

3rd Nephi 4

¹& it came to pass that in the latter end of the eighteenth year those armies of robbers had prepared for battle & began to come down & to sally forth from the hills & out of the mountains & the wilderness & their strong hold & their e^{secret}ere places & began to take possession of the lands both which was in the land south & which was in the land north & began to take possession of all the lands which had been deserted by the Nephites & the cities [of] which ha^{had}d been left desolates

²but behold there was no wild beasts nor game in those lands which had been deserted by the Nephites & there was no game for the robbers save it were in the wilderness

³& the robbers could not exist save it were in the wilderness for the want of food for the Nephites had left their lands desolate & had gathered their flocks & their herds & all their substance & they were in one body

⁴therefore there were no chance for the robbers to plunder & to obtain food save it were to come up in open battle against the Nephites & the Nephites being in one body & having so great a number & having reserved for themselves provisions & horses & cattle & flocks of every kind that they might subsist for the space of seven years in the which time they did hope to destroy the robbers from off the face of the land & thus the eighteenth year did pass away

⁵& it came to pass that in the nineteenth year Giddianhi found that it was expediant that he should go up to battle against the Nephites for there was no way that they could subsist save it were to plunder & rob & murder

⁶& they dearst not spread themselves upon the face of the land insomuch that they could raise grain lest the Nephites should come upon them & slay them therefore Giddianhi gave commandment unto his armies that in this year they should go up to battle against the Nephites

⁷& it came to pass that they did come up to battle
& it was in the sixth month
& behold great & terrible was the day that they did come up to battle
& they were girded about after the manner of robbers
& they had a lamb ~~sh~~^{skin} ~~in~~ about their loins
& they were dyed in blood
& their heads were shorn
& they had headplates upon them
& great & terrible was the appearance of the armies of Giddianhi
because of their armour & because of their being dyed in blood

⁸& it came to pass that the armies of the Nephites
when they saw the appearance of the army of Giddianhis
had all fallen to the earth & did lift their cries to the Lord their God
that he would spare them & deliver them out of the hands of their enemies

⁹& it came to pass that when the armies of Giddianhi saw this
they began to shout with a loud voice because of their joy
for they had supposed that the Nephites had fallen with fear
because of the terror of their armies

¹⁰but in this thing they were disappointed
for the Nephites did not fear them
but they did fear their God & did supplicate him for protection
therefore when the armies of Giddianhi did rush upon them
they were prepared to meet them
yea in the strength of the Lord they did receive them

¹¹& the battle commenced in this the sixth month
& great & terrible was the battle thereof
yea great & terrible was the slaughter thereof
insomuch that there never was known so great a slaughter
among all the people of Lehi since he left Jerusalem

¹²& notwithstanding the threatenings & the oaths which Giddianhi had made
before the Nephites did beat them
insomuch that they did fall back ^{from} before them

¹³& it came to pass that Gidgiddoni commanded
that his armies should pursue them as far as to the borders of the wilderness
& that they should not spare any that should fall into their hands by the way
& thus they did pursue them & did slay them to the borders of the wilderness
even until they had fulfilled the commandment of Gidgiddoni

¹⁴& it came to pass that Giddianhi
who had stood & fought with boldness
was pursued as he fled
& being weary because of his much fighting
^{he} was overtaken & slain
& thus was the end of Giddianhi the robber

¹⁵& it came to pass that
the armies of the Nephites did return again to their place of security

& it came to pass that this nineteenth year did pass away
& the robbers did not come again to battle
neither did they come in the twentieth year
¹⁶but in the twenty & first year they did not come up to battle
but they ^{am} came up on all sides to lay seige round about the people of Nephi
for they did suppose that
if they should cut off the people of Nephi from their lands
& should hem them in on every side
& if they should cut them off from all their outward privileges
that they could cause them to yield themselves **up** according to their wishes
¹⁷now they had appointed unto themselves an other leader
whose name was Zemnahiah
therefore it was Zemnahiah that did cause that this siege should take place
¹⁸but behold this was an advantage unto the Nephites
for it was impossible ^{for the robbers} to lay siege sufficiently long
to have any affect upon the Nephites
because of their much provision which they had laid up in store
¹⁹[&] because of the scantiness of provisions among the robbers
for behold they had nothing save it were meat for their subsistence
which meat they did obtain in the wilderness
²⁰& it came to pass that the wild game became scarce in the wilderness
insomuch that the robbers were about to perish with hunger
²¹& the Nephites were continually marching out by day & by night
& falling upon their armies
& cutting them off by thousands & by tens of thousands

²²& thus it became the desire of the people of Zemnahiah
to withdraw from their design
because of the great destruction which come upon them by night & by day

²³& it came to pass that Zemnahiah did give command unto his people
that they should withdraw themselves from the siege
& to march into the farthest parts of the land northward
²⁴& now Giddihoni being aware of their design
& knowing of their weakness because of the want of food
& the great slaughter which had been made among them
therefore he did send out his armies in the night time
& did cut off the way of their retreat
& did place ~~th~~^{his} ~~er~~ armies in the way of their retreat
²⁵& ^{this} did they do in the night time
& got on their march beyond the robbers
so that on the morrow ^{when} the robbers began their march
they were met by the armies of the Nephites
both in their front & in their rear
²⁶& the robbers which were on the south
were also cut off in their places of retreat
& all these things were done by command of Giddihoni

²⁷ & there were many thousands
which did yield themselves up prison^{ers} unto the Nephites
& the remainder of them were slain
²⁸ & their leader Zemnarihah was taken & hanged upon a tree
yea even upon the top thereof until he was dead
& when they had handed him until he was dead
they did fall the tree to the earth
& did cry with a loud voice saying
²⁹ may the Lord preserve his people in righteousness & in holiness of heart
that they may cause to be fell to the earth all who shall seek to slay them
because of power & secret combinations
even as this man hath been fell to the earth

³⁰ & they did rejoice & cry again with one voice saying
may the God of Abraham & the God of Isaac & the God of Jacob
protect this people in righteousness
so long as they shall call on the name of their God for protection

³¹ & it came to pass that they did break forth as as one
in singing praising their God
for the great thing which he had done for them
in preserving them from falling into the hands of their enemies

³² yea they did cry
Hozannah to the most high God
& they did cry
Blessed be the name of the Lord God Almighty the most high God

³³ & their hearts were swollen with joy
unto the **gushing** u^{out} p^{up} of many tee^{tears}rs
because of the great goodness of God
in delivering them out of the hands of their enemies
& they knew it was because of their repentance & their humility
that they had been delivered from an everlasting destruction