

CHAPTER 24

Amulon persecutes Alma and his people—They are to be put to death if they pray—The Lord makes their burdens seem light—He delivers them from bondage, and they return to Zarahemla. About 145–120 B.C.

& it came to pass that Amulon did gain favour in the eyes of the king of the Lamanites therefore the king of the Lamanites granted unto him & his brethren that they should be appointed teachers over his people yea even over the people which was in the land of Shemlon & the land of Shilom & in the land of Amulon

for the Lamanites had taken possession of all these lands therefore the king of the Lamanites had appointed kings over all these lands

& now the name of the king of the Lamanites was Laman being called after the name of his father & therefore he was called king Laman & he was king over a numerous people

& he appointed teachers of the brethren of Amulon in every land which was possessed by his people & thus the language of Nephi began to be taught among all the people of the Lamanites

& they were a people friendly one with another nevertheless they knew not God neither did the brethren of Amulon teach them any thing concerning the Lord their God neither the law of Moses nor did they teach them the words of Abinadi

but they taught them that they should keep their record & that they might write one to another

& thus the Lamanites began to increase in riches & began to trade one with an other & wax great & began to be a cunning & a wise people as to the wisdom of the world yea a very cunning people delighting in all ~~man~~^{manner} manner of wickedness & plunder except it were among their own brethren

& now it came to pass that Amulon began to exercise authority over Alma & his brethren & began to persecute him & cause that his children should persecute their children

¹**And** it came to pass that Amulon did gain favo[]r in the eyes of the king of the Lamanites; therefore, the king of the Lamanites granted unto him **and** his brethren that they should be appointed teachers over his people, yea, even over the people **who were** in the land of Shemlon, **and in** the land of Shilom, **and** in the land of Amulon.

²**For** the Lamanites had taken poss~~ession~~ession of all these lands; therefore, the king of the Lamanites had appointed kings over all these lands.

³**And** now the name of the king of the Lamanites was Laman, being called after the name of his father; **and** therefore he was called king Laman. **And** he was king over a numerous people.

⁴**And** he appointed teachers of the brethren of Amulon in every land which was possessed by his people; **and** thus the language of Nephi began to be taught among all the people of the Lamanites.

⁵**And** they were a people friendly one with another; nevertheless they knew not God; neither did the brethren of Amulon teach them any[]thing concerning the Lord their God, neither the law of Moses; nor did they teach them the words of Abinadi;

⁶**But** they taught them that they should keep their record, **and** that they might write one to another.

⁷**And** thus the Lamanites began to increase in riches, **and** began to trade one with an[]other **and** wax great, **and** began to be a cunning **and** a wise people, as to the wisdom of the world, yea, a ver[]y cunning people, delighting in all [] manner[] of wickedness **and** plunder, except it were among their own brethren.

⁸**And** now it came to pass that Amulon began to exercise authority over Alma **and** his brethren, **and** began to persecute him, **and** cause that his children should persecute their children.

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for Amulon knew Alma that he had been one of the kings priests & that it was he that believed the words of Abinadi & was driven out before the king & therefore he was wroth with him for he was subject to king Laman yet he exercised authority over them & put tasks upon them & put taskmasters over them

& it came to pass that so great was their afflictions that they began to cry mightily to God

& it came to pass that Amulon commanded them that they should stop their cries & put guards over them ~~th¹⁰at~~ watch them that whosoever should be found calling upon God **156** should be put to death

& it came to pass that Alma & his people did not raise their voices to the Lord their God but did pour out their hearts to him & he did know the thoughts of their hearts

& it came to pass that the voice of the Lord came to them in their afflictions saying lift up your heads & be of good comfort for I know of the covenant which ye have made unto me & I will covenant with this my people & deliver them out of bondage

& I will also ease the~~ir~~ burdens which is put upon your shoulders that even you cannot feel them upon your backs even while you are in bondage & this will I do that ye may stand as witnesses for me hereafter & that ye may know of a surety that I the Lord God do visit ^{my}~~m~~ people in their afflictions

& now it came to pass that the burdens which was laid upon Alma & his brethren were made light yea the Lord did strengthen them that they could bear up their burdens with ease & they did submit c~~o~~heerfully & with patience to all the will of the Lord

& it came to pass that so great was their faith & their patience that the voice of the Lord came unto them again saying be of good comfort for on the morrow I will deliver thee out of bondage

& he saith unto Alma thou shalt go before this people & I will go with thee & deliver this people out of bondage

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⁹For Amulon knew Alma, that he had been one of the king's priests, **and** that it was he that believed the words of Abinadi **and** was driven out **before** the king, **and** therefore he was wroth with him; for he was subject to king Laman, yet he exercised authority over them, **and** put tasks upon them, **and** put task~~[]~~-masters over them.

¹⁰**And** it came to pass that so great **were** their afflictions that they began to cry mightily to God.

¹¹And ~~[X X X X X]~~ Amulon commanded them that they should stop their cries; **and he** put guards over them ~~[]to[]~~ watch them, that whosoever should be found calling upon God should be put to death.

¹²**And** ~~[X X X X X]~~ Alma **and** his people did not raise their voices to the Lord their God, but did pour out their hearts to him; **and** he did know the thoughts of their hearts.

¹³**And** it came to pass that the voice of the Lord came to them in their afflictions, saying: **Lift** up your heads **and** be of good comfort, for I know of the covenant which ye have made unto me; **and** I will covenant with ~~[X]~~ my people **and** deliver them out of bondage.

¹⁴**And** I will also ease the~~[]~~ burdens which **are** put upon your shoulders, that even you cannot feel them upon your backs, even while you are in bondage; **and** this will I do that ye may stand as witnesses for me hereafter, **and** that ye may know of a surety that I, the Lord God, do visit **my**~~[]~~ people in their afflictions.

¹⁵**And** now it came to pass that the burdens which **were** laid upon Alma **and** his brethren were made light; yea, the Lord did strengthen them that they could bear up their burdens with ease, **and** they did submit **cheerfully** **and** with patience to all the will of the Lord.

¹⁶**And** it came to pass that so great was their faith **and** their patience that the voice of the Lord came unto them again, saying: **Be** of good comfort, for on the morrow I will deliver **you** out of bondage.

¹⁷**And** he said~~[]~~ unto Alma: **Thou** shalt go before this people, **and** I will go with thee **and** deliver this people out of bondage.

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now it came to pass that Alma & his people in the night time gathered their flocks together & also of their grain yea even all the night time were they gathering their flocks together

& in the morning the Lord caused a deep sleep to come upon the Lamanites yea & all their task-masters were in a profound sleep

& it came to pass that Alma & his people departed into the wilderness & when they had traveled all day they pitched their tents in a vally & they called the name of the vally Alma because he lead their way in the wilderness

yea & in the vally of Alma they poured out their thanks to God because he had been merciful unto them & eased their burdens & had delivered them out of bondage for they were in bondage & none could deliver them except it were the Lord their God

& they gave thanks to God yea all their men & all their women & all their children that could speak lifted their voices in the praises of their God

& now the Lord said unto Alma haste thee & get thou & this people out of this land for the Lamanites have awoke & doth pursue thee therefore get thee out of this land & I will stop the Lamanites in this vally that they come no further in pursuit of this people

& it came to pass that they departed out of the vally & took their journey into the wilderness

& it came to pass that after they had been in the wilderness twelve days they arived to the land of Zarahemla & king Mosiah did also receive them with joy

¹⁸Now it came to pass that Alma **and** his people in the night-time gathered their flocks together, **and** also of their grain; yea, even all the night-time were they gathering their flocks together.

¹⁹**And** in the morning the Lord caused a deep sleep to come upon the Lamanites, yea, **and** all their task-masters were in a profound sleep.

²⁰**And** [X_X_X_X_X] Alma **and** his people departed into the wilderness; **and** when they had traveled all day they pitched their tents in a valley, **and** they called the [X_X_X] valley Alma, because he le[]d their way in the wilderness.

²¹Yea, **and** in the valley of Alma they poured out their thanks to God because he had been merciful unto them, **and** eased their burdens, **and** had delivered them out of bondage; for they were in bondage, **and** none could deliver them except it were the Lord their God.

²²**And** they gave thanks to God, yea, all their men **and** all their women **and** all their children that could speak lifted their voices in the praises of their God.

²³**And** now the Lord said unto Alma: Haste thee **and** get thou **and** this people out of this land, for the Lamanites have awaked **and** do[] pursue thee; therefore get thee out of this land, **and** I will stop the Lamanites in this valley that they come no further in pursuit of this people.

²⁴**And** it came to pass that they departed out of the valley, **and** took their journey into the wilderness.

²⁵**And** [X_X_X_X_X] after they had been in the wilderness twelve days they arrived **in** the land of Zarahemla; **and** king Mosiah did also receive them with joy.