

MORONI TO THE READER

Mormon 8-9

Behold I, Moroni, do finish the record of my father, Mormon. Behold, I have but few things to write, which things I have been commanded by my father. 2

A And now it came to pass that after the great and tremendous battle at Cumorah,

B behold, the Nephites who had escaped into the country southward

C were hunted

D by the Lamanites,

E until they were all destroyed. 3

F And my father also was killed by them,

G and I even remain alone

H to write the sad tale of the destruction of my people. But behold, they are gone,

I and I fulfil the commandment of my father.

J And whether they will slay me, I know not. 4

K Therefore I will write and hide up the records in the earth;

J and whither I go it mattereth not. 5

I Behold, my father hath made this record, and he hath written the intent thereof.

H And behold, I would write it also if I had room upon the plates, but I have not; and ore I have none,

G for I am alone.

F My father hath been slain in battle,

E and all my kinsfolk, and I have not friends nor whither to go; and how long the Lord will suffer that I may live I know not. 6 Behold, four hundred years have passed away since the coming of our Lord and Savior. 7

D And behold, the Lamanites

C have hunted

B my people, the Nephites, down from city to city and from place to place,

A even until they are no more; and great has been their fall; yea, great and marvelous is the destruction of my people, the Nephites. 8 And behold, it is the hand of the Lord which hath done it.

And behold also, the Lamanites are at war one with another; and the whole face of this land is one continual round of murder and bloodshed; and no one knoweth the end of the war. 9 And now, behold, I say no more concerning them, for there are none save it be the Lamanites and robbers that do exist upon the face of the land. 10

And there are none that do know the true God save it be the disciples of Jesus, who did tarry in the land until the wickedness of the people was so great that the Lord would not suffer them to remain with the people; and whether they be upon the face of the land no man knoweth. 11 But behold, my father and I have seen them, and they have ministered unto us. 12

A And whoso receiveth this record, and shall not condemn it

B because of the imperfections which are in it,

C the same shall know of greater things than these.

D Behold, I am Moroni;
and were it possible, I would make all things known unto you. 13 Behold, I make
an end of speaking concerning this people.

I am the son of Mormon,

and my father was a descendant of Nephi. 14

And I am the same who hideth up this record unto the Lord;

the plates thereof are of no worth, because of the commandment of the Lord. For
he truly saith that no one shall have them to get gain; but the record thereof is of
great worth;

E and whoso shall bring it to light,

F him

G will the Lord bless. 15

H For none can have power to bring it to light save it be given him
of God; for God wills that it shall be done with an eye single to
his glory, or the welfare of the ancient and long dispersed
covenant people of the Lord. 16

G And blessed be

F he

E that shall bring this thing to light;

D for it shall be brought out of darkness
unto light,
according to the word of God; yea, it shall be brought out of the earth,
and it shall shine forth
out of darkness,

C and come unto the knowledge of the people; and it shall be done by the power of God. 17

B And if there be faults they be the faults of a man. But behold, we know no fault; nevertheless God
knoweth all things;

A a therefore, he that condemneth, let him be aware

b lest he shall be in danger of hell fire. 18

c₁ And he that saith: Show unto me, or ye shall be smitten--

c₂ let him beware lest he commandeth that which is forbidden of the Lord. 19 For
behold, the same that judgeth rashly shall be judged rashly again;

c₃ for according to his works shall his wages be;

c₁ therefore, he that smiteth shall be smitten again, of the Lord. 20 Behold what the scripture says--man shall not smite,

c₂ neither shall he judge; for judgment is mine, saith the Lord, and vengeance is mine also, and I will repay. 21

c₃ And he that shall breathe out wrath and strifes
 against the work of the Lord,
 and against the covenant people of the Lord who are the house of
 Israel,
 and shall say: We will destroy
 the work of the Lord,
 and the Lord will not remember his covenant which he hath made
 unto the house of Israel--

b the same is in danger to be hewn down and cast into the fire; 22

a For the eternal purposes of the Lord shall roll on, until all his promises shall be fulfilled. 23

A Search the prophecies of Isaiah. Behold, I cannot write them.

B Yea, behold I say unto you, that those saints who have gone before me, who have possessed this land,

C shall cry,

D yea, even from the dust will they cry unto the Lord;

E and as the Lord liveth he will remember the covenant which he hath made with them. 24

F And he knoweth their prayers, that they were in behalf of their brethren.

G And he knoweth their faith,
 for in his name
 could they remove mountains;
 and in his name
 could they cause the earth to shake;

G and by the power of his word
 did they cause prisons to tumble to the earth;
 yea, even the fiery furnace could not harm them,
 neither wild beasts
 nor poisonous serpents,
 because of the power of his word. 25

F And behold, their prayers were also in behalf of him that the Lord should suffer to bring these things forth. 26

E And no one need say they shall not come, for they surely shall, for the Lord hath spoken it;

D for out of the earth shall they come, by the hand of the Lord, and none can stay it; and it shall come in a day when it shall be said that miracles are done away;

C and it shall come even as if one should speak

B from the dead. 27

- A And it shall come in a day when
the blood of saints shall cry unto the Lord, because of secret combinations and the works of
darkness. 28
- Yea, it shall come in a day when
the power of God shall be denied, and churches become defiled and be lifted up in the pride of their
hearts;
- yea, even in a day when
leaders of churches and teachers shall rise in the pride of their hearts, even to the envying of them
who belong to their churches. 29
- Yea, it shall come in a day when
there shall be heard of
fires, and
tempests, and
vapors of smoke
in foreign lands; 30
- And there shall also be heard of
wars,
rumors of wars, and
earthquakes
in divers places. 31
- Yea, it shall come in a day when
there shall be
great pollutions upon the face of the earth;
there shall be
murders, and
robbing, and
lying, and
deceivings, and
whoredoms, and
all manner of abominations;
when there shall be
many who will say, Do this, or do that, and it mattereth not, for the Lord will uphold such at
the last day.
But wo unto such for they are in the gall of bitterness and in the bonds of iniquity. 32
- Yea, it shall come in a day when
there shall be churches built up that shall say: Come unto me, and for your money you shall be
forgiven of your sins. 33
- O ye wicked and perverse and stiffnecked people,
why have ye built up churches unto yourselves to get gain?
Why have ye transfigured the holy word of God,
that ye might bring damnation upon your souls?
- Behold, look ye unto the revelations of God;
for behold, the time cometh at that day when all these things must be fulfilled. 34
- Behold, the Lord hath shown unto me great and marvelous things concerning that which must
shortly come,
at that day when these things shall come forth among you. 35
- Behold, I speak unto you as if ye were present, and yet ye are not. But behold, Jesus Christ hath
shown you unto me, and I know your doing. 36
- And I know that ye do walk in the pride of your hearts; and there are none save a few only
who do not lift themselves up in the pride of their hearts,
unto the
wearing of very fine apparel, unto
envying, and
strifes, and
malice, and
persecutions, and
all manner of iniquities;
and your churches, yea, even every one, have become polluted because of the pride of your
hearts. 37

For behold, ye do love
 money, and
 your substance, and
 your fine apparel, and
 the adorning of your churches,
 more than ye love
 the poor and
 the needy,
 the sick and
 the afflicted. 38

O ye pollutions, ye hypocrites, ye teachers, who sell yourselves for that which will canker,
 why have ye polluted the holy church of God?

Why are ye ashamed to take upon you the name of Christ?

Why do ye not think that

greater is the value of an endless happiness than that misery which never dies--because of the
 praise of the world? 39

Why do ye adorn yourselves with that which hath no life,
 and yet suffer

the hungry, and
 the needy, and
 the naked, and
 the sick and
 the afflicted

to pass by you, and notice them not? 40 Yea,

why do ye build up your secret abominations to get gain,

and cause that widows should mourn before the Lord,

and also orphans to mourn before the Lord,

and also the blood of their fathers and their husbands to cry unto the Lord from the ground,

for vengeance upon your heads? 41

Behold, the sword of vengeance hangeth over you; and the time soon cometh that he avengeth
 the blood of the saints upon you,

for he will not suffer their cries any longer. 9:1

A And now, I speak also concerning those who do not believe in Christ. 2 Behold, will ye believe

B in the day of your visitation--behold, when the Lord shall come, yea,

C even that great day

D when the earth shall be rolled together as a scroll,

D and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, yea,

C in that great day

B when ye shall be brought to stand before the Lamb of God--

A then will ye say that there is no God? 3

Then will ye longer deny the Christ, or
 can ye behold the Lamb of God?

B Do ye suppose that ye shall dwell with him
 under a consciousness of your guilt?

Do ye suppose that ye could be happy to dwell with that holy Being,

when your souls are racked with a consciousness of guilt that ye have ever abused his laws? 4

Behold, I say unto you that ye would be more miserable to dwell

C with a holy and just God,

D under a consciousness of your filthiness before him,

E than ye would to dwell with the damned souls in hell. 5

D For behold, when ye shall be brought to see your nakedness before God, and also

C the glory of God, and the holiness of Jesus Christ,

B it will kindle a flame of unquenchable fire upon you. 6

AA A O then ye unbelieving,
 turn ye unto the Lord;
 cry mightily unto the Father in the name of Jesus,
 that perhaps ye may be found
 spotless,
 pure,
 fair, and
 white,
 having been cleansed by the blood of the Lamb, at that great and last day. 7

BB A And again I speak unto you who
 deny
 the revelations of God, and
 say
 that they are
 done away,
 that there are
 no revelations,
 nor prophecies,
 nor gifts,
 nor healing,
 nor speaking with tongues,
 and the interpretation of tongues; 8

A Behold I say unto you,
 he that denieth these things
 knoweth not the gospel of Christ; yea,
 he has not read the scriptures; if so,
 he does not understand them. 9

CC For do we not read that God is the same
 yesterday,
 today, and
 forever, and
 in him there is no variableness neither shadow of changing? 10

B And now if ye have imagined up unto yourselves
 a god who doth vary,
 and in whom there is shadow of changing,

B then have ye imagined up unto yourselves
 a god who is not God of miracles. 11

C But behold, I will show unto you a God of miracles, even
 the God of Abraham, and
 the God of Isaac, and
 the God of Jacob; and

DD D it is that same God who created
 the heavens and
 the earth, and
 all things that in them are. 12

D Behold he created

E Adam, and

E by Adam came

F the fall of man. And
 F because of the fall of man came
 G Jesus Christ, even the Father and the Son; and
 G because of Jesus Christ came
 H the redemption of man. 13
 H And because of the redemption of man, which came by Jesus Christ,
 I they are brought back into the presence of the Lord; yea,
 this is wherein all men are redeemed, because
 the death of Christ bringeth to pass the resurrection,
 which bringeth to pass a
 redemption from an endless sleep,
 from which sleep all men
 shall be awakened by the power of God when the trump shall
 sound; and
 I they shall come forth, both small and great, and
 all shall stand before his bar,
 being redeemed and
 loosed from this eternal band of death,
 which death is a temporal death. 14
 J And then cometh the judgment of the Holy One upon them;
 J and then cometh the time that
 K a he that is filthy
 shall be filthy still; and
 b he that is righteous
 shall be righteous still;
 b he that is happy
 shall be happy still; and
 a he that is unhappy
 shall be unhappy still. 15

CC And now, O all ye that have imagined up unto yourselves
 a god who can do no miracles,
 I would ask of you,
 have all these things passed, of which I have spoken?
 Has the end come yet? Behold
 I say unto you, Nay;
 and God has not ceased to be a God of miracles. 16
 Behold, are not the things that
 God hath
 wrought
 marvelous
 in our eyes? Yea, and who can comprehend the
 marvelous
 works of
 God? 17
 Who shall say that it was not a miracle that
 by his word the heaven and the earth should be; and
 by the power of his word man was created of the dust of the earth; and
 by the power of his word have miracles been wrought? 18
 And who shall say that Jesus Christ did not many mighty miracles?
 And there were many mighty miracles wrought by the hands of the apostles. 19
 And if there were miracles wrought then, why has God ceased to be a God of miracles
 and yet be an unchangeable Being?
 And behold, I say unto you he changeth not;
 if so he would cease to be God;

and he ceaseth not to be God, and is a God of miracles. 20

And the reason why he ceaseth to do miracles among the children of men is because that they
dwindle in unbelief, and
depart from the right way, and
know not the God in whom they should trust. 21

BB Behold, I say unto you that whoso believeth in Christ, doubting nothing, whatsoever he shall ask the Father
in the name of Christ it shall be granted him; and this promise is unto all, even unto the ends of the earth. 22

For behold, thus said Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
unto his disciples who should tarry,
yea, and also to all his disciples, in the hearing of the multitude:
Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature; 23

And he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved,
but he that believeth not shall be damned; 24

And these signs shall follow them that believe--
in my name shall they cast out devils;
they shall speak with new tongues;
they shall take up serpents;
and if they drink any deadly thing it shall not hurt them;
they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover; 25

And whosoever shall believe in my name, doubting nothing, unto him will I confirm all my words, even unto
the ends of the earth. 26

And now, behold,
who can stand against the works of the Lord?
Who can deny his sayings?
Who will rise up against the almighty power of the Lord?
Who will despise the works of the Lord?
Who will despise the children of Christ?

Behold, all ye who are despisers of the works of the Lord,
for ye shall wonder and perish. 27

AA O then despise not,
and wonder not, but

- hearken unto the words of the Lord,
- and ask the Father in the name of Jesus
for what things soever ye shall stand in need.
- Doubt not, but be believing,
- and begin as in times of old,
and come unto the Lord with all your heart, and work out your own salvation with fear and
trembling before him. 28
- Be wise in the days of your probation;
- strip yourselves of all uncleanness;
- ask not, that ye may consume it on your lusts,
but ask with a firmness unshaken,
that ye will yield to no temptation,
but that ye will serve the true and living God. 29
- See that ye are not baptized unworthily;
- see that ye partake not of the sacrament of Christ unworthily;
- but see that ye do all things in worthiness,
and do it in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God;
and if ye do this, and endure to the end, ye will in nowise be cast out. 30

Behold, I speak unto you as though I spake from the dead; for I know that ye shall have my words. 31

Condemn me not because of mine imperfection,
neither my father, because of his imperfection,
neither them who have written before him;

but rather give thanks unto God that he hath made manifest unto you our imperfections, that ye may learn to be more wise than we have been. 32

And now, behold, we have written this record according to our knowledge, in the characters which are called among us the reformed Egyptian, being handed down and altered by us, according to our manner of speech. 33 And if our plates had been sufficiently large we should have written in Hebrew; but the Hebrew hath been altered by us also; and if we could have written in Hebrew, behold, ye would have had no imperfection in our record. 34 But the Lord knoweth the things which we have written, and also that none other people knoweth our language; and because that none other people knoweth our language, therefore he hath prepared means for the interpretation thereof. 35

And these things are written that we may rid our garments of the blood of our brethren, who have dwindled in unbelief. 36

And behold, these things which we have desired concerning our brethren,

A yea, even their restoration to the knowledge of Christ,

B are according to the prayers of all the saints who have dwelt in the land. 37

B And may the Lord Jesus Christ grant that their prayers may be answered according to their faith;

A and may God the Father

remember the covenant which he hath made with the house of Israel;
and may he

bless them forever, through faith on the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.