

Chapter 6

{Original 1830 Chapter IV}

*All the King's (Benjamin's) People Covenant to Obey God
The King's Son Is Consecrated to Be a Priest and a King*

1 And **now**

[he] **king Benjamin** thought it was expedient
after having finished speaking to **the people**
[A] **that** he [**king Benjamin**] should take the **names**
of ALL **those** aa
[B] **who had** entered into a **covenant** with **God** bb
to keep **His** commandments

2 And **it came to pass**

[A] **that** there was NOT ONE soul
EXCEPT **it were** little children [P, 1830 / ^1837]
but ~~what~~ [B] **who had** entered into the **covenant**
and **who had** taken upon **them** the Name of Christ

3 And **again**

it came to pass

that when [he] **king Benjamin**
had **made an end**
of ALL **these things**
and **had** **consecrated his son Mosiah** to be a ruler
and [to be] a **king** over
his people
and also **had** **given him** ALL the **charges** concerning the kingdom
and also **had** **appointed priests**
to **teach** **the people**

that thereby they [**the people**] might **hear**
and know
the commandments
of **God**

[Par. aa – Alternating]

[Par. bb – Circular repetition “had”]

and [also **had** appointed priests]
to stir them [the people] up
in REMEMBRANCE
of the oath
which they [the people]
had made

he [king Benjamin] dismissed the multitude
and they [the multitude] returned

EVERY ONE according to their families
[EVERY ONE according] to their own houses

4 And [he] Mosiah₂ began to reign in his father's stead 01
And he [Mosiah] began to reign in the thirtieth year of his age

making in the whole* [*see Mos. 29:46, Morm. 3:4]
about four hundred and seventy six years 02
from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem

5 And [he] king Benjamin lived three years
and he [king Benjamin] died

6 And **it came to pass**
that [he] king Mosiah
did walk in the ways of the Lord
and did observe His judgments
and His statutes
and did keep His commandments
in ALL things
whatsoever He commanded him

7 And [he] king Mosiah
did cause his people 03
that they [his people]
should till the earth

[Heb. 01 – Use of “began to”]

[Heb. 02 – Use of “and” between units of tens and hundreds]

[Heb. 03 – Use of “did cause that”]

And he [king Mosiah] also [by] himself
 did _____ till the earth

that thereby he [king Mosiah] might NOT become burdensome
 to his people

that he [king Mosiah] might do according to
 that which his father had done
 in ALL things [duality]

And there was NO contention among ALL his people
 for the space of three years

{Original 1830 Chapter Break—end of Chapter IV}

[Note: A duality might be seen in the covenant son who does what he sees the covenant father do.
 Also we have Jesus who declares:

“When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he,
 and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me.” (John 8:28)]

[Note: The construction “he-himself” in **Mosiah 6:7** is a variation on the Duplicity word-form; it is also archaic. Interestingly, this type of construction seems to be clustered in the book of Mosiah. and other writings of Mormon. It does not appear in the writings of Nephi, nor in the writings of Moroni. Of the 23 examples I found, 16 appear in the book of Mosiah, and only 1 is not part of the abridgment of Mormon. In Mosiah 5:3 and Mosiah 6:7 I have presented this archaic duplication as “subject – object” rather than a duplicated subject, which perhaps better fits my format in some cases.]

“I-myself”	2 Nephi 25:6; Mosiah 2:14, 7:10, 9:19, 23:9 (2), 29:14 (2)
“he-himself”	Mosiah 6:7, 8:2, 13:35, 19:9, 19:17, 20:7, 21:19
	Alma 4:19
	Helaman 1:32, 9:38
	3 Nephi 17:15
“ye-yourselves”	Jacob 2:3
“you-yourself”	NONE
“you-yourselves”	NONE
“they-themselves”	Mosiah 21:31
“we-ourselves”	Jacob 4:4
	Mosiah 5:3

[Heb. 04 – Use of “that he might”]

[*Mosiah 6*]

[Note: In **Mosiah 6:1** we find that after king Benjamin had finished speaking, he thought it was expedient "that he should take the names of all those who had entered into a covenant with God to keep his commandments." According to Hugh Nibley, the reader should remember that at the first of the ceremony, Mormon records that "there were a great number, even so many that they did NOT number them" (*Mosiah 2:2*). But now they have entered into a covenant, they have committed themselves by name, so king Benjamin had the names taken of everybody who was there: "And it came to pass that there was not one soul, except it were little children, but who had entered into the covenant and had taken upon them the name of Christ" (*Mosiah 6:2*). (Hugh W. Nibley, *Teachings of the Book of Mormon*, Semester 1, p. 481-482.)]

[Note: According to Matthew Brown, there are many concepts in the Book of Mormon, and especially in king Benjamin's sermon that parallel the Israelite Sukkot or Feast of Tabernacles (See John A. Tvedtnes, "King Benjamin and the Feast of Tabernacles," in John M. Lundquist and Stephen D. Ricks, eds. *By Study and Also By Faith*, 2:197-237. See also Terrence L. Szink and John W. Welch, "King Benjamin's Speech in the Context of Ancient Israelite Festivals," in John W. Welch and Stephen D. Ricks, eds. *King Benjamin's Speech: "That Ye May Learn Wisdom,"* p. 147-223.)]

<u>FEAST OF TABERNACLES</u>	<u>OLD TESTAMENT</u>	<u>BOOK OF MORMON</u>
Temple location	Deuteronomy 31:11	Mosiah 2:1
Booths/Tents	Leviticus 23:41-44	Mosiah 2:5-6
Speaker on platform	Nehemiah 8:4	Mosiah 2:7
God as Creator	Nehemiah 9:5-6	Mosiah 2:20-21
Commandments of God	Exodus 24:3-4	Mosiah 6:1-3
Covenant with God	Exodus 24:7	Mosiah 5:5
Blood of the covenant	Exodus 24:8	Mosiah 3:11
Blessing/Curses	Deuteronomy 27:14-26	Mosiah 2:22, 33
Sacrifice	Numbers 29:12-34	Mosiah 2:3
Those who understand	Nehemiah 10:28-29	Mosiah 2:40
Falling to the ground	Nehemiah 8:6	Mosiah 4:1-2, 6-7
Names recorded	Nehemiah 9:38	Mosiah 6:1-3

(Matthew B. Brown, *All Things Restored: Confirming the Authenticity of LDS Beliefs*, p. 224.)]