1 Nephi Chapter 19

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Source: *Step by Step Through the Book of Mormon, Volume 1: Through the Wilderness to the Promised Land*
Published: Springville, UT; Book of Mormon Central/Cedar Fort, Inc., 2017
Pages: 169-178

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Chapter 19

God Commands the Keeping of a Record
Nephi Makes the Large Plates

1 And it came to pass that the Lord commanded me

Wherefore

[A] I [Nephi] did make plates of ore

that [B] I [Nephi] might engraven upon them

[C] the record of my people

And [A] upon the large plates which I [Nephi] made

[B] I [Nephi] did engraven

[C1] the record of my father

[C2] the genealogy of his forefathers / fathers

[C3] the MORE part of ALL our proceedings in the wilderness

and also [C4] MANY of mine own prophecies

[B] have I [Nephi] engraved

[A] upon them the large plates

2 And I [Nephi] knew NOT at that time when

I [Nephi] made them the large plates

that I [Nephi] should be commanded of [by] the Lord to make these [small] plates

Wherefore

[C1] the record of my father

and [C5] the genealogy of his forefathers / fathers

and [C2,3,4] the MORE part of ALL our proceedings in the wilderness

are engraved

[A] upon those [first plates] of which [plates]

I [Nephi] have spoken

[Par. aa -- Extended alternating parallelism] [Heb. 01 -- The passive use of “of” but meaning “by”]
[Par. bb -- Complex chiastic parallelism]
[1 Nephi 19]

[Note: I find the repetitive use of the term “engraven” in the verses above with regard to the covenant record very suggestive of 1 Ne. 21:16, a quotation from Isaiah 49:16 regarding the Lord’s covenant with the House of Israel wherein Christ proclaims His own covenant record: “Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands.”]

Wherefore the things [A,B,C] which transpired before [that] I [Nephi] made these [small] plates are of a truth MORE particularly made mention upon the first [or large] plates deleted in 1837

3 And after [that] I [Nephi] had made these [large] plates by way of commandment I Nephi received a commandment that the ministry and the prophecies the MORE plain and [the MORE] precious parts of them {covenants and Christ} AG should be written upon these [small] plates and that the things which were written [upon these small plates] should be kept for the instruction of My people {covenant people} who should possess the [Promised] land [HttpException: Variable 'i' was never initialized] and also should be kept for other wise purposes {covenant related} which purposes are known unto the Lord

4 Wherefore I Nephi did make a record upon the other [large] plates which [record] gives an account of the wars and [of the] contentions and [of the] destructions of My people

And this have I [Nephi] done after [that] I [Nephi] was gone [HttpException: Variable 'i' was never initialized] and [this have I Nephi commanded] that these plates

[Par. cc -- Clarification]
should be handed down from one generation to another [covenant related]

>or from one prophet to another until further commandments of the Lord

And an account of My making these [small] plates shall be given hereafter and then behold

I [Nephi] proceed [to make My account on the small plates] according to that which I [Nephi] have spoken

and this I [Nephi] do that the MORE sacred things may be kept for the knowledge of My people

6 Nevertheless I [Nephi] do NOT write ANY thing upon ______ plates SAVE it be [AG]

that I [Nephi] think it be sacred

And now if I [Nephi] do err [error] [AL]

then even did they err of old

NOT that I [Nephi] would excuse My self

because of other men

BUT because of the weakness which is in me according to the flesh

I [Nephi] would excuse My self

[Note: Here Nephi is NOT just judging his work on men's standards, but on the standards of God, for it is Christ that is the real author of the scriptures, and it is Christ that will make up the difference between God and the works of man in a covenant relationship.—see CES Book of Mormon Student Manual: Religion 121-122: 1981:51-52.]

7 For the things which some men esteem to be of GREAT worth both to the body and [to the] soul others set at naught and trample under their feet
Yea even [He] The Very God of Israel do men trample under their feet
I [Nephi] say “trample under their feet”
>but I [Nephi] would speak in other words—

They [men] set Him at naught
and they men hearken NOT to the voice of His counsels
[the counsels of]

[The Very God of Israel]

[Note: Nephi now quotes various prophets from the plates of brass concerning the Covenant Plan of Salvation—
the coming of the Messiah and the fate of the House of Israel (more specifically for Nephi, the tribe of Joseph — Ephraim & Manasseh).]

The God of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob (Israel)--Will Come
People Will Reject The God of Nature and Crucify Him

8 And behold He [the Very God of Israel] cometh
according to the words of the angel

in six hundred years from the time My father left Jerusalem

9 And the world because of their iniquity
shall judge Him to be a thing of naught

Wherefore they scourge Him and He suffereth it
they smite Him and He suffereth it
yea they spit upon Him and He suffereth it

because of His loving kindness
and [because of] His long---suffering towards the children of men

10 And [He] the God of Our Fathers
[our fathers] who were led out of Egypt
[our fathers] who were led out of bondage
and also [our fathers] who were preserved in the wilderness

by Him [the God of Our Fathers]
Yea the God of Abraham
and [the God] of Isaac
and the God of Jacob [Israel]
yieldeth Himself up

[Par. dd -- Clarification]
[Par. ff -- Synonymous titles of Deity]
[Par. ee -- Repeated alternating parallelism]
according to the words of the angel

as a man

in-to the hands of wicked men

to be lifted up

according to the words of Zenoc

and to be crucified

according to the words of Neum

and to be buried in a sepulchre

according to the words of Zenos

which [words]he [Zenos] spoke

concerning the three days of darkness

which [three days of darkness] should be a sign given of His death

unto those who should inhabit the isles of the sea

[Quotations] hh

unto those who are [P= them which] of the house of Israel

For thus

The Lord God surely shall visit ALL [of] the house of Israel at that day

[The Lord God surely shall visit] SOME [of] the house of Israel

with His voice because of their righteousness unto their GREAT joy and [their] salvation

and [The Lord God surely shall visit] OTHERS [of] the house of Israel

with the thunderings

and [with] the lightnings of His power

by tempest

by fire

by smoke

by vapor of darkness

by the opening of the earth

by mountains which shall be carried up

[see Psalm 46:2, 3]

And ALL these things

MUST

surely come saith the prophet Zenos
And the rocks of the earth MUST rend and because of the groanings of the earth

MANY of the kings of the isles of the sea shall be wrought upon [covenant language] by The Spirit of God to exclaim The God of Nature suffers

Israel Was Scattered for Turning Away from the Lord

And as for those who are ______________ at Jerusalem [P = they which] saith the prophet

they shall be scourged by ALL people [L]
saith the prophet [^O / deleted in 1837]

because they crucify the God of Israel
and because they turn their hearts aside [from the God of Israel]

rej ection [the] signs
and [rejecting] [the] wonders
and [rejecting] the power
and [rejecting] [the] glory of the God of Israel

[Note: All the above terms were part of the crucifixion and atonement of Christ at Jerusalem. There He was scourged. He was crucified. His heart was pierced by a sword. There were signs – darkness, earthquake, the veil of the temple was rent. There were wonders – the dead arose and appeared to many. By the power of God, Christ (the God of Israel) arose from the tomb and was given great glory.]

And because they ______________ *turn their hearts aside [P = turned] [from the Holy One of Israel] saith the prophet

and [because they] ______________ have despised the Holy One of Israel

they shall wander in the flesh
and [they shall] perish
and [they shall] become a hiss [an expression of scorn]
and a byword [a notorious example]
and [they shall] be hated among ALL nations

[Par. LL -- Working out]
[1 Nephi 19]

[Note: According to Donald Parry (1992: 39), the preceding verses (13-14) can be arranged in a chiastic framework. The chiastic outline is as follows:

13 . . .
[A] they shall be scourged by all people
[B] because they crucify the God of Israel,
[C] and [because they] turn their hearts aside,
[D] rejecting signs and wonders, and
[D] rejecting the power and glory of the God of Israel.

14 [C] And because they turn their hearts aside, saith the prophet, and
[B] [because they] have despised the Holy One of Israel,
[A] they shall wander in the flesh, and perish, and become a hiss and a byword, and be hated among all nations.

___________

Israel Will Be Gathered When They Accept Christ

15 Nevertheless when that day cometh saith the prophet that day when they NO more turn aside their hearts against the Holy One of Israel then will He [the Holy One of Israel] remember the covenants which He [the Holy One of Israel] made to their fathers

16 Yea then will He [the Holy One of Israel] remember the isles of the sea [duality]

yea and ALL the people who are of the house of Israel [v= which] will I [the Lord] gather in saith the Lord according to the words of the prophet Zenos [I the Lord will gather them in] from the four quarters of the earth

17 Yea and ALL the earth shall see the Salvation of the Lord saith the prophet Zenos

EVERY nation [mm]
and [EVERY] kindred

[Par. mm -- Working out ]
Like the Prophets of Old Who Were Shown All Things

Nephi Writes to His People & All the House of Israel

They Must Know of Us and We of Them

18 And I [Nephi] have written these things unto My people that perhaps I [Nephi] might persuade them that they would remember the Lord Their Redeemer

19 Wherefore I [Nephi] speak unto ALL the house of Israel if it so be that they should obtain these things

20 For behold I [Nephi] have workings in the spirit which doth weary me even that ALL my joints are weak for those who are at Jerusalem had not the Lord been merciful to shew unto me concerning them even as He [the Lord] had been merciful to show them at Jerusalem unto the prophets of old I [Nephi] should have perished also

21 For / And He [the Lord] surely did show unto the prophets of old ALL things concerning them and also He [the Lord] did show unto MANY [ALL things] concerning us

Wherefore it MUST needs be that we KNOW the things concerning them for they are written upon the plates of brass

{Original 1830 Chapter Break—end of Chapter V}
22 Now it came to pass that I Nephi did teach my brethren these things.

And it came to pass that I Nephi did read many things to them which were engraven upon the plates of brass that they might know concerning the doings of the Lord in other lands among other people of old.

Nephi Likens Isaiah's Words to His People
Liken the Scriptures unto Yourselves
That Ye May Learn and Have Hope

23 And I Nephi did read many things unto them which were written in the books of Moses.

But that I Nephi might more fully persuade them to believe in the Lord Their Redeemer

Wherefore I Nephi did read unto them that which was written by the prophet Isaiah.

for I Nephi did liken all scriptures unto us that it all scriptures might be for our profit and our learning.

[Heb. ** -- Plurals?]
Wherefore I spake unto them [my brethren] saying

Hear ye the words of the prophet [Isaiah]
ye who are a remnant of the house of Israel [θ= which]
a branch of the house of Israel

Hear ye the words of the prophet [Isaiah]
which words were written unto ALL the house of Israel [θ= was] (AG)

and liken them*

[the words of __________ Isaiah] unto yourselves

that ye may _______ have hope

as well as your brethren [might have hope]

from whom ye have been broken off

for after this manner [of hope]

has the prophet [Isaiah] written

[Note: According to John Welch, Nephi’s prophetic view foresaw the future in four distinct stages, and each time he quoted a section from Isaiah it was because it contained words relevant to one of those stages. . . . The last four chapters of 1 Nephi (1 Nephi 19—22) deal with the future of Nephi’s people in their new land of promise. Their topics follow in order the same four stages found in 1 Nephi 11—14. These four stages of the Nephite prophetic view are:

1. Christ’s coming;
2. his rejection and the scattering of the Jews;
3. the day of the Gentiles; and
4. the restoration of Israel and the ultimate victory of good over evil.

(John W. Welch, "Getting through Isaiah with the Help of the Nephite Prophetic View," in Isaiah in the Book of Mormon, p. 24-26)]