

The commandments of Alma to his son, Helaman.
Comprising chapters 36 and 37.

CHAPTER THIRTY-SIX

*Alma testifies to Helaman of his conversion by an angel
He suffered the pains of a damned soul;
he called upon the name of Jesus, and was then born of God
Sweet joy filled his soul
He saw concourses of angels praising God
His converts have tasted and seen as he did.*

Page 298

1 *“My son, give ear to my words; for I swear unto you, that inasmuch as ye shall*
2 *keep the commandments of God ye shall prosper in the land. ■ I would that ye should*
do as I have done, in remembering the captivity of our fathers; for they were in
bondage, and none could deliver them except it was the God of Abraham, and the
God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and he surely did deliver them in their
afflictions.

3 *And now, O my son Helaman, behold, thou art in thy youth, and therefore, I*
beseech of thee that thou wilt hear my words and learn of me; for I do know that
whosoever shall put their trust in God shall be supported in their trials, and their
4 *troubles, and their afflictions, and shall be lifted up at the last day. ■ And I would not*
that ye think that I know of myself--not of the temporal but of the spiritual, not of the
carnal mind but of God.

5 *Now, behold, I say unto you, if I had not been born of God I should not have*
known these things; but God has, by the mouth of his holy angel, made these things
known unto me, not of any worthiness of myself. ■ For I went about with the sons of
Mosiah, seeking to destroy the church of God; but behold, God sent his holy angel to
7 *stop us by the way. ■ And behold, he spake unto us, as it were the voice of thunder,*
and the whole earth did tremble beneath our feet; and we all fell to the earth, for the
8 *fear of the Lord came upon us. ■ But behold, the voice said unto me:*

“Arise.”

9 *And I arose and stood up, and beheld the angel. ■ And he said unto me:*

“If thou wilt of thyself be destroyed, seek no more to destroy the church of
God.”

10 *And it came to pass that I fell to the earth; and it was for the space of three days and*
11 *three nights that I could not open my mouth, neither had I the use of my limbs. ■ And*
the angel spake more things unto me, which were heard by my brethren, but I did not
hear them; for when I heard the words--

“If thou wilt be destroyed of thyself, seek no more to destroy the church of
God”

12 *--I was struck with such great fear and amazement lest perhaps I should be destroyed,*
that I fell to the earth and I did hear no more. ■ But I was racked with eternal
torment, for my soul was harrowed up to the greatest degree and racked with all my
13 *sins. ■ Yea, I did remember all my sins and iniquities, for which I was tormented with*
the pains of hell; yea, I saw that I had rebelled against my God, and that I had not
14 *kept his holy commandments. ■ Yea, and I had murdered many of his children, or*
rather led them away unto destruction; yea, and in fine so great had been my
iniquities, that the very thought of coming into the presence of my God did rack my
15 *soul with inexpressible horror. ■ Oh, thought I, that I could be banished and become*
extinct both soul and body, that I might not be brought to stand in the presence of my
God, to be judged of my deeds.

16 *And now, for three days and for three nights was I racked, even with the pains of*

17 *a damned soul. ■ And it came to pass that as I was thus racked with torment, while I*
was harrowed up by the memory of my many sins, behold, I remembered also to have
 18 *heard my father prophesy unto the people concerning the coming of one Jesus Christ,*
a Son of God, to atone for the sins of the world. ■ Now, as my mind caught hold upon
this thought, I cried within my heart:

”O Jesus, thou Son of God, have mercy on me,
who am in the gall of bitterness,
and am encircled about by the everlasting chains of death.”

19 *And now, behold, when I thought this, I could remember my pains no more; yea, I*
 20 *was harrowed up by the memory of my sins no more. ■ And oh, what joy, and what*
marvelous light I did behold; yea, my soul was filled with joy as exceeding as was my
 21 *pain! ■ Yea, I say unto you, my son, that there could be nothing so exquisite and so*
bitter as were my pains. Yea, and again I say unto you, my son, that on the other
 22 *hand, there can be nothing so exquisite and sweet as was my joy. ■ Yea, methought I*
saw, even as our father Lehi saw, God sitting upon his throne, surrounded with
numberless concourses of angels, in the attitude of singing and praising their God;
 23 *yea, and my soul did long to be there. ■ But behold, my limbs did receive their*
strength again, and I stood upon my feet, and did manifest unto the people that I had
 24 *been born of God. ■ Yea, and from that time even until now, I have labored without*
ceasing, that I might bring souls unto repentance; that I might bring them to taste of
the exceeding joy of which I did taste; that they might also be born of God, and be
filled with the Holy Ghost.

25 *Yea, and now behold, O my son, the Lord doth give me exceedingly great joy in*
 26 *the fruit of my labors; ■ For because of the word which he has imparted unto me,*
behold, many have been born of God, and have tasted as I have tasted, and have seen
eye to eye as I have seen; therefore they do know of these things of which I have
 27 *spoken, as I do know; and the knowledge which I have is of God. ■ And I have been*
supported under trials and troubles of every kind, yea, and in all manner of
 28 *afflictions; yea, God has delivered me from prison, and from bonds, and from death;*
yea, and I do put my trust in him, and he will still deliver me. ■ And I know that he
will raise me up at the last day, to dwell with him in glory; yea, and I will praise him
forever, for he has brought our fathers out of Egypt, and he has swallowed up the
 29 *Egyptians in the Red Sea; and he led them by his power into the promised land; yea,*
and he has delivered them out of bondage and captivity from time to time. ■ Yea, and
he has also brought our fathers out of the land of Jerusalem; and he has also, by his
everlasting power, delivered them out of bondage and captivity, from time to time
even down to the present day; and I have always retained in remembrance their
 30 *captivity; yea, and ye also ought to retain in remembrance, as I have done, their*
captivity. ■ But behold, my son, this is not all; for ye ought to know as I do know, that
inasmuch as ye shall keep the commandments of God ye shall prosper in the land;
and ye ought to know also, that inasmuch as ye will not keep the commandments of
God ye shall be cut off from his presence. Now this is according to his word.”

CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN

The plates of brass and other scriptures are preserved to bring souls to salvation
The Jaredites were destroyed because of their wickedness
Their secret oaths and covenants must be kept from the people
Counsel with the Lord in all thy doings
As the Liahona guided the Nephites, so the word of Christ leads men to eternal life.

1 *“And now, my son Helaman, I command you that ye take the records which have*
 2 *been entrusted with me; ■ And I also command you that ye keep a record of this*

3 people, according as I have done, upon the plates of Nephi, and keep all these things
4 sacred which I have kept, even as I have kept them; for it is for a wise purpose that
5 they are kept. ■ And these plates of brass, which contain these engravings, which
6 have the records of the holy scriptures upon them, which have the genealogy of our
7 forefathers, even from the beginning--■ Behold, it has been prophesied by our
8 fathers, that they should be kept and handed down from one generation to another,
9 and be kept and preserved by the hand of the Lord until they should go forth unto
10 every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, that they shall know of the mysteries
11 contained thereon.

12 And now behold, if they are kept they must retain their brightness; yea, and they
13 will retain their brightness; yea, and also shall all the plates which do contain that
14 which is holy writ. ■ Now ye may suppose that this is foolishness in me; but behold I
15 say unto you, that by small and simple things are great things brought to pass; and
16 small means in many instances doth confound the wise. ■ And the Lord God doth
17 work by means to bring about his great and eternal purposes; and by very small
18 means the Lord doth confound the wise and bringeth about the salvation of many
19 souls.

20 And now, it has hitherto been wisdom in God that these things should be
21 preserved; for behold, they have enlarged the memory of this people, yea, and
22 convinced many of the error of their ways, and brought them to the knowledge of
23 their God unto the salvation of their souls. ■ Yea, I say unto you, were it not for these
24 things that these records do contain, which are on these plates, Ammon and his
25 brethren could not have convinced so many thousands of the Lamanites of the
26 incorrect tradition of their fathers; yea, these records and their words brought them
27 unto repentance; that is, they brought them to the knowledge of the Lord their God,
28 and to rejoice in Jesus Christ their Redeemer. ■ And who knoweth but what they will
29 be the means of bringing many thousands of them, yea, and also many thousands of
30 our stiffnecked brethren, the Nephites, who are now hardening their hearts in sin and
31 iniquities, to the knowledge of their Redeemer? ■ Now these mysteries are not yet
32 fully made known unto me; therefore I shall forbear. ■ And it may suffice if I only say
33 they are preserved for a wise purpose, which purpose is known unto God; for he doth
34 counsel in wisdom over all his works, and his paths are straight, and his course is
35 one eternal round.

36 O remember, remember, my son Helaman, how strict are the commandments of
37 God. And he said:

“If ye will keep my commandments ye shall prosper in the land”

38 -- but if ye keep not his commandments ye shall be cut off from his presence. ■ And
39 now remember, my son, that God has entrusted you with these things, which are
40 sacred, which he has kept sacred, and also which he will keep and preserve for a wise
41 purpose in him, that he may show forth his power unto future generations.”

42 And now behold, I tell you by the spirit of prophecy, that if ye transgress the
43 commandments of God, behold, these things which are sacred shall be taken away
44 from you by the power of God, and ye shall be delivered up unto Satan, that he may
45 sift you as chaff before the wind. ■ But if ye keep the commandments of God, and do
46 with these things which are sacred according to that which the Lord doth command
47 you, (for you must appeal unto the Lord for all things whatsoever ye must do with
48 them) behold, no power of earth or hell can take them from you, for God is powerful
49 to the fulfilling of all his words. ■ For he will fulfil all his promises which he shall
50 make unto you, for he has fulfilled his promises which he has made unto our fathers.
51 For he promised unto them that he would preserve these things for a wise purpose in
52 him, that he might show forth his power unto future generations.

53 And now behold, one purpose hath he fulfilled, even to the restoration of many

thousands of the Lamanites to the knowledge of the truth; and he hath shown forth his power in them, and he will also still show forth his power in them unto future generations; therefore they shall be preserved. ■ Therefore I command you, my son Helaman, that ye be diligent in fulfilling all my words, and that ye be diligent in keeping the commandments of God as they are written.

And now, I will speak unto you concerning those twenty-four plates, that ye keep them, that the mysteries and the works of darkness, and their secret works, or the secret works of those people who have been destroyed, may be made manifest unto this people; yea, all their murders, and robbings, and their plunderings, and all their wickedness and abominations, may be made manifest unto this people; yea, and that ye preserve these interpreters. ■ For behold, the Lord saw that his people began to work in darkness, yea, work secret murders and abominations; therefore the Lord said,

“if they did not repent they should be destroyed from off the face of the earth.”

And the Lord said:

“I will prepare unto my servant Gazelem, a stone, which shall shine forth in darkness unto light, that I may discover unto my people who serve me, that I may discover unto them the works of their brethren, yea, their secret works, their works of darkness, and their wickedness and abominations.”

And now, my son, these interpreters were prepared that the word of God might be fulfilled, which he spake, saying:

“I will bring forth out of darkness unto light all their secret works and their abominations; and except they repent I will destroy them from off the face of the earth; and I will bring to light all their secrets and abominations, unto every nation that shall hereafter possess the land.”

And now, my son, we see that they did not repent; therefore they have been destroyed, and thus far the word of God has been fulfilled; yea, their secret abominations have been brought out of darkness and made known unto us.

And now, my son, I command you that ye retain all their oaths, and their covenants, and their agreements in their secret abominations; yea, and all their signs and their wonders ye shall keep from this people, that they know them not, lest peradventure they should fall into darkness also and be destroyed. ■ For behold, there is a curse upon all this land, that destruction shall come upon all those workers of darkness, according to the power of God, when they are fully ripe; therefore I desire that this people might not be destroyed. ■ Therefore ye shall keep these secret plans of their oaths and their covenants from this people, and only their wickedness and their murders and their abominations shall ye make known unto them; and ye shall teach them to abhor such wickedness and abominations and murders; and ye shall also teach them that these people were destroyed on account of their wickedness and abominations and their murders. ■ For behold, they murdered all the prophets of the Lord who came among them to declare unto them concerning their iniquities; and the blood of those whom they murdered did cry unto the Lord their God for vengeance upon those who were their murderers; and thus the judgments of God did come upon these workers of darkness and secret combinations. ■ Yea, and cursed be the land forever and ever unto those workers of darkness and secret combinations, even unto destruction, except they repent before they are fully ripe.

And now, my son, remember the words which I have spoken unto you; trust not those secret plans unto this people, but teach them an everlasting hatred against sin and iniquity. ■ Preach unto them repentance, and faith on the Lord Jesus Christ; teach them to humble themselves and to be meek and lowly in heart; teach them to withstand every temptation of the devil, with their faith on the Lord Jesus Christ.

34 *Teach them to never be weary of good works, but to be meek and lowly in heart; for
such shall find rest to their souls.*

35 *O, remember, my son, and learn wisdom in thy youth; yea, learn in thy youth to*
36 *keep the commandments of God. ■ Yea, and cry unto God for all thy support; yea, let*
all thy doings be unto the Lord, and whithersoever thou goest let it be in the Lord;
yea, let all thy thoughts be directed unto the Lord; yea, let the affections of thy heart
37 *be placed upon the Lord forever. ■ Counsel with the Lord in all thy doings, and he*
will direct thee for good; yea, when thou liest down at night lie down unto the Lord,
that he may watch over you in your sleep; and when thou risest in the morning let thy
heart be full of thanks unto God; and if ye do these things, ye shall be lifted up at the
last day.

38 *And now, my son, I have somewhat to say concerning the thing which our fathers*
call a ball, or director--or our fathers called it Liahona, which is, being interpreted,
39 *a compass; and the Lord prepared it. ■ And behold, there cannot any man work after*
the manner of so curious a workmanship. And behold, it was prepared to show unto
40 *our fathers the course which they should travel in the wilderness. ■ And it did work*
for them according to their faith in God; therefore, if they had faith to believe that
God could cause that those spindles should point the way they should go, behold, it
41 *was done; therefore they had this miracle, and also many other miracles wrought by*
the power of God, day by day. ■ Nevertheless, because those miracles were worked by
small means it did show unto them marvelous works. They were slothful, and forgot
to exercise their faith and diligence and then those marvelous works ceased, and they
42 *did not progress in their journey; ■ Therefore, they tarried in the wilderness, or did*
not travel a direct course, and were afflicted with hunger and thirst, because of their
transgressions.

43 *And now, my son, I would that ye should understand that these things are not*
without a shadow; for as our fathers were slothful to give heed to this compass (now
these things were temporal) they did not prosper; even so it is with things which are
44 *spiritual. ■ For behold, it is as easy to give heed to the word of Christ, which will*
point to you a straight course to eternal bliss, as it was for our fathers to give heed to
this compass, which would point unto them a straight course to the promised land.

45 *And now I say, is there not a type in this thing? For just as surely as this*
director did bring our fathers, by following its course, to the promised land, shall the
words of Christ, if we follow their course, carry us beyond this vale of sorrow into a
far better land of promise.

46 *O my son, do not let us be slothful because of the easiness of the way; for so was*
it with our fathers; for so was it prepared for them, that if they would look they might
live; even so it is with us. The way is prepared, and if we will look we may live
forever.

47 *And now, my son, see that ye take care of these sacred things, yea, see that ye*
look to God and live. Go unto this people and declare the word, and be sober. My
son, farewell."

CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT

The commandments of Alma to his son, Shiblon.

*Shiblon was persecuted for righteousness' sake
Salvation is in Christ, who is the life and the light of the world
Bridle all your passions.*

1 *"My son, give ear to my words, for I say unto you, even as I said unto Helaman,
that inasmuch as ye shall keep the commandments of God ye shall prosper in the*

land; and inasmuch as ye will not keep the commandments of God ye shall be cut off from his presence.

2 And now, my son, I trust that I shall have great joy in you, because of your
steadiness and your faithfulness unto God; for as you have commenced in your youth
3 to look to the Lord your God, even so I hope that you will continue in keeping his
commandments; for blessed is he that endureth to the end. ■ I say unto you, my son,
4 that I have had great joy in thee already, because of thy faithfulness and thy
diligence, and thy patience and thy long-suffering among the people of the Zoramites.
For I know that thou wast in bonds; yea, and I also know that thou wast stoned for
the word's sake; and thou didst bear all these things with patience because the Lord
was with thee; and now thou knowest that the Lord did deliver thee.”

5 And now my son, Shiblon, I would that ye should remember, that as much as ye
shall put your trust in God even so much ye shall be delivered out of your trials, and
6 your troubles, and your afflictions, and ye shall be lifted up at the last day. ■ Now,
my son, I would not that ye should think that I know these things of myself, but it is
7 the Spirit of God which is in me which maketh these things known unto me; for if I
had not been born of God I should not have known these things. ■ But behold, the
Lord in his great mercy sent his angel to declare unto me that I must stop the work of
destruction among his people; yea, and I have seen an angel face to face, and he
spake with me, and his voice was as thunder, and it shook the whole earth.

8 And it came to pass that I was three days and three nights in the most bitter pain
and anguish of soul; and never, until I did cry out unto the Lord Jesus Christ for
mercy, did I receive a remission of my sins. But behold, I did cry unto him and I did
find peace to my soul.

9 And now, my son, I have told you this that ye may learn wisdom, that ye may
learn of me that there is no other way or means whereby man can be saved, only in
and through Christ. Behold, he is the life and the light of the world. Behold, he is
the word of truth and righteousness.

10 And now, as ye have begun to teach the word even so I would that ye should
continue to teach; and I would that ye would be diligent and temperate in all things.
11 See that ye are not lifted up unto pride; yea, see that ye do not boast in your own
wisdom, nor of your much strength. ■ Use boldness, but not overbearance; and also
12 see that ye bridle all your passions, that ye may be filled with love; see that ye refrain
from idleness. ■ Do not pray as the Zoramites do, for ye have seen that they pray to
13 be heard of men, and to be praised for their wisdom. ■ Do not say:

14 “O God, I thank thee that we are better than our brethren;”
but rather say:

15 “O Lord, forgive my unworthiness, and remember my brethren in mercy”
--yea, acknowledge your unworthiness before God at all times. ■ And may the Lord
bless your soul, and receive you at the last day into his kingdom, to sit down in
peace.

Now go, my son, and teach the word unto this people. Be sober. My son,
farewell.“

The commandments of Alma to his son, Corianton.

Comprising chapters 39 to 42 inclusive.

CHAPTER THIRTY-NINE

Sexual sin is an abomination

*Corianton's sins kept the Zoramites from receiving the word
Christ's redemption is retroactive in saving the faithful who preceded it.*

1 *“And now, my son, I have somewhat more to say unto thee than what I said unto thy brother; for behold, have ye not observed the steadiness of thy brother, his faithfulness, and his diligence in keeping the commandments of God? Behold, has he not set a good example for thee? ■ For thou didst not give so much heed unto my words as did thy brother, among the people of the Zoramites.*

2
3 *Now this is what I have against thee; thou didst go on unto boasting in thy strength and thy wisdom. ■ And this is not all, my son. Thou didst do that which was grievous unto me; for thou didst forsake the ministry, and did go over into the land of Siron, among the borders of the Lamanites, after the harlot Isabel. ■ Yea, she did steal away the hearts of many; but this was no excuse for thee, my son. Thou shouldst have tended to the ministry wherewith thou wast entrusted. ■ Know ye not, my son, that these things are an abomination in the sight of the Lord; yea, most abominable above all sins save it be the shedding of innocent blood or denying the Holy Ghost? ■ For behold, if ye deny the Holy Ghost when it once has had place in you, and ye know that ye deny it, behold, this is a sin which is unpardonable; yea, and whosoever murdereth against the light and knowledge of God, it is not easy for him to obtain forgiveness; yea, I say unto you, my son, that it is not easy for him to obtain a forgiveness.*

4
5
6
7 *And now, my son, I would to God that ye had not been guilty of so great a crime. I would not dwell upon your crimes, to harrow up your soul, if it were not for your good. ■ But behold, ye cannot hide your crimes from God; and except ye repent they will stand as a testimony against you at the last day.*

8
9 *Now my son, I would that ye should repent and forsake your sins, and go no more after the lusts of your eyes, but cross yourself in all these things; for except ye do this ye can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God. Oh, remember, and take it upon you, and cross yourself in these things. ■ And I command you to take it upon you to counsel with your elder brothers in your undertakings; for behold, thou art in thy youth, and ye stand in need to be nourished by your brothers. And give heed to their counsel. ■ Suffer not yourself to be led away by any vain or foolish thing; suffer not the devil to lead away your heart again after those wicked harlots. Behold, O my son, how great iniquity ye brought upon the Zoramites; for when they saw your conduct they would not believe in my words.*

10
11
12 *And now the Spirit of the Lord doth say unto me:*

***“Command thy children to do good,
lest they lead away the hearts of many people to destruction;”***

13 *therefore I command you, my son, in the fear of God, that ye refrain from your iniquities; ■ That ye turn to the Lord with all your mind, might, and strength; that ye lead away the hearts of no more to do wickedly; but rather return unto them, and acknowledge your faults and that wrong which ye have done. ■ Seek not after riches nor the vain things of this world; for behold, you cannot carry them with you.*

14
15 *And now, my son, I would say somewhat unto you concerning the coming of Christ. Behold, I say unto you, that it is he that surely shall come to take away the sins of the world; yea, he cometh to declare glad tidings of salvation unto his people.*

16 *And now, my son, this was the ministry unto which ye were called, to declare these glad tidings unto this people to prepare their minds; or rather that salvation might come unto them, that they may prepare the minds of their children to hear the word at the time of his coming.*

17 *And now I will ease your mind somewhat on this subject. Behold, you marvel why these things should be known so long beforehand. Behold, I say unto you, is not a soul at this time as precious unto God as a soul will be at the time of his coming? Is it not as necessary that the plan of redemption should be made known unto this people as well as unto their children? ■ Is it not as easy at this time for the Lord to*

send his angel to declare these glad tidings unto us as unto our children, or as after the time of his coming? “

CHAPTER FORTY

Christ bringeth to pass the resurrection of all men

*The righteous dead go to paradise and the wicked to outer darkness
to await the day of their resurrection*

All things shall be restored to their proper and perfect frame in the resurrection.

1 *“Now my son, here is somewhat more I would say unto thee; for I perceive that*
2 *thy mind is worried concerning the resurrection of the dead. ■ Behold, I say unto you,*
that there is no resurrection--or, I would say, in other words, that this mortal does
3 *not put on immortality, this corruption does not put on incorruption--until after the*
coming of Christ. ■ Behold, he bringeth to pass the resurrection of the dead. But
behold, my son, the resurrection is not yet. Now, I unfold unto you a mystery;
nevertheless, there are many mysteries which are kept, that no one knoweth them save
4 *God himself. But I show unto you one thing which I have inquired diligently of God*
that I might know--that is concerning the resurrection. ■ Behold, there is a time
appointed that all shall come forth from the dead. Now when this time cometh no one
5 *knows; but God knoweth the time which is appointed. ■ Now, whether there shall be*
one time, or a second time, or a third time, that men shall come forth from the dead,
it mattereth not; for God knoweth all these things; and it sufficeth me to know that
6 *this is the case--that there is a time appointed that all shall rise from the dead. ■ Now*
there must needs be a space betwixt the time of death and the time of the resurrection.

7 *And now I would inquire what becometh of the souls of men from this time of*
8 *death to the time appointed for the resurrection? ■ Now whether there is more than*
one time appointed for men to rise it mattereth not; for all do not die at once, and
this mattereth not; all is as one day with God, and time only is measured unto men.
9 *Therefore, there is a time appointed unto men that they shall rise from the dead; and*
there is a space between the time of death and the resurrection.

10 *And now, concerning this space of time, what becometh of the souls of men is the*
thing which I have inquired diligently of the Lord to know; and this is the thing of
11 *which I do know. ■ And when the time cometh when all shall rise, then shall they*
know that God knoweth all the times which are appointed unto man.

12 *Now, concerning the state of the soul between death and the*
resurrection--Behold, it has been made known unto me by an angel, that the spirits of
all men, as soon as they are departed from this mortal body, yea, the spirits of all
men, whether they be good or evil, are taken home to that God who gave them life.
13 *And then shall it come to pass, that the spirits of those who are righteous are*
received into a state of happiness, which is called paradise, a state of rest, a state of
peace, where they shall rest from all their troubles and from all care, and sorrow.
And then shall it come to pass, that the spirits of the wicked, yea, who are evil--for
14 *behold, they have no part nor portion of the Spirit of the Lord; for behold, they chose*
evil works rather than good; therefore the spirit of the devil did enter into them, and
take possession of their house--and these shall be cast out into outer darkness; there
shall be weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth, and this because of their own
15 *iniquity, being led captive by the will of the devil. ■ Now this is the state of the souls*
of the wicked, yea, in darkness, and a state of awful, fearful looking for the fiery
indignation of the wrath of God upon them; thus they remain in this state, as well as
the righteous in paradise, until the time of their resurrection.

16 *Now, there are some that have understood that this state of happiness and this*
state of misery of the soul, before the resurrection, was a first resurrection. Yea, I

admit it may be termed a resurrection, the raising of the spirit or the soul and their consignation to happiness or misery, according to the words which have been spoken.
16 And behold, again it hath been spoken, that there is a first resurrection, a resurrection of all those who have been, or who are, or who shall be, down to the resurrection of Christ from the dead.

17 Now, we do not suppose that this first resurrection, which is spoken of in this manner, can be the resurrection of the souls and their consignation to happiness or misery. Ye cannot suppose that this is what it meaneth. ■ Behold, I say unto you, 18 Nay; but it meaneth the reuniting of the soul with the body, of those from the days of Adam down to the resurrection of Christ. ■ Now, whether the souls and the bodies of 19 those of whom has been spoken shall all be reunited at once, the wicked as well as the righteous, I do not say; let it suffice; that I say that they all come forth; or in other words, their resurrection cometh to pass before the resurrection of those who die after the resurrection of Christ.

20 Now, my son, I do not say that their resurrection cometh at the resurrection of Christ; but behold, I give it as my opinion, that the souls and the bodies are reunited, 21 of the righteous, at the resurrection of Christ, and his ascension into heaven. ■ But whether it be at his resurrection or after, I do not say; but this much I say, that there is a space between death and the resurrection of the body, and a state of the soul in happiness or in misery until the time which is appointed of God that the dead shall come forth, and be reunited, both soul and body, and be brought to stand before God, 22 and be judged according to their works. ■ Yea, this bringeth about the restoration of those things of which has been spoken by the mouths of the prophets. ■ The soul shall 23 be restored to the body, and the body to the soul; yea, and every limb and joint shall be restored to its body; yea, even a hair of the head shall not be lost; but all things shall be restored to their proper and perfect frame.

24 And now, my son, this is the restoration of which has been spoken by the mouths of the prophets-- ■ And then shall the righteous shine forth in the kingdom of God. 25 But behold, an awful death cometh upon the wicked; for they die as to things 26 pertaining to things of righteousness; for they are unclean, and no unclean thing can inherit the kingdom of God; but they are cast out, and consigned to partake of the fruits of their labors or their works, which have been evil; and they drink the dregs of a bitter cup.”

CHAPTER FORTY-ONE

*In the resurrection men come forth to a state of endless happiness or endless misery
Wickedness never was happiness
Carnal men are without God in the world
Every person receives again in the restoration the characteristics
and attributes acquired in mortality.*

1 “And now, my son, I have somewhat to say concerning the restoration of which has been spoken; for behold, some have wrested the scriptures, and have gone far astray because of this thing. And I perceive that thy mind has been worried also 2 concerning this thing. But behold, I will explain it unto thee. ■ I say unto thee, my son, that the plan of restoration is requisite with the justice of God; for it is requisite that all things should be restored to their proper order. Behold, it is requisite and just, according to the power and resurrection of Christ, that the soul of man should be restored to its body, and that every part of the body should be restored to itself. 3 And it is requisite with the justice of God that men should be judged according to their works; and if their works were good in this life, and the desires of their hearts were good, that they should also, at the last day, be restored unto that which is good.

4 *And if their works are evil they shall be restored unto them for evil. Therefore, all*
things shall be restored to their proper order, every thing to its natural
frame--mortality raised to immortality, corruption to incorruption--raised to endless
5 *happiness to inherit the kingdom of God, or to endless misery to inherit the kingdom*
of the devil, the one on one hand, the other on the other-- ■ *The one raised to*
happiness according to his desires of happiness, or good according to his desires of
good; and the other to evil according to his desires of evil; for as he has desired to
6 *do evil all the day long even so shall he have his reward of evil when the night*
cometh. ■ *And so it is on the other hand. If he hath repented of his sins, and desired*
7 *righteousness until the end of his days, even so he shall be rewarded unto*
righteousness. ■ *These are they that are redeemed of the Lord; yea, these are they*
that are taken out, that are delivered from that endless night of darkness; and thus
they stand or fall; for behold, they are their own judges, whether to do good or do
evil.

8 *Now, the decrees of God are unalterable; therefore, the way is prepared that*
9 *whosoever will may walk therein and be saved.* ■ *And now behold, my son, do not risk*
one more offense against your God upon those points of doctrine, which ye have
10 *hitherto risked to commit sin.* ■ *Do not suppose, because it has been spoken*
concerning restoration, that ye shall be restored from sin to happiness. Behold, I say
unto you, wickedness never was happiness.

11 *And now, my son, all men that are in a state of nature, or I would say, in a carnal*
state, are in the gall of bitterness and in the bonds of iniquity; they are without God
in the world, and they have gone contrary to the nature of God; therefore, they are in
a state contrary to the nature of happiness.

12 *And now behold, is the meaning of the word restoration to take a thing of a*
natural state and place it in an unnatural state, or to place it in a state opposite to its
13 *nature?* ■ *O, my son, this is not the case; but the meaning of the word restoration is*
to bring back again evil for evil, or carnal for carnal, or devilish for devilish--good
14 *for that which is good; righteous for that which is righteous; just for that which is*
just; merciful for that which is merciful. ■ *Therefore, my son, see that you are*
merciful unto your brethren; deal justly, judge righteously, and do good continually;
and if ye do all these things then shall ye receive your reward; yea, ye shall have
mercy restored unto you again; ye shall have justice restored unto you again; ye shall
15 *have a righteous judgment restored unto you again; and ye shall have good rewarded*
unto you again. ■ *For that which ye do send out shall return unto you again, and be*
restored; therefore, the word restoration more fully condemneth the sinner, and
justifieth him not at all."

Page 311

CHAPTER FORTY-TWO

Mortality is a probationary time to enable man to repent and serve God

The fall brought temporal and spiritual death upon all mankind

Redemption comes through repentance

God himself atoneth for the sins of the world

Mercy is for those who repent

All others are subject to God's justice

Mercy cometh because of the atonement

Only the truly penitent are saved.

1 *"And now, my son, I perceive there is somewhat more which doth worry your*
mind, which ye cannot understand--which is concerning the justice of God in the
2 *punishment of the sinner; for ye do try to suppose that it is injustice that the sinner*
should be consigned to a state of misery. ■ *Now behold, my son, I will explain this*

3 thing unto thee. For behold, after the Lord God sent our first parents forth from the
4 garden of Eden, to till the ground, from whence they were taken--yea, he drew out the
5 man, and he placed at the east end of the garden of Eden, cherubim, and a flaming
6 sword which turned every way, to keep the tree of life-- ■ Now, we see that the man
7 had become as God, knowing good and evil; and lest he should put forth his hand,
8 and take also of the tree of life, and eat and live forever, the Lord God placed
9 cherubim and the flaming sword, that he should not partake of the fruit-- ■ And thus
10 we see, that there was a time granted unto man to repent, yea, a probationary time, a
11 time to repent and serve God. ■ For behold, if Adam had put forth his hand
12 immediately, and partaken of the tree of life, he would have lived forever, according
13 to the word of God, having no space for repentance; yea, and also the word of God
14 would have been void, and the great plan of salvation would have been frustrated.
15 But behold, it was appointed unto man to die--therefore, as they were cut off from the
16 tree of life they should be cut off from the face of the earth--and man became lost
17 forever, yea, they became fallen man.

7 And now, ye see by this that our first parents were cut off both temporally and
8 spiritually from the presence of the Lord; and thus we see they became subjects to
9 follow after their own will. ■ Now behold, it was not expedient that man should be
10 reclaimed from this temporal death, for that would destroy the great plan of
11 happiness. ■ Therefore, as the soul could never die, and the fall had brought upon all
12 mankind a spiritual death as well as a temporal, that is, they were cut off from the
13 presence of the Lord, it was expedient that mankind should be reclaimed from this
14 spiritual death. ■ Therefore, as they had become carnal, sensual, and devilish, by
15 nature, this probationary state became a state for them to prepare; it became a
16 preparatory state.

11 And now remember, my son, if it were not for the plan of redemption, (laying it
12 aside) as soon as they were dead their souls were miserable, being cut off from the
13 presence of the Lord. ■ And now, there was no means to reclaim men from this fallen
14 state, which man had brought upon himself because of his own disobedience;
15 Therefore, according to justice, the plan of redemption could not be brought about,
16 only on conditions of repentance of men in this probationary state, yea, this
17 preparatory state; for except it were for these conditions, mercy could not take effect
18 except it should destroy the work of justice. Now the work of justice could not be
19 destroyed; if so, God would cease to be God. ■ And thus we see that all mankind were
20 fallen, and they were in the grasp of justice; yea, the justice of God, which consigned
21 them forever to be cut off from his presence.

15 And now, the plan of mercy could not be brought about except an atonement
16 should be made; therefore God himself atoneth for the sins of the world, to bring
17 about the plan of mercy, to appease the demands of justice, that God might be a
18 perfect, just God, and a merciful God also. ■ Now, repentance could not come unto
19 men except there were a punishment, which also was eternal as the life of the soul
20 should be, affixed opposite to the plan of happiness, which was as eternal also as the
21 life of the soul. ■ Now, how could a man repent except he should sin? How could he
22 sin if there was no law? How could there be a law save there was a punishment?
Now, there was a punishment affixed, and a just law given, which brought remorse of
conscience unto man.

19 Now, if there was no law given--if a man murdered he should die--would he be
20 afraid he would die if he should murder? ■ And also, if there was no law given
21 against sin men would not be afraid to sin. ■ And if there was no law given, if men
22 sinned what could justice do, or mercy either, for they would have no claim upon the
creature? ■ But there is a law given, and a punishment affixed, and a repentance
granted; which repentance mercy claimeth; otherwise, justice claimeth the creature

23 and executeth the law, and the law inflicteth the punishment; if not so, the works of
justice would be destroyed, and God would cease to be God. ■ But God ceaseth not to
be God, and mercy claimeth the penitent, and mercy cometh because of the
24 atonement; and the atonement bringeth to pass the resurrection of the dead; and the
resurrection of the dead bringeth back men into the presence of God; and thus they
are restored into his presence, to be judged according to their works, according to
the law and justice. ■ For behold, justice exerciseth all his demands, and also mercy
claimeth all which is her own; and thus, none but the truly penitent are saved.

25 What, do ye suppose that mercy can rob justice? I say unto you, Nay; not one
26 whit. If so, God would cease to be God. ■ And thus God bringeth about his great and
eternal purposes, which were prepared from the foundation of the world. And thus
cometh about the salvation and the redemption of men, and also their destruction and
27 misery. ■ Therefore, O my son, whosoever will come may come and partake of the
waters of life freely; and whosoever will not come the same is not compelled to come;
28 but in the last day it shall be restored unto him according to his deeds. ■ If he has
desired to do evil, and has not repented in his days, behold, evil shall be done unto
him, according to the restoration of God.

29 And now, my son, I desire that ye should let these things trouble you no more,
and only let your sins trouble you, with that trouble which shall bring you down unto
30 repentance. ■ O my son, I desire that ye should deny the justice of God no more. Do
not endeavor to excuse yourself in the least point because of your sins, by denying the
justice of God; but do you let the justice of God, and his mercy, and his
long-suffering have full sway in your heart; and let it bring you down to the dust in
humility.

31 And now, O my son, ye are called of God to preach the word unto this people.

And now, my son, go thy way, declare the word with truth and soberness, that
thou mayest bring souls unto repentance, that the great plan of mercy may have claim
upon them. And may God grant unto you even according to my words. Amen.”

CHAPTER FORTY-THREE

Alma and his sons preach the word

The Zoramites and other Nephite dissenters become Lamanites

The Lamanites come against the Nephites in war

Moroni arms the Nephites with defensive armor

The Lord reveals to Alma the strategy of the Lamanites

The Nephites defend their homes, liberties, families, and religion

The armies of Moroni and Lehi surround the Lamanites.

Page 314

1 And now it came to pass that the sons of Alma did go forth among the people, to declare
the word unto them. And Alma, also, himself, could not rest, and he also went forth.

2 Now we shall say no more concerning their preaching, except that they preached the word,
and the truth, according to the spirit of prophecy and revelation; and they preached after
the holy order of God by which they were called.

3 And now I return to an account of the wars between the Nephites and the Lamanites, in the
4 *eighteenth year of the reign of the judges. ■ For behold, it came to pass that the Zoramites
became Lamanites; therefore, in the commencement of the eighteenth year the people of the
Nephites saw that the Lamanites were coming upon them; therefore they made
5 preparations for war; yea, they gathered together their armies in the land of Jershon. ■ And
it came to pass that the Lamanites came with their thousands; and they came into the land
of Antionum, which is the land of the Zoramites; and a man by the name of Zerahemnah
6 was their leader. ■ And now, as the Amalekites were of a more wicked and murderous

74 B.C.

disposition than the Lamanites were, in and of themselves, therefore, Zerahemnah appointed chief captains over the Lamanites, and they were all Amalekites and Zoramites. Now this he did that he might preserve their hatred towards the Nephites, that he might bring them into subjection to the accomplishment of his designs. ■ For behold, his designs were to stir up the Lamanites to anger against the Nephites; this he did that he might usurp great power over them, and also that he might gain power over the Nephites by bringing them into bondage.

And now the design of the Nephites was to support their lands, and their houses, and their wives, and their children, that they might preserve them from the hands of their enemies; and also that they might preserve their rights and their privileges, yea, and also their liberty, that they might worship God according to their desires. ■ For they knew that if they should fall into the hands of the Lamanites, that whosoever should worship God in spirit and in truth, the true and the living God, the Lamanites would destroy. ■ Yea, and they also knew the extreme hatred of the Lamanites towards their brethren, who were the people of Anti-Nephi-Lehi, who were called the people of Ammon--and they would not take up arms, yea, they had entered into a covenant and they would not break it--therefore, if they should fall into the hands of the Lamanites they would be destroyed. ■ And the Nephites would not suffer that they should be destroyed; therefore they gave them lands for their inheritance. ■ And the people of Ammon did give unto the Nephites a large portion of their substance to support their armies; and thus the Nephites were compelled, alone, to withstand against the Lamanites, who were a compound of Laman and Lemuel, and the sons of Ishmael, and all those who had dissented from the Nephites, who were Amalekites and Zoramites, and the descendants of the priests of Noah. ■ Now those descendants were as numerous, nearly, as were the Nephites; and thus the Nephites were obliged to contend with their brethren, even unto bloodshed.

Page 315

And it came to pass as the armies of the Lamanites had gathered together in the land of Antionum, behold, the armies of the Nephites were prepared to meet them in the land of Jershon. ■ Now, the leader of the Nephites, or the man who had been appointed to be the chief captain over the Nephites--now the chief captain took the command of all the armies of the Nephites--and his name was Moroni; And Moroni took all the command, and the government of their wars. ■ And he was only twenty and five years old when he was appointed chief captain over the armies of the Nephites.

And it came to pass that he met the Lamanites in the borders of Jershon, and his people were armed with swords, and with cimeters, and all manner of weapons of war. ■ And when the armies of the Lamanites saw that the people of Nephi, or that Moroni, had prepared his people with breastplates and with arm-shields, yea, and also shields to defend their heads, and also they were dressed with thick clothing-- ■ Now the army of Zerahemnah was not prepared with any such thing; they had only their swords and their cimeters, their bows and their arrows, their stones and their slings; and they were naked, save it were a skin which was girded about their loins; yea, all were naked, save it were the Zoramites and the Amalekites; ■ But they were not armed with breastplates, nor shields -- therefore, they were exceedingly afraid of the armies of the Nephites because of their armor, notwithstanding their number being so much greater than the Nephites.

Behold, now it came to pass that they durst not come against the Nephites in the borders of Jershon; therefore they departed out of the land of Antionum into the wilderness, and took their journey round about in the wilderness, away by the head of the river Sidon, that they might come into the land of Manti and take possession of the land; for they did not suppose that the armies of Moroni would know whither they had gone. ■ But it came to pass, as

soon as they had departed into the wilderness Moroni sent spies into the wilderness to watch their camp; and Moroni, also, knowing of the prophecies of Alma, sent certain men unto him, desiring him that he should inquire of the Lord whither the armies of the Nephites should go to defend themselves against the Lamanites. ■ And it came to pass that the word of the Lord came unto Alma, and Alma informed the messengers of Moroni, that the armies of the Lamanites were marching round about in the wilderness, that they might come over into the land of Manti, that they might commence an attack upon the weaker part of the people. And those messengers went and delivered the message unto Moroni.

Now Moroni, leaving a part of his army in the land of Jershon, lest by any means a part of the Lamanites should come into that land and take possession of the city, took the remaining part of his army and marched over into the land of Manti. ■ And he caused that all the people in that quarter of the land should gather themselves together to battle against the Lamanites, to defend their lands and their country, their rights and their liberties; therefore they were prepared against the time of the coming of the Lamanites. ■ And it came to pass that Moroni caused that his army should be secreted in the valley which was near the bank of the river Sidon, which was on the west of the river Sidon in the wilderness. ■ And Moroni placed spies round about, that he might know when the camp of the Lamanites should come.

And now, as Moroni knew the intention of the Lamanites, that it was their intention to destroy their brethren, or to subject them and bring them into bondage that they might establish a kingdom unto themselves over all the land; ■ And he also knowing that it was the only desire of the Nephites to preserve their lands, and their liberty, and their church, therefore he thought it no sin that he should defend them by stratagem; therefore, he found by his spies which course the Lamanites were to take. ■ Therefore, he divided his army and brought a part over into the valley, and concealed them on the east, and on the south of the hill Riplah; ■ And the remainder he concealed in the west valley, on the west of the river Sidon, and so down into the borders of the land Manti. ■ And thus having placed his army according to his desire, he was prepared to meet them.

And it came to pass that the Lamanites came up on the north of the hill, where a part of the army of Moroni was concealed. ■ And as the Lamanites had passed the hill Riplah, and came into the valley, and began to cross the river Sidon, the army which was concealed on the south of the hill, which was led by a man whose name was Lehi, and he led his army forth and encircled the Lamanites about on the east in their rear.

And it came to pass that the Lamanites, when they saw the Nephites coming upon them in their rear, turned them about and began to contend with the army of Lehi. ■ And the work of death commenced on both sides, but it was more dreadful on the part of the Lamanites, for their nakedness was exposed to the heavy blows of the Nephites with their swords and their cimeters, which brought death almost at every stroke. ■ While on the other hand, there was now and then a man fell among the Nephites, by their swords and the loss of blood, they being shielded from the more vital parts of the body, or the more vital parts of the body being shielded from the strokes of the Lamanites, by their breastplates, and their arm-shields, and their head-plates; and thus the Nephites did carry on the work of death among the Lamanites. ■ And it came to pass that the Lamanites became frightened, because of the great destruction among them, even until they began to flee towards the river Sidon. ■ And they were pursued by Lehi and his men; and they were driven by Lehi into the waters of Sidon, and they crossed the waters of Sidon. And Lehi retained his armies upon the bank of the river Sidon that they should not cross.

41 And it came to pass that Moroni and his army met the Lamanites in the valley, on the other
42 side of the river Sidon, and began to fall upon them and to slay them. ■ And the Lamanites
43 did flee again before them, towards the land of Manti; and they were met again by the
44 armies of Moroni. ■ Now in this case the Lamanites did fight exceedingly; yea, never had
45 the Lamanites been known to fight with such exceedingly great strength and courage, no,
46 not even from the beginning. ■ And they were inspired by the Zoramites and the
47 Amalekites, who were their chief captains and leaders, and by Zerahemnah, who was their
48 chief captain, or their chief leader and commander; yea, they did fight like dragons, and
49 many of the Nephites were slain by their hands, yea, for they did smite in two many of
50 their head-plates, and they did pierce many of their breastplates, and they did smite off
51 many of their arms; and thus the Lamanites did smite in their fierce anger. ■ Nevertheless,
52 the Nephites were inspired by a better cause, for they were not fighting for monarchy nor
53 power but they were fighting for their homes and their liberties, their wives and their
54 children, and their all, yea, for their rites of worship and their church. ■ And they were
55 doing that which they felt was the duty which they owed to their God; for the Lord had
56 said unto them, and also unto their fathers, that:

*“Inasmuch as ye are not guilty of the first offense, neither the second,
ye shall not suffer yourselves to be slain by the hands of your enemies.”*

47 And again, the Lord has said that:

“Ye shall defend your families even unto bloodshed.”

Therefore for this cause were the Nephites contending with the Lamanites, to defend
themselves, and their families, and their lands, their country, and their rights, and their
religion.

48 And it came to pass that when the men of Moroni saw the fierceness and the anger of the
49 Lamanites, they were about to shrink and flee from them. And Moroni, perceiving their
50 intent, sent forth and inspired their hearts with these thoughts--yea, the thoughts of their
51 lands, their liberty, yea, their freedom from bondage. ■ And it came to pass that they
52 turned upon the Lamanites, and they cried with one voice unto the Lord their God, for their
53 liberty and their freedom from bondage. ■ And they began to stand against the Lamanites
54 with power; and in that selfsame hour that they cried unto the Lord for their freedom, the
55 Lamanites began to flee before them; and they fled even to the waters of Sidon. ■ Now, the
56 Lamanites were more numerous, yea, by more than double the number of the Nephites;
57 nevertheless, they were driven insomuch that they were gathered together in one body in
58 the valley, upon the bank by the river Sidon. ■ Therefore the armies of Moroni encircled
59 them about, yea, even on both sides of the river, for behold, on the east were the men of
60 Lehi. ■ Therefore when Zerahemnah saw the men of Lehi on the east of the river Sidon,
61 and the armies of Moroni on the west of the river Sidon, that they were encircled about by
62 the Nephites, they were struck with terror. ■ Now Moroni, when he saw their terror,
63 commanded his men that they should stop shedding their blood.

Page 318

CHAPTER FORTY-FOUR

*Moroni commands the Lamanites to make a covenant of peace or be destroyed
Zerahemnah rejects the offer, and the battle resumes
Moroni's armies defeat the Lamanites.*

1 And it came to pass that they did stop and withdrew a pace from them. And Moroni said
unto Zerahemnah:

2 *“Behold, Zerahemnah, that we do not desire to be men of blood. Ye know that ye
are in our hands, yet we do not desire to slay you. ■ Behold, we have not come out to
battle against you that we might shed your blood for power; neither do we desire to
bring any one to the yoke of bondage. But this is the very cause for which ye have*

3 *come against us; yea, and ye are angry with us because of our religion. ■ But now, ye behold that the Lord is with us; and ye behold that he has delivered you into our hands.*

And now I would that ye should understand that this is done unto us because of our religion and our faith in Christ. And now ye see that ye cannot destroy this our
4 *faith. ■ Now ye see that this is the true faith of God; yea, ye see that God will support, and keep, and preserve us, so long as we are faithful unto him, and unto our faith, and our religion; and never will the Lord suffer that we shall be destroyed except we should fall into transgression and deny our faith.*

5 *And now, Zerahemnah, I command you, in the name of that all-powerful God, who has strengthened our arms that we have gained power over you, by our faith, by our religion, and by our rites of worship, and by our church, and by the sacred support which we owe to our wives and our children, by that liberty which binds us to our lands and our country; yea, and also by the maintenance of the sacred word of*
6 *God, to which we owe all our happiness; and by all that is most dear unto us-- ■ Yea, and this is not all; I command you by all the desires which ye have for life, that ye deliver up your weapons of war unto us, and we will seek not your blood, but we will spare your lives, if ye will go your way and come not again to war against us.*

7 *And now, if ye do not this, behold, ye are in our hands, and I will command my men that they shall fall upon you, and inflict the wounds of death in your bodies, that ye may become extinct; and then we will see who shall have power over this people; yea, we will see who shall be brought into bondage.”*

8 And now it came to pass that when Zerahemnah had heard these sayings he came forth and delivered up his sword and his cimeter, and his bow into the hands of Moroni, and said unto him:

“Behold, here are our weapons of war; we will deliver them up unto you, but we will not suffer ourselves to take an oath unto you, which we know that we shall break, and also our children; but take our weapons of war, and suffer that we may depart into the wilderness; otherwise we will retain our swords, and we will perish or
9 *conquer. ■ Behold, we are not of your faith; we do not believe that it is God that has delivered us into your hands; but we believe that it is your cunning that has preserved you from our swords. Behold, it is your breastplates and your shields that have preserved you.”*

10 And now when Zerahemnah had made an end of speaking these words, Moroni returned the sword and the weapons of war, which he had received, unto Zerahemnah, saying:
11 Behold, we will end the conflict. ■ Now I cannot recall the words which I have spoken, therefore as the Lord liveth, ye shall not depart except ye depart with an oath that ye will not return again against us to war. Now as ye are in our hands we will spill your blood
12 upon the ground, or ye shall submit to the conditions which I have proposed. ■ And now when Moroni had said these words, Zerahemnah retained his sword, and he was angry with Moroni, and he rushed forward that he might slay Moroni; but as he raised his sword, behold, one of Moroni's soldiers smote it even to the earth, and it broke by the hilt; and he also smote Zerahemnah that he took off his scalp and it fell to the earth. And Zerahemnah withdrew from before them into the midst of his soldiers.

13 And it came to pass that the soldier who stood by, who smote off the scalp of Zerahemnah, took up the scalp from off the ground by the hair, and laid it upon the point of his sword, and stretched it forth unto them, saying unto them with a loud voice:

14 *“Even as this scalp has fallen to the earth, which is the scalp of your chief, so shall ye fall to the earth except ye will deliver up your weapons of war and depart with a covenant of peace.”*

15 Now there were many, when they heard these words and saw the scalp which was upon the sword, that were struck with fear; and many came forth and threw down their weapons of war at the feet of Moroni, and entered into a covenant of peace. And as many as entered into a covenant they suffered to depart into the wilderness.

16 Now it came to pass that Zerahemnah was exceedingly wroth, and he did stir up the
17 remainder of his soldiers to anger, to contend more powerfully against the Nephites. ■ And now Moroni was angry, because of the stubbornness of the Lamanites; therefore he commanded his people that they should fall upon them and slay them. And it came to pass that they began to slay them; yea, and the Lamanites did contend with their swords and
18 their might. ■ But behold, their naked skins and their bare heads were exposed to the sharp swords of the Nephites; yea, behold they were pierced and smitten, yea, and did fall exceedingly fast before the swords of the Nephites; and they began to be swept down, even
19 as the soldier of Moroni had prophesied. ■ Now Zerahemnah, when he saw that they were all about to be destroyed, cried mightily unto Moroni, promising that he would covenant and also his people with them, if they would spare the remainder of their lives, that they never would come to war again against them.

Page 320

20 And it came to pass that Moroni caused that the work of death should cease again among the people. And he took the weapons of war from the Lamanites; and after they had entered into a covenant with him of peace they were suffered to depart into the
21 wilderness. ■ Now the number of their dead was not numbered because of the greatness of the number; yea, the number of their dead was exceedingly great, both on the Nephites and
22 on the Lamanites. ■ And it came to pass that they did cast their dead into the waters of Sidon, and they have gone forth and are buried in the depths of the sea. ■ And the armies
23 of the Nephites, or of Moroni, returned and came to their houses and their lands. ■ And
24 thus *ended the eighteenth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.

73 B.C.

And thus ended the record of Alma, which was written upon the plates of Nephi.

*The account of the people of Nephi, and their wars and dissensions,
in the days of Helaman, according to the record of Helaman, which he kept in his days.
Comprising chapters 45 to 62 inclusive.*

CHAPTER FORTY-FIVE

*Helaman believes the words of Alma
Alma prophesies the destruction of the Nephites
He blesses and curses the land
Alma is taken up by the Spirit, even as Moses
Dissension grows in the Church.*

1 Behold, now it came to pass that the people of Nephi were exceedingly rejoiced, because the Lord had again delivered them out of the hands of their enemies; therefore they gave thanks unto the Lord their God; yea, and they did fast much and pray much, and they did worship God with exceedingly great joy.

2 And it came to pass in the nineteenth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi, that Alma came unto his son Helaman and said unto him:

“Believest thou the words which I spake unto thee concerning those records
which have been kept?”

3 And Helaman said unto him:

“Yea, I believe.”

4 And Alma said again:
"Believest thou in Jesus Christ, who shall come?"

5 And he said:
"Yea, I believe all the words which thou hast spoken."

6 And Alma said unto him again:
"Will ye keep my commandments?"

7 And he said:
"Yea, I will keep thy commandments with all my heart."

8 Then Alma said unto him:

9 "Blessed art thou; and the Lord shall prosper thee in this land. ■ But behold, I have somewhat to prophesy unto thee; but what I prophesy unto thee ye shall not make known; yea, what I prophesy unto thee shall not be made known, even until the prophecy is fulfilled; therefore write the words which I shall say. ■ And these are the words:

10 "Behold, I perceive that this very people, the Nephites, according to the spirit of revelation which is in me, in four hundred years from the time that Jesus Christ shall manifest himself unto them, shall dwindle in unbelief. ■ Yea, and then shall they see wars and pestilences, yea, famines and bloodshed, even until the people of Nephi shall become extinct-- ■ Yea, and this because they shall dwindle in unbelief and fall into the works of darkness, and lasciviousness, and all manner of iniquities; yea, I say unto you, that because they shall sin against so great light and knowledge, yea, I say unto you, that from that day, even the fourth generation shall not all pass away before this great iniquity shall come. ■ And when that great day cometh, behold, the time very soon cometh that those who are now, or the seed of those who are now numbered among the people of Nephi, shall no more be numbered among the people of Nephi. ■ But whosoever remaineth, and is not destroyed in that great and dreadful day, shall be numbered among the Lamanites, and shall become like unto them, all, save it be a few who shall be called the disciples of the Lord; and them shall the Lamanites pursue even until they shall become extinct."

14 And now, because of iniquity, this prophecy shall be fulfilled."

15 And now it came to pass that after Alma had said these things to Helaman, he blessed him, and also his other sons; and he also blessed the earth for the righteous' sake. ■ And he said:
"Thus saith the Lord God--

***"Cursed shall be the land, yea, this land,
unto every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, unto destruction,
which do wickedly, when they are fully ripe;
and as I have said so shall it be;
for this is the cursing and the blessing of God upon the land,
for the Lord cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance"***

17 And now, when Alma had said these words he blessed the church, yea, all those who should stand fast in the faith from that time henceforth. ■ And when Alma had done this he departed out of the land of Zarahemla, as if to go into the land of Melek. And it came to pass that he was never heard of more; as to his death or burial we know not of. ■ Behold, this we know, that he was a righteous man; and the saying went abroad in the church that he was taken up by the Spirit, or buried by the hand of the Lord, even as Moses. But behold, the scriptures saith the Lord took Moses unto himself; and we suppose that he has also received Alma in the spirit, unto himself; therefore, for this cause we know nothing concerning his death and burial.

20 And now it came to pass in the *commencement of the nineteenth year of the reign of the **73 B.C.**

21 judges over the people of Nephi, that Helaman went forth among the people to declare the
word unto them. ■ For behold, because of their wars with the Lamanites and the many
22 little dissensions and disturbances which had been among the people, it became expedient
that the word of God should be declared among them, yea, and that a regulation should be
made throughout the church. ■ Therefore, Helaman and his brethren went forth to establish
the church again in all the land, yea, in every city throughout all the land which was
possessed by the people of Nephi. And it came to pass that they did appoint priests and
teachers throughout all the land, over all the churches.

Page 322

23 And now it came to pass that after Helaman and his brethren had appointed priests and
teachers over the churches that there arose a dissension among them, and they would not
24 give heed to the words of Helaman and his brethren; ■ But they grew proud, being lifted up
in their hearts, because of their exceedingly great riches; therefore they grew rich in their
own eyes, and would not give heed to their words, to walk uprightly before God.

CHAPTER FORTY-SIX

Amalickiah conspires to be king

Moroni raises the title of liberty

he rallies the people to defend their religion

True believers are called Christians

A remnant of Joseph shall be preserved

Amalickiah and the dissenters flee to the land of Nephi

Those who will not support the cause of freedom are put to death.

1 And it came to pass that as many as would not hearken to the words of Helaman and his
2 brethren were gathered together against their brethren. ■ And now behold, they were
3 exceedingly wroth, insomuch that they were determined to slay them. ■ Now the leader of
4 those who were wroth against their brethren was a large and a strong man; and his name
was Amalickiah. ■ And Amalickiah was desirous to be a king; and those people who were
wroth were also desirous that he should be their king; and they were the greater part of
5 them the lower judges of the land, and they were seeking for power. ■ And they had been
led by the flatteries of Amalickiah, that if they would support him and establish him to be
6 their king that he would make them rulers over the people. ■ Thus they were led away by
Amalickiah to dissensions, notwithstanding the preaching of Helaman and his brethren,
yea, notwithstanding their exceedingly great care over the church, for they were high
7 priests over the church. ■ And there were many in the church who believed in the flattering
words of Amalickiah, therefore they dissented even from the church; and thus were the
affairs of the people of Nephi exceedingly precarious and dangerous, notwithstanding their
great victory which they had had over the Lamanites, and their great rejoicings which they
had had because of their deliverance by the hand of the Lord.

8 Thus we see how quick the children of men do forget the Lord their God, yea, how quick to
9 do iniquity, and to be led away by the evil one. ■ Yea, and we also see the great
wickedness one very wicked man can cause to take place among the children of men.
10 Yea, we see that Amalickiah, because he was a man of cunning device and a man of many
flattering words, that he led away the hearts of many people to do wickedly; yea, and to
seek to destroy the church of God, and to destroy the foundation of liberty which God had
11 granted unto them, or which blessing God had sent upon the face of the land for the
12 righteous' sake.

Page 323

11 And now it came to pass that when Moroni, who was the chief commander of the armies of
12 the Nephites, had heard of these dissensions, he was angry with Amalickiah. ■ And it came

to pass that he rent his coat; and he took a piece thereof, and wrote upon it --

*“In memory of our God, our religion, and freedom, and our peace,
our wives, and our children”*

13 --and he fastened it upon the end of a pole. ■ And he fastened on his head-plate, and his
breastplate, and his shields, and girded on his armor about his loins; and he took the pole,
which had on the end thereof his rent coat, (and he called it the title of liberty) and he
bowed himself to the earth, and he prayed mightily unto his God for the blessings of liberty
14 the land-- ■ For thus were all the true believers of Christ, who belonged to the church of
15 God, called by those who did not belong to the church. ■ And those who did belong to the
church were faithful; yea, all those who were true believers in Christ took upon them,
gladly, the name of Christ, or Christians as they were called, because of their belief in
16 Christ who should come. ■ And therefore, at this time, Moroni prayed that the cause of the
Christians, and the freedom of the land might be favored.

17 And it came to pass that when he had poured out his soul to God, he named all the land
which was south of the land Desolation, yea, and in fine, all the land, both on the north and
18 on the south--A chosen land, and the land of liberty. ■ And he said:

*“Surely God shall not suffer that we, who are despised because we take upon us the
name of Christ, shall be trodden down and destroyed, until we bring it upon us by
our own transgressions.”*

19 And when Moroni had said these words, he went forth among the people, waving the rent
part of his garment in the air, that all might see the writing which he had written upon the
rent part, and crying with a loud voice, saying:

20 *“Behold, whosoever will maintain this title upon the land, let them come forth in the
strength of the Lord, and enter into a covenant that they will maintain their rights,
and their religion, that the Lord God may bless them.”*

21 And it came to pass that when Moroni had proclaimed these words, behold, the people
came running together with their armor girded about their loins, rending their garments in
token, or as a covenant, that they would not forsake the Lord their God; or, in other words,
if they should transgress the commandments of God, or fall into transgression, and be
ashamed to take upon them the name of Christ, the Lord should rend them even as they had
22 rent their garments. ■ Now this was the covenant which they made, and they cast their
garments at the feet of Moroni, saying:

*“We covenant with our God, that we shall be destroyed, even as our brethren in the
land northward, if we shall fall into transgression; yea, he may cast us at the feet of
our enemies, even as we have cast our garments at thy feet to be trodden under foot,
if we shall fall into transgression.”*

23 Moroni said unto them:

*“Behold, we are a remnant of the seed of Jacob; yea, we are a remnant of the seed of
Joseph, whose coat was rent by his brethren into many pieces; yea, and now behold,
let us remember to keep the commandments of God, or our garments shall be rent by
24 our brethren, and we be cast into prison, or be sold, or be slain. ■ Yea, let us
preserve our liberty as a remnant of Joseph; yea, let us remember the words of Jacob,
before his death, for behold, he saw that a part of the remnant of the coat of Joseph
was preserved and had not decayed. And he said--*

*“Even as this remnant of garment of my son hath been preserved, so shall a
remnant of the seed of my son be preserved by the hand of God, and be taken
unto himself, while the remainder of the seed of Joseph shall perish, even as the
25 remnant of his garment. ■ Now behold, this giveth my soul sorrow; nevertheless,
my soul hath joy in my son, because of that part of his seed which shall be taken*

unto God.”

26, 27 *Now behold, this was the language of Jacob. ■ And now who knoweth but what the remnant of the seed of Joseph, which shall perish as his garment, are those who have dissented from us? Yea, and even it shall be ourselves if we do not stand fast in the faith of Christ.”*

28 And now it came to pass that when Moroni had said these words he went forth, and also sent forth in all the parts of the land where there were dissensions, and gathered together all the people who were desirous to maintain their liberty, to stand against Amalickiah and those who had dissented, who were called Amalickiahites.

29 And it came to pass that when Amalickiah saw that the people of Moroni were more numerous than the Amalickiahites--and he also saw that his people were doubtful concerning the justice of the cause in which they had undertaken--therefore, fearing that he should not gain the point, he took those of his people who would and departed into the land of Nephi.

30 Now Moroni thought it was not expedient that the Lamanites should have any more strength; therefore he thought to cut off the people of Amalickiah, or to take them and bring them back, and put Amalickiah to death; yea, for he knew that he would stir up the Lamanites to anger against them, and cause them to come to battle against them; and this he knew that Amalickiah would do that he might obtain his purposes. ■ Therefore Moroni thought it was expedient that he should take his armies, who had gathered themselves together, and armed themselves, and entered into a covenant to keep the peace--and it came to pass that he took his army and marched out with his tents into the wilderness, to cut off the course of Amalickiah in the wilderness.

32 And it came to pass that he did according to his desires, and marched forth into the wilderness, and headed the armies of Amalickiah. ■ And it came to pass that Amalickiah fled with a small number of his men, and the remainder were delivered up into the hands of Moroni and were taken back into the land of Zarahemla. ■ Now, Moroni being a man who was appointed by the chief judges and the voice of the people, therefore he had power according to his will with the armies of the Nephites, to establish and to exercise authority over them.

Page 325

35 And it came to pass that whomsoever of the Amalickiahites that would not enter into a covenant to support the cause of freedom, that they might maintain a free government, he caused to be put to death; and there were but few who denied the covenant of freedom.

36 And it came to pass also, that he caused the title of liberty to be hoisted upon every tower which was in all the land, which was possessed by the Nephites; and thus Moroni planted the standard of liberty among the Nephites. ■ And they began to have peace again in the land; and thus they did maintain peace in the land until nearly the *end of the nineteenth year of the reign of the judges. ■ And Helaman and the high priests did also maintain order in the church; yea, even for the space of four years did they have much peace and rejoicing in the church.

72 B.C.

39 And it came to pass that there were many who died, firmly believing that their souls were redeemed by the Lord Jesus Christ; thus they went out of the world rejoicing. ■ And there were some who died with fevers, which at some seasons of the year were very frequent in the land--but not so much so with fevers, because of the excellent qualities of the many plants and roots which God had prepared to remove the cause of diseases, to which men

41 were subject by the nature of the climate-- ■ But there were many who died with old age; and those who died in the faith of Christ are happy in him, as we must needs suppose.

CHAPTER FORTY-SEVEN

*Amalickiah uses treachery, murder, and intrigue to become king of the Lamanites
The Nephite dissenters are more wicked and ferocious than the Lamanites.*

1 Now we will return in our record to Amalickiah and those who had fled with him into the wilderness; for, behold, he had taken those who went with him, and went up in the land of Nephi among the Lamanites, and did stir up the Lamanites to anger against the people of Nephi, insomuch that the king of the Lamanites sent a proclamation throughout all his land, among all his people, that they should gather themselves together again to go to battle against the Nephites.

2 And it came to pass that when the proclamation had gone forth among them they were exceedingly afraid; yea, they feared to displease the king, and they also feared to go to battle against the Nephites lest they should lose their lives. And it came to pass that they would not, or the more part of them would not, obey the commandments of the king.

3 And now it came to pass that the king was wroth because of their disobedience; therefore he gave Amalickiah the command of that part of his army which was obedient unto his commands, and commanded him that he should go forth and compel them to arms. ■ Now
4 behold, this was the desire of Amalickiah; for he being a very subtle man to do evil
5 therefore he laid the plan in his heart to dethrone the king of the Lamanites. ■ And now he had got the command of those parts of the Lamanites who were in favor of the king; and he sought to gain favor of those who were not obedient; therefore he went forward to the place which was called Onidah, for thither had all the Lamanites fled; for they discovered the army coming, and, supposing that they were coming to destroy them, therefore they
6 fled to Onidah, to the place of arms. ■ And they had appointed a man to be a king and a leader over them, being fixed in their minds with a determined resolution that they would not be subjected to go against the Nephites.

Page 326

7 And it came to pass that they had gathered themselves together upon the top of the mount
8 which was called Antipas, in preparation to battle. ■ Now it was not Amalickiah's intention to give them battle according to the commandments of the king; but behold, it was his intention to gain favor with the armies of the Lamanites, that he might place himself at their head and dethrone the king and take possession of the kingdom. ■ And behold, it
9 came to pass that he caused his army to pitch their tents in the valley which was near the
10 mount Antipas. ■ And it came to pass that when it was night he sent a secret embassy into the mount Antipas, desiring that the leader of those who were upon the mount, whose name was Lehonti, that he should come down to the foot of the mount, for he desired to speak with him.

11 And it came to pass that when Lehonti received the message he durst not go down to the foot of the mount. And it came to pass that Amalickiah sent again the second time, desiring him to come down. And it came to pass that Lehonti would not; and he sent again
12 the third time. ■ And it came to pass that when Amalickiah found that he could not get Lehonti to come down off from the mount, he went up into the mount, nearly to Lehonti's camp; and he sent again the fourth time his message unto Lehonti, desiring that he would come down, and that he would bring his guards with him.

13 And it came to pass that when Lehonti had come down with his guards to Amalickiah, that

Amalickiah desired him to come down with his army in the night-time, and surround those men in their camps over whom the king had given him command, and that he would deliver them up into Lehonti's hands, if he would make him (Amalickiah) a second leader over the whole army.

14 And it came to pass that Lehonti came down with his men and surrounded the men of
15 Amalickiah, so that before they awoke at the dawn of day they were surrounded by the
armies of Lehonti. ■ And it came to pass that when they saw that they were surrounded,
they plead with Amalickiah that he would suffer them to fall in with their brethren, that
they might not be destroyed. Now this was the very thing which Amalickiah desired.

16 And it came to pass that he delivered his men, contrary to the commands of the king. Now
17 this was the thing that Amalickiah desired, that he might accomplish his designs in
dethroning the king. ■ Now it was the custom among the Lamanites, if their chief leader
was killed, to appoint the second leader to be their chief leader.

18 And it came to pass that Amalickiah caused that one of his servants should administer
19 poison by degrees to Lehonti, that he died. ■ Now, when Lehonti was dead, the Lamanites
20 appointed Amalickiah to be their leader and their chief commander. ■ And it came to pass
that Amalickiah marched with his armies (for he had gained his desires) to the land of
21 Nephi, to the city of Nephi, which was the chief city. ■ And the king came out to meet him
with his guards, for he supposed that Amalickiah had fulfilled his commands, and that
Amalickiah had gathered together so great an army to go against the Nephites to battle.
22 But behold, as the king came out to meet him Amalickiah caused that his servants should
go forth to meet the king. And they went and bowed themselves before the king, as if to
23 reverence him because of his greatness. ■ And it came to pass that the king put forth his
hand to raise them, as was the custom with the Lamanites, as a token of peace, which
24 custom they had taken from the Nephites. ■ And it came to pass that when he had raised
the first from the ground, behold he stabbed the king to the heart; and he fell to the earth.
25 Now the servants of the king fled; and the servants of Amalickiah raised a cry, saying:
26 *“ Behold, the servants of the king have stabbed him to the heart, and he has fallen
and they have fled; behold, come and see.”*

27 And it came to pass that Amalickiah commanded that his armies should march forth and
see what had happened to the king; and when they had come to the spot, and found the king
lying in his gore, Amalickiah pretended to be wroth, and said:
*“Whosoever loved the king, let him go forth,
and pursue his servants that they may be slain.”*

28 And it came to pass that all they who loved the king, when they heard these words, came
29 forth and pursued after the servants of the king. ■ Now when the servants of the king saw
an army pursuing after them, they were frightened again, and fled into the wilderness, and
30 came over into the land of Zarahemla and joined the people of Ammon. ■ And the army
which pursued after them returned, having pursued after them in vain; and thus
Amalickiah, by his fraud, gained the hearts of the people.

31 And it came to pass on the morrow he entered the city Nephi with his armies, and took
32 possession of the city. ■ And now it came to pass that the queen, when she had heard that
the king was slain--for Amalickiah had sent an embassy to the queen informing her that the
king had been slain by his servants, that he had pursued them with his army, but it was in
33 vain, and they had made their escape-- ■ Therefore, when the queen had received this
message she sent unto Amalickiah, desiring him that he would spare the people of the city;

and she also desired him that he should come in unto her; and she also desired him that he should bring witnesses with him to testify concerning the death of the king.

34 And it came to pass that Amalickiah took the same servant that slew the king, and all them who were with him, and went in unto the queen, unto the place where she sat; and they all testified unto her that the king was slain by his own servants; and they said also:

“They have fled; does not this testify against them?”

And thus they satisfied the queen concerning the death of the king.

Page 328

35 And it came to pass that Amalickiah sought the favor of the queen, and took her unto him to wife; and thus by his fraud, and by the assistance of his cunning servants, he obtained the kingdom; yea, he was acknowledged king throughout all the land, among all the people of the Lamanites, who were composed of the Lamanites and the Lemuelites and the Ishmaelites, and all the dissenters of the Nephites, from the reign of Nephi down to the present time. ■ Now these dissenters, having the same instruction and the same information of the Nephites, yea, having been instructed in the same knowledge of the Lord, nevertheless, it is strange to relate, not long after their dissensions they became more hardened and impenitent, and more wild, wicked and ferocious than the Lamanites--drinking in with the traditions of the Lamanites; giving way to indolence, and all manner of lasciviousness; yea, entirely forgetting the Lord their God.

CHAPTER FORTY-EIGHT

*Amalickiah incites the Lamanites against Nephites
Moroni prepares his people to defend the cause of the Christians
He rejoiced in liberty and freedom and was a mighty man of God.*

1 And now it came to pass that, as soon as Amalickiah had obtained the kingdom he began to inspire the hearts of the Lamanites against the people of Nephi; yea, he did appoint men to speak unto the Lamanites from their towers, against the Nephites. ■ And thus he did inspire their hearts against the Nephites, insomuch that in the *latter end of the nineteenth year of the reign of the judges, he having accomplished his designs thus far, yea, having been made king over the Lamanites, he sought also to reign over all the land, yea, and all the people who were in the land, the Nephites as well as the Lamanites. ■ Therefore he had accomplished his design, for he had hardened the hearts of the Lamanites and blinded their minds, and stirred them up to anger, insomuch that he had gathered together a numerous host to go to battle against the Nephites. ■ For he was determined, because of the greatness of the number of his people, to overpower the Nephites and to bring them into bondage. And thus he did appoint chief captains of the Zoramites, they being the most acquainted with the strength of the Nephites, and their places of resort, and the weakest parts of their cities; therefore he appointed them to be chief captains over his armies.

72 B.C.

6 And it came to pass that they took their camp, and moved forth toward the land of Zarahemla in the wilderness. ■ Now it came to pass that while Amalickiah had thus been obtaining power by fraud and deceit, Moroni, on the other hand, had been preparing the minds of the people to be faithful unto the Lord their God. ■ Yea, he had been strengthening the armies of the Nephites, and erecting small forts, or places of resort; throwing up banks of earth round about to enclose his armies, and also building walls of stone to encircle them about, round about their cities and the borders of their lands; yea, all round about the land. ■ And in their weakest fortifications he did place the greater number of men; and thus he did fortify and strengthen the land which was possessed by the Nephites. ■ And thus he was preparing to support their liberty, their lands, their wives, and their children, and their peace, and that they might live unto the Lord their God, and that

Page 329

11 they might maintain that which was called by their enemies the cause of Christians. ■ And
Moroni was a strong and a mighty man; he was a man of a perfect understanding; yea, a
12 man that did not delight in bloodshed; a man whose soul did joy in the liberty and the
freedom of his country, and his brethren from bondage and slavery; ■ Yea, a man whose
heart did swell with thanksgiving to his God, for the many privileges and blessings which
13 he bestowed upon his people; a man who did labor exceedingly for the welfare and safety
of his people. ■ Yea, and he was a man who was firm in the faith of Christ, and he had
sworn with an oath to defend his people, his rights, and his country, and his religion, even
to the loss of his blood.

14 Now the Nephites were taught to defend themselves against their enemies, even to the
shedding of blood if it were necessary; yea, and they were also taught never to give an
offense, yea, and never to raise the sword except it were against an enemy, except it were
15 to preserve their lives. ■ And this was their faith, that by so doing God would prosper them
in the land, or in other words, if they were faithful in keeping the commandments of God
that he would prosper them in the land; yea, warn them to flee, or to prepare for war,
16 according to their danger; ■ And also, that God would make it known unto them whither
they should go to defend themselves against their enemies, and by so doing, the Lord would
deliver them; and this was the faith of Moroni, and his heart did glory in it; not in the
shedding of blood but in doing good, in preserving his people, yea, in keeping the
17 commandments of God, yea, and resisting iniquity. ■ Yea, verily, verily I say unto you, if
all men had been, and were, and ever would be, like unto Moroni, behold, the very powers
of hell would have been shaken forever; yea, the devil would never have power over the
18 hearts of the children of men. ■ Behold, he was a man like unto Ammon, the son of
Mosiah, yea, and even the other sons of Mosiah, yea, and also Alma and his sons, for they
19 were all men of God. ■ Now behold, Helaman and his brethren were no less serviceable
unto the people than was Moroni; for they did preach the word of God, and they did
baptize unto repentance all men whosoever would hearken unto their words.

Page 330

20 And thus they went forth, and the people did humble themselves because of their words,
insomuch that they were highly favored of the Lord, and thus they were free from wars and
21 contentions among themselves, yea, even for the space of four years. ■ But, as I have said,
in the latter end of the nineteenth year, yea, notwithstanding their peace amongst
themselves, they were compelled reluctantly to contend with their brethren, the Lamanites.
22 Yea, and in fine, their wars never did cease for the space of many years with the
Lamanites, notwithstanding their much reluctance. ■ Now, they were sorry to take up arms
23 against the Lamanites, because they did not delight in the shedding of blood; yea, and this
was not all--they were sorry to be the means of sending so many of their brethren out of
24 this world into an eternal world, unprepared to meet their God. ■ Nevertheless, they could
not suffer to lay down their lives, that their wives and their children should be massacred
by the barbarous cruelty of those who were once their brethren, yea, and had dissented
from their church, and had left them and had gone to destroy them by joining the
25 Lamanites. ■ Yea, they could not bear that their brethren should rejoice over the blood of
the Nephites, so long as there were any who should keep the commandments of God, for
the promise of the Lord was, if they should keep his commandments they should prosper in
the land.

CHAPTER FORTY-NINE

*The invading Lamanites are unable to take the fortified cities of Ammonihah and Noah
Amalickiah curses God and swears to drink the blood of Moroni
Helaman and his brethren continue to strengthen the Church.*

1 And now it came to pass in the *eleventh month of the nineteenth year, on the tenth day of
2 the month, the armies of the Lamanites were seen approaching towards the land of
3 Ammonihah. ■ And behold, the city had been rebuilt, and Moroni had stationed an army
4 by the borders of the city, and they had cast up dirt around about to shield them from the
5 arrows and the stones of the Lamanites; for behold, they fought with stones and with
6 arrows. ■ Behold, I said that the city of Ammonihah had been rebuilt. I say unto you, yea,
7 that it was in part rebuilt; and because the Lamanites had destroyed it once because of the
8 iniquity of the people, they supposed that it would again become an easy prey for them.
9 But behold, how great was their disappointment; for behold, the Nephites had dug up a
10 ridge of earth round about them, which was so high that the Lamanites could not cast their
11 stones and their arrows at them that they might take effect, neither could they come upon
12 them save it was by their place of entrance. ■ Now at this time the chief captains of the
13 Lamanites were astonished exceedingly, because of the wisdom of the Nephites in
14 preparing their places of security.

6 Now the leaders of the Lamanites had supposed, because of the greatness of their numbers, **Page 331**
7 yea, they supposed that they should be privileged to come upon them as they had hitherto
8 done; yea, and they had also prepared themselves with shields, and with breastplates; and
9 they had also prepared themselves with garments of skins, yea, very thick garments to
10 cover their nakedness. ■ And being thus prepared they supposed that they should easily
11 overpower and subject their brethren to the yoke of bondage, or slay and massacre them
12 according to their pleasure. ■ But behold, to their uttermost astonishment, they were
13 prepared for them, in a manner which never had been known among the children of Lehi.
14 Now they were prepared for the Lamanites, to battle after the manner of the instructions of
15 Moroni.

9 And it came to pass that the Lamanites, or the Amalickiahites, were exceedingly astonished
10 at their manner of preparation for war. ■ Now, if king Amalickiah had come down out of
11 the land of Nephi, at the head of his army, perhaps he would have caused the Lamanites to
12 have attacked the Nephites at the city of Ammonihah; for behold, he did care not for the
13 blood of his people. ■ But behold, Amalickiah did not come down himself to battle. And
14 behold, his chief captains durst not attack the Nephites at the city of Ammonihah, for
15 Moroni had altered the management of affairs among the Nephites, insomuch that the
16 Lamanites were disappointed in their places of retreat and they could not come upon them.
17 Therefore they retreated into the wilderness, and took their camp and marched towards the
18 land of Noah, supposing that to be the next best place for them to come against the
19 Nephites. ■ For they knew not that Moroni had fortified, or had built forts of security, for
20 every city in all the land round about; therefore, they marched forward to the land of Noah
21 with a firm determination; yea, their chief captains came forward and took an oath that
22 they would destroy the people of that city. ■ But behold, to their astonishment, the city of
23 Noah, which had hitherto been a weak place, had now, by the means of Moroni, become
24 strong, yea, even to exceed the strength of the city Ammonihah.

15 And now, behold, this was wisdom in Moroni; for he had supposed that they would be
16 frightened at the city Ammonihah; and as the city of Noah had hitherto been the weakest
17 part of the land, therefore they would march thither to battle; and thus it was according to
18 his desires. ■ And behold, Moroni had appointed Lehi to be chief captain over the men of
19 that city; and it was that same Lehi who fought with the Lamanites in the valley on the east
20 of the river Sidon.

17 And now behold it came to pass, that when the Lamanites had found that Lehi commanded
the city they were again disappointed, for they feared Lehi exceedingly; nevertheless their

18 chief captains had sworn with an oath to attack the city; therefore, they brought up their
 19 armies. ■ Now behold, the Lamanites could not get into their forts of security by any other
 20 way save by the entrance, because of the highness of the bank which had been thrown up,
 21 and the depth of the ditch which had been dug round about, save it were by the entrance.
 And thus were the Nephites prepared to destroy all such as should attempt to climb up to
 enter the fort by any other way, by casting over stones and arrows at them. ■ Thus they
 were prepared, yea, a body of their strongest men, with their swords and their slings, to
 smite down all who should attempt to come into their place of security by the place of
 entrance; and thus were they prepared to defend themselves against the Lamanites. ■ And
 it came to pass that the captains of the Lamanites brought up their armies before the place
 of entrance, and began to contend with the Nephites, to get into their place of security; but
 behold, they were driven back from time to time, insomuch that they were slain with an
 immense slaughter.

22 Now when they found that they could not obtain power over the Nephites by the pass, they
 began to dig down their banks of earth that they might obtain a pass to their armies, that
 they might have an equal chance to fight; but behold, in these attempts they were swept off
 by the stones and arrows which were thrown at them; and instead of filling up their ditches
 by pulling down the banks of earth, they were filled up in a measure with their dead and
 23 wounded bodies. ■ Thus the Nephites had all power over their enemies; and thus the
 Lamanites did attempt to destroy the Nephites until their chief captains were all slain; yea,
 and more than a thousand of the Lamanites were slain; while, on the other hand, there was
 24 not a single soul of the Nephites which was slain. ■ There were about fifty who were
 wounded, who had been exposed to the arrows of the Lamanites through the pass, but they
 were shielded by their shields, and their breastplates, and their head-plates, insomuch that
 their wounds were upon their legs, many of which were very severe.

25 And it came to pass, that when the Lamanites saw that their chief captains were all slain
 they fled into the wilderness. And it came to pass that they returned to the land of Nephi,
 to inform their king, Amalickiah, who was a Nephite by birth, concerning their great loss.
 26 And it came to pass that he was exceedingly angry with his people, because he had not
 obtained his desire over the Nephites; he had not subjected them to the yoke of bondage.
 27 Yea, he was exceedingly wroth, and he did curse God, and also Moroni, swearing with an
 oath that he would drink his blood; and this because Moroni had kept the commandments
 28 of God in preparing for the safety of his people. ■ And it came to pass, that on the other
 hand, the people of Nephi did thank the Lord their God, because of his matchless power in
 29 delivering them from the hands of their enemies. ■ And thus ended the nineteenth year of
 30 the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi. ■ Yea, and there was continual peace
 among them, and exceedingly great prosperity in the church because of their heed and
 diligence which they gave unto the word of God, which was declared unto them by
 Helaman, and Shiblon, and Corianton, and Ammon and his brethren, yea, and by all those
 who had been ordained by the holy order of God, being baptized unto repentance, and sent
 forth to preach among the people.

CHAPTER FIFTY

*Moroni fortifies the lands of the Nephites
 They build many new cities
 Wars and destructions befell the Nephites in the days of
 their wickedness and abominations
 Morianton and his dissenters are defeated by Teancum
 Nephiah dies and his son Pahoran fills the judgment-seat.*

1 And now it came to pass that Moroni did not stop making preparations for war, or to
defend his people against the Lamanites; for he caused that his armies should commence in
the *commencement of the twentieth year of the reign of the judges, that they should
commence in digging up heaps of earth round about all the cities, throughout all the land
2 which was possessed by the Nephites. ■ And upon the top of these ridges of earth he
caused that there should be timbers, yea, works of timbers built up to the height of a man,
3 round about the cities. ■ And he caused that upon those works of timbers there should be a
4 frame of pickets built upon the timbers round about; and they were strong and high. ■ And
he caused towers to be erected that overlooked those works of pickets, and he caused
5 places of security to be built upon those towers, that the stones and the arrows of the
Lamanites could not hurt them. ■ And they were prepared that they could cast stones from
6 the top thereof, according to their pleasure and their strength, and slay him who should
attempt to approach near the walls of the city. ■ Thus Moroni did prepare strongholds
against the coming of their enemies, round about every city in all the land.

7 And it came to pass that Moroni caused that his armies should go forth into the east
wilderness; yea, and they went forth and drove all the Lamanites who were in the east
8 wilderness into their own lands, which were south of the land of Zarahemla. ■ And the land
9 of Nephi did run in a straight course from the east sea to the west. ■ And it came to pass
that when Moroni had driven all the Lamanites out of the east wilderness, which was north
of the lands of their own possessions, he caused that the inhabitants who were in the land
of Zarahemla and in the land round about should go forth into the east wilderness, even to
10 the borders by the seashore, and possess the land. ■ And he also placed armies on the
south, in the borders of their possessions, and caused them to erect fortifications that they
11 might secure their armies and their people from the hands of their enemies. ■ And thus he
cut off all the strongholds of the Lamanites in the east wilderness, yea, and also on the
west, fortifying the line between the Nephites and the Lamanites, between the land of
Zarahemla and the land of Nephi, from the west sea, running by the head of the river
Sidon--the Nephites possessing all the land northward, yea, even all the land which was
12 northward of the land Bountiful, according to their pleasure. ■ Thus Moroni, with his
armies, which did increase daily because of the assurance of protection which his works
did bring forth unto them, did seek to cut off the strength and the power of the Lamanites
from off the lands of their possessions, that they should have no power upon the lands of
their possession.

13 And it came to pass that the Nephites began the foundation of a city, and they called the
name of the city Moroni; and it was by the east sea; and it was on the south by the line of
14 the possessions of the Lamanites. ■ And they also began a foundation for a city between
the city of Moroni and the city of Aaron, joining the borders of Aaron and Moroni; and
15 they called the name of the city, or the land, Nephiah. ■ And they also began in that same
year to build many cities on the north, one in a particular manner which they called Lehi,
16 which was in the north by the borders of the seashore. ■ And thus ended the twentieth
17 year. ■ And in these prosperous circumstances were the people of Nephi in the
*commencement of the twenty and first year of the reign of the judges over the people of
18 Nephi. ■ And they did prosper exceedingly, and they became exceedingly rich; yea, and
19 they did multiply and wax strong in the land. ■ And thus we see how merciful and just are
all the dealings of the Lord, to the fulfilling of all his words unto the children of men; yea,
we can behold that his words are verified, even at this time, which he spake unto Lehi,
saying:

20 *“Blessed art thou and thy children;
and they shall be blessed,
inasmuch as they shall keep my commandments*

*they shall prosper in the land.
But remember, inasmuch as they will not keep my commandments
they shall be cut off from the presence of the Lord.”*

21 And we see that these promises have been verified to the people of Nephi; for it has been
their quarrelings and their contentions, yea, their murderings, and their plunderings, their
22 idolatry, their whoredoms, and their abominations, which were among themselves, which
brought upon them their wars and their destructions. ■ And those who were faithful in
keeping the commandments of the Lord were delivered at all times, whilst thousands of
23 their wicked brethren have been consigned to bondage, or to perish by the sword, or to
dwindle in unbelief, and mingle with the Lamanites. ■ But behold there never was a
24 happier time among the people of Nephi, since the days of Nephi, than in the days of
Moroni, yea, even at this time, in the twenty and first year of the reign of the judges. ■ And
it came to pass that the twenty and second year of the reign of the judges also ended in
peace; yea, and also the twenty and third year.

25 And it came to pass that in the *commencement of the twenty and fourth year of the reign
of the judges, there would also have been peace among the people of Nephi had it not been
for a contention which took place among them concerning the land of Lehi, and the land of
26 Morianton, which joined upon the borders of Lehi; both of which were on the borders by
the seashore. ■ For behold, the people who possessed the land of Morianton did claim a
part of the land of Lehi; therefore there began to be a warm contention between them,
insomuch that the people of Morianton took up arms against their brethren, and they were
27 determined by the sword to slay them. ■ But behold, the people who possessed the land of
Lehi fled to the camp of Moroni, and appealed unto him for assistance; for behold they
were not in the wrong.

68 B.C.

Page 335

28 And it came to pass that when the people of Morianton, who were led by a man whose
name was Morianton, found that the people of Lehi had fled to the camp of Moroni, they
were exceedingly fearful lest the army of Moroni should come upon them and destroy
29 them. ■ Therefore, Morianton put it into their hearts that they should flee to the land which
was northward, which was covered with large bodies of water, and take possession of the
30 land which was northward. ■ And behold, they would have carried this plan into effect,
(which would have been a cause to have been lamented) but behold, Morianton being a
man of much passion, therefore he was angry with one of his maid servants, and he fell
31 upon her and beat her much. ■ And it came to pass that she fled, and came over to the
camp of Moroni, and told Moroni all things concerning the matter, and also concerning
their intentions to flee into the land northward.

32 Now behold, the people who were in the land Bountiful, or rather Moroni, feared that they
would hearken to the words of Morianton and unite with his people, and thus he would
obtain possession of those parts of the land, which would lay a foundation for serious
consequences among the people of Nephi, yea, which consequences would lead to the
33 overthrow of their liberty. ■ Therefore Moroni sent an army, with their camp, to head the
34 people of Morianton, to stop their flight into the land northward. ■ And it came to pass
that they did not head them until they had come to the borders of the land Desolation; and
there they did head them, by the narrow pass which led by the sea into the land northward,
yea, by the sea, on the west and on the east.

35 And it came to pass that the army which was sent by Moroni, which was led by a man
whose name was Teancum, did meet the people of Morianton; and so stubborn were the
people of Morianton, (being inspired by his wickedness and his flattering words) that a
battle commenced between them, in the which Teancum did slay Morianton and defeat his

36 army, and took them prisoners, and returned to the camp of Moroni. And thus ended the
twenty and fourth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi. ■ And thus were
the people of Morianton brought back. And upon their covenanting to keep the peace they
were restored to the land of Morianton, and a union took place between them and the
people of Lehi; and they were also restored to their lands.

37 And it came to pass that in the same year that the people of Nephi had peace restored unto
them, that Nephihah, the second chief judge, died, having filled the judgment-seat with
38 perfect uprightness before God. ■ Nevertheless, he had refused Alma to take possession of
those records and those things which were esteemed by Alma and his fathers to be most
sacred; therefore Alma had conferred them upon his son, Helaman.

39 Behold, it came to pass that the son of Nephihah was appointed to fill the judgment-seat, in
the stead of his father; yea, he was appointed chief judge and governor over the people,
with an oath and sacred ordinance to judge righteously, and to keep the peace and the
freedom of the people, and to grant unto them their sacred privileges to worship the Lord
their God, yea, to support and maintain the cause of God all his days, and to bring the
40 wicked to justice according to their crime. ■ Now behold, his name was Pahoran. And
Pahoran did fill the seat of his father, and did commence his reign in the end of the twenty
and fourth year, over the people of Nephi.

Page 336

CHAPTER FIFTY-ONE

*The king-men seek to change the law and set up a king
Pahoran and the freemen are supported by the voice of the people
Moroni compels the king-men to defend their liberty or be put to death
Amalickiah and the Lamanites capture many fortified cities
Teancum repels the Lamanite invasion and slays Amalickiah in his tent.*

1 And now it came to pass in the *commencement of the twenty and fifth year of the reign of
the judges over the people of Nephi, they having established peace between the people of
Lehi and the people of Morianton concerning their lands, and having commenced the
2 twenty and fifth year in peace; ■ Nevertheless, they did not long maintain an entire peace
in the land, for there began to be a contention among the people concerning the chief judge
Pahoran; for behold, there were a part of the people who desired that a few particular
3 points of the law should be altered. ■ But behold, Pahoran would not alter nor suffer the
law to be altered; therefore, he did not hearken to those who had sent in their voices with
4 their petitions concerning the altering of the law. ■ Therefore, those who were desirous that
the law should be altered were angry with him, and desired that he should no longer be
chief judge over the land; therefore there arose a warm dispute concerning the matter, but
not unto bloodshed.

67 B.C.

5 And it came to pass that those who were desirous that Pahoran should be dethroned from
the judgment-seat were called king-men, for they were desirous that the law should be
altered in a manner to overthrow the free government and to establish a king over the land.
6 And those who were desirous that Pahoran should remain chief judge over the land took
upon them the name of freemen; and thus was the division among them, for the freemen
had sworn or covenanted to maintain their rights and the privileges of their religion by a
free government.

7 And it came to pass that this matter of their contention was settled by the voice of the
people. And it came to pass that the voice of the people came in favor of the freemen, and
Pahoran retained the judgment-seat, which caused much rejoicing among the brethren of

8 Pahoran and also many of the people of liberty, who also put the king-men to silence, that
 they durst not oppose but were obliged to maintain the cause of freedom. ■ Now those who
 9 were in favor of kings were those of high birth, and they sought to be kings; and they were
 supported by those who sought power and authority over the people. ■ But behold, this
 was a critical time for such contentions to be among the people of Nephi; for behold,
 Amalickiah had again stirred up the hearts of the people of the Lamanites against the
 people of the Nephites, and he was gathering together soldiers from all parts of his land,
 and arming them, and preparing for war with all diligence; for he had sworn to drink the
 10 blood of Moroni. ■ But behold, we shall see that his promise which he made was rash;
 nevertheless, he did prepare himself and his armies to come to battle against the Nephites.
 11 Now his armies were not so great as they had hitherto been, because of the many
 thousands who had been slain by the hand of the Nephites; but notwithstanding their great
 loss, Amalickiah had gathered together a wonderfully great army, insomuch that he feared
 12 not to come down to the land of Zarahemla. ■ Yea, even Amalickiah did himself come
 down, at the head of the Lamanites. And it was in the twenty and fifth year of the reign of
 the judges; and it was at the same time that they had begun to settle the affairs of their
 contentions concerning the chief judge, Pahoran.

13 And it came to pass that when the men who were called king-men had heard that the
 Lamanites were coming down to battle against them, they were glad in their hearts; and
 they refused to take up arms, for they were so wroth with the chief judge, and also with the
 14 people of liberty, that they would not take up arms to defend their country. ■ And it came
 to pass that when Moroni saw this, and also saw that the Lamanites were coming into the
 borders of the land, he was exceedingly wroth because of the stubbornness of those people
 whom he had labored with so much diligence to preserve; yea, he was exceedingly wroth;
 15 his soul was filled with anger against them. ■ And it came to pass that he sent a petition,
 with the voice of the people, unto the governor of the land, desiring that he should read it,
 and give him (Moroni) power to compel those dissenters to defend their country or to put
 16 them to death. ■ For it was his first care to put an end to such contentions and dissensions
 among the people; for behold, this had been hitherto a cause of all their destruction. And it
 came to pass that it was granted according to the voice of the people.

17 And it came to pass that Moroni commanded that his army should go against those
 king-men, to pull down their pride and their nobility and level them with the earth, or they
 18 should take up arms and support the cause of liberty. ■ And it came to pass that the armies
 did march forth against them; and they did pull down their pride and their nobility,
 insomuch that as they did lift their weapons of war to fight against the men of Moroni they
 19 were hewn down and leveled to the earth. ■ And it came to pass that there were four
 thousand of those dissenters who were hewn down by the sword; and those of their leaders
 who were not slain in battle were taken and cast into prison, for there was no time for their
 20 trials at this period. ■ And the remainder of those dissenters, rather than be smitten down
 to the earth by the sword, yielded to the standard of liberty, and were compelled to hoist
 the title of liberty upon their towers, and in their cities, and to take up arms in defence of
 21 their country. ■ And thus Moroni put an end to those king-men, that there were not any
 known by the appellation of king-men; and thus he put an end to the stubbornness and the
 pride of those people who professed the blood of nobility; but they were brought down to
 humble themselves like unto their brethren, and to fight valiantly for their freedom from
 bondage.

22 Behold, it came to pass that while Moroni was thus breaking down the wars and
 contentions among his own people, and subjecting them to peace and civilization, and
 making regulations to prepare for war against the Lamanites, behold, the Lamanites had

come into the land of Moroni, which was in the borders by the seashore.

23 And it came to pass that the Nephites were not sufficiently strong in the city of Moroni;
therefore Amalickiah did drive them, slaying many. And it came to pass that Amalickiah
24 took possession of the city, yea, possession of all their fortifications. ■ And those who fled
out of the city of Moroni came to the city of Nephihah; and also the people of the city of
Lehi gathered themselves together, and made preparations and were ready to receive the
Lamanites to battle.

25 But it came to pass that Amalickiah would not suffer the Lamanites to go against the city
of Nephihah to battle, but kept them down by the seashore, leaving men in every city to
26 maintain and defend it. ■ And thus he went on, taking possession of many cities, the city of
Nephihah, and the city of Lehi, and the city of Morianton, and the city of Omner, and the
city of Gid, and the city of Mulek, all of which were on the east borders by the seashore.
27 And thus had the Lamanites obtained, by the cunning of Amalickiah, so many cities, by
their numberless hosts, all of which were strongly fortified after the manner of the
fortifications of Moroni; all of which afforded strongholds for the Lamanites.

28 And it came to pass that they marched to the borders of the land Bountiful, driving the
Nephites before them and slaying many. ■ But it came to pass that they were met by
29 Teancum, who had slain Morianton and had headed his people in his flight. ■ And it came
30 to pass that he headed Amalickiah also, as he was marching forth with his numerous army
that he might take possession of the land Bountiful, and also the land northward. ■ But
31 behold he met with a disappointment by being repulsed by Teancum and his men, for they
were great warriors; for every man of Teancum did exceed the Lamanites in their strength
and in their skill of war, insomuch that they did gain advantage over the Lamanites.

32 And it came to pass that they did harass them, insomuch that they did slay them even until
it was dark. And it came to pass that Teancum and his men did pitch their tents in the
borders of the land Bountiful; and Amalickiah did pitch his tents in the borders on the
beach by the seashore, and after this manner were they driven.

33 And it came to pass that when the night had come, Teancum and his servant stole forth and
went out by night, and went into the camp of Amalickiah; and behold, sleep had
overpowered them because of their much fatigue, which was caused by the labors and heat **Page 339**
of the day.

34 And it came to pass that Teancum stole privily into the tent of the king, and put a javelin to
his heart; and he did cause the death of the king immediately that he did not awake his
35 servants. ■ And he returned again privily to his own camp, and behold, his men were
asleep, and he awoke them and told them all the things that he had done. ■ And he caused
36 that his armies should stand in readiness, lest the Lamanites had awakened and should
come upon them.

37 And thus endeth the twenty and fifth year of the reign of the judges over the people of
Nephi; and thus endeth the days of Amalickiah.

CHAPTER FIFTY-TWO

*Ammoron succeeds Amalickiah as king of the Lamanites
Moroni, Teancum, and Lehi lead the Nephites in a victorious war against the Lamanites
The city of Mulek is retaken, and Jacob the Lamanite is slain.*

1 And now, it came to pass in the *twenty and sixth year of the reign of the judges over the
 people of Nephi, behold, when the Lamanites awoke on the first morning of the first
 2 month, behold, they found Amalickiah was dead in his own tent; and they also saw that
 Teancum was ready to give them battle on that day. ■ And now, when the Lamanites saw
 this they were affrighted; and they abandoned their design in marching into the land
 northward, and retreated with all their army into the city of Mulek, and sought protection
 3 in their fortifications. ■ And it came to pass that the brother of Amalickiah was appointed
 king over the people; and his name was Ammoron; thus king Ammoron, the brother of king
 Amalickiah, was appointed to reign in his stead.

4 And it came to pass that he did command that his people should maintain those cities,
 which they had taken by the shedding of blood; for they had not taken any cities save they
 5 had lost much blood. ■ And now, Teancum saw that the Lamanites were determined to
 maintain those cities which they had taken, and those parts of the land which they had
 obtained possession of; and also seeing the enormity of their number, Teancum thought it
 6 was not expedient that he should attempt to attack them in their forts. ■ But he kept his
 men round about, as if making preparations for war; yea, and truly he was preparing to
 defend himself against them, by casting up walls round about and preparing places of
 resort.

7 And it came to pass that he kept thus preparing for war until Moroni had sent a large
 8 number of men to strengthen his army. ■ And Moroni also sent orders unto him that he
 should retain all the prisoners who fell into his hands; for as the Lamanites had taken many
 prisoners, that he should retain all the prisoners of the Lamanites as a ransom for those
 9 whom the Lamanites had taken. ■ And he also sent orders unto him that he should fortify
 the land Bountiful, and secure the narrow pass which led into the land northward, lest the
 Lamanites should obtain that point and should have power to harass them on every side.
 10 And Moroni also sent unto him, desiring him that he would be faithful in maintaining that
 quarter of the land, and that he would seek every opportunity to scourge the Lamanites in
 that quarter, as much as was in his power, that perhaps he might take again by stratagem
 or some other way those cities which had been taken out of their hands; and that he also
 would fortify and strengthen the cities round about, which had not fallen into the hands of
 11 the Lamanites. ■ And he also said unto him,

*“I would come unto you, but behold, the Lamanites are upon us in the borders of the
 land by the west sea; and behold, I go against them, therefore I cannot come unto
 you.”*

12 Now, the king (Ammoron) had departed out of the land of Zarahemla, and had made
 known unto the queen concerning the death of his brother, and had gathered together a
 large number of men, and had marched forth against the Nephites on the borders by the
 13 west sea. ■ And thus he was endeavoring to harass the Nephites, and to draw away a part
 of their forces to that part of the land, while he had commanded those whom he had left to
 possess the cities which he had taken, that they should also harass the Nephites on the
 borders by the east sea, and should take possession of their lands as much as it was in their
 14 power, according to the power of their armies. ■ And thus were the Nephites in those
 dangerous circumstances in the ending of the twenty and sixth year of the reign of the
 judges over the people of Nephi.

15 But behold, it came to pass in the *twenty and seventh year of the reign of the judges, that
 Teancum, by the command of Moroni--who had established armies to protect the south and
 the west borders of the land, and had begun his march towards the land Bountiful, that he
 16 might assist Teancum with his men in retaking the cities which they had lost-- ■ And it

came to pass that Teancum had received orders to make an attack upon the city of Mulek, and retake it if it were possible.

17 And it came to pass that Teancum made preparations to make an attack upon the city of Mulek, and march forth with his army against the Lamanites; but he saw that it was impossible that he could overpower them while they were in their fortifications; therefore he abandoned his designs and returned again to the city Bountiful, to wait for the coming of Moroni, that he might receive strength to his army.

18 And it came to pass that Moroni did arrive with his army at the land of Bountiful, in the latter end of the twenty and seventh year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi. ■ And in the *commencement of the twenty and eighth year, Moroni and Teancum and many of the chief captains held a council of war--what they should do to cause the Lamanites to come out against them to battle; or that they might by some means flatter them out of their strongholds, that they might gain advantage over them and take again the city of Mulek.

64 B.C.

20 And it came to pass they sent embassies to the army of the Lamanites, which protected the city of Mulek, to their leader, whose name was Jacob, desiring him that he would come out with his armies to meet them upon the plains between the two cities. But behold, Jacob, who was a Zoramite, would not come out with his army to meet them upon the plains.

21 And it came to pass that Moroni, having no hopes of meeting them upon fair grounds, therefore, he resolved upon a plan that he might decoy the Lamanites out of their strongholds. ■ Therefore he caused that Teancum should take a small number of men and march down near the seashore; and Moroni and his army, by night, marched in the wilderness, on the west of the city Mulek; and thus, on the morrow, when the guards of the Lamanites had discovered Teancum, they ran and told it unto Jacob, their leader.

Page 341

23 And it came to pass that the armies of the Lamanites did march forth against Teancum, supposing by their numbers to overpower Teancum because of the smallness of his numbers. And as Teancum saw the armies of the Lamanites coming out against him he began to retreat down by the seashore, northward.

24 And it came to pass that when the Lamanites saw that he began to flee, they took courage and pursued them with vigor. And while Teancum was thus leading away the Lamanites who were pursuing them in vain, behold, Moroni commanded that a part of his army who were with him should march forth into the city, and take possession of it. And thus they did, and slew all those who had been left to protect the city, yea, all those who would not yield up their weapons of war. And thus Moroni had obtained possession of the city Mulek with a part of his army, while he marched with the remainder to meet the Lamanites when they should return from the pursuit of Teancum.

27 And it came to pass that the Lamanites did pursue Teancum until they came near the city Bountiful, and then they were met by Lehi and a small army, which had been left to protect the city Bountiful. ■ And now behold, when the chief captains of the Lamanites had beheld Lehi with his army coming against them, they fled in much confusion, lest perhaps they should not obtain the city Mulek before Lehi should overtake them; for they were wearied because of their march, and the men of Lehi were fresh. ■ Now the Lamanites did not know that Moroni had been in their rear with his army; and all they feared was Lehi and his men. ■ Now Lehi was not desirous to overtake them till they should meet Moroni and his army. ■ And it came to pass that before the Lamanites had retreated far they were

32 surrounded by the Nephites, by the men of Moroni on one hand, and the men of Lehi on the other, all of whom were fresh and full of strength; but the Lamanites were wearied because of their long march. ■ And Moroni commanded his men that they should fall upon them until they had given up their weapons of war.

33 And it came to pass that Jacob, being their leader, being also a Zoramite, and having an unconquerable spirit, he led the Lamanites forth to battle with exceeding fury against
34 Moroni. ■ Moroni being in their course of march, therefore Jacob was determined to slay them and cut his way through to the city of Mulek. But behold, Moroni and his men were more powerful; therefore they did not give way before the Lamanites.

35 And it came to pass that they fought on both hands with exceeding fury; and there were
36 many slain on both sides; yea, and Moroni was wounded and Jacob was killed. ■ And Lehi pressed upon their rear with such fury with his strong men, that the Lamanites in the rear delivered up their weapons of war; and the remainder of them, being much confused, knew
37 not whither to go or to strike. ■ Now Moroni seeing their confusion, he said unto them:
“If ye will bring forth your weapons of war and deliver them up, behold we will forbear shedding your blood.”

Page 342

38 And it came to pass that when the Lamanites had heard these words, their chief captains,
39 all those who were not slain, came forth and threw down their weapons of war at the feet of Moroni, and also commanded their men that they should do the same. ■ But behold, there were many that would not; and those who would not deliver up their swords were taken and bound, and their weapons of war were taken from them, and they were
40 compelled to march with their brethren forth into the land Bountiful. ■ And now the number of prisoners who were taken exceeded more than the number of those who had been slain, yea, more than those who had been slain on both sides.

CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE

*The Lamanite prisoners are used to fortify the city Bountiful
Dissensions among the Nephites give rise to Lamanite victories
Helaman takes command of the two thousand stripling sons of the people of Ammon.*

1 And it came to pass that they did set guards over the prisoners of the Lamanites, and did
compel them to go forth and bury their dead, yea, and also the dead of the Nephites who
2 were slain; and Moroni placed men over them to guard them while they should perform
their labors. ■ And Moroni went to the city of Mulek with Lehi, and took command of the
city and gave it unto Lehi. Now behold, this Lehi was a man who had been with Moroni in
the more part of all his battles; and he was a man like unto Moroni, and they rejoiced in
each other's safety; yea, they were beloved by each other, and also beloved by all the
people of Nephi.

3 And it came to pass that after the Lamanites had finished burying their dead and also the
dead of the Nephites, they were marched back into the land Bountiful; and Teancum, by
4 the orders of Moroni, caused that they should commence laboring in digging a ditch round
about the land, or the city, Bountiful. ■ And he caused that they should build a breastwork
of timbers upon the inner bank of the ditch; and they cast up dirt out of the ditch against
the breastwork of timbers; and thus they did cause the Lamanites to labor until they had
encircled the city of Bountiful round about with a strong wall of timbers and earth, to an
5 exceeding height. ■ And this city became an exceeding stronghold ever after; and in this
city they did guard the prisoners of the Lamanites; yea, even within a wall which they had
caused them to build with their own hands. Now Moroni was compelled to cause the
Lamanites to labor, because it was easy to guard them while at their labor; and he desired

all his forces when he should make an attack upon the Lamanites.

6 And it came to pass that Moroni had thus gained a victory over one of the greatest of the
armies of the Lamanites, and had obtained possession of the city of Mulek, which was one
of the strongest holds of the Lamanites in the land of Nephi; and thus he had also built a
7 stronghold to retain his prisoners. ■ And it came to pass that he did no more attempt a
battle with the Lamanites in that year, but he did employ his men in preparing for war, yea,
and in making fortifications to guard against the Lamanites, yea, and also delivering their
women and their children from famine and affliction, and providing food for their armies.

Page 343

8 And now it came to pass that the armies of the Lamanites, on the west sea, south, while in
the absence of Moroni on account of some intrigue amongst the Nephites, which caused
dissensions amongst them, had gained some ground over the Nephites, yea, insomuch that
9 they had obtained possession of a number of their cities in that part of the land. ■ And thus
because of iniquity amongst themselves, yea, because of dissensions and intrigue among
themselves they were placed in the most dangerous circumstances.

10 And now behold, I have somewhat to say concerning the people of Ammon, who in the
beginning, were Lamanites; but by Ammon and his brethren, or rather by the power and
word of God, they had been converted unto the Lord; and they had been brought down into
11 the land of Zarahemla, and had ever since been protected by the Nephites. ■ And because
of their oath they had been kept from taking up arms against their brethren; for they had
taken an oath that they never would shed blood more; and according to their oath they
would have perished; yea, they would have suffered themselves to have fallen into the
hands of their brethren, had it not been for the pity and the exceeding love which Ammon
12 and his brethren had had for them. ■ And for this cause they were brought down into the
land of Zarahemla; and they ever had been protected by the Nephites.

13 But it came to pass that when they saw the danger, and the many afflictions and
tribulations which the Nephites bore for them, they were moved with compassion and were
14 desirous to take up arms in the defence of their country. ■ But behold, as they were about
to take their weapons of war, they were overpowered by the persuasions of Helaman and
15 his brethren, for they were about to break the oath which they had made. ■ And Helaman
feared lest by so doing they should lose their souls; therefore all those who had entered into
this covenant were compelled to behold their brethren wade through their afflictions, in
16 their dangerous circumstances at this time. ■ But behold, it came to pass they had many
sons, who had not entered into a covenant that they would not take their weapons of war to
defend themselves against their enemies; therefore they did assemble themselves together at
this time, as many as were able to take up arms, and they called themselves Nephites.
17 And they entered into a covenant to fight for the liberty of the Nephites, yea, to protect the
land unto the laying down of their lives; yea, even they covenanted that they never would
give up their liberty, but they would fight in all cases to protect the Nephites and
themselves from bondage.

18 Now behold, there were two thousand of those young men, who entered into this covenant
19 and took their weapons of war to defend their country. ■ And now behold, as they never
had hitherto been a disadvantage to the Nephites, they became now at this period of time
also a great support; for they took their weapons of war, and they would that Helaman
20 should be their leader. ■ And they were all young men, and they were exceedingly valiant
for courage, and also for strength and activity; but behold, this was not all--they were men
21 who were true at all times in whatsoever thing they were entrusted. ■ Yea, they were men
of truth and soberness, for they had been taught to keep the commandments of God and to

Page 344

walk uprightly before him.

22 And now it came to pass that Helaman did march at the head of his two thousand stripling
23 soldiers, to the support of the people in the borders of the land on the south by the west
sea. ■ And thus ended the twenty and eighth year of the reign of the judges over the people
of Nephi.

CHAPTER FIFTY-FOUR

*Ammoron and Moroni negotiate for the exchange of prisoners
Moroni demands that the Lamanites withdraw and cease their murderous attacks
Ammoron demands that the Nephites lay down their arms and
become subject to the Lamanites.*

1 And now it came to pass in the *commencement of the twenty and ninth year of the judges, **63 B.C.**
2 that Ammoron sent unto Moroni desiring that he would exchange prisoners. ■ And it came
to pass that Moroni felt to rejoice exceedingly at this request, for he desired the provisions
which were imparted for the support of the Lamanite prisoners for the support of his own
3 people; and he also desired his own people for the strengthening of his army. ■ Now the
Lamanites had taken many women and children, and there was not a woman nor a child
among all the prisoners of Moroni, or the prisoners whom Moroni had taken; therefore
Moroni resolved upon a stratagem to obtain as many prisoners of the Nephites from the
4 Lamanites as it were possible. ■ Therefore he wrote an epistle, and sent it by the servant of
Ammoron, the same who had brought an epistle to Moroni. Now these are the words
which he wrote unto Ammoron, saying:

5 *“Behold, Ammoron, I have written unto you somewhat concerning this war which*
ye have waged against my people, or rather which thy brother hath waged against
them, and which ye are still determined to carry on after his death. ■ Behold, I would
tell you somewhat concerning the justice of God, and the sword of his almighty
wrath, which doth hang over you except ye repent and withdraw your armies into
your own lands, or the land of your possessions, which is the land of Nephi. ■ Yea, I
would tell you these things if ye were capable of hearkening unto them; yea, I would
tell you concerning that awful hell that awaits to receive such murderers as thou and
thy brother have been, except ye repent and withdraw your murderous purposes, and
return with your armies to your own lands. ■ But as ye have once rejected these
things, and have fought against the people of the Lord, even so I may expect you will
do it again.

9 *And now behold, we are prepared to receive you; yea, and except you withdraw*
your purposes, behold, ye will pull down the wrath of that God whom you have
rejected upon you, even to your utter destruction. ■ But, as the Lord liveth, our armies
shall come upon you except ye withdraw, and ye shall soon be visited with death, for
we will retain our cities and our lands; yea, and we will maintain our religion and
the cause of our God. ■ But behold, it supposeth me that I talk to you concerning
these things in vain; or it supposeth me that thou art a child of hell; therefore I will
close my epistle by telling you that I will not exchange prisoners, save it be on
conditions that ye will deliver up a man and his wife and his children, for one
prisoner; if this be the case that ye will do it, I will exchange.

12 *And behold, if you do not this, I will come against you with my armies; yea, even*
I will arm my women and my children, and I will come against you, and I will follow
you even into your own land, which is the land of our first inheritance; yea, and it
shall be blood for blood, yea, life for life; and I will give you battle even until you are
destroyed from off the face of the earth. ■ Behold, I am in my anger, and also my
13 *people; ye have sought to murder us, and we have only sought to defend ourselves.*

14 *But behold, if ye seek to destroy us more we will seek to destroy you; yea, and we will seek our land, the land of our first inheritance. ■ Now I close my epistle. I am Moroni; I am a leader of the people of the Nephites.”*

15 Now it came to pass that Ammoron, when he had received this epistle, was angry; and he wrote another epistle unto Moroni, and these are the words which he wrote, saying:

16 *“I am Ammoron, the king of the Lamanites; I am the brother of Amalickiah whom ye have murdered. Behold, I will avenge his blood upon you, yea, and I will come upon you with my armies for I fear not your threatenings. ■ For behold, your fathers did wrong their brethren, insomuch that they did rob them of their right to the government when it rightly belonged unto them. ■ And now behold, if ye will lay down your arms, and subject yourselves to be governed by those to whom the government doth rightly belong, then will I cause that my people shall lay down their weapons and shall be at war no more. ■ Behold, ye have breathed out many threatenings against me and my people; but behold, we fear not your threatenings. Nevertheless, I will grant to exchange prisoners according to your request, gladly, that I may preserve my food for my men of war; and we will wage a war which shall be eternal, either to the subjecting the Nephites to our authority or to their eternal extinction.*

21 *And as concerning that God whom ye say we have rejected, behold, we know not such a being; neither do ye; but if it so be that there is such a thing, we know not but that he hath made us as well as you. ■ And if it so be that there is a devil and a hell, behold will he not send you there to dwell with my brother whom ye have murdered, whom ye have hinted that he hath gone to such a place? But behold these things matter not. ■ I am Ammoron, and a descendant of Zoram, whom your fathers pressed and brought out of Jerusalem. ■ And behold now, I am a bold Lamanite; behold, this war hath been waged to avenge their wrongs, and to maintain and to obtain their rights to the government; and I close my epistle to Moroni.”*

CHAPTER FIFTY-FIVE

Moroni refuses to exchange prisoners

*The Lamanite guards are enticed to become drunk, and the Nephite prisoners are freed
The city of Gid is taken without bloodshed.*

Page 346

1 Now it came to pass that when Moroni had received this epistle he was more angry, because he knew that Ammoron had a perfect knowledge of his fraud; yea, he knew that Ammoron knew that it was not a just cause that had caused him to wage a war against the people of Nephi. ■ And he said:

2 *“Behold, I will not exchange prisoners with Ammoron save he will withdraw his purpose, as I have stated in my epistle; for I will not grant unto him that he shall have any more power than what he hath got. ■ Behold, I know the place where the Lamanites do guard my people whom they have taken prisoners; and as Ammoron would not grant unto me mine epistle, behold, I will give unto him according to my words; yea, I will seek death among them until they shall sue for peace.”*

4 And now it came to pass that when Moroni had said these words, he caused that a search should be made among his men, that perhaps he might find a man who was a descendant of Laman among them.

5 And it came to pass that they found one, whose name was Laman; and he was one of the servants of the king who was murdered by Amalickiah. ■ Now Moroni caused that Laman and a small number of his men should go forth unto the guards who were over the Nephites. ■ Now the Nephites were guarded in the city of Gid; therefore Moroni appointed

Laman and caused that a small number of men should go with him.

8 And when it was evening Laman went to the guards who were over the Nephites, and
behold, they saw him coming and they hailed him; but he saith unto them: Fear not;
behold, I am a Lamanite. Behold, we have escaped from the Nephites, and they sleep; and
9 behold we have taken of their wine and brought with us. ■ Now when the Lamanites heard
these words they received him with joy; and they said unto him:

*“Give us of your wine, that we may drink; we are glad that ye have thus taken wine
with you for we are weary.”*

10 But Laman said unto them:

“Let us keep of our wine till we go against the Nephites to battle.”

11 But this saying only made them more desirous to drink of the wine; ■ For, said they:

*“We are weary, therefore let us take of the wine, and by and by we shall receive wine
for our rations, which will strengthen us to go against the Nephites.”*

12 And Laman said unto them:

“You may do according to your desires.”

13 And it came to pass that they did take of the wine freely; and it was pleasant to their taste,
therefore they took of it more freely; and it was strong, having been prepared in its
strength.

14 And it came to pass they did drink and were merry, and by and by they were all drunken.
15 And now when Laman and his men saw that they were all drunken, and were in a deep
16 sleep, they returned to Moroni and told him all the things that had happened. ■ And now
this was according to the design of Moroni. And Moroni had prepared his men with
weapons of war; and he went to the city Gid, while the Lamanites were in a deep sleep and
drunken, and cast in weapons of war unto the prisoners, insomuch that they were all
17 armed; ■ Yea, even to their women, and all those of their children, as many as were able to
use a weapon of war, when Moroni had armed all those prisoners; and all those things
18 were done in a profound silence. ■ But had they awakened the Lamanites, behold they were
19 drunken and the Nephites could have slain them. ■ But behold, this was not the desire of
Moroni; he did not delight in murder or bloodshed, but he delighted in the saving of his
people from destruction; and for this cause he might not bring upon him injustice, he
20 would not fall upon the Lamanites and destroy them in their drunkenness. ■ But he had
obtained his desires; for he had armed those prisoners of the Nephites who were within the
wall of the city, and had given them power to gain possession of those parts which were
21 within the walls. ■ And then he caused the men who were with him to withdraw a pace
from them, and surround the armies of the Lamanites.

22 Now behold this was done in the night-time, so that when the Lamanites awoke in the
morning they beheld that they were surrounded by the Nephites without, and that their
23 prisoners were armed within. ■ And thus they saw that the Nephites had power over them;
and in these circumstances they found that it was not expedient that they should fight with
the Nephites; therefore their chief captains demanded their weapons of war, and they
24 brought them forth and cast them at the feet of the Nephites, pleading for mercy. ■ Now
behold, this was the desire of Moroni. He took them prisoners of war, and took possession
of the city, and caused that all the prisoners should be liberated, who were Nephites; and
they did join the army of Moroni, and were a great strength to his army.

25 And it came to pass that he did cause the Lamanites, whom he had taken prisoners, that
they should commence a labor in strengthening the fortifications round about the city Gid.

26 And it came to pass that when he had fortified the city Gid, according to his desires, he
caused that his prisoners should be taken to the city Bountiful; and he also guarded that

27 city with an exceedingly strong force. ■ And it came to pass that they did, notwithstanding
28 all the intrigues of the Lamanites, keep and protect all the prisoners whom they had taken,
and also maintain all the ground and the advantage which they had retaken. ■ And it came
29 to pass that the Nephites began again to be victorious, and to reclaim their rights and their
privileges. ■ Many times did the Lamanites attempt to encircle them about by night, but in
30 these attempts they did lose many prisoners. ■ And many times did they attempt to
administer of their wine to the Nephites, that they might destroy them with poison or with
31 drunkenness. ■ But behold, the Nephites were not slow to remember the Lord their God in
this their time of affliction. They could not be taken in their snares; yea, they would not
32 partake of their wine, save they had first given to some of the Lamanite prisoners. ■ And
they were thus cautious that no poison should be administered among them; for if their
wine would poison a Lamanite it would also poison a Nephite; and thus they did try all
their liquors.

33 And now it came to pass that it was expedient for Moroni to make preparations to attack
the city Morianton; for behold, the Lamanites had, by their labors, fortified the city
34 Morianton until it had become an exceeding stronghold. ■ And they were continually
35 bringing new forces into that city, and also new supplies of provisions. ■ And thus ended
the twenty and ninth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.

Page 348

CHAPTER FIFTY-SIX

*Helaman sends an epistle to Moroni recounting the state of the war and the Lamanites
Antipus and Helaman gain a great victory over the Lamanites
Helaman's two thousand stripling sons fight with miraculous power
and none of them are slain.*

1 And now it came to pass in the *commencement of the thirtieth year of the reign of the
judges, on the second day in the first month, Moroni received an epistle from Helaman,
2 stating the affairs of the people in that quarter of the land. ■ And these are the words which
he wrote, saying:

62 B.C.

3 *“My dearly beloved brother, Moroni, as well in the Lord as in the tribulations of
our warfare; behold, my beloved brother, I have somewhat to tell you concerning our
warfare in this part of the land. ■ Behold, two thousand of the sons of those men
whom Ammon brought down out of the land of Nephi--now ye have known that these
4 were descendants of Laman, who was the eldest son of our father Lehi; ■ Now I need
not rehearse unto you concerning their traditions or their unbelief, for thou knowest
5 concerning all these things-- ■ Therefore it sufficeth me that I tell you that two
thousand of these young men have taken their weapons of war, and would that I
should be their leader; and we have come forth to defend our country.*

6 *And now ye also know concerning the covenant which their fathers made, that
they would not take up their weapons of war against their brethren to shed blood.
7 But in the twenty and sixth year, when they saw our afflictions and our tribulations
for them, they were about to break the covenant which they had made and take up
8 their weapons of war in our defence. ■ But I would not suffer them that they should
break this covenant which they had made, supposing that God would strengthen us,
insomuch that we should not suffer more because of the fulfilling the oath which they
9 had taken. ■ But behold, here is one thing in which we may have great joy. For
behold, in the *twenty and sixth year, I, Helaman, did march at the head of these two
thousand young men to the city of Judea, to assist Antipus, whom ye had appointed a
10 leader over the people of that part of the land. ■ And I did join my two thousand sons,
(for they are worthy to be called sons) to the army of Antipus, in which strength
Antipus did rejoice exceedingly; for behold, his army had been reduced by the*

66 B.C.

11 *Lamanites because their forces had slain a vast number of our men, for which cause*
 12 *we have to mourn. ■ Nevertheless, we may console ourselves in this point, that they*
 13 *have died in the cause of their country and of their God, yea, and they are happy.*
 14 *And the Lamanites had also retained many prisoners, all of whom are chief captains,*
 15 *for none other have they spared alive. And we suppose that they are now at this time*
 16 *in the land of Nephi; it is so if they are not slain. ■ And now these are the cities of*
 17 *which the Lamanites have obtained possession by the shedding of the blood of so*
 18 *many of our valiant men: ■ The land of Manti, or the city of Manti, and the city of*
 19 *Zeezrom, and the city of Cumeni, and the city of Antiparah. ■ And these are the cities*
 20 *which they possessed when I arrived at the city of Judea; and I found Antipus and his*
 21 *men toiling with their might to fortify the city. ■ Yea, and they were depressed in body*
 22 *as well as in spirit, for they had fought valiantly by day and toiled by night to*
 23 *maintain their cities; and thus they had suffered great afflictions of every kind.*

24 *And now they were determined to conquer in this place or die; therefore you may*
 25 *well suppose that this little force which I brought with me, yea, those sons of mine,*
 26 *gave them great hopes and much joy.*

27 *And now it came to pass that when the Lamanites saw that Antipus had received*
 28 *a greater strength to his army, they were compelled by the orders of Ammoron to not*
 29 *come against the city of Judea, or against us, to battle. ■ And thus were we favored of*
 30 *the Lord; for had they come upon us in this our weakness they might have perhaps*
 31 *destroyed our little army; but thus were we preserved. ■ They were commanded by*
 32 *Ammoron to maintain those cities which they had taken. And thus ended the twenty*
 33 *and sixth year.*

34 *And in the *commencement of the twenty and seventh year we had prepared our*
 35 *city and ourselves for defence. ■ Now we were desirous that the Lamanites should*
 36 *come upon us; for we were not desirous to make an attack upon them in their*
 37 *strongholds. ■ And it came to pass that we kept spies out round about, to watch the*
 38 *movements of the Lamanites, that they might not pass us by night nor by day to make*
 39 *an attack upon our other cities which were on the northward. ■ For we knew in those*
 40 *cities they were not sufficiently strong to meet them; therefore we were desirous, if*
 41 *they should pass by us, to fall upon them in their rear, and thus bring them up in the*
 42 *rear at the same time they were met in the front. We supposed that we could*
 43 *overpower them; but behold, we were disappointed in this our desire. ■ They durst*
 44 *not pass by us with their whole army, neither durst they with a part, lest they should*
 45 *not be sufficiently strong and they should fall. ■ Neither durst they march down*
 46 *against the city of Zarahemla; neither durst they cross the head of Sidon, over to the*
 47 *city of Nephihah. ■ And thus, with their forces, they were determined to maintain*
 48 *those cities which they had taken.*

49 *And now it came to pass in the second month of this year, there was brought unto*
 50 *us many provisions from the fathers of those my two thousand sons. ■ And also there*
 51 *were sent two thousand men unto us from the land of Zarahemla. And thus we were*
 52 *prepared with ten thousand men, and provisions for them, and also for their wives*
 53 *and their children. ■ And the Lamanites, thus seeing our forces increase daily, and*
 54 *provisions arrive for our support, they began to be fearful, and began to sally forth,*
 55 *if it were possible to put an end to our receiving provisions and strength.*

56 *Now when we saw that the Lamanites began to grow uneasy on this wise, we were*
 57 *desirous to bring a stratagem into effect upon them; therefore Antipus ordered that I*
 58 *should march forth with my little sons to a neighboring city, as if we were carrying*
 59 *provisions to a neighboring city. ■ And we were to march near the city of Antiparah,*
 60 *as if we were going to the city beyond, in the borders by the seashore. ■ And it came*
 61 *to pass that we did march forth, as if with our provisions, to go to that city. ■ And it*
 62 *came to pass that Antipus did march forth with a part of his army, leaving the*

remainder to maintain the city. But he did not march forth until I had gone forth with my little army, and came near the city Antiparah.

34 And now, in the city Antiparah were stationed the strongest army of the
35 Lamanites; yea, the most numerous. ■ And it came to pass that when they had been informed by their spies, they came forth with their army and marched against us.

36 And it came to pass that we did flee before them, northward. And thus we did
37 lead away the most powerful army of the Lamanites; ■ Yea, even to a considerable distance, insomuch that when they saw the army of Antipus pursuing them, with their might, they did not turn to the right nor to the left, but pursued their march in a straight course after us; and, as we suppose, it was their intent to slay us before Antipus should overtake them, and this that they might not be surrounded by our people.

38 And now Antipus, beholding our danger, did speed the march of his army. But behold, it was night; therefore they did not overtake us, neither did Antipus overtake them; therefore we did camp for the night.

39 And it came to pass that before the dawn of the morning, behold, the Lamanites were pursuing us. Now we were not sufficiently strong to contend with them; yea, I would not suffer that my little sons should fall into their hands; therefore we did
40 continue our march, and we took our march into the wilderness. ■ Now they durst not turn to the right nor to the left lest they should be surrounded; neither would I turn to the right nor to the left lest they should overtake me, and we could not stand against them, but be slain, and they would make their escape; and thus we did flee all that day into the wilderness, even until it was dark.

41 And it came to pass that again, when the light of the morning came we saw the
42 Lamanites upon us, and we did flee before them. ■ But it came to pass that they did not pursue us far before they halted; and it was in the morning of the third day of the seventh month. ■ And now, whether they were overtaken by Antipus we knew not, but I said unto my men:

44 “Behold, we know not but they have halted for the purpose that we should come against them, that they might catch us in their snare; ■ Therefore what say ye, my sons, will ye go against them to battle?”

45 And now I say unto you, my beloved brother Moroni, that never had I seen so
46 great courage, nay, not amongst all the Nephites. ■ For as I had ever called them my sons (for they were all of them very young) even so they said unto me: Father, behold our God is with us, and he will not suffer that we should fall; then let us go forth; we would not slay our brethren if they would let us alone; therefore let us go, lest they should overpower the army of Antipus.

47 Now they never had fought, yet they did not fear death; and they did think more upon the liberty of their fathers than they did upon their lives; yea, they had been
48 taught by their mothers, that if they did not doubt, God would deliver them. ■ And they rehearsed unto me the words of their mothers, saying: We do not doubt our mothers knew it.

49 And it came to pass that I did return with my two thousand against these
50 Lamanites who had pursued us. And now behold, the armies of Antipus had overtaken them, and a terrible battle had commenced. ■ The army of Antipus being weary, because of their long march in so short a space of time, were about to fall into the hands of the Lamanites; and had I not returned with my two thousand they would have obtained their purpose. ■ For Antipus had fallen by the sword, and many of his leaders, because of their weariness, which was occasioned by the speed of their march--therefore the men of Antipus, being confused because of the fall of their leaders, began to give way before the Lamanites.

52 And it came to pass that the Lamanites took courage, and began to pursue them;

53 *and thus were the Lamanites pursuing them with great vigor when Helaman came upon their rear with his two thousand, and began to slay them exceedingly, insomuch that the whole army of the Lamanites halted and turned upon Helaman. ■ Now when the people of Antipus saw that the Lamanites had turned them about, they gathered together their men and came again upon the rear of the Lamanites.*

54 *And now it came to pass that we, the people of Nephi, the people of Antipus, and I with my two thousand, did surround the Lamanites, and did slay them; yea, insomuch that they were compelled to deliver up their weapons of war and also themselves as prisoners of war.*

55 *And now it came to pass that when they had surrendered themselves up unto us, behold, I numbered those young men who had fought with me, fearing lest there were many of them slain. ■ But behold, to my great joy, there had not one soul of them fallen to the earth; yea, and they had fought as if with the strength of God; yea, never were men known to have fought with such miraculous strength; and with such mighty power did they fall upon the Lamanites, that they did frighten them; and for this*
56 *cause did the Lamanites deliver themselves up as prisoners of war. ■ And as we had no place for our prisoners, that we could guard them to keep them from the armies of the Lamanites, therefore we sent them to the land of Zarahemla, and a part of those men who were not slain of Antipus, with them; and the remainder I took and joined them to my stripling Ammonites, and took our march back to the city of Judea. “*
57

CHAPTER FIFTY-SEVEN

Helaman recounts the taking of Antiparah and the surrender and later the defense of Cumeni

*His Ammonite striplings fight valiantly and all are wounded, but none are slain
Gid reports the slaying and escape of the Lamanite prisoners.*

1 *“And now it came to pass that I received an epistle from Ammoron, the king, stating that if I would deliver up those prisoners of war whom we had taken that he would deliver up the city of Antiparah unto us. ■ But I sent an epistle unto the king, that we were sure our forces were sufficient to take the city of Antiparah by our force; and by delivering up the prisoners for that city we should suppose ourselves unwise, and that we would only deliver up our prisoners on exchange. ■ And Ammoron refused mine epistle, for he would not exchange prisoners; therefore we began to make preparations to go against the city of Antiparah. ■ But the people of Antiparah did leave the city, and fled to their other cities, which they had possession of, to fortify them; and thus the city of Antiparah fell into our hands. ■ And thus ended the twenty and eighth year of the reign of the judges.*

Page 352

6 *And it came to pass that in the *commencement of the twenty and ninth year, we received a supply of provisions, and also an addition to our army, from the land of Zarahemla, and from the land round about, to the number of six thousand men, besides sixty of the sons of the Ammonites who had come to join their brethren, my little band of two thousand. And now behold, we were strong, yea, and we had also plenty of provisions brought unto us.*

63 B.C.

7 *And it came to pass that it was our desire to wage a battle with the army which was placed to protect the city Cumeni. ■ And now behold, I will show unto you that we soon accomplished our desire; yea, with our strong force, or with a part of our strong force, we did surround, by night, the city Cumeni, a little before they were to receive a supply of provisions. ■ And it came to pass that we did camp round about the city for many nights; but we did sleep upon our swords, and keep guards, that the Lamanites could not come upon us by night and slay us, which they attempted many times; but as many times as they attempted this their blood was spilt. ■ At length their*
8
9
10

provisions did arrive, and they were about to enter the city by night. And we, instead of being Lamanites, were Nephites; therefore, we did take them and their provisions. And notwithstanding the Lamanites being cut off from their support after this manner, they were still determined to maintain the city; therefore it became expedient that we should take those provisions and send them to Judea, and our prisoners to the land of Zarahemla.

And it came to pass that not many days had passed away before the Lamanites began to lose all hopes of succor; therefore they yielded up the city unto our hands; and thus we had accomplished our designs in obtaining the city Cumeni. ■ But it came to pass that our prisoners were so numerous that, notwithstanding the enormity of our numbers, we were obliged to employ all our force to keep them, or to put them to death. ■ For behold, they would break out in great numbers, and would fight with stones, and with clubs, or whatsoever thing they could get into their hands, insomuch that we did slay upwards of two thousand of them after they had surrendered themselves prisoners of war. ■ Therefore it became expedient for us, that we should put an end to their lives, or guard them, sword in hand, down to the land of Zarahemla; and also our provisions were not any more than sufficient for our own people, notwithstanding that which we had taken from the Lamanites.

And now, in those critical circumstances, it became a very serious matter to determine concerning these prisoners of war; nevertheless, we did resolve to send them down to the land of Zarahemla; therefore we selected a part of our men, and gave them charge over our prisoners to go down to the land of Zarahemla.

But it came to pass that on the morrow they did return. And now behold, we did not inquire of them concerning the prisoners; for behold, the Lamanites were upon us, and they returned in season to save us from falling into their hands. For behold, Ammoron had sent to their support a new supply of provisions and also a numerous army of men.

And it came to pass that those men whom we sent with the prisoners did arrive in season to check them, as they were about to overpower us. ■ But behold, my little band of two thousand and sixty fought most desperately; yea, they were firm before the Lamanites, and did administer death unto all those who opposed them. ■ And as the remainder of our army were about to give way before the Lamanites, behold, those two thousand and sixty were firm and undaunted. ■ Yea, and they did obey and observe to perform every word of command with exactness; yea, and even according to their faith it was done unto them; and I did remember the words which they said unto me that their mothers had taught them. ■ And now behold, it was these my sons, and those men who had been selected to convey the prisoners, to whom we owe this great victory; for it was they who did beat the Lamanites; therefore they were driven back to the city of Manti. ■ And we retained our city Cumeni, and were not all destroyed by the sword; nevertheless, we had suffered great loss.

And it came to pass that after the Lamanites had fled, I immediately gave orders that my men who had been wounded should be taken from among the dead, and caused that their wounds should be dressed.

And it came to pass that there were two hundred, out of my two thousand and sixty, who had fainted because of the loss of blood; nevertheless, according to the goodness of God, and to our great astonishment, and also the joy of our whole army, there was not one soul of them who did perish; yea, and neither was there one soul among them who had not received many wounds. ■ And now, their preservation was astonishing to our whole army, yea, that they should be spared while there was a thousand of our brethren who were slain. And we do justly ascribe it to the miraculous power of God, because of their exceeding faith in that which they had been taught to believe--that there was a just God, and whosoever did not doubt, that

27 *they should be preserved by his marvelous power. ■ Now this was the faith of these of whom I have spoken; they are young, and their minds are firm, and they do put their trust in God continually.*

28 *And now it came to pass that after we had thus taken care of our wounded men, and had buried our dead and also the dead of the Lamanites, who were many, behold, we did inquire of Gid concerning the prisoners whom they had started to go down to the land of Zarahemla with. ■ Now Gid was the chief captain over the band who was appointed to guard them down to the land. ■ And now, these are the words which Gid said unto me:*

31 *“Behold, we did start to go down to the land of Zarahemla with our prisoners. And it came to pass that we did meet the spies of our armies, who had been sent out to watch the camp of the Lamanites. ■ And they cried unto us, saying--*

“Behold, the armies of the Lamanites are marching towards the city of Cumeni; and behold, they will fall upon them, yea, and will destroy our people.”

32 *And it came to pass that our prisoners did hear their cries, which caused them to take courage; and they did rise up in rebellion against us. ■ And it came to pass because of their rebellion we did cause that our swords should come upon them. And it came to pass that they did in a body run upon our swords, in the which, the greater number of them were slain; and the remainder of them broke through and fled from us. ■ And behold, when they had fled and we could not overtake them, we took our march with speed towards the city Cumeni; and behold, we did arrive in time that we might assist our brethren in preserving the city. ■ And behold, we are again delivered out of the hands of our enemies. And blessed is the name of our God; for behold, it is he that has delivered us; yea, that has done this great thing for us.”*

36 *Now it came to pass that when I, Helaman, had heard these words of Gid, I was filled with exceeding joy because of the goodness of God in preserving us, that we might not all perish; yea, and I trust that the souls of them who have been slain have entered into the rest of their God.”*

CHAPTER FIFTY-EIGHT

Helaman, Gid, and Teomner take the city of Manti by a stratagem

The Lamanites withdraw

*The sons of the people of Ammon are preserved
as they stand fast in defense of their liberty and faith.*

1 *“And behold, now it came to pass that our next object was to obtain the city of Manti; but behold, there was no way that we could lead them out of the city by our small bands. For behold, they remembered that which we had hitherto done;*

2 *therefore we could not decoy them away from their strongholds. ■ And they were so much more numerous than was our army that we durst not go forth and attack them in their strongholds. ■ Yea, and it became expedient that we should employ our men to the maintaining those parts of the land which we had regained of our possessions; therefore it became expedient that we should wait, that we might receive more strength from the land of Zarahemla and also a new supply of provisions.*

4 *And it came to pass that I thus did send an embassy to the governor of our land, to acquaint him concerning the affairs of our people. And it came to pass that we did wait to receive provisions and strength from the land of Zarahemla. ■ But behold,*

5

6 *this did profit us but little; for the Lamanites were also receiving great strength from day to day, and also many provisions; and thus were our circumstances at this period of time. ■ And the Lamanites were sallying forth against us from time to time, resolving by stratagem to destroy us; nevertheless we could not come to battle with them, because of their retreats and their strongholds.*

7 *And it came to pass that we did wait in these difficult circumstances for the space*
8 *of many months, even until we were about to perish for the want of food. ■ But it*
9 *came to pass that we did receive food, which was guarded to us by an army of two*
10 *thousand men to our assistance; and this is all the assistance which we did receive, to*
11 *defend ourselves and our country from falling into the hands of our enemies, yea, to*
12 *contend with an enemy which was innumerable. ■ And now the cause of these our*
13 *embarrassments, or the cause why they did not send more strength unto us, we knew*
14 *not; therefore we were grieved and also filled with fear, lest by any means the*
15 *judgments of God should come upon our land, to our overthrow and utter*
16 *destruction. ■ Therefore we did pour out our souls in prayer to God, that he would*
17 *strengthen us and deliver us out of the hands of our enemies, yea, and also give us*
18 *strength that we might retain our cities, and our lands, and our possessions, for the*
19 *support of our people. ■ Yea, and it came to pass that the Lord our God did visit us*
20 *with assurances that he would deliver us; yea, insomuch that he did speak peace to*
21 *our souls, and did grant unto us great faith, and did cause us that we should hope for*
our deliverance in him. ■ And we did take courage with our small force which we had
received, and were fixed with a determination to conquer our enemies, and to
maintain our lands, and our possessions, and our wives, and our children, and the
cause of our liberty. ■ And thus we did go forth with all our might against the
Lamanites, who were in the city of Manti; and we did pitch our tents by the
wilderness side, which was near to the city. ■ And it came to pass that on the morrow,
that when the Lamanites saw that we were in the borders by the wilderness which was
near the city, that they sent out their spies round about us that they might discover
the number and the strength of our army.

15 *And it came to pass that when they saw that we were not strong, according to our numbers, and fearing that we should cut them off from their support except they should come out to battle against us and kill us, and also supposing that they could easily destroy us with their numerous hosts, therefore they began to make preparations to come out against us to battle. ■ And when we saw that they were making preparations to come out against us, behold, I caused that Gid, with a small number of men, should secrete himself in the wilderness, and also that Teomner and a small number of men should secrete themselves also in the wilderness. ■ Now Gid and his men were on the right and the others on the left; and when they had thus secreted themselves, behold, I remained, with the remainder of my army, in that same place where we had first pitched our tents against the time that the Lamanites should come out to battle.*

18 *And it came to pass that the Lamanites did come out with their numerous army against us. And when they had come and were about to fall upon us with the sword, I caused that my men, those who were with me, should retreat into the wilderness.*

19 *And it came to pass that the Lamanites did follow after us with great speed, for they were exceedingly desirous to overtake us that they might slay us; therefore they did follow us into the wilderness; and we did pass by in the midst of Gid and Teomner, insomuch that they were not discovered by the Lamanites.*

20 *And it came to pass that when the Lamanites had passed by, or when the army had passed by, Gid and Teomner did rise up from their secret places, and did cut off the spies of the Lamanites that they should not return to the city. ■ And it came to*
21 *pass that when they had cut them off, they ran to the city and fell upon the guards*

22 who were left to guard the city, insomuch that they did destroy them and did take
possession of the city. ■ Now this was done because the Lamanites did suffer their
whole army, save a few guards only, to be led away into the wilderness.

23 And it came to pass that *Gid and Teomner* by this means had obtained possession
of their strongholds. And it came to pass that we took our course, after having
24 traveled much in the wilderness towards the land of *Zarahemla*. ■ And when the
Lamanites saw that they were marching towards the land of *Zarahemla*, they were
exceedingly afraid, lest there was a plan laid to lead them on to destruction;
25 therefore they began to retreat into the wilderness again, yea, even back by the same
way which they had come. ■ And behold, it was night and they did pitch their tents,
for the chief captains of the Lamanites had supposed that the Nephites were weary
because of their march; and supposing that they had driven their whole army
therefore they took no thought concerning the city of *Manti*.

26 Now it came to pass that when it was night, I caused that my men should not
sleep, but that they should march forward by another way towards the land of *Manti*.
27 And because of this our march in the night-time, behold, on the morrow we were
beyond the Lamanites, insomuch that we did arrive before them at the city of *Manti*.
28 And thus it came to pass, that by this stratagem we did take possession of the city of
Manti without the shedding of blood.

29 And it came to pass that when the armies of the Lamanites did arrive near the
city, and saw that we were prepared to meet them, they were astonished exceedingly
30 and struck with great fear, insomuch that they did flee into the wilderness. ■ Yea, and
it came to pass that the armies of the Lamanites did flee out of all this quarter of the
land. But behold, they have carried with them many women and children out of the
31 land. ■ And those cities which had been taken by the Lamanites, all of them are at
this period of time in our possession; and our fathers and our women and our
children are returning to their homes, all save it be those who have been taken
32 prisoners and carried off by the Lamanites. ■ But behold, our armies are small to
33 maintain so great a number of cities and so great possessions. ■ But behold, we trust
in our God who has given us victory over those lands, insomuch that we have
obtained those cities and those lands, which were our own.

34 Now we do not know the cause that the government does not grant us more
strength; neither do those men who came up unto us know why we have not received
35 greater strength. ■ Behold, we do not know but what ye are unsuccessful, and ye have
drawn away the forces into that quarter of the land; if so, we do not desire to
36 murmur. ■ And if it is not so, behold, we fear that there is some faction in the
government, that they do not send more men to our assistance; for we know that they
37 are more numerous than that which they have sent. ■ But, behold, it mattereth
not--we trust God will deliver us, notwithstanding the weakness of our armies, yea,
38 and deliver us out of the hands of our enemies. ■ Behold, this is the twenty and ninth
year, in the latter end, and we are in the possession of our lands; and the Lamanites
39 have fled to the land of *Nephi*. ■ And those sons of the people of *Ammon*, of whom I
have so highly spoken, are with me in the city of *Manti*; and the Lord had supported
them, yea, and kept them from falling by the sword, insomuch that even one soul has
40 not been slain. ■ But behold, they have received many wounds; nevertheless they
stand fast in that liberty wherewith God has made them free; and they are strict to
remember the Lord their God from day to day; yea, they do observe to keep his
statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments continually; and their faith is
strong in the prophecies concerning that which is to come.

41 And now, my beloved brother, *Moroni*, may the Lord our God, who has redeemed
us and made us free, keep you continually in his presence; yea, and may he favor this
people, even that ye may have success in obtaining the possession of all that which

*the Lamanites have taken from us, which was for our support.
And now, behold, I close mine epistle. I am Helaman, the son of Alma.”*

CHAPTER FIFTY-NINE

Moroni asks Pahoran to strengthen the forces of Helaman

The Lamanites take the city of Nephihah

Moroni is angry with the government.

1 Now it came to pass in the *thirtieth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi, after Moroni had received and had read Helaman's epistle, he was exceedingly rejoiced because of the welfare, yea, the exceeding success which Helaman had had, in obtaining those lands which were lost. ■ Yea, and he did make it known unto all his people, in all the land round about in that part where he was, that they might rejoice also. **62 B.C.**

3 And it came to pass that he immediately sent an epistle to Pahoran, desiring that he should cause men to be gathered together to strengthen Helaman, or the armies of Helaman, insomuch that he might with ease maintain that part of the land which he had been so miraculously prospered in regaining. ■ And it came to pass when Moroni had sent this epistle to the land of Zarahemla, he began again to lay a plan that he might obtain the remainder of those possessions and cities which the Lamanites had taken from them.

5 And it came to pass that while Moroni was thus making preparations to go against the Lamanites to battle, behold, the people of Nephihah, who were gathered together from the city of Moroni and the city of Lehi and the city of Morianton, were attacked by the Lamanites. ■ Yea, even those who had been compelled to flee from the land of Manti, and from the land round about, had come over and joined the Lamanites in this part of the land. And thus being exceedingly numerous, yea, and receiving strength from day to day, by the command of Ammoron they came forth against the people of Nephihah, and they did begin to slay them with an exceedingly great slaughter. ■ And their armies were so numerous that the remainder of the people of Nephihah were obliged to flee before them; and they came even and joined the army of Moroni. ■ And now as Moroni had supposed that there should be men sent to the city Nephihah, to the assistance of the people to maintain that city, and knowing that it was easier to keep the city from falling into the hands of the Lamanites than to retake it from them, he supposed that they would easily maintain that city. ■ Therefore he retained all his force to maintain those places which he had recovered. **Page 358**

11 And now, when Moroni saw that the city of Nephihah was lost he was exceedingly sorrowful, and began to doubt, because of the wickedness of the people, whether they should not fall into the hands of their brethren. ■ Now this was the case with all his chief captains. They doubted and marveled also because of the wickedness of the people, and this because of the success of the Lamanites over them. ■ And it came to pass that Moroni was angry with the government, because of their indifference concerning the freedom of their country.

CHAPTER SIXTY

Moroni complains to Pahoran of the government's neglect of the armies

The Lord suffers the righteous to be slain

The Nephites must use all of their power and

means to deliver themselves from their enemies

Moroni threatens to fight against the government unless help is supplied to his armies.

1 And it came to pass that he wrote again to the governor of the land, who was Pahoran, and

these are the words which he wrote, saying:

2 *“Behold, I direct mine epistle to Pahoran, in the city of Zarahemla, who is the chief judge and the governor over the land, and also to all those who have been chosen by this people to govern and manage the affairs of this war. ■ For behold, I have somewhat to say unto them by the way of condemnation; for behold, ye yourselves know that ye have been appointed to gather together men, and arm them with swords, and with cimeters, and all manner of weapons of war of every kind, and send forth against the Lamanites, in whatsoever parts they should come into our land.*

3 *And now behold, I say unto you that myself, and also my men, and also Helaman and his men, have suffered exceedingly great sufferings; yea, even hunger, thirst, and fatigue, and all manner of afflictions of every kind. ■ But behold, were this all we had suffered we would not murmur nor complain. ■ But behold, great has been the slaughter among our people; yea, thousands have fallen by the sword, while it might have otherwise been if ye had rendered unto our armies sufficient strength and succor for them. Yea, great has been your neglect towards us.*

6 *And now behold, we desire to know the cause of this exceedingly great neglect; yea, we desire to know the cause of your thoughtless state. ■ Can you think to sit upon your thrones in a state of thoughtless stupor, while your enemies are spreading the work of death around you? Yea, while they are murdering thousands of your brethren-- ■ Yea, even they who have looked up to you for protection, yea, have placed you in a situation that ye might have succored them, yea, ye might have sent armies unto them, to have strengthened them, and have saved thousands of them from falling by the sword. ■ But behold, this is not all--ye have withheld your provisions from them, insomuch that many have fought and bled out their lives because of their great desires which they had for the welfare of this people; yea, and this they have done when they were about to perish with hunger, because of your exceedingly great neglect towards them.*

10 *And now, my beloved brethren--for ye ought to be beloved; yea, and ye ought to have stirred yourselves more diligently for the welfare and the freedom of this people; but behold, ye have neglected them insomuch that the blood of thousands shall come upon your heads for vengeance; yea, for known unto God were all their cries, and all their sufferings-- ■ Behold, could ye suppose that ye could sit upon your thrones, and because of the exceeding goodness of God ye could do nothing and he would deliver you? Behold, if ye have supposed this ye have supposed in vain. ■ Do ye suppose that, because so many of your brethren have been killed it is because of their wickedness? I say unto you, if ye have supposed this ye have supposed in vain; for I say unto you, there are many who have fallen by the sword; and behold it is to your condemnation; ■ For the Lord suffereth the righteous to be slain that his justice and judgment may come upon the wicked; therefore ye need not suppose that the righteous are lost because they are slain; but behold, they do enter into the rest of the Lord their God.*

14 *And now behold, I say unto you, I fear exceedingly that the judgments of God will come upon this people, because of their exceeding slothfulness, yea, even the slothfulness of our government, and their exceedingly great neglect towards their brethren, yea, towards those who have been slain. ■ For were it not for the wickedness which first commenced at our head, we could have withstood our enemies that they could have gained no power over us. ■ Yea, had it not been for the war which broke out among ourselves; yea, were it not for these king-men, who caused so much bloodshed among ourselves; yea, at the time we were contending among ourselves, if we had united our strength as we hitherto have done; yea, had it not been for the desire of power and authority which those king-men had over us; had*

they been true to the cause of our freedom, and united with us, and gone forth against our enemies, instead of taking up their swords against us, which was the cause of so much bloodshed among ourselves; yea, if we had gone forth against them in the strength of the Lord, we should have dispersed our enemies, for it would have been done, according to the fulfilling of his word.

But behold, now the Lamanites are coming upon us, taking possession of our lands, and they are murdering our people with the sword, yea, our women and our children, and also carrying them away captive, causing them that they should suffer all manner of afflictions, and this because of the great wickedness of those who are seeking for power and authority, yea, even those king-men. ■ But why should I say much concerning this matter? For we know not but what ye yourselves are seeking for authority. We know not but what ye are also traitors to your country. ■ Or is it that ye have neglected us because ye are in the heart of our country and ye are surrounded by security, that ye do not cause food to be sent unto us, and also men to strengthen our armies?

Have ye forgotten the commandments of the Lord your God? Yea, have ye forgotten the captivity of our fathers? Have ye forgotten the many times we have been delivered out of the hands of our enemies? ■ Or do ye suppose that the Lord will still deliver us, while we sit upon our thrones and do not make use of the means which the Lord has provided for us? ■ Yea, will ye sit in idleness while ye are surrounded with thousands of those, yea, and tens of thousands, who do also sit in idleness, while there are thousands round about in the borders of the land who are falling by the sword, yea, wounded and bleeding? ■ Do ye suppose that God will look upon you as guiltless while ye sit still and behold these things? Behold I say unto you, Nay. Now I would that ye should remember that God has said that the inward vessel shall be cleansed first, and then shall the outer vessel be cleansed also.

And now, except ye do repent of that which ye have done, and begin to be up and doing, and send forth food and men unto us, and also unto Helaman, that he may support those parts of our country which he has regained, and that we may also recover the remainder of our possessions in these parts, behold it will be expedient that we contend no more with the Lamanites until we have first cleansed our inward vessel, yea, even the great head of our government. ■ And except ye grant mine epistle, and come out and show unto me a true spirit of freedom, and strive to strengthen and fortify our armies, and grant unto them food for their support, behold I will leave a part of my freemen to maintain this part of our land, and I will leave the strength and the blessings of God upon them, that none other power can operate against them-- ■ And this because of their exceeding faith, and their patience in their tribulations-- ■ And I will come unto you, and if there be any among you that has a desire for freedom, yea, if there be even a spark of freedom remaining, behold I will stir up insurrections among you, even until those who have desires to usurp power and authority shall become extinct.

Yea, behold I do not fear your power nor your authority, but it is my God whom I fear; and it is according to his commandments that I do take my sword to defend the cause of my country, and it is because of your iniquity that we have suffered so much loss. ■ Behold it is time, yea, the time is now at hand, that except ye do bestir yourselves in the defence of your country and your little ones, the sword of justice doth hang over you; yea, and it shall fall upon you and visit you even to your utter destruction. ■ Behold, I wait for assistance from you; and, except ye do administer unto our relief, behold, I come unto you, even in the land of Zarahemla, and smite you with the sword, insomuch that ye can have no more power to impede the progress of this people in the cause of our freedom. ■ For behold, the Lord will not suffer that ye shall live and wax strong in your iniquities to destroy his righteous people.

32 Behold, can you suppose that the Lord will spare you and come out in judgment
 against the Lamanites, when it is the tradition of their fathers that has caused their
 hatred, yea, and it has been redoubled by those who have dissented from us, while
 your iniquity is for the cause of your love of glory and the vain things of the world?
 33 Ye know that ye do transgress the laws of God, and ye do know that ye do trample
 them under your feet. Behold, the Lord saith unto me:

***“If those whom ye have appointed your governors do not repent of their
 sins and iniquities, ye shall go up to battle against them.”***

34 And now behold, I, Moroni, am constrained, according to the covenant which I
 have made to keep the commandments of my God; therefore I would that ye should
 adhere to the word of God, and send speedily unto me of your provisions and of your
 35 men, and also to Helaman. ■ And behold, if ye will not do this I come unto you
 speedily; for behold, God will not suffer that we should perish with hunger; therefore
 36 he will give unto us of your food, even if it must be by the sword. Now see that ye
 fulfil the word of God. ■ Behold, I am Moroni, your chief captain. I seek not for
 power, but to pull it down. I seek not for honor of the world, but for the glory of my
 God, and the freedom and welfare of my country. And thus I close mine epistle.”

CHAPTER SIXTY-ONE

*Pahoran tells Moroni of the insurrection and rebellion against the government
 The king-men take Zarahemla and are in league with the Lamanites
 Pahoran asks for military aid against the rebels.*

1 Behold, now it came to pass that soon after Moroni had sent his epistle unto the chief
 governor, he received an epistle from Pahoran, the chief governor. And these are the
 words which he received:

2 “I, Pahoran, who am the chief governor of this land, do send these words unto
 Moroni, the chief captain over the army. Behold, I say unto you, Moroni, that I do
 3 not joy in your great afflictions, yea, it grieves my soul. ■ But behold, there are those
 who do joy in your afflictions, yea, insomuch that they have risen up in rebellion
 against me, and also those of my people who are freemen, yea, and those who have
 4 risen up are exceedingly numerous. ■ And it is those who have sought to take away
 the judgment-seat from me that have been the cause of this great iniquity; for they
 have used great flattery, and they have led away the hearts of many people, which
 will be the cause of sore affliction among us; they have withheld our provisions, and
 5 have daunted our freemen that they have not come unto you. ■ And behold, they have
 driven me out before them, and I have fled to the land of Gideon, with as many men
 6 as it were possible that I could get. ■ And behold, I have sent a proclamation
 throughout this part of the land; and behold, they are flocking to us daily, to their
 arms, in the defence of their country and their freedom, and to avenge our wrongs.
 7 And they have come unto us, insomuch that those who have risen up in rebellion
 against us are set at defiance, yea, insomuch that they do fear us and durst not come
 8 out against us to battle. ■ They have got possession of the land, or the city, of
 Zarahemla; they have appointed a king over them, and he hath written unto the king
 of the Lamanites, in the which he hath joined an alliance with him; in the which
 alliance he hath agreed to maintain the city of Zarahemla, which maintenance he
 supposeth will enable the Lamanites to conquer the remainder of the land, and he
 shall be placed king over this people when they shall be conquered under the
 Lamanites.

9 And now, in your epistle you have censured me, but it mattereth not; I am not
 angry, but do rejoice in the greatness of your heart. I, Pahoran, do not seek for
 power, save only to retain my judgment-seat that I may preserve the rights and the

liberty of my people. My soul standeth fast in that liberty in the which God hath made us free.

10 *And now, behold, we will resist wickedness even unto bloodshed. We would not*
11 *shed the blood of the Lamanites if they would stay in their own land. ■ We would not*
12 *shed the blood of our brethren if they would not rise up in rebellion and take the*
13 *sword against us. ■ We would subject ourselves to the yoke of bondage if it were*
14 *requisite with the justice of God, or if he should command us so to do. ■ But behold*
15 *he doth not command us that we shall subject ourselves to our enemies, but that we*
16 *should put our trust in him, and he will deliver us. ■ Therefore, my beloved brother,*
17 *Moroni, let us resist evil, and whatsoever evil we cannot resist with our words, yea,*
18 *such as rebellions and dissensions, let us resist them with our swords, that we may*
19 *retain our freedom, that we may rejoice in the great privilege of our church, and in*
20 *the cause of our Redeemer and our God. ■ Therefore, come unto me speedily with a*
21 *few of your men, and leave the remainder in the charge of Lehi and Teancum; give*
22 *unto them power to conduct the war in that part of the land, according to the Spirit of*
23 *God, which is also the Spirit of freedom which is in them. ■ Behold I have sent a few*
24 *provisions unto them, that they may not perish until ye can come unto me. ■ Gather*
25 *together whatsoever force ye can upon your march hither, and we will go speedily*
26 *against those dissenters, in the strength of our God according to the faith which is in*
27 *us. ■ And we will take possession of the city of Zarahemla, that we may obtain more*
28 *food to send forth unto Lehi and Teancum; yea, we will go forth against them in the*
29 *strength of the Lord, and we will put an end to this great iniquity.*

30 *And now, Moroni, I do joy in receiving your epistle, for I was somewhat worried*
31 *concerning what we should do, whether it should be just in us to go against our*
32 *brethren. ■ But ye have said, except they repent the Lord hath commanded you that*
33 *ye should go against them. ■ See that ye strengthen Lehi and Teancum in the Lord;*
34 *tell them to fear not, for God will deliver them, yea, and also all those who stand fast*
35 *in that liberty wherewith God hath made them free.*

And now I close mine epistle to my beloved brother, Moroni.”

CHAPTER SIXTY-TWO

Page 363

*Moroni marches to the aid of Pahoran in the land of Gideon
The king-men who refuse to defend their country are put to death
Pahoran and Moroni retake Nephiah
Many Lamanites join the people of Ammon
Teancum slays Ammoron and is in turn slain
The Lamanites are driven from the land, and peace is established
Helaman returns to the ministry and builds up the Church.*

1 *And now it came to pass that when Moroni had received this epistle his heart did take*
2 *courage, and was filled with exceedingly great joy because of the faithfulness of Pahoran,*
3 *that he was not also a traitor to the freedom and cause of his country. ■ But he did also*
4 *mourn exceedingly because of the iniquity of those who had driven Pahoran from the*
5 *judgment-seat, yea, in fine because of those who had rebelled against their country and*
6 *also their God.*

7 *And it came to pass that Moroni took a small number of men, according to the desire of*
8 *Pahoran, and gave Lehi and Teancum command over the remainder of his army, and took*
9 *his march towards the land of Gideon. ■ And he did raise the standard of liberty in*
10 *whatsoever place he did enter, and gained whatsoever force he could in all his march*
11 *towards the land of Gideon.*

5 And it came to pass that thousands did flock unto his standard, and did take up their
6 swords in the defence of their freedom, that they might not come into bondage. ■ And thus,
when Moroni had gathered together whatsoever men he could in all his march, he came to
the land of Gideon; and uniting his forces with those of Pahoran they became exceedingly
strong, even stronger than the men of Pachus, who was the king of those dissenters who
had driven the freemen out of the land of Zarahemla and had taken possession of the land.

7 And it came to pass that Moroni and Pahoran went down with their armies into the land of
Zarahemla, and went forth against the city, and did meet the men of Pachus, insomuch that
8 they did come to battle. ■ And behold, Pachus was slain and his men were taken prisoners,
9 and Pahoran was restored to his judgment-seat. ■ And the men of Pachus received their
trial, according to the law, and also those king-men who had been taken and cast into
prison; and they were executed according to the law; yea, those men of Pachus and those
king-men, whosoever would not take up arms in the defence of their country, but would
10 fight against it, were put to death. ■ And thus it became expedient that this law should be
strictly observed for the safety of their country; yea, and whosoever was found denying
11 their freedom was speedily executed according to the law. ■ And thus ended the thirtieth
year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi; Moroni and Pahoran having
restored peace to the land of Zarahemla, among their own people, having inflicted death
upon all those who were not true to the cause of freedom.

12 And it came to pass in the *commencement of the thirty and first year of the reign of the
judges over the people of Nephi, Moroni immediately caused that provisions should be
sent, and also an army of six thousand men should be sent unto Helaman, to assist him in
13 preserving that part of the land. ■ And he also caused that an army of six thousand men,
with a sufficient quantity of food, should be sent to the armies of Lehi and Teancum. And
it came to pass that this was done to fortify the land against the Lamanites.

61 B.C.

Page 354

14 And it came to pass that Moroni and Pahoran, leaving a large body of men in the land of
Zarahemla, took their march with a large body of men towards the land of Nephihah, being
determined to overthrow the Lamanites in that city.

15 And it came to pass that as they were marching towards the land, they took a large body of
men of the Lamanites, and slew many of them, and took their provisions and their weapons
16 of war. ■ And it came to pass after they had taken them, they caused them to enter into a
covenant that they would no more take up their weapons of war against the Nephites.

17 And when they had entered into this covenant they sent them to dwell with the people of
Ammon, and they were in number about four thousand who had not been slain. And it
came to pass that when they had sent them away they pursued their march towards the
18 land of Nephihah. ■ And it came to pass that when they had come to the city of Nephihah,
they did pitch their tents in the plains of Nephihah, which is near the city of Nephihah.
19 Now Moroni was desirous that the Lamanites should come out to battle against them, upon
the plains; but the Lamanites, knowing of their exceedingly great courage, and beholding
the greatness of their numbers, therefore they durst not come out against them; therefore
20 they did not come to battle in that day. ■ And when the night came, Moroni went forth in
the darkness of the night, and came upon the top of the wall to spy out in what part of the
city the Lamanites did camp with their army.

21 And it came to pass that they were on the east, by the entrance; and they were all asleep.
And now Moroni returned to his army, and caused that they should prepare in haste strong
cords and ladders, to be let down from the top of the wall into the inner part of the wall.

22 And it came to pass that Moroni caused that his men should march forth and come upon the top of the wall, and let themselves down into that part of the city, yea, even on the west, where the Lamanites did not camp with their armies.

23 And it came to pass that they were all let down into the city by night, by the means of their strong cords and their ladders; thus when the morning came they were all within the walls of the city. ■ And now, when the Lamanites awoke and saw that the armies of Moroni were within the walls, they were affrighted exceedingly, insomuch that they did flee out by the pass. ■ And now when Moroni saw that they were fleeing before him, he did cause that his men should march forth against them, and slew many, and surrounded many others, and took them prisoners; and the remainder of them fled into the land of Moroni, which was in the borders by the seashore. ■ Thus had Moroni and Pahoran obtained the possession of the city of Nephiah without the loss of one soul; and there were many of the Lamanites who were slain.

27 Now it came to pass that many of the Lamanites that were prisoners were desirous to join the people of Ammon and become a free people. ■ And it came to pass that as many as were desirous, unto them it was granted according to their desires. ■ Therefore, all the prisoners of the Lamanites did join the people of Ammon, and did begin to labor exceedingly, tilling the ground, raising all manner of grain, and flocks and herds of every kind; and thus were the Nephites relieved from a great burden; yea, insomuch that they were relieved from all the prisoners of the Lamanites.

Page 365

30 Now it came to pass that Moroni, after he had obtained possession of the city of Nephiah, having taken many prisoners, which did reduce the armies of the Lamanites exceedingly, and having regained many of the Nephites who had been taken prisoners, which did strengthen the army of Moroni exceedingly; therefore Moroni went forth from the land of Nephiah to the land of Lehi.

31 And it came to pass that when the Lamanites saw that Moroni was coming against them, they were again frightened and fled before the army of Moroni. ■ And it came to pass that Moroni and his army did pursue them from city to city, until they were met by Lehi and Teancum; and the Lamanites fled from Lehi and Teancum, even down upon the borders by the seashore, until they came to the land of Moroni. ■ And the armies of the Lamanites were all gathered together, insomuch that they were all in one body in the land of Moroni. Now, Ammoron, the king of the Lamanites, was also with them.

34 And it came to pass that Moroni and Lehi and Teancum did encamp with their armies round about in the borders of the land of Moroni, insomuch that the Lamanites were encircled about in the borders by the wilderness on the south, and in the borders by the wilderness on the east. ■ And thus they did encamp for the night. For behold, the Nephites and the Lamanites also were weary because of the greatness of the march; therefore they did not resolve upon any stratagem in the night-time, save it were Teancum; for he was exceedingly angry with Ammoron, insomuch that he considered that Ammoron, and Amalickiah his brother, had been the cause of this great and lasting war between them and the Lamanites, which had been the cause of so much war and bloodshed, yea, and so much famine.

36 And it came to pass that Teancum in his anger did go forth into the camp of the Lamanites, and did let himself down over the walls of the city. And he went forth with a cord, from place to place, insomuch that he did find the king; and he did cast a javelin at him, which did pierce him near the heart. But behold, the king did awaken his servants before he died,

insomuch that they did pursue Teancum, and slew him.

37 Now it came to pass that when Lehi and Moroni knew that Teancum was dead they were exceedingly sorrowful; for behold, he had been a man who had fought valiantly for his country, yea, a true friend to liberty; and he had suffered very many exceedingly sore afflictions. But behold, he was dead, and had gone the way of all the earth.

38 Now it came to pass that Moroni marched forth on the morrow, and came upon the Lamanites, insomuch that they did slay them with a great slaughter; and they did drive them out of the land; and they did flee, even that they did not return at that time against the
39 Nephites. ■ And thus *ended the thirty and first year of the reign of the judges over the
40 people of Nephi; and thus they had had wars, and bloodsheds, and famine, and affliction,
41 for the space of many years. ■ And there had been murders, and contentions, and
dissensions, and all manner of iniquity among the people of Nephi; nevertheless for the
righteous' sake, yea, because of the prayers of the righteous, they were spared. ■ But
behold, because of the exceedingly great length of the war between the Nephites and the
Lamanites many had become hardened, because of the exceedingly great length of the war;
and many were softened because of their afflictions, insomuch that they did humble
themselves before God, even in the depth of humility.

60 B.C.

Page 366

42 And it came to pass that after Moroni had fortified those parts of the land which were most exposed to the Lamanites, until they were sufficiently strong, he returned to the city of Zarahemla; and also Helaman returned to the place of his inheritance; and there was once more peace established among the people of Nephi. ■ And Moroni yielded up the command of his armies into the hands of his son, whose name was Moronihah; and he retired to his own house that he might spend the remainder of his days in peace. ■ And Pahoran did return to his judgment-seat; and Helaman did take upon him again to preach unto the people the word of God; for because of so many wars and contentions it had become expedient that a regulation should be made again in the church. ■ Therefore, Helaman and his brethren went forth, and did declare the word of God with much power unto the convincing of many people of their wickedness, which did cause them to repent of their sins and to be baptized unto the Lord their God.

46 And it came to pass that they did establish again the church of God, throughout all the
47 land. ■ Yea, and regulations were made concerning the law. And their judges, and their
48 chief judges were chosen. ■ And the people of Nephi began to prosper again in the land,
and began to multiply and to wax exceedingly strong again in the land. And they began to
49 grow exceedingly rich. ■ But notwithstanding their riches, or their strength, or their
prosperity, they were not lifted up in the pride of their eyes; neither were they slow to
remember the Lord their God; but they did humble themselves exceedingly before him.
50 Yea, they did remember how great things the Lord had done for them, that he had delivered
them from death, and from bonds, and from prisons, and from all manner of afflictions and
51 he had delivered them out of the hands of their enemies. ■ And they did pray unto the Lord
their God continually, insomuch that the Lord did bless them, according to his word, so
that they did wax strong and prosper in the land.

52 And it came to pass that all these things were done. And Helaman died, in the *thirty and fifth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.

57 B.C.

CHAPTER SIXTY-THREE

*Shiblon and later Helaman take possession of the sacred records
Many Nephites travel to the land northward*

*Hagoth builds ships, which sail forth in the west sea
Moronihah defeats the Lamanites in battle.*

56 B.C.
Page 367

1 And it came to pass in the *commencement of the thirty and sixth year of the reign of the
judges over the people of Nephi, that Shiblon took possession of those sacred things which
2 had been delivered unto Helaman by Alma. ■ And he was a just man, and he did walk
uprightly before God; and he did observe to do good continually, to keep the
commandments of the Lord his God; and also did his brother.

3 And it came to pass that Moroni died also. And thus ended the thirty and sixth year of the
4 reign of the judges. ■ And it came to pass that in the *thirty and seventh year of the reign
of the judges, there was a large company of men, even to the amount of five thousand and
four hundred men, with their wives and their children, departed out of the land of
Zarahemla into the land which was northward.

55 B.C.

5 And it came to pass that Hagoth, he being an exceedingly curious man, therefore he went
forth and built him an exceedingly large ship, on the borders of the land Bountiful, by the
land Desolation, and launched it forth into the west sea, by the narrow neck which led into
6 the land northward. ■ And behold, there were many of the Nephites who did enter therein
and did sail forth with much provisions, and also many women and children; and they took
7 their course northward. And thus ended the thirty and seventh year. ■ And in the thirty and
eighth year, this man built other ships. And the first ship did also return, and many more
people did enter into it; and they also took much provisions, and set out again to the land
northward.

8 And it came to pass that they were never heard of more. And we suppose that they were
drowned in the depths of the sea. And it came to pass that one other ship also did sail
9 forth; and whither she did go we know not. ■ And it came to pass that in this year there
were many people who went forth into the land northward. And thus ended the thirty and
eighth year.

10 And it came to pass in the *thirty and ninth year of the reign of the judges, Shiblon died
also, and Corianton had gone forth to the land northward in a ship, to carry forth
11 provisions unto the people who had gone forth into that land. ■ Therefore it became
expedient for Shiblon to confer those sacred things, before his death, upon the son of
12 Helaman, who was called Helaman, being called after the name of his father. ■ Now
behold, all those engravings which were in the possession of Helaman were written and
sent forth among the children of men throughout all the land, save it were those parts
13 which had been commanded by Alma should not go forth. ■ Nevertheless, these things
were to be kept sacred, and handed down from one generation to another; therefore, in this
14 year, they had been conferred upon Helaman, before the death of Shiblon. ■ And it came to
pass also in this year that there were some dissenters who had gone forth unto the
15 Lamanites; and they were stirred up again to anger against the Nephites. ■ And also in this
same year they came down with a numerous army to war against the people of Moronihah,
or against the army of Moronihah, in the which they were beaten and driven back again to
their own lands, suffering great loss.

53 B.C.

Page 368

16 And thus ended the thirty and ninth year of the reign of the judges over the people of
Nephi.

17 And thus ended the account of Alma, and Helaman his son, and also Shiblon, who was his
son.

