



Type: Book Chapter

1 Nephi Chapter 11

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Chapter 11

{Original 1830 Chapter III – continued}

Nephi Desires to Know the Things of His Father The Lord Makes Things Known (Chapters 11-14)

1 For **it came to pass**

[that] **after** I [Nephi] had **desired** to **KNOW** the **things**
that [he] **my father** had _____ **seen**

aa
[O= that] bb cc

and [I **Nephi**] _____ **believing**
that **the Lord** was able to make them [things]
KNOWN unto **me**

[Wherefore]

[deleted]

as I [Nephi] sat pondering in mine heart

I [Nephi] was caught away in **the Spirit of the Lord**

[Bookend #1:part A]

Yea [I **Nephi** was caught away] **into** *an exceedingly high mountain*
a mountain

[1981]

[^O / deleted in P]

which I [Nephi] **NEVER** had before **seen**
and **upon**

which I [Nephi] **NEVER** had before **set my foot**

[O= sat]

Christ Is the Tree of Life

2 **And** **the Spirit said** _____ unto **me**
Behold What **desirest** **thou** ?

[O= saith] dd
ee

3 **And** I [Nephi] **said** [unto **the Spirit**]
I [Nephi] **desire** to **behold** the **things**
which [he] **my father** _____ **saw**

[O= saith] ff

[Bookend #1:part B]

[See 1 Nephi 14:30]

4 **And** **the Spirit said** _____ unto **me**
Believest thou

[O= saith]

that **thy father** _____ **saw** _____ **The Tree of**
which he [thy father] hath **spoken** ?

{AG}

5 **And** I [Nephi] **said** [unto **the Spirit**]
Yea

[note: "said" = inconsistent usage]

[Par. aa --- Like "paragraph" beginnings "it came to pass"]

[Par. bb – Like line beginnings "I Nephi"]

Par. cc – Irregular circular repetition "things"]

[Par. dd – Like "paragraph" beginnings]

[Par. ee – Questions to make a point]

[Par. ff – Like "paragraph" beginnings"]

[1 Nephi 11]

that **Thou** _____ **KNOWEST**
I [Nephi] **believe** ALL the **words**
of **my father**

6 **And when** I [Nephi] had **spoken** these **words**
the Spirit **cried** with a loud **voice**
saying

Hosanna to **The Lord The MOST High God** {AL}

for **He is God** **Over ALL The Earth**
Yea **[He is God] Even Above ALL** 01

[Note: In the Bible the word "Hosanna" originally appears in the book of Psalms as an appeal for deliverance (Heb. hosianna, Please save Psalm 118:25). The word came into liturgical usage to serve as an expression of joy and praise for deliverance granted or anticipated, and interestingly was only associated with Passover. When Jesus came to Jerusalem for his final presentation of himself to Israel, the expression came readily to the lips of the Passover crowds. Matthew and Mark conclude the people's cries with "Hosanna in the highest" (apparently an echo of Psalm 148:1), which John omits. In Jesus Christ the age-old cry, "Lord, save us," has become the glad doxology, "Hosanna," which equals: "Praise God and his Messiah, we are saved." (biblestudytools.com)]

And **blessed** art **thou** ["God" added in ^P]
because **thou** **believest** in **The Son of The MOST High ^God**

Wherefore **which** **thou** [Nephi] shalt **behold** the **things** gg
thou [Nephi] hast **desired**

7 **And** **behold** this **thing** shall be **given**
unto thee [Nephi] for a **sign**

that **after** **thou** [Nephi] hast **beheld** **The Tree Which Bore the Fruit** 02
Which Thy Father Tasted

thou [Nephi] shalt **also** **behold** **A Man Descending Out of Heaven**

And **Him** shall
ye [Nephi] **witness** 03

and **after** * **ye** [Nephi] have **witnessed** **Him** [*O= that]
ye [Nephi] shall **bear record**
that **it is The Son of _____ God**

[Note: The Lord first addresses Nephi in the singular ("thou") about his seeing the Tree, but then when talking about bearing witness of the experience, the Lord uses the plural ("ye") to include both Nephi and his father Lehi.—see Kevin L. Barney, "Enallage in the Book of Mormon," *Journal of Book of Mormon Studies* 3/1 (Spring 1994): 115-118]

[Heb. 01 – Use of "Above ALL" for comparison]

[Heb. 03 – Enallage "thou / ye"]

[Par. gg – Circular repetition "behold/beheld"]

[Heb. 02 – Metaphorical Symbolism "The Tree"]

8 And **it came to pass**

that **[He] the Spirit said** unto **me** [O= saith]
Look
 And I **[Nephi]** **looked**
 And I **[Nephi]** **beheld** **A Tree** hh
and it was **like** unto **The Tree**
which **my father** had **seen**

and the **beauty** thereof was **far beyond**
yea **exceeding of** {AG}
ALL beauty

and the **whiteness** thereof did **exceed**
 the **whiteness** of the driven snow

9 And **it came to pass**

[that] after* I [Nephi] had **seen** **The Tree** [deleted in 1837]
I [Nephi] **said** unto **the Spirit**

[that] I [Nephi] **behold** [^O / "most" deleted in P]
Thou hast ***shown** unto **me** **The Tree Which Is ^MOST Precious Above ALL**

10 **And** **He [the Spirit] said** unto **me** [O= saith]
 What **desirest** thou ?

11 **And** **I [Nephi]** **said** unto **Him**
[For me] to **KNOW** the interpretation thereof

[A] **for** **I [Nephi]** **spake** unto **Him** **
as a **man** [duality]
speake**th**

[B] **for** **I [Nephi]** **beheld**
that **He** was in the form
 of a **man** [duality]

yet nevertheless

[B] **I [Nephi]** **KNEW**
that it was **the Spirit of the Lord**

[A] **And** **He [the Spirit] spake** unto **me**
as a **man**
speake**th** with another

[Par. hh -- Irregular circular repetition "The Tree"]

[Par. ** -- Simple inverted or chiasmic parallelism]

The Condescension of God the Father
The Son of the Eternal Father Is Born in the Flesh
(Nephi Sees New Testament Times)

12 And **it came to pass**

that **He [the Spirit]** said unto **me**
Look

And I **[Nephi]** **looked**
as if to **look** upon **Him**

ii

and I **[Nephi]** **saw** **Him** NOT

for **He** had gone **from before** **my** presence

04

13 And **it came to pass**

that I **[Nephi]** **looked**

and [I **Nephi**] **beheld** _____ **the GREAT city of Jerusalem** [“of” added]
and [I **Nephi**] also **beheld** **other cities**

And I **[Nephi]** **beheld** **the** _____ **city of Nazareth**
and in the city of Nazareth

I **[Nephi]** **beheld** a **virgin**
and she [the **virgin**] was **exceedingly fair** [1920] 05
and white 06

14 And **it came to pass**

that I **[Nephi]** **saw** the **heavens** open

and an _____ **angel** came down
and stood before **me**

and **he [the angel]** **said** unto **me** [O= saith]

Nephi what **beholdest** thou?

15 **And** I **[Nephi]** **said** unto **Him** [O= saith]

A **virgin** _____ **MOST beautiful** {AG}
and [**MOST**] **fair** **above ALL** other virgins 07

[Par. ii – Many “and”s]

[Heb. 07 – Use of “above ALL” in comparisons]

[Heb. 04 – Compound preposition “from before”]

[Heb. 05 – Use of “exceedingly”]

[Heb. 06 – Symbolism “white” = the most pure]

16 **And** he [the angel] said unto me **KNOWEST** thou **the condescension of God ?** [O= saith] [P= condescention]

17 **And** I [Nephi] **said** unto Him
I [Nephi] **KNOW** that He **[God] loveth His children**

Nevertheless I [Nephi] do NOT **KNOW**
the meaning of ALL things

18 **And** he [the angel] said unto me

Behold the virgin whom thou **seest** is [O= which] jj
the mother of God / ^the Son of God [O / ^1837]
after the manner of the flesh

19 **And** **it came to pass**

that I [Nephi] **beheld**
that she [the virgin] was _____ carried away in the Spirit
and **after*** she [the virgin] had been carried away in the Spirit
for the space of a time

[he]the angel spake unto me
saying

20 **And** I [Nephi] **Look**
looked
and [I Nephi] **beheld** the virgin again
[**and** I Nephi] **beheld** the virgin
bearing a **child** in her arms

21 **And** [he] the angel said unto me

Behold **The Lamb of God** [O / ^1837] 08
Yea even **The Eternal Father / ^The Son of the Eternal Father**

KNOWEST thou
the meaning of **The Tree**
which **thy father saw ?**

22 **And** I [Nephi] **answered** Him
saying

Yea it **[The Tree] is the Love of God**
which **[Tree]** sheddeth itself abroad
in the hearts of the children of men
it **[The Tree] is the MOST Desirable Above ALL Things**

Wherefore

[Par. jj – Circular repetition “virgin”]

[Heb. 08 – Metaphor symbolism “The Lamb of God”]

[1 Nephi 11]

23 **And** he [the angel] spake unto me
saying

Yea and [The Tree is] the MOST Joyous [Thing] to the Soul

[Note: According to Donald Parry (2007:21) verses 16-22 represent an example of *chiastic parallelism*. My basic outline of parallel elements in Parry's structure is as follows:

16	[A]1	<u>he</u>	<u>said unto me</u>	<u>Knowest thou the condescension of God</u>
17		2	<u>I said unto him . . .</u>	<u>he loveth his children</u>
18		[B]	<u>Behold the virgin</u>	
19		[C]	<u>she was</u>	<u>carried away in the Spirit</u>
		[C]	<u>she had been carried away in the Spirit</u>	
20		[B]	<u>beheld the virgin</u>	
21	[A]1	<u>the angel said unto me</u>	<u>Knowest thou the meaning of the tree</u>	
22		2	<u>I answered him . . .</u>	<u>the love of God . . . children of men</u>

The Son of God Confirms God's Covenant Way among Men

24 **And after*** he had said these words [*O= that]
he [the angel] said unto me

		<u>Look</u>		
And	I [<u>Nephi</u>]	<u>looked</u>		
and	I [<u>Nephi</u>]	<u>beheld</u>	<u>The Son of God</u> _____	[deleted in 1830]
			<u>going forth</u>	{AG}
			<u>among the children of men</u>	
and	I [<u>Nephi</u>]	<u>saw</u> MANY		
		<u>fall down</u> at <u>His</u> feet		
	and	<u>worship</u> ___ <u>Him</u>		

25 **And** it came to pass
 that I [Nephi] beheld that the rod of iron
 which [rod of iron]
my father had seen
 was the word of God
 which [word of God] led
 to The Fountain of Living Waters
 >or to The Tree of Life
 which [Living Waters]
 are a representation of the Love of God

[Heb. 09 – Two nouns connected by “of” = adjective]

- and I [Nephi] also beheld that The Tree of Life
was a representation of the Love of God
- The Condescension of God the Son
The Lamb of God Redeems to World*
- 26 And [he] the angel said unto me again
Look [P= condescention]
and behold _____ the condescension of God
- 27 And I [Nephi] looked
and [I Nephi] beheld The Redeemer of the World
of Whom* my father had spoken [O= which]
and I [Nephi] also beheld the prophet who should prepare the way before Him
- And The Lamb of God went forth
and was baptized of him [the prophet]
and after* He [The Lamb of God] was baptized
- I [Nephi] beheld the Heavens [did] open [?]
and The Holy Ghost [did] come down out of heaven
and [The Holy Ghost] [did] abide [P= abide]
upon Him in the form of a dove
- 28 And I [Nephi] beheld
that He [The Lamb of God] went forth
ministering unto the people
in power
and [in] GREAT glory
- and [I Nephi] beheld
[that they] the multitudes were gathered together 10
to hear Him
- and I [Nephi] beheld
that they [the multitudes]
cast Him out from among them 11
- 29 And I [Nephi] also beheld twelve others following Him
- And it came to pass
that they [He and _____ the twelve] were carried away in the Spirit
from before my face 12
that/and I [Nephi] saw them NOT [P/ 1837]

[Heb. 10 – Plurals amplification “multitudes”]

[Heb. 11 – Compound preposition “from before my face”]

[Heb. 12 – Metaphor “face”]

30 And **it came to pass**

that [he] the angel spake unto me again **
saying
Look

And I [Nephi] looked **
and I [Nephi] beheld the Heavens open again

and I [Nephi] saw angels descending upon _____ the children of men
and they [angels] did minister unto them [the children of men]

31 And he [the angel] spake unto me again
saying
Look

And I [Nephi] looked
and I [Nephi] beheld The Lamb of God going forth
among the children of men

And I [Nephi] beheld multitudes of people who were sick [O= which]
and [multitudes of people] who were afflicted
with ALL manner of diseases [O= of]
and with devils
and [with] unclean spirits

and [he] the angel spake [unto me]
and [he the angel] showed ALL these things unto me [O= shewed]

And they [the multitudes of people] were healed
by the power of The Lamb of God

and [by the power of The Lamb of God
the devils
and the unclean spirits
were cast out

32 And **it came to pass**

that [he] the angel spake unto me again
saying

And I [Nephi] looked
looked

[Par. ** -- Like paragraph beginnings "he the angel spake unto me"]

[Par. ** -- Many "and"s]

and [I Nephi] beheld The Lamb of God
 that He [The Lamb of God]
 was taken by the people [O / ^1837]
 yea [He] The Everlasting God / ^The Son of the Everlasting God
 was judged of the world

and I [Nephi] saw
 and [I Nephi] bare/ bear record [edited in 1837]

33 And I Nephi saw
 that He [The Lamb of God] was lifted up
 upon the cross 13
 and [that] [He The Lamb of God] was slain
 for the sins
 of the world

[Note: In this discussion of The Tree of Life, it is worth noting that the cross is a stylized symbol of a tree. In Acts 5:30 we read: "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree." (see also Acts 10:39). Donna Nielsen also writes that anciently the Passover Lamb was roasted while hung in an upright position on pomegranate tree branches lashed together in the shape of the Hebrew letter Tav (+). (Beloved Bridegroom, Finding Christ, p. 116)]

*The Pride of the World (People under Satan's Influence)
 Will Fight Against God's Covenant Plan of Salvation
 All Who Do So Will Be Destroyed*

34 And after [that] He [The Lamb of God] was slain [O= that]
 I [Nephi] saw the multitudes of the earth kk
 that they [the multitudes of the earth] were gathered together
 to fight against the Apostles of The Lamb
 for thus were the Twelve
 called by the angel of the Lord

35 And the multitude of the earth was gathered together [?] 14
 and I [Nephi] beheld
 that they [the multitude of the earth] were in a large
 and spacious building
 like unto the building
 which my father saw

[Heb. 13 – Metaphor symbolism “cross” = “tree”]
 [Par. kk – Circular repetition “multitudes of the earth”]
 [Heb. 14 – Plurals changed to singular “multitude”]

[1 Nephi 11]

And [he] the angel of the Lord spake unto me again
saying

Behold the world
and the wisdom thereof

yea behold the house of Israel
hath gathered together
[with the world]
to fight against the Twelve Apostles of The Lamb

36 And it came to pass

that I [Nephi] saw
and [I Nephi] bare/ bear record [edited in 1837]

that the GREAT and spacious building
was the pride
of the world

^and it [the GREAT and spacious building]
fell [O* / ^Ooc "and it fell" added]

and the fall thereof was exceedingly GREAT [1981] 15

And [he] the angel of the Lord spake unto me again
saying *

Thus shall be the destruction LL

of ALL nations
[of ALL] kindreds {AG}
[of ALL] tongues
and [of ALL] people

that shall fight against the Twelve Apostles of The Lamb

[Note* In this chapter I have highlighted a number of ways in which direct speech is introduced. The phrase "the Spirit said unto me" or "the angel spake unto me" is repeated about 20 times. The phrase "I Nephi said unto him" or something similar is repeated about 8 times. The word "saying" as in "spake/saying" appears about 9 times. According to David E. Bokovoy and John A. Tvedtnes, the word "saying" appears over 200 times in the text of the Book of Mormon as an introduction to direct speech. This parallels its use in the biblical Hebrew of the Old Testament. (David E. Bokovoy and John A. Tvedtnes, Testaments: Links between the Book of Mormon and the Hebrew Bible, 2003, p. 226-229)]

[Heb. 15 – Prophetic perfect tense "was"]

[Par. LL – Distribution list]