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THE AI  
BOOK  
OF  
MORMON

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REMODELED WITH  
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

# THE **AI** BOOK of MORMON

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## THE FIRST BOOK of NEPHI HIS REIGN *and* MINISTRY

### AN INTRODUCTION:

This is an account of Lehi, his wife Sariah, and their four sons—Laman, Lemuel, Sam, and Nephi. The Lord warns Lehi to leave Jerusalem due to his prophesying against the people’s iniquity, which leads them to seek his life. Lehi takes his family on a three-day journey into the wilderness. After obtaining the record of the Jews, Nephi returns to Jerusalem with his brothers. The narrative includes their sufferings, marriages to the daughters of Ishmael, and departure into the wilderness. It details their hardships during the journey, the course of their travels, reaching the large waters, Nephi building a ship, and their crossing into *The Promised Land*. This account is recorded by Nephi, who states: I, Nephi, wrote this record.

### Chapter One.

I, Nephi, was born to righteous parents, receiving a comprehensive education from my father. Despite facing many hardships, I have been greatly blessed by the Lord throughout my life, acquiring extensive knowledge of God’s goodness and mysteries. Therefore, I am compelled to

document my experiences. My record is written in my father's language, combining the learning of the Jews and the Egyptian language. I assert the truthfulness of my record, written by my own hand, based on my knowledge and understanding.

In the beginning of Zedekiah's reign, when my father Lehi resided in Jerusalem, many prophets came forth, warning of the need for repentance to avoid the impending destruction of the great city. Witnessing the grave situation, my father fervently prayed on behalf of his people. During his prayer, a pillar of fire descended upon a rock before him, and he experienced a profound vision, causing him to tremble and quake.

Overwhelmed by the Spirit and what he had witnessed, my father returned home and lay on his bed. Carried away in a vision, he saw the heavens open, witnessing God seated on His throne, surrounded by countless angels singing and praising Him.

In this vision, my father observed a glorious being descending from heaven, surpassing the brightness of the noonday sun. Twelve others followed, their brilliance outshining the stars in the firmament. Descending to the earth, these beings presented my father with a book, instructing him to read. As he read, my father was filled with the Spirit of the Lord. The words he read pronounced woe upon Jerusalem due to its abominations, foretelling its destruction, the death of many by the sword, and the captivity of others in Babylon.

Overwhelmed by the marvelous things he had witnessed, my father exclaimed praises to the Lord, acknowledging His greatness, mercy, and power. My father's soul rejoiced, and his heart overflowed with gratitude for the divine manifestations.

I, Nephi, do not provide a full account of my father's extensive visions, dreams, prophecies, and teachings to his children. Instead, I focus on my own experiences. I intend to abridge my father's record onto plates crafted by my own hands, followed by an account of my own life.

After the Lord revealed numerous marvelous things to my father concerning the destruction of Jerusalem, he went among the people, prophesying and declaring what he had seen and heard. Unfortunately, the Jews mocked him for testifying against their wickedness and abominations. He proclaimed the coming of a Messiah and the redemption of the world, supported by the things he saw, heard, and read in the divine book. The Jews responded to his message with anger, reminiscent of their treatment of prophets in the past. They sought my father's life, yet I, Nephi, will demonstrate that the tender mercies of the Lord are extended to those chosen through faith, making them mighty even unto the power of deliverance.

## Chapter Two.

The Lord spoke to my father, Lehi, in a dream, declaring blessings upon him for faithfully proclaiming divine commandments to the people. However, due to his faithful declarations, the people sought to take his life. In response, the Lord commanded my father in a dream to take his family and depart into the wilderness. Obedient to the Lord's command, my father left his house, inheritance, gold, silver, and precious possessions, taking only his family, provisions, and tents.

After three days of travel near the Red Sea, he pitched his tent in a valley by a river. Accompanied by my mother, Sariah, and my elder brothers, Laman, Lemuel, and Sam, my father continued his journey in the wilderness.

In the valley, my father built an altar, made an offering to the Lord, and expressed gratitude. He named the river Laman, and it emptied into the Red Sea, with the valley located near its mouth. Observing the river's flow into the Red Sea, my father spoke to Laman, desiring his constancy in

righteousness. Similarly, he spoke to Lemuel, expressing the hope for him to be firm and steadfast, unwavering in keeping the commandments.

These words were directed at the stiffneckedness of Laman and Lemuel, who murmured against our father, accusing him of leading them away from Jerusalem to perish in the wilderness due to foolish imaginations. Laman and Lemuel, being the eldest, murmured against our father, Lehi, not understanding the dealings of their Creator.

Filled with the Spirit, my father spoke with power, causing Laman and Lemuel to shake, and he confounded them until they dared not speak against him.

My tent-dwelling father continued to face opposition from Laman and Lemuel, who, like the Jews in Jerusalem, sought to take away his life. Despite their rebellion, my father's powerful words filled with the Spirit left them unable to oppose him.

Meanwhile, I, Nephi, being young but large in stature and desiring to understand God's mysteries, cried to the Lord. He visited me, softening my heart to believe my father's words, preventing me from rebelling like my brothers. I shared the Lord's manifestations with my brother Sam, who believed in my words. However, Laman and Lemuel remained unyielding. Grieved by their hardness of heart, I cried to the Lord for them.

The Lord responded, praising me for my faith and diligence, promising prosperity, and a land of promise if I kept His commandments. However, my rebellious brothers would be cut off from the Lord's presence. The Lord blessed me with the prospect of rulership and teaching over my brethren if I kept His commandments. A dire curse awaited my rebellious brothers, causing them to have no power over my seed unless they, too, rebelled against the Lord. If my seed rebelled, my brothers would become a scourge, stirring my descendants to remember the ways of the Lord.

### Chapter Three.

**R**eturning from communing with the Lord, I, Nephi, went back to my father's tent. My father informed me of a dream wherein the Lord commanded that I and my brothers return to Jerusalem. Laban possessed the record of the Jews and a genealogy of our forefathers on brass plates, as revealed to my father. The Lord instructed us to go to Laban's house, obtain the records, and bring them into the wilderness.

Although my brothers murmured at the difficulty, my father clarified that it was a commandment from the Lord. Encouraging me, he urged me to go, assuring me of the Lord's favor as long as I didn't murmur. Responding to my father, I affirmed my willingness to obey the Lord's commandments, for I believed that the Lord prepares a way for those He commands. My father, overjoyed by my response, recognized that I had been blessed by the Lord.

Setting out on our journey with our tents, my brothers and I traveled to the land of Jerusalem. Upon arrival, we consulted on who should enter Laban's house. Casting lots, the task fell to Laman.

Laman entered Laban's house, engaging him in conversation. Laman sought the records engraved on brass plates, including our father's genealogy. Laban, angered, thrust Laman out, accusing him of being a robber and threatening to slay him. Laman fled and reported Laban's actions, causing sorrow among us, and my brothers considered returning to our father.

Asserting our commitment to the Lord's command, I insisted that we wouldn't return until we accomplished the task. I emphasized the wisdom of our father's decision to leave wealth behind due to the impending destruction of Jerusalem. Recognizing that Jerusalem's destruction was imminent due to the people's wickedness, our father had fled the land, understanding that remaining would lead to

his demise. Obtaining the records was crucial to preserving our language and the words spoken by holy prophets through the ages. With this reasoning, I persuaded my brothers to faithfully follow the commandments of God. Journeying to our home in Jerusalem, we gathered gold, silver, and precious items.

Returning to Laban's house, we offered our treasure in exchange for the brass plates. Laban, seeing our considerable wealth, coveted it, thrust us out, and sent servants to slay us for our property. Fleeing, we left our possessions behind, which Laban seized. In the wilderness, Laban's servants did not overtake us, and we concealed ourselves in a rock cavity.

Laman and Lemuel, angry and influenced by Laman's words, verbally and physically attacked us. An angel appeared, reminding them of the Lord's choice for me as their ruler and instructing them to return to Jerusalem, promising Laban's delivery into their hands. Once the angel departed, my brothers resumed murmuring, doubting the possibility of overcoming the mighty Laban.

Expressing disbelief, they questioned how it was possible for the Lord to deliver Laban into their hands, given his strength and influence.

#### Chapter Four.

I addressed my brethren, urging them to return to Jerusalem, emphasizing our need to faithfully follow the Lord's commandments. I questioned why we should fear Laban and his fifty or even tens of thousands, given the Lord's might.

Drawing parallels to Moses, who commanded the Red Sea to part, I reminded them of our fathers' deliverance from captivity on dry ground while Pharaoh's armies perished.

I highlighted their firsthand knowledge of these truths, including the angelic visitation, questioning any doubts. I reiterated our capacity to be delivered by the Lord, just as our fathers were, and Laban's potential destruction, mirroring the fate of the Egyptians.

Despite my words, my brothers remained angry and murmured, but they reluctantly followed me outside the walls of Jerusalem. Under the cover of night, I instructed them to hide while, led by the Spirit, I entered the city and approached Laban's house.

Without knowing what might happen, I proceeded, guided by the Spirit in uncertain circumstances.

Near Laban's house, I encountered a man who had fallen due to intoxication, and upon closer inspection, I discovered it was Laban. I unsheathed his sword and admired this finely crafted weapon.

The Spirit prompted me to kill Laban, revealing that the Lord had delivered him into my hands. I considered Laban's attempt on my life and his disobedience to the Lord's commandments. The Spirit again conveyed to me: See, the Lord has placed him in your control. I was fully aware that Laban not only intended to end my life but also disregarded the Lord's commandments, seizing our property in the process. Again, the Spirit instructed me: Take his life, for the Lord has delivered him into your grasp. I contemplated the Spirit's instructions that the Lord eliminates the wicked to fulfill righteous purposes. It was deemed more acceptable for one man to perish than for a nation to dwindle and succumb to unbelief.

Reflecting on these words, I, Nephi, recalled the Lord's wilderness revelation: If your descendants keep my commandments, they will thrive in *The Promised Land*. Additionally, I considered that adherence to the commandments, as outlined in the law of Moses, required having the law itself. My awareness extended to the fact that the law was inscribed on the brass plates. I reaffirmed my

conviction that the Lord had handed Laban over to me for a specific purpose—to secure the records in accordance with His commandments.

Obedient to the Spirit, I seized Laban by the hair, using his own sword to behead him. I then clothed myself in Laban's garments and donned his armor.

I then proceeded to Laban's treasury. On the way, I encountered a servant with the keys to the treasury and commanded him to accompany me. Mistaking me for Laban, the servant spoke frankly about the Jewish elders, knowing that his master had met with them that night. I mimicked Laban's voice to deceive him, and instructed the servant to carry the brass plates to my elder brothers outside the walls. Believing I referred to the elders of the Jews as my elder brothers and that I was indeed Laban, whom I had killed, he proceeded to follow me. While we made our way to my brothers outside the walls, he engaged in numerous conversations with me about the elders of the Jews.

When Laman, Lemuel, and Sam saw me, they were frightened, thinking I was Laban seeking them. Calling after them, they recognized my voice and ceased fleeing. The servant, realizing the situation, started to flee but I restrained him with my strength.

I assured him safety if he heeded our words, emphasizing the Lord's commandments. With an oath, I promised him freedom if he joined us in the wilderness.

Zoram, the servant, found courage in my words and agreed to accompany us, making an oath to stay with us. We wished him to remain with us to keep our flight into the wilderness secret from the Jews, preventing pursuit and potential harm. Once Zoram made an oath, our fears concerning him dissipated. Carrying the brass plates and accompanied by Zoram, we departed into the wilderness and journeyed to our father's tent.

## Chapter Five.

Upon our return to the wilderness to reunite with our father, we found him filled with joy, and my mother, Sariah, was exceedingly glad as well, for she had truly mourned our supposed demise. She had believed that we perished in the wilderness and had expressed her complaints to my father, accusing him of being a visionary man. She lamented that he had led us away from our homeland, resulting in the loss of her sons and our impending demise in the wilderness. In this manner, my mother had voiced her grievances against my father.

Responding to her, Lehi said: I acknowledge that I am a visionary man. If I hadn't seen the things of God in a vision, I would not have understood the goodness of God. I would have remained in Jerusalem and perished with my brethren. Yet, I have obtained a land of promise, and in this, I rejoice. I know that the Lord will deliver our sons from Laban's hands and bring them back to us in the wilderness.

During our journey towards Jerusalem to obtain the record of the Jews, my father comforted my mother with these words. Upon our return to the tent, their joy was complete, and my mother found comfort.

She spoke, saying: Now I am certain that the Lord has commanded my husband to flee into the wilderness. I also know for certain that the Lord has protected my sons and delivered them from Laban, giving them the power to accomplish His commandment.

Their rejoicing was great, and they offered sacrifices and burnt offerings to the Lord. Grateful thanks were given to the God of Israel.

After expressing gratitude, my father carefully examined the records engraved on the plates of brass from the beginning. He discovered that they contained the five books of Moses, providing an

account of the creation of the world, and the story of Adam and Eve, our first parents. Additionally, the records included the history of the Jews from the beginning up to the reign of Zedekiah, king of Judah. Prophecies of the holy prophets were also found, spanning from the beginning to the commencement of Zedekiah's reign, along with many prophecies spoken by Jeremiah. Lehi, my father, further found a genealogy of his ancestors on the plates of brass, revealing that he was a descendant of Joseph, the son of Jacob, who had been sold into Egypt. They were led out of captivity and Egypt by the same God who had preserved them. My father, Lehi, thus discovered his genealogy, and Laban, too, was identified as a descendant of Joseph, which explains why he and his fathers had preserved the records.

Witnessing these things, my father, filled with the Spirit, began to prophesy about his descendants. He declared that the plates of brass would go forth to all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people of his seed. Prophesying, he affirmed that these plates of brass would never perish, nor would they be dimmed by time. He spoke of many things concerning his offspring.

Thus far, my father and I had kept the commandments the Lord had given us. We had obtained the records, searched them, and found them to be of great worth. They were desirable to us, allowing us to preserve the commandments of the Lord for our children. It was the wisdom of the Lord that we carried these records with us as we journeyed through the wilderness towards *The Promised Land*.

### Chapter Six.

I, Nephi, choose not to provide the genealogy of my fathers in this section of my record, nor will I do so at any future time on these plates I am currently inscribing. This information is already documented in my father's record, and therefore, I omit it from this work. It suffices for me to declare that we are descendants of Joseph. I am not inclined to offer a comprehensive account of all my father's experiences, as the limitations of these plates prevent such detailed narratives. I prioritize using the available space to document matters pertaining to God. My primary objective is to encourage individuals to turn to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob for salvation. Consequently, I refrain from recording things that may please the world but focus on documenting aspects that are pleasing to God and to those who are not of the world. Therefore, I shall instruct my descendants to avoid filling these plates with information lacking significance to humanity.

### Chapter Seven.

Following my father Lehi's conclusion of prophesying about his descendants, the Lord spoke to him once more. He conveyed that it was not suitable for Lehi to lead his family into the wilderness alone. Instead, his sons were instructed to take daughters as wives, with the purpose of raising a righteous posterity in *The Promised Land*. Consequently, the Lord commanded that I, Nephi, and my brothers should return to Jerusalem to bring Ishmael and his family into the wilderness.

Following this divine instruction, I, along with my brothers, made our way back to Jerusalem. Upon reaching the house of Ishmael, we found favor in his sight. The Lord softened Ishmael's heart and the hearts of his household, prompting them to join us on the journey to our father's tent.

However, during our journey, Laman, Lemuel, two of the daughters of Ishmael, two sons of Ishmael, and their families, rebelled against us, desiring to return to Jerusalem.

Distressed by their hardened hearts, I addressed Laman and Lemuel, my elder brothers, questioning their resistance to the Lord's word. I reminded them of the angelic visitation and the miraculous deliverance from Laban, urging them to believe and remain faithful. I warned of the

impending destruction of Jerusalem, emphasizing that the Spirit of the Lord would soon cease to strive with the people due to their rejection of prophets, including the imprisonment of Jeremiah and the persecution of my father.

Advising them against returning to Jerusalem, I declared that they would perish if they chose to go back.

Enraged by my words, my brothers bound me with cords, seeking to end my life and leave me in the wilderness. In my distress, I prayed to the Lord for deliverance and strength to break the bonds. The Lord loosened the bands miraculously, and I stood before my brethren, speaking to them again.

Despite their initial anger, Ishmael's wife, one of their daughters, and one of their sons pleaded on my behalf, softening my brothers' hearts. They ceased their attempts on my life, and we continued our journey.

Overcome with remorse, my brothers bowed down before me, seeking forgiveness for their wickedness. I graciously forgave them, urging them to also pray to the Lord for forgiveness.

After their prayers, we resumed our journey, arriving at our father's tent. Together with the house of Ishmael, we offered thanks and sacrifices to the Lord.

### Chapter Eight.

**W**e gathered a diverse array of seeds, including various grains and fruit, in preparation for our journey.

While my father stayed in the wilderness, he shared a dream or, in other words, a vision with us. He rejoiced in the Lord due to what he saw, anticipating the salvation of Nephi, Sam, and their descendants. However, he expressed great concern for Laman and Lemuel, as he had seen a vision of a dark and dreary wilderness.

In his dream, a man in a white robe led him to a tree with desirable fruit.

After praying in darkness for mercy, my father beheld a spacious field with a tree bearing sweet and exceedingly white fruit. Overjoyed, he wished his family to partake of it, especially since the fruit was desirable above all.

Spotting a river near the tree, my father saw Sariah, Sam, and Nephi at its head, unsure of where to go. Beckoning to them, my father invited them to partake of the fruit. Despite seeing Laman and Lemuel, my father's elder sons refused to join and enjoy the desirable fruit.

In addition to the river, my father observed a rod of iron along its bank, leading to the tree. Beside it, a narrow path extended to a vast field resembling a world.

Numerous people pressed forward to obtain the path leading to the tree. Yet, a mist of darkness arose, causing some to lose their way.

Others, holding onto the rod of iron, pressed forward through the mist, partaking of the tree's fruit. Yet, upon tasting the fruit, they felt ashamed.

My father noticed a great and spacious building on the other side of the river, filled with finely dressed people mocking those partaking of the fruit. Those who succumbed to the mocking fell away into forbidden paths and were lost.

To summarize, my father witnessed more multitudes holding onto the rod of iron, partaking of the fruit, and falling away due to scorn. Many were drowned in the fountain, while others were lost from view, wandering in strange roads. A vast multitude entered the great and spacious building, scorning those enjoying the fruit.



My father concluded his vision by expressing concern for Laman and Lemuel, fearing they might be cast off from the Lord's presence.

After preaching and prophesying, my father exhorted Laman and Lemuel to keep the commandments of the Lord; ceasing his words.

### Chapter Nine.

**M**y father witnessed and spoke of all these things while dwelling in a tent in the valley of Lemuel, and there were many more things he saw and heard that cannot be recorded on these plates.

Regarding these plates, they are not the ones where I provide a comprehensive account of the history of my people. The plates on which I document the full history of my people are named after me, Nephi. Therefore, they are referred to as the plates of Nephi, and these plates also bear the same designation. However, I have received a commandment from the Lord to create these plates specifically for the purpose of recording an account of the ministry of my people. On the other plates, there should be an inscription detailing the reign of the kings, as well as the wars and conflicts of my people. The plates of Nephi primarily focus on the ministry, while the other plates primarily cover the reigns of the kings and the wars and contentions among my people.

The Lord has directed me to create these plates for a wise purpose known to Him, a purpose that I, myself, do not fully comprehend. Yet, the Lord has complete knowledge from the beginning, and He prepares a way to accomplish all His works among the children of men. For, behold, He possesses all power to fulfill His words. And so it is. Amen.

### Chapter Ten.

**N**ow, I, Nephi, proceed to document on these plates an account of my actions, reign, and ministry. To fulfill this account, I must delve into the matters concerning my father and my brethren. After my father concluded his discourse on the words of his dream and exhorted them to diligence, he spoke to them about the Jews. He prophesied that, following the destruction of the great city Jerusalem, with many being carried away captive into Babylon at the appointed time of the Lord, they would return and possess their land after their release from captivity, precisely six hundred years from my father's departure from Jerusalem. In that future time, the Lord God would raise up a prophet among the Jews, a Messiah or Savior of the world.

My father also spoke about the numerous prophets who testified of this Messiah, the Redeemer of the world. Thus, all mankind, being in a lost and fallen state, could only be redeemed by relying on this Savior.

He also spoke of a prophet who would precede the Messiah, preparing the way of the Lord. This precursor would cry in the wilderness, urging the people to prepare the way for the Lord. He proclaimed the presence of someone mightier than himself, whose shoelace he was not worthy to unloose. My father emphasized this point significantly. He declared that this prophet would baptize in Bethabara, beyond Jordan, and would baptize with water, even baptizing the Messiah with water. After baptizing the Messiah, he would bear witness that he had baptized the Lamb of God, who would take away the sins of the world.

Following these declarations, my father spoke to my brethren about the gospel that would be preached among the Jews and their subsequent dwindling in unbelief. After slaying the Messiah, He would rise from the dead and manifest Himself to the Gentiles through the Holy Ghost. My father expounded on the Gentiles and the house of Israel, comparing them to an olive tree. The branches

would be broken off and scattered across the earth. It was necessary for us to be led into the land of promise and be scattered throughout the earth. After the house of Israel was scattered, they would be gathered again. After the Gentiles received the fullness of the Gospel, the remnants of the house of Israel would be grafted in and come to the knowledge of the true Messiah, their Lord and Redeemer.

In this manner, my father prophesied and spoke to my brethren about many things, not all of which are recorded in this book. I have included as many as were suitable in my other book. All these events, including my father's visions and utterances through the power of the Holy Ghost, occurred while he dwelt in a tent in the valley of Lemuel.

After hearing all these words from my father concerning the visions he saw and the things he spoke through the power of the Holy Ghost, received by faith in the Son of God—Jesus Christ, the Messiah—I, Nephi, desired to see, hear, and know of these things through the power of the Holy Ghost, a gift bestowed upon all who diligently seek God, both in ancient and future times. For God is unchanging yesterday, today, and forever, and the way is prepared for all from the foundation of the world, provided they repent and turn to Him. Those who diligently seek shall find, and the mysteries of God shall be revealed through the power of the Holy Ghost, both in ancient and future times. The Lord's course is an eternal round.

Therefore, O man, remember that your actions will be subject to judgment. If you have sought to do wickedly during your probation, you will be found unclean before the judgment seat of God. No unclean thing can dwell with God; thus, you will be cast off forever. The Holy Ghost authorizes me to declare these things, and I do not deny them.

### Chapter Eleven.

**A**fter I desired to know the things my father had seen, believing the Lord could make them known to me, I was caught away in the Spirit of the Lord. I found myself on an exceedingly high mountain, unseen before and untouched by my foot.

The Spirit asked: What do you desire?

I replied: I want to see the things my father saw.

The Spirit asked: Do you believe your father saw the tree he spoke of?

I affirmed, Yes, you know I believe all my father's words.

Upon hearing this, the Spirit exclaimed with a loud voice: Hosanna to the Lord, the most high God! For He is God over all the earth, even above all. Blessed are you, Nephi, because you believe in the Son of the most high God. Therefore, you shall see the things you desire.

The Spirit declared that, as a sign, after seeing the tree bearing the fruit my father tasted, I would witness a man descending from heaven. I would testify that he is the Son of God.

The Spirit instructed me to look. I saw a tree resembling the one my father had seen, surpassing all beauty. Its whiteness exceeded that of driven snow.

After seeing the tree, I told the Spirit that I acknowledged it as the most precious tree.

The Spirit asked: What else do you desire?

I responded: I want to know its interpretation.

I spoke to the Spirit as one person does to another. Though he appeared in the form of a man, I knew it was the Spirit of the Lord, speaking as one person speaks to another.

The Spirit told me to look again. As I did, he disappeared from my presence. I saw the great city of Jerusalem and other cities. In Nazareth, I beheld a virgin of exceptional beauty and whiteness.

The heavens opened, and an angel appeared before me, asking: Nephi, what do you see?

I replied: A virgin, more beautiful and fair than any other.

The angel inquired: Do you understand the condescension of God?

I replied: I know He loves His children, but I do not comprehend everything.

The angel explained: The virgin you see is the mother of the Son of God, after the manner of the flesh.

The Spirit carried her away, and after a while, the angel said: Look!

I saw the virgin again, holding a child in her arms.

The angel said: Behold the Lamb of God, the Son of the Eternal Father! Do you understand the meaning of the tree your father saw?

I answered: Yes, it is the love of God, which extends to the hearts of all people, making it the most desirable of all things.

The angel added: And the most joyous to the soul.

After these words, the angel said: Look!

I beheld the Son of God ministering to people, with many falling down at His feet in worship.

I saw that the rod of iron my father saw was the word of God, leading to the fountain of living waters or the tree of life. The waters represented the love of God, and the tree of life also symbolized the love of God.

The angel said again: Look and behold the condescension of God!

I witnessed the Redeemer of the world, as my father had spoken. I also saw the prophet who would prepare the way for Him. The Lamb of God was baptized, and the heavens opened, with the Holy Ghost descending like a dove.

I observed Him ministering in great power and glory to multitudes who gathered to hear Him. However, they cast Him out from among them. Twelve others followed Him, but they were taken away in the Spirit, unseen by me.

The angel spoke again, saying: Look!

I saw the heavens open once more, with angels descending upon the children of men, ministering unto them.

The angel spoke again, saying: Look!

I beheld the Lamb of God among the people, healing the sick, those afflicted with diseases, devils, and unclean spirits. They were healed by the power of the Lamb of God, and the evil spirits were cast out.

Again, the angel said: Look!

I saw the Lamb of God taken by the people, judged by the world, and lifted up upon the cross for the sins of the world. After being slain, I saw the multitudes of the earth gathered to fight against the apostles of the Lamb, as named by the angel of the Lord.

The multitude of the earth, akin to the building my father saw, gathered together, representing the pride of the world. This great and spacious building fell with exceedingly great destruction. The angel revealed that this would be the fate of all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people opposing the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

## Chapter Twelve.

The angel said to me: Look and see your descendants and those of your brothers.

I gazed upon *The Promised Land*, witnessing multitudes as numerous as the sands of the sea. There, I observed large gatherings engaged in battles, wars, and great slaughters among my people. Many generations passed in a cycle of wars and conflicts, and numerous cities emerged, too many to count.

Then, a mist of darkness covered the land, accompanied by lightning, thunderings, earthquakes, and tumultuous noises. The earth and rocks rent, mountains crumbled, and plains and cities were broken, sunk, and burned by fire.

After witnessing these catastrophic events, I saw the vapor of darkness dissipate from the earth, revealing multitudes spared from the Lord's severe judgments. The heavens opened, and the Lamb of God descended, revealing Himself to them.

I also witnessed the Holy Ghost descending upon twelve others, ordained and chosen by God. The angel told me: These are the twelve disciples of the Lamb, chosen to minister to your descendants.

He reminded me of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, explaining that they would judge the twelve tribes of Israel, including the ministers chosen for my descendants. These ministers, like the apostles, would be judged based on their righteousness as part of the house of Israel.

The angel continued: These twelve ministers you see will judge your descendants and remain righteous forever. Their garments are made white in the blood of the Lamb due to their faith in Him.

He instructed me to look, and I witnessed three generations passing away in righteousness, with garments as white as the Lamb of God. The angel explained that their faith in the Lamb purified them. I, Nephi, also saw many of the fourth generation passing away in righteousness.

As the multitudes of the earth gathered, the angel instructed me to behold my seed and the seed of my brothers. I saw the people of my seed gathered against the seed of my brothers, prepared for battle.

The angel explained that the fountain of filthy water my father saw represented a river—the depths of hell. The mists of darkness symbolized the devil's temptations, blinding eyes, hardening hearts, and leading people astray.

The large and spacious building my father saw represented vain imaginations and the pride of humankind, separated by a great gulf—the word of the justice of the Eternal God and the Messiah, the Lamb of God.

As the angel spoke, I witnessed my brothers' seed contending against mine. Due to the pride of my seed and the devil's temptations, the seed of my brothers dominating mine.

I observed the people of my brothers' seed overcoming mine, going forth in multitudes across the land. They gathered in great numbers, engaging in wars and rumors of wars. Many generations passed in these conflicts.

The angel predicted: Behold, they shall weaken toward skepticism.

After dwindling in unbelief, they became a dark, loathsome, and filthy people, consumed by idleness and various abominations.

## Chapter Thirteen.

And it happened that the angel spoke to me, saying: Observe! So, I looked and saw numerous nations and kingdoms.

The angel asked me: What do you see?

I replied: I see many nations and kingdoms.

He said to me: These are the nations and kingdoms of the Gentiles. I witnessed the formation of a great church among the nations of the Gentiles.

The angel informed me: Behold the establishment of a church, the most abominable among all others, which persecutes and oppresses the saints of God, inflicting torture, binding them, enslaving them with an iron yoke, and subjecting them to captivity. I observed this great and abominable church, and I recognized that the devil was its founder. I also saw gold, silver, silk, scarlet, fine linen, and various precious garments, along with many harlots. The angel explained: The gold, silver, silk, scarlet, fine linen, precious clothing, and harlots represent the desires of this great and abominable church. They destroy the saints of God and bring them into captivity for the praise of the world.

I then saw many waters dividing the Gentiles from the seed of my brethren. The angel declared: Behold, the wrath of God is upon the seed of thy brethren. I observed a man among the Gentiles, separated by many waters from the seed of my brethren. The Spirit of God descended upon him, and he journeyed across the waters to *The Promised Land* where my brethren resided. The Spirit of God similarly influenced other Gentiles, leading them out of captivity across many waters.

I saw multitudes of Gentiles on *The Promised Land*, witnessing the wrath of God upon the seed of my brethren, who were scattered and afflicted by the Gentiles.

The Spirit of the Lord blessed the Gentiles, making them prosperous and giving them the land for their inheritance. They were white, fair, and beautiful, resembling my people before their destruction.

I, Nephi, saw that the Gentiles who had escaped captivity humbled themselves before the Lord, and the Lord's power was with them. Mother Gentiles gathered to battle against them on both land and waters. The power of God was with the Gentiles, and the wrath of God struck those who fought against them. The Gentiles who had been in captivity were delivered by the power of God from the hands of other nations.

I, Nephi, witnessed their prosperity in the land, and I saw a book carried among them.

The angel asked: Do you understand the meaning of the book?

I replied: I do not.

He explained: The book is a record of the Jews, containing the Lord's covenants and prophecies of holy prophets. Though similar to the brass plates, it holds great worth for the Gentiles.

The angel added: The book, when it first came from the mouth of a Jew, contained the full gospel of the Lord, as testified by the twelve apostles in truth about the Lamb of God.

These truths, going from the Jews to the Gentiles through the twelve apostles, led to the formation of the great and abominable church. They removed plain and precious parts and covenants from the gospel of the Lamb.

This was done to pervert the right ways of the Lord, to blind and harden the hearts of men. Thus, after the book passed through the great and abominable church, many plain and precious things were removed.

After these things were taken away, the book went to all Gentile nations. Due to the loss of plain and precious truths, many stumbled, giving Satan great power over them. Yet, despite stumbling, the Gentiles, lifted by God's power, were protected from utterly destroying the seed of my brethren.

The Lord would not allow the Gentiles to forever remain in a state of blindness caused by the abominable church's actions. The Lord promised mercy to the Gentiles and a judgment upon the

remnant of the house of Israel. The Lamb of God declared: I will be merciful to the Gentiles, visiting the remnant of the house of Israel in judgment. After this judgment, the Lamb would be merciful to the Gentiles, revealing much of his gospel in power.

The Gentiles, stumbling due to the loss of plain and precious parts, would receive a manifestation of the Lamb's gospel, bringing forth plain and precious truths. The Lamb promised to manifest himself to the seed, and they would write many plain and precious things.

After their destruction, these things would be hidden up to come forth among the Gentiles by the Lamb's gift and power. The gospel, rock, and salvation would be written in these records. Those seeking to bring forth Zion would be blessed with the gift and power of the Holy Ghost, and if they endured, they would be saved in the everlasting kingdom of the Lamb.

I saw the remnant of my brethren's seed and the book of the Lamb coming from the Gentiles to them. Other books also came forth from the Gentiles by the power of the Lamb, convincing Gentiles, the remnant of my brethren's seed, and scattered Jews of the truth of the records of prophets and the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

The angel explained that these last records would establish the truth of the first, making known the plain and precious things taken away. They would declare that the Lamb of God is the Savior of the world, and all must come unto him for salvation. All nations, kindreds, tongues, and people would know that there is one God and one Shepherd over all the earth.

The time would come when the Lamb would manifest himself to all nations, Jews, and Gentiles, making the last first and the first last.

#### Chapter Fourteen.

If the Gentiles listen to the Lamb of God on that day, he will reveal himself to them in both word and power, truly removing their stumbling blocks. If they do not harden their hearts against the Lamb of God, they will be counted among the seed of your father, among the house of Israel. They will be a blessed people on *The Promised Land* forever, no longer subjected to captivity, and the house of Israel will not face confusion. The great pit, dug for them by the great and abominable church founded by the devil and his children, intended to lead souls to hell—yes, that vast pit created for the destruction of men shall be filled by those who dug it, leading to their complete destruction; said the Lamb of God. This is not the destruction of the soul, except being cast into the endless hell. For this aligns with the captivity of the devil and the justice of God upon all those who engage in wickedness and abominations before Him.

The angel spoke to me, saying: You have seen that if the Gentiles repent, it will be well with them. You also know about the covenants of the Lord with the house of Israel, and you have heard that those who do not repent will perish. Therefore, woe to the Gentiles if they harden their hearts against the Lamb of God. For the time will come, declares the Lamb of God, when I will work a great and marvelous work among the children of men—an everlasting work, either leading to their conviction unto peace and eternal life or delivering them to the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds, causing them to be brought down into captivity and destruction, both temporally and spiritually, in accordance with the captivity of the devil, as I have explained.

When the angel had spoken these words, he said to me: Do you remember the covenants of the Father with the house of Israel? I said to him: Yes. He then said to me: Look, and behold that great and abominable church, the mother of abominations, whose founder is the devil. There are only two churches: the church of the Lamb of God and the church of the devil. Anyone not belonging to the

church of the Lamb of God belongs to the great church, the mother of abominations, the whore of the entire earth.

I looked and saw the whore of the entire earth sitting upon many waters, having dominion over all the earth, among all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people. I saw the church of the Lamb of God, and its numbers were few due to the wickedness and abominations of the whore sitting upon many waters. Yet, I observed that the church of the Lamb, the saints of God, existed throughout the earth, even though their dominions were small due to the wickedness of the great whore I saw.

The great mother of abominations gathered multitudes from all nations of the Gentiles upon the face of the earth to fight against the Lamb of God. I, Nephi, witnessed the power of the Lamb of God descending upon the saints of the church of the Lamb and the covenant people of the Lord, scattered throughout the earth. They were armed with righteousness and the power of God in great glory.

The wrath of God was poured out upon that great and abominable church, resulting in wars and rumors of wars among all nations and kindreds of the earth. As wars and rumors of wars spread among all nations belonging to the mother of abominations, the angel spoke to me, saying: Behold, the wrath of God is upon the mother of harlots; you see all these things. When the day comes that the wrath of God is poured out upon the mother of harlots—the great and abominable church of the entire earth, founded by the devil—on that day, the work of the Father will begin in preparing the way for fulfilling his covenants with his people, the house of Israel.

The angel spoke to me, saying: Look!

I looked and saw a man dressed in a white robe.

The angel said to me: Behold one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. He will see and write the remainder of these things, including many things that have been. He will also write about the end of the world. The things he writes are just and true, and they are written in the book you saw coming from the mouth of the Jew. At the time they came from the mouth of the Jew, the things written were plain, pure, most precious, and easily understood by all men. The apostle of the Lamb will write many things you have seen, and you will observe the remainder. But the things you will see in the future, you are not to write; the Lord God has ordained the apostle of the Lamb to write them. Others who have been shown all things by the Lord have written them. These writings are sealed to come forth in their purity according to the truth in the Lamb, at the appointed time of the Lord, for the house of Israel.

I, Nephi, heard and bear witness that the apostle of the Lamb is named John, as the angel declared. I am prohibited from writing the rest of the things I saw and heard; what I have written is sufficient for me. I have recorded only a small part of what I saw. I bear witness that I saw the things my father saw, and the angel of the Lord made them known to me. I now conclude my account of the things I saw while I was carried away in the Spirit. If not all the things I saw are written, the things I have written are true. Amen.

### Chapter Fifteen.

**A**fter I had been carried away in the Spirit and seen all these things, I returned to my father's tent. I observed my brothers, engaged in disputes about the things our father had spoken to them. He had indeed spoken many profound things to them, which were challenging to understand unless one inquired of the Lord. However, being hard in their hearts, they did not seek the Lord as they should have.

Now, I, Nephi, was troubled by the hardness of their hearts and by what I had seen. I knew that certain events were inevitable due to the great wickedness of humanity. Overwhelmed by my afflictions, I considered them great, especially in light of the destruction of my people, which I had witnessed.

After gaining strength, I spoke to my brothers, eager to understand the cause of their disputes. They replied, saying: We cannot comprehend the words our father spoke regarding the natural branches of the olive tree and the Gentiles.

I asked them: Have you inquired of the Lord?

Their response was: No, for the Lord does not make such things known to us.

I said to them: How is it that you do not keep the commandments of the Lord? How is it that you will perish due to the hardness of your hearts? Do you not recall what the Lord has said? If you do not harden your hearts, ask me in faith, believe that you will receive, and diligently keep my commandments, surely these things will be revealed to you.

I tell you; the house of Israel was compared to an olive tree by the Spirit of the Lord in our father. Are we not broken off from the house of Israel, a branch of that house? The meaning of our father concerning the grafting in of the natural branches through the fulness of the Gentiles is that, in the latter days, after our seed has dwindled in unbelief for many years and generations following the manifestation of the Messiah to humanity, the fulness of the gospel of the Messiah will come to the Gentiles and, from them to the remnant of our seed. On that day, the remnant of our seed will know that they are of the house of Israel, the covenant people of the Lord. They will come to the knowledge of their forefathers and the gospel of their Redeemer, ministered to their fathers by Him. Thus, they will understand their Redeemer and the essence of His doctrine, enabling them to come unto Him and be saved.

Will they not, on that day, rejoice and praise their everlasting God, their rock and salvation? Will they not receive strength and nourishment from the true vine? Will they not come into the true fold of God? Indeed, yes; they shall be remembered among the house of Israel, grafted in as a natural branch of the olive tree into the true olive tree.

This is the meaning given by our father, signifying that it will not occur until after they are scattered by the Gentiles. He indicates that it will happen through the Gentiles so that the Lord may demonstrate His power to them, as He will be rejected by the Jews or the house of Israel. Therefore, our father did not speak only of our seed but also of all the house of Israel, pointing to the covenant to be fulfilled in the latter days. This covenant the Lord made with our father Abraham, stating: In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

I, Nephi, spoke at length to them about these matters, addressing the restoration of the Jews in the latter days. I recounted the words of Isaiah, who spoke of the restoration of the Jews or the house of Israel. Once restored, they would no longer be confounded or scattered again. As I spoke many words to my brothers, they were pacified and humbled themselves before the Lord.

However, they spoke to me again, asking: What does our father's dream mean? What does the tree he saw represent?

I replied: It was a representation of the tree of life.

They inquired: What does the rod of iron that our father saw, leading to the tree, signify?

I explained to them that it was the word of God. Those who would heed the word of God and hold fast to it would never perish. The temptations and fiery darts of the adversary could not overpower them, leading them to blindness and destruction. Therefore, I, Nephi, exhorted them to give heed to



the word of the Lord. I did so with all the energies of my soul and every faculty at my disposal, urging them to always heed the word of God and remember to keep His commandments in all things.

They questioned me further: What does the river of water our father saw represent?

I told them that the water our father saw symbolized filthiness. His mind was so absorbed in other matters that he did not perceive the filthiness of the water. I explained to them that it represented an awful gulf separating the wicked from the tree of life and the saints of God. The river represented the dreadful hell, as the angel had disclosed, prepared for the wicked. I clarified that our father also saw the justice of God dividing the wicked from the righteous. Its brightness resembled the brilliance of a flaming fire ascending to God forever, having no end.

They asked: Does this symbolize the torment of the body during the days of probation, or does it refer to the final state of the soul after the death of the temporal body, or does it speak of temporal matters?

I conveyed to them that it represented both temporal and spiritual aspects. The day would come when they must be judged for their works, even those done by the temporal body in their probationary days. Therefore, if they died in their wickedness, they would be cast off concerning spiritual matters related to righteousness. Thus, they would stand before God to be judged for their works. If their works were filthy, then they are filthy, and if they were filthy, they could not dwell in the kingdom of God, as the kingdom of God could not be filthy.

I declared: The kingdom of God is not filthy; no unclean thing can enter it. Therefore, there must be a place of filthiness prepared for that which is filthy. Indeed, there is a place prepared, that awful hell of which I have spoken, and the devil is its preparator. Hence, the final state of the souls of men is either to dwell in the kingdom of God or be cast out due to the justice I have described. Consequently, the wicked are separated from the righteous and from that tree of life, whose fruit is most precious and desirable above all other fruits. It is the greatest of all the gifts of God. Thus, I spoke to my brothers. Amen.

### Chapter Sixteen.

**N**ow, after I, Nephi, had finished speaking to my brothers, they said to me: You have declared to us things that are too hard for us to bear. I acknowledged that I had spoken harshly against the wicked in truth, justifying the righteous and testifying that they would be exalted on the last day. The guilty find the truth hard because it cuts them to the core.

My brothers, if you were righteous and willing to heed the truth, walking uprightly before God, you would not complain about the truth, saying: You speak harshly against us.

I diligently exhorted my brothers to keep the commandments of the Lord. They humbled themselves before the Lord, giving me great joy and hope that they would follow the paths of righteousness. All these events transpired while my father dwelt in a tent in the valley he called Lemuel.

I took one of Ishmael's daughters as my wife, and my brothers also married daughters of Ishmael. Zoram, too, took Ishmael's eldest daughter as his wife. In fulfilling all the commandments given by the Lord, my father, and I, Nephi, had been exceedingly blessed.

Then, the voice of the Lord spoke to my father at night, commanding him to journey into the wilderness the next day. As my father arose in the morning and went to the tent door, he was astonished to find a round ball of fine brass on the ground. Within the ball were two spindles, with one pointing the way into the wilderness.

We gathered our provisions and seeds, following the direction indicated by the ball, crossing the river Laman. After traveling for four days in a south-southeast direction, we pitched our tents again, naming the place Shazer. Armed with bows and arrows, we ventured into the wilderness to hunt for food. Upon returning to our families at Shazer, we set out again, keeping close to the Red Sea's fertile borders. We traveled for many days, relying on the ball's guidance in the more fertile parts of the wilderness.

After several days, we pitched our tents to rest and gather food for our families. It was then that I broke my bow made of fine steel. This angered my brothers as we returned without food.

Laman, Lemuel, and the sons of Ishmael began to murmur due to their suffering in the wilderness. Even my father murmured against the Lord, and they were all exceedingly sorrowful, murmuring against the Lord.

Afflicted by my brothers' hardened hearts, I crafted a bow from wood and an arrow from a straight stick. Armed with a bow, arrow, sling, and stones, I asked my father where I should go for food. Inquiring of the Lord, my father, chastened by his earlier murmuring, was brought down into deep sorrow. The Lord's voice spoke to him, and he trembled, as did my brothers, the sons of Ishmael, and our wives.

Examining the ball, we observed that the pointers worked according to our faith and diligence. New writings appeared, providing understanding of the Lord's ways, changing according to our faith and diligence. This demonstrated that small means could bring about great things by the Lord.

Following the ball's directions, I ascended a mountain and slew wild beasts, providing food for our families. Returning to our tents with the slain beasts, their joy was immense upon seeing the food I had obtained. They humbled themselves before the Lord, giving thanks.

Continuing our journey, we pitched our tents again after traveling for many days.

Ishmael died and was buried in Nahom. Ishmael's daughters mourned their father's loss and murmured against my father, stating that we had suffered much and would perish in the wilderness.

Desiring to return to Jerusalem, Laman suggested slaying our father and me, claiming that I had deceived them with cunning arts, pretending the Lord had spoken to me. However, the Lord chastened them through His voice, leading them to repent and turn away from their anger.

The Lord blessed us with food again, preventing our demise.

### Chapter Seventeen.

**W**e resumed our journey in the wilderness, traveling predominantly eastward. We faced considerable affliction and our women bore children during our time in the wilderness. Despite living on raw meat, the Lord's blessings were abundant. Our women nursed their children plentifully, growing strong, even as men. They began to endure their journey without murmuring. This illustrates that God's commandments must be fulfilled. As long as people obey these commandments, God nurtures, strengthens, and provides the means for them to accomplish His will. During our sojourn in the wilderness, He indeed provided for us.

We stayed in the wilderness for eight years. Finally, we reached the land we named Bountiful, blessed with abundant fruit and wild honey, all prepared by the Lord to prevent our perishing. We saw the sea named Irreantum, interpreted as: Many Waters. Setting up our tents by the seashore, we rejoiced immensely despite enduring numerous afflictions and difficulties. This place, named Bountiful, brought joy due to its abundant fruit.

After spending many days in the land of Bountiful, the Lord's voice instructed me to arise and go into the mountain. Following this command, I went into the mountain and cried unto the Lord. The Lord spoke to me, instructing me to build a ship according to His guidance, to carry my people across the waters. I inquired of the Lord where to find ore for making tools to construct the ship, and He directed me to the source.

I, Nephi, crafted a bellows from the skins of beasts to blow the fire and, subsequently, ignited a fire by striking two stones together. Until then, the Lord had prohibited us from making much fire during our wilderness journey, promising to sweeten our food so we wouldn't need to cook it. While journeying, the Lord also promised to be our light and prepare the way if we kept His commandments. Therefore, I crafted the necessary tools without making much fire.

The Lord further stated that keeping His commandments would lead us toward *The Promised Land*, ensuring we knew He had delivered us from destruction and brought us out of Jerusalem. Striving to keep the Lord's commandments, I encouraged my brethren to be faithful and diligent.

I then fashioned tools from the molten ore extracted from the rock. Witnessing my preparations to build a ship, my brethren began to murmur, doubting my ability to construct it and cross the great waters. They complained, stating that I was a fool and lacked judgment. They refused to believe I was instructed by the Lord.

Saddened by the hardness of their hearts, my brethren rejoiced upon seeing my sorrow, claiming that I couldn't accomplish such a great task. They compared me to our father, accusing me of being led by foolish imaginations and making unfounded decisions. They questioned the wisdom of leaving Jerusalem and enduring years of suffering in the wilderness. My brethren contended that our father and I lacked judgment, leading us away from a righteous people in Jerusalem. They expressed regret for the hardships endured, claiming it would have been better to die at home than suffer these afflictions. According to them, we could have enjoyed our possessions and the land of our inheritance for many years. They believed the people in Jerusalem were righteous, keeping the statutes and judgments of the Lord, and judged that our father led us away due to our refusal to hearken to his words. They asserted that I, too, resembled our father in this regard. Thus, my brethren murmured and complained in this manner against us.

I, Nephi, addressed them: Would our fathers, the children of Israel, have been delivered from the Egyptians if they hadn't heeded the Lord's words? Consider whether they would have escaped slavery if the Lord hadn't commanded Moses to lead them. The children of Israel were in burdensome bondage, but being brought out of it was undoubtedly a blessing.

Moses, commanded by the Lord, performed miracles, such as parting the Red Sea and leading them through on dry ground, while the Egyptian armies drowned. They were sustained with manna in the wilderness, and Moses, by God's power, brought water from a rock to quench their thirst. Despite these blessings, the people, with the Lord leading them day and night, hardened their hearts, reviling against Moses and God.

After crossing the River Jordan, the Lord empowered them to forcefully expel the inhabitants of the land, scattering them to destruction. Now, can you presume that the descendants of the land, who were in *The Promised Land* and were displaced by our fathers, were righteous? I tell you, no. Do you think our fathers would have been more favored than those inhabitants if they had been righteous? No.

The Lord curses the land against the wicked but blesses it for the righteous to obtain power over it. The Lord created the earth to be inhabited, and He supports righteous nations while destroying

the wicked. The Lord leads away the righteous to precious lands and curses the land for the sake of the wicked.

The Lord, high in the heavens, loves those who make Him their God, remembering covenants with our fathers like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

In the wilderness, the Lord disciplined our fathers, sending serpents among them. He provided healing for those who looked upon a raised serpent, but some perished due to the simplicity of the remedy. After these events, the people became wicked, nearly ripe for destruction, with only a few exceptions led away into captivity.

The Lord commanded my father to depart into the wilderness, as the Jews and others sought to take his life, making them akin to murderers. Despite seeing angels and hearing the Lord's voice, the people were slow to remember Him, being past feeling.

By His almighty word, the Lord can cause the earth to pass away or make rough places smooth, yet the people harden their hearts. My soul is anguished, fearing you may be cast off forever. I'm filled with the Spirit, lacking strength in my frame.

Upon hearing this, they grew angry and desired to throw me into the sea. I warned them not to touch me, as I was filled with the power of God.

Do not murmur against our father; labor on the ship as God instructed. I told them: If God required it, I could do all things, even commanding the elements. If the Lord has such great power and worked miracles, He can surely instruct me to build a ship.

I confounded my brethren with my words, and they dared not lay hands on me for many days, fearing they might wither before the power of God.

The Lord instructed me to stretch forth my hand, promising not to wither them but to shock them to recognize Him as their God. As I stretched forth my hand, the Lord shook them, fulfilling His word. They acknowledged the Lord's power and were about to worship me, but I stopped them, emphasizing that I was their brother. I urged them to worship the Lord, honor our parents, and ensure longevity in the land given by the Lord.

## Chapter Eighteen.

**A**nd so it happened that my brothers worshipped the Lord and joined me in working on the ship's timbers. The Lord guided me on the intricate craftsmanship required, not in the ways learned by men but in the manner revealed to me. I did not follow conventional methods but constructed the ship according to the Lord's guidance. It was a unique design, not fashioned after human ways. I frequently went into the mount and prayed to the Lord, receiving great revelations.

After completing the ship as per the Lord's instructions, my brethren recognized its excellence and fine workmanship, humbling themselves once again before the Lord.

The Lord's voice came to my father, instructing us to board the ship. On the next day, having prepared fruits, meat, honey, and provisions as commanded, we embarked on the ship with our belongings, seeds, wives, and children, everyone according to their age.

While in the wilderness, my father had two sons: Jacob and Joseph.

After boarding with our provisions, we set sail towards *The Promised Land*, driven by the wind. As days passed, my brethren, the sons of Ishmael, and their wives indulged in merriment, dancing, singing, and speaking rudely. They forgot by whose power they had come and became exceedingly arrogant.

Fearful of the Lord's anger due to our iniquity, I, Nephi, spoke to them with seriousness. However, they grew angry, saying: We will not let our younger brother rule over us.

Laman and Lemuel took me, bound me with cords, and treated me harshly. Yet, the Lord allowed it to demonstrate His power and fulfill His word concerning the wicked. Bound and unable to move, the Lord caused the compass, prepared for us, to cease working. In confusion, not knowing where to steer the ship, a great storm arose, and for three days, we were driven back upon the waters. Yet, they did not release me.

On the fourth day, the tempest worsened, and we were about to be swallowed up in the depths of the sea. Witnessing God's judgments upon them, my brethren recognized the need to repent, came to me, and loosed my swollen wrists and ankles. Despite afflictions, I looked to God, praising Him all day, without murmuring.

My father, Lehi, had spoken much to them, but they threatened anyone who spoke for me. Stricken in years and suffering grief due to their children's iniquity, my parents were near death on their sickbeds. Due to grief, sorrow, and my brethren's iniquity, they were about to be carried out of this life to meet God. Their grey hairs were almost laid low in the dust, nearing a watery grave. Jacob and Joseph, young and in need of nourishment, grieved for their mother's afflictions. Despite tears and prayers from my wife, children, and parents, my brethren's hearts remained unyielding.

Only the threat of God's power, poised for destruction, softened their hearts. When faced with the prospect of being swallowed by the sea, they repented and freed me.

After my release, I took the compass, and it worked as I desired. I prayed, and the winds and storm ceased, bringing a great calm. With my guidance, the ship sailed again towards *The Promised Land*.

After many days of sailing, we finally reached *The Promised Land*. We disembarked, pitched our tents, and named it: *The Promised Land*. Tilling the earth and planting seeds brought forth abundant harvests from the seeds we had brought from Jerusalem.

As we journeyed through the wilderness, we discovered various beasts in the forests, including cows, oxen, asses, horses, goats, wild goats, and all kinds of wild animals. We also found abundant ore, including gold, silver, and copper.

## Chapter Nineteen.

The Lord commanded me to make plates of ore so that I could engrave upon them the record of my people. I engraved the record of my father, our wilderness journeys, and my father's prophecies on these plates. Additionally, many of my own prophecies are engraved upon them. I knew not at the time when I made the plates that I should be commanded of the Lord to make them. Consequently, the record of my father, the genealogy of his fathers, and most of our proceedings in the wilderness are engraved on the first plates I mentioned. Therefore, events preceding the creation of these plates are more extensively documented on the first set.

After making these plates by commandment, I, Nephi, received another commandment to write the ministry, prophecies, especially the more plain and precious parts of them, on these plates. The written content was to be preserved for the instruction of my people who would inherit the land, and for other wise purposes known to the Lord. Therefore, I made a record on the other plates, offering a detailed account of the wars, contentions, and destructions among my people. I gave instructions to my people about these plates, emphasizing their transmission from one generation or prophet to another until further commandments from the Lord.

The account of how I made these plates will be provided later. Now, I proceed in a manner that safeguards the more sacred things for the knowledge of my people. However, I only engrave on plates what I deem sacred.

If I make an error, it is in line with the errors committed by others in the past. Not that I seek to excuse myself by others' actions, but acknowledging the weakness inherent in me, according to the flesh, I seek understanding. What some men value highly, both for the body and soul, others disdain and trample underfoot. Even the God of Israel is trampled upon, or as I would rather say, set at naught, with people not heeding His counsels.

The prophesied time soon approaches when, as the angel foretold, six hundred years from the departure of my father from Jerusalem, the Son of God will come. Due to the world's iniquity, people will judge Him as worthless. They will scourge, smite, and spit upon Him. Yet, He will endure it, expressing His loving kindness and longsuffering toward humanity. The God of our fathers, who led them out of Egypt and preserved them in the wilderness, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, will yield Himself as a man into the hands of wicked men. He will be lifted up, crucified, and buried, fulfilling the words of Zenock, Neum, and Zenos. The latter prophesied about the three days of darkness, a sign to those inhabiting the isles of the sea, especially to the house of Israel.

As the prophet foretold, the Lord God will visit all the house of Israel, some with His voice due to their righteousness, and others with the thunderings and lightnings of His power. This will happen through tempests, fire, smoke, vapor of darkness, opening of the earth, and mountains being carried up. All these events will undoubtedly unfold, as declared by the prophet Zenos. The rocks of the earth will rend, and the groanings of the earth will affect many kings of the isles of the sea, making them exclaim that the God of nature suffers.

Regarding those in Jerusalem, the prophet says they will be scourged by all people for crucifying the God of Israel and rejecting His signs, wonders, power, and glory. Due to turning their hearts aside and despising the Holy One of Israel, they will wander in the flesh, perish, become a hiss, a byword, and be hated among all nations.

Nevertheless, when the day comes that they no longer turn their hearts aside, the Lord will remember the covenants made with their fathers. At that time, the isles of the sea and all the people of the house of Israel will be gathered from the four quarters of the earth, according to the words of the prophet Zenos. The salvation of the Lord will be visible to all the earth—every nation, kindred, tongue, and people will be blessed, just as the prophet declares.

I have written these things for my people, hoping to persuade them to remember the Lord, their Redeemer. I address all the house of Israel, encouraging them to obtain these blessings. The Spirit works within me, causing weariness and weakness in all my joints, especially for those in Jerusalem. Had the Lord not been merciful in revealing their condition to me, as He did to prophets of old, I would have perished. The Lord showed the prophets of old all things concerning them and also revealed much about us. Therefore, it is necessary for us to know about them since their stories are recorded on the plates of brass.

I taught my brethren these things and read many accounts engraved on the brass plates about the Lord's doings in other lands and among people of old. I also read extensively from the books of Moses to persuade them more fully to believe in the Lord, their Redeemer. I likened all scriptures unto us for our profit and learning.

Therefore, I said to them: Listen to the words of the prophet, you who are a remnant of the house of Israel, a branch that has been broken off. Hear the words of the prophet written for all the

house of Israel and apply them to yourselves, so that you may have hope, as well as your brethren from whom you have been broken off, for the prophet has written in this manner.

## Chapter Twenty.

**L**isten attentively, O house of Jacob, identified as Israel, emerging from the waters of Judah, or the waters of baptism. You swear by the name of the Lord and mention the God of Israel, but your oaths lack truth and righteousness. Although you associate yourselves with the holy city, you do not rely on the God of Israel, who is the Lord of Hosts; indeed, the Lord of Hosts is His name.

I have proclaimed the events of the past from the beginning; they came forth from my mouth, and I revealed them suddenly. I did this knowing your obstinacy, your neck as an iron sinew, and your brow as brass; I declared them to you from the start; before they happened, I showed them to you, fearing you might say: My idol has done them, and my carved or molten image has commanded them.

You have witnessed and heard all this; will you not declare it? I have shown you new things from now, even hidden things you did not know. They are created now, not from the beginning; even before the time you did not hear them, they were declared to you, so you cannot say: Behold, I knew them.

Yes, you did not hear; you did not know; your ears were closed from that time because I knew you would deal very treacherously and were called a transgressor from birth.

Nevertheless, for the sake of my name, I will delay my anger and, for my praise, withhold myself from cutting you off. Behold, I have refined you; I have chosen you in the furnace of affliction. I will do this for my own sake, as I will not allow my name to be polluted, and I will not give my glory to another.

Listen to me, O Jacob, and Israel, my chosen, for I am He. I am the first, and I am also the last. My hand has laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand has spanned the heavens. I call to them, and they stand up together. All of you, gather yourselves and listen. Who among them has declared these things? The Lord loves him, and he will fulfill the word he has declared; he will execute his purpose on Babylon, and his arm will come upon the Chaldeans.

Also, says the Lord: I, the Lord, have spoken; I have called him to declare, I have brought him, and he will make his way prosperous. Come near to me; I have not spoken in secret. From the beginning, from the time it was declared, I have spoken, and the Lord God, and His Spirit, has sent me.

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I have sent him; the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go, has done it.

Oh, that you had listened to my commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea. Your descendants would have been like the sand; the offspring of your bowels like its gravel. His name would not have been cut off or destroyed from before me.

Go out of Babylon, flee from the Chaldeans. With a voice of singing, declare this, announce it to the end of the earth. Say: The Lord has redeemed his servant Jacob.

They did not thirst; he led them through the deserts; he caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them; he even split the rock, and the waters gushed out. Despite all this, and even greater deeds, the Lord says: There is no peace for the wicked.

## Chapter Twenty-one.

Once again, listen, O house of Israel—those who are broken off and dispersed due to the wickedness of the shepherds among my people. Yes, all of you who are scattered and belong to my people, O house of Israel. Isles, pay attention to me, and distant people, listen;

The Lord has called me from the womb, and my name has been mentioned from the bowels of my mother. He has made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand, he has hidden me and fashioned me into a polished arrow concealed in his quiver.

He said to me: You are my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.

Then I said: I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing. Surely my judgment is with the Lord, and my work with my God.

And now, says the Lord—who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him—even if Israel is not gathered, yet I will be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and my God will be my strength.

He said: It is a light thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and restore the preserved of Israel. I will also give you as a light to the Gentiles, that you may be my salvation to the ends of the earth.

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, his Holy One, to him whom man despises, whom the nations abhor, to the servant of rulers: Kings will see and arise; princes will worship because of the Lord, who is faithful.

The Lord said: In an acceptable time, I have heard you, O isles of the sea, and in a day of salvation, I have helped you. I will preserve you and give you my servant as a covenant to the people, to establish the earth and inherit the desolate heritages. You will say to the prisoners: Go forth; to those in darkness: Show yourselves.

They will feed along the ways, and their pastures will be in all high places. They will not hunger or thirst, neither will the heat nor the sun smite them, for he who has mercy on them will lead them, guiding them by the springs of water. I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways will be exalted.

Then, O house of Israel, behold, these shall come from far, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Sinim. Sing, O heavens, and be joyful, O earth, for the feet of those in the east shall be established. Break forth into singing, O mountains, for they shall be smitten no more; the Lord has comforted his people and will have mercy upon his afflicted.

But, behold, Zion has said: The Lord has forsaken me, and my Lord has forgotten me, but he will show that he has not. For can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yes, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee, O house of Israel. Behold, I have engraved thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. Thy children shall make haste against thy destroyers; and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee. Lift up thine eyes round about and behold; all these gather themselves together, and they shall come to thee. And as I live, says the Lord, thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all, as with an ornament, and bind them on even as a bride.

For thy waste and thy desolate places, and the land of thy destruction, shall even now be too narrow by reason of the inhabitants; and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away. The children whom thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the first, shall again in thine ears say: The place is too strait for me; give place to me that I may dwell.



Then shalt thou say in thine heart: Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? And who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where have they been?

Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles and set up my standard to the people; they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers; they shall bow down to thee with their face towards the earth and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the Lord; for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captives delivered? But thus says the Lord: Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered; for I will contend with him that contends with thee, and I will save thy children. And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; they shall be drunken with their own blood as with sweet wine; and all flesh shall know that I, the Lord, am thy Savior and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

### Chapter Twenty-two.

**A**fter I, Nephi, had perused the engravings on the brass plates, my brethren approached, questioning the meaning of these words. They inquired whether these prophecies pertained to spiritual matters, foretelling events of the spirit rather than the physical world. I responded, explaining that the manifestations were revealed to the prophet through the voice of the Spirit. The Spirit discloses all things that will occur among the children of men, both in the temporal and spiritual realms. These inscriptions, as I have read, concern both temporal and spiritual matters

The house of Israel, sooner or later, will be dispersed throughout the entire earth, scattered among various nations. Indeed, many have already vanished from the minds of those in Jerusalem. Most tribes have been led away, scattered across the isles of the sea. Their exact whereabouts remain unknown to us, except that we are aware of their dispersion. The prophecies foretell events concerning them and all future scattered descendants, who will face confusion due to their rejection of the Holy One of Israel. They will be dispersed among nations and become despised by all.

Nevertheless, after being nurtured by the Gentiles, the Lord will raise a mighty nation among them on this land. Through this nation, our descendants will be scattered.

Once our seed is scattered, the Lord will perform a remarkable work among the Gentiles, beneficial to our descendants. This is likened to their nourishment by the Gentiles, being carried in their arms and on their shoulders. This work will be valuable not only to our descendants but also to the Gentiles, revealing the covenants made by our heavenly Father to Abraham: In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

My dear brethren, understand that all the kindreds of the earth cannot be blessed unless the Lord reveals his power to the nations. The time will come when the Lord will make his power known to all nations, fulfilling his covenants, and spreading his gospel to the house of Israel. He will lead them out of captivity, gather them to their promised lands, and bring them out of obscurity and darkness. They will acknowledge the Lord as their Savior and Redeemer, the Mighty One of Israel. The bloodshed of the great and abominable church, the whore of the earth, will turn upon its own head. They will war among themselves, and their own swords will fall upon their heads, causing them to be drunk with their own blood.

Nations warring against the house of Israel will turn against each other and fall into the pit they dug to ensnare the Lord's people. Those fighting against Zion will be destroyed, and the great and

abominable church will crumble to the dust. The time is approaching, as the prophet declares, when Satan will lose power over the hearts of men. The proud and the wicked will be as stubble and must face the impending day when they will be burned.

The full wrath of God will be poured out on all men, but he will preserve the righteous. Even if the full wrath must come, the righteous will be saved, even if it is as by fire. Fear not, for the Lord will not allow the wicked to destroy the righteous. He will preserve the righteous, even if it requires the full expression of his wrath, and the righteous will be saved, while their enemies will be destroyed by fire. I tell you, my brethren, these events will soon transpire—bloodshed, fire, and vapor of smoke will cover the face of the earth. These calamities will befall men if they harden their hearts against the Holy One of Israel. But be assured, the righteous will not perish. The time will come when all who fight against Zion will be cut off.

The Lord will prepare a way for his people to fulfill the words of Moses: A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. Those who refuse to listen to that prophet will be cut off from among the people. I declare to you, my brethren, that the prophet Moses spoke of was the Holy One of Israel, who will execute judgment in righteousness. The righteous need not fear; they will not be confounded. It is the kingdom of the devil, established among those in the flesh, that must be brought low.

The time is swiftly approaching when all churches built for gain, power, popularity, and the pursuit of worldly desires will be brought down. Those who belong to the kingdom of the devil must fear and tremble, as they will be consumed like stubble.

Soon, the righteous will be led forth as calves from the stall, and the Holy One of Israel will reign in dominion, might, power, and great glory. He will gather his children from all corners of the earth, numbering his sheep, and there shall be one-fold and one shepherd. He will feed his sheep, and in him, they shall find pasture. Because of the righteousness of his people, Satan will have no power. Thus, the righteous need not fear, for they dwell in righteousness, and the Holy One of Israel reigns.

I emphasize, my brethren, that all these events will happen in the flesh. However, all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people will dwell safely in the Holy One of Israel, if they repent. Now, I, Nephi, conclude my discourse, refraining from further discussion on these matters. Therefore, my brethren, ponder on the truths inscribed on the brass plates; they testify that obedience to God's commandments is essential. Do not assume that only I and my father have borne witness to these truths. If you are obedient to the commandments and endure to the end, you will be saved on the last day. This is the truth. Amen.