

& now it came to pass that when Nephi had said these words behold the--re were men which were Judges which also belon(ge)d to the secret band of Gadianton & they were angry & they cried out against him saying unto the people why do ye not seaze up--on this man & bring him forth that he may be condemned according to the crime wh--ich he hath done

why seest thou this man & hearest him revile against this people & against our law

for behold Nephi had spoken unto them concerning the corruptness of their law yea many things did Nephi speak which can not be written & nothing did he speak which were conterary to the commandments of God

& those Judges were angry with him because he spake plane unto them concerning their secret works of dark--ness nevertheless they dearest not lay their own hands upon him for they feared the people lest they should cry out against them

therefore they did cry unto the people saying why do you suffer this man to revile against us for behold he doth condemn all this people even unto destruction yea & a(also)h~~o~~ that these our great cities shall be taken from us that we shall have no place in them

& now we kno--w that this is impossible for behold we are powerful & our cities great therefore our enemies can have no power over~~power~~ us

now it came to pass that thus **347** they did stir up the people to anger against Nephi & raised contentions among them for there were some which did cry out let this man alone for he is a good man & those things which he saieth ~~w~~(will)~~th~~ surely come to pass except we repent

yea behold all the Judgments will come upon us which he hath testified unto us for we know that he hath testified aright unto us concerning our iniquities & behold they are many & he knoweth as well all things which shall befall us as he knoweth of our iniquities

CHAPTER 8

Corrupt judges seek to incite the people against Nephi—Abraham, Moses, Zenos, Zenock, Ezias, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lehi, and Nephi all testified of Christ—By inspiration Nephi announces the murder of the chief judge. About 23–21 B.C.

¹**And** now it came to pass that when Nephi had said these words, behold, the[-][-]re were men **who** were judges, **who** also belonged to the secret band of Gadianton, **and** they were angry, **and** they cried out against him, saying unto the people: **Why** do ye not seize up[-][-]on this man **and** bring him forth, that he may be condemned according to the crime wh[-][-]ich he has[-] done?

²**Why** seest thou this man, **and** hearest him revile against this people **and** against our law?

³**For** behold, Nephi had spoken unto them concerning the corruptness of their law; yea, many things did Nephi speak which can[-] not be written; **and** nothing did he speak which **was** cont[-]rary to the commandments of God.

⁴**And** those judges were angry with him because he spake plainly unto them concerning their secret works of dark[-][-]ness; nevertheless, they du[-]rst not lay their own hands upon him, for they feared the people lest they should cry out against them.

⁵Therefore they did cry unto the people, saying: **Why** do you suffer this man to revile against us? **For** behold he doth condemn all this people, even unto destruction; yea, **and** [-]also[-] that these our great cities shall be taken from us, that we shall have no place in them.

⁶**And** now we kno[-][-]w that this is impossible, for behold, we are powerful, **and** our cities great, therefore our enemies can have no power over[X] us.

⁷**And** it came to pass that thus they did stir up the people to anger against Nephi, **and** raised contentions among them; for there were some **who** did cry out: **Let** this man alone, for he is a good man, **and** those things which he sai[-]th [-]will[-] surely come to pass except we repent;

⁸**Yea**, behold, all the judgments will come upon us which he has[-] testified unto us; for we know that he has[-] testified aright unto us concerning our iniquities. **And** behold they are many, **and** he knoweth as well all things which shall befall us as he knoweth of our iniquities;

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yea & behold if he had not been a prophet he could not have testifi-ed concerning those things

& it came to pass that those people which sought to destroy Nephi were compelled because of their fear that they did not lay their hands on hi--m therefore he began again to speak unto them seeing that he had gained favour in the eyes of some insomuch that the remainder of them did fear

therefore he was constrai--ined to speak more unto them saying Behold my brethren have ye not red that God gave power unto one man even Moses to smite upon the waters of the Red Sea & they departed hither & thither insomuch that the Israelites which were our fathers came through upon dry ground & the waters closed upon the armies of the Eg--yptians & swallowed them up

& now behold if God gave unto this man such po--wer then why should ye dispute among yourselves & say that he hath given unto me no power whereby I may know concerning the Judgments that shall come upon you exce--pt ye repent

but behold ye not only deny my words but ye also deny all the words w--hich hath been spoken by our fathers & also the words which was spoken by this man Mo--ses which had such great power given unto him yea the words which he hath spoken con--cerning the coming of Messiah

yea did he not bear record that the Son of God shou--ld come & as he lifted up the Brazen Serpant in the wilderness even so should he be lifted up which should come

& as many as should look upon that Serpant should live even so as many as should look upon the Son of God with faith ha--ving a contrite spirit might live even unto that life which is eternal

& now behold Moses did not *only* testify of these things but also all the holy prophets from his day even to the days of Abraham

yea & behold Abraham saw of his coming & was filled with ~~ϕ~~ gladness & did rejoice

⁹Yea, **and** behold, if he had not been a prophet he could not have testifi[-]-ed concerning those things.

¹⁰**And** it came to pass that those people **who** sought to destroy Nephi were compelled because of their fear, that they did not lay their hands on hi[-]-m; therefore he began again to speak unto them, seeing that he had gained favo[-]-r in the eyes of some, insomuch that the remainder of them did fear.

¹¹Therefore he was constrai[-]-ined to speak more unto them saying: Behold, my brethren, have ye not read that God gave power unto one man, even Moses, to smite upon the waters of the Red Sea, **and** they [-]-parted hither **and** thither, insomuch that the Israelites, **who** were our fathers, came through upon dry ground, **and** the waters closed upon the armies of the Eg[-]-yptians **and** swallowed them up?

¹²**And** now behold, if God gave unto this man such po[-]-wer, then why should ye dispute among yourselves, **and** say that he hath given unto me no power whereby I may know concerning the **judgments** that shall come upon you exce[-]-pt ye repent?

¹³**But**, behold, ye not only deny my words, but ye also deny all the words w[-]-hich **have** been spoken by our fathers, **and** also the words which **were** spoken by this man, Mo[-]-ses, **who** had such great power given unto him, yea, the words which he hath spoken con[-]-cerning the coming of **the** Messiah.

¹⁴Yea, did he not bear record that the Son of God shou[-]-ld come? **And** as he lifted up the **brazen serpent** in the wilderness, even so **shall** he be lifted up **who** should come.

¹⁵**And** as many as should look upon that **serpent** should live, even so as many as should look upon the Son of God with faith, ha[-]-ving a contrite spirit, might live, even unto that life which is eternal.

¹⁶**And** now behold, Moses did not only testify of these things, but also all the holy prophets, from his days even to the days of Abraham.

¹⁷Yea, **and** behold, Abraham saw of his coming, **and** was filled with [-]- gladness **and** did rejoice.

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yea & behold I say unto you that Abraham not only knew of the-se things but there were many before the days of Abraham which were called by the ord-er of God yea even after the order of his Son & this that it should be shewn unto the peo--ple a great many thousand years before his coming that even redemption should come unto them

& now I would that ye should know that even since the days of Ab--raham ~~that~~ there hath been many prophets that hath testified these things yea behold the prophet Zenos did testify boldly for the which he was slain

& behold also Zenock & also Ezaias & also Isaiah & Jeremiah Jeremiah being that same prophet which testified of the destruction of Jerusalem & now we kn-ow that Jerusalem was destroyed according to the words of Jeremiah O then why **348** not the Son of God come according to his prophecy

& now will you dispute that Jerusalem was not destroyed will ye say that the Sons of Zedekiah were not slain all except it were Mulek yea & do ye not behold that the seed of Zedekiah are with us & they were driven out of the land of Jerusalem but behold this is not all

our father Lehi was driven out of Jerusalem because he testified of these things Nephi also testified of these things & also almost all of our fathers even down to this time yea they have testified of the coming of Christ & have looked forward & have rejoiced in his day which is to come

& behold he is God & he is with them & he did manifest himself unto them that they were redeemed by him & they gave unto him glory because of that which is to come

& now seeing ye know these things & cannot deny them except ye shall lie therefore in this ye have sined for ye have rejected all these things notwithstanding so many evidences which ye ha--ve received yea even ye have received all things both things in Heaven & all things which are in earth as a witness that they are true

¹⁸**Yea, and** behold I say unto you, that Abraham not only knew of the[-]se things, but there were many before the days of Abraham **who** were called by the ord[-]er of God; yea, even after the order of his Son; **and** this that it should be sh**ow**n unto the peo[-][-]ple, a great many thousand years before his coming, that even redemption should come unto them.

¹⁹**And** now I would that ye should know, that even since the days of Ab[-][-]raham **[X]** there **have** been many prophets that **have** testified these things; yea, behold, the prophet Zenos did testify boldly; for the which he was slain.

²⁰**And** behold, also Zenock, **and** also Ez[]ias, **and** also Isaiah, **and** Jeremiah, (Jeremiah being that same prophet **who** testified of the destruction of Jerusalem) **and** now we kn[-]ow that Jerusalem was destroyed according to the words of Jeremiah. O then why not the Son of God come, according to his prophecy?

²¹**And** now will you dispute that Jerusalem was **[X]** destroyed? **Will** ye say that the **sons** of Zedekiah were not slain, all except it were Mulek? **Yea, and** do ye not behold that the seed of Zedekiah are with us, **and** they were driven out of the land of Jerusalem? **But** behold, this is not all—

²²**Our** father Lehi was driven out of Jerusalem because he testified of these things. Nephi also testified of these things, **and** also almost all of our fathers, even down to this time; yea, they have testified of the coming of Christ, **and** have looked forward, **and** have rejoiced in his day which is to come.

²³**And** behold, he is God, **and** he is with them, **and** he did manifest himself unto them, that they were redeemed by him; **and** they gave unto him glory, because of that which is to come.

²⁴**And** now, seeing ye know these things **and** cannot deny them except ye shall lie, therefore in this ye have **sinned**, for ye have rejected all these things, notwithstanding so many evidences which ye ha[-][-]ve received; yea, even ye have received all things, both things in **heaven**, **and** all things which are in **the** earth, as a witness that they are true.

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but behold ye have rejected the truth & rebelled against your holy God & even at this time instead of laying up for yourselves treasures in Heaven where nothing doth corrupt & where nothing can co--me which is unclean heaping up for yourselves wrath against the day of Judgment

yea even at this time ye are ripening because of your murders & your fornication & wick--edness for everlasting destruction yea & except ye repent it will come unto you soon

yea behold it is now even at your doors yea go ye in unto the Judgmentseat & sea--rch & behold your Judge is murdered & he lieth in his blood & he hath been mur--dered by his brother who seeketh to sit in the Judgmentseat

& (behold) they both belong to your secret band whose author is Gadianon & the evil one which seeketh to des--troy the souls of men

²⁵**But** behold, ye have rejected the truth, **and** rebelled against your holy God; **and** even at this time, instead of laying up for yourselves treasures in **heaven**, where nothing doth corrupt, **and** where nothing can co[-][-]me which is unclean, **ye are** heaping up for yourselves wrath against the day of **j**udgment.

²⁶**Yea**, even at this time ye are ripening, because of your murders **and** your fornication **and** wick[-][-]edness, for everlasting destruction; yea, **and** except ye repent it will come unto you soon.

²⁷**Yea**, behold it is now even at your doors; yea, go ye in unto the **j**udgment-seat, **and** sea[-][-]rch; **and** behold, your **j**udge is murdered, **and** he lieth in his blood; **and** he hath been mur[-][-]dered by his brother, who seeketh to sit in the **j**udgment-seat.

²⁸**And behold**, they both belong to your secret band, whose author is Gadianon **and** the evil one **who** seeketh to des[-][-]troy the souls of men.