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Next Weeks Lesson: Lesson 28 "The Word Is in Christ unto Salvation" ([Alma 32-35](#))

Today's Lesson: Lesson 27 "All Things Denote There Is a God" ([Alma 30-31](#))

1. Korihor leads away the hearts of many in Zarahemla. ([Alma 30:1-18](#))

After establishing the people of Ammon in the land of Jershon and driving the warring Lamanites out of the land, the Nephites lived in peace during the 16th year of the reign of the judges and most of the 17th year.

A. What happened near the end of the 17th year to disrupt the peace of the people? (See [Alma 30:6](#), [Alma 30:12](#).) What is an anti-Christ? (See Bible Dictionary, "Antichrist," 609, which says that an anti-Christ is "anyone or anything that counterfeits the true gospel or plan of salvation and that openly or secretly is set up in opposition to Christ.")

B. What were some of the false teachings Korihor spread among the people of Zarahemla? ([Alma 30:12-18](#).)

(1) There will be "no Christ. ... Ye cannot know of things which ye do not see; therefore ye cannot know that there shall be a Christ" ([Alma 30:12-15](#)).

(2) "No man can know of anything which is to come" ([Alma 30:13](#)). It was contradictory for Korihor to say that no one could know of things to come but also to declare that there would be no Christ.

(3) Belief in the Atonement "is the effect of a frenzied mind" ([Alma 30:16](#)).

(4) "Every man prosper[s] according to his genius, and ... every man conquer[s] according to his strength" ([Alma 30:17](#)).

(5) "Whatsoever a man [does is] no crime" ([Alma 30:17](#)).

(6) "When a man [is] dead, that [is] the end thereof" ([Alma 30:18](#)).

C. How did Korihor's teachings affect the people who listened to him? (See [Alma 30:18](#).) Why would these teachings lead people to sin? In what ways are our daily choices influenced by our knowledge of Jesus Christ, the Atonement, and life after death?

2. Korihor is taken before Alma, who testifies of Christ's coming. ([Alma 30:19-60](#))

After spreading his false teachings in Zarahemla, Korihor attempted to preach the

same things among the people in Jershon and Gideon. Unlike the people in Zarahemla, however, these people provided good examples of how we should respond when we are confronted by people like Korihor.

- A. What did the people of Ammon do when Korihor tried to spread his false teachings among them? (See [Alma 30:19–21](#).) How did their actions demonstrate that they were “more wise” than the Nephites in Zarahemla? How can we be wise and use discernment in similar situations?
- B. What false accusations did Korihor make against the Church leaders? (See [Alma 30:23–24](#), [Alma 30:27–28](#), [Alma 30:31](#).) Why do you think he did this? How does obeying our Church leaders actually help make us free rather than bring us into bondage, as Korihor claimed?
- C. How did Alma respond to Korihor’s accusations against Church leaders? (See [Alma 30:32–35](#).) How can knowing the truth help us when we are confronted with false teachings?
- D. How did Alma respond to Korihor’s claim that there is no God? (See [Alma 30:39](#).) How are we blessed when we bear testimony of Jesus Christ?
- E. What was Alma able to discern about Korihor? (See [Alma 30:42](#).) How can we discern between true and false teachings? (See [Moroni 10:5](#).)
- F. When Korihor asked for a sign of God’s existence, what signs did Alma put forth as evidence that God lives? (See [Alma 30:44](#). Alma cited the testimony of “all these thy brethren,” the prophets, the scriptures, and “all things.”) How have these evidences helped strengthen your faith?
- G. Even after Alma’s testimony, Korihor continued to demand to be shown a sign ([Alma 30:45](#)). What sign did Korihor receive? (See [Alma 30:49–50](#).) Why was this sign given? (See [Alma 30:47](#).) After Korihor acknowledged that he had been deceived, what did he say was the reason he had followed the devil? (See [Alma 30:53](#).)
- H. What finally happened to Korihor? (See [Alma 30:54–56](#), [Alma 30:58–59](#).) Why do you think Mormon included the account of Korihor in his abridgment of the plates? What does this account teach us about the fate of those who pervert the ways of the Lord? (See [Alma 30:60](#).)

3. Alma leads a mission to reclaim the apostate Zoramites. ([Alma 31](#))

- A. Why did Alma decide to go on a mission to reclaim the Zoramites? (See [Alma 31:1–6](#). He was grieved by their idol worship. In addition, the Nephites were concerned that the Zoramites would join with the Lamanites.) Why did Alma believe that he and his brethren should preach the word of God? (See [Alma](#)

[31:5](#).) How have you seen the word of God bring about change in people's lives?

- B.** The Zoramites had been members of the Church, but they had “fallen into great errors” ([Alma 31:8–9](#)). Why did they fall into apostasy? (See [Alma 31:9–11](#).) What can we do to guard against individual apostasy?
- C.** What did Alma and his brethren learn about the Zoramites' manner of worship? (See [Alma 31:12–23](#). In addition to having a perverse form of worship, the Zoramites “returned to their homes, never speaking of their God again until they had assembled themselves together again.”) How did Alma and his brethren respond when they witnessed this false worship? (See [Alma 31:19](#), [Alma 31:24](#).)

Chapter 31 contains two prayers—one by the Zoramites and one by Alma. Think about the differences between the two prayers as they are read.

Zoramites' Prayer

God was, is, and always will be a spirit ([Alma 31:15](#)).

“We do not believe in the tradition of our brethren” ([Alma 31:16](#)).

“There shall be no Christ” ([Alma 31:16](#)).

“We shall be saved,” but everyone else will be “cast ... to hell” ([Alma 31:17](#)).

Others are bound by “foolish traditions” ([Alma 31:17](#)).

“We are a chosen and a holy people” ([Alma 31:18](#)).

Alma's Prayer

“Give me strength, that I may bear with mine infirmities” ([Alma 31:30](#)).

“Wilt thou comfort my soul in Christ” ([Alma 31:31](#)).

“Give unto me success, and also my fellow laborers” ([Alma 31:32](#)).

“Wilt thou comfort [my fellow laborers'] souls in Christ” ([Alma 31:32](#)).

Help us bring the Zoramites “unto thee” ([Alma 31:34–35](#)).

“[The Zoramites'] souls are precious” ([Alma 31:35](#)).

“Give unto us ... power and wisdom” ([Alma 31:35](#)).

- D.** How was Alma's prayer different from the Zoramites' prayer?
- E.** What attitudes of the Zoramites were the greatest barriers to their having faith in Christ? (See [Alma 31:24–29](#).) How does pride affect our worship? (See [Alma 15:17](#); [Alma 34:38](#); [D&C 59:21](#).) Why is pride an obstacle to salvation?
- F.** Alma's “heart was grieved” because of the Zoramites' wickedness. He prayed earnestly that he and his brethren might bring them “again unto ... Christ” ([Alma 31:24](#), [Alma 31:34](#)). What responsibility do we have today to help those who have strayed from the teachings of Jesus Christ? (See [3 Nephi 18:32](#).) How can prayer help us when we serve a mission or as we perform our various callings?
- G.** How were Alma and his brethren blessed? (See [Alma 31:38](#).) How will the Lord help us if we pray in faith for that which is right?

The philosophies of Korihor and the Zoramites are prevalent today. From the classroom to the workplace, in the media, in books, and sometimes in the home, there are those who preach the false doctrines of Korihor to “interrupt [our] rejoicings” ([Alma 30:22](#)). Also, like the Zoramites, many today set their hearts on “the vain things of the world” ([Alma 31:27](#)). We must fortify ourselves through diligent study of the Book of Mormon, daily prayer, and continued obedience to the commandments of God.