

Alma as Chief Judge

Years 1–8 of the Reign of the Judges

Key Scripture Mosiah 29:42–Alma 4:20

Explanation As chief judge during the first years of the reign of the judges, Alma the Younger addressed difficulties such as the execution of Nehor, the revolt of Amlici, and a postwar economic slump. In the eighth year of his term, Alma resigned from office and devoted all of his energy to preaching the gospel to his people, “to stir them up in remembrance of their duty, and . . . pull down, by the word of God, all the pride and craftiness and all the contentions which were among his people” (Alma 4:19). Although Alma resigned from the office of chief judge, he retained the office of high priest, thereby separating the political and religious spheres of influence. This chart outlines the main events for years 1–8 of the reign of the judges (91–83 B.C.).

Alma as Chief Judge

Years 1–8 of the Reign of the Judges

REFERENCES	YEAR	
Alma 1	1	— Nehor is executed, but priestcrafts continue — Church members are persecuted — The church prohibits persecution
Alma 1	2	— Pride and contention increase in the church — Some are excommunicated or withdraw from the church
Alma 1	3	— Church members regroup — Preachers and workers are equal — Church members prosper
Alma 1	4	— Prosperity abounds — Wickedness increases outside the church
Alma 2–3	5	— Amlici revolts and is killed by Alma₂ — Alma₂ is wounded in battle — Lamanites invade again but are defeated
Alma 4	6	— Postwar economic problems stimulate religious renewal
Alma 4	7	— 3,500 people are converted and baptized
Alma 4	8	— Pride and contention increase in the church — Alma turns the judgeship over to Nephihah