

# Title of Liberty

Alma, Helaman, Captain Moroni, and Amalickiah

Lesson 100 Part 2  
and 101

Suggested Hymn:  
#339 My Country 'Tis  
of Thee

Alma 45-48



# 19<sup>th</sup> Year of the Reign of the Judges

The Nephites rejoice because the Lord had delivered them out of the hands of their enemies

Do you believe in the Records which I have spoken of?

Will you keep my commandments?

Yes, I believe

Yes, with all my heart

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, who shall come?

Blessed art thou, and the Lord shall prosper thee in this land

Yes, I believe in all your words





# Alma's Prophecy

Helaman was to write down Alma's word

Alma's prophecy will not be made known until it is fulfilled



In 400 years  
after Jesus  
Christ comes  
the people will  
dwindle in  
unbelief

There will be  
wars,  
pestilences,  
famines and  
bloodshed and  
the Nephites  
will become  
extinct

Those who are  
not destroyed  
shall be  
numbered  
among the  
Lamanites

Some will be  
the disciples of  
the Lord and  
eventually  
become  
extinct

The people  
must have faith  
in order to  
believe in the  
prophecy



# The Curse And A Blessing

## Curse shall be the land---wickedness

In the scriptures, a curse is the application of divine law that allows or brings judgments and their consequences upon a thing, person, or people primarily because of unrighteousness. Curses are a manifestation of God's divine love and justice...

a cursed state is experienced by those who willfully disobey God and thereby withdraw themselves from the Spirit of the Lord.



## Blessing of God upon the land—obedience

To confer divine favor upon someone. Anything contributing to true happiness, well-being, or prosperity is a blessing.

All blessings are based on eternal law.

Because God wants his children to find joy in life he grants blessings to them as a result of their obedience to his commandments (in answer to a prayer or priesthood ordinance, or through his grace (2 Ne. 25:23).

**The Lord cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance.**



# Alma Departs

Alma gives a blessing on the church and all those who would stand fast in the faith from that time henceforth

Alma departed out of the land of Zarahemla to go to the land of Melek and was never heard of more



“Behold, this we know, that he was a righteous man; and the saying went abroad in the church that he was **taken up by the Spirit, or buried by the hand of the Lord, even as Moses**. But behold, the scriptures saith the Lord took Moses unto himself; and we suppose that he has also received Alma in the spirit, unto himself; therefore, for this cause we know nothing concerning his death and burial.”



# Was Alma Translated?



“translated bodies are  
designed for future  
missions”

—Joseph Smith



Those who have been translated are:

The Three Nephites

John the Revelator

Moses

Elijah

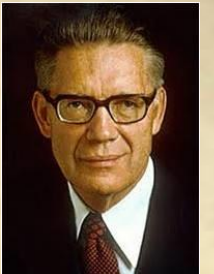
“There are several important prophets who were granted the privilege of remaining on the earth...It is a very reasonable thought to believe that both Moses and Alma, like Elijah and John, were translated to accomplish some work which the Lord had in store for them at some future day.

When righteous individuals are translated, their bodies are changed so they are not subject to mortal pain or death. Sometimes translated beings are taken from the earth without experiencing death in order to fulfill the Lord’s purposes. Translated beings, however, will undergo a future change as they pass from a translated state to a resurrected state.”

Joseph Fielding Smith

Elder Bruce R. McConkie (1915–85)  
of the Quorum of the Twelve  
Apostles explained that the phrase  
“taken up by the Spirit, or buried  
by the hand of the Lord” suggests  
that Alma was translated:

Book of Mormon Student Manual





# Establishing the Church

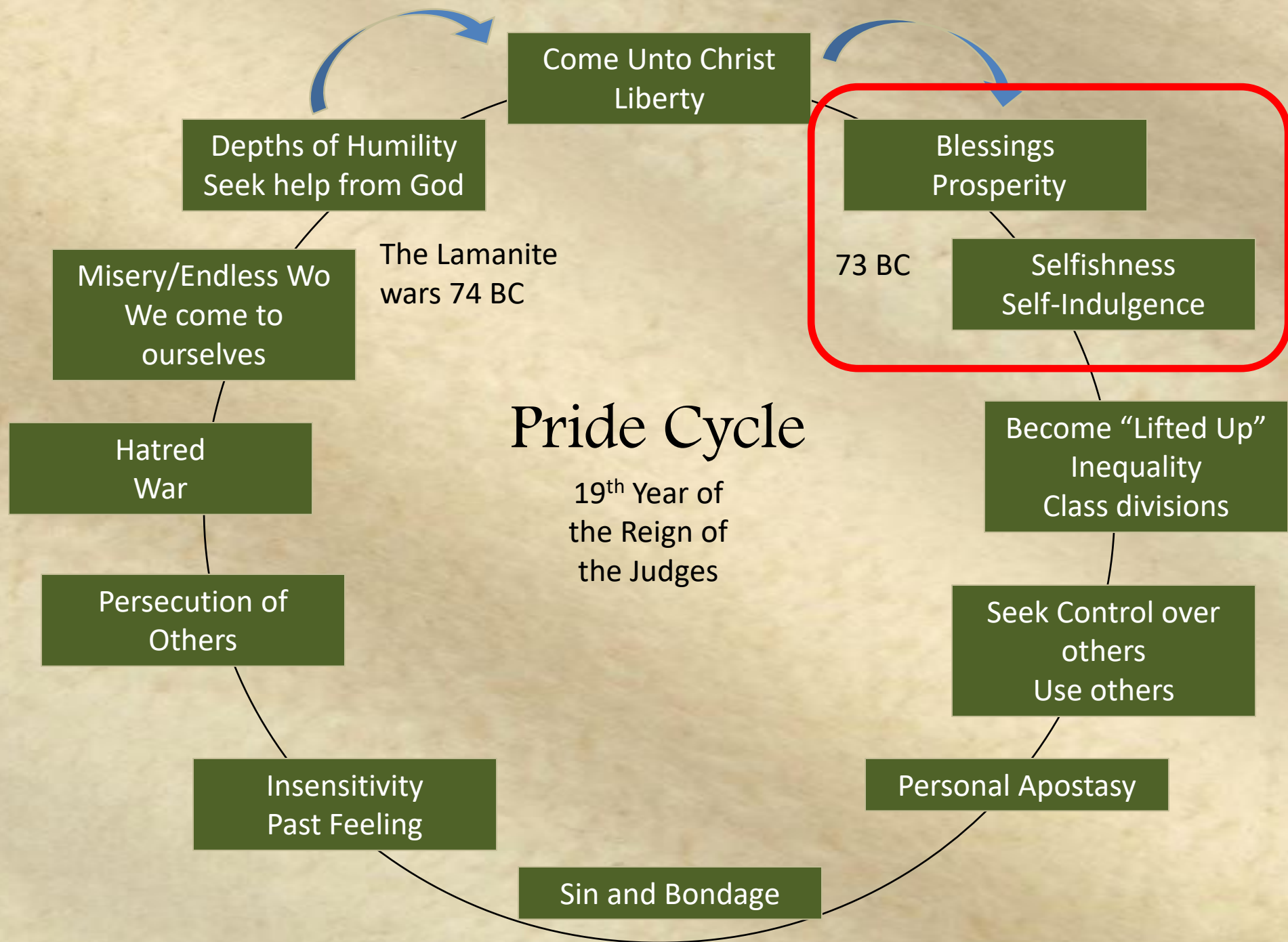
Helaman and his brethren establish the church again in all the land



James H. Fullmer

Organized with priests and teachers

However:





# Amalickiah

He was a Nephite dissenter who desired power and authority over the Nephites about 73 BC

He directed all his efforts at destroying the Church of God and the government of the people in order to rule over all

During the hoisted 'title of liberty' Moroni thwarted Amalickiah's plans and he fled to the Lamanites

He had servants poison Lehonti and kill the Lamanite king

By deceit he gained control of the Lamanite armies, the throne itself, and married the wife of the murdered Lamanite king.

He unleashed a massive assault against the Nephite strongholds (Alma 48:2)

His plan was put down by Moroni and his forces

He was killed by Teancum by a javelin into his heart as he slept about 65 BC



# Those Who Kept Things Stirred Up



Laman



Lemuel



Sherem



Amulon



Nehor



Amlici



Zeezrom



Korihor



Zerahemnah



Amalickiah

“All were personally ambitious and unscrupulous

All aspired to be either king or the religious head of the people

All were powerful speakers and clever propagandists and skilled in the use of ‘flattering words’

All sought to undermine the highest authority of the church and state, being particularly opposed to popular government and drawing their support from those who sought to overthrow it.”



# Amalickiah's Influence

One Wicked Man:

Many followed him—he was a “large and a strong man”

Many lower judges were seeking for power

Many were flattered by Amalickiah

Many supported him to be king

Many were led away and believed his words

Many were “quick to forget the Lord their God”



# One Wicked Man—One Righteous Man

Amalickiah wanted to:

Destroy the church of God

Destroy the foundation of liberty



James H. Fullmer

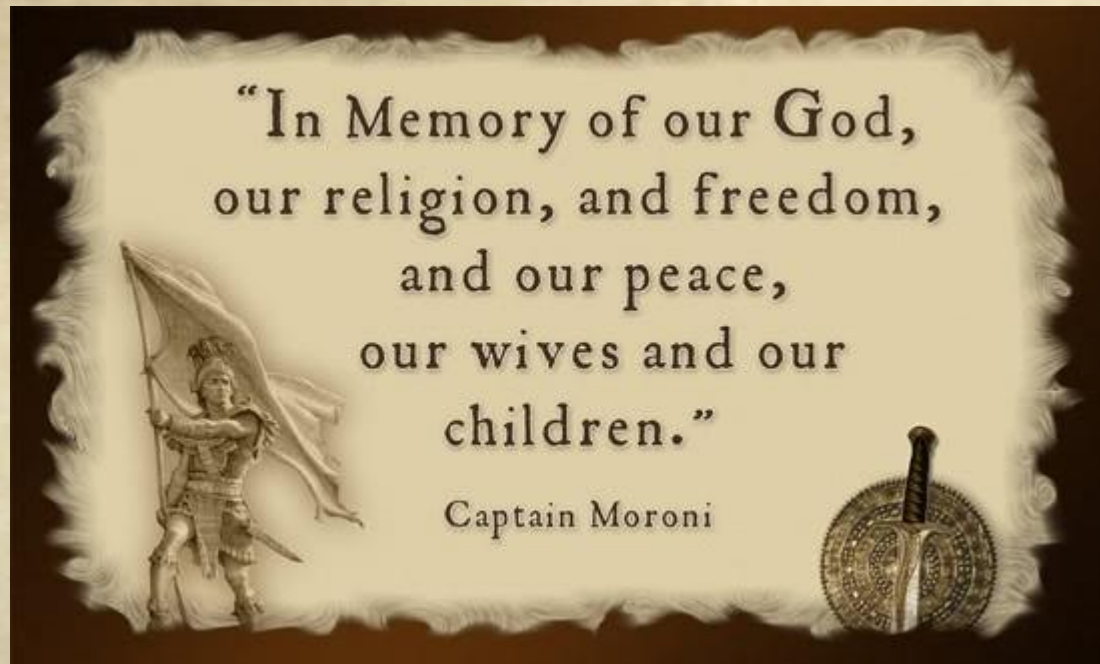
Moroni wanted to:

Restore the religions, freedoms and  
peace in the land





# The Title of Liberty



# Our Allegiance

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."



How can we protect our religion, our freedoms, our families in our land?

How can we do this in other lands?







# Our Allegiance

“First, we can become informed. Be aware of issues in your community that could have an impact on religious liberty.

“Second, in your individual capacity, join with others who share our commitment to religious freedom. Work side by side to protect religious freedom.



“Third, live your life to be a good example of what you believe—in word and deed. How we live our religion is far more important than what we may say about our religion.”  
Robert D. Hales

**The Lord wants us to defend the  
sacred blessing of religious freedom  
He has given us.**

# Entering Into A Covenant

Rent their garments...to tear  
To maintain their rights



RACHEL DAVISON

To take upon  
themselves the  
covenant to not  
forsake their God

To remind them  
that they were the  
descendants of  
Joseph



# Cast his Clothing at Another's Feet

Treading upon one's garments is an ancient ritual practice attested in early Christian Coptic texts where individuals became members of the early church by trampling their clothes as a token of trampling old sins or the old life.

# Remnant of the Seed of Joseph

*“Yea, let us preserve our liberty as a remnant of Joseph; yea, let us remember the words of Jacob, before his death, for behold, he saw that a part of the remnant of the coat of Joseph was preserved and had not decayed. And he said—Even as this remnant of garment of my son hath been preserved, so shall a remnant of the seed of my son be preserved by the hand of God, and be taken unto himself, while the remainder of the seed of Joseph shall perish, even as the remnant of his garment.”*





# Undermining the Government

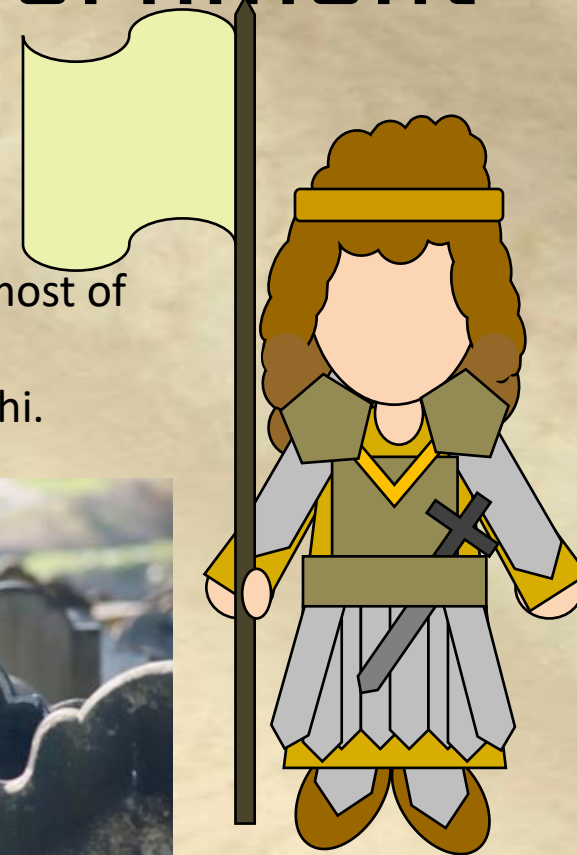


Amalickiah and his followers realized they were outnumbered, so they went to the land of Nephi, seeking to join the Lamanites.

Many of Amalickiah's followers entered into a covenant to support freedom.

The few who would not enter into the covenant were put to death—they had undermined the Church and the Government

Moroni's army stopped most of Amalickiah's group from reaching the land of Nephi.



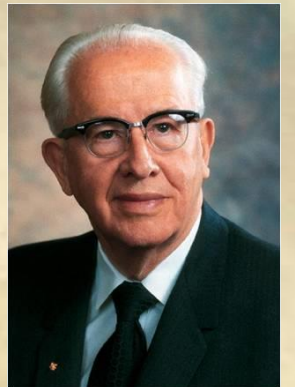
Amalickiah and a small number of his men escaped and joined the Lamanites.

# A Tower in Every Land

“Human liberty is the mainspring of human progress. The one great revolution in the world is the revolution for human liberty. This was the paramount issue in the great council in heaven before this earth life. It has been the issue throughout the ages. It is the issue today...



...this is our need today—to plant the standard of liberty among our people throughout the Americas...”  
Ezra Taft Benson





# The Fraud



Amalickiah goes to the Land of Nephi to stir up the Lamanites against the Nephites

Amalickiah did not give up his goal to gain power over the Nephites. He devised a cunning plan to dethrone the king of the Lamanites and become their king so he could eventually lead the Lamanites to battle against the Nephites.

When Amalickiah joined the Lamanites, he gained the favor of their king, who gave him command over a portion of the Lamanite army.

The king ordered Amalickiah and his army to pursue a disobedient faction of the Lamanite army, led by a man named Lehonti. Amalickiah was ordered to compel Lehonti's army to take up arms against the Nephites, but Amalickiah had different plans.



# Lehonti

He was a part of the Lamanite army around 72 BC

His army resisted the Lamanite King to go to war with the Nephites and fled into the mountains

Amalickiah came against him as commander of that part of the army who was loyal to the king

He was lured by Amalickiah from the mountain stronghold to a conference in which Amalickiah would be Lehonti's second in command

Being trick, Lehonti's army was surrounded

Amalickiah ordered one of his servants to kill Lehonti by administering poison to him.

So as a result, Amalickiah, who was second in command assumed full control of all the Lamanite forces





# Gathering On The Mountain



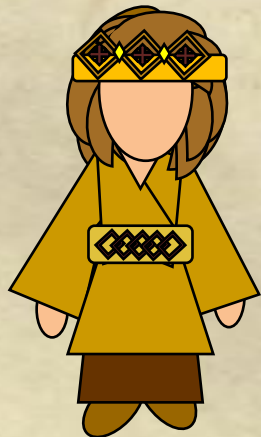
Why do you think Lehonti's army gathered at the top of a mountain?

What advantage does an army have if it is on higher ground than its enemy?

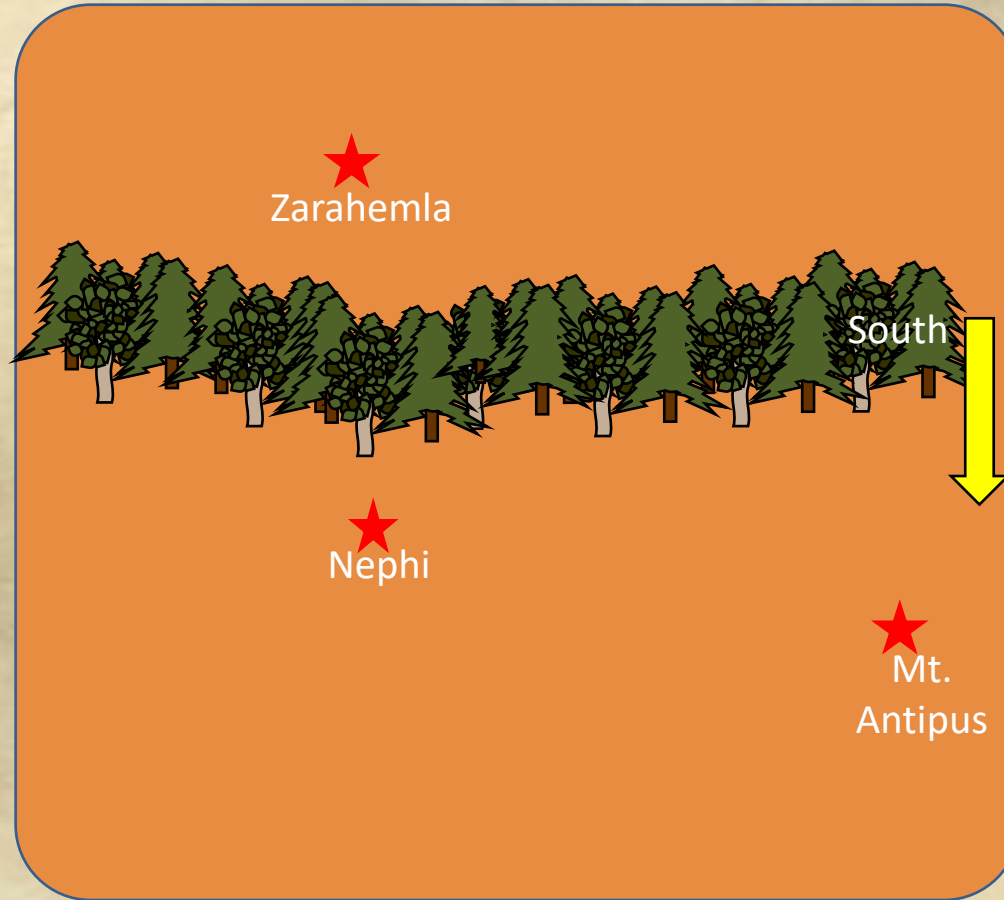
# Who To Trust?



Alma the Elder said: “And also trust no one to be your teacher nor your minister, except he be a man of God, walking in his ways and keeping his commandments.” Mosiah 23:14



Alma 47:7-19



Amalickiah is a good example of the reason for such counsel: we cannot always discern the secret thoughts and intents of another's heart

**If we give in to Satan's temptations even a little, we give him power to harm us.**



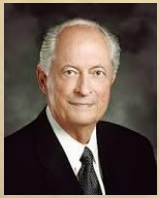
# Argue for the Sake of Argument

One way Satan may try to entice us to lower our standards is in the way we discuss the gospel with friends and acquaintances. More and more is being written positively and negatively about the Church, online and in print.

People who are honestly seeking the truth will naturally ask questions or even initiate discussions about the gospel. However, others intend only to argue for the sake of argument or to undermine faith.

I'm not arguing, I'm just explaining why I'm right





# Don't Leave The High Ground

“Some may try to provoke us and engage us in argument. In the Book of Mormon, we read about Lehonti and his men camped upon a mount.

The traitorous Amalickiah urged Lehonti to ‘come down’ and meet him in the valley. But when Lehonti left the high ground, he was poisoned ‘by degrees’ until he died, and his army fell into Amalickiah’s hands (see Alma 47).

By arguments and accusations, some people bait us to leave the high ground. The high ground is where the light is. It’s where we see the first light of morning and the last light in the evening. It is the safe ground. It is true and where knowledge is.

Sometimes others want us to come down off the high ground and join them in a theological scrum in the mud. These few contentious individuals are set on picking religious fights, online or in person. We are always better staying on the higher ground of mutual respect and love.”

Robert D. Hales





# Deceit and Murder

Poisons  
Lehonti

Had the  
king  
stabbed

Charged the  
servants  
with murder

Took the  
queen as  
his wife

Satan seeks to destroy us, and he entices us by  
degrees to lower our standards



# Drinking In With the Traditions of the Lamanites

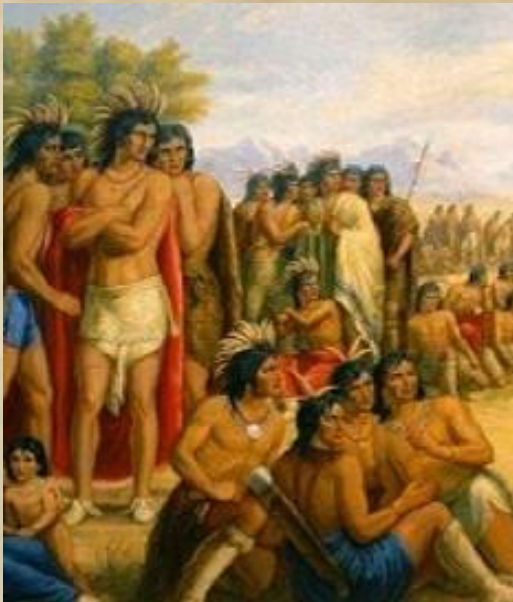
**The Lamanite Nation consisted of:**

Lamanites

Lemuelites

Ishmaelites

All the dissenter of the Nephites  
from the reign of Nephi down to the  
present time



**The character of a dissenter:**

Hardened and impenitent

More wild, wicked and ferocious

Giving way to indolence and all manner of  
lasciviousness

Entirely forgetting the Lord their God



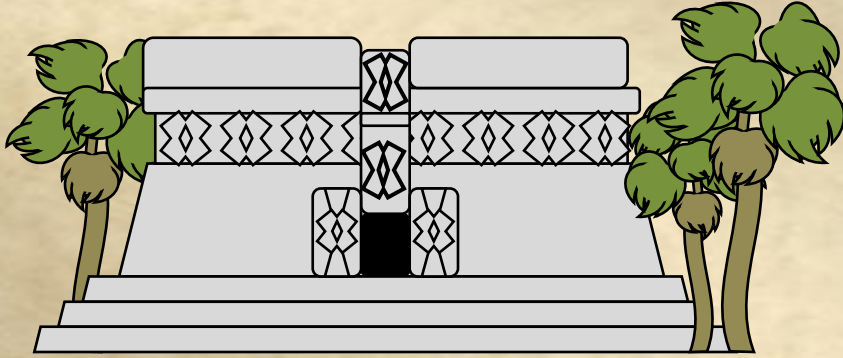
# Speaking in Towers

Amalickiah obtained the kingdom and began to inspire the hearts of the Lamanites to go against the people of Nephi

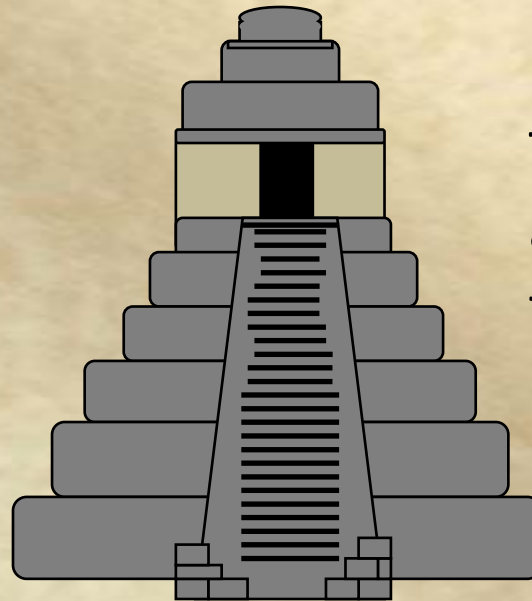


Amalickiah  
sought to reign  
over all the land

# Chief Captains of the Lamanite Army



Amalickiah appointed the Zoramites as the chief captains



They took their camp and moved toward the land of Zarahemla



# Moroni's Preparation

“Now it came to pass that while Amalickiah had thus been obtaining power by fraud and deceit, Moroni, on the other hand, had been preparing the minds of the people to be faithful unto the Lord their God.”



Moroni was:

Strengthening the armies of the Nephites

Erecting small forts or places of resort

Throwing up banks of earth round about to enclose his armies

Building walls of stone to surround their cities and borders and lands



# Moroni's Character

A strong and mighty man

Believed in supporting their liberty, lands and all the people

He did not 'delight' in bloodshed

He was a man of "perfect understanding"

He was a man firm in the faith of Christ



lesteryocum

He swore an oath to defend his people,  
his rights, and his country, and his religion

He knew that the Lord was with him and  
his people

He was compared to the son's of Mosiah  
and Alma and his sons—for they were all  
men of God





# The Adversary

He never sleeps—he is diligent and persevering.

He analyzes carefully his problem and then moves forward diligently, methodically to reach that objective.

He uses all five senses and man's natural hunger and thirst to lead him away.



He anticipates resistance and fortifies himself against it.

He uses time and space and leisure. He is constant and persuasive and skillful.

He uses such useful things as radio, television, the printed page, the airplane, and the car to distort and damage.



Erwin Blumenfeld

# The Adversary

He uses the gregariousness of man, his loneliness, his every need to lead him astray.

He does his work at the most propitious time in the most impressive places with the most influential people.

He overlooks nothing that will deceive and distort and prostitute.

He uses money, power, force.

He entices man and attacks at his weakest spot.

He takes the good and creates ugliness. ...  
He uses every teaching art to subvert man.



The adversary is subtle. He is cunning. He knows that he cannot induce good men and women to do major evils immediately, so he moves slyly, whispering half-truths until he has his intended captives following him



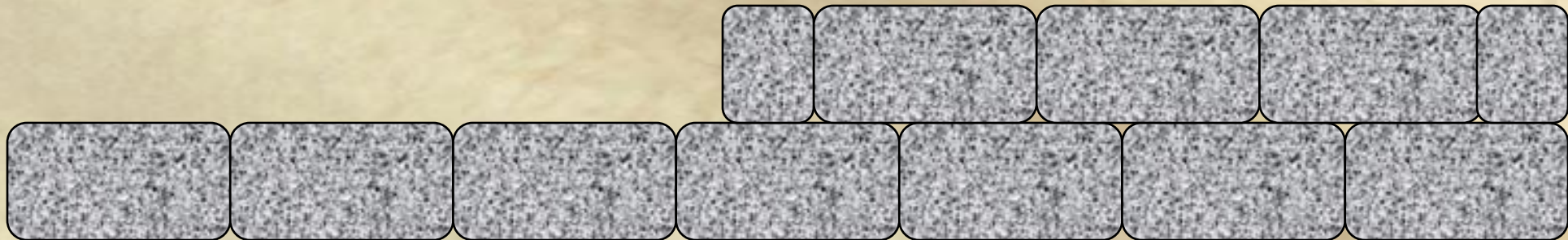
# Fortifying Ourselves Against the Adversary



If we would escape [the] deadly thrusts of the evil one and keep our homes and families free and solidly fortified against all destructive influences so rampant about us, we must have the help of ... the Creator himself.

There is only one sure way and that is through the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and being obedient to its profound and inspired teachings.  
In the life of everyone there comes the conflict between good and evil, between Satan and the Lord.

Every person who has reached or passed the age of accountability of eight years, and who with a totally repentant heart is baptized properly, positively will receive the Holy Ghost.



# Fortifying Ourselves Against the Adversary



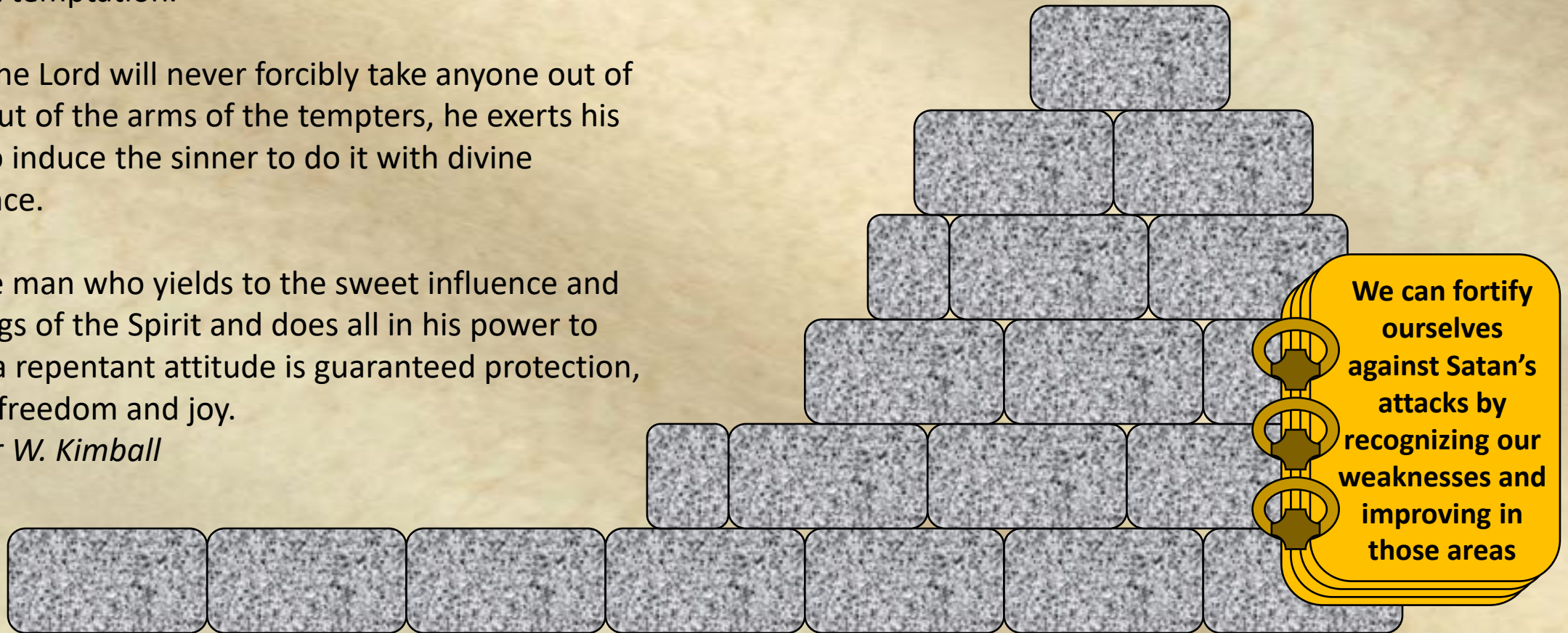
If heeded, this member of the Godhead will guide, inspire, and warn, and will neutralize the promptings of the evil one.

He who has greater strength than Lucifer, he who is our fortress and our strength, can sustain us in times of great temptation.

While the Lord will never forcibly take anyone out of sin or out of the arms of the tempters, he exerts his Spirit to induce the sinner to do it with divine assistance.

And the man who yields to the sweet influence and pleadings of the Spirit and does all in his power to stay in a repentant attitude is guaranteed protection, power, freedom and joy.

*Spencer W. Kimball*





# A Nephite's Character

They humbled themselves

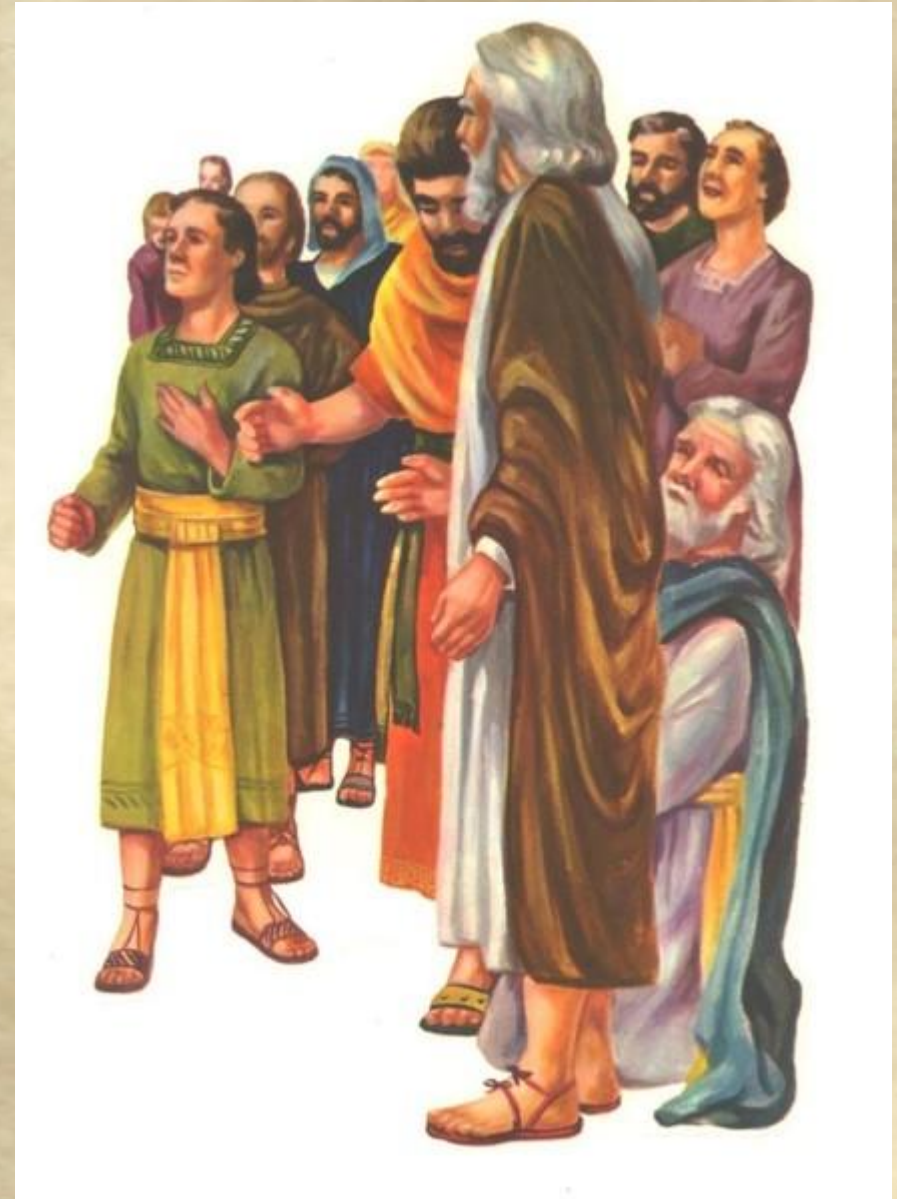
They were highly favored of the Lord

They were compelled reluctantly to contend with their brethren, the Lamanites

They were sorry to take up arms against the Lamanites and bringing so many to meet their death

They needed to protect their families

They knew that if they kept the commandments that they would prosper in the land



# Protecting Your Liberties

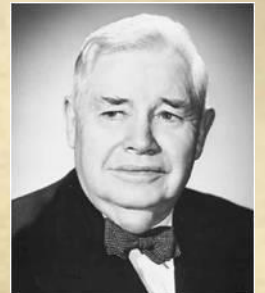
“...But the Church membership are citizens or subjects of sovereignties over which the church has no control...When, therefore, constitutional law, obedient to these principles, calls the manhood of the church into the armed service of any country to which they owe allegiance, their highest civic duty requires that they meet that call.



If, harkening to that call and obeying those in command over them, they shall take the lives of those who fight against them, that will not make of them murderers nor subject them to the penalty that God has prescribed for those who kill, beyond the principle to be mentioned shortly.

For it would be a cruel God that would punish His children as moral sinners for acts done by them as the innocent instrumentalities of a sovereign whom He had told them to obey and whose will they were powerless to resist.”

J. Reuben Clark, Jr.





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