

CHAPTER 8

Lehi sees a vision of the tree of life—He partakes of its fruit and desires his family to do likewise—He sees a rod of iron, a strait and narrow path, and the mists of darkness that enshroud men—Sariah, Nephi, and Sam partake of the fruit, but Laman and Lemuel refuse. About 600–592 B.C.

and it came to pass that we had getherd
to geather all manner **12** of seeds of every king
both of grain of every kind and also of the seeds
of fruits of every king

¹And it came to pass that we had gathered
to []ge []ther all manner of seeds of every kind,
both of grain of every kind, and also of the seeds
of fruit [] of every kind.

and it came to pass that while my father tarried in
the wilderness he spake unto us saying be hold i
have dreamd a dream or in otther words i have
seen a vission

²And it came to pass that while my father tarried in
the wilderness he spake unto us, saying: **Be []hold, I**
have dreamed a dream; or, in o []ther words, **I** have
seen a vis []ion.

and hehold becaus of the thing which h have seen
i have reason to rejoicie in the lor^d because of
nephi and also of sam for i have reason to suppose
that they and allo meny of them seed will be saved

³And behold, because of the thing which **I** have seen,
I have reason to rejoic []ce in the **Lord** because of
Nephi and also of **Sam**; for **I** have reason to suppose
that they, and also many of their seed, will be saved.

but behold Laman & lemual i fear
exedingly becaus of you for behold
me thotgtt ¹ saw a dark And drery
wilderness

⁴But behold, Laman and Lemuel, **I** fear
exceedingly because of you; for behold,
me []thought **I** saw in my dream, a dark and dreary
wilderness.

and it came to pass that i saw a Man and he was
drest in a white roae and he came and stood
before me

⁵And it came to pass that **I** saw a man, and he was
dressed in a white robe; and he came and stood
before me.

and it came to pass that he spake unto me and bade
me follow him

⁶And it came to pass that he spake unto me, and bade
me follow him.

and it came to pals that As i followed him
and after i had fowlowed him i beheld myself that i
was in a dark and dreary waste

⁷And it came to pass that as **I** followed him
[X X X X X X] **I** beheld myself that **I**
was in a dark and dreary waste.

and after that i had trueded for the space ^fof
menny hours in darkness i began to pray unto
the lord that he would have mercy on me according
to the multitude of his tender mercies

⁸And after [X] **I** had traveled for the space []of []
man []y hours in darkness, **I** began to pray unto
the **Lord** that he would have mercy on me, according
to the multitude of his tender mercies.

and it came to pass that **I** after i had praid unto
the lord beheld A large and specious field

⁹And it came to pass [X X] after **I** had prayed unto
the **Lord** **I** beheld a large and spacious field.

& it came to pass that i beheld a tree whose fruit
was desirable to make one happy

¹⁰And it came to pass that **I** beheld a tree, whose fruit
was desirable to make one happy.

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and it came to pass that i did go forth and partook of the fruit thereof and beheld that it was Most sweet above all that i ever had before
2 Lehies dream of the P'essious fruit
tasted yea and i beheld that the fruit thereof was white to exceed all the whiteness that i had ever seen

and as i partook of the fruit thereof it fild my soul with exeding great $\diamond\diamond$ i wherefore i began to be desirus that my fa^{family}ily should partake of it also for i knew that it das desirus Above all other fruit

and as i csst my eyes around about that perhaps i might dis^cover my fammaly also And i beheld a river of water and it ran along and it was near the tree of which i was partaking the fruit

and i loocked to behold from whence it came and i saw the head thereof a little way of and at the head thereof i beheld your Mother sariah and Sam and nephi and they stood as if they knew not wthither they should go

and it came to pass that i beckoned unto them and i also did say unto them wth a loud voice that they should come unto me and partake of the fruit whtich was desirable above all other fruit

and it came to pass that they aid come unto me and partake of the fruit Also

and it came to pass that i was desirus that laman And lemual should come and partake of the fruit also Wherefor^e i cast mine eyes toward the head of the river that perhaps I might see tthem

and it came to pass that i s^aw them but they would not come unto Me and partake of the fruit

and i beheld a rod of iron and it extended along the bank of the river And led to the tree by which i stood

and i also beheld a Strait and mrrough path which came along by the rod of iron even to the tree by which i stood and it also led uy the head of the fountain unto a large and specious field as if it had ben a world

And i saw numberless concorses of people many of home are **13** presing forward that they might oftain the path which led unto the tree by which i stood

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¹¹And it came to pass that **I** did go forth and partake of the fruit thereof; and **I** beheld that it was **most** sweet, above all that **I** ever **[X]** before
[_ _ _ _ _ X X X _ _ _ _ _ X]
tasted. Yea, and **I** beheld that the fruit **[]**t thereof was w**[]**hite, to exceed all the whiteness that **I** had ever seen.

¹²And as **I** partook of the fruit thereof it filled my soul with exceeding^{ly} great **joy**; wherefore, **I** began to be desirous that my **[_]**family**[_ _ _]** should partake of it also; for **I** knew that it was desirable above all other fruit.

¹³And as **I** cast my eyes **[]**round about, that perhaps **I** might discover my fam**[]**ily also, **[X]** **I** beheld a river of water; and it ran along, and it was near the tree of which **I** was partaking the fruit.

¹⁴And **I** loo**[]**ked to behold from whence it came; and **I** saw the head thereof a little way off; and at the head thereof **I** beheld your mother **Sariah**, and Sam, and **Nephi**; and they stood as if they knew not w**[]**hither they should go.

¹⁵And it came to pass that **I** beckoned unto them; and **I** also did say unto them with a loud voice that they should come unto me, and partake of the fruit**[]**, w**[]**hich was desirable above all other fruit.

¹⁶And it came to pass that they **did** come unto me and partake of the fruit **also**.

¹⁷And it came to pass that **I** was desirous that **Laman** and **Lemuel** should come and partake of the fruit also; wherefore, **I** cast mine eyes towards the head of the river, that perhaps I might see t**[]**hem.

¹⁸And it came to pass that **I** saw them, but they would not come unto **me** and partake of the fruit.

¹⁹And **I** beheld a rod of iron, and it extended along the bank of the river, and led to the tree by which **I** stood.

²⁰And **I** also beheld a **strait** and n**[]**arro**[_]**w path, which came along by the rod of iron, even to the tree by which **I** stood; and it also led **by** the head of the fountain, unto a large and **spacious** field, as if it had **ben** a world.

²¹And **I** saw numberless concourses of people, many of **whom****[]** **were** pressing forward, that they might **obtain** the path which led unto the tree by which **I** stood.

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and it came to pass that they did come forth and commenset in the path which led to the tree

and it came to pass that there arose a mist of darkness yea ~~an~~ even an exceeding great mist of darkness inomuch that they wthich had commeced in the path did loose their way that they ~~d~~ wanderd of and ware lost

and it came to ps^{ess} that i beheld others pressing forward And they came forth and caught hold of the end of the rod of iron and they did press forward throuhh the mists of darkness clinging to the rod of iron even until they did come forth and partook of the fruit of the tree

and after that they h had parpook of the fruit Of the tree they did cast theyr eyes about as if they ware a shamed

and i also cast my eyes around a bout and beheld on the other side of the river of water of ~~water of water~~ a great and spesious bilding and it stood as it ware in the are high above the earth

and it was filled with people both old and yound both male and female and their manner of dress was exceding fine and they ware in the attitude of mocking and
Lehies pear^s for laman & lemual and he exorts them

13 pointing their fingers towards those which had came up and ware partaking of the fruit

and after that they had tasted of the fruit they ware ashamed because of those that ware A scoffing at them and they fell away into forbidden paths and ware lost

& now i nephi do not speak all the words of my father

but to be short in writing behold he saw other multitudes pressing forwards and they came amd caught hold of the end of the rod of iron and they did press their way forward continually holding fast to the rod of iron until they came forth and fell down and partook of the fruit of the tree

and he also saw other muliitudes prssing their way towards that great and specious bilding

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²²And it came to pass that they did come forth, and commence[] in the path which led to the tree.

²³And it came to pass that there arose a mist of darkness; yea, [X] even an exce~~eding~~ly great mist of darkness, insomuch that they **who** had commenced in the path did lo[]se their way, that they [] wander~~ed~~ off and ~~were~~ lost.

²⁴And it came to p[] [_]ass that **I** beheld **others** pressing forward, **and** they came forth and caught hold of the end of the rod of iron; and they did press forward throug~~h~~ the mist[] of darkness, clinging to the rod of iron, even until they did come forth and partake of the fruit of the tree.

²⁵And after [X] they [] had partaken of the fruit of the tree they did cast thei~~r~~ eyes about as if they ~~were~~ a []shamed.

²⁶And **I** also cast my eyes []round a[]bout, and beheld, on the other side of the river of water [X] [X_X_X], a great and spaci~~ous~~ building; and it stood as it ~~were~~ in the air, high above the earth.

²⁷And it was filled with people, both old and young, both male and female; and their manner of dress was exce~~eding~~ly fine; and they ~~were~~ in the attitude of mocking and
[-----X_X_X_X_X_X]
[-----X]

pointing their fingers towards those **who** had come **at** and ~~were~~ partaking of the fruit.

²⁸And after [X] the[]y had tasted of the fruit they ~~were~~ ashamed, because of those that ~~were~~ [X] scoffing at them; and they fell away into forbidden paths and ~~were~~ lost.

²⁹And now **I, Nephi**, do not speak all the words of my father.

³⁰But, to be short in writing, behold, he saw other multitudes pressing forward[]; and they came **and** caught hold of the end of the rod of iron; and they did press their way forward, continu~~ally~~ holding fast to the rod of iron, until they came forth and fell down and partook of the fruit of the tree.

³¹And he also saw other multitudes **feeling** their way towards that great and spaci~~ous~~ building.

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and it came to p^{ss} that menny were drown'd in the dth of the fountain & many ware lost from ~~My view~~ his wiew wandring in strang roads

and great was the multitude that did enter into that strange building and after that they did enter into that bu^{id}ing they did point the finger of scorn at me and those that ware partaking of the fruit also but we heded them not

thus is the words of my father for as many as heded them had ~~to fall in their~~ fallen away

and laman and lemual partook not of the fruit Saith my father

and it came to pass that after my father had spoken all the words of his dream or vission which ware many he said unto us because of these things which he saw in a vission he exceedingly feard for laman & lemual ye he feard lest they should be cast of from the pressance of the lord

and he did exort them then with all the feeling of a tender parent that they would herken to his words in that perhaps the lord would be mersyfull to them and not ~~cast~~ cast them of yea my father did praach unto them

and after that he had preacht unto them and also prophesed unto them of many thing^s he bade them to keep the commandmenth of the lord and he did seace speaking unto them

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³²And it came to pass that man[]y were drown'd in the [] depths of the fountain; and many were lost from [X_X] his view, wandering in strange roads.

³³And great was the multitude that did enter into that strange building. And after [X] they did enter into that building they did point the finger of scorn at me and those that were partaking of the fruit also; but we hedded them not.

³⁴These are the words of my father: For as many as hedded them, had [X_X_X_X] fallen away.

³⁵And Laman and Lemuel partook not of the fruit, said[] my father.

³⁶And it came to pass [X] after my father had spoken all the words of his dream or vis[]ion, which were many, he said unto us, because of these things which he saw in a vis[]ion, he exceedingly feared for Laman and Lemuel; yea, he feared lest they should be cast off from the pres[]ence of the Lord.

³⁷And he did exhort them then with all the feeling of a tender parent, that they would hearken to his words, [X] that perhaps the Lord would be merciful[] to them, and not [] cast them off; yea, my father did preach unto them.

³⁸And after [X] he had preached unto them, and also prophesied unto them of many things, he bade them to keep the commandments of the Lord; and he did cease speaking unto them.