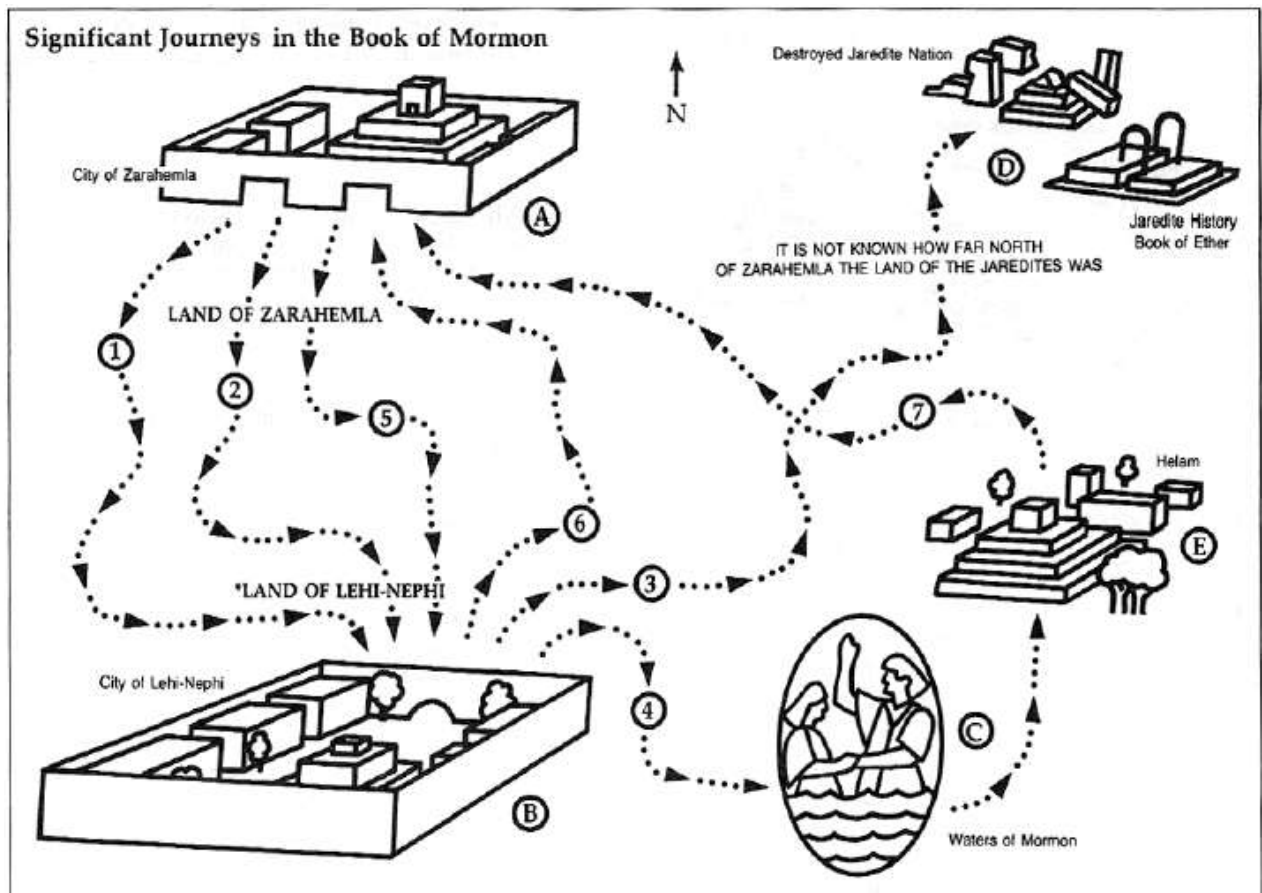


Abinadi and the land of Lehi-Nephi: type of things to come

In this paper I wish to go over what I believe to be one of the most peculiar as well as one of the most significant stories in the Book of Mormon for our specific time. And that is the story of Abinadi and the people of Nephi that went to live in the land of Nephi.

Before I begin this, one must take a step back and see the macro to understand the peculiarity of this story. Mormon, the prophet historian who was abridging the account of his people, much like Nephi and Moroni etc, was shown our day and the things that would transpire in our day. For this reason the inclusion of the Isaiah chapters by Nephi take on added meaning- they had to do with what Nephi saw happening in these last days. With that in mind, there are cases where Mormon is abridging and says something along the lines of, "I can't write the 100th part of the records I have of this time period." So first we learn he picks out the most important things and the second thing we learn in some cases he had an abundance and he chose not to transcribe it. The account of Abinadi on the other hand, the records of it and surrounding it, were extremely sparse. If it wasn't for Alma writing the words of Abinadi we would not have any of that part of the story and Limhi only had a single record of the account of his people from the time they left Zarahemla to the time they came back. Not only are the records sparse, and not only does Mormon include all of them, he includes all the records from both groups (Limhi and Alma) comprising a surprisingly large chunk of chapters, basically the entire book of Mosiah (while at the same time we learn very little about what is transpiring in the city of Zarahemla, which is from a narrative point of view the main story line). There was obviously something that Mormon saw in this story that made him go, "Wow, this story is exactly like what I saw happening in the future."

With that in mind, understand that I will not be going through 20 chapters of scripture- this will simply be a macro level breakdown. I'd recommend re-reading these chapters after watching this video, that way when you read through it you will see all the parallels.



Looking at this image, let us breakdown the macro story line before getting into the scriptures and their parallels.

Lehi and his family landed in the promised land and the land that they first inhabited was known as the land of first inheritance. Nephi fled after his father's death, and formed the city of Nephi. Many years later the people of the city of Nephi fled its borders and were led to the city of Zarahemla. After which:

1. A group left the city of Zarahemla to go back to reclaim their old city of Nephi. They never made it there as the group ended up killing each other and the survivors returned to Zarahemla
2.
 - i. The group replenishes their numbers and leave again to inhabit the city of Nephi.
 - ii. Once they arrive there, they end up having what we would call a revolutionary war, which was almost entirely over taxation. The people of the city of Nephi win their independence.
 - iii. The people become wicked ie. "Nephites become as Lamanites"
 - iv. Abinadi the prophet comes to warn them and is rejected
 - v. Abinadi sometime later (two years) comes back but this time works secretly and in disguise
 - vi. Abinadi is called into the courts of the people of Nephi in front of the king

- vii. Abinadi is rejected. Alma the elder is converted. Abinadi says that he is a type and what they do to him is also a type and then they (scourge) burn him
- 4. i. Alma with the righteous remnant leave the city of Nephi to go to the wilderness where the true church of God is restored. They dwelt in tents.
 - ii. Those that remained in the city of Nephi fell into bondage and their king was slain
- 3. i. (These two numbers on the image are actually backwards.) King Limhi sent the expedition looking for help- he does not find help but he finds a desolate city with records.
 - ii. The city of Nephi also looks for the people of Alma, the righteous remnant, but they have disappeared. We learn that they go and form the city of Helam, which means “stronghold or place of abundance”, a Hebrew word with striking resemblance to “Salem”
 - iii. The inhabitants of the city of Nephi try to fight for their independence in a series of 3 battles in which the people of Nephi are slaughtered consecutively. This is a period of great tribulation and great losses.
- 5. Ammon and his brethren (not Ammon the son of Mosiah) are sent down to find what had happened to the people who had left the city of Zarahemla all those years ago (point 2 i). They pitch their tents on the hill named Shilom (which name shares identical meaning to Salem: Peace)
- 6. Through great repentance and turning back to the Lord, those that were left alive in the city of Nephi eventually escape through the help and aid of Ammon and his brethren
- 7. Alma and the righteous remnant have to go through some trials of their own but they pale in comparison to the trials that the people of the city of Nephi had to go through. As far as we know, not a single member of Alma’s group was lost and the burdens that were placed upon their backs became so light (because of the Lord) that “they could not feel them upon their backs”. The Lord miraculously delivered the people of Alma, stopping the pursuing army in a valley.

Going over that, those familiar with the macro last days timeline will already be putting things together. So let’s go through each of these points and see if we can see some foreshadowing.

- 1. The group of Nephites attempting to reclaim their ancient homeland but failed to do so because when they arrived the dispute arose between slaughtering the inhabitants in a surprise attack or working out a treaty with them. This broke into an inter-party conflict that saw most of them destroyed and the remainder of them left back to Zarahemla. (Mosiah 9:1-2). The parallel is that of Ephraim wanting to once again inherit the land of their inheritance, which would be America. There were many failed attempts including Vikings that actually landed and set up a settlement but then broke into civil conflict between each other and were forced to pull up stakes and return back to Scandinavia.
- 2. i. Zeniff is “overzealous to inherit the land of his fathers”. Their people suffered famine and sore afflictions on the regaining of their land and only regained the land fully when they made deals, treaties etc with the king (Mosiah 9:3-13). The parallel to this is:

Christopher Columbus was wrought upon by the Holy Ghost (as the Book of Mormon says) and became overzealous to sail. The only way the Pilgrims and settlers gained a foothold or validity is through the king of England. But much like wicked King Laman, the king of England allowed it to happen for nefarious reasons. He wanted to tax the American colonies and bring them into bondage “that they might glut themselves with the labors of the colonists’ hands, and that they might feast themselves upon the flocks of their fields”.

ii. The people of Nephi fight a revolutionary war against the king based almost entirely over taxation and they did win the war (Mosiah 9:14-19, Mosiah 10:1-5). The parallel would be the American colonists fighting a revolutionary war against the vastly superior aggressive army (British) *Bonus point: the Lamanites swoop around and attempt to take the kingdom from the north and are ultimately beaten: the parallel would be the British returning and allying themselves with the French colonists (Canada was not established yet) and trying to attack the newly formed America from the north, ultimately failing (Mosiah 10:6-10, 19-22)

iii. The Nephites become like Lamanites (Mosiah 10:11-18, Mosiah 11:1-19). For more in depth breakdown of this see my video/paper, Nephites vs. Lamanites. The parallel: America slowly abandons the constitution, embraces taxation and becomes wicked.

iv. Abinadi shows up and is rejected (Mosiah 11:20-29). The parallel to this is Joseph Smith’s mortal life. Many of the same things that Joseph warned and said in his mortal life are echoed by Abinadi in these verses.

v. After the space of two years Abinadi returns but “he came among them in disguise that they knew him not”. Abinadi calls down warnings against “this generation” (Mosiah 12:1-8):

4 And it shall come to pass that I will smite this my people with sore afflictions, yea, with famine and with pestilence; and I will cause that they shall howl all the day long.

5 Yea, and I will cause that they shall have burdens lashed upon their backs; and they shall be driven before like a dumb ass.

6 And it shall come to pass that I will send forth hail among them, and it shall smite them; and they shall also be smitten with the east wind; and insects shall pester their land also, and devour their grain.

7 And they shall be smitten with a great pestilence—and all this will I do because of their iniquities and abominations.

8 And it shall come to pass that except they repent I will utterly destroy them from off the face of the earth; yet they shall leave a record behind them, and I will preserve them for other nations which shall possess the land; yea, even this will I do that I may discover the abominations of this people to other nations. And many things did Abinadi prophesy against this people.

The parallel is that when Joseph Smith returns he will work discreetly and prudently for some time. We just celebrated the 200th anniversary of the First Vision. The warnings and consequences called down upon the generation including famine, hail etc are exactly the same as what Joseph Smith will call down upon us of this generation. Verse 8 has reference to the secret dark acts that Joseph will also bring to light (discussed in detail in Alma 37).

vi. Abinadi is carried before the king and a large section of what Abinadi preaches is the 10 commandments, and one of the very first things he goes into is Zion and the New Jerusalem (quoting Isaiah). Abinadi rebukes and says, “you do not understand the spirit of prophecy, you have perverted the right ways of the Lord, you have not applied your heart to understanding, therefore you have not been wise.” Abinadi finishes his message saying that “what you do with me after this, shall be as type and a shadow of things to come.” He then talks about “the law given them” and says, “behold I say unto you that all these things were types of things to come. And now did they understand the law? I say unto you nay, they did not understand all the law and this because of the hardness of their hearts.” He then quotes Isaiah 53 and teaches about the coming of the Savior. (Mosiah 12:9-37, Mosiah 13, Mosiah 14, Mosiah 15, Mosiah 16). The parallels to this is being called into the courts of Washington, as well as all of the things that Joseph Smith will be doing, prophesying and warning of. We learn in 3 Nephi 24 and 25 the things that Joseph Smith (“my messenger”) will be bringing up in the courts of Washington. Among them being, 3 Nephi 25:4 ie. the 10 commandments, which is exactly what Abinadi did here. We also know that “the pit digged for thee” will be filled by the diggers themselves during this time period, or “no weapon formed against thee shall prosper”. One of the things that Joseph will warn the courts of Washington of is that the weapons that they design or the pits that they will try to dig for the people of God will be filled by those who dug them. If you are a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and you want to know the judgments that are going to be poured out upon us and why, read Mosiah chapters 12-16 and 3 Nephi 24-25. Hint: it’s idolatry, see my paper Rebellion vs Weakness. Abinadi says that the reason why they don’t understand the law is because “of the hardness of their hearts and they understood not because they did not apply their hearts to understanding, therefore they are not wise”- the same thing will happen with Celestial Law, people will harden their hearts and not seek understanding (see my paper, Celestial Law). In the courts of Washington, we learn from Isaiah, that they will say to not trust treaties because they will fail, instead they should trust in New Jerusalem/Zion and the return of the 10 tribes in preparedness for the Lord’s second coming- all of which Abinadi mentioned (save for the fact that Abinadi was referencing

the Lord's first coming and this will be referencing the Lord's second coming, but that is how types work). Abinadi also says that one of the big quantifiers would be between those who understood the spirit of prophecy and those who did not. Joseph Smith made the exact same prediction (see the Steamboat dream): "I said to my friends that if they did not understand the signs of the times and the spirit of prophecy, they would be apt to be lost. It was but a few moments after when we saw the waves break over the boat, and she soon foundered and went down with all on board."

vii. Abinadi is sentenced to death, Alma is converted and flees. Abinadi is put to death "and it came to pass that they took him and bound him, and scourged his skin with faggots, yea, even unto death." (Mosiah 17). The parallel to this would be Joseph Smith did die on his first attempt, and the courts in Washington might very well reject his message and the Church a second time. The Church being sentenced and then "scourged" by the Assyrian which is already in the land. *Bonus point: Alma then begins to go about the people in secret, teaching the words of Abinadi. (Mosiah 18:1-3) Once again, creating a dualistic nature with Joseph Smith dying and then coming back and working in secret.

4. i. Alma with the righteous remnant leave the city of Nephi to go to the wilderness where the true church of God is restored. They dwelt in tents. The law of consecration is also reinstated. There were only 450 souls in the group. (Mosiah 18). The parallel: "All those who will not take up the sword against his neighbor must flee to Zion." This is the parable of the 10 virgins (for the primary interpretation of this parable see my paper/video on it), as well as the restoration of Celestial Law. 450 people is not a lot of people. We learn from the 10 virgins that only 50% of the righteous will be ready.

ii. The people of the city of Nephi fall into a civil war and while they are in the civil war, foreign invaders break their treaty and enter the land and put the people in bondage (Mosiah 19). The parallel: America is to break into civil war and depending on which prophecies you accept as prophecies or not, we know that parts of America will possibly be invaded by foreign invaders, at the very least the Assyrian will be in full swing. The prophets when they were called in to the courts of Washington, said that all the treaties now signed would break down. The same thing happened for the people of Nephi and the same thing will happen when they ignore Joseph/the Church when they are called into Washington.

3. i. and ii. King Limhi sends an expedition looking for help- he does not find help but he finds a desolate city with records. They also look for the people of Alma but cannot find them. They now wish to be members of God's church, but the only person who has the keys to make them members is Alma with his group, who they can't find. (Mosiah 8:7-11, Mosiah 21:25-35) The parallels here: Once again, this is the parable of the 10 virgins, wheat and the tares etc. The Church of God here is the Church of the Firstborn of which only Joseph has the keys for. This also has strong ties to the redemption and building of New Jerusalem. Also, cities in America will be made desolate and people calling for aid

from other cities might find “cities of bones”. See John Taylor’s dream, in Wilford Woodruff’s Journal, 6/15/1878, “*A Vision, Salt Lake City, Night of Dec 16, 1877*”)

iii. The inhabitants of the city of Nephi try to fight for their independence in a series of 3 battles in which the people of Nephi are slaughtered consecutively. This is a period of great tribulation and great losses. (Mosiah 20:6-12). Parallels: see Isaiah 3:25-26, this is the civil war- if you didn’t flee to Zion you must take up your sword to fight against your neighbor. And for members of the church, your losses will be more severe because the Lord expected more from you.

Isaiah 3:25-26

25 Thy men shall fall by the sword, and thy mighty in the war.

26 And her gates shall lament and mourn; and she being desolate shall sit upon the ground.

5. Ammon and his brethren (not Ammon the son of Mosiah) are sent down to find what had happened to the people who had left the city of Zarahemla all those years ago (point 2 i). They pitch their tents on the hill named Shilom (which name shares identical meaning to Salem: Peace) (Mosiah 21:23-24, Mosiah 7, Mosiah 8:1-6). The parallels: we learn that deliverance from the Assyrian only comes from the return of the lost 10 tribes. It is interesting to note that Ammon and his brethren did not have the priesthood authority, even though they were the ones doing the saving. We know that the returned 10 tribes will not have the higher ordinances when they return, they will be receiving them at the hands of Ephraim, or in this case Alma/Joseph Smith.

6. Through great repentance and turning back to the Lord, those that were left alive in the city of Nephi eventually escape through the help and aid of Ammon and his brethren (Mosiah 22). Parallels: Much like the point above, there will be much tribulation and through the great tribulation the Saints will be made ready to “escape the world”. In Isaiah as well as Jeremiah the Lord makes reference to saving the “ransomed of the Lord”, people in bondage. The question asked is, “shall the prey be delivered from the terrible?” and the Lord’s response is “yea”. This might even be how the 10 tribes themselves come forth (see my paper Satan: The Great Counterfeiter)

7. Alma and the righteous remnant have to go through some trials of their own but they pale in comparison to the trials that the people of the city of Nephi had to go through. As far as we know, not a single member of Alma’s group was lost and the burdens that were placed upon their backs became so light (because of the Lord) that “they could not feel them upon their backs”. The Lord miraculously delivered the people of Alma, stopping the pursuing army in a valley (Mosiah 23, Mosiah 24). Parallels: Those that are ready and heed the call of the Prophet Joseph Smith, will be gathered out. Joseph Smith clarified

that there will be angels gathering people out, angels are simply resurrected beings, meaning that Joseph Smith, Brigham Young etc would be considered angels, gathering “the wheat into the barn” before the time of burning. Joseph Smith specified that your deceased ancestors will be the ones spearheading this. These people separated will have to go through trials and troubles but due to their personal preparedness and worthiness they have to go through far less. Nephi (as well as many other prophets) spoke of that time period and said the Lord would protect his righteous remnant even if it had to be “by fire”. This is where the pillar of fire comes in. Eventually when the 144,000 are sent out, those that remain and are worthy will be brought into the program.

In closing, as I said earlier and wish to reiterate- I wish to commit Latter-day Saints to re-read Mosiah chapters 12-16, as well as 3 Nephi 24 and 25, and ask yourself if you would be worthy and ready to leave with Alma’s group; if you would be ready, worthy and willing to leave with “my messenger” because that is the time period we are in right now. Joseph could make his open return and be called to the courts of Washington within the next year. Are we praying daily for these angels to be sent to us? Are we praying daily for the Lord to bless us with inspiration with what we need to personally do each day to make us worthy and ready for angels to show up? We can either humble ourselves or we can have the Lord humble us. Much more blessed is he who humbleth himself versus he who is compelled to be humbled. If you take the time now to rid yourself of Babylon in your life and humble yourself before God and work out your salvation with fear and trembling before Him, your burdens will be made light upon your back in the days ahead. If however, you do not humble yourself and you do not prepare yourself both for your temporal salvation as well as your spiritual salvation, you “shall be driven before like a dumb ass.” And I share these thoughts and warnings with you in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.