

Mosiah 25

In **Mosiah 25:5–11**, Mosiah “caused” the scriptures to be read to the people. The following list shows the effects that the scriptures had on the people:

1. They were “struck with wonder and amazement” ([verse 7](#)).
2. They “were filled with exceedingly great joy” ([verse 8](#)).
3. They felt “sorrow” for the deaths of so many ([verse 9](#)).
4. They recognized the “goodness of God” ([verse 10](#)).
5. They felt the need to “give thanks to God” ([verse 10](#)).
6. The sins of others “filled [them] with pain and anguish” ([verse 11](#)).

Vs 12 – Conduct of their fathers

In the past twenty years, as homes and families have struggled to stay intact, sociological studies reveal this alarming fact: much of the crime and many of the behavioral disorders in the United States come from homes where the father has abandoned the children. In many societies the world over, child poverty, crime, drug abuse, and family decay can be traced to conditions where the father gives no male nurturing.... We need to honor the position of the father as the primary provider for physical and spiritual support. I state this with no reluctance because the Lord has revealed that this obligation is placed upon husbands. (D&C 83:2, D&C 83:4, D&C 84:99, D&C 29:48.). No one would doubt that a mother’s influence is paramount.... Fathers seem best equipped to prepare children to function in the environment outside the family. One authority states: “Studies show that fathers have a special role to play in building a child’s self-respect. They are important, too, in ways we really don’t understand, in developing internal limits and controls in children.” He continues, “Research also shows that fathers are critical in establishment of gender in children. Interestingly, fatherly involvement produces stronger sexual identity and character in both boys and girls. It is well established that the masculinity of sons and the femininity of daughters are each greater when fathers are active in family life.” (Karl Zinsmeister, “Do Children Need Fathers?” *Crisis*, Oct. 1992.).... I urge the husbands and fathers of this church to be the kind of a man your wife would not want to be without. (James E. Faust, *Ensign*, May 1993, 35)

“No one wants to bear a name that has been dishonored. Their action typifies that which is to happen in the world to come. Those whose fathers have no place in the kingdom of God will, like links of a chain, be removed, while their righteous seed will unite themselves with those of their progenitors worthy of that honor” (McConkie and Millet, [Doctrinal Commentary](#), 2:289).

Vs 16 “When you look in the dictionary for the most important word, do you know what it is? It could be remember. Because all of you have made covenants—you know what to do and you know how to do it—our greatest need is to remember. That is why everyone goes to sacrament meeting every Sabbath day—to take the sacrament and listen to the priests pray that ‘they may always remember him and keep his commandments which he has given them.’ Remember is the word. Remember is the program” (Kimball, “Circles of Exaltation”).

Vs 19 - Did Alma organize the church in Zarahemla?

The main body of the Nephites, under the second King Mosiah, was still intact in the land of Zarahemla. The reference stating that Alma was the founder of their church has reference only to the refugees who were fleeing from the land of the Nephites' first inheritance. In course of time they found their way back to the main body of the Church and Alma was consecrated as the high priest over the Church in all of the lands occupied by the Nephites. When we have the complete picture before us, it is plain to see that Alma did a great service in rescuing and organizing the refugees who came with him out of the land of Lehi-Nephi. (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Answers to Gospel Questions*, 3: 39)

Vs 21–22 “‘The Church is the same wherever you go!’ I grew up hearing this from returning vacationers and from missionaries reporting their missions. And I understood what they meant. They didn’t mean that the same hymns were sung elsewhere—though they were—or that everyone used the same lesson manuals, or that everyone thought the same. They meant the gospel felt the same wherever they went. This resulted

from the presence of the Holy Spirit, which is the universal way we recognize the things of God” (Hlavaty, “Religion of Moses and the Book of Mormon,” 105).

Church organization, baptism, Holy Ghost among the Nephites

From the Book of Mormon we learn that the ordinance of baptism for the remission of sins was practiced by the Nephites from the beginning. While confirmation is not stated, nevertheless the members were confirmed, for there is an abundance of evidence of the Gift of the Holy Ghost.

If they were baptized and had the gift of the Holy Ghost in the days of Lehi, then they had a church organization, which endured all through the Nephite history, notwithstanding the constant apostasies that occurred among them.

(Joseph Fielding Smith, *Answers to Gospel Questions*, 3: 41.)