

& now it came to pass that as soon as Ameleckiah had obtained the Kingdom he began to inspire the hearts of the Lamanites against the People of Nephi yea he did appoint<sup>men</sup> to speak unto the Lamanites from their towers against the Nephites

& thus he did inspire their hearts against the Nephites insomuch **289** that in the latter end of the nineteenth yea of the Reign of thee Judes he having accomplished hes designs therefore<sup>yea</sup> heving been made King over the Lamonites he sought also to Reign over all the land yea & all the People which were in the land the Npphites as well as the Lamanites

therefore he had accomplished his design for hee had hardened the hearts of the Lamanites & blinded therr minds & stired them up to angar inso much that he had gathered together a numerous hoast to go to Battle ggainst the Nephites

for he was determined because of the greatness of the number of his People to over power the Nephites & to bring them into bondage

& thus he did appoint ~~Cap~~ Chief Captains of the Zorametes they being the most acquainted whichth the strength of the Nep~~eh~~ites & their places of resort & the weakest ports of their City Cities therefore he appointed them to be chief Captains over his armies

& it came p pass that they took their camp & moved forth towards the land of Zarahemla in the wilderness

now it came to pass that while Ameleckiah had thus been obtaining Power by fraud & deceit moroni on the other hand had been a preparing the minds of the People to be faithful unto the Lord their Lod

**CHAPTER 48**

*Amalickiah incites the Lamanites against the Nephites—Moroni prepares his people to defend the cause of the Christians—He rejoices in liberty and freedom and is a mighty man of God. About 72 B.C.*

<sup>1</sup>**And** now it came to pass that, as soon as Amalickiah had obtained the kingdom he began to inspire the hearts of the Lamanites against the people of Nephi; yea, he did appoint[ ] men to speak unto the Lamanites from their towers, against the Nephites.

<sup>2</sup>**And** thus he did inspire their hearts against the Nephites, insomuch that in the latter end of the nineteenth year of the reign of the[ ] judges, he hav[ ]ing accomplished his designs thus far, yea, having been made king over the Lamanites, he sought also to reign over all the land, yea, and all the people who were in the land, the Nephites as well as the Lamanites.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore he had accomplished his design, for he[ ] had h[ ]ardened the hearts of the Lamanites and blinded their minds, and stirred them up to anger, inso[ ]much that he had gathered together a numerous ho[ ]st to go to battle against the Nephites.

<sup>4</sup>For he was determined, because of the greatness of the number of his people, to over[ ]power the Nephites and to bring them into bondage.

<sup>5</sup>**And** thus he did appoint [ ] chief captains of the Zoramites, they being the most acquainted w[ ]i[ ]th the strength of the Nep[ ]hites, and their places of resort, and the weakest parts of their [X] cities; therefore he appointed them to be chief captains over his armies.

<sup>6</sup>**And** it came to pass that they took their camp, and moved forth toward[ ] the land of Zarahemla in the wilderness.

<sup>7</sup>Now it came to pass that while Amalickiah had thus been obtaining power by fraud and deceit, Moroni, on the other hand, had been [X] prepar[ ]ing the minds of the people to be faithful unto the Lord their God.

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yea had been streng thening the armies of the Nephites & erecting small forts or places of resort throwing up Banks of earth round about to ensercle his armies & also building walls of stone to ensercle them about around about their Citees & the borders of their lands yea all round about the land

& in their weakest fortifications he did place the greater <sup>number-of</sup> ~~men~~ number of men & thus he did fortify & strengthen the land which was possessed by the Nephites

& thus he was preparing to support their liberty there lands their wives & their children & their peace & that they might live unto the Lord their God & that they might maintain that which was called by their enemies the cause of Chrestions

& Moroni was a strong & a mighty man he was a mon of a <sup>perfect understanding</sup> ~~the Nephites are compe~~ yea & man that deid not delight in bloodshed a man whose soul did joy in the liberty & the freedom of his country & his brethren from bondage & slavery

yea a man whose heart did swell with thanks giving to his God for the many privileges & Blessings ~~he~~ which he bestowed upon his people a man who did labour excedingly for the welfare & tafty of hes People

yea & he was a **290** man who was firm in the faith of Christ & he had sworn with an oath to defend his People his rights & his country & his religion even to the loss of his Blood

now the Nephites were taught to defend themselves against their enemies even to the sheading bf blood even if it were necessary yea & they were also taught rever to geve an offence yea & never to raise the sword except it were against an enemy except it were to preserve their lives

& this was their faith that by so doing Goo would prosper them in the land or in other words if they were faithful en keeping the commondmente of God that he would prosper them in the land yea worn them to flee or be prepare for war according to their danger

<sup>8</sup>Yea, **he** had been streng[ ]thening the armies of the Nephites, **and** erecting small forts, or places of resort; **throwing up** [ ] banks of earth round about to **enclose** his armies, **and** also building walls of stone to encircle them about, [ ]round about their **cities and** the borders of their lands; yea, all round about the land.

<sup>9</sup>**And** in their weakest fortifications he did place the greater [X\_X] [X] number of men; **and** thus he did fortify **and** strengthen the land which was possessed by the Nephites.

<sup>10</sup>**And** thus he was prepa[ ]ring to support their **liberty, their** lands, **their** wives, **and** their children, **and** their peace, **and** that they might live unto the Lord their God, **and** that they might maintain that which was called by their enemies the cause of **Christians.**

<sup>11</sup>**And** Moroni was a strong **and** a mighty man; he was a man of a **perfect understanding;** [X\_X\_X\_ \_ \_ \_ \_] yea, **a** man that d[ ]id not delight in bloodshed; a man whose soul did joy in the liberty **and** the freedom of his country, **and** his brethren from bondage **and** slavery;

<sup>12</sup>Yea, a man whose heart did swell with [ ] thanks [ ]giving to his God, for the many privileges **and** blessings [X] which he bestowed upon his people; a man who did labo[ ]r excedingly for the wel[ ]fare **and** safety of his **people.**

<sup>13</sup>Yea, **and** he was a man who was firm in the faith of Christ, **and** he had sworn with an oath to defend his **people, his** rights, **and** his country, **and** his religion, even to the loss of his **blood.**

<sup>14</sup>Now the Nephites were taught to defend themselves against their enemies, even to the **shedding of blood** [X] if it were necessary; yea, **and** they were also taught **never to give an offense,** yea, **and** never to raise the sword except it were against an enemy, except it were to preserve their lives.

<sup>15</sup>**And** this was their faith, that by so doing **God** would prosper them in the land, or in other words, if they were faithful **in** keeping the **commandments** of God that he would prosper them in the land; yea, **warn** them to flee, or **to** prepare for war, according to their danger;

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& also that God would make et known unto them whither they should go to defend themselves against their enemies & by so doing the Lord would deliver them & this was the faith of Moroni & his heart of did glory in it not in the sheading of blood but in doing good in preservereing his Peopee yea in keeping the commandments of God yea & resisteng eniquity

yea verily verily I say unto you if all men had been & were & ever would be like unto Moroni behold the verry power<sup>s</sup> ff Hell would have been shaken forever yea the Devil would never have no power over the hearts of the Children of men

Behold he was a mon like unto Ameen the Son of Mosiah yea & even the other Sons of Mosiah yea & also Almon & his Sons for they were all men of God

now behold Helamon & his Bretheen were not less serviseble unto the People then was Moreni for they did Preach the word of God & they did Baptise unto repentance all men whosoever would hearken unto their words

& thus they went fortt & the People did humble themselves because of their words insomuch that they were highly favored of the Lord & thus they were free from wars & contentions among themselves yea even for the space of four years

but as I have said in the latter end of the nineteenth year notwithstanding their peace amongst themselves they <sup>w</sup>were<sup>as</sup> compeled reluctantly to contend with their Brethren the Lamonites

yea & en fene their wars never did cease for the space of mony years with the Lamonites notwithstanding their much reluctonce

now they were sorry to take up arms against the Lamanites because they did not delight in the shadding **291** of Blood yea & this was wot all they <sup>w</sup>were<sup>s</sup> sorry to be the means of sending so mony of their Brethren out of this world <sup>world</sup> go to the Cety of Ammonihah into an eternal world unprepared to meet their God

<sup>16</sup>**And** also, that God would make **it** known unto them whither they should go to defend themselves against their enemies, **and** by so doing, the Lord would deliver them; **and** this was the faith of Moroni, **and** his heart **[X]** did glory in it; not in the **shed**ding of blood but in doing good, in preserv[ ]ing his **pe**ople, yea, in keeping the commandments of God, yea, **and** resist**ing** iniquity.

<sup>17</sup>**Y**ea, verily, verily I say unto you, if all men had been, **and** were, **and** ever would be, like unto Moroni, behold, the ver[ ]y powers of **hell** would have been shaken forever; yea, the **devil** would never have **[X]** power over the hearts of the **children** of men.

<sup>18</sup>**B**ehold, he was a **man** like unto **Ammon**, the son of Mosiah, yea, **and** even the other **sons** of Mosiah, yea, **and** also **Alma**[ ] **and** his **sons**, for they were all men of God.

<sup>19</sup>**N**ow behold, **Helaman** **and** his **brethren** were no[ ] less **servic**eable unto the **pe**ople **than** was **Moroni**; for they did **pre**ach the word of God, **and** they did **baptize** unto **repentance** all men whosoever would hearken unto their words.

<sup>20</sup>**A**nd thus they went forth, **and** the **pe**ople did humble themselves **because** of their words, insomuch that they were highly favored of the [ ] **Lord**, **and** thus they were free from wars **and** contentions among themselves, yea, even for the space of four years.

<sup>21</sup>**B**ut, as I have said, in the latter end of the nineteenth year, **yea**, notwithstanding their peace amongst themselves, they [ ]**were**[ ] compelled reluctantly to contend with their **brethren**, the **Lamanites**.

<sup>22</sup>**Y**ea, **and** in **fine**, their wars never did cease for the space of **many** years with the **Lamanites**, **notwithstanding** their much **reluctance**.

<sup>23</sup>**N**ow, they were sorry to take up arms against the **Lamanites**, because they did not delight in the **shed**ding of **blood**; yea, **and** this was **not** all—they [ ]**were**[ ] sorry to be the means of sending so **many** of their **brethren** out of this **[X]** **world** **[X\_X\_X\_ \_ \_ \_ \_X\_X]** into an eternal world, unprepared to meet their God.

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nevertheless they could not suffer to lay down their lives that their wives & their children should be massacred by the barbarous cruelty of those who was once their Brethren yea & had desented from their church & had left them & had gone to destroy ~~th~~<sup>them</sup>e by joining the Lamanites

yea they could not bare that their Brethren should rejoice over the blood of the Nephites so long as there were any who should keep the<sup>s</sup> commandments of God for the promises of the Lord were if they should keep his commandments they should prosper in the land

<sup>24</sup>Nevertheless, they could not suffer to lay down their lives, that their wives **and** their children should be massacre~~[ ]~~d by the barbarous cruelty of those who **were** once their brethren, yea, **and** had dissented from their church, **and** had left them **and** had gone to destroy ~~[ ]~~them~~[ ]~~ by joining the Lamanites.

<sup>25</sup>Yea, they could not bear that their brethren should rejoice over the blood of the Nephites, so long as there were any who should ke~~[ ]~~ep the~~[ ]~~ commandments of God, for the promise~~[ ]~~ of the Lord **was**, if they should keep his commandments they should prosper in the land.