



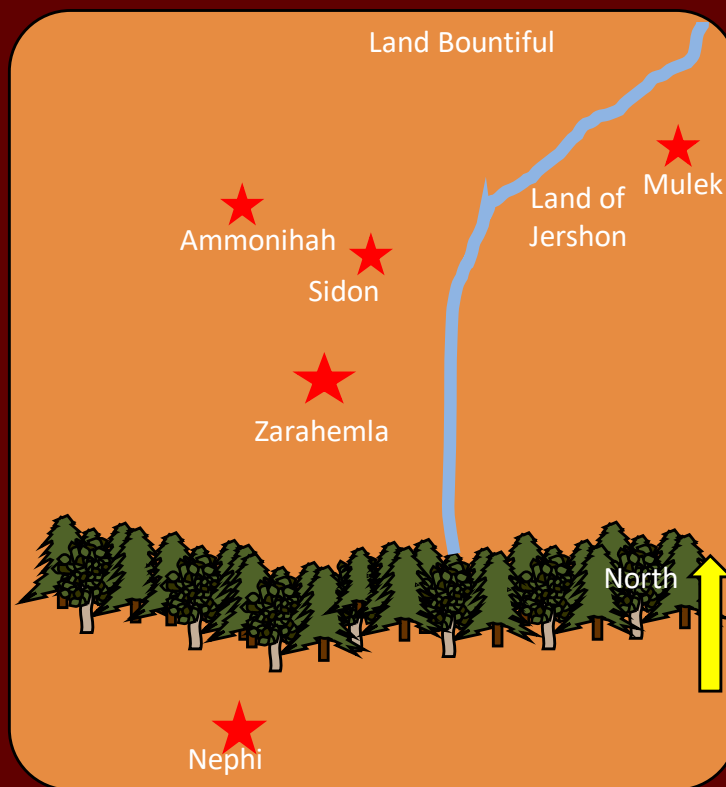
THE ARMY OF HELAMAN ALMA 52-55

Lesson 103
Suggested Song: We'll
Bring The World His
Truth
p. 172 Primary Children's
Songbook



LAMANITES RETREAT

After Amalickiah's death the Lamanites saw that Teancum was ready 'to give them battle'



They abandoned their 'design' into marching north and retreated to the city of Mulek

The brother of Amalickiah was appointed king over the people

AMMORON

He was the brother of Amalickiah

He succeeded Amalickiah as general and king of the Lamanite armies that attacked the Nephites around 74 to 56 BC

He and his brother had been the cause of a great and lasting war between the Nephites and the Lamanites causing a great loss to many people

He was also the cause of much famine (Alma 62:35)

Teancum also 'stole' into Ammoron's tent, as he did his brother's and killed him with a javelin near his heart

The king's guards were alerted and had Teancum killed before he could escape



Who is the enemy?



You live in a day of marvelous technologies that give you easy access to a wide variety of media, including the Internet, mobile devices, video games, television, movies, music, books, and magazines.

The information and entertainment provided through these media can increase your ability to learn, communicate, and become a force for good in the world.

However, some information and entertainment can lead you away from righteous living. Choose wisely when using media because whatever you read, listen to, or look at has an effect on you. Select only media that uplifts you.



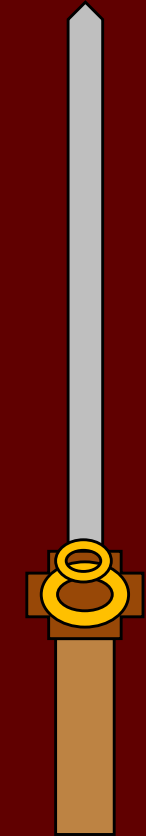
If we recognize and avoid circumstances in which the adversary may have an advantage over us, we can remain spiritually safe



“Youth today are being raised in enemy territory with a declining standard of morality.

But as a servant of the Lord, I promise that you will be protected and shielded from the attacks of the adversary *if* you will heed the promptings that come from the Holy Spirit.”

Boyd K. Packer



SPIRITUALLY DANGEROUS CIRCUMSTANCES



Why were the
Nephites in
danger?



What are some ways
people place themselves in
circumstances that are
Spiritually dangerous?



TEANCUM REESTABLISHES THE LOST CITIES

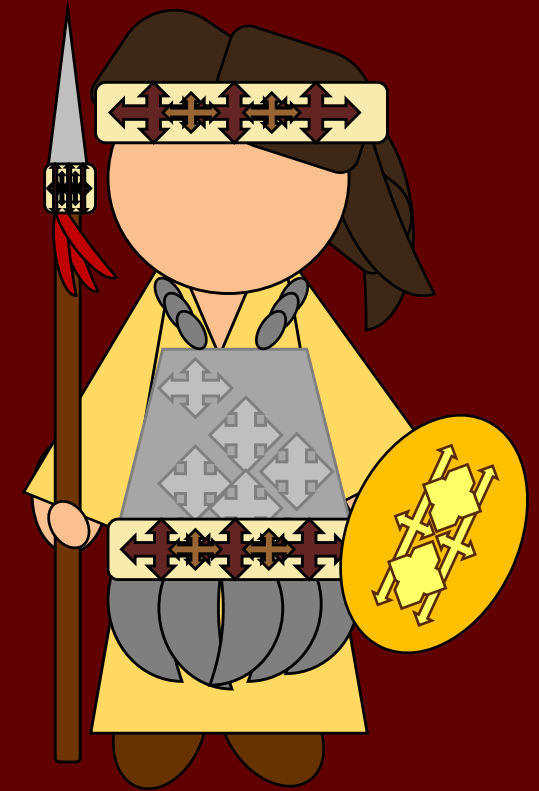
27th Year of the Reign of the Judges

Teancum was commanded by Moroni to protect the south and west borders

Moroni marched towards the land Bountiful that he might assist Teancum

Teancum was ordered to attack the city of Mulek and retake it if possible

Teancum waits for the aid of Moroni in the Land Bountiful



PRIOR TO BATTLE

28th Year of the Reign of the Judges

Moroni and Teancum and many of the chief captains held a council of war

They sent embassies to the city of Mulek to “flatter” them out of their strongholds



Jacob, a Zoramite, would not come out with his army to meet them

JACOB

He was a Zoramite

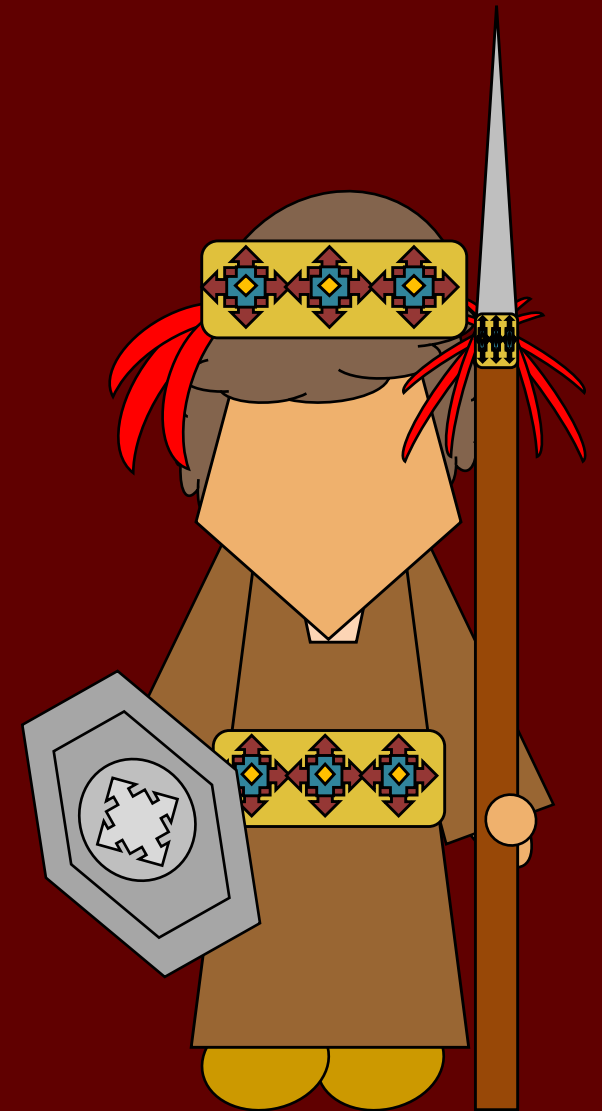
He was one of the leaders of the Lamanite's occupation force in the city of Mulek around 64 BC

He refused to leave the city of Mulek causing Teancum's forces to pursue them

He and his army retreated to the land Bountiful where he was met with Lehi's army

Jacob's army was surrounded by Nephites on all sides

Moroni was wounded in this battle while Jacob was killed



What are things that would potentially divide these groups?

Priesthood
Quorums



Young Women
Classes



Wards or
Branches



Families



If we as members of the Lord's Church allow ourselves to become divided, then we place ourselves in dangerous circumstances

PRISONERS OF WAR

After Jacob's death the rest of the Lamanites were caught by Lehi and Moroni



Moroni asked them to surrender their weapons...

Some did and the others who wouldn't surrender were bound and their weapons taken from them

They marched them to the land of Bountiful and put in prison

“And now the number of prisoners who were taken exceeded more than the number of those who had been slain, yea, more than those who had been slain on both sides.”



KEEPING THE PRISONERS BUSY

Moroni had the Lamanites bury their dead and the dead of the Nephites and placed guards over them

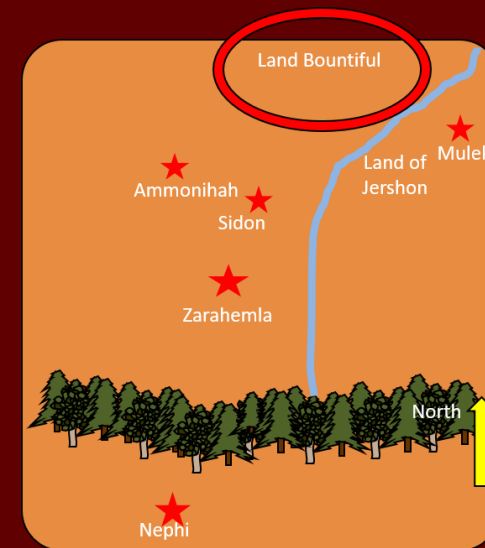
Moroni and Lehi went to the city of Mulek

Building the Stronghold of the Land Bountiful

The prisoners also labored in digging a ditch around the land Bountiful

They also built timbers upon the inner bank of the ditch

Moroni had a stronghold built to retain the prisoners



The three-tiered, zig-zagged defensive walls at Sacsayhuaman, overlooking the city of Cuzco

THE PEOPLE OF AMMON

Recap:

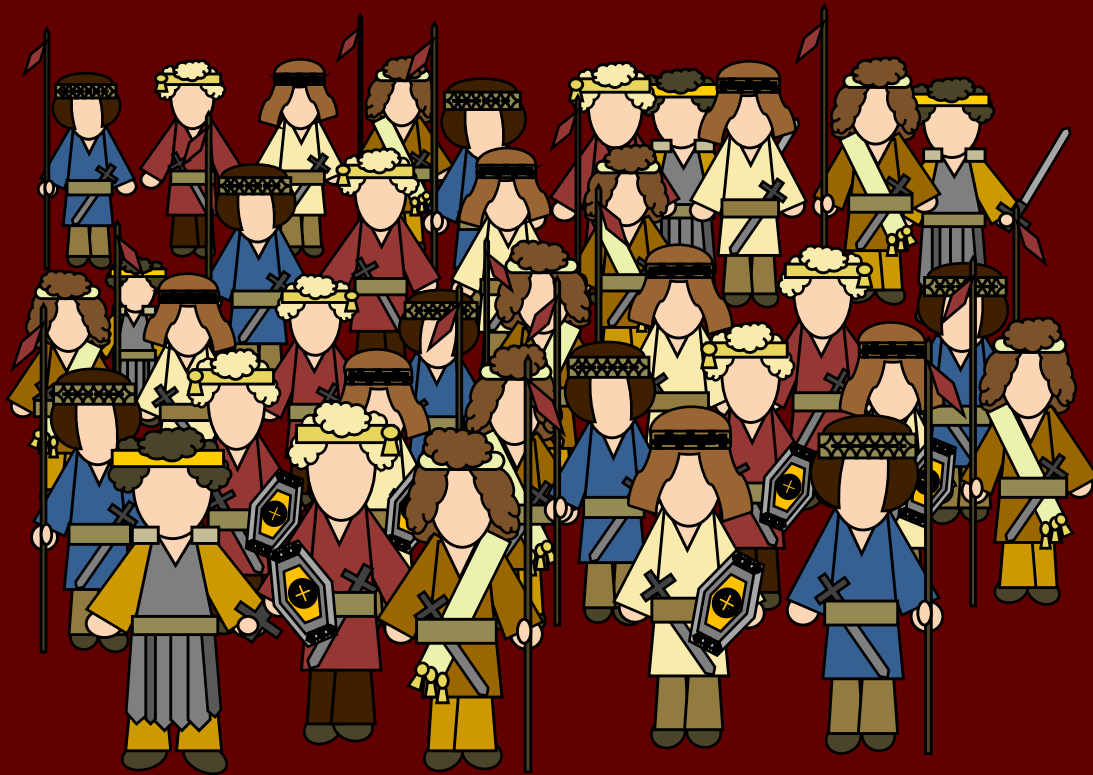
They were Lamanites converted by Ammon and his brethren and they were brought to the land of Zarahemla, and given the land of Jershon to live. They refused to go into battle, 'taking an oath' having buried their weapons of war.

They were moved back to Zarahemla during the war between the Nephites and the Lamanites into the city of Zarahemla and protected by the Nephites



SONS OF THE PEOPLE OF AMMON

“But behold, it came to pass they had many sons, who had not entered into a covenant that they would not take their weapons of war to defend themselves against their enemies; therefore they did assemble themselves together at this time, as many as were able to take up arms, and they called themselves Nephites.”

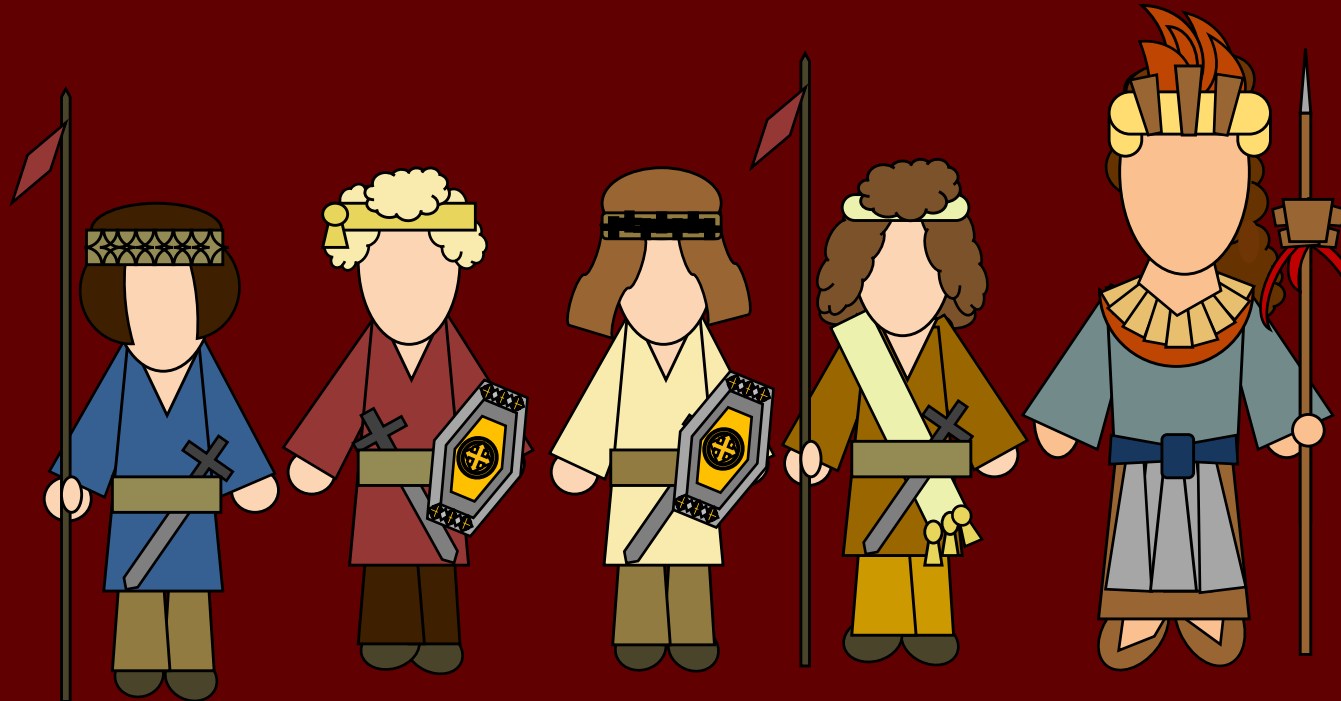


“And they entered into a covenant to fight for the liberty of the Nephites, yea, to protect the land unto the laying down of their lives; yea, even they covenanted that they never would give up their liberty, but they would fight in all cases to protect the Nephites and themselves from bondage.”

2,000—HELAN MAN THE LEADER

“And they were all young men, and they were exceedingly valiant for courage, and also for strength and activity; but behold, this was not all—they were men who were true at all times in whatsoever thing they were entrusted.”

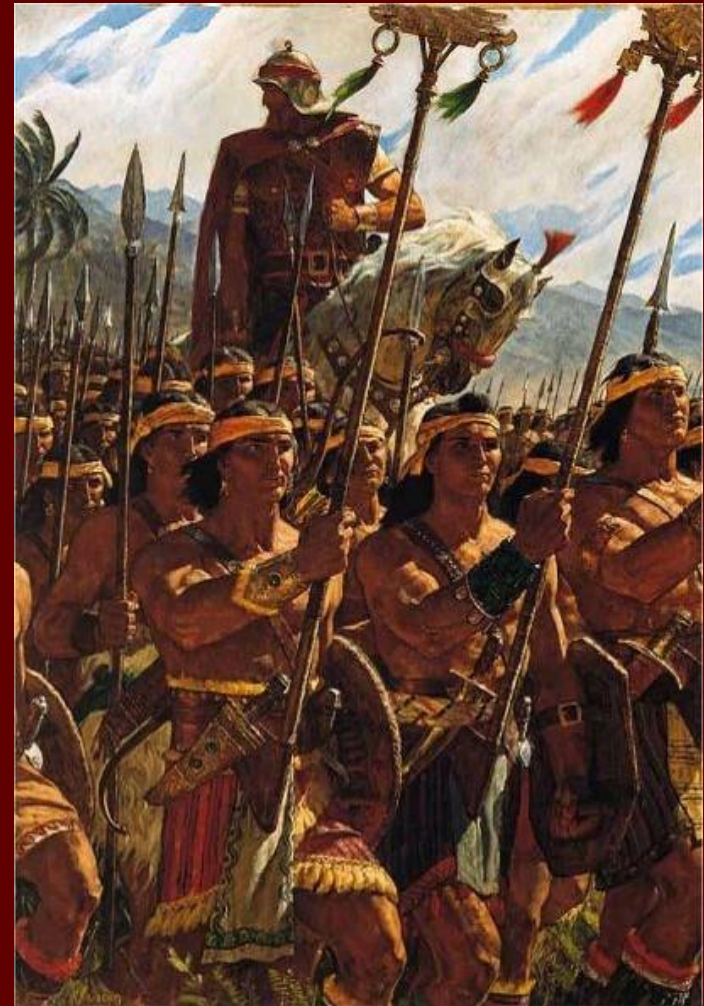
“Yea, they were men of truth and soberness, for they had been taught to keep the commandments of God and to walk uprightly before him.”



ENDING OF THE 28TH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF THE JUDGES

“And now it came to pass that Helaman did march at the head of his two thousand stripling soldiers, to the support of the people in the borders of the land on the south by the west sea.”

Stripling:
"a youth," late 14c., possibly from *strip* (n.) "long, narrow piece," on the notion of "one who is slender as a strip, whose figure is not yet filled out."
Etymology: Middle English 1350-1400
See notes*



YOUNG SOLDIERS

“Throughout history it has been commonplace for many of the men in the military to engage in wickedness both in and out of battle.

But the young Ammonite warriors who went to battle in place of their fathers were exemplary in many ways.

They were men of trust, truth, and righteousness.

They were committed to the defense of their country.

They were fearless in the face of death and courageous in battle.

God rewarded them their faith with amazing protection. Not one of them died in battle

This is not always the case with righteous young men in war. Sometimes they must give their lives...

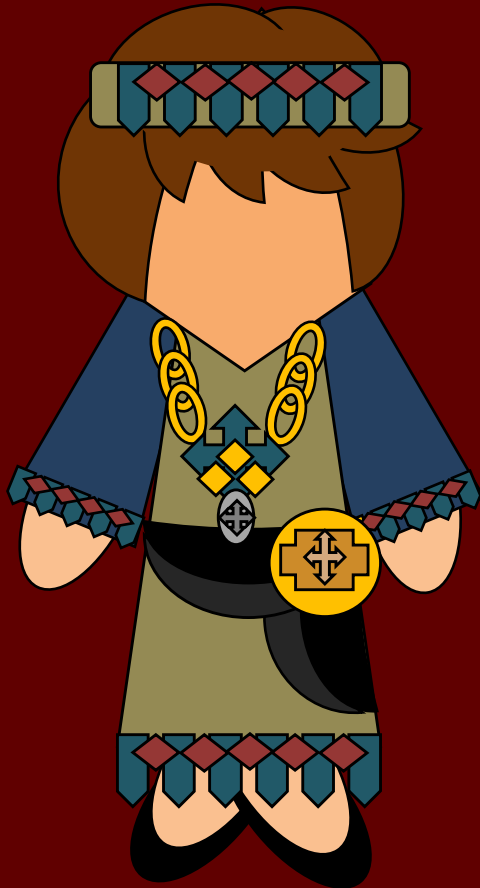
They exemplified the type of manhood which all of God’s sons should emulate.”

Student Manual 121-122



AN EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS

The 29th Year of the Reign of the Judges



Ammoron desires an exchange of prisoners—
They had taken many women and children

Moroni desires to get as many Nephites back as possible



Alma 54:1-3

THE EPISTLE—ALMA 54:4-13

“...we are prepared to receive you; yea, and except you withdraw your purposes, behold, ye will pull down the wrath of that God whom you have rejected upon you, even to your utter destruction.”

Alma 54:9



HOWEVER

“If ye seek to destroy
us more we will seek
to destroy you”

Alma 54:13



RESPONSE FROM AMMORON

ALMA 54:16-24

“...Ye have murdered my brother...I will avenge his blood upon you.”

Alma 54:16



So:

“...if ye lay down your arms and become subject to be governed...I will cause that my people shall lay down their weapons and shall be at war no more.”

Alma 54:18



NEVERTHELESS...

“...I will grant to exchange prisoners...subjecting the Nephites to our authority or to their eternal extinction.”

“...we know not such a being (God)”

Alma 54:20



DIFFERENT STRATEGIES

Moroni was
concerned about
families



Ammoron was only
concerned about his men
of war and wanted to
destroy the Nephites or
take control



PERFECT KNOWLEDGE OF FRAUD

Moroni knew of the lies
that Ammoron was telling



Moroni withdrew his 'purpose' and said, "I will seek
death among them until they shall sure for peace."



However:
**We are not to delight in murder or
bloodshed; rather, we are to delight
in saving people from destruction**

A search was made to find a man who was
a descendant of Laman...

They found a servant of named Laman

Alma 55:1-19



LAMAN, NEPHITE SOLDIER

He was a servant of the king of the Lamanites, the same king who was murdered by servants of the dissenter Amalickiah around 72 BC.

He fled to the Nephite side and joined the military under command of Captain Moroni.

Ten years later during the warfare between the Nephites and the Lamanites he helped Moroni with his plan to disable the Lamanite guards in order to free the Nephite captives.

Laman and a small group of men went to the encampment at Gid.

He told the Lamanites he was a “Lamanite”.

He gave the Lamanites wine and they got drunk and Moroni and his men entered into the camp.



FORTIFYING GID

After the Lamanites were drunken, Moroni gathered the weapons and gave them to the Nephite prisoners.

The prisoners were taken out of the city of Gid and returned to the city Bountiful.

They had taken Gid and fortified it by having the Lamanites labor.

Many times the Lamanites tried to use the tactics of getting the Nephites drunk, but to no avail.

The Nephites were “not slow to remember the Lord their God in this their time of affliction.”



Minerva Teichert

The Lamanites in the city of Gid surrendered and the Nephites who had been imprisoned joined Moroni's army.



As we stand firm for what is right, we can prevent evil influences from gaining power over us

“Satan cannot seduce us by his enticements unless we in our hearts consent and yield.”



Brent Borup

“The devil has no power over us only as we permit him.”



Sources:

Video: Stripling Warriors (2:42)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_X6r2MsrUE



The Book of Mormon Who's Who by Ed J. Pinegar and Richard J. Allen pg. 21-22, 76-77, 102-103

Boyd K. Packer ("Counsel to Youth," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2011, 18).

Student Manual of Book of Mormon Religion 121-122 pg. 338

Joseph Smith (*Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith* [2007], 213, 214).



“Stripling” refers to a teenage boy at a very particular time in his physical development. You know when a teenage boy of 14-16 years suddenly shoots up a foot or two in what seems like 2 weeks? It’s a super awkward time physically because they are suddenly much taller and they’re sort of graceless in the way they carry themselves. At this stage of life they are lanky and a little clumsy.

A youth in the state of adolescence, or just passing from boyhood to manhood; a lad.

Webster’s Dictionary 1820

“To our young men who go into service, no matter whom they serve or where, we say live clean, keep the commandments of the Lord, pray to Him constantly to preserve you in truth and righteousness, live as you pray, and then whatever betides you the Lord will be with you and nothing will happen to you that will not be to the honor and glory of God and to your salvation and exaltation. There will come into your hearts from the living of the pure life you pray for, a joy that will pass your powers of expression or understanding. The Lord will be always near you; He will comfort you; you will feel His presence in the hour of your greatest tribulation; He will guard and protect you to the full extent that accords with His all-wise purpose. Then, when the conflict is over and you return to your homes, having lived the righteous life, how great will be your happiness—whether you be of the victors or of the vanquished—that you have lived as the Lord commanded. You will return so disciplined in righteousness that thereafter all Satan’s wiles and stratagems will leave you untouched. Your faith and testimony will be strong beyond breaking. You will be looked up to and revered as having passed through the fiery furnace of trial and temptation and come forth unharmed. Your brethren will look to you for counsel, support, and guidance. You will be the anchors to which thereafter the youth of Zion will moor their faith in man” (Heber J. Grant, J. Reuben Clark Jr., and David O. McKay, in Conference Report, Apr. 1942, 96).

President George Albert Smith shares wise counsel given by his grandfather George A. Smith:

“My grandfather used to say to his family, ‘There is a line of demarcation well defined between the Lord’s territory and the devil’s territory. If you will stay on the Lord’s side of the line you will be under his influence and will have no desire to do wrong; but if you cross to the devil’s side of that line one inch you are in the tempter’s power and if he is successful, you will not be able to think or even reason properly because you will have lost the Spirit of the Lord.’

“When I have been tempted sometimes to do a certain thing, I have asked myself, ‘Which side of the line am I on?’ If I determined to be on the safe side, the Lord’s side, I would do the right thing every time. So when temptation comes think prayerfully about your problem and the influence of the Lord will aid you to decide wisely. There is safety for us only on the Lord’s side of the line” (“A Faith Founded upon Truth,” *Deseret News*, June 17, 1944, Church section, 9).