

Sunday School Lesson #11: Parallel Doctrines

Submitted by Michael Kelley 2006-07

Lesson #11: Indirect Quotes: There are numerous places in the Book of Mormon (as well as the New Testament) where the speaker paraphrases or indirectly quotes from older scripture. Sometimes these indirect quotes are described as scripture and sometimes not. In some places indirect quotes are mixed with others such as the following example with the differences highlighted in ***Bold Italics***:

3 Nephi 9:99-106 And *my people who are a* remnant of Jacob, shall be among the Gentiles, *yea*, in the midst of *them* as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep, who, if he go through both treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver. 100 *Their* hand shall be lifted up upon *their* adversaries, and all *their* enemies shall be cut off. 101 *Yea, wo be unto the Gentiles, except they repent, for* it shall come to pass in that day, saith the *Father*, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, and I will destroy thy chariots, and I will cut off the cities of thy land, and throw down all thy strongholds; 102 And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thy hand, and thou shalt have no more soothsayers: 103 Thy graven images I will also cut off, and thy standing images out of the midst of thee; and thou shalt no more worship the *works* of thy hands; 104 And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee; so will I destroy thy cities. 105 *And it shall come to pass that all lyings, and deceivings, and envyings, and strifes, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, shall be done away.* 106 *For it shall come to pass, saith the Father, that at that day, whosoever will not repent and come unto my beloved Son, them will I cut off from among my people, O house of Israel,* and I will execute vengeance and fury upon them, even as upon the heathen, such as they have not heard.

Micah 5:8-15 And *the* remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of *many people* as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treadeth down, and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver. 9 *Thine* hand shall be lifted up upon *thine* adversaries, and all *thine* enemies shall be cut off. 10 *And* it shall come to pass in that day, saith the **LORD**, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, and I will destroy thy chariots: 11 And I will cut off the cities of thy land, and throw down all thy strong holds: 12 And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no *more* soothsayers: 13 Thy graven images also will I cut off, and thy standing images out of the midst of thee; and thou shalt no more worship the *work* of thine hands. 14 And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee: so will I destroy thy cities. 15 And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the heathen, such as they have not heard.

3 Nephi 7:34-35 And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you, At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all the people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of *deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner of hypocrisy, and murders,* and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, *and of secret abominations*; 35 And if they shall do all those things, and shall reject the fulness of my gospel, behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fullness of my gospel from among them;

Alma 11:29 Now those priests who did go forth among the people, did preach against all lyings, and deceivings, and envyings, and strifes, *and malice, and revilings, and stealing, robbing, plundering, murdering, committing adultery, and all manner of lasciviousness*, crying that these things ought not so to be;

From 3 Nephi 9:47 to 3 Nephi 9:98 Jesus quotes directly from Isaiah then at verse 99 He indirectly quotes from Micah, Alma and His own sermon He just gave earlier in 3 Nephi 7:34. I find it amazing how effortlessly Jesus takes passages that are scattered throughout both books and seamlessly merges them together and gives a broad understanding to all of those passages that we may have not hitherto fully understood when read individually. There are many terms used in these passages that may require some explanation:

Priestcrafts: Men preach and set themselves up for a light unto the world, that they may get gain and praise of the world; but they seek not the welfare of Zion. (2 Nephi 11:106)

Horses and Chariots: Horses and chariots were used also in idolatrous processions, as noticed in regard to the sun. 2 Kings 23:11. (Smith's Bible Dictionary)

Witchcrafts: *noun* [*witch* and *craft*.] The practices of witches; sorcery; enchantments; intercourse with the devil. (Webster's Dictionary)

Soothsayer: *noun* A foreteller; a prognosticator; one who undertakes to foretell future events without inspiration. (Webster's Dictionary)

Graven Images: refers to the household gods of idolaters. "'Every nation and city had its own gods...Yet every family had its separate household or tutelary god. (Easton's Bible Dictionary)

Standing Images: An idol; the representation of any person or thing, that is an object of worship. The 2nd commandment forbids the worship of *images*. (Webster's Dictionary)

Groves: Heb. '*asherah*, properly a wooden image, or a pillar representing Ashtoreth, a sensual Canaanitish goddess, probably usually set up in a grove (2 Kings 21:7; 23:4). In the Revised Version the word "'Asherah"' (q.v.) is introduced as a proper noun, the name of the wooden symbol of a goddess, with the plurals Asherim (Ex. 34:13) and Asheroth (Judg. 3:13). The LXX. have rendered *asherah* in 2 Chr. 15:16 by "'Astarte.'" The Vulgate has done this also in Judg. 3:7. (Easton's Bible Dictionary)

Today many of these evil practices are returning to our society where the nation is embracing witchcraft (Harry Potter, etc.), soothsaying (astrology, Tarot cards, palm reading), and even the worship of groves (tree huggers), as well the ubiquitous murders, envyings, strifes, priestcrafts, whoredoms etc. all show how close we are to the end times and the fulfillment of Christ's prophecies. Ironically King Solomon, supposedly the wisest king ever, brought in many of these wicked idolatrous religions and practices into Israel leading to their utter apostasy, while later a 16 year old king named Josiah (2 Kings 23:1-28) utterly purged Israel of all of these idol gods and altars and put all the false priests to death and burned their bones. It is written of young King Josiah:

2 Kings 23:25 And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there *any* like him.