



28. Results of the Lamanite Conversions Alma 24–29

"The Anti-Nephi-Lehies Burying Their Weapons of War"

"Yea, we have reason to praise him forever, for he is the Most High God, and has loosed our brethren from the chains of hell. Yea, they were encircled about with everlasting darkness and destruction; but behold, he has brought them into his everlasting light, yea, into everlasting salvation; and they are encircled about with the matchless bounty of his love; yea, and we have been instruments in his hands of doing this great and marvelous work." (Alma 26:14-15)

The Anti-Nephi-Lehies

- "And thousands were brought to the knowledge of the Lord, yea, thousands were brought to believe in the traditions of the Nephites; and they were taught the records and prophecies which were handed down . . . as many as believed, or as many as were brought to the knowledge of the truth, through the preaching of Ammon and his brethren, according to the spirit of revelation and of prophecy, and the power of God working miracles in them--yea, I say unto you, as the Lord liveth, as many of the Lamanites as believed in their preaching, and were converted unto the Lord, never did fall away." (23:5, 6-7)
- "For they became a righteous people; they did lay down the weapons of their rebellion, that they did not fight against God any more, neither against any of their brethren. . . . And it came to pass that they called their names **Anti-Nephi-Lehies**; and they were called by this name and were no more called Lamanites." (23:17)
 - Remember that anti here means "**the instead of Nephites and Lehites**" or "**count them as Nephites and Lehites**" in the sense that the converted Lamanites were counted as if they were Nephites and among the righteous descendants of Lehi

Lamanite Civil War (24:1–30)

- Anti-Nephi-Lehi Becomes King (24:1–19, **abridged historical narrative**)
 - Anti-Nephi-Lehi's Speech (24:20–16, **sermon** or **quoted discourse**)
 - People of God Make a Covenant and Bury Their Weapons of War (24:17–19)
 - “And thus we see that when these Lamanites were brought to believe they were firm . . .” (24:19, **editorial comment**)
- Unbelieving Lamanites Slaughter Their Brethren (24:20–23)
- The Example of the People of God Brings about Further Conversions (24:24–30)
 - Many Lamanites are converted by the pacifism of their brethren
 - Amalekites and Amulonites remain hardened (24:28–30)
 - “And thus we can plainly discern, that after a people have been once enlightened by the Spirit of God, and have had great knowledge of things pertaining to righteousness, and then have fallen away into sin and transgression, they become more hardened, and thus their state becomes worse than though they had never known these things” (24:30, **editorial comment**)

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Lamanite Losses Lead to More Conversions (25:1–17)

- Lamanites Destroy the City of Ammonihah (25:1–2)
 - Lamanites, angry over the massacre of their brethren, invade Zarahemla and destroy the city of the Nehorites in Ammonihah
- Amulonites Slain (25:3–12)
 - Nephites Repel the Lamanites (25:3)
 - Amulonites Burn Many Believers (25:5–7)
 - Fulfillment of the dying prophecy of Abinadi (25:4-12): Amulonites persecute (burn, in fact) Lamanites who convert, leading the Lamanites to rebel against them and hunt them down
 - Lamanites Hunt the Amulonites (25:8–12)
- Many Join the Anti-Nephi-Lehies (25:13–17)

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The Joys of Missionary Work (25:17–26:37)

- Sons of Mosiah Rejoice in Missionary Work (25:17–37)
- Ammon Glories in the Lord (26:1–37, psalm or song of praise)
 - “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.**” (26:11)
 - “Yea, we have reason to praise him forever, for he is the Most High God, and has loosed our brethren from the chains of hell. . . . we have been instruments in his hands of doing this great and marvelous work. Therefore, let us glory, yea, we will glory in the Lord; yea, we will rejoice, for our joy is full; yea, we will praise our God forever. 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.” (26:14-16)
 - “Now my brethren, we see that **God is mindful of every people**, whatsoever land they may be in . . . Now this is my joy . . .” (26:37)

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People of Anti-Nephi-Lehi Join the Nephites (27:1–30)

- Anti-Nephi-Lehites Leave the Lamanites (27:1–15)
- Sons of Mosiah Meet Alma2 (27:16–19)
- Nephites Give the Anti-Nephi-Lehites the Land Jershon (27:20–30)
- Characteristics of the “People of Ammon” (27:27–30)
 - “And they were among the people of Nephi, and also numbered among the people who were of the church of God. And **they were also distinguished for their zeal towards God, and also towards men**; for they were **perfectly honest and upright in all things**; and they were **firm in the faith of Christ, even unto the end.**” (27:27)
 - “**They never did look upon death with any degree of terror, for their hope and views of Christ and the resurrection**; therefore, death was swallowed up to them by the victory of Christ over it. Therefore, they would suffer death in the most aggravating and distressing manner which could be inflicted by their brethren, before they would take the sword or cimeter to smite them.” (27:28-29)

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Lamanite–Nephite War (28:1–14)

- Great battles followed as the Nephites protected the people of Ammon
- Nephites are victorious, but at a great cost: “. . . this was a sorrowful day; yea, a time of solemnity, and a time of much fasting and prayer.” (28:4-6)
 - “. . . many thousands are mourning for the loss of their kindred, because they have reason to fear, according to the promises of the Lord, that **they are consigned to a state of endless wo.**” (28:11)
 - “While many thousands of others truly mourn for the loss of their kindred, yet they rejoice and exult in the hope, and even know, according to the promises of the Lord, that **they are raised to dwell at the right hand of God, in a state of never-ending happiness.**” (28:12)
- “And thus we see how great the inequality of man is because of sin and transgression . . .” (28:13–14, **editorial comment**, next slide)

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The Great Inequality of Men

- The results of sin
 - “**And thus we see** how great the inequality of man is because of sin and transgression, and the power of the devil, which comes by the cunning plans which he hath devised to ensnare the hearts of men.” (28:13)
- Thus the importance of missionary work
 - “**And thus we see** the great call of diligence of men to labor in the vineyards of the Lord; and thus we see the great reason of sorrow, and also of rejoicing—**sorrow because of death and destruction among men**, and **joy because of the light of Christ unto life.**” (28:14)

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The Song of Alma

(29:1–17, psalm or song of praise)

- “O that I were an angel, and could have the wish of mine heart, that I might go forth and speak with the trump of God, with a voice to shake the earth, and cry repentance unto every people! Yea, I would declare unto every soul, as with the voice of thunder, repentance and the plan of redemption, that they should repent and come unto our God, that there might not be more sorrow upon all the face of the earth. But behold, I am a man, and do sin in my wish; for I ought to be content with the things which the Lord hath allotted unto me.” (29:1-3)
- “Why should I desire that I were an angel, that I could speak unto all the ends of the earth? For behold, the Lord doth grant unto all nations, of their own nation and tongue, to teach his word, yea, in wisdom, all that he seeth fit that they should have; therefore we see that the Lord doth counsel in wisdom, according to that which is just and true.” (29:7-8)
- I know that which the Lord hath commanded me, and I glory in it. I do not glory of myself, but I glory in that which the Lord hath commanded me; yea, and this is my glory, that perhaps I may be an instrument in the hands of God to bring some soul to repentance; and this is my joy.” (29:9)
- **Read the rest of Alma 29 and see what Alma says about repentance, deliverance, the captivity of their forefathers, and the great things God has done for his people . . .**