

# ABINADI'S ADMONITION

Prepared by  
Elder Dwight Burford  
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Do you recall the reason Abinadi was put to death according to the counsel of King Noah's wicked priests? Abinadi prophesied that God Himself would come down *in the flesh* to atone for the sins of the children of men.<sup>1</sup>

*And it came to pass that the king caused that his guards should surround Abinadi, and take him; and they bound him and cast him into prison. And after three days, having counseled with his priests, he caused that he should again be brought before him. And he said unto him, Abinadi, we have found an accusation against thee, and thou art worthy of death. **For thou hast said that God himself should come down among the children of men; And now for this cause thou shalt be put to death, unless thou wilt recall all the words which thou hast spoken evil concerning me and my people. Now Abinadi said unto him: I say unto you, I will not recall the words which I have spoken unto you concerning this people, for they are true; And that ye may know of their surety, I have suffered myself that I have fallen into your hands.*** (Mosiah 9:8-14)

In effect, Abinadi gave his life for this very revelation, that God Himself is our Savior.

Abinadi's confidence to lay down his life willingly was founded in his Lord and His victory over death. As Abinadi testified, Jesus Christ "*is the light and the life of the world; yea, a light that is endless, that can never be darkened; yea, and also a life which is endless, that there can be no more death.*"<sup>2</sup> Therefore, Abinadi gave his life so that his people might be brought to repentance, that is, that they might be brought to *the knowledge of the Lord their God, and to rejoice in Jesus Christ their Redeemer.*<sup>3</sup>

Based on the words of this valiant martyr, Alma established the church of God in the land of Mormon, which was the first church established among the people after their transgression.<sup>4</sup>

*And now it came to pass that **Alma**, who had fled from the servants of King Noah, **repented of his sins and iniquities, and went about privately among the people, and began to teach the words of Abinadi;** Yea, concerning that which was to come, and also concerning the resurrection of the dead, and the redemption of the people, which was to be brought to pass through the power, and sufferings, and death of Christ, and his resurrection and ascension into heaven. And as many as would hear his word he did teach. (Mosiah 9:28-30)*

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<sup>1</sup> Mosiah 5:43-46

<sup>2</sup> Mosiah 8:82-91

<sup>3</sup> cf. Alma 17:39

<sup>4</sup> Mosiah 9:28-30,172

*And behold, I am called Mormon, being called after the land of Mormon, the land in the which Alma did establish the church among this people; **yea, the first church which was established among them after their transgression.** (III Nephi 2:96)*

The record of Abinadi's testimony recorded by Alma is consistent with and confirms one of the great convincing truths established through the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God.

*Behold, my soul delighteth in proving unto my people the truth of the coming of Christ: For, for this end hath the law of Moses been given: And all things which have been given of God from the beginning of the world, unto man, are the typifying of him. And also, my soul delighteth in the covenants of the Lord which he hath made to our fathers; Yea, my soul delighteth in his grace, and his justice, and power, and mercy, in the great and eternal plan of deliverance from death. And my soul delighteth in proving unto my people, that save Christ should come, all men must perish. For if there be no Christ, there be no God; and if there be no God, we are not, for there could have been no creation. **But there is a God, and he is Christ;** and he cometh in the fullness of his own time. (II Nephi 8:7-14)*

*And as I spake concerning the convincing of the Jews, that Jesus is the very Christ, **it must needs be that the Gentiles be convinced also, that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God;** and that he manifesteth himself unto all those who believe in him, by the power of the Holy Ghost; Yea, unto every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, working mighty miracles, signs and wonders, among the children of men, according to their faith. (II Nephi 11:78,79)*

*Wherefore, it is an abridgment...which is to shew unto the remnant of the house of Israel what great things the Lord hath done for their fathers; and that they may know the covenants of the Lord, that they are not cast off for ever; and also **to the convincing of the Jew and Gentile that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God,** manifesting himself unto all nations... (TITLE PAGE OF THE BOOK OF MORMON)*

Do you recall Abinadi's closing admonition to King Noah's wicked priests (which included Alma at that time)?

***Teach them that redemption cometh through Christ the Lord, who is the very eternal Father. Amen.** (Mosiah 8:91)*

Do the priesthood of the church clearly teach according to Abinadi's instruction, as Alma did when establishing the church of Jesus Christ among his people? <sup>5</sup> Do they teach Jesus Christ is the very eternal Father of heaven and earth, and that it is He who has redeemed us Himself? Should they not follow the example of Jacob, Nephi's younger brother and teach *the merciful plan of the great Creator?*

*Wherefore I know that ye know that our flesh must waste away and die; Nevertheless,*

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<sup>5</sup> Mosiah 9:28-30,172

*in our bodies we shall see God. Yea, I know that ye know, that in the body he shall shew himself unto those at Jerusalem, from whence we came; For it is expedient that it should be among them; **For it behooveth the great Creator that he suffereth himself to become subject unto man in the flesh, and die for all men, that all men might become subject unto him.** For as death has passed upon all men, to fulfill the merciful plan of the great Creator, there must needs be a power of resurrection, And the resurrection must needs come unto man by reason of the fall; And the fall came by reason of transgression; And because man became fallen, they were cut off from the presence of the Lord; Wherefore, it must needs be an infinite atonement; Save it should be an infinite atonement, this corruption could not put on incorruption. Wherefore, the first judgment which came upon man, must needs have remained to an endless duration. (II Nephi 6:6-17)*

If not, who or what hinders them?

In my estimation it is a gross crime against our Lord and His body for there to be priesthood members who do not believe that Jesus Christ is the very Eternal Father, or, worse yet, that there would be any willing to debate this issue. Let them teach what Abinadi admonished should be taught! And if they do not, will they not have their reward with the wicked priests who rejected his counsel and had him burned?