

Chap. X

And now it came to pass that the Sons of Alma did go fourth among the people to declare the word unto them & Alma also himself could not rest & he also went forth

now we shall say no more concerning their Preaching except that they preached the word & the truth according to the spirit of Prophecy **275** & revelation & they preached after the holy order of God by which they were called

& now I return to an account of the wars between the Nephites & the Lamanites in the eightenthe year of the reign of the Judges

for behold it came to pass that the Zoramites became Lamanites the-refore in the commencement of the eighteenth year the People of the Nephites saw that the Lamanites were coming upon them therefore they made prepar-ations for war yea they gathered to gether their armies in the land of Jershon

& it came to pass that the Lamanites came with their thousands & they came into the land of Antionum which was the land of the Zoramites & a man by the name of Zerahemnah was th(e)ir leader

& now as the Amaleckites were of a more wicked & a murderous disposition than the Lamanites were in & of themsel-ves therefore Zerahemnah appointed Chief Captains of over the Lamanites & they were all Amalekites & the Zoramites

now this he done 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 angar against the Nephites & this he done that he might usurp great Power over them & also that he might gain power over the Nephites by bringing them into bondage .&C.

**CHAPTER 43** [ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ]

*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. About 74 B.C.*

<sup>1</sup>And now it came to pass that the sons of Alma did go fo[ ]rth among the people, to declare the word unto them. **And** Alma, also, himself, could not rest, **and** he also went forth.

<sup>2</sup>Now we shall say no more concerning their **p**reaching, except that they preached the word, **and** the truth, according to the spirit of **p**rophecy **and** revelation; **and** they preached after the holy order of God by which they were called.

<sup>3</sup>**And** now I return to an account of the wars between the Nephites **and** the Lamanites, in the eighteenth[ ] year of the reign of the **j**udges.

<sup>4</sup>**F**or behold, it came to pass that the Zoramites became Lamanites; the[-]refore, in the commencement of the eighteenth year the **p**eople of the Nephites saw that the Lamanites were coming upon them; therefore they made prepar[-]ations for war; yea, they gathered to [ ]gether their armies in the land of Jershon.

<sup>5</sup>**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 was the**ir** leader.

<sup>6</sup>**And** now, as the Amale[ ]kites were of a more wicked **and** [X] murderous disposition than the Lamanites were, in **and** of themsel[-]ves, therefore, Zerahemnah appointed **chief** captains [X] over the Lamanites, **and** they were all Amalekites **and** [X] Zoramites.

<sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>**F**or behold, his designs were to stir up the Lamanites to **anger** against the Nephites; [X] this he **did** that he might usurp great **p**ower over them, **and** also that he might gain power over the Nephites by bringing them into bondage [X].

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& now the design of the Nephites were to support their lands & their houses & their wives & their children that they might preserve them from the hands of *the*-ir enemies & also that they might preserve their rights & their privileges & yea & 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 *who-soever* should worship God in spirit & in truth the true & *the* living God  
nst the Nephites .&C.  
the Lamanites would destroy

yea & they also knew the extreme hatred of the Lamanites towards their brethren which *were the* People of AntiNephiLehi which *were* called the people of Ammon & they would not take up arms yea they had entered into a covenant & they (would not) brake it therefore if they ~~sh~~(should)ould (go) (fall) into *the* hands of the Lamanites they would be destroyed

& *the Nephites would not suffer* that they should be destroyed therefore they gave them lands for their inheritance

& the people of Ammon did give unto the Nephites a large portion of their substance to support their armies & thus the Nephites were *compeled* alone to withstand against the Lamanites which were a *compounds* of Laman & Lemuel & the Sons of Ishmael & all those which had desented from *the* Nephites which were Amalickites & Zoramites & the desendants of the priests of Noah

now those desenters were as numerous nearly as were the *Nephetes* & thus the Nephites were ~~oblige~~ oblidged to contend with their Brethren even unto blood shed

& it came to pass as the armies of the Lamanites had gathered ~~toget~~ 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 which had **276** been appointed to be the Chief Captain over *the* Nephites now the Chief Captain took the Command of all the armies of the Nephites & his name was Moroni

<sup>9</sup>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 the[-]ir enemies; **and** also that they might preserve their rights **and** their privileges, **[X]** yea, **and** also their liberty, that they might worship God according to their desires.

<sup>10</sup>For they **knew** that if they should fall into the hands of the Lamanites, that who[-]soever should worship God in spirit **and** in truth, the true **and** the liv[ ]ing God,  
[ \_ \_ \_ X X \_ X \_ ]  
the Lamanites would destroy.

<sup>11</sup>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[ \_ \_ \_ ] **[X]** fall into the hands of the Lamanites they would be destroyed.

<sup>12</sup>And the Nephites would not suffer that they should be destroyed; therefore they gave them lands for their inheritance.

<sup>13</sup>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 Amale[ ]kites **and** Zoramites, **and** the descendants of the priests of Noah.

<sup>14</sup>Now those **descendants** were as numerous, nearly, as were the Nephites; **and** thus the Nephites were [ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ] obli[ ]ged to contend with their **brethren**, even unto blood[ ]shed.

<sup>15</sup>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.

<sup>16</sup>Now, the leader of the Nephites, **[X]** 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;

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& Moroni took all *the* command (&) the governments of their wars & he was only twenty & five years old when he was appointed Chief& Commander ove(r) *the* armies of the Nephites

& it came to pass that he *met* the Lamanites in the borders of Jershon & his people were armed with sword(s) & with *sim*-etres & all manner *off* weapons of war

& it came to pass that when the armies of the Lamanites saw that the people of Nephi& or that Moroni *had* prepared his People with brestplates & with arm shields yea & also shields to defend their head(s) & also ~~their~~ they were dressed with thick cloathing

now the army of Zera(*he*)*mna*h was not *prepa*-red with any such thing they had (*only*) *their* swords & *their* *sim*eters *their* Bows & *their* arrows *their* stones & *their* slings *but* they were *naked* save it were a skin which was *girted* about their loins (y)e(a) all were *naked* save it were the *Zoramites* & *the Amelickites*

but they were *not* armed with breast plates nor shields *therefore* they were exceeding fraid ≠ of the armies of the *Nephites* because of their *arm-our* notwithstanding their number being so much greater *than the Nephites*

behold now it came to pass that they *dearst* not come against the Nephites in *the* borders of Jershon therefore they departed out of the land of Antionum *into* the wilderness & *took* the *ir* journey round about *in* the wilderness away by the head of the River Sidon that *they* might come into the land of Manti & take possession of the Land for they did not suppose that the armies of ~~M~~ the Lamanites go to t Moroni would know whither they *had* gone

but it came to pass as soon as they *had* departed into the wilderness Moroni ~~se~~(sent)~~nt~~ spies into the wilderness to watch *their camp* & Moroni also knowing of the *Prophecies* of Al--ma sent certain men unto *him* desiring *him* that he *should* inquir(e) of the *Lord* whither the armies of the Nephites *should* go to defend themselves against *the Lamanites*

<sup>17</sup>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.

<sup>18</sup>And it came to pass that he met the Lamanites in the borders of Jershon, **and** his people were armed with swords, **and** with cim[-]eters, **and** all manner of [ ] weapons of war.

<sup>19</sup>And [X X X X X] when the armies of the Lamanites saw that the people of Nephi[ ], or that Moroni, had prepared his **p**people with breastplates **and** with arm-shields, yea, **and** also shields to defend their heads, **and** also [X] they were dressed with thick clo[ ]thing—

<sup>20</sup>Now the army of Zerahemnah was not **prepa**[-]red with any such thing; they had **only** their swords **and** their cimeters, their bows **and** their arrows, their stones **and** their slings; **but** 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 Amale[ ]kites;

<sup>21</sup>But they were not armed with breast[ ]plates, nor shields—therefore, they were **exceedingly** afraid [ ] of the armies of the Nephites because of their arm[-]o[ ], notwithstanding their number being so much greater than the Nephites.

<sup>22</sup>Behold, now it came to pass that they **du**[ ]rst not come against the Nephites in the borders of Jershon; therefore they departed out of the land of Antionum into the wilderness, **and** took the [ ]ir journey round about in the wilderness, away by the head of the **r**iver 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 [ ] [X X X X \_ ] Moroni would know whither they had gone.

<sup>23</sup>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 **p**prophecies of Al[-][-]ma, sent **c**certain men unto him, **desir**[ ]ing him that he should **inquire** of the Lord whither the armies of the Nephites should go to defend themselves against the Lamanites[ ].

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& it came to pass that the word of the Lord came unto Alma & Alma informed the messengers of Moroni that the armies of the Lamanites were marching ~~ar~~round about in the wilderness that they might come over into the land of Manti that they might commence an attack upon the more weak part of the People & those messengers went & delivered the m-essen -essage unto Moroni

now Moroni leaving a part of his army in the land ~~le(of)st~~ Jershon lest by any means a part of the Lamanites should come into that land & take possession of the City ~~of~~ & Moroni took the remainder part of his army & marched over into the land of M(a)nti

& he caused that all the People in that quarter of the land should gather themselves together to battle against the Lamanites to de-fend their lands & their Country their rights & their liberties therefore they were pre-pared against tthe time of the coming of the Lamanites

& it came to pass that Moroni caused that his army should be secreted in the vally which was near the bank of the River Sidon which was on the west of the River Sidon in the wilderness

& Moroni plased spies round about that he might know when the Camp of the Lamanites shou-ld come

& now as Moroni knew the intention of the Lamanites **277** that it was their in-tention to destroy their Brethren or to subject them & bring them into bondage that they might establish a Kingdom unto themselves over all the land

& he also knowing that it was the only desire of the Nephites to preserve their lands & their li~~b~~-berty & 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

ther-efore he divided his army & brought a part over into the Vally & consealed them on the east & on the South of the hill Riplah

& the remainder he concealed in the west vally on the west of the River Sidon & so down into the borders of the land Manti

& thus haveing plased his army according to his desire he was prepared to meet them

<sup>24</sup>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 [X] weaker part of the people. And those messengers went and delivered the m[-][ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ][-]message unto Moroni.

<sup>25</sup>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 [X\_X\_X], took the remaining part of his army and marched over into the land of Manti.

<sup>26</sup>And he caused that all the people in that quarter of the land should gather themselves together to battle against the Lamanites, to de[-]fend their lands and their country, their rights and their liberties; therefore they were pre[-]pared against [ ]the time of the coming of the Lamanites.

<sup>27</sup>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.

<sup>28</sup>And Moroni placed spies round about, that he might know when the camp of the Lamanites shou[-]ld come.

<sup>29</sup>And now, as Moroni knew the intention of the Lamanites, that it was their in[-]tention 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;

<sup>30</sup>And he also knowing that it was the only desire of the Nephites to preserve their lands, and their li[ ][-]berty, 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.

<sup>31</sup>Ther[ ]efore, 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;

<sup>32</sup>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.

<sup>33</sup>And thus hav[ ]ing placed his army according to his desire, he was prepared to meet them.

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& it came to pass that *the* Lamanites came up on the North of the hill where a part of the army of Moroni was consealed

& it came to pass that as the Lamanites had passed the hill *Rip-lah* & came into the vally & & began to cross the River Sidon *the* army *whi-ch* was consealed on the South of the hill *whose* who was ~~leat~~ led by a *man* whose name was *Lehi* & he led his army forth & ensercled the Lamanites about on the East in their rear

& it came to pass that the Lamanites when the Lamanites .&.C. they saw the Nephites coming upon them in their rear (~~they~~) turned them about & began to contend with the army of *Lehi*

& the work of death comenced on both sides but it was more dre(a)dful on the part of the Lamanites for ~~#~~ their nakedness was exposed to the heavy blows of the Nephites with their *swords* & their simeters which brought death almost at every stroke

while on the other hand there was now & then a man ~~of~~ fell among the Nephites by their wounds & 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  $\diamond$  breastplates & their arm shields & their head~~s~~ plates & thus the Nephites did carry on the work of death among the Laman(i)tes

& it came to pass that *the* Lamanites became frightened beca( use of the great destruction among them even untill they began to flee toward(s) the River Sidon

& they were persued by *Lehi* & his men & they were driven by *Lehi* into the waters of *Sidon* & they crossed the waters of *Sidon* & *Lehi* retained his armies upon the banks of *the River Sidon* that they should not cross

& it came to pass that *Moroni* & his army met *the* army of the Lamanites in the vally on the other sides of the River Sidon & it came to pass *that* *Moroni* & his army began to fall upon them & to slay them

& it came to pass that the Lamanites did flee again befor(e) them towards the land of *Manti* & they were met again by the armies of *Mor-oni*

<sup>34</sup>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.

<sup>35</sup>And [X\_X\_X\_X\_X] as the Lamanites had passed the hill Rip[-]lah, and came into the valley, [X] and began to cross the river Sidon, the army whi[-]ch was concealed on the south of the hill, [X] 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.

<sup>36</sup>And it came to pass that the Lamanites, when [X\_X\_X\_X\_] they saw the Nephites coming upon them in their rear, [X] turned them about and began to contend with the army of *Lehi*.

<sup>37</sup>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.

<sup>38</sup>While on the other hand, there was now and then a man [X] 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.

<sup>39</sup>And it came to pass that the Lamanites became frightened, beca( use of the great destruction among them, even until [ \_ ] they began to flee towards the river Sidon.

<sup>40</sup>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.

<sup>41</sup>And it came to pass that *Moroni* and his army met the [X\_X\_X] Lamanites in the valley, on the other side [ \_ ] of the river Sidon, and [X\_X\_X\_X\_X\_X\_X\_X\_X\_X] began to fall upon them and to slay them.

<sup>42</sup>And [X\_X\_X\_X\_X] the Lamanites did flee again before them, towards the land of *Manti*; and they were met again by the armies of *Mor[-]oni*.

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now in this case *the* Lamanites did fight exceedingly yea never had *the* Lamanites been known to have *fought* with such exceeding great *strength* & *Courage* no not even from the beginning

& they were inspired by the Zoramites & the Amalekites which were their Chief Captains & leaders & by ~~Zerame~~ Zerahe-mnah who was their chief Captain or their Chief leader & commander **278** yea they did fight like Dragons & many of *the* Nephites were slain by their hand(s) yea for they did smite in two many of their ~~head~~ plates & they did pierce many of their breas-plates & they did ~~smo~~ smite off many of their arms & thus the Lamanites did smite in their fierce angar

nevertheless *the* Nephites were inspired by a better cause *for they* were not fighting for monarchy nor power but they were fig(h)ting for their homes & their liberties their wives & their Children & their all yea for their Rites of worship & their Church

& they were doing that which they felt it was the duty which they owed to their God for the Lord had said unto them & also unto their Fathers that in as much as ye are *not* guilty of the first offense ~~no~~ neither the second ye shall not suffer your selves to be slain by the hands of your enemies

& again the Lord hath said that ye shall defend your ~~fa~~ families even unto blood shed therefore ~~fr~~ for this cause ~~w~~(were)as the Nephites conte(-nding) the Lamanites ensercled with the Lamanites to defend themselves & their families & their lands their *Country* & their Rites & their religion

& it came to pass that (when)the men of Moroni saw *the* fierceness ~~of~~ & the angar of the Lamanites they were about to shrink & flee from them & Moroni perceiv[ing] their intent sent forth & inspired their hearts with these thoughts yea the thoughts of their lands their liberty yea their freedom from bo-ndages

& it came to pass that they turned upon the Lamanites & they cried with one voice unto the Lord their God for their Liberty & their freedom from bon-dage

<sup>43</sup>Now in this case the Lamanites did fight exceedingly; yea, never had the Lamanites been known to **[X] fight** with such exceedingly great strength **and** courage, no, not even from the beginning.

<sup>44</sup>And they were inspired by the Zoramites **and** the Amalekites, **who** were their chief captains **and** leaders, **and** by [ \_ \_ \_ \_ ] Zerahe[-]mnah, who was their chief captain, or their chief leader **and** commander; yea, they did fight like dragons, **and** many of the Nephites were slain by their hands, yea, for they did smite in two many of their [ \_ ]head-plates, **and** they did pierce many of their breas[-]tplates, **and** they did [ \_ \_ ] smite off many of their arms; **and** thus the Lamanites did smite in their fierce anger.

<sup>45</sup>Nevertheless, the Nephites were inspired by a better cause, for they were not fighting for monarchy nor power but they were fig(h)ting for their homes **and** their liberties, their wives **and** their children, **and** their all, yea, for their rites of worship **and** their church.

<sup>46</sup>And they were doing that which they felt **[X]** was the duty which they owed to their God; for the Lord had said unto them, **and** also unto their fathers, that: In[ \_ ]as[ \_ ]much as ye are not guilty of the first offense, **[X]** neither the second, ye shall not suffer your[ \_ ]selves to be slain by the hands of your enemies.

<sup>47</sup>And again, the Lord has[ \_ ] said that: Ye shall defend your [ \_ \_ ] families even unto blood[ \_ ]shed. Therefore [ \_ \_ ] for this cause [ \_ ]were[ \_ \_ ] the Nephites conte[-]nding **[X X \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_]** with the Lamanites, to defend themselves, **and** their families, **and** their lands, their country, **and** their rights, **and** their religion.

<sup>48</sup>And it came to pass that **when[ \_ ]** the men of Moroni saw the fierceness **[X]** **and** the anger of the Lamanites, they were about to shrink **and** flee from them. **And** Moroni, perceiv[ing] their intent, sent forth **and** inspired their hearts with these thoughts—yea, the thoughts of their lands, their liberty, yea, their freedom from bo[-]ndage[ \_ ].

<sup>49</sup>And it came to pass that they turned upon the Lamanites[ \_ ], **and** they cried with one voice unto the Lord their God, for their liberty **and** their freedom from bon[-]dage.

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& they began to stand against~~s~~ the Lamanites with power & in that selfsame ho-ur that they cried unto the Lord for ~~thei~~ their freedom the Lamanites began to flee before them & they fled even to the waters of Sidon

now the Lamanites were more numerous yea by more than double the number of the Nephites~~s~~ nevertheless they were driven in so much that they were gathered together in one body in the vally upon the bank by the River Sidon

therefore the armies of Moroni enserceled them about yea even on both sides of the river for behold on the east were the men of Lehi

therefor(e) when Zerahemnah saw the men of Lehi on the east of the River Sidon & the armies of Moroni on the west of the River Sidon that they were enserceled about by the Nephites they were struck with terror

now Moroni when he saw their terror commanded his men that they should stop shedding their (~~shedding sh~~) blood

<sup>50</sup>And they began to stand against[ ] the Lamanites with power; and in that selfsame ho[-]ur that they cried unto the Lord for [X] their freedom, the Lamanites began to flee before them; and they fled even to the waters of Sidon.

<sup>51</sup>Now, the Lamanites were more numerous, yea, by more than double the number of the Nephites[ ]; nevertheless, they were driven in [ ]so [ ]much that they were gathered together in one body in the valley, upon the bank by the river Sidon.

<sup>52</sup>Therefore the armies of Moroni encirc[ ]led them about, yea, even on both sides of the river, for behold, on the east were the men of Lehi.

<sup>53</sup>Therefore when Zerahemnah saw the men of Lehi on the east of the river Sidon, and the armies of Moroni on the west of the river Sidon, that they were encircled about by the Nephites, they were struck with terror.

<sup>54</sup>Now Moroni, when he saw their terror, commanded his men that they should stop shedding their [X \_ \_] blood.