

now it came to pass that when Moroni had received this Epistle he was more angary because he ke^w that Ammoron had a perfect knowledge of his fraud yea he knew that Amooron knew that it was not a just cause that he had caused him to wedge a war ggainst the People of Nephi

& he said behold I will not exchange Prisoners with Ammoron save he will withdraw his purpose as I have stated en my epistle for I nill not grant into him that he shall have any more power than what he hath gat

behold I know the place where the Lamanites doth guard my People which they have taken Prisoners & as Ammoron would not grant unto me mine epistle behold I will give iunto him according to my words yea I will seek dedth among ther untill they shall sue^{sue} for peace

& now it came to pass & that when Moroni had said these words he caused that a search should be made among his men that perhaps he might find a man which was a desendants of Lamm^{Laman}an among them

& th t came to pass that they found one whose name nas Lamm^{Laman}an & he was one of the Servants of the King which was murdered by Ameleckiah

now Moroni caused that Lamam & a small number of his men should go forth unto th~~h~~ the guards which were over the Nephites

now the Nephites were guarded in the City of Gid therefore Moroni caused that Lamam & a small number of men which was appointed to go with him.

& it came to pass that when it was evening Laman went to the guards which were over the Nephites & behold they saw him a comeing & they hailed him but he sayeth unto him~~m~~ them hear not behold I am a Lamanites behold we have escaped from the Nephites & they seeepeth & behold we have took of their wine & brought with us

CHAPTER 55

Moroni refuses to exchange prisoners—The Lamanite guards are enticed to become drunk, and the Nephite prisoners are freed—The city of Gid is taken without bloodshed. About 63–62 B.C.

¹Now it came to pass that when Moroni had received this epistle he was more ang[]ry, because he knew that Ammoron had a perfect knowledge of his fraud; yea, he knew that Ammoron knew that it was not a just cause that [X] had caused him[] to wa[]ge a war against the people of Nephi.

²And he said: Behold, I will not exchange prisoners with Ammoron save he will withdraw his purpose, as I have stated in my epistle; for I will not grant u[]nto him that he shall have any more power than what he hath got.

³Behold, I know the place where the Lamanites do[] guard my people whom they have taken prisoners; and as Ammoron would not grant unto me mine epistle, behold, I will give []unto him according to my words; yea, I will seek death among them until[] they shall [X]sue for peace.

⁴And now it came to pass [X] that when Moroni had said these words, he caused that a search should be made among his men, that perhaps he might find a man who was a descendant[] of []Laman[] among them.

⁵And [] it came to pass that they found one, whose name was []Laman[]; and he was one of the servants of the king who was murdered by Amalickiah.

⁶Now Moroni caused that Laman and a small number of his men should go forth unto [] the guards who were over the Nephites.

⁷Now the Nephites were guarded in the city of Gid; therefore Moroni appointed [X] Laman and caused that a small number of men [X] should [X_X] go with him.

⁸And [X_X_X_X_X] when it was evening Laman went to the guards who were over the Nephites, and behold, they saw him [X] com[]ing and they hailed him; but he saith unto [X] them: Fear not; behold, I am a Lamanite[]. Behold, we have escaped from the Nephites, and they sleep[]; and behold we have taken of their wine and brou[]ght with us.

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now when the Lamanites heard these words they received him with joy & they said unto him give us of your wine that we may drink
~~were~~^{we are} ~~are~~ glad that ye have thus taken wine with you for we are weary

but Laman sayeth ~~un~~ unto them let us keep of our wine till we go agaenst the Nephites to Battle but this saying only made them more desireous to drink of the wine

for said they we are weary therefore let us take of the wine & by t by we shall receive wine for our rasons which will strengthen us to go against the Nephites

& thaman sayeth unto them you may do according to your desires

& it came to pass that they did ~~tak~~ take of the wine freely & it was pleasant to their taste
~~ef~~therefore they took of it more freely & it was strong haveing been prepared in its strength

& it came to pass they did dring & were merry **308** & by th by they were all drunken

& now ween Laman & his men saw that they were all drunken & were in
Gid by stratigem &C
a deep sleep they returned to Moroni & told him all the things that had happened

& now this was according to the design of Moroni & Morone had prepared his men with weapons of war & he went to City Gid while the Lama^{nites} were in a deep sleep & ~~th~~ drunken & catt in the weopons of war unto the prisoners insomuch that they were all armed

yea even to their women & all those of there
~~ch~~ildren as many as were able to use a weapon of war when Moroni had armed all those prisoners & all those things were done in a profound silence

but had they awoke the Lamanites behold they were drunken & the Nephites could have slain them

⁹Now when the Lamanites heard these words they received him with joy; **and** they said unto him: Give u[_]s of your wine, that we may drink;
[_ _] **we are**[_ _X] glad that ye have thus taken wine with you for we are weary.

¹⁰But Laman **said** [_ _] unto them: Let us keep of our wine till we go against the Nephites to **battle**.
But this saying only made them more desir[_]ous to drink of the wine;

¹¹For, said they: We are weary, therefore let us take of the wine, **and** by **and** by we shall receive wine for our **rat**ions, which will strengthen us to go against the Nephites.

¹²**And** [_]Laman **said** unto them: You may do according to your desires.

¹³**And** it came to pass that they did [_ _] take of the wine freely; **and** it was pleasant to their taste, [_]therefore they took of it more freely; **and** it was strong, hav[_]ing been prepared in its strength.

¹⁴**And** it came to pass they did drink **and** were merry, **and** by **and** by they were all drunken.

¹⁵**And** now when Laman **and** his men saw that they were all drunken, **and** were in
[X_X_-----X_] a deep sleep, they returned to Moroni **and** told him all the things that had **happ**ened.

¹⁶**And** now this was according to the design of Moroni. **And** Moroni had prepared his men with weapons of war; **and** he went to **the city Gid**, while the Lamanites were in a deep sleep **and** [_ _] drunken, **and** cast in [X] weapons of war unto the prisoners, insomuch that they were all armed;

¹⁷Yea, even to their women, **and** all those of **their** children, as many as were able to use a weapon of war, when Moroni had armed all those prisoners; **and** all those things were done in a profound silence.

¹⁸But had they **awaken**ed the Lamanites, behold they were drunken **and** the Nephites could have slain them.

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but behold this ~~w~~ was not the desire of Moroni he did not delight in murder or blood shed but he delighted in the saveing of his People from destructeon & for this cause that he might not bring upon him injustice he would not fall upon the Lamanites & destroy them in their drunkeness

but he had obtainet his desire for he had armed those prisoners of the Nephites which were within the walls of the city & had gae them power to gain fousseseon of those parts which were within the walls

& then he caused his men which were with him to withdraw a pace from them & surround the armies of the Lamanites

now behold this was done in the night time so that when the Lamanites awoke in the morning they behedd that they were surrounded by the Nephites without & that their Presoners were armed within

& thus they saw that he Nepiites had power over them & in these circumstances they found that it were not expedient that they should fight Nith the Nephites; therefore their Chief Captairs temanded their weapons of war & they brought them forth & cast them at the feet of the Nephetes pleadeng for mercy

now dehold thes was the desere of Moroni he took them Prisoners of war & took possession of the City & caused that all the Prisoners should be lileerated which were Nephites & they did join the army of Morone & were a great strength to his army

& it came to pass that he did cause the Lamanites which he had taken Prisoners that they shoult commence a labour in strengthening the fortifications round about the city Gid

& it came to pass that wher he had fortiefied the city Gid accord'ng to hss desires he caused that his Prisoners should be taken to h the City Bouttiful & he also guarded that city with an exceding strong force

h it came to pass that they did notwithstanding all the intreagues of the Lamanites keep a protech all the Prisoners which they had taken & also maintain all the ground & the advandage which they had retaken

¹⁹But behold, this [] was not the desire of Moroni; he did not delight in murder or blood []shed, but he delighted in the sav[]ing of his people from destruction; and for this cause [X] he might not bring upon him injustice, he would not fall upon the Lamanites and destroy them in their drunkenness.

²⁰But he had obtained his desires; for he had armed those prisoners of the Nephites who were within the wall [] of the city, and had given them power to gain possession of those parts which were within the walls.

²¹And then he caused the men who were with him to withdraw a pace from them, and surround the armies of the Lamanites.

²²Now behold this was done in the night-time, so that when the Lamanites awoke in the morning they beheld that they were surrounded by the Nephites without, and that their prisoners were armed within.

²³And thus they saw that the Nephites had power over them; and in these circumstances they found that it was not expedient that they should fight with the Nephites; [] therefore their chief captains demanded their weapons of war, and they brought them forth and cast them at the feet of the Nephites, pleading for mercy.

²⁴Now behold, this was the desire of Moroni. He took them prisoners of war, and took possession of the city, and caused that all the prisoners should be lib[]erated, who were Nephites; and they did join the army of Moroni, and were a great strength to his army.

²⁵And it came to pass that he did cause the Lamanites, whom he had taken prisoners, that they should commence a labo[]r in strengthening the fortifications round about the city Gid.

²⁶And it came to pass that when he had fortified the city Gid, according to his desires, he caused that his prisoners should be taken to [] the city Bountiful; and he also guarded that city with an exceedingly strong force.

²⁷And it came to pass that they did, notwithstanding all the intri[]gues of the Lamanites, keep and protect all the prisoners whom they had taken, and also maintain all the ground and the advantage which they had retaken.

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& it came to pass that the Nephites began again to be tectorious ~~over~~ & to Helaman sends an Epistle ~~Pre~~claim their retes & their privileges

many times did the Lamaites attempt to enclcle them about by night but in these attenpts they did lose many Prisoners

& many times did they attempt to administer of their wine to the Npphites **309** that they might destroy them with poison or with drunkenness

but behold the Nephites were not slow to remember the Lord their God in this their times ff af^aflection they could not be taken in their snares yea they would not partake of their wine yea they would not take of wine save they had firstly given to some of the Lamanites Presoners

& they wer thus cauteous that no poison should be administered among them for if their wine would Poison a Lamanite it would also Poiron a Nephete & thus they did try all their liquors

& now it came to pass that it was expedient for Moroni to make prep^erateons to attackt the city Morianton for behold the Lamanites had by their labours fortified the city Morionton until it had become an excedeng strong hold

& they were continually bringing new forces into that Cety & also new supplees of Provesions

& thus ended the twenty & ninth ~~teentt~~ year of the Reign of the Judges over the People of Nephi

²⁸**And** it came to pass that the Nephites began again to be victorious, [_ _ _] **and** to [X_X_X_ _ _ _ _ _] [_ _ _]reclaim their **rights and** their privileges.

²⁹**Many** times did the Lamanites attempt to encircle them about by night, but in these attempt**s** they did lose many **prisoners**.

³⁰**And** many times did they attempt to administer of their wine to the Nephites, that they might destroy them with poison or with drunkenness.

³¹**But** behold, the Nephites were not slow to remember the Lord their God in this their time[] of af[]fliction. **They** could not be taken in their snares; yea, they would not partake of their wine, [X_X_X_X_X_X_X] save they had first[] given to some of the Lamanite[] **prisoners**.

³²**And** they were thus cautious that no poison should be administered among them; for if their wine would **poison** a Lamanite it would also **poison** a Nephite; **and** thus they did try all their liquors.

³³**And** now it came to pass that it was expedient for Moroni to make prepar**ations** to attack[] the city Morianton; for behold, the Lamanites had, by their labo[]rs, fortified the city Morianton until it had become an exceed**ing** strong[]hold.

³⁴**And** they were continually bringing new forces into that **city, and** also new supplies of **provisions**.

³⁵**And** thus ended the twenty **and** ninth [_ _ _ _ _] year of the **reign** of the **judges** over the **people** of Nephi.