

Chapter—I

And now I Mormon make a record of the things which I have both seen & heard & call it the Book of Mormon—

And about the time that Ammoron hid up the records unto the Lord he came unto me I being about ten years of age & I began to be learned somewhat after the manner of the learning of my People & Ammoron say^oth unto me I perceive that thou art a sober Child & art quick to observe

therefore when ye are about twenty & four years old I would that ye should remember the things that ye have observed concerning this People & when ye are of that age go to the land of Antum unto a hill which shall be called Shim & there have I deposited unto the Lord all the sacred engravings concerning this People

& behold ye shall take the plates of Nephi unto yourself & the remainder shall ye leave in the place where they are & ye shall engrave upon the Plates of Nephi all the things that ye have observed concerning this People

& I Mormon being a descendant of Nephi & my Fathers name was Mormon [&] I remembered the things which Ammoron Commanded me

& it came to pass **414** that I being eleven years old was carried by my Father into the land southward even to the land of Zarahemla

the whole face of the land having become covered with buildings & the People were as numerous almost as it were the sand[s] of the Sea

& it came to pass [that] in this year there began to be a war between the Nephites which consisted of the Neptites & the Jacobites & the Josephites & the Zoramites & this war was between the Nephites & the Lamanites **and the** Lemuelites & the Ishmaelites

THE BOOK OF MORMON

CHAPTER 1 [X_ _]

Ammaron instructs Mormon concerning the sacred records—War commences between the Nephites and the Lamanites—The Three Nephites are taken away—Wickedness, unbelief, sorceries, and witchcraft prevail. About A.D. 321–26.

¹And now I, Mormon, make a record of the things which I have both seen **and** heard, **and** call it the Book of Mormon.[]

²And **about** the time that Ammaron hid up the records unto the Lord, he came unto me, (I being about ten years of age, **and** I began to be learned somewhat after the manner of the learning of my **people**) **and** Ammaron **said** unto me: I perceive that thou art a sober **child**, **and** art quick to observe;

³Therefore, when ye are about twenty **and** four years old I would that ye should **remember** the things that ye have observed concerning this **people**; **and** when ye are of that age go to the land [X] Antum, unto a hill which shall be called Shim; **and** there have I deposited unto the Lord all the sacred engrav[]ings concerning this **people**.

⁴**And** behold, ye shall take the plates of Nephi unto yourself, **and** the remainder shall ye leave in the place where they are; **and** ye shall engrave [] on the **plates** of Nephi all the things that ye have observed concerning this **people**.

⁵**And** I, Mormon, being a descendant of Nephi, (**and** my **father's** name was Mormon) [X] I **remembered** the things which Ammaron **commanded** me.

⁶**And** it came to pass that I, being eleven years old, was carried by my **father** into the land southward, even to the land of Zarahemla.

⁷The whole face of the land **had** become covered with buildings, **and** the **people** were as numerous almost, as it were the sand[] of the **sea**.

⁸**And** it came to pass [X] in this year there **began** to be a war between the Nephites, **who** consisted of the Nephites **and** the Jacobites **and** the Josephites **and** the Zoramites; **and** this war was between the Nephites, **and** the Lamanites **and the** Lemuelites **and** the Ishmaelites.

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now the Lamanites & the Lemuelites & the Ishmaelites were called Lamanites & the two parties were Nephites & Lamanites

& it came to pass that the war began to be among them in the borders of Zarahemla by the waters of Sidon

& it came to pass that the Nephites had gathered together a great number of men even to exceed the number of thirty thousand & it came to pass that they did have in this same year a number of Battles in the which the Nephites did beat the Lamanites & did slay many of them

& it came to pass that the Lamanites withdrew their design & there was peace settled in the Land & peace did remain for the space of about four years that there was no blood shed

but wickedness did prevail upon the face of the whole land insomuch that the Lord did take away his beloved Disciples. & the work of miracles & of healings did cease because of the iniquity of the people

& there were no gifts from the Lord & the Holy Ghost did not come upon any because of their wickedness & unbelief

& I being fifteen years of age & being somewhat of a sober mind therefore I was visited of the Lord & tasted and knew of the goodness of Jesus

& I did endeavor to preach unto the people but my mouth was shut & I were forbidden that I should preach unto them for behold they had willfully rebelled against their God & the beloved Disciples were taken away out of the land because of their iniquity

but I did remain among them but I were forbidden that I should preach unto them because of the hardness of their hearts & because of the hardness of their hearts the land was cursed for their sake

& these Gaddianton Robbers which were among the Lamanites did infest the land insomuch that the inhabitants thereof began to hide up their treasures in the earth & they became slippery because the Lord had cursed the land that they could not hold them nor retain them again

⁹Now the Lamanites **and** the Lemuelites **and** the Ishmaelites were called Lamanites, **and** the two parties were Nephites **and** Lamanites.

¹⁰**And** it came to pass that the war began to be among them in the borders of Zarahemla, by the waters of Sidon.

¹¹**And** it came to pass that the Nephites had gathered together a great number of men, even to exceed the number of thirty thousand. **And** it came to pass that they did have in this same year a number of **battles**, in **[X]** which the Nephites did beat the Lamanites **and** did slay many of them.

¹²**And** it came to pass that the Lamanites withdrew their design, **and** there was peace settled in the **land**; **and** peace did remain for the **space** of about four years, that there was no blood **[]**shed.

¹³**But** wickedness did prevail upon the **face of the** whole land, insomuch that the Lord did take away his beloved **disciples**, **and** the work of miracles **and** of healing **[]** did cease **because** of the iniquity of the people.

¹⁴**And** there were no gifts from the Lord, **and** the Holy Ghost did not come upon any, **because** of their wickedness **and** unbelief.

¹⁵**And** I, being fifteen years of age **and** being somewhat of a sober mind, therefore I was visited of the Lord, **and** tasted and **knew** of the goodness of Jesus.

¹⁶**And** I did endeavor to preach unto **this** people, but my mouth was shut, **and** I **was** forbidden that I should preach unto them; for behold they had wil **[]**fully rebelled against their God; **and** the beloved **disciples** were taken away out of the land, because of their iniquity.

¹⁷**But** I did remain among them, but I **was** forbidden **[X_X]** to preach unto them, because of the hardness of their hearts; **and** because of the hardness of their hearts **the** land was cursed for their sake.

¹⁸**And** these Gad **[]**ianton **robbers**, **who** were among the Lamanites, did infest the land, insomuch that the inhabitants thereof began to hide up their treasures in the earth; **and** they became slippery, because the Lord had cursed the land, that they could not hold them, nor retain them again.

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& it came to pass that there were sorceries & witchcrafts & magics & the power of the evil one was wrought upon ^{fr} all the ^{fo} ~~land~~ face of the land even unto the fulfilling of all the words of Abinadi & also Samuel the Lamanite

¹⁹ **And** it came to pass that there were sorceries, **and** witchcrafts, **and** magics; **and** the power of the evil one was wrought upon [_ _] all the [_ _ _ _] **[X]** face of the land, even unto the fulfilling of all the words of Abinadi, **and** also Samuel the Lamanite.