

behold now it came to pass that when Nephi had spoken these words certain men which were among them ran to the Judgmentseat yea even there were five which went & they said among themselves as they went

behold now we will know of a surety whether this man be a prophet & God hath commanded him to prophesy such marvelous things unto us behold we do not believe that he hath yea we do not believe that he is a prophet nevertheless if this thing which he hath said concerning the chief Judge be true that he be dead then will we believe that the other words which he hath spoken ið true

& it came to pass that they ran in their might & came in unto the Judgmentseat & behold the chief Judge had fallen to the earth & did lie in his blood

& now behold when they saw this they were astonished exceedingly insomuch that they fell to the earth for they had not believed the words which Nephi had spoken concerning the Chief Judge

but now when they saw they believed & fear came upon them lest all the Judgments which Nephi had spoken should come upon the people therefore they did quake & had fallen to the earth

now immediately when the Judge had been murdered he being stabbed by his brother by a garb of secrecy & he fled & the servants ran & told the people raising the cry of murder among them

& **349** behold the people did gather themselves together unto the place of the Judgmentseat & behold to their astonishment they saw those five men which had fallen to the earth

& now behold the people knew nothing concerning the multitude which had gathered together at the garden of Nephi therefore they said among themselves these men are they which have murdered the Judge & God hath smitten them that they could not flee from us

CHAPTER 9

Messengers find the chief judge dead at the judgment seat—They are imprisoned and later released—By inspiration Nephi identifies Seantum as the murderer—Nephi is accepted by some as a prophet. About 23–21 B.C.

¹Behold, now it came to pass that when Nephi had spoken these words, certain men **who** were among them ran to the **judgment-seat**; yea, even there were five **who** went, **and** they said among themselves, as they went:

²Behold, now we will know of a surety whether this man be a prophet **and** God hath commanded him to prophesy such marvelous things unto us. Behold, we do not believe that he hath; yea, we do not believe that he is a prophet; nevertheless, if this thing which he has[] said concerning the chief **judge** be true, that he be dead, then will we believe that the other words which he has[] spoken **are** true.

³**And** it came to pass that they ran in their might, **and** came in unto the **judgment-seat**; **and** behold, the chief **judge** had fallen to the earth, **and** did lie in his blood.

⁴**And** now behold, when they saw this they were astonished exceedingly, insomuch that they fell to the earth; for they had not believed the words which Nephi had spoken concerning the **chief judge**.

⁵But now, when they saw they believed, **and** fear came upon them lest all the **judgments** which Nephi had spoken should come upon the people; therefore they did quake, **and** had fallen to the earth.

⁶Now, immediately when the **judge** had been murdered—he being stabbed by his brother by a garb of secrecy, **and** he fled, **and** the servants ran **and** told the people, raising the cry of murder among them;

⁷**And** behold the people did gather themselves together unto the place of the **judgment-seat**—**and** behold, to their astonishment they saw those five men **who** had fallen to the earth.

⁸**And** now behold, the people knew nothing concerning the multitude **who** had gathered together at the garden of Nephi; therefore they said among themselves: **These men are they who** have murdered the **judge**, **and** God has[] smitten them that they could not flee from us.

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& it came to pass that they laid hold on them & bound them & cast them into prison & there was a proclamation sent abroad that the Judge was slain & that the murderers had been ^{taken} & was cast into prison

& it came to pass that on the morrow the people did assemble ^{them} ^{themselves} together to mourn & to fast at the buriel of the great & chief Judge which had been slain

& thus were also those Judges which were at the garden of Nephi & heard his words were also gathered together at the buriel

& it came to pass that they inquired among the people saying where are the five which was sent to inquire concerning the chief Judge whither he was dead & they answered & said concerning this five which ye say ye have sent we know not but there are five which are the murderers whom we have cast into prison

& it came to pass that the Judges desired that they should be brought & they were brought & behold they were the five which were sent & behold they Judges inquired of them to know concerning the matter & they told them all they they had done saying

we ran & came to the place of the Judgmentseat & when we saw all things even as Nephi had testified we were astonished insomuch that we fell to the earth & when we were recovered from our astonishment ^{that} ^{behold} ^t ^{we} ^{fel} ^t ^{they} ^{cast} ^{to} ^{the} ^{us} ^{into} earth prison

now as for the murder of this man we know not who hath done it & only this much we know we ran & came according as ye desired & behold he was dead according to the words of Nephi

& now it came to pass that the Judges did expound the matter unto the people & did cry ^{out} against Nephi saying behold we know that this Nephi must have agreed with some one to slay the Judge & then he might declare it unto us that he might convert us unto his faith that he might raise himself to be a great man chosen of God & a prophet

⁹And it came to pass that they laid hold on them, **and** bound them **and** cast them into prison. **And** there was a proclamation sent abroad that the **judge** was slain, **and** that the murderers had been **[]taken[_ _ _] and were** cast into prison.

¹⁰And it came to pass that on the morrow the people did assemble **[_ _ _]themselves[_ _]** together to mourn **and** to fast, at the burial of the great **[X]** chief **judge who** had been slain.

¹¹And thus **[X]** also those **judges who** were at the garden of Nephi, **and** heard his words, were also gathered together at the burial.

¹²And it came to pass that they inquired among the people, saying: **Where are the five who were** sent to inquire concerning the chief **judge whether** he was dead? **And** they answered **and** said: **Concerning this five whom** ye say ye have sent, we know not; but there are five **who** are the murderers, whom we have cast into prison.

¹³And it came to pass that the **judges** desired that they should be brought; **and** they were brought, **and** behold they were the five **who** were sent; **and** behold the **[]** **judges** inquired of them to know concerning the matter, **and** they told them all **that** they had done, saying:

¹⁴We ran **and** came to the place of the **judgment-seat, and** when we saw all things even as Nephi had testified, we were astonished insomuch that we fell to the earth; **and** when we were recovered from our astonishment, **[_ _]behold[_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _]they cast [_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _]us into[X]** prison.

¹⁵Now, as for the murder of this man, we know not who has **[]** done it; **and** only this much we know, we ran **and** came according as ye desired, **and** behold he was dead, according to the words of Nephi.

¹⁶And now it came to pass that the **judges** did expound the matter unto the people, **and** did cry **[]out[]** against Nephi, saying: **Behold**, we know that this Nephi must have agreed with some one to slay the **judge, and** then he might declare it unto us, that he might convert us unto his faith, that he might raise himself to be a great man, chosen of God, **and** a prophet.

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& now behold we will detect this man & he shall confess his fault & make known unto us the true murderer of this Judge

& it came to pass that the five were liberated on the day of the ~~trial~~ burial nevertheless they did rebuke the Judges in the words which they had spoken against Nephi & did contend with them one by one insomuch that they did confound them

nevertheless they caused that Nephi should be taken & bound & brought before the multitude & they began to question him in divers ways that they might cross him that they might accuse him to death

saying ~~to~~^{into} him thou art confederate ~~with~~^{who} this man that hath done this murder now tell us & acknowledge thy ~~fault~~ fault saying behold here is money & also we will grant unto thee thy life if thou wilt tell us & acknowledge the agreement which thou hast made with him

but Nephi saith unto them O ye fools ye uncircumcised of heart ye blind & ye stiffnecked people do ye know how long the Lord your God will suffer you that ye shall go on **350** in this your ways of sin

O ye had ought to begin to howl & mourn because of the great destruction at this time ~~that~~^{which} doth await you except ye^{shall} repent

behold ye say that I have agreed with a man that he should murder Seezoram our chief Judge but behold I say unto you that this is because I have testified unto you that ye might know concerning this thing yea even for a witness unto you that I did know of the wickedness & abominations which is among you

& because I have done this ye say that I have agreed with a man that he should do this thing^{yea} because I shewed unto ye this sign ye are angry with me & seek to destroy my life

& now behold I will shew unto you an other sign & see if ye will in this thing seek to destroy me

behold I say unto you go to the hous of Seantum which is the brother of Seezoram & say unto him

¹⁷**And** now behold, we will detect this man, **and** he shall confess his fault **and** make known unto us the true murderer of this judge.

¹⁸**And** it came to pass that the five were liberated on the day of the **[X]** burial. Nevertheless, they did rebuke the judges in the words which they had spoken against Nephi, **and** did contend with them one by one, insomuch that they did confound them.

¹⁹Nevertheless, they caused that Nephi should be taken **and** bound **and** brought before the multitude, **and** they began to question him in divers ways that they might cross him, that they might accuse him to death—

²⁰Saying **[]unto[]** him: **Thou** art confederate; **who[X]is[]** this man that hath done this murder? **Now** tell us, **and** acknowledge thy **[X]** fault; saying, **Behold** here is money; **and** also we will grant unto thee thy life if thou wilt tell us, **and** acknowledge the agreement which thou hast made with him.

²¹**But** Nephi said~~[]~~ unto them: O ye fools, ye uncircumcised of heart, ye blind, **and** ye stiffnecked people, do ye know how long the Lord your God will suffer you that ye shall go on in this your way~~[]~~ of sin?

²²O ye **[X]** ought to begin to howl **and** mourn, because of the great destruction **which** at this time ~~[_]~~**[X]**~~[]~~ doth await you, except ye~~[]~~**shall** repent.

²³**Behold** ye say that I have agreed with a man that he should murder Seezoram, our chief judge. **But** behold, I say unto you, that this is because I have testified unto you that ye might know concerning this thing; yea, even for a witness unto you, that I did know of the wickedness **and** abominations which **are** among you.

²⁴**And** because I have done this, ye say that I have agreed with a man that he should do this thing; **yea**, because I ~~sh~~owed unto **you** this sign ye are angry with me, **and** seek to destroy my life.

²⁵**And** now behold, I will ~~sh~~ow unto you an~~[]~~other sign, **and** see if ye will in this thing seek to destroy me.

²⁶**Behold** I say unto you: **Go** to the house of Seantum, **who** is the brother of Seezoram, **and** say unto him—

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& now there were some among the people which said that Nephi was a prophet

& there were others which said behold he is a God for except he was a God he ~~wou~~^{could} not know all things for behold he hath told us the thoughts of our hearts & also hath told us things & even he hath brought unto our knowledge the true murderer of our chief Judge

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⁴⁰**And** now there were some among the people, **who** said that Nephi was a prophet.

⁴¹**And** there were others **who** said: **Behold**, he is a **god**, for except he was a **god** he []**could**[] not know **of** all things. **For** behold, he has[] told us the thoughts of our hearts, **and** also has[] told us things; **and** even he has[] brought unto our knowledge the true murderer of our chief **judge**.