

Helaman 4

¹& it came to pass in the fifty & fourth year
there were many dissensions in the Church

& there was also a contention among the people
insomuch that there was much bloodshed

²& the rebellious part were slain & driven out of the land
& they did go unto the King of the Lamanites

³& it came to pass that they did endeavor
to stir up the Lamanites to war against the Nephites
but behold the Lamanites were exceeding afraid
insomuch that they would not hearken to the words of those dissenters

⁴but it came to pass in the fifty & sixth year of the reign of the Judges
there were dissenters which went up from the Nephites unto the Lamanites
& they succeeded with those others
in stirring them up to anger against the Nephites
& they were all that year prepareing for war

⁵& in the fifty & seventh year
they did come down against the Nephites to battle
& they did commence the work of death
yea insomuch that in the fifty & eighth year of the reign of the Judges
they succeeded in obtaining possession of the land of Zarahemla
yea & also all the lands even unto the land which was near the land Bountiful

⁶& the Nephites & the armies of Moronihah were driven
even into the land of Bountiful

⁷& there^t they did fortify against the Lamanites
from the west Sea even unto the east
it being a days journey for a Nephites on the lime
which they had fortified & stationed their armies to defend their north country

⁸& thus those dissenters of the Nephites
with the help of a numerous army of the Lamanites
had obtained all the possession of the Nephites
which was in the land southward
& all this was done in the fifty & ^{eight}~~eight~~ & ninth years
of the reign of the Judges

⁹& it came to pass in the sixtieth year of the reign of the Judges
Moronihah did succeed with his armies in obtaining many parts of the land
yea they retained many cities which had fallen into the hands of the Lamanites

¹⁰& it came to pass in the sixty & first year of the reign of the Judges
they succeeded in retaining even the half of all their possessions

¹¹now this great loss of the Nephits
& the great slaughter which was among them
would not have hapened
~~had~~ had it not been for their wickedness
& their abomination which was among them
~~y~~^{yea}ea & it was among those also which professed to belong to the church of God
¹²& it was because of the pride of their hearts
because of their exceding riches
yea it was because of their oppression to the poor
withholding their food from the hungry
withhold~~ing~~ing their cloathing from the naked
& smiting their humble brethren upon the cheek^s
making a mock of that which was sacred
denying the spirit of prophecy & of revelation
murdering plundering lieing stealing committing adultery
raiseing up in great contentions
& desenting away into the land of Nephi among the Lamanites
¹³& because of this their great wickedness
& their boastings in their own strength
they were left in their own strength
therefore they did not prosper
but were afflicted & smitten & driven before the Lamanites
until they had lost possession of almost all their lands

¹⁴but behold Moronihah did preach many things unto the people
because of their iniquity
& also Nephi & Lehi which were the Sons of Helaman
did preach many things unto the people
yea & did prophesy many things unto them concerning their iniquities
& what should come unto them if they did not repent of their Sins
¹⁵& it came to pass that they did repent
& inas much as they did repent they did begin to prosper
¹⁶for when Moronihah saw that they did repent
he did venture to lead them forth from place to place & from city to city
even until they had retained the one half of their property
& the one half of ^{all} their lands
¹⁷& thus ended the sixty & first year of the reign of the Judges

¹⁸& it came to pass in the sixty & second year of the reign of the Judges
that Moronihah could obtain no more possessions over the Lamanites
¹⁹therefore they did abandon their design to obtain the remainder of their lands
for so numerous was the Lamanites
that it became impossible for the Nephites to obtain more power over them
therefore Moronihah did employ all his armies
in maintaining those parts which he had taken

²⁰& it came to pass because of the greatness of the number of the Lamanites
the Nephites were in great fear lest they should be overpowered
& ~~slain~~ trodden down & slain & destroyed

²¹yea they began to remember the prophecies of Alma & also the words of Mosiah
& they saw that they had been a stiffnecked people
& that they had set at nought the commandments of God
²²& that that they had altered & tramped under their feet the laws of Mosiah
or that which the Lord commanded him to give unto the people
& thus seeing that their laws had become corrupt
& that they had become a wicked people
insomuch that they were wicked even like unto the Lamanites
²³& because of their iniquity the church had began to dwindle
& they began to disbelieve in the spirit of prophecy
& in the spirit of revelation
& the Judgments of God did stare them in the face
²⁴& they saw they had become ~~wi~~^{weak}ked like unto their brethren the Lamanites
& that the spirit of the Lord did no more preserve them
yea it had withdrawn from ^{them}
because the spirit of the Lord doth not dwell in unholy tempels
²⁵therefore the Lord did ~~ea~~^{cease}se to preserve them
by his maraculous & matchless power
for they had fallen into a state of unbelief & awful wickedness
& they saw that the Lamanites were more exceding numerous than they
& except they should ~~rep~~^{cleave}ent unto the Lord their God
they must unavoidably perish
²⁶for behold they saw that the strength of the Lamanites
was as great as their strength even man for man
& thus had they fallen into this great transgression
yea thus had they become weak because of their transgression
in the space of not many years