

Helaman 15: 1-17*Day of the Lamanites*

1 God gave us the Book of Mormon and the chief reason, as set forth in one of the revelations, is that it shall be the means of bringing to the descendants of Father Lehi the knowledge of the Redeemer of the world, and to establish them in the faith of their fathers. I bear witness to you that nothing on earth shall ever bring them out of their thralldom save the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. I rejoice, therefore, that the day dawn is breaking, the night is dispelling, and the day of their redemption cometh.

Heber J. Grant, conference Report, October 1926, 40.

2 The day of the Lamanite is here and the gospel brings opportunity. Millions farm the steep hillsides of Andean ranges and market their produce with llamas and burros. They must have the emancipating gospel. Millions in Ecuador, Chile, and Bolivia serve in menial labor, eking out bare subsistence from soil and toil. They must hear the compelling truths. Millions through North America are deprived, untrained, and achieving less than their potential. They must have the enlightening gospel. It will break their fetters, stir their ambition, increase their vision, and open new worlds of opportunity to them. Their captivity will be at an end—the captivity of misconception, illiteracy, superstition, fear. “The clouds of error disappear before the rays of truth divine.”

The brighter day has dawned. The scattering has been accomplished—the gathering is in process. May the Lord bless us all as we become nursing parents unto our Lamanite brethren and hasten the fulfillment of the great promises made to them.

Spencer W. Kimball, *Faith Precedes the Miracle*, p. 358.

Helaman 15:3

3 The true purpose of the chastening is that our sins might be forgiven.

Glenn R. Cook, *Raising Up a Family to the Lord*, 178.

God will have a humble people. Either we can choose to be humble or we can be compelled to be humble. Alma said, “Blessed are they who humble themselves without being compelled to be humble” (Alma 32:16).

Let us choose to be humble.

We can choose to be humble ourselves by conquering enmity toward our brothers and sisters, esteeming them as ourselves, and lifting them as high or higher than we are (see D&C 38:24; 81:5; 84:106).

We can choose to humble ourselves by receiving counsel and chastisement (see Jacob 4:10; Helaman 15:3; D&C 63:55; 101:4-5; 108:1; 124:61; 84; 136:31; Proverbs 9:8).

Conference Report, April 1989, 6.

Helaman 15:44 *Why did the Lord prolong the days of the Lamanites?*

The scriptures suggest two reasons the Lamanites were spared:

1. 1 Nephi 2:24—To be a scourge to the Nephites when they forget God, to help them remember him.
2. Helaman 15:4—Many of the Lamanites would join the Church over time.

Brian D. Garner, *Search These Things Diligently*, p. 249

5 “*The Lamanites hath he hated.*” This is strong language. One would assume that Samuel did not mean to convey the thought that God actually hated the Lamanites, at least not in the sense that mortal men hate one another. Rather, because of their rebellion, because they rejected the light and spurned the association with God through the Spirit that they might have enjoyed, they alienated themselves from the love of the Father. It is not that God does not love them, but that he simply is unable to bless them as he would those who choose the right. “If you keep not my commandments,” a modern revelation attests, “the love of the Father shall not continue with you, therefore you shall walk in darkness” (D&C 95:12).

Joseph Fielding McConkie and Robert L. Millet, *BOM Commentary*, Vol 3 p. 418.

Helaman 15:7-86 *Lasting change of heart*

Social, ethical, cultural, or educational converts will not survive under the heat of the day unless their taproots go down to the fulness of the gospel which the Book of Mormon contains Conference Report, Apr. 1975, 96; or *Ensign*, May 1975, 65.

7 Elder Russell M. Nelson addressed the subject of God’s love for those who sin: “Does this mean the Lord does not love the sinner? Of course not. Divine love is infinite and universal. The Savior loves both saints and sinners. The Apostle John affirmed, ‘We love him, because he first loved us’ [John 4:19]. And Nephi, upon seeing in vision the Lord’s mortal ministry, declared: ‘... Yea, they spit upon him, and he suffereth it, because of his *loving kindness* and his long-suffering towards the children of men’ [1 Nephi 19:9; italics added]. We know the expansiveness of the Redeemer’s love because He died that *all* who die might live again” “Divine Love,” *Ensign*, Feb. 2003, 24.

Helaman 15:8, 108 *Steadfast*

To be firm and steadfast is to be constant, consistent, and vigilant in one’s faith and approach to living the gospel.

McConkie and Millet, *BOM Commentary*, 3:419.

Helaman 15:17

The prophets who chronicled the wickedest times in Nephite history usually referred to the hardness of the hearts of the people, and to Satan “get[ting] hold upon the hearts of the children of men” (Helaman 6:30; see also Helaman 6:35; 7:15; Mormon 3:12; 4:11). Similarly, the Lord told the Prophet Joseph Smith that Satan “hath put into [the] hearts” of wicked men to attempt to frustrate the work of the Restoration and “Satan has great hold upon their hearts, he stirreth them up to iniquity against that which is good” (D&C 10:10, 20). As we read in the Book of Mormon, “Behold, there are many that harden their hearts against the Holy Spirit, that it hath no place in them” (2 Nephi 33:2; see also Alma 12:9-11).

Dallin H. Oaks, *Pure in Heart* [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1988], 115.