

*A Few Good Men:  
Before the Coming of the  
Savior  
3 Nephi 6-7*

Lesson 118

Suggested Hymn:  
#266 The Time is  
Far Spent

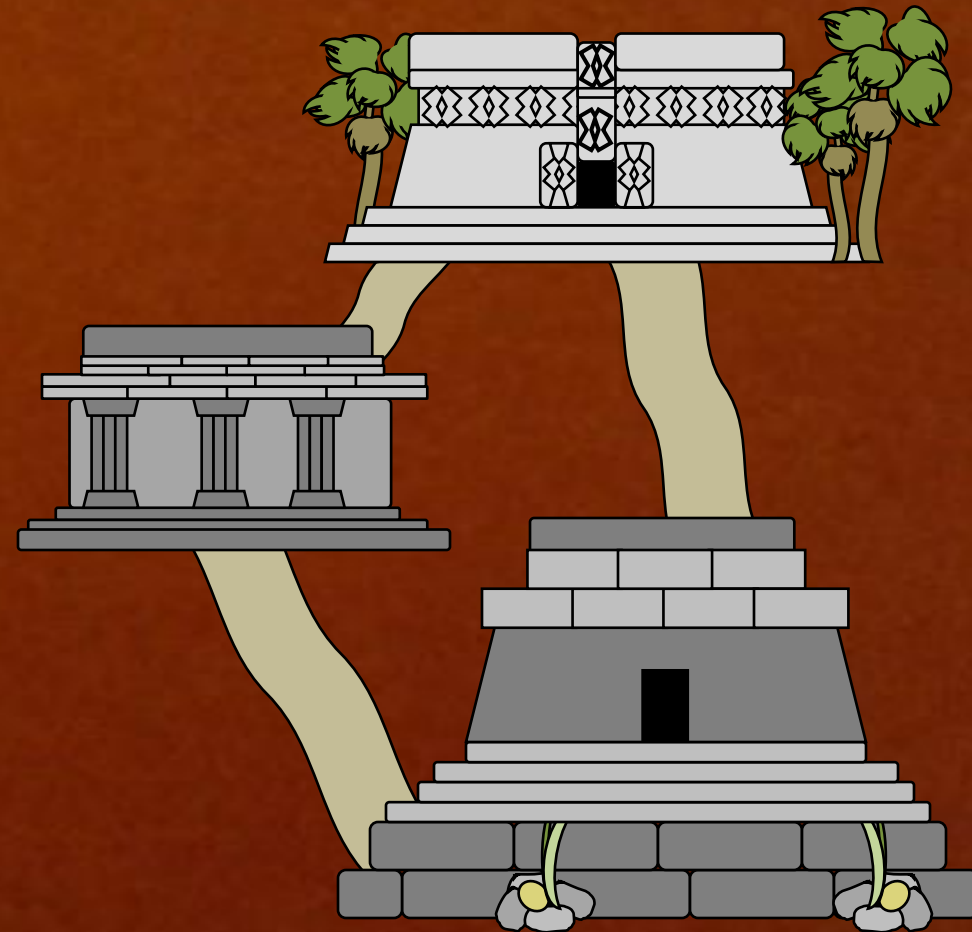


# Rebuilding

There was order  
in the land

The cities were built 'anew' and  
highways connecting the cities

Gidgiddoni and  
Lachoneus were the  
leaders





# Great Are the Riches

## Prideful

Some were lifted up unto pride and boastings because of their exceedingly great riches, yea, even unto great persecutions

Some did receive great learning because of their riches

Some did return railing for railing

People began to be distinguished by ranks, according to their riches and their chances for learning



## Humble

Some were exceedingly humble

Some were ignorant because of their poverty

Some would receive railing (angry criticizing) and persecution and all manner of afflictions

Some would not turn and revile again, but were humble and penitent before God

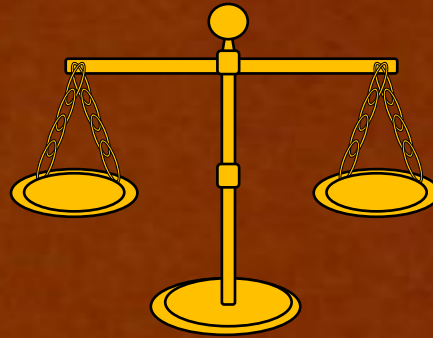
# Equality VS Inequality

“Equity and justice are chief among the laws that rule the kingdom of heaven”

JFM and RLM

“Nevertheless, in your temporal things you shall be equal, and this not grudgingly, otherwise the abundance of the manifestations of the Spirit shall be withheld.” D&C 70:14

“For if ye are not equal in earthly things ye cannot be equal in obtaining heavenly things.” D&C 78:6



Inequality—

“It’s the unbalanced distribution of power and control over wealth and innovation, government and culture, society and neighborhoods...”

...The same top end that gets the money also controls the ...ways of defining morality, culture, and public life...”

--R.R.Reno



# Satan Strikes Again

With great power

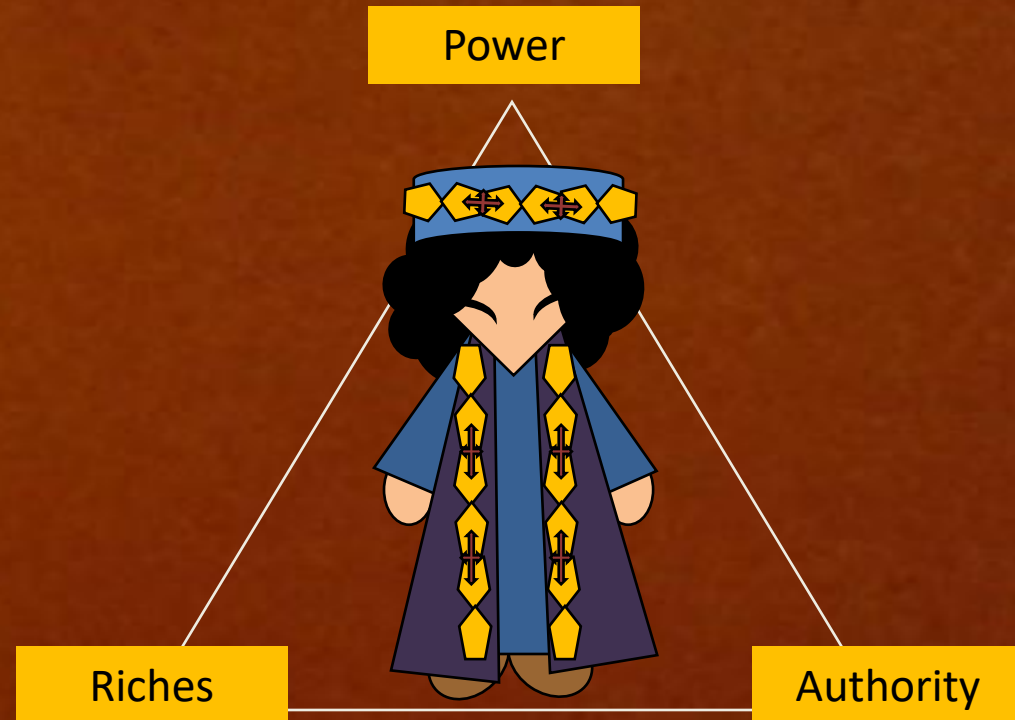
Stirring up the people

Puffing them up with pride and authority

Tempting them to seek for power, riches, and the vain things of the world

He leads them away to do “all manner of iniquity”

Peace is destroyed



“How ironic it is that this threesome make so many susceptible to the wiles of the adversary when each of the three could be used to such a marvelous effect in the cause of righteousness!”

JFM and RLM



# Pride VS The Holy Ghost

Why is it dangerous to no longer listen for the voice of the Spirit?

When we ignore the whisperings of the Holy Ghost, we are more susceptible to the temptations of the devil



“Pride creates a noise within us which makes the quiet voice of the Spirit hard to hear. And soon, in our vanity, we no longer even listen for it. We can come quickly to think we don’t need it”

President Henry B. Eyring

# Lachoneus II

He was the son of Lachoneus, the chief judge, and succeeded his father in about AD 30

This was a time that the lawyers and judges of high rank became prideful and corrupt in which they put prophets to death

The lawyers and judges also wanted to replace Lachoneus II with a king

With secret oaths and covenants, the wicked leaders murdered Lachoneus II

Thereafter, the government disintegrated and the people separated themselves into self-governing tribes

These dissenters eventually died when the Savior appeared to the Nephites in AD 33 – AD 34

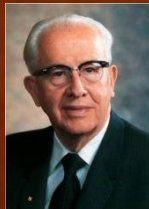


“The proud make every man their adversary by pitting their intellects, opinions, works, wealth, talents, or any other worldly measuring device against others.

In the words of C. S. Lewis: ‘Pride gets no pleasure out of having something, only out of having more of it than the next man. ... It is the comparison that makes you proud: the pleasure of being above the rest. Once the element of competition has gone, pride has gone.’

“...Pride adversely affects all our relationships—our relationship with God and His servants, between husband and wife, parent and child, employer and employee, teacher and student, and all mankind. Our degree of pride determines how we treat our God and our brothers and sisters”

Ezra Taft Benson



**When we are prideful, we allow Satan greater power to tempt us and lead us to commit more sin.**



**We can choose to be humble and faithful regardless of our circumstances**



3 Nephi 6:19-24

3 Nephi 6:25-30

3 Nephi 7:1-8

3 Nephi 7:9-14



Vasili Golinsky



**Secret combinations destroyed the Nephite government, and the people divided into tribes**

# Works of Darkness

Satan is the author =  
A brotherhood, group,  
society, or governments  
that operate in secrecy to  
perform evil acts for the  
purpose of gaining power  
over the minds and actions  
of people.



As the enemies of honest men and women governed by the rule of law, such secret combinations see to subvert public virtue and legally constituted authority.

They defile, defraud, murder, deceive, and destroy the elements of good government, religious or secular.

Their goal is to seize power and to rule over all the people which results in the destruction of human freedom and agency and the paralysis of peaceful and just communities.

# Jacob

He was the King of the Nephite dissenters during AD 24 to AD 30

He was selected as the leader by the 'secret brotherhood' to be their king

He had a role in slaying the prophets who were sent to declare repentance among the people

He retreated to the north to gather strength in numbers to organize and contend with the other tribes

He made unholy oaths and covenants that bound his group together

His purpose was to destroy the republic and establish a monarchy—kings

His followers had assassinated the chief judge

During the Lord's cleansing of the earth, the followers of secret combinations, including Jacob, were destroyed





# A Few Good Men

Nephi was visited by angels

Nephi testified of repentance and remission of sins through faith on the Lord Jesus Christ

Nephi cast out devils and unclean spirits

Nephi raise his brother Timothy from the dead who had been stoned by the people

Nephi did more miracles in the sight of the people in the name of Jesus.

Only a few were converted unto the Lord; but as many as were converted 'did truly signify unto the people that they had been visited by the power and Spirit of God, which was in Jesus Christ, in whom they believed.'  
3 Nephi 7:21



*“Therefore, there were ordained of Nephi, men unto this ministry, that all such as should come unto them should be baptized with water, and this as a witness and a testimony before God, and unto the people, that they had repented and received a remission of their sins”*  
3 Nephi 7:25

# Baptism

“Baptism witnesses to both God and man that our spirit is contrite and humble and that we are willing to take the name of Christ upon us.

Baptism by immersion symbolizes the Christian commitment to Christ, the acceptance of our Lord’s death, burial, and rise unto a newness of life.”

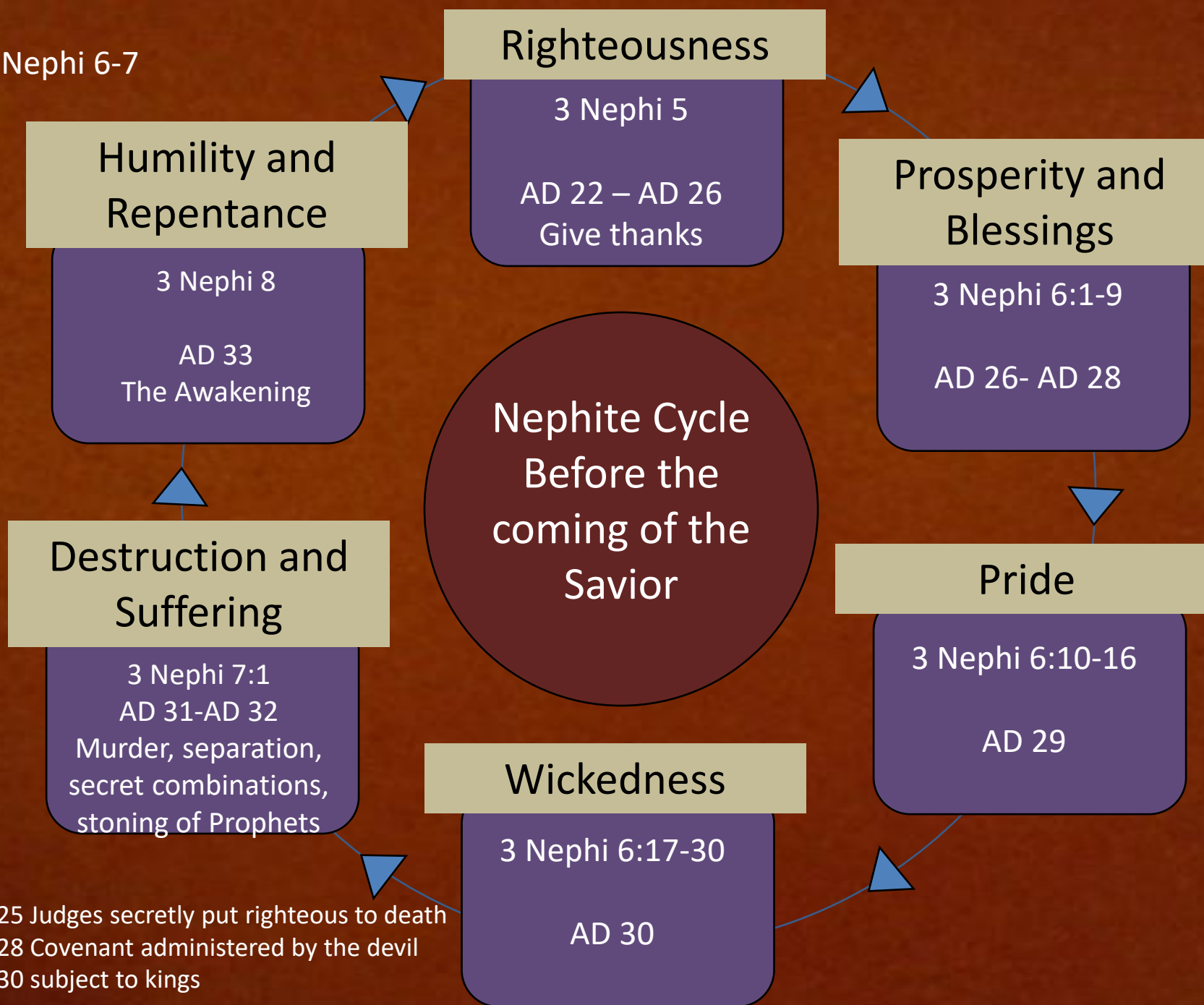
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*“And again, by way of commandment to the church concerning the manner of baptism— All those who humble themselves before God, and desire to be baptized, and come forth with broken hearts and contrite spirits, and witness before the church that they have truly repented of all their sins, and are willing to take upon them the name of Jesus Christ, having a determination to serve him to the end, and truly manifest by their works that they have received of the Spirit of Christ unto the remission of their sins, shall be received by baptism into his church.”*

D&C 20:37

3 Nephi 6-7



6:25 Judges secretly put righteous to death  
6:28 Covenant administered by the devil  
6:30 subject to kings



Sources:



Pride is Enmity (1:22)

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**If I Were The Devil** By Paul Harvey

I would gain control of the most powerful nation in the world;  
I would delude their minds into thinking that they had come from man's effort, instead of God's blessings;  
I would promote an attitude of loving things and using people, instead of the other way around;  
I would dupe entire states into relying on gambling for their state revenue;  
I would convince people that character is not an issue when it comes to leadership;  
I would make it legal to take the life of unborn babies;  
I would make it socially acceptable to take one's own life, and invent machines to make it convenient;  
I would cheapen human life as much as possible so that life of animals are valued more than human beings;  
I would take God out of the schools, where even the mention of His name was grounds for a lawsuit;  
I would come up with drugs that sedate the mind and target the young, and I would get sports heroes to advertise them;  
I would get control of the media, so that every night I could pollute the minds of every family member for my agenda;  
I would attack then family, the backbone of any nation. I would make divorce acceptable and easy, even fashionable. If the family crumbles, so does the nation;  
I would compel people to express their most depraved fantasies on canvas and movies screens, and I would call it art;  
I would convince the world that people are born homosexuals, and that their lifestyles should be accepted and marveled;  
I would convince the people that right and wrong are determined by a few who call themselves authorities and refer to their agendas as politically correct;  
I would persuade people that the church is irrelevant and out of date; the Bible is for the naive:  
I would dull the minds of Christians, and make them believe that prayer is not important, and that faithfulness and obedience are optional;

I GUESS I WOULD LEAVE THINGS PRETTY MUCH THE WAY THEY ARE!