

Alma 9:8-131 *Remember*

When you look in the dictionary for the most important word, do you know what it is? It could be “remember”.... Our greatest need is to remember. That is why everyone goes to sacrament meeting every Sabbath day....

“Remember” is the word. “Remember” is the program.

Spencer W. Kimball, “Circles of Exaltation,” *Charge to Religious Educators*, 2d ed., 28 June 1968, p.8

Alma 9:15-232 *More tolerable for Lamanites*

Brigham Young said: “Those who do not profess to know anything of the Lord are far better off than we are, unless we live our religion, for we who know our Master’s will and do it not, will be beaten with many stripes; while they who do not know the Master’s will and do it not will be beaten with few stripes. This is perfectly reasonable. We cannot chastise a child for doing that which is contrary to our wills, if he knows no better; but when our children are taught better and know what is required of them, if they then rebel, of course, they expect to be chastised, and it is perfectly right that they should be” (in *Journal of Discourses*, 16:111).

Alma 9:16-173 *Lamanites won't be destroyed*

At the time that the Prophet Joseph Smith translated this Book of Mormon, I suppose the impression was general, as it is today [1884] that the Indians were a perishing race, that they would soon disappear from the face of the land.... Joseph found...that we as a race and the nation to which we belong, should not have power to destroy the Indians. This was a most remarkable statement to make when we consider where Joseph was brought up, and the circumstances surrounding him.

George Q. Cannon, *Journal of Discourses* [London: Latter-day Saints' Book Depot, 1884], 25:123.

4 When the United States became an independent nation, the number of Indians in North America was estimated at three million, and in the year 1876 at only one million three hundred thousand. In 1907 the decrease had been checked, and an increase to one million four hundred and seventy-four thousand was reported.

Hyrum M. Smith and Janne M. Sjodahl, *The Doctrine and Covenants containing Revelations Given to Joseph Smith, Jr. The Prophet with an Introduction and Historical and Exegetical Notes*, Rev. ed. [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1955], 287; as quoted in Ross W. Warner, *The Fulfillment of Book of Mormon Prophecies* [Salt Lake City: Hawkes Publishing, 1975], 117

5 When the Book of Mormon was published it was the prevailing opinion that the Indians were a perishing race and finally would become extinct. Book of Mormon prophecy is to the contrary. History has thus far proven this position to be right. The Indian population is increasing and the condition under which the Indian lives is improving.

Ross W. Warner, *The Fulfillment of Book of Mormon Prophecies* [Salt Lake City: Hawkes Publishing, 1975], 116.

Alma 9:14-236 *Great blessings bring great responsibility*

Unto whom much is given much is required (D&C 82:3), and at times the demands of discipleship are heavy. But shouldn't we expect the journey towards eternal glory to stretch us? We sometimes rationalize our preoccupation with this world and our casual attempts to grow spiritually by trying to console each other with the notion that living the gospel really shouldn't require all that much of us. The Lord's standard of behavior will always be more demanding than the world's, but then the Lord's rewards are infinitely more glorious—including true joy, peace, and salvation.

Sheri Dew, “We Are Women of God”, *Ensign*, Nov. 1999, 98.

7 Alma 9:19-24

To sin against light—to walk in paths of wickedness when one has been enlightened by the Spirit, has enjoyed its gifts, and has been heir to the promises of the Almighty—is to place oneself in a precarious position. It represents the height of ingratitude. Truly, “he who sins against the greater light shall receive the greater condemnation”.

Millett & McConkie, *Doctrinal Commentary on the Book of Mormon, Vol 3 p.65*.

8 Alma 9:26

All of us have made wrong turns along the way. I believe the kind and merciful God, whose children we are, will judge us as lightly as He can for the wrongs that we have done and give us the maximum blessing for the good that we do. Alma’s sublime utterance [in Alma 9:26] seems to me an affirmation of this.

James E. Faust, “Woman, Why Weepest Thou?” *Ensign*, November 1996, p. 53.