and behold the number of your sheaves!
- D₁ And they shall be gathered into the garners,
- D₂ that they are not wasted. 6
 Yea, they shall not be beaten down by the storm
 at the last day;
 yea, neither shall they be harrowed up by the whirlwinds;
- E but when the storm cometh
- D₁ they shall be gathered together in their place,
- D₂ that the storm cannot penetrate to them;
 yea, neither shall they be driven with fierce winds whithersoever the enemy listeth
 to carry them. 7
- C But behold, they are in the hands of the Lord of the harvest, and they are his; and he will raise them up at the last day. 8
- B Blessed be the name of our God;
 let us sing
 to his praise,
 yea, let us give thanks
 to his holy name,
 for he doth work righteousness forever. 9
- A₁ For if we had not come up out of the land of Zarahemla,
- A₂ these our dearly beloved brethren, who have so dearly beloved us,
- A₃ would still have been racked with hatred against us,
 yea, and they would also have been strangers to God. 10
- BB And it came to pass that when Ammon had said these words, his brother Aaron rebuked him, saying: Ammon, I fear that thy joy doth carry thee away unto boasting. 11 But Ammon said unto him:

- CC A I do not boast in my own strength,
nor in my own wisdom;
but behold, my joy is full,
yea, my heart is brim with joy,
and I will rejoice in my God. 12
Yea, I know that I am nothing; as to my strength I am weak; therefore I will not boast
of myself,
but I will boast of my God,
for in his strength I can do all things; yea, behold, many mighty miracles we have
wrought in this land,
- B for which we will praise his name forever. 13
- DD₁ C Behold, how many thousands of our brethren has he loosed from the pains of hell; and they
are brought to sing redeeming love,
D and this because of the power of his word which is in us,
E therefore have we not great reason to rejoice? 14
- DD₂ B Yea, we have reason to praise him forever, for he is the Most High God,
C and has loosed our brethren from the chains of hell. 15
F Yea, they were encircled about with everlasting darkness and destruction;
G but behold, he has brought them
into his everlasting light,
yea, into everlasting salvation;
F and they are encircled about with the matchless bounty of his love;
- EE D yea, and we have been instruments in his hands of doing this great and marvelous
work. 16
E Therefore, let us glory,
yea, we will glory in the Lord;
yea, we will rejoice,
for our joy is full;
B yea, we will praise our God forever.
- A Behold, who can glory too much in the Lord?
Yea, who can say too much of
his great power, and of
his mercy, and of
his long-suffering towards the children of men?
Behold, I say unto you, I cannot say the smallest part which I feel.[1] 17
- FF A Who could have supposed that our God would have been so merciful as to have snatched us from our
awful, sinful, and polluted state? 18 Behold, we went forth even in wrath, with mighty threatenings to
destroy his church. 19
B Oh then, why did he not consign us to an awful destruction, yea, why did he not let the sword of
his justice fall upon us, and doom us to eternal despair? 20
C Oh, my soul, almost as it were, fleeth at the thought.
B Behold, he did not exercise his justice upon us,
A but in his great mercy hath brought us over that everlasting gulf of death and misery, even to the
salvation of our souls. 21

- EE A And now behold, my brethren, what natural man is there
that knoweth these things?
I say unto you, there is none
that knoweth these things,
save it be the penitent. 22
- A Yea, he that
repenteth and
exerciseth faith, and
bringeth forth good works, and
prayeth continually without ceasing--
- B unto such it is given to know the mysteries of God;
- B yea, unto such it shall be given to reveal things which never have been revealed;
- C yea, and it shall be given unto such to bring thousands of souls to repentance,
- C even as it has been given unto us to bring these our brethren to repentance. 23
- D Now do ye remember, my brethren, that we said unto our brethren in the land of
Zarahemla, we go up to the land of Nephi, to preach unto our brethren, the Lamanites,
and they laughed us to scorn? 24
- D For they said unto us:
Do ye suppose that ye can bring the Lamanites
to the knowledge of the truth?
Do ye suppose that ye can convince the Lamanites
of the incorrectness of the traditions of their fathers,
as stiffnecked a people as they are;
whose hearts delight in the shedding of blood;
whose days have been spent in the grossest iniquity;
whose ways have been the ways of a transgressor from the beginning?
Now my brethren, ye remember that this was their language. 25
- E₁ And moreover they did say: Let us take up arms against them, that we destroy
them and their iniquity out of the land,
- E₂ lest they overrun us and destroy us. 26
- E₁ But behold, my beloved brethren, we came into the wilderness not with the intent
to destroy our brethren,
- E₂ but with the intent that perhaps we might save some few of their souls. 27
- F Now when our hearts were depressed, and we were about to turn back,
behold, the Lord comforted us, and said:
- a Go amongst thy brethren, the Lamanites,
- b and bear with patience thine afflictions,
- c and I will give unto you success. 28
- a And now behold, we have come, and been forth amongst them;
- b i and we have been patient in our sufferings, and we
have suffered every privation;

- BB B even unto boasting in my God;
- C for he has
 all power,
 all wisdom, and
 all understanding;
 he comprehendeth all things, and
 he is a merciful Being, even unto salvation, to those who will repent and believe on his
 name. 36
- B Now if this is boasting, even so will I boast;
- AA A for this is
 my life and
 my light,
 my joy and
 my salvation, and
 my redemption from everlasting wo.
- B Yea, blessed is the name of my God,
 who has been mindful of this people,
 who are a branch of the tree of Israel, and has been lost from its body in a strange land;
 yea, I say, blessed be the name of my God,
 who has been mindful of us,
 wanderers in a strange land. 37
 Now my brethren, we see that God
 is mindful of every people,
 whatsoever land they may be in; yea, he numbereth his people,
 and his bowels of mercy are over all the earth.
- A Now this is
 my joy, and
 my great thanksgiving;
 yea, and I will give thanks unto my God forever. Amen.

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1. Verses 11-16 possess an irregular parallel form, with each element appearing twice except the **B**s, concerning praise, of which there are three, and the **G**, the turning point.