

Jesus Blesses the Nephite Children

From 3 Nephi 17.



Other Sheep

When Jesus taught, He sometimes used sheep as a symbol for people. In Jerusalem, Jesus taught the Jews that He was the Good Shepherd and that He knew each sheep and took care of them. Jesus also said He had other sheep that He needed to teach. The Nephites were some of those other sheep that He taught.

By Diane L. Mangum

After Jesus Christ died on the cross and was resurrected, He visited the Nephite people in the Americas. He taught a multitude in the city of Bountiful, near the Nephite temple. Jesus taught the Nephites the gospel, just as He had taught the Jews in Palestine.

The Nephites loved Jesus, and He was filled with love toward them. He told them to bring anyone who was sick to Him, and He would show them what He had done for the people in Jerusalem. The Nephites brought all those who were sick or afflicted, and Jesus healed every one.

Then Jesus told the Nephites to bring their little children to Him. The children were led to the Savior, and they sat on the ground all around Him. Jesus told everyone to kneel down, and then He knelt and prayed to Heavenly Father.

The prayer Jesus gave was so

powerful that “the eye hath never seen, neither hath the ear heard, before, so great and marvelous things as [they] saw and heard Jesus speak unto the Father.”

Jesus finished praying. The multitude around Him was so joyful that they were overcome. Jesus told them, “Blessed are ye because of your faith. And now behold, my joy is full.”

Jesus looked at the children around Him, and one by one each child came to Him. He blessed each child and prayed to Heavenly Father for them. Jesus then told the people, “Behold your little ones.”

The people looked up to heaven and saw angels coming down. It looked like they were in the middle of a fire. The angels made a circle around the children and spoke to them. The brightness of the angels circled around the children too. ◆



Multitude

Multitude means a large number of people. The scriptures say that 2,500 Nephite men, women, and children saw Jesus in Bountiful.