

Lesson 117

Suggested Hymn:
#85 How Firm A
Foundation

MOST WANTED

3 NEPHI 2-5



Remember the Signs?

Many of the people rejected further signs and wonders and increased in wickedness.

However, many believed the signs in amazement but forgot over a period of 1 year



Press any key to forget



If we forget previous spiritual experiences, we will become more vulnerable to Satan's temptations and deceptions.

How to Remember

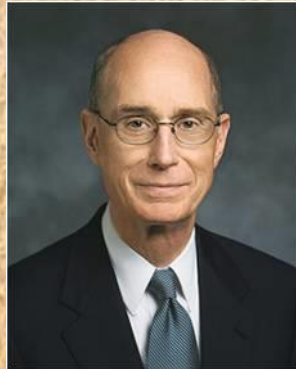
What can I do to remember the spiritual experiences I have had?



By sharing your experience with others



By writing it down and reading it occasionally



“I wrote down a few lines every day for years. I never missed a day no matter how tired I was or how early I would have to start the next day. Before I would write, I would ponder this question: ‘Have I seen the hand of God reaching out to touch us or our children or our family today?’ As I kept at it, something began to happen. As I would cast my mind over the day, I would see evidence of what God had done for one of [our family members] that I had not recognized in the busy moments of the day. As that happened, and it happened often, I realized that trying to remember had allowed God to show me what He had done.

“More than gratitude began to grow in my heart. Testimony grew. I became ever more certain that our Heavenly Father hears and answers prayers. I felt more gratitude for the softening and refining that come because of the Atonement of the Savior Jesus Christ. And I grew more confident that the Holy Ghost can bring all things to our remembrance—even things we did not notice or pay attention to when they happened”

President Henry B. Eyring

Gadianton Robbers

They followed the ancient secret combinations instituted by Satan from around 50 BC to the end of the Book of Mormon

They were both Nephites and Lamanites

They were destructive and would vanish into the shadows

They would gain wealth and property by secret plots and murders

They were destroyed after Jesus' visit

They again revived a third century later after Christ was among the Nephites

Mormon was one who fought against them

They were also among the Jaradite nation and played a major role in their destruction of that civilization



Giddianhi

He was the leader of the Gadianton robbers following the birth of the Savior

After Samuel's plea from the wall, the Gadianton robbers began to emerge as a growing threat

He sent an epistle to Lachoneus to 'yield up your cities, your land, and your possession or become extinct'. His deadline was set for a month in about AD 18

He and the robbers went to claim the city but the Nephites had abandoned the city taking refuge elsewhere

Resources became scarce for the robbers in the wilderness and they came upon the Nephites and there was a great battle

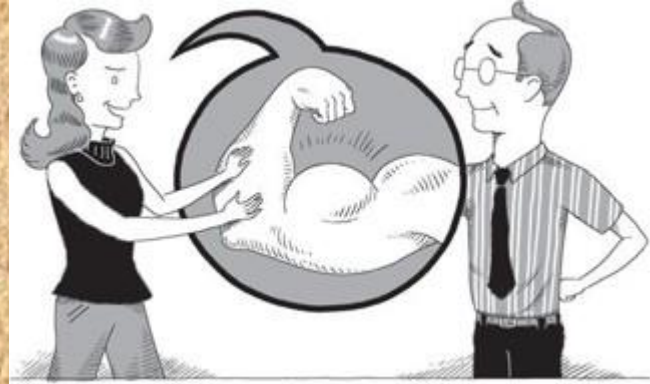
He was killed while some of the robbers disappeared into the wilderness, and some were slain

His successor was Zemnarihah



The Threat

Giddianhi
tempts
Lachoneus



Surrender or
we will
annihilate you



Satan and his
followers often use
flattery, false
promises and threats
to lead people astray

How does the
adversary use
flattery?

What are some false
promises the
adversary uses?

How can you resist
these tactics of the
adversary?

Satan's Tactics

Technology

Entertainment

Socially accepted
behavior

Popularity of
dress



Lachoneus Fortifies the Nephites

16th year before the coming of Christ
AD 16-18

Temporal
Preparations

Protection of guards and
built up surroundings

Spiritual
Preparations

Followed their leader
Lachoneus' words vs 25

Repentance
Pray unto the Lord



Fortifying Our Homes



Gidgiddoni

He was a captain over the Nephite forces during a fierce engagement with the Gadianton robbers around AD 16 to AD 21

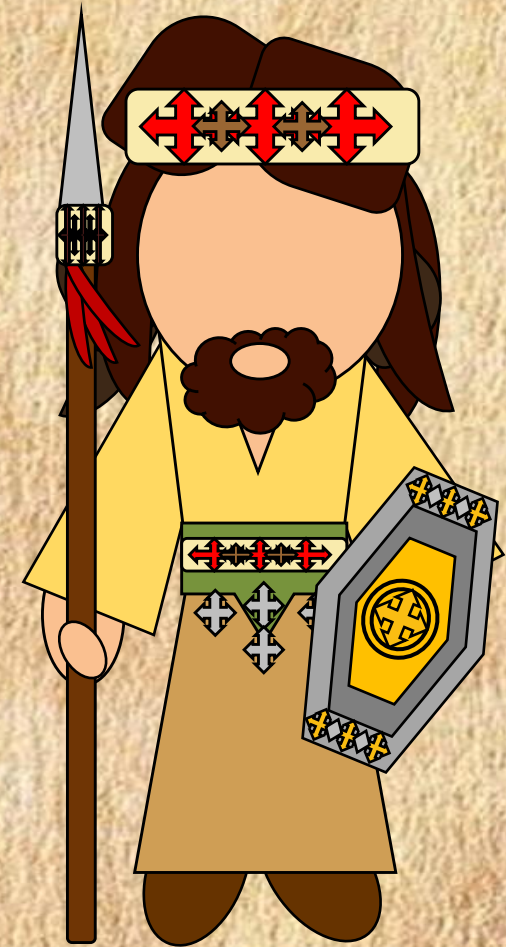
Under the direction of Lachoneus, chief judge and governor, he strengthened the Nephite military forces

He was a spiritual and great prophet among them (3 Nephi 3:19)

In AD 19 they were under attack by Giddianhi, who was killed and then Zemnariha, but their attempt to overtake the Nephites was not successful

Under his direction, the Nephite military staged nightly forays to decimate the enemy forces and prevent their escape. Those who were not slain were taken prisoners.

Zemnariha was one of the prisoners who was tried and executed



The Great Slaughter

18th -21st Year before the coming of Christ

The Nephites had deserted the area taking provisions for 7 years

The Robbers were hungry and there was nothing to take

Giddianhi commanded they go to battle with the Nephites



The Nephites are ready for battle and fell down to ask protection from their Lord

"...insomuch that there never was known so great a slaughter among all the people of Lehi since he left Jerusalem."

What was the end result of this war?

Temporal and Spiritual Blessings

18th -19th Year before the coming of Christ

The Nephites had prepared themselves temporally and spiritually to overcome the wickedness of the Gadianton Robbers

Giddianhi was slain and the next leader, Zemnarihah was taken prisoner and hanged from a tree



So We See:

As we prepare ourselves spiritually and temporally, the Lord will strengthen us to overcome challenges

As we repent and humble ourselves, God will sustain us through and deliver us from our trials

Zemnarihah

He was the successor of Giddianhi around AD 16 to AD 21

He tried to take over the capital Zarahemla

The Nephites had a stronghold led by Gidgiddoni

He was captured along with others and taken prisoner

He was 'hanged upon a tree' until dead (3 Nephi 28-29)

Some of the other prisoners were taught the gospel and renewed their covenants and were liberated by Lachoneus around AD 21

Those who did not change were punished 'under the law'



Peace is Restored

22nd-26th Year before the coming of Christ

“And now behold, there was not a living soul among all the people of the Nephites who did doubt in the least the words of all the holy prophets who had spoken; for they knew that it must needs be that they must be fulfilled.”



What was Mormon's responsibility at this time?
See 3 Nephi 5:12-15



As disciples of Jesus Christ, we have a responsibility to teach others the way to everlasting life.

“And thus they did put an end to all those wicked, and secret, and abominable combinations, in the which there was so much wickedness, and so many murders committed.”



To Us Today:

“Yea, and surely shall he again bring a remnant of the seed of Joseph to the knowledge of the Lord their God.

And as surely as the Lord liveth, will he gather in from the four quarters of the earth all the remnant of the seed of Jacob, who are scattered abroad upon all the face of the earth.

And as he hath covenanted with all the house of Jacob, even so shall the covenant wherewith he hath covenanted with the house of Jacob be fulfilled in his own due time, unto the restoring all the house of Jacob unto the knowledge of the covenant that he hath covenanted with them.

And then shall they know their Redeemer, who is Jesus Christ, the Son of God; and then shall they be gathered in from the four quarters of the earth unto their own lands, from whence they have been dispersed; yea, as the Lord liveth so shall it be. Amen.

Sources:

Henry B. Eyring (“O Remember, Remember,” *Ensign or Liahona*, Nov. 2007, 67).

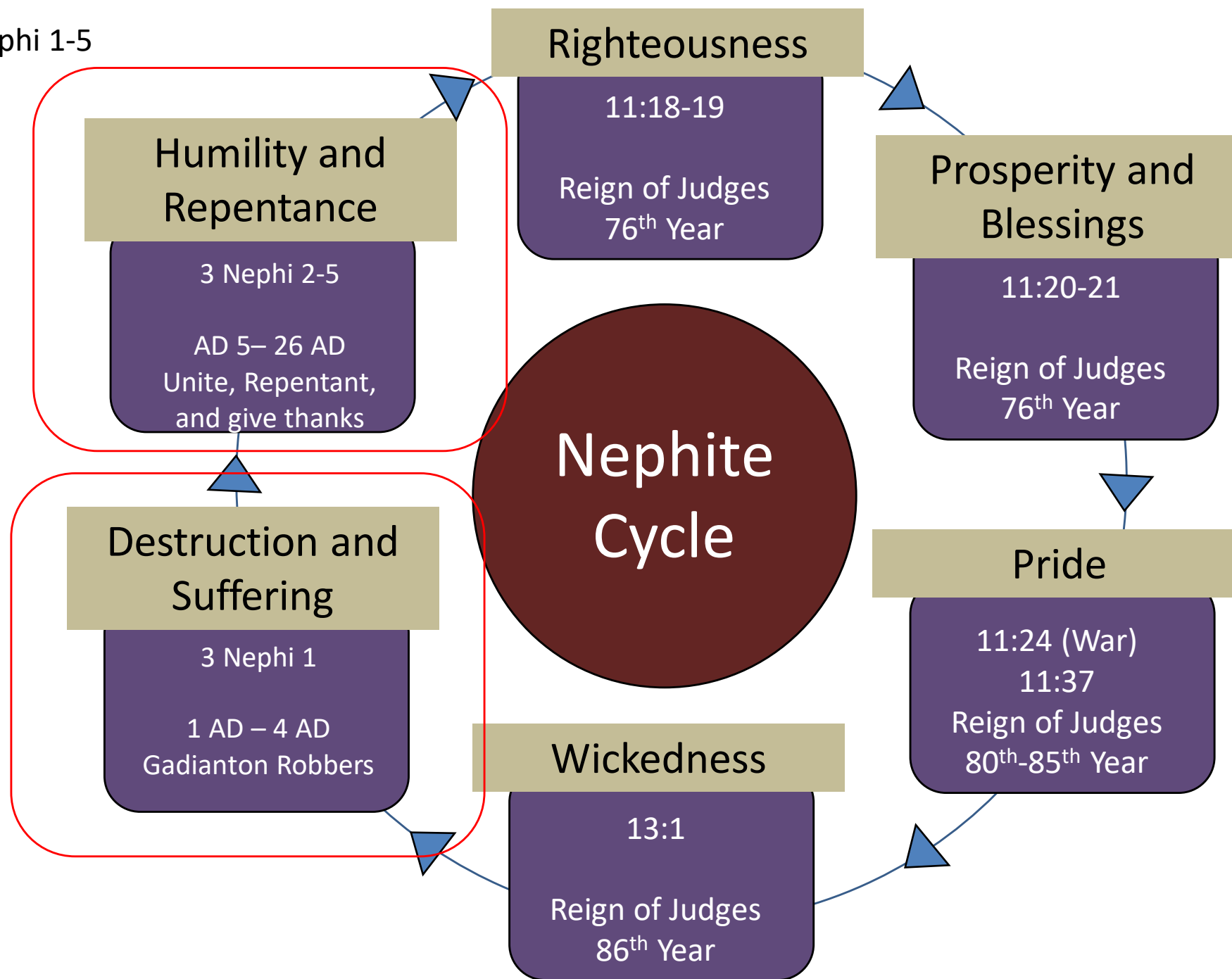
The Book of Mormon Who’s Who by Ed J. Pinegar and Richard J. Allen pg. 53-54, 56-60, 192-193

Throughout their history, the Nephites used three different points of reference for measuring time with their calendars:

- (1) the time when Lehi left Jerusalem;
- (2) the time when the government changed from kings to judges;
- (3) the time when the sign of the birth of Jesus Christ was given.

It is not known exactly when the Nephites began to reckon their calendar from the time of Jesus Christ's birth, but Mormon acknowledges this change in 3 Nephi 2:7–8.

REFERENCE POINT	APPROXIMATELY WHEN USED	SCRIPTURE BLOCK
From the time when Lehi left Jerusalem	600–92 B.C.	1 Nephi 1–Mosiah 29
From the time when the government changed from kings to judges	92 B.C.–A.D. 1	Mosiah 29–3 Nephi 1
From the time the sign of the birth of Jesus Christ was given	A.D. 1–421	3 Nephi 1–Moroni 10



Spiritual and Temporal Preparation

1. How does gathering in families and in wards or branches provide protection for us? What is an example of a time when you felt protected from the attacks of the adversary because of your efforts to gather with your family, ward, or branch?
2. Why are temporal preparations—such as obtaining an education and home food storage—important in the last days? Whom do you know who has been blessed as a result of preparing temporally? How was this person blessed?
3. What blessings come as we follow the living prophets and apostles? How have you or someone you know been blessed for hearkening to living prophets and apostles?

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