

& it came to pass that they did stop & withdrew a pace from them & Moroni said unto Zerahemnah behold Zerahemnah that we do not desire to be men of blood ye know that ye are in our hands yet we do not desire to ~~slay~~ slay you

behold we have not come out to Battle against you that we might shed your blood for power neither do we desire to bring any one to the yoke of bondage but this is the very cause for which ye have come against us yea & ye are angry with us because of our Religion

but now ye behold that the Lord is with us & ye behold that he hath delivered you into our hands & now I would that ye should understand that this is done unto us because of our Religion & our faith in Christ & now ye see that ye cannot destroy his our faith

now ye see that this is the true ²⁷⁹ faith of God yea ye see that God will support & keep & preserve us so long as we are faithful unto him & unto our faith & our Religion & never will the Lord suffer that we shall be destroyed except we should fall into transgression & deny our faith

& now Zerahemnah I command you in the name of that all-powerful God who hath strengthened our arms that we have gained power over you by our faith by our Religion & by our Rites of Worship & by our church & by the Sacred support which we owe to our ^{wives &} our children &

a covenant & C

by that liberty which binds us to our lands & our Country & also by the maintenance of the sacred word of God to which we owe all our happiness & by all that is most dear unto us

yea & this is not all I command you by all the desires which ye have for life that ye deliver up your weapons of war unto us & we will seek not your blood but we will spare your lives if ye will go your ^{way} & come not again to war against us

CHAPTER 44

Moroni commands the Lamanites to make a covenant of peace or be destroyed—Zerahemnah rejects the offer, and the battle resumes—Moroni's armies defeat the Lamanites. About 74–73 B.C.

¹And it came to pass that they did stop and withdrew a pace from them. And Moroni said unto Zerahemnah: Behold, Zerahemnah, that we do not desire to be men of blood. Ye know that ye are in our hands, yet we do not desire to [_ _ _] slay you.

²Behold, we have not come out to battle against you that we might shed your blood for power; neither do we desire to bring any one to the yoke of bondage. But this is the very cause for which ye have come against [_] us; yea, and ye are angry with us because of our religion.

³But now, ye behold that the Lord is with us; and ye behold that he has [_] delivered you into our hands. And now I would that ye should understand that this is done unto us because of our religion and our faith in Christ. And now ye see that ye cannot destroy this our faith.

⁴Now ye see that this is the true faith of God; yea, ye see that God will support, and keep, and preserve us, so long as we are faithful unto him, and unto our faith, and our religion; and never will the Lord suffer that we shall be destroyed except we should fall into transgression and deny our faith.

⁵And now, Zerahemnah, I command you, in the name of that all-powerful God, who has [_] strengthened our arms that we have gained power over you, by our faith, by our religion, and by our rites of worship, and by our church, and by the sacred support which we owe to our wives and our children, [X]
[X_X_ _ _ _ _]

by that liberty which binds us to our lands and our country; yea, and also by the maintenance of the sacred word of God, to which we owe all our happiness; and by all that is most dear unto us—

⁶Yea, and this is not all; I command you by all the desires which ye have for life, that ye deliver up your weapons of war unto us, and we will seek not your blood, but we will spare your lives, if ye will go your [_] way [_] and come not again to war against us.

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& now if ye do not this behold ye are in our hands & I with command my men that they fall fall upon you & inflict the wounds of Death in your bodies that ye may become extinct & then we will see who shall have power over this People yea we will see who shall be brought into bondage

& now it came to pass that when Zerahemnah heard these sayings he came forth & delivered up his Simrt & his Simeta^r & his bow into the hands of Moroni & sayeth unto him behold here is ~~ew~~ our weapons of war we will deliver them up unto you & we will not suffer ourselves to take an oath unto you which we know that we shall brake & also arer children but take our weapons of war & suffer that we may depart into the wilderness otherwise we will retain our swords & we will perihh or conquer

behold we are not yf your faith we do not believe that it is God that hath delivered us into your hands but we believe that it y your cunning that hash preserved you from our Swords behold it is your bereastplates & your Sheeld^s that hath preserved you

& now when Zerahemnah had made an end of speaking these words Moroni returned the sword & the weapons of war which he had received unto Zerahemnah saying behold we will end the conflich

now I camoot retain the words which I have spoken therefore as the Lord liveth ye shall not depart except ye depart with an oath that ye will reot return again against us to war now as ye are en our hands we will spill your boood upon the ground or ye shall submit to the Conditoons to which I have proposed

& nor when Moroni had said these words Zerahemlah^e retained his sword & ◇◇◇◇◇ angary with Moroni & he rushed forwarr that he might slay Moroni but as he raised his sword behold one of Moronis ~~m~~ soldiers stote it even to the earth & as it brake by the hilt & he also soote Zerahemnah that he took off his Scalp & it fell to the earth & Zerahemnah withdrew from before them into the midst of hes Soldiers

⁷**And** now, if ye do not this, behold, ye are in our hands, **and** I will command my men that they **shall** fall upon you, **and** inflict the wounds of **death** in your **bodies**, that ye may become extinct; **and** then we will see who shall have power **over** this **people**; yea, we will see who shall be brought into bondage.

⁸**And** now it came to pass that when Zerahemnah **had** heard these sayings he came forth **and** delivered up his **sword** and his **cimeter**, **and** his bow into the hands of Moroni, **and said** unto him: **Behold**, here **are** [] our weapons of war; we will deliver them up unto you, **but** we will not suffer ourselves to take an oath unto you, which we know that we shall **break**, **and** also []our children; but take our weapons of war, **and** suffer that we may depart into the wilderness; **otherwise** we will retain our swords, **and** we will **perish** or conquer.

⁹**Behold**, we are not **of** your faith; we do not believe that it is God that has[] delivered us into your hands; but we believe that it **is** your cunning that has[] preserved you from our **swords**. **Behold**, it is your b[]reastplates **and** your **shields** that **have** preserved you.

¹⁰**And** now when Zerahemnah had made an end of speaking these words, Moroni returned the sword **and** the **weapons** of war, which he had received, **unto** Zerahemnah, saying: **Behold**, we will end the **conflict**.

¹¹Now I **cannot** **recall** the words which I have spoken, therefore as the Lord liveth, ye shall not depart except ye depart with an oath that ye will []not return again against us to war. **Now** as ye are **in** our hands we will spill your **blood** upon the ground, or ye shall submit to the **conditions** [X] which I have proposed.

¹²**And** **now** when Moroni had said these words, Zerahemnah[] retained his sword, **and he was** ang[]ry with Moroni, **and** he rushed forward that he might slay Moroni; but as he raised his sword, behold, one of Moroni's [] soldiers **smote** it even to the earth, **and** [X] it **broke** by the hilt; **and** he also **smote** Zerahemnah that he took off his **scalp** **and** it fell to the earth. **And** Zerahemnah withdrew from before them into the midst of **his** **soldiers**.

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& it came to pass that the Soldier which stood by
s which smote off the Scalp of Zerahemnah took up
the scalp from off the g ground by the hair &
laid it upon the point of his sword **230** & stretched it
forth unto them saying unto them with a loud voice
saying

even as this scalp has fallen to the earth which
is the

& Laman
they are Smitten & C.

Scalp of your Chief so shall ye fall to the earth
except ye ^{will} deliver up your weapons of war
& depart with a covenant of peace

now there were many when they heard these
words & saw the Scalp which was upon the
sword they were struck with fear & many came
forth & threw down their weapon of war at the
feet of Moroni & entered into a covenant of
peace & as many as entered into a covenant
they suffered to Depart into the wilderness

now it came to pass that Zerahemnah was
exceeding wroth & he did stir up the remainder
of his Souldiers to anger to contend more
powerfully against the Nephites

& now Moroni was angry because of the
stoberness of the Lamanites therefore he
commanded his people that they should fall
upon them & slay them & it came to pass
that they began to slay them yea & the
Lamanites did contend with their swords &
their might

but behold their naked skin^s & their
~~be~~^{bare} ~~ar~~^{bare} heads were exposed to
the sharp sword^s of the Nephites yea ^{behold}
they were pierced & smitten yea & did fall
exceeding fast before the swords of the Nephites
& they began to be swept down even as the
souldier of Moroni had prophesied

now Zerahemnah when he saw that they were
all about to be destroyed ∞∞ cried mightily unto
Moroni promising that he would covenant with
also his people with them if Moroni would
spare the remainder of their lives ~~whi~~ that they
never come & to war again against them

¹³And it came to pass that the soldier who stood by,
[] who smote off the scalp of Zerahemnah, took up
the scalp from off the [] ground by the hair, and
laid it upon the point of his sword, and stretched it
forth unto them, saying unto them with a loud voice
[X]:

¹⁴Even as this scalp has [] fallen to the earth, which
is the

[X X]
[X X X X]

scalp of your chief, so shall ye fall to the earth
except ye will deliver up your weapons of war
and depart with a covenant of peace.

¹⁵Now there were many, when they heard these
words and saw the scalp which was upon the
sword, that were struck with fear; and many came
forth and threw down their weapons of war at the
feet of Moroni, and entered into a covenant of
peace. And as many as entered into a covenant
they suffered to depart into the wilderness.

¹⁶Now it came to pass that Zerahemnah was
exceedingly wroth, and he did stir up the remainder
of his so []ldiers to anger, to contend more
powerfully against the Nephites.

¹⁷And now Moroni was angry, because of the
stubbornness of the Lamanites; therefore he
commanded his people [] that they should fall
upon them and slay them. And it came to pass
that they began to slay them; yea, and the
Lamanites did contend with their swords and
their might [].

¹⁸But behold, their naked skins and their
[]bare [] [] heads were ex []posed to
the sharp swords of the Nephites; yea, behold
they were pierced and smitten, yea, and did fall
exceedingly fast before the swords of the Nephites;
and they began to be swept down, even as the
so []ldier of Moroni had prophesied.

¹⁹Now Zerahemnah, w []hen he saw that they were
all about to be destroyed, [] cried mightily unto
Moroni, [] promis []ing that he would covenant [X]
and also his people with them, if []they would
spare the remainder of their lives, [] that they
never would come []to war again against them.

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& it came to pass that Moroni caused that the work of death should cease again among the People & it came to pass that he took the weapons of war from the Lamanites & after ~~th~~ they had entered into a covenant with him of peace they were suffered to depart into the wilderness

now the number of their dead were not numbered because of the greatness yf the number yea the number of their dead were exceding great both on the Nephites & on the Lamanites

& it came to pass that they did cast their dead ento the waters of Sedon & they have gone four~~th~~ & are buried in the debths of the Sea

& the armies of the Nephites or of Morone returned & came to hisr houses & their lands

& thus ended the eighteenth year of ree Reign of Juhe Judges over his peeple of Nephe & thus ended the Reckord of Alma which wros wrote upon hhe plates of Nephi

²⁰**And** it came to pass that Moroni caused that the work of death should cease again among the **people**. **And [X_X_X_X_X]** he took the **wea**pons of war from the Lamanites; **and** after [_] they had entered into a cove[_]nant with him of peace they were suffered to depart into the wilderness.

²¹**Now** the number of their dead **was** not numbered because of the greatness **of** the number; yea, the number of their dead **was** **exceedingly** great, both on the Nephites **and** on the Lamanites.

²²**And** it came to pass that they did cast their dead **into** the waters of **Sidon**, **and** they have gone fo[_]r~~th~~ **and** are buried in the **depths** of the **sea**.

²³**And** the armies of the Nephites, or of **Moroni**, returned **and** came to **their** houses **and** their lands.

²⁴**And** thus ended the eighteenth year of **the** reign of [_]**the** **judges** over **the** **peo**[_]ple of **Nephi**. **And** thus ended the **rec**[_]ord of Alma, which **wa**[_]s **written** upon **the** plates of **Nephi**.