

Funeral Remarks by Chad G. Nichols (Grandson), 30 Dec 2002

In 124 B.C., King Benjamin gathered his people together to proclaim a new king. The people gathered in family groups around the temple as King Benjamin spoke to them from a tall tower.

- “My brethren, all ye that have assembled yourselves together, you that can hear my words which I shall speak unto you this day; for I have not commanded you to come up hither to trifle with the words which I shall speak, but that you should hearken unto me, and **open your ears** that ye may hear, and **your hearts** that ye may understand, and **your minds** that the mysteries of God may be unfolded to your view.” (Mosiah 2:9)

Among the great truths taught by Benjamin is a lesson on service:

- “And behold, I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom; that ye may learn that **when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God.**” (Mosiah 2:17)

Grandma lived a life of service:

- Remained home from work to watch me while parents were away on vacation
- Trip to airport for several hours on a Sunday afternoon
- When I graduated from high school I was given a set of scriptures
- Cap'n Crunch in Duitama, Colombia
- Countless blankets/quilts and other projects made for no reason
- Grandma made cakes, pies, and dinners specifically for that special someone – Who can forget my father's German chocolate cake, or the lasagna Grandma always prepared me on my birthday?
- Countless hours involved in family history

Mosiah was to preach the “glad tidings” of great joy. What are the ‘glad tidings?’ (Explain the Atonement as written in Mosiah 3:5-27)

- The Lord came down to dwell on earth working mighty miracles.
- He was to be called Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Father of heaven and earth, the Creator of all things from the beginning.
- He came down in order to bring about salvation to all those who would have faith in His name
- He suffered a magnificent death beyond our comprehension and yet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day he rose from the dead to bring about the resurrection and to judge the world
- “And moreover, I say unto you, that there shall be no other name given nor any other way nor means whereby salvation can come unto the children of men, only in and through the name of Christ, the Lord Omnipotent.” (Mosiah 3:17)

After Mosiah taught these things, the multitudes of families thought about their own terrible, sinful state before God and plead for forgiveness, having perfect faith in Christ. In so doing, they were filled with joy and peace. Then King Benjamin continued:

- **“Believe in God**; believe that he is, and that he created all things, both in heaven and in earth; believe that he has all wisdom, and all power, both in heaven and in earth; believe that man doth not comprehend all the things which the Lord can comprehend. And again, believe that ye must repent of your sins and forsake them, and humble yourselves before God; and ask in sincerity of heart that he would forgive you; and now, if you believe all these things see that ye do them.” (Mosiah 4:9-10)

As a final thought, Benjamin taught the importance of keeping the commandments of God:

- “And moreover, I would desire that ye should consider on the blessed and happy state of those that keep the commandments of God. For behold, they are blessed in all things, both temporal and spiritual; and if they hold out faithful to the end **they are received into heaven**, that thereby they may dwell with God in a state of neverending happiness. O remember, remember that these things are true; for the Lord God hath spoken it.” (Mosiah 2:41)

Among the last words Grandma spoke to me she indicated how excited she was to know that we were all a family and the fact that we would all be together forever in heaven. It is up to us to endure the trials of life with a cheerful heart. And although we may become discouraged at times, we must do our best NOT to allow ourselves to do so. Christ stated it best:

- “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30)

Grandma's Last Words to Me: “I love you Chad. Trust in the Lord. Always have trust in Him.”