

Strongholds of Moroni

Alma 49-51

Lesson 102

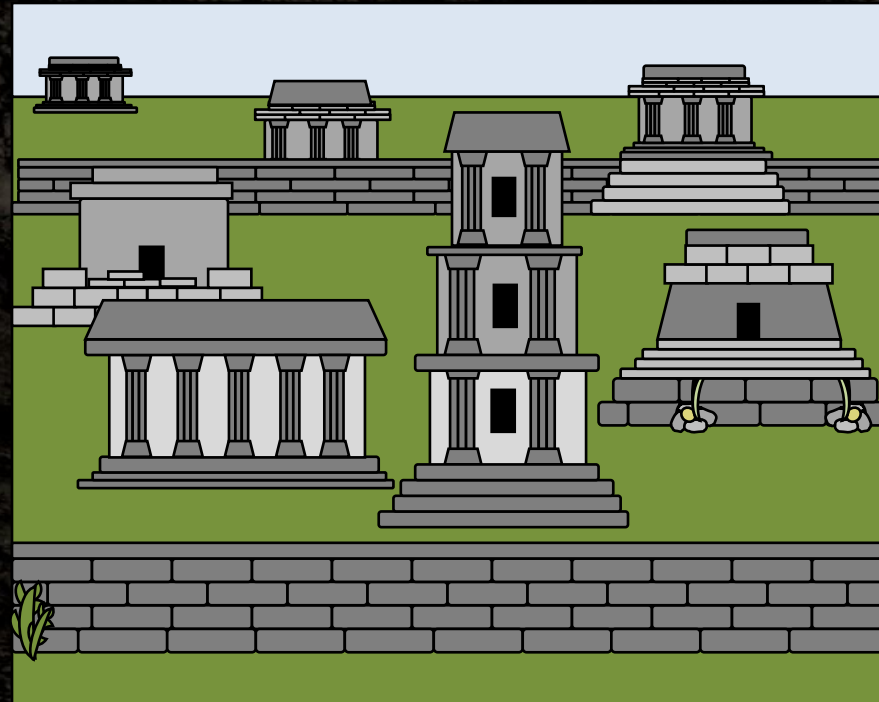
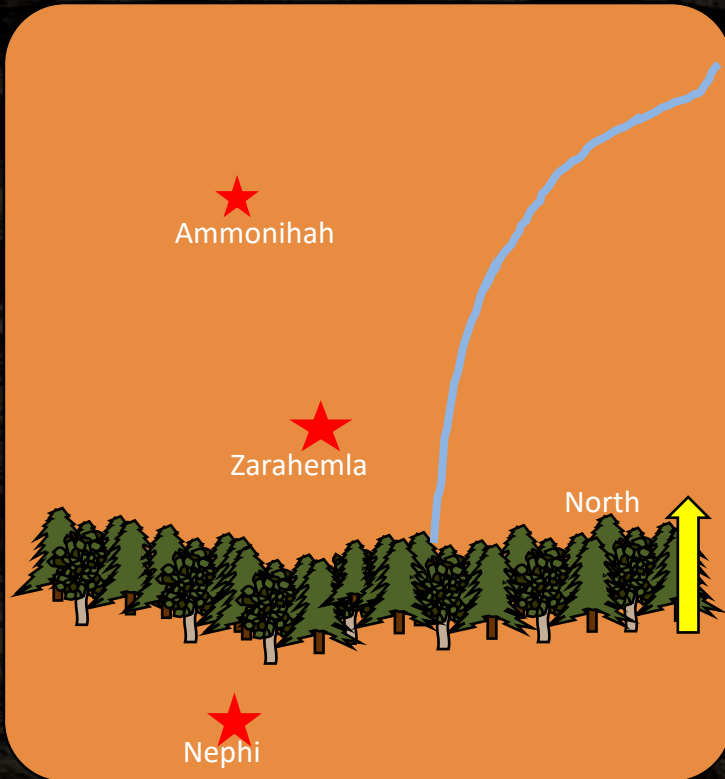
Suggested Hymn:
#60 Battle Hymn of
the Republic



Ammonihah

The Lamanites were seen approaching towards the land of Ammonihah

The city had been rebuilt and Moroni had stationed an army by the borders of the city



A Ridge of Earth

The Nephites had dug up a ridge of earth



They dug around their city so high that the Lamanites could not throw stones or arrows beyond the earth



Frustration



The Lamanites had prepared themselves with shields, breastplates and covered themselves with 'garments of skin'



They thought with their numbers they could overpower the Nephites

Amalickiah did not come down from the city of Nephi himself to battle—if he would have he would have attacked the Nephites in Ammonihah

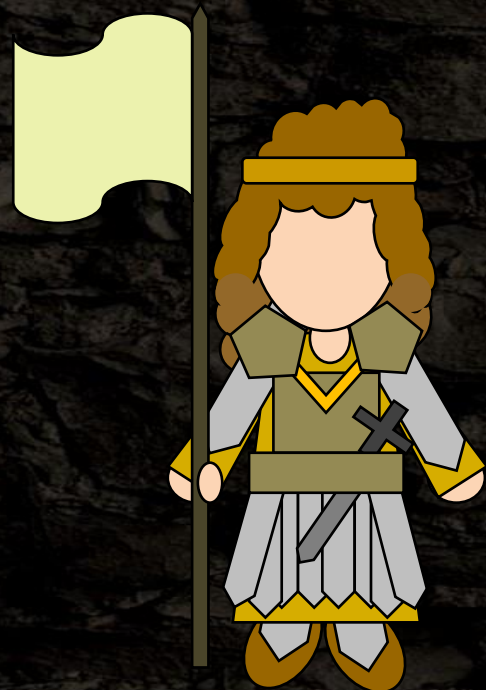
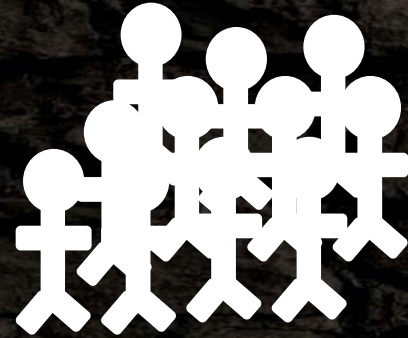


The Lamanites retreated

Marching to the Land of Noah

The Lamanites marched to the land of Noah...hoping for more action

They took an oath that they would destroy that city



However...Moroni had also fortified the city of Noah

Moroni sent Lehi to be chief captain over the men in that city

Again the Lamanites were disappointed—nevertheless they 'sworn an oath' to attack the city



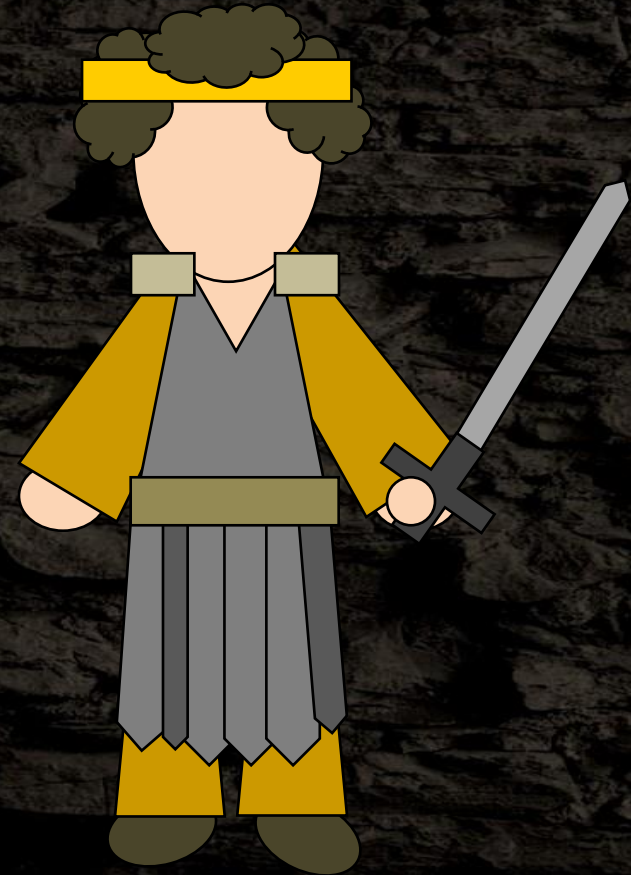
The Place of Entrance



The only way anyone could get into the cities that Moroni had fortified was through an entrance that was heavily guarded by the strongest men to defend that city

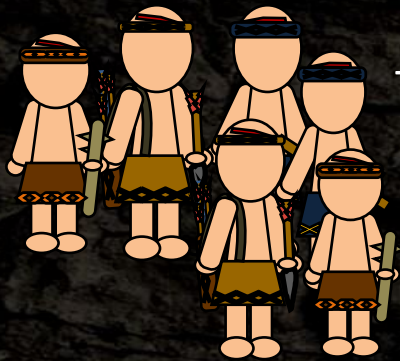
The Nephites would destroy anyone trying to climb the walls by casting stones and arrows at them

The Lamanites brought armies to the place of entrance...but they were driven back



The Great Loss

The Lamanites:



The chief captains were all slain



The rest fled into the wilderness and returned to the land of Nephi to tell the king, Amalickiah about their great loss



The Nephites:

Not a single soul was slain

50 were wounded

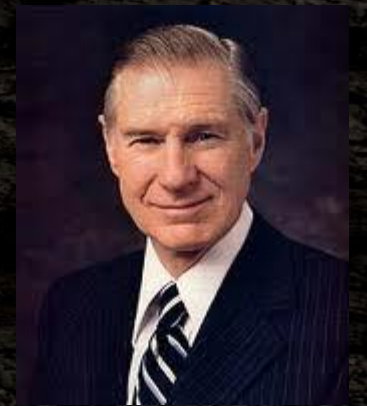
Amalickiah—Satan's Advocate



If we prepare ourselves, we can withstand attacks (temptations) from the adversary

“Satan is our greatest enemy and works night and day to destroy us. But we need not become paralyzed with fear of Satan’s power.

He can have no power over us unless we permit it. He is really a coward, and if we stand firm he will retreat.” James E. Faust



A Cursing and Gratitude

Amalickiah:

Was angry with his people

Was 'wroth' with God and cursed Him

Was 'wroth' with Moroni swearing an oath that he would 'drink his blood'

The People of Nephi:

Thanked the Lord their God because of his 'matchless power' in delivering them from the hands of their enemies.

"Yea, and there was continual peace among them, and exceedingly great prosperity in the church because of their heed and diligence which they gave unto the word of God, which was declared unto them by Helaman, and Shiblon, and Corianton, and Ammon and his brethren, yea, and by all those who had been ordained by the holy order of God, being baptized unto repentance, and sent forth to preach among the people."



Moroni's Stronghold

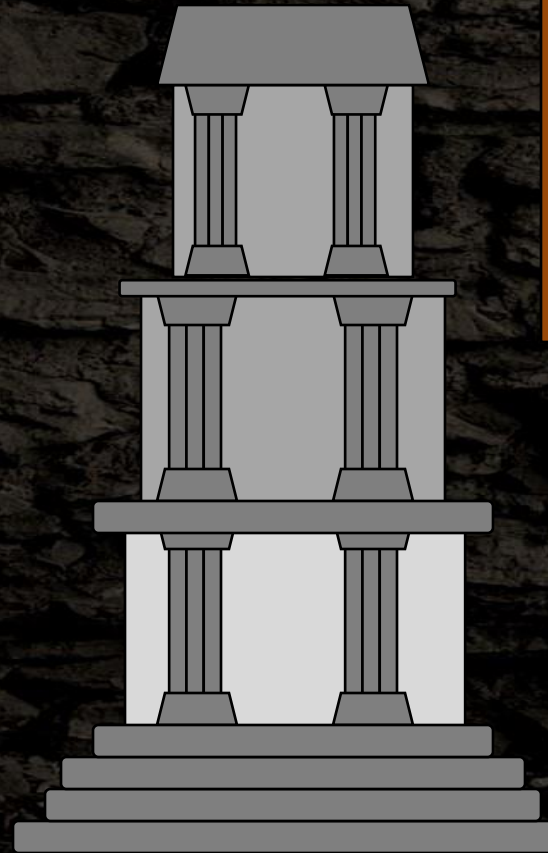
Ridges of earth



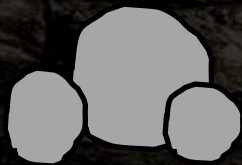
Timbers built up



Towers to be erected



Stones and arrows made and collected



Strengthening Your Spiritual Walls of Protection

Honoring and obeying
your parents

Listening and heeding
to the prophets of
today

Sincere repentance
and forgiving others

Being
honest in all
things

Attending Church
regularly

Maintaining the
standards of the
Church

Giving
Service

Reading and Studying
the scriptures

Praying with real
intent and sincerity

Renewing your
covenants by partaking
of the sacrament

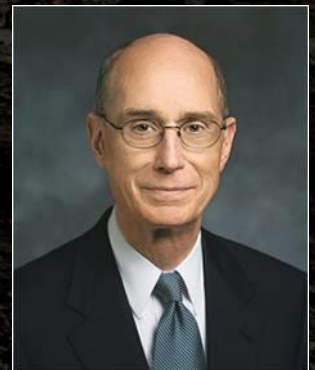


“As the forces around us increase in intensity, whatever spiritual strength was once sufficient will not be enough.

And whatever growth in spiritual strength we once thought was possible, greater growth will be made available to us.

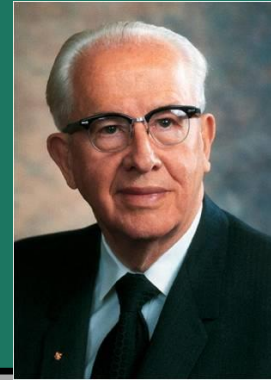
Both the need for spiritual strength and the opportunity to acquire it will increase at rates which we underestimate at our peril.”

President Henry B. Eyring



I will prepare to withstand temptation by...

I will stand firm when...



“It is better to prepare and prevent
than it is to repair and repent”

Ezra Taft Benson

Driving the Enemy Away

Moroni caused that his armies go forth to the east wilderness and drive all the Lamanites back to their own lands



Moroni also caused that the inhabitants go to that east wilderness and by the borders of the seashore and possess that land and fortify those lands, cutting off all stronghold of the Lamanites between the land of Zarahemla and the land of Nephi

New Cities Built

Nephites begin a new foundation and called it “Moroni”

They also began a foundation for a city between the city of Moroni and the city of Aaron called “Nephihah”



Many other cities did they build and that ended the 20th year of the reign of the judges—about 72 to 67 BC

Destruction or Prosperity

“And we see that these promises have been verified to the people of Nephi; for it has been their quarrelings and their contentions, yea, their murderings, and their plunderings, their idolatry, their whoredoms, and their abominations, which were among themselves, which brought upon them their wars and their destructions.”

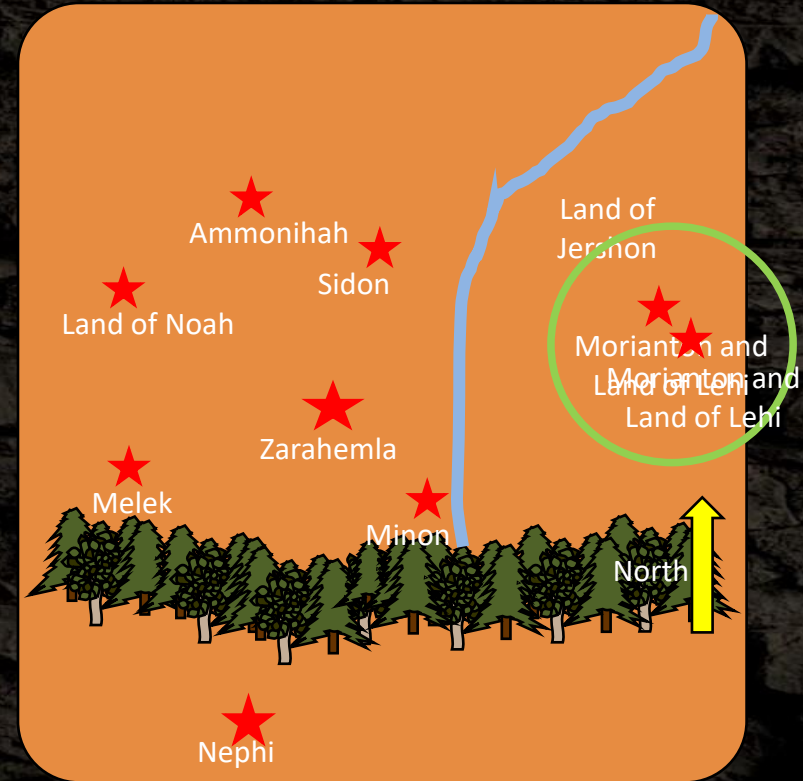


“And those who were faithful in keeping the commandments of the Lord were delivered at all times, whilst thousands of their wicked brethren have been consigned to bondage, or to perish by the sword, or to dwindle in unbelief, and mingle with the Lamanites.”

“But behold there never was a happier time among the people of Nephi, since the days of Nephi, than in the days of Moroni, yea, even at this time, in the twenty and first year of the reign of the judges.”

What Causes Division?

Two joining borders of the land of Morianton and the land of Lehi began to have contention



Morianton

He was a Nephite introduced in about 68 BC

He caused a rebellion among the people living in Morianton and the city of Lehi

He claimed that part of the property of city of Lehi belonged to the people living in Morianton

Because the problem was presented to Moroni, Morianton and his followers went into the land northward (Land of Desolation)

He beat one of his maid servants who went and told Moroni's camp about the incident

Moroni sent Teanchum and his army to head off the forces of Morianton

He was killed during this battle

The people of Morianton covenanted to maintain peace with their neighbors and was sent back to their land



Teancum

He was a commander of the Nephite forces from around 74 BC until 56 BC

Moroni placed him in charge of quelling a rebellion between two Nephite groups (one led by Morianton)

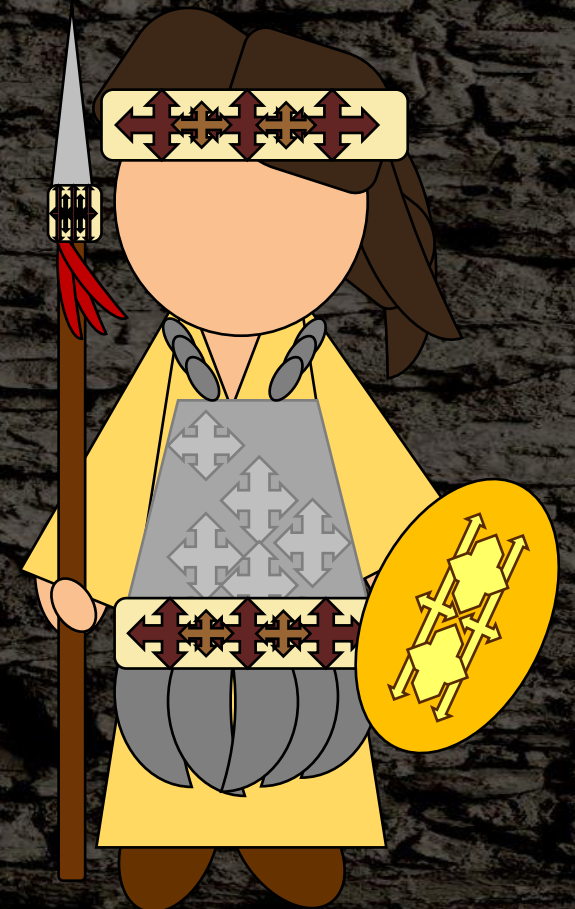
He engaged in forces of the Lamanite army under Amalickiah, a Nephite dissenter

He killed Amalickiah one night in Amalickiah's battle tent by putting a javelin in Amalickiah's heart

Toward the end of Moroni's career Teancum and Lehi were placed in charge of the Nephite forces in battle

He also thrust a javelin in the heart of Amalickiah's brother, Ammoron

The king, during this time, alerted the guards and killed Teancum in about 56 BC



Nephihah

He was the second chief judge in Zarahemla

He succeeded Alma the Younger around 83 BC

He was selected as a wise man among the elders of the church and gave him power according to the voice of the people

He declined Alma's invitation to manage the sacred records of the people

His son Pahoran succeeded him as chief judge and governor of the land

He served in his public leadership capacity until his death around 67 BC

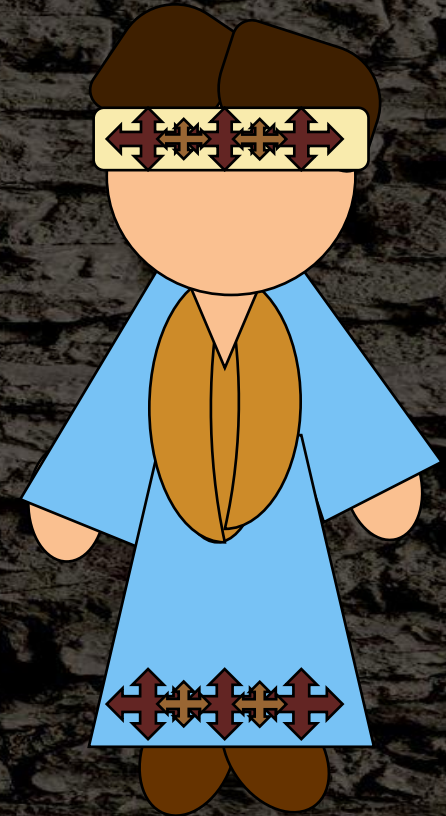
His tenure included:

The destruction of Ammonihah by the Lamanites

Establishment of Jershon and protector

The dissention of the Zoramites

The insurrection of Amalickiah



Pahoran I

He was the Son of Nephihah

He succeeded his father as chief judge and governor in Zarahemla around 67 BC for 17 years..he was the 3rd chief following the reign of Mosiah

He took an oath to keep the peace and freedoms of the people

He worked with Captain Moroni to restore peace to the land in the wake of rebellion by the “king-men”

He is best known for his correspondence with Moroni

He was accused by Moroni, at one point, of disloyalty and misuse of funds for not sending vitally needed men and supplies for the war effort

However, Moroni didn't know that Pahoran had to flee for his life and that he was doing all in his power to send forces

Moroni and Pahoran then collaborated in a campaign lasting 2 years to rid the capital of “king-men”

After Pahoran's death in about 52 BC his son Pahoran succeeded him



King-men and Freemen

The 25th year of the Reign of the Judges—about 67-66 BC

King-men

Wanted Pahoran to be dethroned from the judgment-seat

Wanted the law changed to overthrow the free government and establish a king over the land

Those of 'high birth'

Those who sought power and authority over the people

Opposing groups—they are people who seek to overthrow the government of the land in favor of a kingdom



Freemen

Wanted Pahoran to remain as chief judge

Wanted their right and privileges to their religion

Division and contention
destroy our peace

The voice of the people went in favor of the freemen

Refusing to Defend Their Country

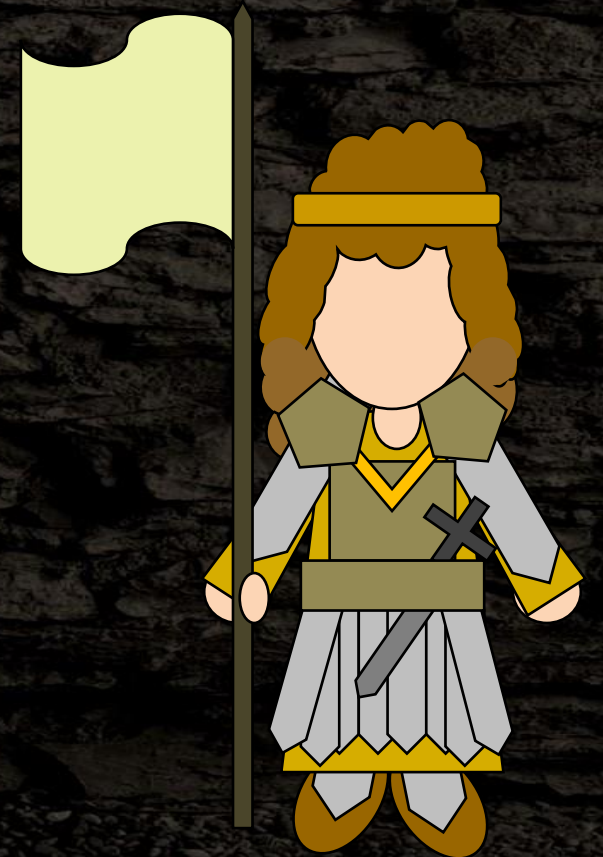
Amalickiah again gathers up his army

When the king-men heard the Lamanites coming to battle they refused to take up arms to defend their country.

“And it came to pass that he sent a petition, with the voice of the people, unto the governor of the land, desiring that he should read it, and give him (Moroni) power to compel those dissenters to defend their country or to put them to death.”



4,000 dissenters were hewn down by the sword, those who were not slain were put in prison



Refusing to Defend Our Country

Draft evasion is an intentional decision not to comply with the military conscription policies of one's nation.

Such practices that do not involve law breaking or which are based on conscientious objection are sometimes referred to as "draft avoidance." Refusing to submit, the draft is considered a criminal offense in most countries where conscription is in effect.

Those who practice draft evasion are sometimes pejoratively referred to as "draft dodgers," a term which was made popular during the Vietnam War.

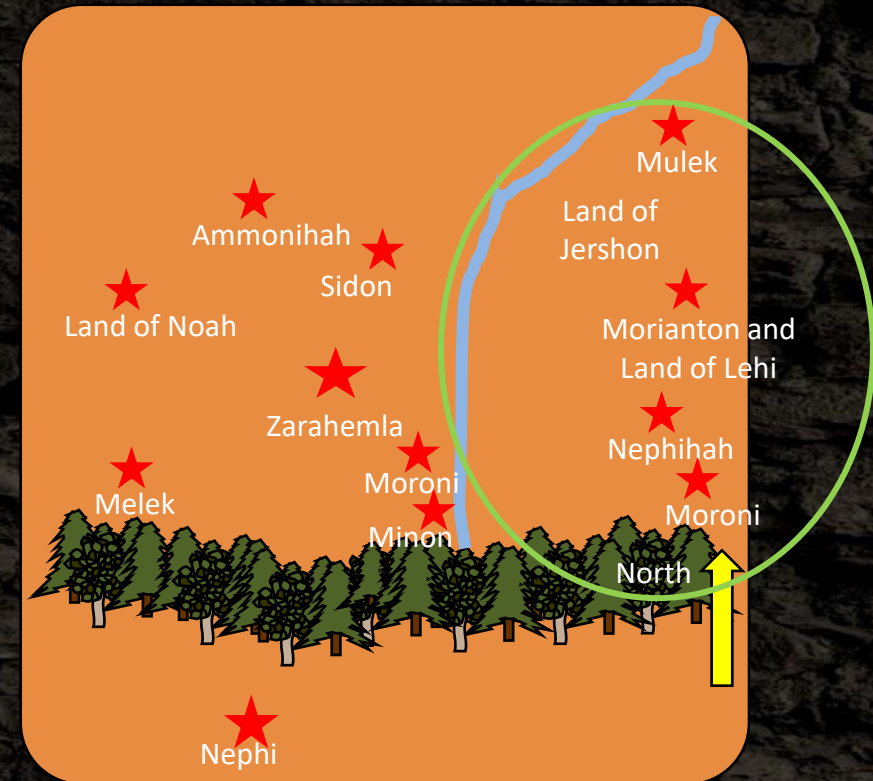
Draft evasion is distinct from desertion in that only an active member of a military service can become a deserter by absenting himself from military service without receiving a valid leave of absence or discharge and without any intention of returning to the service.



Taking Possession

While Moroni was taking care of the dissenters

Amalickiah was taking possession of many cities
(See Alma 51:26)



Don't Mess With Teancum



Alma
51:29-37



Sources:

Breastplate--Radiocarbon tests would date the burials to about A.D. 900—the era when the Maya civilization, some 800 miles to the northwest.

James E. Faust (“Be Not Afraid,” *Ensign*, Oct. 2002, 4).

Henry B. Eyring (“Always,” *Ensign*, Oct. 1999, 9).

(*The Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson* [1988], 285).

Book of Mormon Who’s Who by Ed J. Pinegar and Richard J. Allen p. 121-122, 145, 153-154, 178-179

Draft Evasion--http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Draft_evasion

More interesting information from the lands in South America on the next 3 slides



Last December (2012), Haas and Creamer again made headlines with a paper in Nature that presented carbon datings for 13 sites with platform mounds and residential complexes in river valleys near Caral.

Some appeared to be even older than Caral, with dates as early as 3200 B.C. “It is now clear,” the couple wrote, that Caral and other Supe Valley sites “were parts of a much more extensive cultural system that reached across at least three valleys and an area of 1,800 square kilometers.” They called the region the Norte Chico, a colloquial term for the north-central coast of Peru. And they mentioned Shady only in their footnotes.



The Ingá Stone (Pedra do Ingá in Portuguese) is located in near the small city of Ingá in the Paraíba State in the northeast of Brazil. The Ingá Stone is also called Itacoatiara do Ingá. The word Itacoatiara means stone in the Tupi language of the natives that lived in that area. It is composed of some basalt stones covered with symbols and glyphs undeciphered until now.

Most scholars think its origin is related to the natives that lived around until the 18th century, but there are also some people that defended an extraterrestrial origin. Most glyphs represents animals, fruits, humans, constellations (including the Milk Way), and other unrecognizable images.



Not far away from Samaipata, one of the most important archeological monuments of pre-Columbian time in Bolivia can be found: El Fuerte (The Fortress). This archeological place has been declared Cultural Patrimony of Humanity by UNESCO. This mysterious place has been given many hypothetical explanations for its origins. It is supposed that El Fuerte is the work of the Amazonian pre-Incan 'Chané' culture, and later on was used as an advanced city by the Incas and finally by the Spanish colonists that turned El Fuerte into a fortress.

El Fuerte near Samaipata from aside village near el fuerte El Fuerte is the largest carved stone in the world. This archaeological monument reaches a height of 1.949 metres above sea level and is on the ridge of a hill of a sandy rock where ancient cultures sculptured figures but emphasized snakes and pumas, as well as waterways and wells, triangular and rectangular seats, vaulted niches, among other details.



| CHIEF PRIESTS | BOOK DATES | NEPHITE HISTORIANS | CHIEF PRIESTS | BOOK DATES | NEPHITE HISTORIANS |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Alma II (Mosiah 29-44) | 91 BC | Alma II | Alma II (Mosiah 29-44) | 91 BC | Alma II |
| Nephihah (Alma 4:17, 20) | 83 BC | | Nephihah (Alma 4:17, 20) | 83 BC | |
| | 73 BC | Helaman I | | 73 BC | Helaman I |
| Pahoran I | 67 BC | | Pahoran I | 67 BC | |
| | 56 BC | Shiblon | | 56 BC | Shiblon |
| | 53 BC | Helaman II | | 53 BC | Helaman II |
| Pahoran II (Helaman 1:1,5) | 52 BC | | Pahoran II (Helaman 1:1,5) | 52 BC | |
| Pachumen (Helaman 2:1-3) | 51 BC | | Pachumen (Helaman 2:1-3) | 51 BC | |
| Helaman II (Helaman 2:1-2) | 50 BC | | Helaman II (Helaman 2:1-2) | 50 BC | |
| Nephi II (Helaman 3:37) | 39 BC | Nephi II | Nephi II (Helaman 3:37) | 39 BC | Nephi II |
| Cezoram I (Helaman 5:1) | 30 BC | | Cezoram I (Helaman 5:1) | 30 BC | |
| Cezoram II (Helaman 6:15) | 26 BC | | Cezoram II (Helaman 6:15) | 26 BC | |
| Seezoram (Helaman 9:23) | 26 BC | | Seezoram (Helaman 9:23) | 26 BC | |
| Unnamed (maybe Lachoneus I) | 23 BC – 1 AD | | Unnamed (maybe Lachoneus I) | 23 BC – 1 AD | |
| Lachoneus I (3 Nephi 1:1) | 1 AD | Nephi III | Lachoneus I (3 Nephi 1:1) | 1 AD | Nephi III |
| Lachoneus II (3 Nephi 6:19) | 29-30 AD | | Lachoneus II (3 Nephi 6:19) | 29-30 AD | |

RECORD KEEPERS OF THE BOOK OF MORMON

By Joel Hardy
1997

