

& it came to pass that when they had established a church in that land that King Lamoni desired that Ammon should go with him to the land of Nephi that he might shew him unto his father

& it came to pass that the voice of the Lord came to Ammon saying thou shalt not go up to the land of Nephi for behold the king will seek thy life but thou shalt go to the land of Middoni for behold thy brother Aaron & also Muloki & Ammah are in prison

now it came to pass that when Ammon had heard this he sayeth unto Lamoni behold my brother & brethren are in prison at Middoni & I go that I may deliver them

now Lamoni sayeth unto Ammon I know in the strength of the Lord thou canst do all things but behold I will go with thee to the land of Middoni for the king of the land of Middoni whose name is Antiomno is a friend unto me therefore I go to the land of Middoni that I may flatter the king of the land & he will cast thy brethren out of prison now Lamoni sayeth unto him who told thee thy brethren were in prison

& Ammon sayeth unto him no one hath told me save it be God & he said unto me go & deliver thy brethren for they are in prison in the [land of Meddoni](#)

now when Lamoni had ~~hea~~^{heard}~~red~~ this he caused that his [servants should make](#) ready his horses & his charriots

& he sayeth unto [Ammon come I will](#) go with thee down to the land of Middoni ~~222~~ & [there I will plead](#) with the king that he will cast thy brethren out of prison

& it came to pass that as Ammon was a journeying thither that they met the father of Lamoni who was king over all the land

CHAPTER 20

The Lord sends Ammon to Middoni to deliver his imprisoned brethren—Ammon and Lamoni meet Lamoni's father, who is king over all the land—Ammon compels the old king to approve the release of his brethren. About 90 B.C.

¹And it came to pass that when they had established a church in that land, that **king** Lamoni desired that Ammon should go with him to the land of Nephi, that he might **show** him unto his father.

²And **[X_X_X_X_X]** the voice of the Lord came to Ammon, saying: **Thou** shalt not go up to the land of Nephi, for behold, the king will seek thy life; but thou shalt go to the land of Middoni; for behold, thy brother Aaron, **and** also Muloki **and** Ammah are in prison.

³Now it came to pass that when Ammon had heard this, he **said** unto Lamoni: **Behold**, my brother **and** brethren are in prison at Middoni, **and** I go that I may deliver them.

⁴Now Lamoni **said** unto Ammon: I know, in the strength of the Lord thou canst do all things. **But** behold, I will go with thee to the land of Middoni; for the king of the land of Middoni, whose name is Antiomno, is a friend unto me; therefore I go to the land of Middoni, that I may flatter the king of the land, **and** he will cast thy brethren out of prison. **Now** Lamoni **said** unto him: **Who** told thee **that** thy brethren were in prison?

⁵And Ammon **said** unto him: **No** one hath told me, save it be God; **and** he said unto me—**Go and** deliver thy brethren, for they are in prison in the [land of Middoni](#).

⁶Now when Lamoni had **[_ _]heard[_ _]** this he caused that his [servants should make](#) ready his horses **and** his char**[_]**riots.

⁷And he **said** unto Ammon: **Come**, I will go with thee down to the land of Middoni, **and** **there I will plead** with the king that he will cast thy brethren out of prison.

⁸And it came to pass that as Ammon **and** Lamoni **were** **[X]** journeying thither, **[X]** they met the father of Lamoni, who was king over all the land.

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& behold the father of Lamoni sayeth unto him why did ye not come to the feast on that great day when I made a feast unto my Sons & unto my people

& he also sayeth whither art thou going ~~w~~^{with}h this Nephite which is one of the ~~Sons~~^{children} of a liar

& it came to pass that Lamoni rehearst unto him whither he was going for he feared to offend him

& he also told him all the cause of his tarrying in his own kingdom that he did not go unto his father to the feast which he had prepared

& now when Lamoni had rehearsed unto him all these things behold to his astonishment his father was angry with him & sayeth Lamoni thou art going to deliver these Nephites which are Sons of liar behold he robed our fathers & now his children also are come amongst us that they may by their cunning & their lyings deceive^{us} thy they again may rob us of our property

now the father of Lamoni commanded him that he should slay Ammon with the sword & he also commanded him that he should not go to the land of Middoni but that he should return With him to the land of Ishmael

but Lamoni sayeth unto him I will not slay Ammon neither will I return to the land of Ishmael but I go to the land of Middoni that I may releas the brethren of Ammon for I know that they are just men & holy prophets of the true God

now when his father heard these words he was angry with him & he drew his ~~sw~~^{sword}ord that he might smite him to the earth

but Ammon stood forth & sayeth unto him behold thou shalt not slay thy Son nevertheless it were better that he should fall than thee for behold he hath repented of his sins but if thou shouldst fall at this time in thine anger thy soul could not be saved

& again it is expediant that thou shouldst forbear for if thou shouldst slay thy Son he being an inocent man his blood would cry from the ground to the Lord his God for vengeance to come upon thee & perhaps thou wouldst lose thy Soul

⁹**And** behold, the father of Lamoni **said** unto him: **Why** did ye not come to the feast on that great day when I made a feast unto my **sons, and** unto my people?

¹⁰**And** he also **said**: Whither art thou going **[]with[]** this Nephite, **who** is one of the **[X]children** of a liar?

¹¹**And** it came to pass that Lamoni rehear**sed** unto him whither he was going, for he feared to offend him.

¹²**And** he also told him all the cause of his tarrying in his own kingdom, that he did not go unto his father to the feast which he had prepared.

¹³**And** now when Lamoni had rehearsed unto him all these things, behold, to his astonishment, his father was angry with him, **and said**: Lamoni, thou art going to deliver these Nephites, **who** are **sons** of a liar. **Behold**, he **robbed** our fathers; **and** now his children **are also** come amongst us that they may, by their cunning **and** their lyings, deceive **[]us**, that they again may rob us of our property.

¹⁴**Now** the father of Lamoni commanded him that he should slay Ammon with the sword. **And** he also commanded him that he should not go to the land of Middoni, but that he should return **with** him to the land of Ishmael.

¹⁵**But** Lamoni **said** unto him: I will not slay Ammon, neither will I return to the land of Ishmael, but I go to the land of Middoni that I may **releas**e the brethren of Ammon, for I know that they are just men **and** holy prophets of the true God.

¹⁶**Now** when his father **had** heard these words, he was angry with him, **and** he drew his **[_]sword[_ _]** that he might smite him to the earth.

¹⁷**But** Ammon stood forth **and said** unto him: **Behold**, thou shalt not slay thy **son**; nevertheless, it were better that he should fall than thee, for behold, he has **[]** repented of his sins; but if thou shouldst fall at this time, in thine anger, thy soul could not be saved.

¹⁸**And** again, it is **expedient** that thou shouldst forbear; for if thou shouldst slay thy **son**, he being an **innocent** man, his blood would cry from the ground to the Lord his God, for **vengeance** to come upon thee; **and** perhaps thou wouldst lose thy **soul**.

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now when Ammon had said these words unto him he answered him saying I know that if I should slay my son that I should shed inocent blood for it is **thou that hast** sought to destroy him

& he streached forth his hand to slay Ammon but Ammon withstood his blows & also smote his arm that **223** he could not use it

now when the King saw that Ammon could slay him he began to plead with Ammon that he would spare his life

but Ammon raised his sword & said unto him behold I will smite thee except thou wilt grant unto me that my brethren may be cast out of prison

now the king fearing that he should lose his life said if thou wilt spare me I will grant unto thee whatsoever thou wilt ask even to the half of the Kingdom

now when Ammon saw that he had wrought upon the old king according to his desire he sayeth unto him if thou wilt grant that my brethren may be cast out of prison & also that Lamoni may retain his kingdom & that ye be not displeas with him but grant that he may do according to his own desires in whatsoever thing he thinketh & then will I spare thee otherwise I will smite thee to the earth

now when Ammon had said these words the king began to rejoice because of his life

& when he saw that Ammon had no desire^s to destroy him & when he also saw the great love he had for his Son Lamoni he was astonished excedeingly & sayeth because this is all that thou hast desired that I would release thy brethren & suffer that my Son Lamoni sould retain his kingdom behold I will grant unto you that my Son may retain his kingdom from this time & forever & I will govern him no more

& I will also grant unto thee that thy brethren may be cast out of prison & thou & thy brethren may come unto me in my kingdom for I shall greatly desire to see thee for the king was greatly astonished at the words which he had spoken & also at the words which had been spoken by his son Lamoni therefore he was desireous to learn them

¹⁹Now when Ammon had said these words unto him, he answered him, saying: I know that if I should slay my son, that I should shed **innocent blood**; for it is **thou that hast** sought to destroy him.

²⁰**And** he stretched forth his hand to slay Ammon. **But** Ammon withstood his blows, **and** also smote his arm that **he could not use it**.

²¹Now when the **king** saw that Ammon could slay him, he began to plead with Ammon that he would spare his life.

²²**But** Ammon raised his sword, **and** said unto him: **Behold**, I will smite thee except thou wilt grant unto me that my brethren may be cast out of prison.

²³Now the king, fearing **[X]** he should lose his life, said: **If** thou wilt spare me I will grant unto thee whatsoever thou wilt ask, even to **[X]** half of the kingdom.

²⁴Now when Ammon saw that he had wrought upon the old king according to his desire, he **said** unto him: **If** thou wilt grant that my brethren may be cast out of prison, **and** also that Lamoni may retain his kingdom, **and** that ye be not displeas with him, but grant that he may do according to his own desires in whatsoever thing he thinketh, **[X]** then will I spare thee; otherwise I will smite thee to the earth.

²⁵Now when Ammon had said these words, the king began to rejoice because of his life.

²⁶**And** when he saw that Ammon had no desire^s to destroy him, **and** when he also saw the great love he had for his **son** Lamoni, he was astonished exceed^singly, **and said**: **Because** this is all that thou hast desired, that I would release thy brethren, **and** suffer that my **son** Lamoni **sh**ould retain his kingdom, behold, I will grant unto you that my **son** may retain his kingdom from this time **and** forever; **and** I will govern him no more—

²⁷**And** I will also grant unto thee that thy brethren may be cast out of prison, **and** thou **and** thy brethren may come unto me, in my kingdom; for I shall greatly desire to see thee. **For** the king was greatly astonished at the words which he had spoken, **and** also at the words which had been spoken by his son Lamoni, therefore he was desir^sous to learn them.

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And it came to pass that Ammon & Lamoni
proseded on their journey towards the land of
Middoni & it came to pass that Lamoni found
favo^r in the eyes of the king of the land
therefore the brethren of Ammon was brought
forth out of prison

& when Ammon did meet them he was
exceding **224** sorrowful for behold they were naked
& their skins were worn excedingly because of
being bound with strong cords & they also had
suffered hunger thirst & all kind of affliction
nevertheless they were patient in all their sufferings

& as it happened it was their lot to have fallen
into the hands of a more hardened & a more
stiffnecked people therefore they would not
hearken unto their words & they had cast them
out & had smote them & had driven them
from house to house & from place to place even
until they had ariven to the land of Middoni &
their they were taken & cast into prison &
bound with strong cords & kept in prison for
many days & were delivered by Lamoni &
Ammon —

²⁸And it came to pass that Ammon **and** Lamoni
pro**ceeded** on their journey towards the land of
Middoni. **And [X_X_X_X_X]** Lamoni found
favo^r in the eyes of the king of the land;
therefore the brethren of Ammon **were** brought
forth out of prison.

²⁹**And** when Ammon did meet them he was
ex**ceedingly** sorrowful, for behold they were naked,
and their skins were worn ex**ceedingly** because of
being bound with strong cords. **And** they also had
suffered hunger, **thirst, and** all kinds of afflictions;
nevertheless they were patient in all their sufferings.

³⁰**And**, as it happened, it was their lot to have fallen
into the hands of a more hardened **and** a more
stiffnecked people; therefore they would not
hearken unto their words, **and** they had cast them
out, **and** had sm**itten** them, **and** had driven them
from house to house, **and** from place to place, even
until they had ar**rived in** the land of Middoni; **and**
the**re** they were taken **and** cast into prison, **and**
bound with strong cords, **and** kept in prison for
many days, **and** were delivered by Lamoni **and**
Ammon. **[]**