Legal Cases and Procedures in the Book of Mormon

The Case of Sherem against Jacob

The Arrest of Ammon

The Trial of Abinadi

The Trial of Nehor

The Trial of Alma and Amulek

The Imprisonment of Aaron and Brethren

The Trial of Korihor

The Political Imprisonment of King-Men

The Trial of Pachus’s Men and the King-Men

The Case of Paanchi

The Imprisonment of Nephi and Lehi

Gadianton Trials of Their Defectors

The Trial of Seantum

The Execution of Zemnarihah

The Trial of Captured Robbers

Corrupt Execution of Inspired Prophets

Complaint against the Corrupt Judges
The main purpose of the Book of Mormon is, of course, religious; but its pages also report more than a dozen important lawsuits or legal procedures. This chart helps a person to appreciate the number and variety of legal procedures reported in the Book of Mormon. These accounts provide significant information about aspects of the Nephite legal system, such as accusations, arrests, imprisonments, executions, judges, witnesses, and rules of law. Most of these legal cases arose during the reign of the judges, when the role of the judicial system had been greatly expanded. That period in Nephite history saw great internal turmoil. Those problems teach how important it is for a free and open society to honor, obey, and sustain the law in order to survive, let alone thrive.