

Chapter II

The words of (which) Jacob the Brother of Nephi spake unto the People of Nephi after the death of Nephi

now my beloved Brethren I Jacob according to the responsibility which I am under to God to magnify mine Office with soberness & that I might rid my garments of your sins I come up into the temple this day that I might declare unto you the word of God

& ye yourselves know that I have hitherto been diligent in the office of my calling but I this day am weighed down with much more desire & anxiety for the welfare of your souls than I(have) hitherto been

for behold as yet ye have been obedient unto the word of the Lord which I have given unto you

but behold hearken ye unto me & know that by the help of the allpowerful creator of heaven & earth I can tell you concerning your thoughts how that ye are beginning to labour in Sin which sin appeareth verily abominable unto me yea & abominable unto God

yea & it grieveth my soul & causeth me to shrink with shame before the presence of my maker that I must testify unto you concerning the wickedness of your hearts

& also it grieveth me that I must use so much boldness of speech concerning you before your wives & your Children many of whose feelings are exceeding tender & chaste & delicate before God which thing is pleasing unto God

& it supposeth me that **97** they have come up hither to hear the pleasing word of God yea the word which healeth the wounded soul

CHAPTER 2 [X _ _]

Jacob denounces the love of riches, pride, and unchastity—Men may seek riches to help their fellowmen—The Lord commands that no man among the Nephites may have more than one wife—The Lord delights in the chastity of women. About 544–421 B.C.

¹The words [X] which Jacob, the brother of Nephi, spake unto the people of Nephi, after the death of Nephi:

²Now, my beloved brethren, I, Jacob, according to the responsibility which I am under to God, to magnify mine office with soberness, and that I might rid my garments of your sins, I come up into the temple this day that I might declare unto you the word of God.

³And ye yourselves know that I have hitherto been diligent in the office of my calling; but I this day am weighed down with much more desire and anxiety for the welfare of your souls than I have hitherto been.

⁴For behold, as yet, ye have been obedient unto the word of the Lord, which I have given unto you.

⁵But behold, hearken ye unto me, and know that by the help of the all-powerful Creator of heaven and earth I can tell you concerning your thoughts, how that ye are beginning to labour in sin, which sin appeareth verily abominable unto me, yea, and abominable unto God.

⁶Yea, [X] it grieveth my soul and causeth me to shrink with shame before the presence of my Maker, that I must testify unto you concerning the wickedness of your hearts.

⁷And also it grieveth me that I must use so much boldness of speech concerning you, before your wives and your children, many of whose feelings are exceedingly tender and chaste [X] and delicate before God, which thing is pleasing unto God;

⁸And it supposeth me that they have come up hither to hear the pleasing word of God, yea, the word which healeth the wounded soul.

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wherefore it burdeneth my soul that I should be co(n)strained because of the strict commandment which I have received from God to admonish you according to your crimes to enlarge the wounds of those which a-re already wounded instead of consoling & healing their wounds & those which have not been wounded instead of feasting upon the pleasing word of God have daggers placed to pierce their souls & wound their delicate minds

but notwithstanding the greatness of the task I must do according to the estrict commands of God & tell you concernin()g your wickedness & abominations in the presance of the pure in heart & the broken hea-rt & under the glance of the pirceing eye of the Almighty God

wherefore I must tell you the truth according to the planeness of the word of God for behold as I enquired of the Lord thus came the word unto me saying Jacob get thou up into the temple on the morrow & declare the words which I shall give thee unto this People

& now behold my Brethren this is the word which I declare unto you that many of you have begun to search for Gold & for Silver & *all manner* of precious ores in *the which* this *land which* is a land of promise unto you & to your *seed doth abound most plentifully*

& *the hand* of pro-vidence hath *smiled upon* you most *pleasingly* that ye have obtained many riches & because that some of you have obtained *more abundantly* than that of your Brethren ye are lifted up in *the pride of your hearts* & wear stiff necks & high heads because of the *costliness of your apparrell* & persecute your Brethren because that ye suppose *that ye are better than they*

& now my Brethren do ye suppose that God *Justifieth you in this thing* behold I say unto you nay but he condemneth you & *if ye persist in these* thing-s his Judgments must speedily come unto you

O *that* he would show you that he can pierce you & with one glance of his eye he can smite you to the dust

O that he would rid you from this iniquity & abomination & O that ye would listen unto the word of his commands & let not this pride of your hearts destroy your souls

⁹Wherefore, it burdeneth my soul that I should be co(n)strained, because of the strict commandment which I have received from God, to admonish you according to your crimes, to enlarge the wounds of those **who** a[-]re already wounded, instead of consol[]ing **and** healing their wounds; **and** those **who** have not been wounded, instead of feasting upon the pleasing word of God have daggers placed to pierce their souls **and** wound their delicate minds.

¹⁰But, notwithstanding the greatness of the task, I must do according to the []strict commands of God, **and** tell you concernin()g your wickedness **and** abominations, in the presence of the pure in heart, **and** the broken hea[-]rt, **and** under the glance of the **piercing** eye of the Almighty God.

¹¹Wherefore, I must tell you the truth according to the plainness of the word of God. **F**or behold, as I **i**nquired of the Lord, thus came the word unto me, saying: Jacob, get thou up into the temple on the morrow, **and** declare the word[] which I shall give thee unto this **p**eople.

¹²**A**nd now behold, my **brethren**, this is the word which I declare unto you, that many of you have begun to search for **gold**, **and** for **silver**, **and for** **all manner** of precious ores, in *the which* this *land*, which is a land of promise unto you **and** to your *seed*, doth abound most plentifully.

¹³**A**nd the hand of pro[-]vidence hath **smiled upon** you most **pleasingly**, that **you** have obtained many riches; **and** because **[X]** some of you have obtained **more abundantly than** that of your **brethren** ye are lifted up in **the pride of your hearts**, **and** wear stiff necks **and** high heads because of the **costliness of your appar[]el[]**, **and** persecute your **brethren** because **[X]** ye suppose **that ye are better than they**.

¹⁴**A**nd now, my **brethren**, do ye suppose that God **justifieth you in this thing?** **B**ehold, I say unto you, **N**ay. **B**ut he condemneth you, **and** **if ye persist in these** thing[-]s his **j**udgments must **s**peedily come unto you.

¹⁵O **that** he would show you that he can pierce you, **and** with one glance of his eye he can smite you to the dust!

¹⁶O that he would rid you from this iniquity **and** abomination. **A**nd, O that ye would listen unto the word of his commands, **and** let not this pride of your hearts destroy your souls!

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think of your Br-ethren like unto yourselves & be familiar with all & free with your substance that they may be rich like unto you

but before that ye seek for riches seek ye for the Kingdom of God

& after that ye have obtained a hope in Christ ye shall obtain riches if ye seek them & ye will ~~s~~(seek)~~ee~~k them for the intent to do good to clothe the naked & to feed the hungry & to liberate the captive & administer relief to the sick & the afflicted

& now my Brethre-n I have spoken unto you concerning pride & those of you which have afflicted your ne-ighbor & persecuted him because that ye were proud in your hearts of the things which God hath given you what say ye of it

do ye not suppose that such things are abominable unto him who created all ~~things~~ flesh & the one being is as precious in his sight as the ~~oth~~ other & all flesh is of the dust & for the self same end hath he created them that they ~~sh~~ould keep his commandments & glorify him forever

& now I make an end of speaking unto you concerning this pride & were it not that I must speak unto you concerning a grosser crime my heart would rejoice exceedingly because of you

but the word of God bur-thens me because of your grosser crimes for behold thus saith the Lord this People begin-eth to wax in iniquity they understand not the Scriptures for they seek to excuse themsel-ves in committing whoredoms because of the things which are written concerning David & Solomon his Son

behold David & Solomon truly had many wives & conu-bines which thing was abominable before me saith the Lord

wherefore thus saith the Lord I have lead this People forth out of the land of Jerusalem by the power of mine arm that I might raise up unto me a righteous branch from the fruit of the loins of Joseph^{ph}

*wh*erefore I the Lord God will not suffer that this People shall do *like* unto them of Old

wherefore my Brethren hear me & hearken to the *word of the* Lord for there shall not a-ny ~~m~~(man)~~re~~ among you have save it be one wife & concubines he shall have none

¹⁷Think of your **br[-]**ethren like unto yourselves, **and** be familiar with all **and** free with your substance, that they may be rich like unto you.

¹⁸But before **[X]** ye seek for riches, seek ye for the kingdom of God.

¹⁹**And** after **[X]** ye have obtained a hope in Christ ye shall obtain riches, if ye seek them; **and** ye will **[]seek[_ _]** them for the intent to do good—to clothe the naked, **and** to feed the hungry, **and** to liberate the captive, **and** administer relief to the sick **and** the afflicted.

²⁰**And** now, my **brethre[-]n**, I have spoken unto you concerning pride; **and** those of you which have afflicted your ne[-]ighbor, **and** persecuted him because **[X]** ye were proud in your hearts, of the things which God hath given you, what say ye of it?

²¹Do ye not suppose that such things are abominable unto him who created all **[X]** flesh? **And** the one being is as precious in his sight as the **[_ _]** other. **And** all flesh is of the dust; **and** for the self**[]**same end hath he created them, that they should **keep** his commandments **and** glorify him forever.

²²**And** now I make an end of speaking unto you concerning this pride. **And** were it not that I must speak unto you concerning a grosser crime, my heart would rejoice exce**ed**ingly because of you.

²³But the word of God bur[-]d**[]**ens me because of your grosser crimes. **F**or behold, thus saith the Lord: **T**his **p**eople begin[-]eth to wax in iniquity; they understand not the **s**criptures, for they seek to excuse themsel[-]ves in committing whoredoms, because of the things which **were** written concerning David, **and** Solomon his **son**.

²⁴Behold, David **and** Solomon truly had many wives **and** concu[-]bines, which thing was abominable before me, saith the Lord.

²⁵Wherefore, thus saith the Lord, I have le**[]**d this **p**eople forth out of the land of Jerusalem, by the power of mine arm, that I might raise up unto me a righteous branch from the fruit of the loins of Joseph^{ph}.

²⁶Wherefore, I the Lord God will not suffer that this people shall do *like* unto them of **old**.

²⁷Wherefore, my **brethren**, hear me, **and** hearken to the *word of the* Lord: **F**or there shall not a[-]ny **[_]man[_]** among you have save it be one wife; **and** concubines he shall have none;

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for I the Lord God delighteth in the chastity of women & whoredoms is a-bomination◇ before me thus saith the Lord of hosts

wherefore this People shall keep my commandments saith the Lord of hosts or cursed be the land for their sakes

for if I will saith the Lord of hosts raise up seed unto me I will command my People otherwise they shall hearken un-to these things

for behold I the Lord have seen the sorrow & heard the mourning of the daughters of my People in the land of Jerusalem yea & in all the lands of my People because of the wickedness & abominations of their husbands

& I will not suffer saith the Lord of hosts that the cries of the fair daughters of this People which I have lead out of the land of Jerusalem shall come up unto me against the men of my People saith the Lord of hosts

for they shall not lead away captive the daughters of my People because of their tenderness save I shall visit them with a sore curse even unto destruction for they shall not commit whoredoms *like* unto they of old saith the Lord of hosts

& now behold my Brethren ye know that these commandments was given to our father Lehi wherefore ye have known them before & ye have come unto great condemnation for ye have done these things which ye ought not to have done

behold ye have done greater iniquity than the Lamanites our Brethren ye have broken the hearts of your tender wives & lost the confidence of your Children because of your bad examples before them & the sobbings of their hearts ascendeth up to God against you & because of the strictness of the word of God which cometh down against you many hearts died pierced with deep wounds

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²⁸For **I**, the Lord God, delight[_ _] in the chastity of women. **And** whoredoms **are an a[-]bomination[_]** before me; thus saith the Lord of **Hosts**.

²⁹Wherefore, this **people** shall keep my commandments, saith the Lord of **Hosts**, or cursed be the land for their sakes.

³⁰For if I will, saith the Lord of **Ho[-]sts**, raise up seed unto me, I will command my **people**; otherwise they shall hearken un[-]to these things.

³¹For behold, **I**, the Lord, have seen the sorrow, **and** heard the mourning of the daughters of my **people** in the land of Jerusalem, yea, **and** in all the lands of my **people**, because of the wickedness **and** abominations of their husbands.

³²**And** I will not suffer, saith the Lord of **Hosts**, that the cries of the fair daughters of this **people**, which I have le[_]d out of the land of Jerusa[-]lem, shall come up unto me against the men of my **people**, saith the Lord of **Hosts**.

³³For they shall not lead away captive the daughters of my **people** because of their tenderness, save I shall visit them with a sore curse, even unto destruction; for they shall not commit whoredoms, like unto **them** of old, saith the Lord of **Hosts**.

³⁴**And** now behold, my **brethren**, ye know that these commandments **were** given to our father, Lehi; wherefore, ye have known them before; **and** ye have come unto great condemnation; for ye have done these things which ye ought not to have done.

³⁵Behold, ye have done greater iniquities **than** the Lamanites, our **brethren**. **Ye** have broken the hearts of your tender wives, **and** lost the co[-]nfidence of your **children**, because of your bad examples before them; **and** the sobbings of their hearts ascend[_ _] up to God against you. **And** because of the strictness of the word of God, which cometh down against you, many hearts died, pierced with deep wounds.