

And now it came to *pass* that (after) some years had passed away *there came* a man among the People of *Nephi* whose name was Sherem

& *it came* to pass that he began to *preach among the People* & to declare unto them that there should be no Christ & *he preached many things which were flatter*(ing) unto the People & this he *done* that he might overthrow the doctrine of Christ

& he laboured *diligently* that *he might lead away the hearts* of the People insomuch that *he did lead away many hearst* & he knowing that I Jacob had faith in Christ *which should come wherefore he sought* much opportunity that he might *come* unto me

& *he was learned* that he had a perfect knowledge of the language of the *People* wherefore *he could use much flat*(ter)ry & much power of speech according to the *power* of the Devil

& *he had hope* to shake me from the faith notwithstanding *the many revelations & the many things* which I had seen concerning these things *for I truly had seen Angels* & they had ministered unto me & also I had heard *the voice of the Lord speaking unto me* in *verry* word from time to time wherefore I could not be shaken

& *it came to pass* that he came unto me & on this wise *did he speak unto me saying Brother Jacob* I have sought much opportunity that I *might* speak unto you for I have heard & also know that thou goest about much preaching that which ye call the Gospel or the doctrine of Christ

& ye have lead away much of this People that they pervert the right way of God & keep not the law of Moses which is the right way & convert the law of Moses into the worship of a being which ye say shall come ma-ny hundred years hence & now behold I Sherem declare unto you that this is bl-asphe-my for no man knoweth of such things for he cannot tell of things to come & after this manner did Sherem contend against me

CHAPTER 7 [] [X] []
Sherem denies Christ, contends with Jacob, demands a sign, and is smitten of God—All of the prophets have spoken of Christ and His Atonement—The Nephites lived out their days as wanderers, born in tribulation, and hated by the Lamanites. About 544–421 B.C.

¹And now it came to pass [X] after some years had passed away, there came a man among the people of Nephi, whose name was Sherem.

²And it came to pass that he began to preach among the people, and to declare unto them that there should be no Christ. And he preached many things which were flatter(ing) unto the people; and this he did that he might overthr[]ow the doctrine of Christ.

³And he labo[]red diligently that he might lead away the hearts of the people, insomuch that he did lead away many hearts; and he knowing that I, Jacob, had faith in Christ who should come, [X] he sought much opportunity that he mi[-]ght come unto me.

⁴And he was learned, that he had a perfect knowledge of the language of the people; wherefore, he could use much flat(ter[])y, and much power of speech, according to the power of the devil.

⁵And he had hope to shake me from the faith, notwithstanding the many revelations and the many things which I had seen concerning these things; for I truly had seen angels, and they had ministered unto me. And also, I had heard the voice of the Lord speaking unto me in ver[]y word, from time to time; wherefore, I could not be shaken.

⁶And it came to pass that he came unto me, and on this wise did he speak unto me, saying: Brother Jacob, I have sought much opportunity that I might speak unto you; for I have heard and also know that thou goest about much, preaching that which ye call the gospel, or the doctrine of Christ.

⁷And ye have le[]d away much of this people that they pervert the right way of God, and keep not the law of Moses which is the right way; and convert the law of Moses into the worship of a being which ye say shall come ma[-]ny hundred years hence. And now behold, I, Sherem, declare unto you that this is bl[-]asphe-my; for no man knoweth of such things; for he cannot tell of things to come. And after this manner did Sherem contend against me.

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but behold the Lord God poured in his spirit into my soul insomuch that I did confound him in all his words

& I sayeth unto him denyest thou the Christ which should come & he sa-yeth if there should be a Christ I would not deny him but I know that there is no Christ neither hath been nor never will be

& I saye*h* unto him believest thou the Scriptures & he sayeth yea

& I sayeth unto him then ye do not und-erstand them for they truly testify of Christ behold I say unto you that **112** none of the prophets have written nor prophesied save they have sp-oken concerning this **109** Christ

& *this is not all it* hath been made manifest unto me for I have heard & seen & it also hath been made ma(n)ifest (unto me) by the power of the Holy Ghost wherefore I know if there should be no atonement made all mankind must be lost

& it came to p-ass that he sayeth unto me shew me a sign by this power of the Holy Ghost in the which ye know so much

& I said unto h wa(what) am I that I should tempt God to shew unto thee a sign in the things which thou knowe-st to be true yet thou wilt deny it because thou art of the Devil neve-rtheless not my will be done but if God sha-ll smite thee let that be a sign unto thee that he hath power both in heaven & in earth & also that Christ shall come & thy will O Lord be done & not mine

& it came to pass that when I Jacob had spoken these words the power of the Lord cam-e upon him insomuch that he fell to the earth & it came to pass that he w-as nourished for the space of many days

& it came to pass that he sayeth un-to the people gather together on the morrow for I shall die wherefore I des(ire to speak unto the people before that I shall die

& it came to pass that on the morrow that the multitude were gathered together & he spea(e plainly unto them & denied the things which he had taught them & con-fessed the Christ & the power of the Holy Ghost & the ministering of Angels

8But behold, the Lord God poured in his Spirit into my soul, insomuch that I did confound him in all his words.

9And I said unto him: Deniest thou the Christ who shall come? And he sa[-]id: If there should be a Christ, I would not deny him; but I know that there is no Christ, neither has[-] been, nor [-]ever will be.

10And I said unto him: Believest thou the scriptures? And he said, Yea.

11And I said unto him: Then ye do not und[-]erstand them; for they truly testify of Christ. Behold, I say unto you that none of the prophets have written, nor prophesied, save they have sp[-]oken concerning this Christ.

12And this is not all—it has[-] been made manifest unto me, for I have heard and seen; and it also has[-] been made manifest unto me by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore, I know if there should be no atonement made all mankind must be lost.

13And it came to p[-]ass that he said unto me: Show me a sign by this power of the Holy Ghost, in the which ye know so much.

14And I said unto him: [-]What[-] am I that I should tempt God to show unto thee a sign in the thing[-] which thou knowe[-]st to be true? Yet thou wilt deny it, because thou art of the devil. Neve[-]rtheless, not my will be done; but if God sha[-]ll smite thee, let that be a sign unto thee that he has[-] power, both in heaven and in earth; and also, that Christ shall come. And thy will, O Lord, be done, and not mine.

15And it came to pass that when I, Jacob, had spoken these words, the power of the Lord cam[-]e upon him, insomuch that he fell to the earth. And it came to pass that he w[-]as nourished for the space of many days.

16And it came to pass that he said un[-]to the people: Gather together on the morrow, for I shall die; wherefore, I des(ire to speak unto the people before [X] I shall die.

17And it came to pass that on the morrow [X] the multitude were gathered together; and he sp[-]a(ke plainly unto them and denied the things which he had taught them, and con[-]fessed the Christ, and the power of the Holy Ghost, and the ministering of angels.

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& he speak plainly unto them that he had been deceived by the power of the Devil & he spake of (H)e(II) & of eternity & of eternal punishment

& he sayeth I fear lest I have committed the unpardonable sin for I have lied unto God for I denied the Christ & said that I believed the Scriptures & they truly testify of him & because that I have thus lied unto God I greatly fear lest my case shall be awful but I co(n)fess unto God

& it came to pass that when he had said th-ese words he could say no more & he gave up the ghost

& when the multitude had witness-ed that he spake these things as he was about to give up the ghost they were astonished exc-edingly insomuch that the power of God came down upon them & they were overcome that they fell to the earth

now this thing was pleasing unto me Jacob for I had requested it of my Father which was in heaven for he had heard my cry & answered my prayers

& it came to pass that peace & the love of God was restored again among the People & they searched the Scriptures & hearkened no more to the words of this wicked man

& it came to pass that many means were devised to reclaim & restore the Lamanites 113 to the knowl-edge of the truth but it all were vain for they delight(e)d in wars & bloodshed & they had an eternal hatred against us their Brethren & they sought by the power of their arms to destroy us continually

wherefore the People of Nephi did fortify against them with their arms & with all their might trusting in the God & the Rock of their Salvation wherefore they became as yet conquerers of their enemies

& it came to pass that I Jacob began to be Old & the record of this people being kept on the other plates of Nephi 110 wherefore I conclude this record declareing that I have written according to the best of my knowledge by saying that the time passed away with us & also our lives pa(s)sed away like as it were unto us a dream we being a lonesome & a solumn people wanderers cast out from Jerusalem born in tribulation in a wild wilderness & hated of our Brethren which caused wars & contentions wherefore we did mourn out our days

¹⁸And he spake plainly unto them, that he had been deceived by the power of the devil. And he spake of hell, and of eternity, and of eternal punishment.

¹⁹And he said: I fear lest I have committed the unpardonable sin, for I have lied unto God; for I denied the Christ, and said that I believed the scriptures; and they truly testify of him. And because [X] I have thus lied unto God I greatly fear lest my case shall be awful; but I confess unto God.

²⁰And it came to pass that when he had said th[-]ese words he could say no more, and he gave up the ghost.

²¹And when the multitude had witness[-]ed that he spake these things as he was about to give up the ghost, they were astonished exc[-]eedingly; insomuch that the power of God came down upon them, and they were overcome that they fell to the earth.

²²Now, this thing was pleasing unto me, Jacob, for I had requested it of my Father who was in heaven; for he had heard my cry and answered my prayer[].

²³And it came to pass that peace and the love of God was restored again among the people; and they searched the scriptures, and hearkened no more to the words of this wicked man.

²⁴And it came to pass that many means were devised to reclaim and restore the Lamanites to the knowl[-]edge of the truth; but it all was vain, for they delighted in wars and bloodshed, and they had an eternal hatred against us, their brethren. And they sought by the power of their arms to destroy us continually.

²⁵Wherefore, the people of Nephi did fortify against them with their arms, and with all their might, trusting in the God and [X] rock of their salvation; wherefore, they became as yet, conquerors of their enemies.

²⁶And it came to pass that I, Jacob, began to be old; and the record of this people being kept on the other plates of Nephi, wherefore, I conclude this record, declar[]ing that I have written according to the best of my knowledge, by saying that the time passed away with us, and also our lives passed away like as it were unto us a dream, we being a lonesome and a solemn people, wanderers, cast out from Jerusalem, born in tribulation, in a [X] wilderness, and hated of our brethren, which caused wars and contentions; wherefore, we did mourn out our days.

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& I Jacob sa-w *that I must soon go down to my grave* wherefore I said unto my Son *Enos take these plates & I told him the things which my Brother Nephi had commanded me & he promised obied()i*ance unto the commands & I *make an end of my writing upon these plates* which wr-iting hath been sma*ll & to the reader I bid farewell hope()*ing that many of my Brethren may *read my words Brethren adieu*

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²⁷**And I, Jacob, sa[-]w that I must soon go down to my grave; wherefore, I said unto my son Enos: Take these plates. And I told him the things which my brother Nephi had commanded me, and he promised ob[_]ed()i**ance unto the commands. **And I make an end of my writing upon these plates, which wr[-]iting has[_] been small; and to the reader I bid farewell, hop[_]()ing that many of my brethren may read my words. Brethren, adieu.**