

& it came to pass that king Lamoni caused that his servants should stand forth & testify to all the things which they had seen concerning the matter

& when they had all testified to the things which they had seen & had learned of the faithfulness of Ammon in preserving his flocks & also of his great power in contending against those who sought to slay him he was astonished exceedingly & saith surely this is more than a man behold is not this the great spirit which doth send such great punishments upon this people because of their murders

& they answered the king & said whether he be the great spirit or a man we know not but this ~~much~~ we do know that he cannot be slain by the enemies of the king neither can they scatter the kings flocks when he is with us because of his expertness & great strength therefore we know that he is a friend to the king & now O king we do not believe that a man ~~hath~~ hath such great power for we know that he cannot be slain

& now when the king heard these words he said unto them now I know that it is the great spirit & he hath come down at this time to preserve your lives that I might not slay you as I did your brethren now this is the great spirit of which our fathers have spoken

now this was the tradition of Lamoni which he had received from his father that there was a great spirit not withstanding they believed in a great spirit they supposed that whatsoever they did was right nevertheless Lamoni began to fear exceedingly with fear lest he had done wrong in slaying his servants

for he had slew many of them because their brethren had scattered their flocks at the place of water & thus because they had had their flocks scattered they were slain

CHAPTER 18

King Lamoni supposes that Ammon is the Great Spirit—Ammon teaches the king about the Creation, God's dealings with men, and the redemption that comes through Christ—Lamoni believes and falls to the earth as if dead. About 90 B.C.

¹**And** it came to pass that king Lamoni caused that his servants should stand forth **and** testify to all the things which they had seen concerning the matter.

²**And** when they had all testified to the things which they had seen, **and he** had learned of the faithfulness of Ammon in preserving his flocks, **and** also of his great power in contending against those who sought to slay him, he was astonished exceedingly, **and** said[]: Surely, this is more than a [] man. **Behold**, is not this the **Great Spirit** **who** doth send such great punishments upon this people, because of their murders?

³**And** they answered the king, **and** said: **Whether** he be the **Great Spirit** or a man, we know not; but this []**much**[_ _ _] we do know, that he cannot be slain by the enemies of the king; neither can they scatter the king's flocks when he is with us, because of his expertness **and** great strength; therefore, we know that he is a friend to the king. **And** now, O king, we do not believe that a man has [] such great power, for we know [X] he cannot be slain.

⁴**And** now, when the king heard these words, he said unto them: **Now** I know that it is the **Great Spirit**; **and** he has [] come down at this time to preserve your lives, that I might not slay you as I did your brethren. **Now** this is the **Great Spirit** of **whom** our fathers have spoken.

⁵**Now** this was the tradition of Lamoni, which he had received from his father, that there was a **Great Spirit**. **Not** []withstanding they believed in a **Great Spirit**, they supposed that whatsoever they did was right; nevertheless, Lamoni began to fear exceedingly, with fear le []st he had done wrong in slaying his servants;

⁶**For** he had **slain** many of them because their brethren had scattered their flocks at the place of water; **and** thus, because they had had their flocks scattered they were slain.

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now it was the practice of the^{se} Lamanites to stand by the waters of Sebus to s^{scatter}et the flocks of the people that thereby they might drive away many that were scattered unto their own land it being a practice of plunder among them

& it came to pass that king Lamoni inquired of his servants saying where is this man that hath such great power

& they sayeth unto him behold he is ◇feeding thy horses now the king had commanded his servants previous to the time of the watering of their flocks that they should prepare his horses & his charriots & conduct him forth to the land of Nephi for there had been a great feast appointed at the land of Nephi by the father of Lamoni who was king over all the land

now when king Lamoni heard that Ammon was preparing his horses & his charriots he was more astonished because of the faithfulness of Ammon saying surely there has not been any servant among all my servants that has been so faithful as this man fore even he doth remember all my commandments to execute them

now I surely know that is the great spirit & I would desire him that he come in unto t^{me}hee but I dearest not

& it came to pass that when Ammon had made ready the ^{horses & the} charriots for the king & his servants he went in unto the king & he saw that the countenance of the King h^{was}ad changed therefore he was about to return out of his presance

& one of the kings servants said unto him rabbanah which is being interpreted powerful or great king considering their kings to be powerful & thus he said unto him rabbanah the king desireth thee to stay

therefore Ammon turned himself unto the king & saith unto him what wilt thou that I should **216** do for thee O king & the king answered him not for the space of an hour according to their time for he knew not what he should say unto him

& it came to pass that Ammon said unto him again what desirest thou of me but the king answered him not

⁷Now it was the practice of these Lamanites to stand by the waters of Sebus to []scatter[] the flocks of the people, that thereby they might drive away many that were scattered unto their own land, it being a practice of plunder among them.

⁸And it came to pass that king Lamoni inquired of his servants, saying: Where is this man that has[] such great power?

⁹And they said unto him: Behold, he is []feeding thy horses. Now the king had commanded his servants, previous to the time of the watering of their flocks, that they should prepare his horses and [X] char[]iots, and conduct him forth to the land of Nephi; for there had been a great feast appointed at the land of Nephi, by the father of Lamoni, who was king over all the land.

¹⁰Now when king Lamoni heard that Ammon was prepar[]ing his horses and his char[]iots he was more astonished, because of the faithfulness of Ammon, saying: Surely there has not been any servant among all my servants that has been so faithful as this man; for[] even he doth remember all my commandments to execute them.

¹¹Now I surely know that this is the Great Spirit, and I would desire him that he come in unto []me[], but I du[]rst not.

¹²And it came to pass that when Ammon had made ready the horses and the char[]iots for the king and his servants, he went in unto the king, and he saw that the countenance of the king []was[] changed; therefore he was about to return out of his presence.

¹³And one of the king's servants said unto him, Rabbanah, which is, being interpreted, powerful or great king, considering their kings to be powerful; and thus he said unto him: Rabbanah, the king desireth thee to stay.

¹⁴Therefore Ammon turned himself unto the king, and said[] unto him: What wilt thou that I should do for thee, O king? And the king answered him not for the space of an hour, according to their time, for he knew not what he should say unto him.

¹⁵And it came to pass that Ammon said unto him again: What desirest thou of me? But the king answered him not.

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& it came to pass that Ammon being filled with the spirit of God therefore he perceived the thoughts of the king & he saith unto him is it because th^ot thou hast heard that I defended thy servants & thy flocks & slew seven of their brethren with the sling & with the sword & smote off the arms of others in order to defend thy flocks & thy servants behold is it this that causeth thy marvelings

I say unto you what is it that thy marvelings are so great behold I am a man & am thy servant therefore whatsoever thou desirest Which is right that I do

now when the king had heard these words he marveled again for he beheld that Ammon could desern his thoughts but notwithstanding this King Lamoni did open his mouth & said unto him who art thou art thou that great spirit which knows all things

Ammon answered & said unto him I am not

& the king saith how knowest thou the thoughts of my heart thou mayest speak boldly & tell me concerning these things & also tell me by what power ye slew & smote off the arms of my brethren that scatered my flocks

& now if thou wilt tell me concerning these things whatsoever thou desirest I will give unto thee & if it were needed I would guard thee with my armies but I know that thou art more powerful than all they nevertheless whatsoever thou desirest of me I will grant it unto thee

now Ammon being wise yet harmless he saith unto Lamoni wilt thou hearken unto my words if I tell thee by what power I do these things & this is the thing that I desire of thee

& the king answered him & said yea I will believe all thy words & thus he was caught with guile

& Ammon began to speak unto him with boldness & said unto him believest thou that there is a God

& he answered unto him I do not know what that meaneth

& then Ammon saith believest thou that there is a great spirit

¹⁶**And** it came to pass that Ammon, being filled with the **S**pirit of God, therefore he **per**ceived the thoughts of the king. **And** he said[_] unto him: **I**s it because [_ _ _] thou hast heard that I defended thy servants **and** thy flocks, **and** slew seven of their brethren with the sling **and** with the sword, **and** smote off the arms of others, in order to defend thy flocks **and** thy servants; behold, is it this that causeth thy marvelings?

¹⁷I say unto you, what is it, that thy marvelings are so great? **Behold**, I am a man, **and** am thy servant; therefore, whatsoever thou desirest **which** is right, that **will** I do.

¹⁸**N**ow when the king had heard these words, he marveled again, for he beheld that Ammon could **disc**ern his thoughts; but notwithstanding this, **king** Lamoni did open his mouth, **and** said unto him: **Who** art thou? **Art** thou that **Great Spirit**, **who** knows all things?

¹⁹Ammon answered **and** said unto him: I am not.

²⁰**And** the king said[_]: **H**ow knowest thou the thoughts of my heart? **T**hou mayest speak boldly, **and** tell me concerning these things; **and** also tell me by what power ye slew **and** smote off the arms of my brethren that **scatter**ed my flocks—

²¹**And** now, if thou wilt tell me concerning these things, whatsoever thou desirest I will give unto thee; **and** if it were needed, I would guard thee with my armies; but I know that thou art more powerful than all they; nevertheless, whatsoever thou desirest of me I will grant it unto thee.

²²**N**ow Ammon being wise, yet harmless, he said[_] unto Lamoni: **W**ilt thou hearken unto my words, if I tell thee by what power I do these things? **And** this is the thing that I desire of thee.

²³**And** the king answered him, **and** said: **Y**ea, I will believe all thy words. **And** thus he was caught with guile.

²⁴**And** Ammon began to speak unto him with boldness, **and** said unto him: **B**elievest thou that there is a God?

²⁵**And** he answered, **and said** unto him: I do not know what that meaneth.

²⁶**And** then Ammon said[_]: **B**elievest thou that there is a **Great Spirit**?

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& he said∅ yea

& Ammon saith this is God & Ammon saith unto him again believest thou that this great spirit which is God created all things which is in heaven & in the earth

& he saith yea I believe that he created all things which is in the earth but I do not know the heavens

& Ammon saith unto him the heavens is a place where God dwells & all his holy angels

& king Lamoni saith is it above the earth

& Ammon saith yea & he looketh down upon all the children of men & he knows all the thoughts & intents of the heart for by his hand were they all created from the beginning

& king Lamoni saith I believe **217** all these things which thou hast spoken art thou sent from God

Ammon saith unto him I am a man & man in the beginning was created after the image of God & I am called by his holy spirit to teach these things unto this people that they may be brought to a knowledge of that which is just & true

& a portion of that spirit dwelleth in me which giveth me knowledge & also power according to my faith & desires which is in God

now when Ammon had said these words he began to the creation of the world & also to the creation of Adam & told him all the things concerning the fall of man & rehearsed & laid before him the records of the holy scriptures of the people & which had been spoken by the prophets even down to the time that Lehi left Jerusalem

& he also rehearsed unto them for it was unto the king & to his servants all the journeyings of their fathers in the wilderness & all their sufferings with hunger & thirst & their travel .&C

27And he said[], Yea.

28And Ammon said[]: This is God. And Ammon said[] unto him again: Believest thou that this Great Spirit, who is God, created all things which are in heaven and in the earth?

29And he said[]: Yea, I believe that he created all things which are in the earth; but I do not know the heavens.

30And Ammon said[] unto him: The heavens is a place where God dwells and all his holy angels.

31And king Lamoni said[]: Is it above the earth?

32And Ammon said[]: Yea, and he looketh down upon all the children of men; and he knows all the thoughts and intents of the heart; for by his hand were they all created from the beginning.

33And king Lamoni said[]: I believe all these things which thou hast spoken. Art thou sent from God?

34Ammon said[] unto him: I am a man; and man in the beginning was created after the image of God, and I am called by his Holy Spirit to teach these things unto this people, that they may be brought to a knowledge of that which is just and true;

35And a portion of that Spirit dwelleth in me, which gi[]veth me knowledge, and also power according to my faith and desires which are in God.

36Now when Ammon had said these words, he began at the creation of the world, and also [X] the creation of Adam, and told him all the things concerning the fall of man, and rehearsed and laid before him the records and the holy scriptures of the people, [X] which had been spoken by the prophets, even down to the time that their father, Lehi, left Jerusalem.

37And he also rehearsed unto them (for it was unto the king and to his servants) all the journeyings of their fathers in the wilderness, and all their sufferings with hunger and thirst, and their travail, and so forth.

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& he also rehearsed unto them concerning the rebellions of Laman & Lemuel & the Sons of Ishmael yea all their rebellions did he relate unto them & he expounded unto them all the records & scriptures from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem down to the presant time

but this is not all for he expounded unto them the plan of redemption which was prepared from the foundation of the ~~w~~^{world}~~old~~ & he also made known unto them concerning the coming of Christ & all the works of the Lord did he maks known unto them

& it came to pass that after he had said all these things & expounded them to the king that the king believed all his words

& he began to cry unto the Lord saying O Lord have mercy according to thy abundant mercy which thou hast had upon the people of Nephi have upon me & my people

& now when he had said this he fell unto the earth as if he were dead

& it came to pass that his servants took him & carried him in unto his wife & laid him upon a bed & he lay as if he were dead for the space of two days & two nights & his wife & his Sons & his daughters mourned over him after the manner of the Lamanites greatly lamenting his ~~loss~~^{loss}

³⁸**And** he also rehearsed unto them concerning the rebellions of Laman **and** Lemuel, **and** the sons of Ishmael, yea, all their rebellions did he relate unto them; **and** he expounded unto them all the records **and** scriptures from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem down to the present time.

³⁹**But** this is not all; for he expounded unto them the plan of redemption, which was prepared from the foundation of the []world[_ _ _]; **and** he also made known unto them concerning the coming of Christ, **and** all the works of the Lord did he make known unto them.

⁴⁰**And** it came to pass that after he had said all these things, **and** expounded them to the king, that the king believed all his words.

⁴¹**And** he began to cry unto the Lord, saying: O Lord, have mercy; according to thy abundant mercy which thou hast had upon the people of Nephi, have upon me, **and** my people.

⁴²**And** now, when he had said this, he fell unto the earth, as if he were dead.

⁴³**And** it came to pass that his servants took him **and** carried him in unto his wife, **and** laid him upon a bed; **and** he lay as if he were dead for the space of two days **and** two nights; **and** his wife, **and** his sons, **and** his daughters mourned over him, after the manner of the Lamanites, greatly lamenting his [X]loss.