King Benjamin Addresses His People

Mosiah 1–6

Behold, I have things to tell you concerning that which is to come. Mosiah 3:1

Before he died, King Benjamin called all his people together. He wanted to tell them his son Mosiah would be their next king, and he wanted to encourage them to live the gospel. (See Mosiah 1:9–10.)

The people gathered from all over the land (see Mosiah 1:18). Each family put up their tents with the doors facing the temple. There were so many people that King Benjamin had a high tower built to help them hear his words. (See Mosiah 2:1–2, 5–7.) When he began to speak from the tower, many people still could not hear him, so he had his teachings written down (see Mosiah 2:8).

King Benjamin taught the people, "When ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God" (Mosiah 2:17). He also taught them to keep the commandments. He said the Lord had chosen his son Mosiah to be their next king. (See Mosiah 2:18–31, 41.)

King Benjamin told the people that an angel had told him Jesus would be born and His mother's name would be Mary (see Mosiah 3:2, 8). He also taught them that salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ. King Benjamin said Jesus would suffer and die for the sins of all people and then be resurrected. He told the people to repent and believe in Christ. (See Mosiah 3:9–12.)

The people fell to the ground, asking Heavenly Father to forgive them for their sins, saying, "For we believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, . . . who shall come down among the children of men" (Mosiah 4:2). The Spirit of the Lord came upon them, and they were filled with peace and joy (see Mosiah 4:1–3).

King Benjamin continued encouraging the people to believe in God's great wisdom and power. He told them to be kind to each other and to teach their children to love and serve one another. (See Mosiah 4:9, 13–15.) King Benjamin told the people to continue having faith in the coming of the Lord. (See Mosiah 4:30.)

When King Benjamin finished speaking, he asked the people if they believed what he had told them. They all said they did. (See Mosiah 5:1–2.) The people knew his words were true because the Holy Ghost caused a "mighty change" in their hearts and they wanted to do good and not evil (see Mosiah 5:2).

King Benjamin took the names of those who wanted to make a covenant, or promise, with Heavenly Father to obey Him. Every person, except the little children, made this covenant. They took upon themselves the name of Christ. King Benjamin then made Mosiah king. (See Mosiah 6:1–3.) "And King Benjamin lived three [more] years and he died" (Mosiah 6:5).

Summary

Before he died, King Benjamin gathered his people to the temple to speak to them. Speaking from a tower, he taught his people to serve one another and to keep the commandments. He spoke about Jesus Christ, who would suffer and die for the sins of all and be resurrected. When he finished speaking, King Benjamin took the names of all who promised Heavenly Father to keep the commandments. King Benjamin then made his son Mosiah king over the people.

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