

A Plain English Reference to The Book of Enos

Jacob given charge of plates See The Book of Enos

I, Enos, know my father Jacob was a just man. He taught me in his language, of the Lord's kindness, and of His warnings. Blessed be the name of my God for such a father!

Now I'll tell you about the struggle I had before receiving a remission of my sins.

One morning, I went to hunt in the forest. There I pondered the words of eternal life and joy of the saints I had often heard my father speak.



My soul longed for this joy, so I knelt before my Maker and cried to Him in mighty prayer, asking Him to bless my

soul. I prayed all day, and when night came I still prayed loudly so my voice would reach the heavens.

Then a voice came into my mind, saying,

"Enos, your sins are forgiven, and you will be blessed."

I knew God could not lie, so my guilt was instantly taken from me.

I asked the Lord, "How is this done?"

In my mind the Lord answered,

"This is done because of your faith in Christ, whom you have never before seen or heard. Many years will pass before He will show Himself in the flesh."

Now go in peace. Because of your faith, your soul has been healed."

When I heard this, I became concerned for the welfare of my brethren, the Nephites. So I poured out my whole soul to God for them.

While I was struggling in the spirit, the Lord's voice came into my mind again, saying,

"I will visit your brethren (the Nephites) according to how well they keep my commandments. I have given them this holy land and will only curse it because of iniquity."

Therefore, I will visit your brethren as I said I would, but I will bring down their sins upon their own heads, and they will be sorry."

After hearing this, my faith in the Lord became so strong that it **could not** be shaken. I prayed very hard to Him, struggling for my brethren, the **Lamanites**.

After I had prayed diligently, the Lord said to me,

*"I will **grant** your desires because of your faith."*

And this is what I, Enos, had asked the Lord to do:

"If my people, the Nephites, ever fall into sin and are destroyed, and the Lamanites survive, will Thou, oh Lord God, by the power of Thy holy arm, **save a record of my people**, the Nephites, so that it will **come to the Lamanites** in some **future day**--so that they, too will be brought to salvation?"

I asked the Lord to do this, knowing that **He alone could do it**, for our preaching to the Lamanites and attempts to restore them to the true faith had been **useless**. In their anger, the Lamanites had sworn to destroy us along with our fathers' traditions and records.

Knowing that the Lord God **could preserve our records**, I cried to Him without stopping, for He **had** said, *"Whatever you ask in the name of Christ, believing you will receive, will be granted."*

I had faith and prayed to God to preserve the records, and **He covenanted with me He would bring our records** (The complete *Book of Mormon*) to the Lamanites in His own due time.



I knew it **would** be done according to the covenant He made, so my soul was at peace.

The Lord said to me,

*"Your fathers (Jacob & Lehi) **also asked me to save their records and bring them forth in the future.***

*This will be done for them as well, according to **their faith**. Their faith was **strong like yours, Enos.**"*

After this **experience**, I went out and **prophesied of the future** among the Nephites, testifying of things I had seen and heard.

Upon these plates I now testify that we, the people of Nephi, tried very hard to restore the Lamanites to the true faith in God, but our labors were in **vain**. Their hatred was fixed, and they were led by their evil nature.

They had become a wild, ferocious and bloodthirsty people, full of idolatry and filthiness. They ate beasts of prey, lived in tents and wandered in the wilderness wearing loin cloths.

They shaved their heads and became skilled with the bow and arrow, scimitar and axe. Many of them only ate raw meat, and they were always trying to kill us Nephites.

We tilled the land and raised a variety of grain and fruit. We also raised cattle, goats and horses.

There were **many** prophets among us, but the Nephite people had become **too proud** to listen to them. Nothing but constant, **harsh**, plain preaching of war, death, the length of eternity and judgments and **power of God** would keep them from quickly going down to destruction.

I Enos have seen **many wars** between the Nephites and the Lamanites during my lifetime.

It's now 421 BC, and I am old.

It's been 179 years since my grandfather Lehi left Jerusalem. All my life God's power has compelled me to Jerusalem. All my life God's power has compelled me to **preach and prophesy** to this people. I have declared the word according to the truth in Christ, and I have **rejoiced in His word** more than anything.

Now I will soon go to my resting place with my Redeemer. I will rejoice **in the day** when my mortal body becomes immortal then **stands** before Him.

That's when I **will** see His face with pleasure, and He will say to



me, "Come to me; you are blessed. There's a place prepared for you in my Father's mansions."