

& now it came to pass that when Nephi had said these words behold there were men which were Judges which also belon^gd to the secret band of Gadianton & they were angry & they cried out against him saying unto the people why do ye not seaze upon this man & bring him forth that he may be condemned according to the crime which he hath done

why seest thou this man & hearest him revile against this people & against our law

for behold Nephi had spoken unto them concerning the corruptness of their law yea many things did Nephi speak which can not be written & nothing did he speak which were conterary to the commandments of God

& those Judges were angry with him because he spake plane unto them concerning their secret works of darkness nevertheless they dearest not lay their own hands upon him for they feared the people lest they should cry out against them

therefore they did cry unto the people saying why do ye suffer this man to revile against us for behold he doth condemn all this people even unto destruction yea & a^lso^lso that these our great cities shall be taken from us that we shall have no place in them

& now we know that this is impossible for behold we are powerful & our cities great therefore our enemies can have no power over~~power~~ us

now it came to pass that thus **347** they did stir up the people to anger against Nephi & raised contentions among them for there were some which did cry out let this man alone for he a good man & those things which he saith ~~w~~^{will} surely come to pass except we repent

CHAPTER 8

Corrupt judges seek to incite the people against Nephi—Abraham, Moses, Zenos, Zenock, Ezias, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lehi, and Nephi all testified of Christ—By inspiration Nephi announces the murder of the chief judge. About 23–21 B.C.

¹**And** now it came to pass that when Nephi had said these words, behold, there were men **who** were judges, **who** also belonged to the secret band of Gadianton, **and** they were angry, **and** they cried out against him, saying unto the people: **Why** do ye not **seize** upon this man **and** bring him forth, that he may be condemned according to the crime which he has ~~]~~ done?

²**Why** seest thou this man, **and** hearest him revile against this people **and** against our law?

³**For** behold, Nephi had spoken unto them concerning the corruptness of their law; yea, many things did Nephi speak which can ~~]~~ not be written; **and** nothing did he speak which **was** cont ~~]~~rary to the commandments of God.

⁴**And** those judges were angry with him because he spake **plainly** unto them concerning their secret works of darkness; nevertheless, they **du** ~~]~~rst not lay their own hands upon him, for they feared the people lest they should cry out against them.

⁵Therefore they did cry unto the people, saying: **Why** do **you** suffer this man to revile against us? **For** behold he doth condemn all this people, even unto destruction; yea, **and** ~~]~~also ~~_ _]~~ that these our great cities shall be taken from us, that we shall have no place in them.

⁶**And** now we know that this is impossible, for behold, we are powerful, **and** our cities great, therefore our enemies can have no power over ~~]~~ us.

⁷**And** it came to pass that thus they did stir up the people to anger against Nephi, **and** raised contentions among them; for there were some **who** did cry out: **Let** this man alone, for he **is** a good man, **and** those things which he sai ~~]~~th ~~]~~**will** ~~_ _]~~ surely come to pass except we repent;

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yea behold all the Judgments will come upon us which he hath testified unto us for we know that he hath testified aright unto us concerning our iniquities & behold they are many & he knoweth as well all things which shall befall us as he knoweth of our iniquities

yea & behold if he had not been a prophet he could not have testified concerning those things

& it came to pass that those people which sought to destroy Nephi were compelled because of their fear that they did not lay their hands on him therefore he began again to speak unto them seeing that he had gained favour in the eyes of some insomuch that the remainder of them did fear

therefore he was constrained to speak more unto them saying Behold my brethren have ye not read that God gave power unto one man even Moses to smite upon the waters of the Red Sea & they departed hither & thither insomuch that the Israelites which were our fathers came through upon dry ground & the waters closed upon the armies of the Egyptians & swallowed them up

& now behold if God gave unto this man such power then why should ye dispute among yourselves & say that he hath given unto me no power whereby I may know concerning the Judgments that shall come upon you except ye repent

but behold ye not only deny my words but ye also deny all the words which hath been spoken by our fathers & also the words which was spoken by this man Moses which has such great power given unto him yea the words which he hath spoken concerning the coming of Messiah

yea did he not bear record that the Son of God should come & as he lifted up the Brazen Serpant in the wilderness even so should he be lifted up which should come

& as many as should look upon that Serpant should live even so as many as should look upon the Son of God with faith having a contrite spirit might live even unto that life which is eternal

& now behold Moses did not only testify of these things but also all the holy prophets from his day even to the days of Abraham

⁸Yea, behold, all the judgments will come upon us which he has[] testified unto us; for we know that he has[] testified aright unto us concerning our iniquities. **And** behold they are many, **and** he knoweth as well all things which shall befall us as he knoweth of our iniquities;

⁹Yea, **and** behold, if he had not been a prophet he could not have testified concerning those things.

¹⁰**And** it came to pass that those people **who** sought to destroy Nephi were compelled because of their fear, that they did not lay their hands on him; therefore he began again to speak unto them, seeing that he had gained favo[]r in the eyes of some, insomuch that the remainder of them did fear.

¹¹**T**herefore he was constrained to speak more unto them saying: Behold, my brethren, have ye not read that God gave power unto one man, even Moses, to smite upon the waters of the Red Sea, **and** they []parted hither **and** thither, insomuch that the Israelites, **who** were our fathers, came through upon dry ground, **and** the waters closed upon the armies of the Egyptians **and** swallowed them up?

¹²**And** now behold, if God gave unto this man such power, then why should ye dispute among yourselves, **and** say that he hath given unto me no power whereby I may know concerning the judgments that shall come upon you except ye repent?

¹³**B**ut, behold, ye not only deny my words, but ye also deny all the words which have been spoken by our fathers, **and** also the words which were spoken by this man, Moses, **who** had such great power given unto him, yea, the words which he hath spoken concerning the coming of **the** Messiah.

¹⁴Yea, did he not bear record that the Son of God should come? **And** as he lifted up the brazen serpent in the wilderness, even so **shall** he be lifted up **who** should come.

¹⁵**And** as many as should look upon that serpent should live, even so as many as should look upon the Son of God with faith, having a contrite spirit, might live, even unto that life which is eternal.

¹⁶**And** now behold, Moses did not only testify of these things, but also all the holy prophets, from his days even to the days of Abraham.

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yea & behold Abraham saw of his coming & was filled with ~~g~~ gladness & did rejoice

yea & behold I say unto you that Abraham not only knew of these things but there were many before the days of Abraham which were called by the order of God yea even after the order of his Son & this that it should be shewn unto the people a great many thousand years before his coming that even redemption should come unto them

& now I would that ye should know that even since the days of Abraham ~~that~~ there hath been many prophets that hath testified these things yea behold the prophet Zenos did testify boldly for the which he was slain

& behold also Zenock & also Ezaiah & also Isaiah & Jeremiah Jeremiah being that same prophet which testified of the destruction of Jerusalem & now we know that Jerusalem was destroyed according to the words of Jeremiah O then why **348** not the Son of God come according to his prophecy

& now will ye dispute that Jerusalem was not destroyed will ye say that the Sons of Zedekiah were not slain all except it were Mulek yea & do ye not behold that the seed of Zedekiah are with us & they were driven out of the land of Jerusalem but behold this is not all

our father Lehi was driven out of Jerusalem because he testified of these things Nephi also testified of these things & also almost all of our fathers even down to this time yea they have testified of the coming of Christ & have looked forward & have rejoiced in his day which is to come

& behold he is God & he is with them & he did manifest himself unto them that they were redeemed by him & they gave unto him glory because of that which is to come

& now seeing ye know these things & cannot deny them except ye shall lie therefore in this ye have sined for ye have rejected all these things notwithstanding so many evidences which ye have received yea even ye have received all things both things in Heaven & all things which are in earth as a witness that they are true

¹⁷**Yea, and** behold, Abraham saw of his coming, **and** was filled with gladness **and** did rejoice.

¹⁸**Yea, and** behold I say unto you, that Abraham not only knew of these things, but there were many before the days of Abraham **who** were called by the order of God; yea, even after the order of his Son; **and** this that it should be shown unto the people, a great many thousand years before his coming, that even redemption should come unto them.

¹⁹**And** now I would that ye should know, that even since the days of Abraham there **have** been many prophets that **have** testified these things; yea, behold, the prophet Zenos did testify boldly; for the which he was slain.

²⁰**And** behold, also Zenock, **and** also Ezias, **and** also Isaiah, **and** Jeremiah, (Jeremiah being that same prophet **who** testified of the destruction of Jerusalem) **and** now we know that Jerusalem was destroyed according to the words of Jeremiah. O then why not the Son of God come, according to his prophecy?

²¹**And** now will **you** dispute that Jerusalem was destroyed? **Will** ye say that the **sons** of Zedekiah were not slain, all except it were Mulek? **Yea, and** do ye not behold that the seed of Zedekiah are with us, **and** they were driven out of the land of Jerusalem? **But** behold, this is not all—

²²**Our** father Lehi was driven out of Jerusalem because he testified of these things. Nephi also testified of these things, **and** also almost all of our fathers, even down to this time; yea, they have testified of the coming of Christ, **and** have looked forward, **and** have rejoiced in his day which is to come.

²³**And** behold, he is God, **and** he is with them, **and** he did manifest himself unto them, that they were redeemed by him; **and** they gave unto him glory, because of that which is to come.

²⁴**And** now, seeing ye know these things **and** cannot deny them except ye shall lie, therefore in this ye have sinned, for ye have rejected all these things, notwithstanding so many evidences which ye have received; yea, even ye have received all things, both things in **heaven**, **and** all things which are in **the** earth, as a witness that they are true.

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but behold ye have rejected the truth & rebelled against your holy God & even at this time instead of laying up for yourselves treasures in Heaven where nothing doth corrupt & where nothing can come which is unclean heaping up for yourselves wrath against the day of Judgment

yea even at this time ye are ripening because of your murders & your fornication & wickedness for everlasting destruction yea & except ye repent it will come unto you soon

yea behold it is now even at your doors yea go ye in unto the Judgmentseat & search & behold your Judge is murdered & he lieth in his blood & he hath been murdered by his brother who seeketh to sit in the Judgmentseat

& ^{behold} they both belong to your secret band whose author is Gadianton & the evil one which seeketh to destroy the souls of men

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²⁵**But** behold, ye have rejected the truth, **and** rebelled against your holy God; **and** even at this time, instead of laying up for yourselves treasures in **h**eaven, where nothing doth corrupt, **and** where nothing can come which is unclean, **ye are** heaping up for yourselves wrath against the day of **j**udgment.

²⁶**Yea**, even at this time ye are ripening, because of your murders **and** your fornication **and** wickedness, for everlasting destruction; yea, **and** except ye repent it will come unto you soon.

²⁷**Yea**, behold it is now even at your doors; yea, go ye in unto the **j**udgment-seat, **and** search; **and** behold, your **j**udge is murdered, **and** he lieth in his blood; **and** he hath been murdered by his brother, who seeketh to sit in the **j**udgment-seat.

²⁸**And behold**, they both belong to your secret band, whose author is Gadianton **and** the evil one **who** seeketh to destroy the souls of men.