

3rd Nephi 6

Chapter

¹And now it came to pass that
the people of the Nephites did all return to their own lands
in the twenty & sixth year
every man with his family his flocks & ^{his} herds his horses & his cattle
& all things whatsoever did belong unto them

²& it came to pass that they had not eaten up all their provisions
therefore they did take with them
all that they had not devoured ^{of} all their grain of every kind
& their gold & their silver & all their precious things
& they did return to their own lands & their possessions
both on the north & on the south
both on the land northward & on the land southward

³& they granted unto those robbers
which had entered into a covenant to keep the peace of the land
which were desireous to remain Lamanites
lands according to their numbers
that they might have with their labour^{rs} wherewith to subsist upon
& thus they did establish peace in all the land

⁴& they began again to prosper & to wax great

& the twenty & s^sixth^e & seventh years passed away
& there was great order in the land
& they had formed their laws according to equity & justice

⁵& now there was nothing in all the land
to hinder the people from prospering continually
except they should fall into transgressions

⁶& now it was Gidgiddoni & the Judge Lachoneus
& those which had been appointed leaders
which had established this great peace in the land

⁷& it came to pass that there were many cities built a new
& there were many old cities repaired

⁸& there were many high ways cast up
& many roads made which led from city to city
& from land to land & from place to place

⁹& thus passed away the twenty & eighth year
& the people had continual peace

¹⁰but it came to pass in the twenty & ninth year
there began to be some disputings among the people
& some were lifted up unto pride & boastings
because of their exceding great riches
yea even unto great persecutions

¹¹for there were many mearchants in the land
& also many lawyers & many Officers

¹²& the people began to be distinguished by ranks
according to their riches & their chances for learning
yea some were ignovent because of their poverty
& others did receive great learning because of their riches

¹³some were lifted up in pride
& others were exceding humble
some did return railing for railing
while others would receive railing & persecution & all manner of afflictions
& would not turn & revile again
but were humble & penitant before God

¹⁴& thus there became ^aan great inequality in all the land
insomuch that the church began to be broken up
yea insomuch that in the thirtieth year the church was broken up in all the land
save it were among a few of the Lamanites
which were converted unto the true faith
& they would not depart from it
for they were firm & steadfast & immoveable
willing with all diligence to keep the commands of the Lord

¹⁵now because of this iniquity of the people was this
Satan had great power unto the stirring up of the people
to do all manner of iniquity
& to the buffeting them up with pride
tempting them to seek for power & authority
& riches & the vain things of the world

¹⁶& thus Satan did lead away the hearts of the people to do all manner of iniquity
therefore they had not enjoyed peace but a few years

¹⁷& thus in the commencement of the thirtieth year
the people having been delivered up for the space of a long time
to be carried about by the temptations of the Devil
whithersoever he desired to carry them
& to do whatsoever iniquity he desired they should
& thus in the commencement of this the thirtieth year
they were in a state of awful wickedness

¹⁸now they did not sin ignovently
for they knew the will of God concerning them
for it had been taught unto them
therefore they did willfully rebell against God

¹⁹& now it was in the days of Lachoneus the Son of Lachoneus
for ^othe Lachoneus did fill the seat of his father & did govern the people that year

²⁰& there began to be men inspired from Heaven & sent forth
standing among the people in all the land
preaching & testifying boldly of the Sins & iniquities of the people
& testifying unto them concerning the redemptions
which the Lord would make for his people
or in other words the resurrection of Christ
& they did testify boldly of his death & sufferings

²¹now there were many of the people which were exceeding angry
because of those which testified of these things
& those which were angry were chiefly the chief Judges
& they which had been highpriests & lawyers
yea all they which were lawyers were angry
w^{with}h those which testified of these things
²²now there was no lawyer w^{nor} Judge nor highpriest
that could have power to condemn any one to death
save their condemnation was signed by the governor of the land
²³now there were many of those
which testified of **the** things pertaining to Christ
which testified boldly
which were taken & put to death secretly by the Judges
that the knowledge of their death come not unto the governor of the land
until after their death

²⁴now behold this was conterary **to** the laws of the land
that any man should be put to death
except they had power from the governor of the land
²⁵therefore a complaint came up unto the land of Zarahemla
to the governor of the land against **these** Judges
which had condemned ^{the prophets of the Lord} unto death
not according to the law
²⁶now it came to pass that they were taken
& brought up before the Judge to be Judged of the^[ir] crime which they had done
according to the law which had been given by the people
²⁷now it came to pass that
those Judges had many friends & kindreds
& ^{the remainder} yea even almost all the lawyers & the highpriests
did gather themselves together & unite with the kindreds of those Judges
which were to be tried according to the law
²⁸& they did enter into a covenant one with another
yea even into that covenant which was given by them of old
which covenant was given & administered by the Devil
to combine against all righteousness
²⁹therefore they did combine against the people of the Lord
& enter into a covenant to destroy them
& to deliver those which were guilty of murder from the grasp of Justice
which was about to be administered according to the law
³⁰& they did set at defiance the law & the rights of their country
& they did covenant one with another to destroy the governor
& to establish a king over the land
that the land should no more be at liberty but should be subject unto kings