

in truth; I glory in my Jesus, for he hath redeemed my soul from 'hell.

7. I have charity for my people, and great faith in Christ that I shall meet many souls spotless at his judgment-seat.

8. I have charity for the Jew—I say Jew, because I mean them from whence I came.

9. I also have charity for the Gentiles. But behold, for none of these can I hope except they shall be reconciled unto Christ, and enter into the 'narrow gate, and walk in the straight path which leads to life, and continue in the path until the end of the day of probation.

10. And now, my beloved brethren, and also Jew, and all ye ends of the earth, hearken unto these words and believe in Christ; and if ye believe not in these words believe in Christ. And if ye shall believe in Christ ye will believe in these words, for they are the words of Christ, and he hath given them unto me; and they teach all men that they should do good.

11. And if they are not the words of Christ, judge ye—for Christ will show unto you, 'with

power and great glory, that they are his words, at the last day; and you and I shall stand face to face before his bar; and ye shall know that I have been commanded of him to write these things, notwithstanding my weakness.

12. And I pray the Father in the name of Christ that many of us, if not all, may be saved in his kingdom at that great and last day.

13. And now, my beloved brethren, all those who are of the house of Israel, and all ye ends of the earth, I speak unto you as the voice of one 'crying from the dust: Farewell until that great day shall come.

14. And you that will not partake of the goodness of God, and respect the words of the Jews, and also my words, and the words which shall proceed forth out of the mouth of the Lamb of God, behold, I bid you an everlasting farewell, for 'these words shall condemn you at the last day.

15. For what I 'seal on earth, shall be brought against you at the judgment bar; for thus hath the Lord commanded me, and I must obey. Amen.

THE BOOK OF JACOB

THE BROTHER OF NEPHI

The words of his preaching unto his brethren. He confoundeth a man who seeketh to overthrow the doctrine of Christ. A few words concerning the history of the people of Nephi.

CHAPTER 1.

Nephites and Lamanites—Death of Nephi, son of Lehi—Hardness of heart and wicked practices.

1. For behold, it came to pass that *fifty and five years had

passed away from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem; wherefore, Nephi gave me, Jacob, a commandment concerning the "small plates, upon which these things are engraven.

e, see k, 1 Ne. 15. f, see 2a, 2 Ne. 9. g, Eth. 4:8—10. 5:4—6. Moro. 7:35. 10:27. h, see l, 2 Ne. 26. i, see q, 2 Ne. 27. j, He. 10:5—11. See q, 2 Ne. 27. CHAP. 1: a, see b, 1 Ne. 6. * B. C. 544.

2. And he gave me, Jacob, a commandment that I should write upon these plates a few of the things which I considered to be most precious; that I should not touch, save it were lightly, concerning the history of this people which are called the people of Nephi.

3. For he said that the history of his people should be engraven upon his ^bother plates, and that I should preserve these plates and hand them down unto my seed, from generation to generation.

4. And if there were preaching which was sacred, or revelation which was great, or prophesying, that I should engraven the heads of them upon ^cthese plates, and touch upon them as much as it were possible, for Christ's sake, and for the sake of our people.

5. For because of faith and great anxiety, it truly had been made manifest unto us concerning our people, ^dwhat things should happen unto them.

6. And we also had many revelations, and the spirit of much prophecy; wherefore, we knew of Christ and his kingdom, which should come.

7. Wherefore we labored diligently among our people, that we might persuade them to come unto Christ, and partake of the goodness of God, that they might enter into his rest, lest by any means he should swear in his wrath they should not enter in, as in the provocation in the days of temptation while the children of Israel were in the wilderness.

8. Wherefore, we would to God that we could persuade all men not to rebel against God, to provoke him to anger, but that all

men would believe in Christ, and view his death, and suffer his cross and bear the shame of the world; wherefore, I, Jacob, take it upon me to fulfil ^ethe commandment of my brother Nephi.

9. Now Nephi began to be old, and he saw that he must soon die; wherefore, he anointed a man to be a king and a ruler over his people now, according to the reigns of the kings.

10. The people having loved Nephi exceedingly, he having been a great protector for them, having wielded the sword of Laban in their defence, and having labored in all his days for their welfare—

11. Wherefore, the people were desirous to retain in remembrance his name. And whoso should reign in his stead were called by the people, ^fsecond Nephi, third Nephi, and so forth, according to the reigns of the kings; and thus they were called by the people, let them be of whatever name they would.

12. And it came to pass that Nephi died.

13. Now the people which were not Lamanites were Nephites; nevertheless, they were called Nephites, Jacobites, Josephites, Zoramites, Lamanites, Lemuelites, and Ishmaelites.

14. But I, Jacob, shall not hereafter distinguish them by these names, but I shall call them Lamanites that seek to destroy the people of Nephi, and those who are friendly to Nephi I shall call Nephites, or the people of Nephi, according to the reigns of the kings.

15. And now it came to pass that the people of Nephi, under

b, see *f*, 1 Ne. 1. *c*, ver. 1. See *b*, 1 Ne. 6. *d*, 1 Ne. chaps. 12—14. 15:1—18. 19:10—17. 22:7, 8. 2 Ne. 1:5—12. 2:3. Chap 3. 4:1—11. Chaps. 10, 25—27. 29:11—14. 30:1—6. *e*, vers. 1—4. *f*, vers. 9, 14, 15. 2 Ne. 5:18.

the reign of the ^gsecond king, began to grow hard in their hearts, and indulge themselves somewhat in wicked practices, such as like unto David of old desiring many wives and concubines, and also Solomon, his son.

16. Yea, and they also began to search much gold and silver, and began to be lifted up somewhat in pride.

17. Wherefore I, Jacob, gave unto them these words as I taught them in the ^htemple, having first obtained mine errand from the Lord.

18. For I, Jacob, and my brother Joseph ⁱhad been consecrated priests and teachers of this people, by the hand of Nephi.

19. And we did magnify our office unto the Lord, taking upon us the responsibility, answering the sins of the people upon our own heads if we did not teach them the word of God with all diligence; wherefore, by laboring with our might their ^jblood might not come upon our garments; otherwise their blood would come upon our garments, and we would not be found spotless at the last day.

CHAPTER 2.

Jacob's denunciation of unchastity and other sins—Plurality of wives forbidden because of iniquity.

1. The words which Jacob, the brother of Nephi, spake unto the people of Nephi, after the death of Nephi:

2. Now, my beloved brethren, I, Jacob, according to the responsibility which I am under to God, to magnify mine office with soberness, and that I might ^krid my garments of your sins, I come up into the temple this day that I

might declare unto you the word of God.

3. And ye yourselves know that I have hitherto been diligent in the office of my calling; but I this day am weighed down with much more desire and anxiety for the welfare of your souls than I have hitherto been.

4. For behold, as yet, ye have been obedient unto the word of the Lord, which I have given unto you.

5. But behold, hearken ye unto me, and know that by the help of the all-powerful Creator of heaven and earth I can tell you concerning your thoughts, how that ye are beginning to labor in sin, which sin appeareth very abominable unto me, yea, and abominable unto God.

6. Yea, it grieveth my soul and causeth me to shrink with shame before the presence of my Maker, that I might testify unto you concerning the wickedness of your hearts.

7. And also it grieveth me that I must use so much boldness of speech concerning you, before your wives and your children, many of whose ^lfeelings are exceedingly tender and chaste and delicate before God, which thing is pleasing unto God;

8. And it supposeth me that they have come up hither to hear the pleasing word of God, yea, the word which healeth the wounded soul.

9. Wherefore, it burdeneth my soul that I should be constrained, because of the strict commandment which I have received from God, to admonish you according to your crimes, to enlarge the wounds of those who are already wounded, instead of consoling and

g, ver. 11. *h*, see *h*, 2 Ne. 5. *i*, 2 Ne. 5:26. *j*, 2 Ne. 9:44. Jac. 2:2.
 CHAP. 2: *a*, see *j*, Jac. 1. *b*, vers. 9, 28, 33, 35. Jac. 3:7. Moro. 9:9, 10.

healing their wounds; and those who have not been wounded, instead of feasting upon the pleasing word of God have daggers placed to pierce their souls and wound their delicate minds.

10. But, notwithstanding the greatness of the task, I must do according to the strict commands of God, and tell you concerning your wickedness and abominations, in the presence of the pure in heart, and the broken heart, and under the glance of the 'piercing eye of the Almighty God.

11. Wherefore, I must tell you the truth according to the 'plainness of the word of God. For behold, as I inquired of the Lord, thus came the word unto me, saying: Jacob, get thou up into the 'temple on the morrow, and declare the word which I shall give thee unto this people.

12. And now behold, my brethren, this is the word which I declare unto you, that many of you have begun to search for gold, and for silver, and for all manner of precious ores, in the which this land, which is a 'land of promise unto you and to your seed, doth 'abound most plentifully.

13. And the hand of providence hath smiled upon you most pleasingly, that you have obtained many riches; and because some of you have obtained more abundantly than that of your brethren ye are lifted up in the pride of your hearts, and 'wear stiff necks and high heads because of the costliness of your apparel, and persecute your brethren because ye suppose that ye are better than they.

14. And now, my brethren, do

ye suppose that God justifieth you in this thing? Behold, I say unto you, Nay. But he condemneth you, and if ye persist in these things his judgments must speedily come unto you.

15. O that he would show you that he can pierce you, and with one 'glance of his eye he can smite you to the dust!

16. O that he would rid you from this iniquity and abomination. And, O that ye would listen unto the word of his commands, and let not this pride of your hearts destroy your souls!

17. Think of your brethren like unto yourselves, and be familiar with all and free with your substance, that 'they may be rich like unto you.

18. But before ye seek for riches, seek ye for the kingdom of God.

19. And after ye have obtained a hope in Christ ye shall obtain riches, if ye seek them; and ye will seek them for the intent to do good—to clothe the naked, and to feed the hungry, and to liberate the captive, and administer relief to the sick and the afflicted.

20. And now, my brethren, I have spoken unto you concerning pride; and those of you which have afflicted your neighbor, and persecuted him because ye were proud in your hearts, of the things which God hath given you, what say ye of it?

21. Do ye not suppose that such things are abominable unto him who created all flesh? And the one being is as precious in his sight as the other. And all flesh is of the dust; and for the selfsame end hath he created them, that they should keep his

c, 2 Ne. 9:44. Jac. 2:15. Mos. 27:31. *d*, see *d*, 2 Ne. 33. *e*, see *h*, 2 Ne. 5. *f*, 1 Ne. 2:20. 4:14. 5:22. 12:1, 4. 13:12, 14, 30. 17:13, 14. 18:8, 23, 25. *g*, see *g*, 2 Ne. 5. *h*, 2 Ne. 28:14. Morm. 8:36—40. *i*, see *c*. *j*, Mos. 4:16, 22, 26. Al. 1:26—30. 4 Ne. 3, 24—26. BETWEEN B. C. 544 AND 421.

commandments and glorify him forever.

22. And now I make an end of speaking unto you concerning this pride. And were it not that I must speak unto you concerning a grosser crime, my heart would rejoice exceedingly because of you.

23. But the word of God burthens me because of your grosser crimes. For behold, thus saith the Lord: This people begin to wax in iniquity; they understand not the scriptures, for they seek to excuse themselves in committing whoredoms, because of the things which were written concerning David, and Solomon his son.

24. Behold, David and Solomon truly had ^kmany wives and concubines, which thing was ^labominable before me, saith the Lord.

25. Wherefore, thus saith the Lord, I have led this people forth out of the land of Jerusalem, by the power of mine arm, that I might raise up unto me a ^mrighteous branch from the fruit of the loins of Joseph.

26. Wherefore, I the Lord God will not suffer that this people shall do like unto them of old.

27. Wherefore, my brethren, hear me, and hearken to the word of the Lord: For there shall not any man among you have save it be ⁿone wife; and concubines he shall have none;

28. For I, the Lord God, delight in the chastity of women. And ^owhoredoms are an abomination before me; thus saith the Lord of Hosts.

29. Wherefore, this people shall

keep my commandments, saith the Lord of Hosts, or ^pcursed be the land for their sakes.

30. For if I will, saith the Lord of Hosts, raise up seed unto me, I ^qwill command my people; otherwise they shall hearken unto ^rthese things.

31. For behold, I, the Lord, have seen the sorrow, and heard the mourning of the daughters of my people in the land of Jerusalem, yea, and in all the lands of my people, because of the wickedness and abominations of ^stheir husbands.

32. And I will not suffer, saith the Lord of Hosts, that the cries of the fair daughters of this people, which I have led out of the land of Jerusalem, shall come up unto me against the men of my people, saith the Lord of Hosts.

33. For they shall not lead away captive the daughters of my people because of their tenderness, save I shall visit them with a ^tsore curse, even unto destruction; for they shall not commit ^uwhoredoms, like unto them of old, saith the Lord of Hosts.

34. And now behold, my brethren, ye know that these commandments were ^vgiven to our father, Lehi; wherefore, ye have known them before; and ye have come unto great condemnation; for ye have done these things which ye ought not to have done.

35. Behold, ye have done greater iniquities than the Lamanites, our brethren. Ye have broken the hearts of your tender wives, and lost the confidence of your children, because of your bad examples before them; and the sob-

k, 1 Kings 11:1—3. 2 Sam. 3:2—5, 14. 5:13. 11:26, 27. 12:7—12, 24. 15:16. 16:21, 22. 19:5. 20:3. 1 Kings 1:1—4. *l*, 1 Kings 11:9—11. Deut. 7:1—4. 17:14—17. Ezra 9:1, 2. Neh. 13:23—27. *m*, 2 Ne. 3:5. *n*, ver. 34. Jac. 3:5—7. *o*, see *i*, 2 Ne. 28. *p*, Jac. 3:3. Al. 45:16. Eth. 2:7—12. *q*, D. & C. 132. *r*, vers. 27, 34. Jac. 3:5. *s*, Ezek. 16:22—43. *t*, see *p*. *u*, see *i*, 2 Ne. 28. *v*, 1 Ne. 1:16, 17. 6:1.

blings of their hearts ascend up to God against you. And because of the "strictness of the word of God, which cometh down against you, many hearts died, pierced with deep wounds.

CHAPTER 3.

Jacob's denunciation continued—Lamanites more righteous than Nephites—The former commended for fidelity in marriage—The latter again warned.

1. But behold, I, Jacob, would speak unto you that are pure in heart. Look unto God with firmness of mind, and "pray unto him with exceeding faith, and he will console you in your afflictions, and he will plead your cause, and send down justice upon those who seek your destruction.

2. O all ye that are pure in heart, lift up your heads and receive the pleasing word of God, and feast upon his love; for ye may, if your minds are firm, forever.

3. But, wo, wo, unto you that are not pure in heart, that are filthy this day before God; for except ye repent the land is ^bcursed for your sakes; and the Lamanites, which are not filthy like unto you, nevertheless ^cthey are cursed with a sore cursing, shall scourge you even unto destruction.

4. And the time speedily cometh, that except ye repent they shall ^dpossess the land of your inheritance, and the Lord God will lead away the righteous out from among you.

5. Behold, the Lamanites your brethren, whom ye hate because of their filthiness and the ^ecursing which hath come upon their skins, are more righteous than you; for they have not forgotten

the commandment of the Lord, which was given unto our fathers—that they should have ^fsave it were ^gone wife, and concubines they should have none, and there should not be whoredoms committed among them.

6. And now, this commandment they observe to keep; wherefore, because of this observance, in keeping this commandment, the Lord God will not destroy them, but will be merciful unto them; and one day they shall ^hbecome a blessed people.

7. Behold, their husbands love their wives, and their wives love their husbands; and their husbands and their wives love their children; and their unbelief and their hatred towards you is because of the iniquity of their fathers; wherefore, how much better are you than they, in the sight of your great Creator?

8. O my brethren, I fear that unless ye shall repent of your sins that their skins will be whiter than yours, when ye shall be brought with them before the throne of God.

9. Wherefore, a commandment I give unto you, which is the word of God, that ye revile no more against them because of the ⁱdarkness of their skins; neither shall ye revile against them because of their filthiness; but ye shall remember your own filthiness, and remember that their filthiness came because of their fathers.

10. Wherefore, ye shall remember your children, how that ye have grieved their hearts because of the example that ye have set before them; and also, remember that ye may, because of your filth-

w, Jac. 2:27, 34. 3:5. CHAP. 3: *a*, see *e*, 2 Ne. 32. *b*, see *p*, Jac. 2. *c*, see *d*, 1 Ne. 2. *d*, Om. 5—7, 12, 13. *e*, see *d*, 1 Ne. 2. *f*, see *n*, Jac. 2. *g*, 1 Ne. 15:13—18. 22:8. See *i*, 2 Ne. 3. *h*, see *d*, 1 Ne. 2. BETWEEN B. C. 544 AND 421.

iness, bring your children unto destruction, and their sins be heaped upon your heads at the last day.

11. O my brethren, hearken unto my word; arouse the faculties of your soul; shake yourselves that ye may awake from the slumber of death; and loose yourselves from the pains of hell that ye may not become 'angels to the devil, to be cast into that lake of 'fire and brimstone which is the second death.

12. And now I, Jacob, spake many more things unto the people of Nephi, warning them against fornication and lasciviousness, and every kind of sin, telling them the awful consequences of them.

13. And a hundredth part of the proceedings of this people, which now began to be numerous, cannot be written upon ^kthese plates; but many of their proceedings are written upon the ^llarger plates, and their wars, and their contentions, and the reigns of their kings.

14. These plates are called the plates of Jacob, and they were made by the ^mhand of Nephi. And I make an end of speaking these words.

CHAPTER 4.

Jacob's teachings continued—The law of Moses among the Nephites, pointing them to Christ—His rejection by the Jews foreseen.

1. Now behold, it came to pass that I, Jacob, having ministered much unto my people in word, (and I cannot write but a little of my words, because of the ^ddifficulty of engraving our words upon plates) and we know that

the things which we write upon plates must remain;

2. But whatsoever things we write upon anything save it be upon plates must perish and vanish away; but we can write a few words upon plates, which will give our children, and also our beloved brethren, a small degree of knowledge concerning us, or concerning their fathers—

3. Now in this thing we do rejoice; and we labor diligently to engraven these words upon plates, hoping that our beloved brethren and our children will receive them with thankful hearts, and look upon them that they may learn with joy and not with sorrow, neither with contempt, concerning their first parents.

4. For, for this intent have we written these things, that they may know that we knew of Christ, and we had a hope of his glory many hundred years before his coming; and not only we ourselves had a hope of his glory, but also all the holy prophets which were before us.

5. Behold, they believed in Christ and worshiped the Father in his name, and also we worship the Father in his name. And for this intent we ^bkeep the law of Moses, it pointing our souls to him; and for this cause it is sanctified unto us for righteousness, even as it was accounted unto Abraham in the wilderness to be obedient unto the commands of God in offering up his son Isaac, which is a similitude of God and his Only Begotten Son.

6. Wherefore, we search the prophets, and we have many revelations and the spirit of prophecy; and having all these witnesses

ⁱ, see ⁱ, 2 Ne. 9. ^j, see ^k, 1 Ne. 15. ^k, see ^b, 1 Ne. 6. ^l, see ^f, 1 Ne. 1. ^m, 1 Ne. 19:2, 3. 2 Ne. 5:30—32. CHAP. 4: ^a, Eth. 12:23—26. ^b, see ^o, 2 Ne. 25. BETWEEN B. C. 544 AND 421.

