

Alma 43 Chap.

¹And now it came to pass that
the Sons of Alma did go forth among the people to declare the word unto them
& Alma also himself could not rest & he also went forth

²now we shall say no more concerning their Preaching
except that they preached the word & the truth
according to the spirit of Prophecy & revelation
& they preached after the holy order of God by which they were called

³& now I return to an account of the wars between the Nephites & the Lamanites
in the eighteenth year of the reign of the Judges

⁴for behold it came to pass that the Zoramites became Lamanites
therefore in the commencement of the eighteenth Year
the People of the Nephites saw that the Lamanites were coming upon them
therefore they made preparations for war
yea they gathered together their armies in the land of Jershon

⁵& it came to pass that the Lamanites came with their thousands
& they came unto the land of Antionum
which was the land of the Zoramites
& a man by the name of Zerahemnah was their leader

⁶& now as the Amalekites were of a more wicked & a murderous disposition
than the Lamanites were in & of themselves
therefore Zerahemnah appointed Chief Captains of over the Lamanites
& they were all Amalekites & the Zoramites

⁷now thus he done that he might preserve their hatred towards the Nephites
that he might bring them into subjection to the accomplishment of his designs

⁸for behold his designs were to stir up the Lamanites to anger against the Nephites
& this he done that he might usurp great Power over them
& also that he might gain power over the Nephites
by bringing them into bondage .&C.

⁹& now the design of the Nephites were to support their lands & their houses
& their wives & their children
that they might preserve them from the hands of their enemies
& also that they might preserve their rights & their privileges
& yea & also their liberty
that they might worship God according to their desires

¹⁰for they knew that if they should fall into the hands of the Lamanites
that whosoever should worship God in spirit & in truth
the true & the living God¹
the Lamanites would destroy

¹ OM Header = not the Nephites .&C.

¹¹yea & they also knew the extreme hatred of the Lamanites towards their brethren which were the People of AnteNephiLehi which were called the people of Ammon & they would not take up arms yea they had entered into a covenant & they would not brake it therefore if they should fall into the hands of the Lamanites they would be destroyed
¹²& the Nephites would not suffer that they should be destroyed therefore they gave them lands for their inheritance
¹³& the people of Ammon did give unto the Nephites a large portion of their substance to support their armies

& thus the Nephites were compelled alone to withstand against the Lamanites which were a compound of Laman & Lemuel & the Sons of Ishmael & all those which had deserted from the Nephites which were Amalickites & Zoramites & the descendants of the priests of Noah
¹⁴now whose deserters were as numerous nearly as were the Nephites & thus the Nephites were obliged to content with their Brethren even unto blood shed
¹⁵& it came to pass as the armies of the Lamanites had gathered together in the land of Antoonum behold the armies of the Nephites were prepared to meet them in the land of Jershon

¹⁶now the leader of the Nephites & or the man which had been appointed to be the Chief Captain over the Nephites now the Chief Captain took the command of all the armies of the Nephites & his name was Moroni
¹⁷& Moroni took all the command & the governments of their wars & he was only twenty & five years old when he was appointed Chief Commander over the armies of the Nephites
¹⁸& it came to pass that he met the Lamanites in the borders of Jershon & his people were armed with swords & with simetres & all manner of weapons of war

¹⁹& it came to pass that when the armies of the Lamanites saw that the people of Nephis or that Moroni had prepared his People with breastplates & with arm shields yea & also shields to defend their heads & also that they were dressed with thick cloathing
²⁰now the army of Zerahemnak was not prepared with any such thing they had only their swords & their spears there Bows & their arrows there stones & their slings but they were naked save it were a skin which was girted about their loins yea all were naked save it were the Zoramites & the Amalickites

²¹but they were not armed with breast plates nor shields
therefore they were exceeding afraid of the armies of the Nephites
because of their armour
notwithstanding their number being so much greater than the Nephites

²²behold now it came to pass that
they durst not come against the Nephites in the borders of Jershon
therefore they departed out of the land of Antionum into the wilderness
& took the jr journey round about in the wilderness
away by the head of the River Sidon
that they might come into the land of Manti & take possession of the Land
fore they did not suppose
that the armies of M² Moroni would know whither they had gone

²³but it came to pass as soon as they had departed into the wilderness
Moroni se^{sent}nt spies into the wilderness to watch therr camp
& Moroni also knowing of the Prophecies of Alma sent certain men unto him
desireing hem that he should inquir^e of the Lord
whither the armies of the Nephites should go
to defend themselves against the Lamanites

²⁴& it came to pass that the word of the Lord came unto Alma
& Alma enforced the messengers of Moroni
that the armies of the Lamanites were marching around about in the wilderness
that they might come over into the land of Manti
that they might commence an attack upon hhe more weak part of the People
& those messengers went & delivered the messen~~er~~ message unto Moroni

²⁵now Moroni leaving a part of his army in the land lest Jershon
lest by any means a part of the Lamantes should come into that land
& take possession of the City of
& Moroni took the remanender part of his army
& marched over into the lend of M^anti

²⁶& he caused that all the People in that quarter of the land
should gather themselves together to battle ggainst the Lamanites
to defend their lands & their Country their rights & their liberties
therefore they were prepared againtt tthe time of the comeng of the Lamanites

²⁷& it came to pass that Moroni caused
that his army should be secreted in the vally
which was near the bank of the River Sidon
which was on the west of the River Sidon in the wilderness

²⁸& Moroni plased spies round about
that he midht know when the Camp of the Lamanites should come

² OM Header = the Lamanites go to t

²⁹ & now as moroni knew the intention of the Lamanites
 that it was their entention to destroy there Brethren
 or to subject them & bring them into bordage
 that they might establish a Singdom unto themselves over all the lant
³⁰ & he also knowing that it was the omly desire of the Nephites
 to preserve their lands & their libberty & therr church
 therefore he thought tit no sin that he should sefend them by stratigem
 therefore he found by his spies which course the Lamanites were to take
³¹ therefore he divided his army & brought a part over into the Vally
 & consealed them on the east & on the South of the hill Riplah
³² & the remainder he concealed in the west vally
 on the west of the River Sidon
 & so down into the borders of the land Manti
³³ & thus haveing plased his army according to his desire
 he was prepared to meet them

³⁴ & it came to pass that the Lamanites came up on the North of the hill
 where a part of the army of Moroni was consealed
³⁵ & it came to pass that as the Lamanites had pastd the hill Riplah
 & came into the vally & began to cross the River Sidon
 the army which was consealed on the South of the hill
 whose who was leat led bj a man whose name was Lehi
 & he led his army forth
 & ensercled the Lamanites about on the East in their rean
³⁶ & it came to pass that the Lamanites
 when ³ they saw the Nephites coming upon them in their rear
 they turned them about & began to contend with the army of Lehi
³⁷ & the work of death comenced on both sides
 but it was more dre^adful on the past of the Lamanites
 for th their nakedness was exposed to the heavy blows of the Nephites
 with therr swords & their simeters
 which brought death alsoost at ery strike
³⁸ while on the other hand
 there was now & then a man of fell among the Nephites
 by their woounds & the loss of blood
 they being shielded from the more vital parts the the body
 or the more rital ^{parts of the body} being shielded
 from the strokes of the Lemunites
 by their ◇ breastplates & their arm shields & their heads plates
 & thus the Nephites did carry on the work of death among the Lamanites

³⁹ & it came to pass that the Lamanites became frightened
 because of the great destruction among them
 even uttill they began to flee toward^s the River Sidon

³ OM Header = the Lamanites .&.C.

⁴⁰& they were persued by Lehi & his soldiers
they were driven by Lehe into the waters of Sidon
& they crosted the waters of Sidon
& Lehi retained his armies upon the banks of the River Sidon
that they should not cross
⁴¹& it came to pass that
Moroni & his army met the army of the Lamanites in the vally
on the other sides of the River Sidon
& it came to pass that
Moroni & his army began to fall toon them & to slay them
⁴²& it came to pets that
the Lamanites did flee again befor^e them towards the land of Manti
& they were met again by the armies of Moroni

⁴³now in this case the Lamanites did fight excedingly
yea never had the Lamanites been known
to have foughth with such exceding great Stroength & Courage
no not even from the beginneng
⁴⁴& they were inspered by the Zoramites & the Amalekites
which were their Cheef Captains & leaders
& by ~~Zeram~~ Zerahemnah
who was their chief Captain or therr Chief leader & commarder
yea they did fight like Dragons
& many of the Nephites were slain bj their hand
yea for they did smite in too mony of their aheavy plates
& they did pierce many of therr breastplates
& they did ~~sm~~ smite off many of their arms
& thus the Lamanites did smite in their fierce angar

⁴⁵nevertheless the Nephites were inspired by a better couse
for they were not fighting for monarchy nor power
but they were feghting for their homes & heir liberties
their wives & their Children & thein all
yea for their Rites of worship & their Church
⁴⁶& they were doing that which they felt
it was the duty which they owed to their God
for the Lord had said unto them & also unto their Fathers
that in as much as ye are not guelty of the first ofeense ~~ne~~ neither the second
ye shall not suffer yourselves to be slain by the hands of your enemees
⁴⁷& again the Lord hath said
that you shall defend your fa families even unto blood shed
therefore ~~th~~ for this cause was the Nephites conte^{nding}⁴ with the Lamanites
to defend themselves & their families & their lands
their Country & their Rites & their religion

⁴ OM Header = the Lamanites ensercled

⁴⁸& it came to pass that
when the men of Moroni saw the fierceness of & the anger of the Lamanites
they were about to shrink & flee from them
& Moroni perceiving their intent
sent forth & inspired their hearts with these thoughts
yea the thoughts of their lands their liberty
yea their freedom from bondage
⁴⁹& it came to pass that they turned upon the Lamanites
& they cried with one voice unto the Lord their God
for their Liberty & their freedom from bondage
⁵⁰& they began to stand against the Lamanites with power
& in that selfsame hour that they cried unto the Lord for ~~their~~ their freedom
the Lamanites began to flee before them
& they fled even to the waters of Sidon

⁵¹now the Lamanites were more numerous
bea be more than double the number of the Nephites
nevertheless they were driven
insomuch that they were gathered together in one body in the valley
upon the bank by the River Sidon

⁵²therefore the armies of Moroni encompassed them about
even on both sides of the River
for behold on the east were the men of Lehi

⁵³therefore when Zeramemrah saw the men of Lehi on the east of the River Sidon
& the armies of Moroni on the west of the River Sidon
that they were encompassed about by the Nephites
they were struck with terror

⁵⁴now Moroni when he saw their terror
he commanded his men that they should stop shedding their ~~shedding sh~~ blood