

Helaman 7

Chapter

The prophecy of Nephi
the Son of Helaman

God threatens the people of Nephi
that he will visit them in his anger to their utter destruction
except they repent of their wickedness—

God smiteth the people of Nephi with pestilence—
they repent & turn unto him—

Samuel a Lamanite prophesies unto the Nephites—

¹Behold now it came to pass in the sixty & ninth year
of the reign of the Judges over the people of^{the} Nepites
that Nephi the Son of Helaman returned
to the land of Zarahemla from the land Northward
²for he had been forth among the people
which was in the land Northward
& did preach the word of God unto them
& did prophesy many things unto them
³& they did reject all his words
insomuch that he could not stay among them
but returned again unto the land of his nativity
⁴& seeing the people in a state of such awful wickedness
& those Gadianton robbers filling the Judgmentseats
having usurped the power & authority of the land
laying aside the commandments of God
& not in the least aright before him
doing no justice unto the children of men
⁵condemning the righteous because of their righteousness
letting the guilty & the wicked go unpunished because of their money
& moreover to be held in office at the head of goverment
to rule & to do according to their wills
that they might get gain & glory of the world
& moreover that they might more easy commit adultery
& steal & kill & do according to their own wills
⁶now this great iniquity had come upon the Nephites
in the space of not many years
& when Nephi saw it
his heart was swollen with sorrow within his breast

& he did exclaim in the agony of his soul
⁷O that I could have had my days in the days
of^{when} my father Nephi first came out of the land of Jerusalem
that I could have joyed with him in the promised land
then were his people easy to be intreated
firm to keep the commandments of God
& slow to be led to do iniquity
& they were quick to hearken unto the words of the Lord
⁸yea if my days could have been in^{them} my days
then would my soul have had joy in the righteousness of my brethren
⁹but behold I am consigned that these are my days
& that my soul^{shall} ~~should~~ be filled with sorrow
because of this the wickedness of my brethren

¹⁰& behold now it came to pass that it was upon a ~~Tow~~^{Tower}er
which was in the garden of Nephi which was by the highway
which led to the chief Market which was in the city of Zarahemla
therefore as Nephi had bowed himself upon the Tower which was in his Garden
which Tower was also near unto the garden gate which led by the haghway
¹¹& it came to pass that there was sertain men passing by
& saw Nephi as he was a pouring out his soul unto God upon the Tower
& they ran & told the people what they had seen
& the people came together in multitudes
that they might know the cause of so great mourning
for the wickedness of the people

¹²& now when Nephi arose
he^{he} & beheld the multitudes of people which had gathered together
¹³& it came to pass that he opened his mouth & said unto them
Behold w^{why} ~~hat~~^{have} have ye gathered yourselves together
that I may tell you of your iniquities
¹⁴yea because I have got upon my Tower
that I might pour out my soul unto my God
because of the exceding sorrow of my heart
which is because of your iniquities
¹⁵& becaus of my mourning & lamenation
ye have gathered yourselves together & do marvel
yea & ye have great need to marvel
yea ye had ought to marvel because ye are given away
that the De~~v~~evil hath got so great hold upon your hearts
¹⁶yea how could ye have given away to the enticeing of him
who art seeking to hurl away your souls
down to everlasting misery & endless wo

¹⁷O repent ye repent
ye why ^{will} ~~whil~~^{ye} e die
turn ye ^{turn} ~~turn~~ unto the Lord your God
why hath he forsaken you

¹⁸it is because you have hardened your hearts
yea ye will not hearken unto the voice of the good Shepherd
yea ye have provoked him to anger against you

¹⁹& behold instead of gathering you
except ye will repent
behold he shall scatter you forth
that ye shall become meat for dogs & wild beasts

²⁰O how could you have forgotten your God
in the verry day that he hath delivered you

²¹but behold it is to get gain to be praised of men
yea & that ye might get gold & silver
& ye have set your hearts upon the riches & the vain things of this world
for the which ye do murder & plunder & steal
& bear fals witness against your neighbor
& do all manner of iniquity

²²& for this cause
wo shall come unto you ^{y^{except}} ye shall repent
for if ye will not repent
behold this great city
& also all those great cities which are round about
which are in the land of our possession
shall be taken away
that ye shall have no place in them
for behold the Lord will not grant unto you strength
as he hath hitherto done
to withstand against your enemies

²³for behold thus saith the Lord
I will not shew unto the wicked of my strength
to one more than the other
save it be unto those who repenteth of their Sins & hearken unto my words

nor therefore I would that ye should behold my brethren
that it shall be better for the Lamanites than for you except ye ^{sh^{shall}} repent

²⁴for behold they are more righteous than you
for they have not sined against that great knowledge which ye have received
therefore the Lord will be merciful unto them
yea he will lengthen out their days & increase their seed
even when thou shalt be utterly destroyed except thou shalt repent

²⁵yea wo be unto ^{y^{you}} because of that great abomination
which hath come among you

& ye have united yourselves unto it
yea to that secret band which was established by Gadianton

²⁶yea wo shall come unto you because of that pride
which ye have suffered to enter your hearts
which hath lifted you up beyond that which is good
because of your exceding great riches

²⁷yea wo be unto you because of your wickedness & abominations

²⁸ & except ye repent ye shall perish
yea even your lands shall be taken from you
& ye shall be destroyed from off the face of the earth
²⁹ behold I do not say these things shall be of myself
because it is ~~not~~^{not of} ~~of~~ myself
~~because I~~^{that I know} ~~is not~~^{these} ~~of~~^{of} things
but behold I know that these things are true
because the Lord God hath made them known unto me
therefore I testify that they shall be