

& it came to pass that we again began to establish the Kingdom & we again began to possess the land in peace & I caused that there should be weapons of war made of every kind that thereby I might have weapons for my People against the time the Lamanites should come up again to war against my People

& I sat guards round about the land that the Lamanites might not come upon us again unawares & destroy us & thus I did guard my People & my flocks & keep them from falling into the hands of our enemies

& it came to pass that we did inherit the land of our fathers for many years yea for the space of twenty & two years

& I did cause that the men should till the ground & raise all manner of grain & all manner of fruit of every kind

& I did cause th^ot the women should spin & toil & work & work all manner of fine linnen yea & cloth of every kind that we might clo^ath our nakedness & thus we did prosper in the land thus we did have continual peace in the land for the space of twenty & two years

& it came to pass that King Laman died & his Son began to reign in his stead & he began to stir his People up in rebellion against my People therefore they began to prepare for war **134** & to come up to battle against my People

but I having sent my spies out round about the land of Shemlon that I might discover their preperations that I might guard against them that they might not come upon my People & destroy them

& it came to pass that they came up upon the North of the land of Shilom with their numerous hosts men armed with bows & with arrows & with swords & with simitres & with stones & with slings & they had their heads sheaved that they were naked & they were girted about with a lethern girdle about their loins

CHAPTER 10

King Laman dies—His people are wild and ferocious and believe in false traditions—Zeniff and his people prevail against them. About 187–160 B.C.

¹**And** it came to pass that we again began to establish the kingdom **and** we again began to possess the land in peace. **And** I caused that there should be wea**o**ns of war made of every kind, that thereby I might have wea**o**ns for my **p**eople against the time the Lamanites should come up again to war against my **p**eople.

²**And** I **s**et guards round about the land, that the Lamanites might not come upon us again unawares **and** destroy us; **and** thus I did guard my **p**eople **and** my flocks, **and** keep them from falling into the hands of our enemies.

³**And** it came to pass that we did inherit the land of our fathers for many years, yea, for the space of twenty **and** two years.

⁴**And** I did cause that the men should till the ground, **and** raise all manner of grain **and** all manner of fruit of every kind.

⁵**And** I did cause **t**hat the women should spin, **and** toil, **and** work, **and** work all manner of fine lin[]en, yea, **and** cloth of every kind, that we might clo**t**h our nakedness; **and** thus we did prosper in the land—thus we did have continual peace in the land for the space of twenty **and** two years.

⁶**And** it came to pass that **k**ing Laman died, **and** his **s**on began to reign in his stead. **And** he began to stir his **p**eople up in rebellion against my **p**eople; therefore they began to prepare for war, **and** to come up to battle against my people.

⁷**But** I **h**ad sent my spies out round about the land of Shemlon, that I might discover their pre**p**arations, that I might guard against them, that they might not come upon my **p**eople **and** destroy them.

⁸**And** it came to pass that they came up upon the **n**orth of the land of Shilom, with their numerous hosts, men armed with bows, **and** with arrows, **and** with swords, **and** with **c**imeters, **and** with stones, **and** with slings; **and** they had their heads sh[]aved that they were naked; **and** they were girted **[X]** with a le**a**thern girdle about their loins.

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& it came to pass that I caused that the women & Children of my People should be hid in the wilderness & I also caused that all my old men that could bear arms & also all my young men that were able to bear arms should gather themselves together to go to battle against the Lamanites & I did place them in their ranks every man according to his age

& it came to pass that we did go up to battle against the Lamanites & I even I in my old age did go up to battle against the Lamanites & it came to pass that we did go up in the f strength of the Lord to battle

now the Lamanites knew nothing concerning the Lord nor the strength of the Lord therefore they depended upon their ^{own} strength yet they were a strong People as to the strength of men

they were a wild & ferocious & a bloodthirsty People believing in the tradition of their fathers which is this believing that they were driven out of the land of Jerusalem because of the iniquities of their fathers & that they were wronged in the wilderness by their brethren & they were also wronged while crossing the Sea

& again that they were wronged ^{while} in the land of the ^{ir}first inheritance after they had crossed the Sea & all this because that Nephi was more faithful in keeping the commandments of the Lord therefore he was favored of the Lord for the Lord heard his prayers & answered them & he took the lead of their journey in the wilderness

& his brethren was wroth with him because they understood not the dealings of the Lord they was also wr^oth with him upon the waters because they hardened their hearts against the Lord

& again they were wrath with him when they had ariven to the promised land because they said that he had taken the ruleing of the People out of their hands & they sought to kill him

& again they were wroth with him because he departed into the wilderness as the Lord had commanded him & took the records which were engraven on the plates of brass for they said that he robbed them

⁹**And** it came to pass that I caused that the women **and** children of my **p**eople should be hid in the wilderness; **and** I also caused that all my **o**ld men that could bear arms, **and** also all my young men that were able to bear arms, should gather themselves together to go to battle against the Lamanites; **and** I did place them in their ranks, every man according to his age.

¹⁰**And** it came to pass that we did go up to battle against the Lamanites; **and** I, even I, in my old age, did go up to battle against the Lamanites. **And** it came to pass that we did go up in the [] strength of the Lord to battle.

¹¹**Now**, the Lamanites knew nothing concerning the Lord, nor the strength of the Lord, therefore they depended upon their **own** strength. **Yet** they were a strong **p**eople, as to the strength of men.

¹²**They** were a wild, **and** ferocious, **and** a blood-thirsty **p**eople, believing in the tradition of their fathers, which is this—**B**elieving that they were driven out of the land of Jerusalem because of the iniquities of their fathers, **and** that they were wronged in the wilderness by their brethren, **and** they were also wronged while crossing the **sea**;

¹³**And** again, that they were wronged **while** in the land of their [] first inheritance, after they had crossed the **sea**, **and** all this because that Nephi was more faithful in keeping the commandments of the Lord—therefore he was favored of the Lord, for the Lord heard his prayers **and** answered them, **and** he took the lead of their journey in the wilderness.

¹⁴**And** his brethren **were** wroth with him because they understood not the dealings of the Lord; they **were** also wroth with him upon the waters because they hardened their hearts against the Lord.

¹⁵**And** again, they were wroth with him when they had **arrived in** the promised land, because they said that he had taken the rul [] ing of the **p**eople out of their hands; **and** they sought to kill him.

¹⁶**And** again, they were wroth with him because he departed into the wilderness as the Lord had commanded him, **and** took the records which were engraven on the plates of brass, for they said that he **robbed** them.

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& thus they have taught their Children that they should hate them & that they should murder them & that they should rob & plunder them & do all they could to destroy them therefore they have an eternal hatred towards the children of Nephi

for this very cause hath king Laman by his cunning & lying craftiness & his fair promises hath deceived me that I have brought this my People up into this land that they may destroy them yea & we have suffered this many years in the land

& now I Zeniff after having told all these things unto my People concerning the Lamanites I did stimulate them to go to battle with their mights putting their trust in the Lord therefore we did contend with them face to face

& it came to pass that we did drive them again out of our land & we slew them with a great **135** slaughter even so many that we did not number them

& it came to pass that we returned again to our own land & my People began to tend their flocks & to till their ground

& now I being old did confer the kingdom upon one of my Sons therefore I say no more & ~~m~~^ay may the Lord bless my People Amen-

¹⁷**And** thus they have taught their children that they should hate them, **and** that they should murder them, **and** that they should rob **and** plunder them, **and** do all they could to destroy them; therefore they have an eternal hatred towards the children of Nephi.

¹⁸**F**or this ver[y] cause has[] king Laman, by his cunning, **and** lying craftiness, **and** his fair promises, **[X]** deceived me, that I have brought this my people up into this land, that they may destroy them; yea, **and** we have suffered these many years in the land.

¹⁹**And** now I, Zeniff, after having told all these things unto my people concerning the Lamanites, I did stimulate them to go to battle with their might[], putting their trust in the Lord; therefore, we did contend with them, face to face.

²⁰**And** it came to pass that we did drive them again out of our land; **and** we slew them with a great slaughter, even so many that we did not number them.

²¹**And** it came to pass that we returned again to our own land, **and** my people **again** began to tend their flocks, **and** to till their ground.

²² **And** now, I being old, did confer the kingdom upon one of my sons; therefore, I say no more. **And** [_ _] may the Lord bless my people. Amen.