Lesson 62

Suggested Hymn:
#260 Whose on the
Lord's Side?

Prophecy and Fulfillment Mosiah 19-20

"One Sunday morning ... we awoke to a beautiful day in Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. The Caribbean sun was shining, and the sky was clear. A gentle breeze was blowing, barely ruffling the leaves on the trees; it was warm and peaceful and still. But far out to sea, beyond the reach of our physical senses that day, the deadly destroyer was coming our way, implacable and irresistible.





The Hurricane Center, with responsibility to track and predict the path of Hurricane Georges, was constantly updating the information available on the Internet. In the peaceful, placid quiet of that morning, by virtue of those seeing eyes in the sky, I saw the predicted path of the storm, aimed like an arrow at the heart of Santo Domingo.



"Within 48 hours the storm struck the island with intense ... fury, leaving in its path destruction, desolation, and death."



What were the conditions preceding the storm?

How did Elder Stone know the storm was coming?



"Great as the damage and destruction and death from these awesome phenomena of physical force can be, there is even more desolation caused in people's lives by spiritual hurricanes. These furious forces often cause far more devastating damage than physical cyclones, because they destroy our souls and rob us of our eternal perspective and promise."



The Purpose of Warnings

Have you ever had a time that someone tried to warn you about a danger that you could not foresee?

Did you listen to this warning?

If you had listened, how were you blessed?

What is the purpose of a warning?

Who warns you about things you should avoid or things that might be harmful to you?

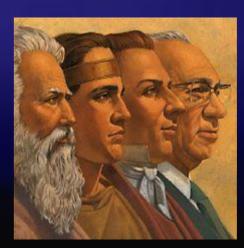
Spiritual Warnings

To whom does God reveal spiritual warnings for His Church?



The Lord sent Abinadi to warn the Nephites of the consequences of their sins.

The Lord sends Prophets to warn us against the evils of the day



Division Among the Remainder of the People

Those that were with Alma:

Were enjoying their peaceful life with their conversion







Those that stayed with King Noah:

Some began to breathe out threats against King Noah

There began to be contention among them

Gideon

A strong military leader in the army of King Noah

He rose to take action against evil

Around 145 BC he lead a revolt against the abuses of King Noah and attempted to slay him but was interrupted by the invasion of the Lamanites

King Noah's son, Limhi, later heeded Gideon's advice to disable their Lamanite guards with drunkenness and gained freedom for the people to return to Zarahemla

He became a teacher of the people in the Church of God

Around 91 BC he challenged arrogant zealot Nehor "with the words of God" (Alma 1:9)

Nehor slew Gideon with the sword

He gave his life in defending the truth



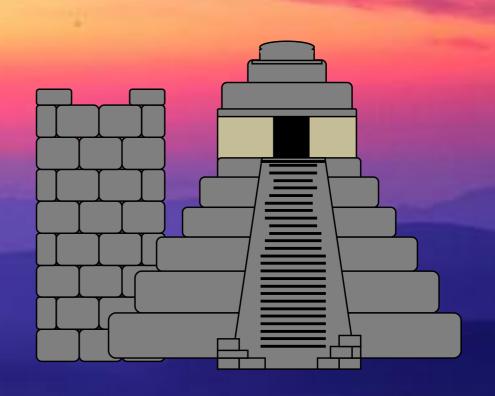
The Story

Gideon draws sword to slay King Noah—

King Noah fled

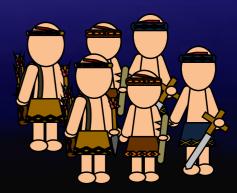
Gideon pursues him to the tower by the temple





King Noah sees the Lamanite army were on the borders of the land

Gideon spared the king's life

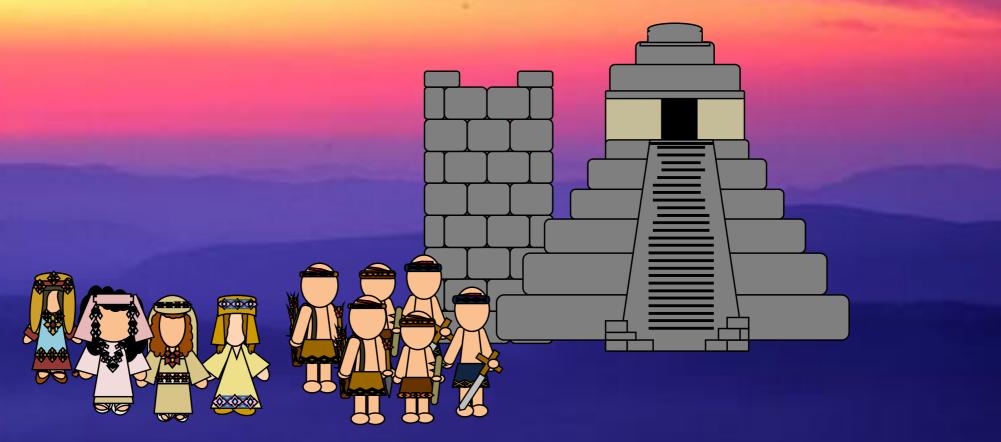




He also fled before them

The Lamanites captured them and began to slay them

King Noah commanded that the women and children flee but many woman remained



Those who stayed had their fair daughters stand forth and plead with the Lamanites to not slay them

The Lamanites had compassion on them

They took them back to the Land of Nephi under the condition that they deliver up King Noah and their property—1/2 of what they had to pay tribute to the king of the Lamanites



Son of King Noah

Grandson of Zeniff

He was appointed king by the voice of the people around 145 BC, but ascension to power began around 150 BC

He was the last of the Nephite kings in the colony established by Zeniff among the Lamanites in the land of Nephi

He did not seek after the wicked ways of his father, Noah

He served as a spiritual guide for his people

He sought to escape the bondage his people were in with the Lamanites and ruled in an atmosphere of constant fear of Lamanite attack or retribution



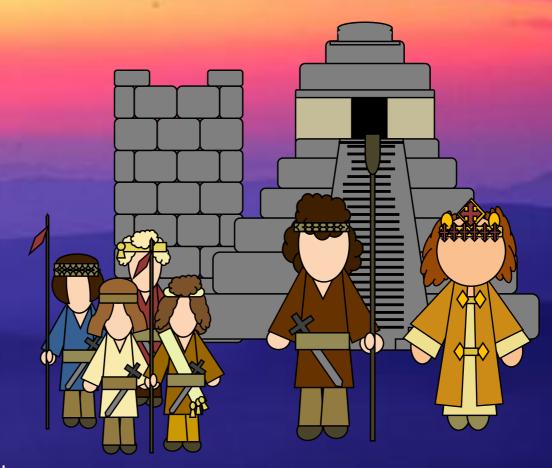
Who's Who



Limhi, the son of Noah, was also taken captive

He was desirous to not have his father destroyed

But he knew of his father's wickedness



Gideon sent men into the wilderness secretly to find the people and King Noah

They met the people in the wilderness but King Noah and the priests were not there



The people had sworn that if they return to the Land of Nephi and if their wives and their children were slain that they would seek revenge and also perish with them

Earlier King Noah had commanded that they should not return and they were angry with him, so they caused that he should suffer by fire

Prophecy Fulfilled- Mosiah 12:3

But the priests fled into the wilderness



The people told Gideon that they had slain the king and the priests had fled further into the wilderness

The men had told them what had happened to the people in the land of Nephi

And they rejoiced to hear that their loved ones were not slain



The King of the Lamanites made an oath to not slay them

The people made Limhi to be their king and he made an oath to the king of the Lamanites to pay tribute to him ½ of all they possessed

Limhi began to establish peace among his people

The king of the Lamanites set guards around the people so they would not escape

For 2 years they had peace







When the Lamanites found out about their daughters they were angry with Limhi...they thought it was his people who had carried the daughters away

The king and his people went into the land of Nephi to destroy the people of Limhi



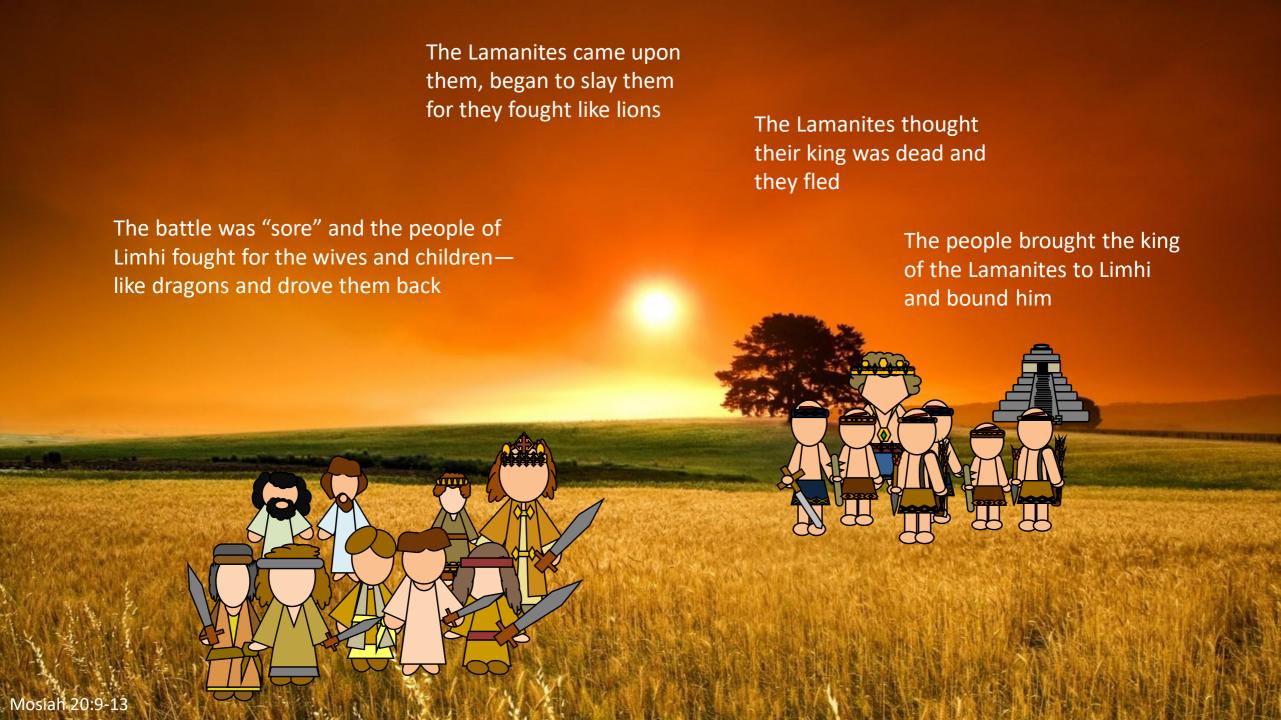
Limhi discovered them while in the tower

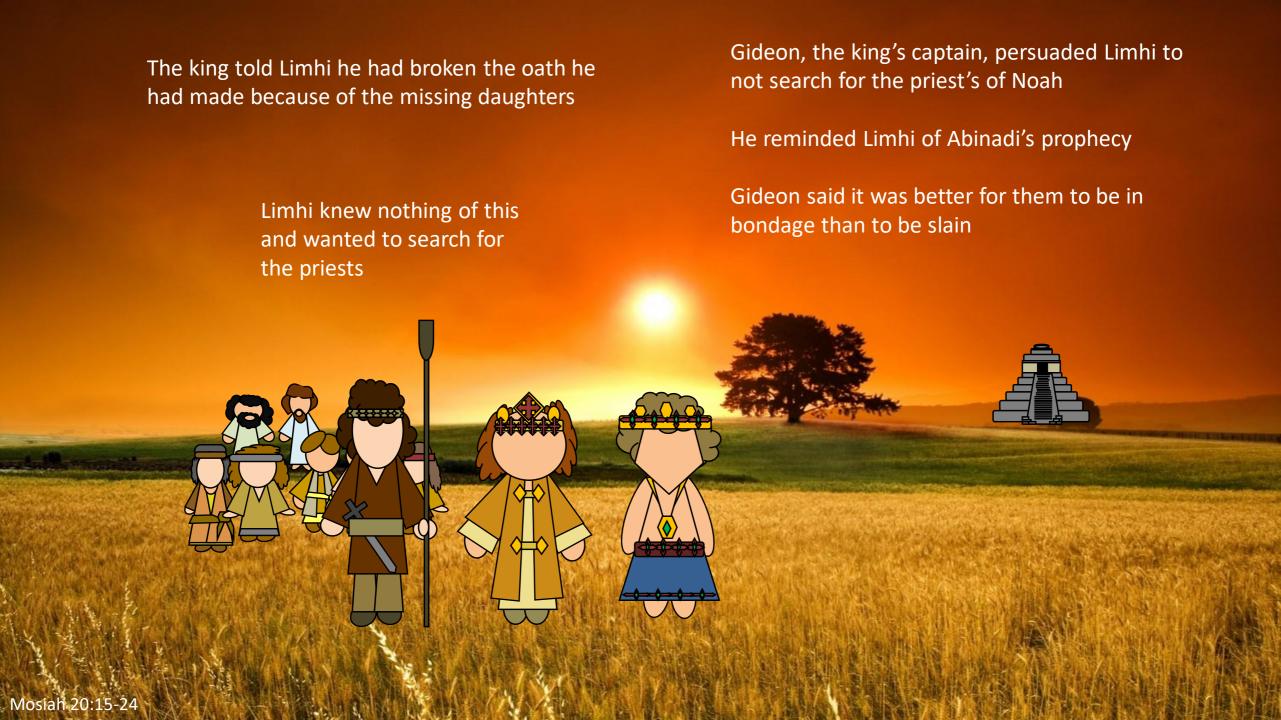


He also discovered that they were preparing for war.

He gathered his people...









Gideon Reminds Us of Abinadi's Words





"We ... have our spiritual hurricane guardians, those whose calling it is to watch and warn, helping us avoid spiritual damage, destruction, and even death. Our watchmen on the tower are known to us as apostles and prophets. They are our spiritual eyes in the sky, and they know, through inspiration and insight and pure intelligence, the course these storms may take.





They continue to raise their voices in warning to tell us of the tragic consequences of willful and wanton violations of the Lord's commandments. To intentionally ignore their warnings is to court misery, sorrow, and ruin. To follow them is to follow the chosen servants of the Lord into spiritual pastures of peace and plenty."



What are some things prophets and apostles teach in our day that will help us avoid suffering and sorrow?

What do they teach that will help bring us peace and happiness and help us return to God's presence?



"Our spiritual safety lies in turning to the clear voice of our living prophet. If we listen to his voice and obey his counsel, we will be able to live as Christ would have us live and endure to the end so that one day we, along with our families, will return back into the presence of our Heavenly Father and our Savior Jesus Christ"

Robert D. Hales

Sources:

Video:

Safety Lies in Obeying the Prophets (0:52)



David R. Stone, "Spiritual Hurricanes," *Ensign*, Nov. 1999, 31

Ed. J. Pinegar and Richard J. Allen *Book of Mormon Who's Who* p. 58-59, 113

Robert D. Hales ("Hear the Prophet's Voice and Obey," Ensign, May 1995, 17).

List in order Mosiah 19-20	
Gideon seeks to kill King Noah.	
The Nephite women and children plead with the Lamanites not to slay them.	
King Noah suffers death by fire.	
A Lamanite army comes into the borders of Shemlon.	
The priests of Noah kidnap 24 Lamanite daughters.	
The Lamanite king pleads with his army to spare the people of Limhi.	
Noah and some of his men flee from the Lamanites, leaving their wives and children behind.	
Limhi orders his people not to slay the Lamanite king.	
There is peace between the Nephites and Lamanites for two years.	
Limhi promises that his people will pay one half of their possessions to the Lamanites	S.
The Nephites repel a Lamanite attack and capture the Lamanite king.	