



Type: Magazine Article

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## Book of Mormon Studies

Editor(s): John A. Widtsoe

Source: *The Latter-Day Saints' Millennial Star*, Vol. 90, No. 48  
(29 November 1928)

Published by: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Page(s): 764–765

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**Abstract:** This is a series of articles intended for Relief Society course study. It discusses the importance of the Book of Mormon, its coming forth (i.e., the translation, the witnesses, the publication, Joseph Smith), brief overview of its contents, and explains the text from 1 Nephi 1 through Alma 58. Each article features several questions that are helpful in synthesizing and applying the Book of Mormon to daily life.

In praying to our Heavenly Father, we should approach Him with a humble heart—talk to Him as though we were speaking to our earthly father. Prayer is a request for knowledge, wisdom, protection, or for whatever else is desired. The Lord will grant every righteous wish and desire we express to Him through prayer.

A prayerful person's influence is felt among the children of men. Pray often—at least twice a day. It is only through prayer that we can come in close communion with our Heavenly Father, and thus overcome the difficulties which constantly surround us.

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### BOOK OF MORMON STUDIES\*

THE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, carnage, seige, revolution and strategy all play their part and all teach their particular lessons in these chapters, but the outstanding incident of the period, is the story of the two thousand Ammonite warriors.

Herein is contained one of the classic examples of the vital influence of women, generally, and of mothers particularly, upon the lives of men and the destinies of nations.

Those worthy Ammonite mothers had done their duty. They had not taught their sons warfare, nor had they coddled them. They taught them righteous living and faith in God, with love, and sent them out into life to fight their battles with a full and righteous background. Love for mother and home, and faith in God, enabled those sons not only to keep themselves unspotted and unharmed, but also to serve their country and their God. May the mothers of modern Israel fulfil their duties as well as did the Ammonite mothers.

#### QUESTIONS

1. In times of adversity the Church of God prospered. Discuss this significant statement, using chapter forty-nine as an example. How does it fit into all Book of Mormon history?

2. Contention over trifles is one of Satan's favourite tools. Discuss this point in connection with Alma 50 : 25-40. Discuss it as it may be applied to us here and now in our own branches.

3. Amalickiah was slain in his wickedness. His worldly ambition, pride, power, and ill-gotten gain could not bring him happiness, or satisfy him in any way. Do these things ever satisfy anyone?

4. What was the covenant of the people of Ammon with God? Why did Helaman advise them against breaking it, even though their services were needed? Was he right? Prove this by later happenings.

5. Name some of the bold declarations made by Ammoron in his letter

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\*Lesson 24 of the Relief Society Course of Study—for use on the second lesson night in December. Ten chapters, Alma 49 to 58, inclusive, are to be considered.

to Moroni. Was he sincere in making them? How did Moroni receive them?

6. Wherein lay the strength of the stripping warriors of Helaman? Is this true of all men who implicitly trust God? What happens to those who lean upon their own prowess?

7. What course did Moroni pursue when he was in need of strength? May we do the same? Should we only pursue this course when we are in need? See Alma 58:10.

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### FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Assignment:** Elder Reginald A. Carn, of London, England, has been called to labour in the British Mission as a missionary. He was assigned, on October 6th, to labour in the Nottingham District.

**Releases and Departures:** Elder Brandt D. Jorgensen, who has laboured in the Nottingham and Bristol Districts, and Elder Fred L. Finlinson, who has laboured in the Sheffield and Newcastle Districts, were honourably released on October 31st, 1928, and sailed for their homes in America aboard the *Leviathan* from Cherbourg, on November 23rd.

**Farewell Social:** A farewell dinner in honour of Elder Clinton L. Mills, retiring President of the London District, was given by Mr. William Goodair, at the Royal Automobile Club, London, on November 15th. The missionaries of the London District, and others were present.

Following the dinner, Mr. Goodair gave a farewell party for Elder Mills, also honouring Elder Robert Dell Buchanan, whose birthday it was. In attendance were several influential friends of the host. Mr. Goodair is doing much to acquaint London society with the missionaries and tenets of "Mormonism", and is proving himself a loyal friend.

**Social at Pudsey, Leeds District:** A party was held at my home on November 5th for the benefit of the Relief Society Christmas fund. It gives me pleasure to say it was a success. We invited about thirty-six persons, mostly friends of ours not in the Church. We were entertained by artists from a local concert party, who call themselves "The Novelists." A most enjoyable time was spent, and all expressed the hope that we would again invite them upon another such occasion. I think that much good can be done by opening our homes; for the missionaries had Gospel conversations with many of those present. Friends from the Congregational Guild were pleased to make the acquaintance of Elder Bean, as they had known his grandparents, who formerly resided here. Through this contact seed was sown, which I hope