

& it came to pass that I Nephi returned from speaking with the Lord to the tent of my father

& it came to pass that he spake unto me saying behold I have dreamed a dream in the which the Lord hath commanded ~~me~~ me that thou & thy Brethren shall return to Jerusalem

for behold Laban hath the reckord of the Jews & also a genealogy of my forefathers & they are engraven upon plates of Brass

wherefore the Lord hath commanded me that thou & thy Brethers should go unto the house of Laban & seek the re^ckords & bring them down ^{hither} into the wilderness

& now behold thy Brethers murmur saying it is a hard thing which I have required of them but behold I have not required ^{it} of them but it is a commandment of the Lord

therefore go my Son & thou shalt be favoured of the Lord because thou hast not murmured

and it came to pass that I nephi said unto my father I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commander for I know that the Lord gaveth no commandments unto the children of men **S** Save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them

and it came to pass that when my father had heard these words he was exceding glad for he knew that I had been blessed of the Lord

and I Nephi & my Brethren toof our Journey in the wilderness wiith our tents to go up to the Land of Jerusalem

and it came to pass that when we had come up to the land of Jerusalem I a my Bretheren did consult one with another

CHAPTER 3

Lehi's sons return to Jerusalem to obtain the plates of brass—Laban refuses to give the plates up—Nephi exhorts and encourages his brethren—Laban steals their property and attempts to slay them—Laman and Lemuel smite Nephi and Sam and are reproved by an angel. About 600–592 B.C.

¹**And** it came to pass that I, Nephi, returned from speaking with the Lord, to the tent of my father.

²**And** it came to pass that he spake unto me, saying: **Behold** I have dreamed a dream, in the which the Lord hath commanded **[]** me that thou **and** thy **brethren** shall return to Jerusalem.

³**For** behold, Laban hath the rec**[]**ord of the Jews **and** also a genealogy of my forefathers, **and** they are engraven upon plates of **brass**.

⁴**Wherefore**, the Lord hath commanded me that thou **and** thy **brothers** should go unto the house of Laban, **and** seek the rec**[]**ords, **and** bring them down **hither** into the wilderness.

⁵**And** now, behold thy **brothers** murmur, saying it is a hard thing which I have required of them; but behold I have not required **it** of them, but it is a commandment of the Lord.

⁶**Therefore** go, my **son**, **and** thou shalt be favo**[]**red of the Lord, because thou hast not murmured.

⁷**And** it came to pass that I, **Nephi**, said unto my father: I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded**d**, for I know that the Lord **giveth** no commandments unto the children of men, **save** he shall prepare a way for them that they may **accomplish** the thing which he commandeth them.

⁸**And** it came to pass that when my father **had** heard these words he was **exceedingly** glad, for he knew that I had been blessed of the Lord.

⁹**And** I, Nephi, **and** my **brethren** took our **journey** in the wilderness, w**[]**ith our tents, to go up to the **land** of Jerusalem.

¹⁰**And** it came to pass that when we had **gone** up to the land of Jerusalem, I **and** my **breth[b]**ren did consult one with another.

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I ◇◇ cast lots which of us should go in unto the house of Laban & it ◇came to pass that the lot fell upon Laman & Laman went in unto the house of Labaa & he talked with him as he sat in his house

& he desired of Laban the Records which where engavveⁿ upon the plates of brass which contained the genealogy of my father

that behold it came to pass that Labaⁿ was angry and thrust him out from his presence & he would not that he should have the records wherefore he said unto him behold thou art a robber and I will slay thee

but laman fled out of his presence and told the things which laban had done unto us & we began to be exceeding sorrowful & my brethrrn where about to return unto my father in the wildermess

but behold I said unto them that as the Lord liveth a & as we live we will not go down unto our father in the wilderness until we have accomplihhed the thing which the Lord hath commanded us

wherefore let us be baithful in keeping the commandments of the Lord therefore let us go down to the Land of our fathers inheritance for behold ha left gold & a siveer & all manner of eiches & all this hee hahh done because of the commandments of the Lord

for he knowing that Jerusalem must be destroyed because of the wic wicness of the people

for behold they have regeted the words of thee proprotts wherefore if my father should swell in the land after that he hath been commanded to ♣ flee out of the land behold he would also perish The brethran of Nephi Smite him with a Rod 5 wherefore it must needs be that he flee oft of the land

& behold it is wisdom of God ttet we should obtain these receords ttat we might preserve unto our children the language of our fathers

& also that we may preserve unto them the words which have been Spoken by the mouth of all the holly Prophe^t which have been delivered unto then by the ppirite and power of god since the world began even down unto this present time

¹¹**And we** cast lots—**who** of us should go in unto the house **of** Laban. **And** it []came to pass that the lot fell upon Laman; **and** Laman went in unto the house of Laban, **and** he talked with him as he sat in his house.

¹²**And** he desired of Laban the **records** which w[]ere engr**aven** upon the plates of brass, which contained the genealogy of my father.

¹³**And** behold, it came to pass that Laban was angry, and thrust him out from his presence; **and** he would not that he should have the records. **Wherefore**, he said unto him: **Behold** thou art a robber, and I will slay thee.

¹⁴**But** Laman fled out of his presence, and told the things which **Laban** had done, unto us. **And** we began to be exceedingly sorrowful, **and** my breth[]ren were about to return unto my father in the wilderness.

¹⁵**But** behold I said unto them that: **As** the Lord liveth, [] **and** as we live, we will not go down **unto** our father in the wilderness until we have accomplished the thing which the Lord hath commanded us.

¹⁶**Wherefore**, let us be **faithful** in keeping the commandments of the Lord; therefore let us go down to the **land** of our father's inheritance, for behold he left gold **and** [] **silver**, **and** all manner of **riches**. **And** all this he[] hath done because of the commandments of the Lord.

¹⁷**For** he **knew** that Jerusalem must be destroyed, because of the [_ _] **wicked**ness of the people.

¹⁸**For** behold, they have **re**jected the words of the [] **prophets**. **Wherefore**, if my father should **d**well in the land after [X] he hath been commanded to [_] flee out of the land, behold, he would also perish. [X_X_X_X_X_X_X_X_X] **Wherefore**, it must needs be that he flee **out** of the land.

¹⁹**And** behold, it is wisdom **in** God **that** we should obtain these rec[]ords, **that** we **may** preserve unto our children the language of our fathers;

²⁰**And** also that we may preserve unto them the words which have been **s**spoken by the mouth of all the hol[]y **prophets**, which have been delivered unto **them** by the **S**pirit[] and power of **G**od, since the world began, even **down** unto this present time.

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& it came to pass that after this manner of Language did I persuade my Brethhrin that they might be faithful in keeping the commandments of God

& it came to pass that we ~~w~~e went down to the land of our inheritance & we did gether to gether our gold & our silver o our precious things

& after that we had gethered these things to gather we went up again unto the house of Laban

& it came to pass that we went in unto Laban & desired his that he would give unto us the **6** records which were engraven upon the plaits of Brass for which we would give unto him our gold & our Silver & all our precious things

& it came to pass that when Laban saw our property that it excee exceeding great he did lust after it in ao much that he trust uss out & sent his Servents slo slay us that he might obtain our property

& it came to pass that we dud flee fefore bhe Servents of Laban & we were aboueged to leave behind our property & it fell into the hands of Laban

& it came do pass that we fled into the wilderness & the servents of Laban did not overtake us & we hid ourselves in the cavity of arokk

& it came to pass that Laman was angry with me & also with my father & leo ~~w~~ith was Lemuel for he hearkened unto the words of Laman wherefore Laman & lemuel did speak many herd words unto us their younger Brother & they did smites us even with a rod

& it came to pass as they smote us with a rod behold an nngil of the Lord came and stood before them an he spake unto them saying why do ye smite your bounger Brother with a rod know ye not that the Lord hath chosen him to be a ruler over you & this because of your iniquities behold thou shalt go upp to Jerusam again & the Lord will Deliver Laban into your hands

& after that ^{the angel} ~~he~~ had spake unto us he departed

²¹**And** it came to pass that after this manner of language did I persuade my **breth[]ren**, that they might be faithful in keeping the commandments of God.

²²**And** it came to pass that we **[X]** went down to the land of our inher**itance**, **and** we did **g**ather to **[]**gether our gold, **and** our silver, **and** our precious things.

²³**And** after **[X]** we had **g**athered these things to **[]**gether, we went up again unto the house of Laban.

²⁴**And** it came to pass that we went in unto Laban, **and** desired **him** that he would give unto us the records which were engraven upon the **pl**ates of **br**ass, for which we would give unto him our gold, **and** our **sil**ver, **and** all our precious things.

²⁵**And** it came to pass that when Laban saw our property, **and** that it **was** exceedingly great, he did lust after it, in **[]**so **[]**much that he **th**rusted us **[]** out, **and** sent his **serv**ants **[]**to slay us, that he might obtain our property.

²⁶**And** it came to pass that we **did** flee **before** the **serv**ants of Laban, **and** we were **obli**[]ged to leave behind our property, **and** it fell into the hands of Laban.

²⁷**And** it came **to** pass that we fled into the wilderness, **and** the **serv**ants of Laban did not overtake us, **and** we hid ourselves in the cavity of a **[]**rock.

²⁸**And** it came to pass that Laman was angry with me, **and** also with my father; **and** also **[X]** was Lemuel, for he hearkened unto the words of Laman. **Wherefore** Laman **and** Lemuel did speak many **hard** words unto us, their younger **brothers**, **and** they did smite **[]** us even with a rod.

²⁹**And** it came to pass as they smote us with a rod, behold, an **angel** of the Lord came and stood before them, **and** he spake unto them, saying: **Why** do ye smite your **younger brother** with a rod? **Know** ye not that the Lord hath chosen him to be a ruler over you, **and** this because of your iniquities? **Behold ye** shall go up **[]** to **Jerusalem** again, **and** the Lord will **del**iver Laban into your hands.

³⁰**And** after **[X]** the **angel [X]** had **spoken** unto us, he departed.

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& after that the angel had departed Laman & lemuel a gain began to murmur saying how is it possible that the Lord will deliver Laban into our hands behold he is a mighty man & he can command fifty year even he can slay fifty ^{then} why not us

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³¹**And** after **[X]** the angel had departed, Laman **and** Lemuel a **[]**gain began to murmur, saying: **How** is it possible that the Lord will deliver Laban into our hands? **Behold**, he is a mighty man, **and** he can command fifty, year **[]**, even he can slay fifty; **then** why not us?