

# The Book of Mormon

(continued)

## Chapter 8

{Chapter IV in the 1830 edition}

*Moroni Remains  
to Record and Witness the Destruction of His People*

- 1 **Behold** I **Moroni** do finish the record of **my father Mormon** 01 aa  
\*\*
- Behold** I **[Moroni]** have but few **things**  
to **write**  
which **things**  
I **[Moroni]** have been **commanded**  
of/by **my father [Mormon]** [?, 1830 / 1841] \*\*
- 2 And **now it came to pass**  
that **after** the GREAT and tremendous **battle** \_\_\_\_\_ *at Cumorah*  
**behold** the **Nephites** who had escaped *into the country southward*  
were hunted by **the Lamanites**  
**until** they **[my people]** were ALL **destroyed**
- 3 **And** **my father [Mormon]** [A]  
also was **killed** by **them**
- and** I **[Moroni]** even **remain alone** [B]  
to **write** the sad tale  
of the **destruction**  
of **my people**
- But behold** they **[my people]** are **gone**  
**and** I **[Moroni]** fulfil the **commandment**  
of **my father [Mormon]**

[Heb. & Par. 01 – Use and repetition of “Behold” as an initiator]

[Par. aa – Like beginnings “I Moroni”]

[Par. \*\* -- Circular repetition “my father Mormon”]

[Heb. \*\* -- Use of “of” instead of “by”]

And whether they  
[the Lamanites]

will slay me

I [Moroni] know NOT

bb cc

4 Therefore

I [Moroni] will write [C]  
and [will] hide up the records in the earth

and \_\_\_\_\_ whither

I [Moroni] \_\_\_\_\_ go [on the earth]  
it mattereth NOT

5 Behold

\_\_\_\_\_ my father [Moroni] [Duality – “My Father”]  
hath made this record

and he [my father Mormon]  
hath written the intent thereof

And behold

I [Moroni] would write it [the intent] also [C]  
if I [Moroni] had room upon the plates dd

but I [Moroni] have NOT [room upon the plates]  
and ore

I [Moroni] have NONE

For I [Moroni] am [ALL] alone [B]

My father [Mormon] [A]  
hath been slain in battle  
and ALL my kinsfolk  
[have been slain in battle]

and I [Moroni] have NOT friends  
NOR whither to go

and how long the Lord will suffer  
that I [Moroni] may live  
I [Moroni] know NOT

6 Behold four hundred years have passed [ ] / ^away [P / ^1830]  
since the coming of Our Lord and Savior

02

[Par. bb – Like paragraph endings “I Moroni know not”]  
[Par. cc – NOT, NONE, NOR]

[Par. dd – Downward gradation parallelism]  
[Heb. 02 – An active participle with “of”]

7 And **behold** \_\_\_\_\_ **the Lamanites**  
 have hunted **my people**  
 the **Nephites** down  
 and *from city to city*  
*from place to place*  
**even until** they [**my people**  
 the **Nephites**]  
 are NO MORE  
**and** **GREAT** has been their **fall**  
**yea** **GREAT**  
**and** **marvelous** is the **destruction** [a wonder by supernatural means] {AL}  
 of **my people**  
 the **Nephites**

8 And **behold** it is \_\_\_\_\_ the **hand** of \_\_\_\_\_ **the Lord** which hath done it 03

[Note: Moroni fulfills his editorial duty by writing of this extinction caused by covenant disobedience. The Lord had warned about and specifically dated this destruction in previous prophecies (see Alma 45:8-14; Helaman 13:1-10).]

**And behold also** \_\_\_\_\_ **the Lamanites** are at **war**  
 ONE with another  
**and** *the whole face of this land*  
 is ONE **continual** round of **murder**  
 and [of] **bloodshed**  
**and** NO ONE **knoweth** the end of the **war**

9 And **now**  
**behold I** [**Moroni**] **say** NO MORE  
 concerning them [the **Nephites**]  
**for** there are \_\_\_\_\_ NONE  
**SAVE it be** \_\_\_\_\_ **the Lamanites** ["the" added in 1837]  
 and [the] **robbers**  
 that **do** exist *upon the face of the land*

10 **And** there are \_\_\_\_\_ NONE  
 that **do** **know**  
**the True God**  
**SAVE it be** **the disciples** **of** **Jesus** 04  
 who **did** tarry \_\_\_\_\_ *in the land*

[Heb. 03 – Metaphor “hand” ]

[Heb. 04 – Two nouns separated by “of”]

[Mormon 8]

until the wickedness  
of the people was so GREAT  
that the Lord  
would NOT suffer them  
to remain  
with the people

and ^whither / whether [^P/ 1830]  
they be \_\_\_\_\_ upon the face of the land {AG}  
NO man knoweth

11 But behold \_\_\_\_\_ my father [Mormon]  
and I [Moroni]  
have seen them  
and they  
[the disciples of Jesus]  
have ministered unto us

12 And whoso receiveth this record  
and [whoso] shall NOT condemn it [this record]  
because of the imperfections which are in it  
the same shall know of GREATER things than these

Behold I am Moroni  
and were it possible  
I [Moroni] would make ALL things  
known unto you

*Moroni Writes Again  
No One Shall Get Gain from the Plates  
The Record Will Come Forth by the Power of God  
[Ending + Comment]*

13 Behold I [Moroni] make an end of speaking  
concerning this people  
I [Moroni] am the son of Mormon  
and my father [Mormon] was a descendant of Nephi

05

14 And I [Moroni] am the same  
who hideth up this record  
unto the Lord

[Heb. 05 – Use of “make an end” of speaking]

The **plates thereof**  
 are of **NO** worth  
 because of the **commandment**  
 of **the Lord**

**For** **He [the Lord]** truly **saith**  
 that **NO** one **shall** have **them** to get gain  
**but** **the record thereof**  
 is of **GREAT** worth

**and** whoso **shall** bring it [the record] to **light**  
 him will \_\_\_\_\_ **the Lord** bless

15 **For** **NONE** can have **power**  
 to **bring** it [the record] to **light**  
**SAVE** it [the **power**]  
**[shall]** be given him of **God**

**For** **God** will / ^wills [?, 1830 / ^1920]  
 that it **shall** be done ee  
 with an **eye singled to/** [?, 1830 / ^Pjs, 1837] 06  
**^single to His glory**

**or** [single to] **the welfare**  
 of the ancient  
 and long dispersed **covenant people**  
 of **the Lord**

16 **And** **blessed** \_\_\_\_\_ **be** he  
 that **shall** bring **this thing** to **light**  
**for** it [this **thing**]  
**shall** be brought out \_\_\_\_\_ of **darkness**  
 unto **light**

according to the **word**  
 of **God**

**yea** it **shall** be brought out of the earth  
**and** it **shall** shine forth out of **darkness**

**and** [it **shall**] come unto the **knowledge**  
 of the **[covenant] people**

**and** it **shall** be done  
 by the **power**  
 of **God**

[Par. ee – Circular repetition “it shall”]

[Heb. 06 – Metaphor “eye”]

[Mormon 8]

17 And if there be faults {AG}  
[then] they be the faults of a man

But behold we know NO fault

nevertheless God knoweth ALL things

therefore he that condemneth let him <sup>^</sup>be aware / be—ware [<sup>^</sup>P, 1830 / 1874R]

lest he shall be in danger of hell fire

18 And he that saith Show unto me  
or ye shall be smitten  
let him <sup>^</sup>be aware / be—ware [<sup>^</sup>P / 1830]

lest he commandeth that which is forbidden  
of [by] the Lord

19 For behold the same that judgeth rashly [without due consideration and time] {AL} ff  
shall be judged rashly again [in return or repayment for] gg

for according to his works  
shall his wages be

therefore he that smiteth  
shall be smitten again [in return or repayment for] {AL} 07  
of [by] the Lord

20 Behold what the scriptures saith / says [<sup>^</sup>P, 1830 / 1837] {AG}  
Man shall NOT smite [A]  
NEITHER shall he judge [B]

for judgment is Mine [B] hh  
saith the Lord

and vengeance is Mine also [A]  
saith the Lord  
and I [the Lord] will repay

[Par. ff – Repeated alternating parallelism]

[Heb. 07 – The word “of” meaning “by”]

[Par. gg – Circular repetition “shall”]

[Par. hh – Simple synonymous parallelism]

21 And he that shall breathe out **wrath**  
**and** **strifes**  
against the **work**  
of the Lord  
**and** against the **covenant people**  
of the Lord  
who are the **house of Israel**

and [he that] shall say  
We **will destroy** the **work**  
of the Lord  
and the Lord  
**will NOT remember** His covenant  
which **He [the Lord]** hath **made**  
unto the **house of Israel**

the same is in **danger**  
to be **hewn down** {AG}  
**and** [to be] **cast into the fire**

22 For the **eternal** **purposes**  
of the Lord  
**shall** roll on  
**until** ALL His promises  
**shall be** \_\_\_\_\_ **fulfilled**

*Search the Covenant Prophecies of Isaiah  
Concerning This Land and This Book*

23 \_\_\_\_\_ **Search** the prophecies of Isaiah

**Behold I [Moroni] canNOT write them**

**Yea**

**behold I [Moroni] say** unto you

**that** those saints who have gone before me [the covenant faithful]

**[that** those saints] who have possessed this land

shall **cry** [unto the Lord]

**yea** \_\_\_\_\_ even from the dust

will they **cry** unto the Lord

and as [He] the Lord liveth [a solemn covenant oath] 08

He [the Lord] will remember the covenant

which He [the Lord] hath made with them [the covenant house of Israel]

24 And He [the Lord] knoweth their prayers that they were in behalf of their brethren
And He [the Lord] knoweth their faith for in His Name could they remove mountains ii
and in His Name could they cause the earth to shake
and by the[covenant] power of His Word did they cause prisons to tumble to the earth
yea even the fiery furnace could NOT harm them
NEITHER wild beasts
NOR poisonous serpents
because of the[covenant] power of His Word

25 And behold their prayers were also in behalf of him
that [He]the Lord should suffer to bring these things forth [to him]

The Lord Will Surely Honor His Covenants
The Restoration to Come in a Day of Wickedness and Pollution

26 And NO ONE need NOT say [double negative] [Q/ deleted] -{AG}
[that] they[these things] shall NOT come [forth]
for they SURELY shall
for [He] the Lord hath spoken it For out of the earth
shall they[these things] come [forth]
by the [covenant] hand of the Lord
and NONE can stay it [delay or prevent] {AL}
And it shall come in a day when jj kk

[Heb. 08 – Covenant oath “as the Lord liveth”] [Par. jj – Like paragraph beginnings “it shall come”]
[Par. ii – Circular repetition of possessive pronoun] [Par. kk – Repeated alternating parallelism]



- it shall be said  
 that miracles are done away
- And [it shall come in a day when]  
 even as if one shall come should speak from the dead 09
- 27 And it shall come in a day when  
 the blood of saints  
shall cry  
 unto the Lord  
 because of [the] secret combinations  
 and [because of] the works of darkness
- 28 Yea it shall come in a day when 10  
the [covenant] power  
 of God shall be denied  
 and [the] churches shall become defiled  
 and [the] churches shall be lifted up  
in the pride of their hearts
- Yea [it shall come]  
 even in a day when  
leaders of churches  
 and teachers [of churches] [ / Q, 1830  
shall rise up / 1907 /  
shall be lifted up ^conj.]  
in the pride of their hearts  
 even to the envying  
 of them who belong  
 to their church / ^churches [P / ^1830]
- 29 Yea it shall come in a day when  
there shall be heard of fires LL 11  
 and [of] tempests  
 and [of] vapors of smoke *in foreign lands*
- 30 And there shall also be heard of wars  
 [and of] rumors of wars [deleted. In 1852]  
 and [of] earthquakes *in divers places*

[Heb. 09 – Simile “as if”]

[Heb. 11 – Plurals]

[Heb. 10 – Use and repetition of “yea” as an initiator]

[Par. LL – Enumeration of destructions]



**Behold** Look ye unto the **revelations** of **God** \*\*

for **behold** **the time** \_\_\_\_\_ **cometh at that day**  
**when** ALL **these things** MUST be fulfilled

34 **Behold** **the Lord** hath shown  
 unto **me** GREAT  
 and marvelous **things**

concerning that  
 which **MUST shortly come at that day**  
**when** **these things**  
**shall come** forth  
 among **you**

35 **Behold** **I** [**Moroni**] **speak** unto **you** pp  
 as if **ye** were **present**  
 and yet **ye** are NOT [**present**]

**But behold** **Jesus Christ** hath shown **you**  
 unto **me**

36 **and** **I** [**Moroni**] **know** **your** **doing** qq  
**And** **I** [**Moroni**] **know** that **ye do** walk in **the pride of your hearts** rr  
**And** [**I** **Moroni**] **know** that] there are NONE  
**SAVE** A FEW only  
 who **do** NOT lift themselves **up** 12  
**in the pride of their hearts**  
 unto the **wearing of very fine apparel**  
 unto **envying** ss  
**and** [**unto**] **strifes**  
**and** [**unto**] **malice**  
**and** [**unto**] **persecutions**  
**and** [**unto**] **ALL manner of iniquities**

**and** **your churches**  
**yea** even EVERY ONE  
 have become \_\_\_\_\_ **polluted**  
 because of **the pride of your hearts**

[Par. \*\* -- Like beginnings "behold"]

[Par. pp – Repetition of "you / ye / your"]

[Par. qq – Like beginnings "I Moroni"]

[Par. rr – Like paragraph endings]

[Heb. 12 – Compound preposition]

[Par. ss – Working out manners of pride]

37 For **behold** \_\_\_\_\_ **ye do** love **money** tt  
and your **substance**  
and your **fine apparel**  
and the **adorning** of your **churches**

MORE than **ye**[**do**]love the poor  
**and** the needy  
[**and**] the sick  
**and** the afflicted

38 O **ye pollutions** [see note]  
**ye hypocrites**  
**ye teachers**  
who sell yourselves  
for **that which will canker** [“rot”]

**Why** have **ye polluted** \_\_\_\_\_ **the holy church of God ?** uu

**Why** are **ye ashamed** to take upon you **the Name of Christ ?**

**Why do** **ye** NOT think vv  
that GREATER is the value of **an ENDLESS happiness**  
than \_\_\_\_\_ **that misery which NEVER dies**  
because of the praise of the world ?

39 **Why do** **ye** adorn yourselves with **that which hath NO life**  
**and** yet [**ye**] suffer the hungry ww  
**and** the needy  
**and** the naked  
**and** the sick  
**and** the afflicted to pass by **you**  
**and** [**ye**] notice them NOT ?

40 **Yea** **Why do** **ye** build up your **secret abominations**  
to get gain ?

**And** [**Why do** **ye**] **cause that** widows should mourn 13  
before **the Lord ?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Par. tt – Contrast parallelism with enumeration]  
[Par. uu – Questions with like beginnings “Why”]  
[Par. vv – Question with contrast parallelism]

[Par. ww – Enumeration of those neglected and passed by]  
[Heb. 13 – Use of “cause that”]

And also [Why do ye cause] orphans to mourn  
before the Lord ?

And also [Why do ye cause] the blood of their fathers  
and [of] their husbands  
to cry unto the Lord from the ground  
for vengeance  
upon your heads ?

41 **Behold** \_\_\_\_\_ the sword of vengeance  
hangeth over you  
and the time soon cometh

that He [the Lord] avengeth the blood of the saints  
upon you

for He [the Lord]  
will NOT suffer their cries  
ANY longer

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[Note: According to Donald Parry, when a group of three or more words, similar in sense but not identical in meaning, come together in a verse or passage with characteristics which parallel one another, this is called *synonymia*, or "synonymous words." (p. xlix) A good example is found in **Mormon 8:39**:

39 Why do ye adorn yourselves with that which hath no life,  
and yet suffer the hungry,  
and the needy,  
and the naked,  
and the sick,  
and the afflicted.

(Donald W. Parry, *The Book of Mormon Text Reformatted according to Parallelistic Patterns*, 1992, p. 448.)

[Additional note: Although technically not part of Parry's "group" in verse 39, one could stretch the list of "synonymous words" by adding "widows" and "orphans" which follow in verse 40.]

[Mormon 8]

[Note: According to H. Clay Gorton, **Mormon 8:2-5** can be viewed as a conceptual *chiastic parallelism*. A brief outline of the pertinent elements is as follows:

- 2 And now it came to pass that after the great and tremendous battle at Cumorah,  
A behold, **the Nephites who had escaped into the country southward were hunted by the Lamanites, until they were all destroyed.**
- 3 B And **my father also was killed by them,**  
C and **I even remain alone to write the sad tale of the destruction of my people**  
D But behold, they are gone, and **I fulfil the commandment of my father**  
E And **whether they will slay me, I know not**
- 4 F **Therefore I will write and hide up the records in the earth**  
E and **whither I go it mattereth not.**
- 5 D Behold, **my father hath made this record, and he hath written the intent thereof.**  
C And behold, **I would write it also if I had room upon the plates, but I have not, and ore I have none, for I am alone.**  
B **My father hath been slain in battle,**  
A **and all my kinsfolk [have been slain], and I have not friends nor wither to go . . .**

(H. Clay Gorton, *A New Witness for Christ: Chiastic Structures in the Book of Mormon*, 1997, p. 231.)]

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[Note: According to H. Clay Gorton, **Mormon 8:37-39** can be viewed as a conceptual **chiastic parallelism**. A brief outline of the pertinent elements is as follows:

- 37      A      For behold, **ye do love money and your substance, and your fine apparel, and the adorning of your churches, more than ye love the poor and the needy, the sick and afflicted.**
- 38            B      **O . . . ye hypocrites . . . who sell yourselves for that which will canker, why have ye polluted the holy church of God ?**
- C      Why do ye not think that **greater is the value**
- D      **of an endless happiness**
- D      **than that misery which never dies**
- C      **because of the praise of the world ?**
- 39            B      **Why do ye adorn yourselves with that which hath no life,**
- A      **and yet suffer the hungry and the needy, and the naked, and the sick and the afflicted to pass by you, and notice them not ?**

(H. Clay Gorton, A New Witness for Christ: Chiastic Structures in the Book of Mormon, 1997, p. 233.)]

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[Note: According to Royal Skousen and Stan Carmack, the word “pollutions” (referring to people) appears to occur only in the Book of Mormon. The word “pollutions” occurs twice in the text: Mormon 8:31 and **Mormon 8:38**, the first referring to actions, the second referring to people. (Royal Skousen and Stan Carmack, The History of the Text of the Book of Mormon. Part Three: The Nature of the Original Language, p. 539.)]

*[Mormon 8]*