

12. Now behold, all those engravings which were in the possession of Helaman ^pwere written and sent forth among the children of men throughout all the land, save it were those parts which had been commanded by Alma should ^qnot go forth.

13. Nevertheless, these things were to be kept sacred, and handed down from ^rone generation to another; therefore, in this year, they had been ^sconferred upon Helaman, before the ^tdeath of Shiblon.

14. And it came to pass also in this year that there were some dissenters who had gone forth

unto the Lamanites; and they were stirred up again to anger against the Nephites.

15. And also in this same year they came down with a numerous army to war against the people of ^uMoronihah, or against the army of Moronihah, in the which they were beaten and driven back again to their own lands, suffering great loss.

16. And thus ended the thirty and ninth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.

17. And thus ended the account of Alma, and Helaman his son, and also Shiblon, who was his son.

An account of the Nephites. Their wars and contentions, and their dissensions. And also the prophecies of many holy prophets, before the coming of Christ, according to the records of Helaman, who was the son of Helaman, and also according to the records of his sons, even down to the coming of Christ. And also many of the Lamanites are converted. An account of their conversion. An account of the righteousness of the Lamanites, and the wickedness and abominations of the Nephites, according to the record of Helaman and his sons, even down to the coming of Christ, which is called the book of Helaman, &c.

THE BOOK OF HELAMAN

CHAPTER 1.

Pahoran's sons contend for the judgment-seat—Pahoran the second is murdered by Kishkumen—Coriantumr, Nephite dissenter—Zarahemla captured and retaken.

1. And now behold, it came to pass in the ^{*}commencement of the fortieth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi, there began to be a serious difficulty among the people of the Nephites.

2. For behold, ^aPahoran had died, and gone the way of all the earth; therefore there began to be a serious contention concern-

ing who should have the judgment-seat among the brethren, who were the sons of Pahoran.

3. Now these are their names who did contend for the judgment-seat, who did also cause the people to contend: Pahoran, Paanchi, and Pacumeni.

4. Now these are not all the sons of Pahoran, (for he had many) but these are they who did contend for the judgment-seat; therefore, they did cause three divisions among the people.

5. Nevertheless, it came to pass that Pahoran was appointed by the voice of the people to be chief

p, Al. 17:2. *q*, Al. 37:27—32. *r*, Al. 37:4. *s*, ver. 11. *t*, ver. 10. *u*, Al. 62:43. CHAP. 1: *a*, Al. 50:40. * B. C. 52.

judge and a governor over the people of Nephi.

6. And it came to pass that Pacumeni, when he saw that he could not obtain the judgment-seat, he did unite with the voice of the people.

7. But behold, Paanchi, and that part of the people that were desirous that he should be their governor, was exceeding wroth; therefore, he was about to flatter away those people to rise up in rebellion against their brethren.

8. And it came to pass as he was about to do this, behold, he was taken, and was tried according to the ^bvoice of the people, and condemned unto death; for he had raised up in rebellion and sought to destroy the liberty of the people.

9. Now when those people who were desirous that he should be their governor saw that he was condemned unto death, therefore they were angry, and behold, they sent forth one Kishkumen, even to the judgment-seat of Pahoran, and murdered Pahoran as he sat upon the judgment-seat.

10. And he was pursued by the servants of Pahoran; but behold, so speedy was the flight of Kishkumen that no man could overtake him.

11. And he went unto those that sent him, and they all entered into a covenant, yea, swearing by their everlasting Maker, that they would tell no man that Kishkumen had murdered Pahoran.

12. Therefore, Kishkumen was not known among the people of Nephi, for he was in disguise at the time that he murdered Pahoran. And Kishkumen and his band, who had covenanted with

him, did mingle themselves among the people, in a manner that they all could not be found; but as many as were found were condemned unto death.

13. And now behold, Pacumeni was appointed, according to the ^cvoice of the people, to be a chief judge and a governor over the people, to reign in the stead of his brother Pahoran; and it was according to his right. And all this was done in the fortieth year of the reign of the judges; and it had an end.

14. And it came to pass in the ^{*forty} and first year of the reign of the judges, that the Lamanites had gathered together an innumerable army of men, and ^darmed them with swords, and with cimeters and with bows, and with arrows, and with head-plates, and with breastplates, and with all manner of shields of every kind.

15. And they came down again that they might pitch battle against the Nephites. And they were led by a man whose name was Coriantumr; and he was a descendant of Zarahemla; and he was a dissenter from among the Nephites; and he was a large and a mighty man.

16. Therefore, the king of the Lamanites, whose name was Tubaloth, who was the son of Ammoron, supposing that Coriantumr, being a mighty man, could stand against the Nephites, with his strength and also with his great wisdom, insomuch that by sending him forth he should gain power over the Nephites—

17. Therefore he did stir them up to anger, and he did gather together his armies, and he did appoint Coriantumr to be their leader, and did cause that they

b, see *c*, Mos. 29. Al. 1:10—15. *c*, see *c*, Mos. 29. He. 2:2. *d*, see 2*p*, Al. 43.

* B. C. 51.

should march down to the 'land of Zarahemla to battle against the Nephites.

18. And it came to pass that because of so much contention and so much difficulty in the government, that they had not kept sufficient guards in the land of Zarahemla; for they had supposed that the Lamanites durst not come into the heart of their lands to attack that great city Zarahemla.

19. But it came to pass that Coriantumr did march forth at the head of his numerous host, and came upon the inhabitants of the city, and their march was with such exceedingly great speed that there was no time for the Nephites to gather together their armies.

20. Therefore Coriantumr did cut down the watch by the entrance of the city, and did march forth with his whole army into the city, and they did slay every one who did oppose them, insomuch that they did take possession of the whole city.

21. And it came to pass that Pacumeni, who was the chief judge, did flee before Coriantumr, even to the walls of the city. And it came to pass that Coriantumr did smite him against the wall, insomuch that he died. And thus ended the days of Pacumeni.

22. And now when Coriantumr saw that he was in possession of the city of Zarahemla, and saw that the Nephites had fled before them, and were slain, and were taken, and were cast into prison, and that he had obtained the possession of the strongest hold in all the land, his heart took courage insomuch that he was about to go forth against all the land.

23. And now he did not tarry

in the land of Zarahemla, but he did march forth with a large army, even towards the 'city of Bountiful; for it was his determination to go forth and cut his way through with the sword, that he might obtain the north parts of the land.

24. And, supposing that their greatest strength was in the center of the land, therefore he did march forth, giving them no time to assemble themselves together save it were in small bodies; and in this manner they did fall upon them and cut them down to the earth.

25. But behold, this march of Coriantumr through the center of the land gave Moronihah great advantage over them, notwithstanding the greatness of the number of the Nephites who were slain.

26. For behold, Moronihah had supposed that the Lamanites durst not come into the center of the land, but that they would attack the cities round about in the borders as they had hitherto done; therefore Moronihah had caused that their strong armies should maintain those parts round about by the borders.

27. But behold, the Lamanites were not frightened according to his desire, but they had come into the center of the land, and had taken the capital city which was the city of Zarahemla, and were marching through the most capital parts of the land, slaying the people with a great slaughter, both men, women, and children, taking possession of many cities and of many strongholds.

28. But when Moronihah had discovered this, he immediately sent forth Lehi with an army round about to head them before

e, Om. 13. f, see 2k, Al. 22.

ABOUT B. C. 51.

they should come to the land Bountiful.

29. And thus he did; and he did head them before they came to the land Bountiful, and gave unto them battle, insomuch that they began to retreat back towards the land of Zarahemla.

30. And it came to pass that Moronihah did head them in their retreat, and did give unto them battle, insomuch that it became an exceedingly bloody battle; yea, many were slain, and among the number who were slain Coriantumr was also found.

31. And now, behold, the Lamanites could not retreat either way, neither on the north, nor on the south, nor on the east, nor on the west, for they were surrounded on every hand by the Nephites.

32. And thus had Coriantumr plunged the Lamanites into the midst of the Nephites, insomuch that they were in the power of the Nephites, and he himself was slain, and the Lamanites did yield themselves into the hands of the Nephites.

33. And it came to pass that Moronihah took possession of the city of Zarahemla again, and caused that the Lamanites who had been taken prisoners should depart out of the land in peace.

34. And thus ended the forty and first year of the reign of the judges.

CHAPTER 2.

Helaman the second is appointed chief judge—Kishkumen killed—Secret combinations—The Gadianton robbers.

1. And it came to pass in the forty and second year of the reign of the judges, after Moronihah had established again peace

between the Nephites and the Lamanites, behold there was no one to fill the judgment-seat; therefore there began to be a contention again among the people concerning who should fill the judgment-seat.

2. And it came to pass that Helaman, who was the son of Helaman, was appointed to fill the judgment-seat, by the voice of the people.

3. But behold, Kishkumen, who had murdered Pahoran, did lay wait to destroy Helaman also; and he was upheld by his band, who had entered into a covenant that no one should know his wickedness.

4. For there was one Gadian-ton, who was exceeding expert in many words, and also in his craft, to carry on the secret work of murder and of robbery; therefore he became the leader of the band of Kishkumen.

5. Therefore he did flatter them, and also Kishkumen, that if they would place him in the judgment-seat he would grant unto those who belonged to his band that they should be placed in power and authority among the people; therefore Kishkumen sought to destroy Helaman.

6. And it came to pass as he went forth towards the judgment-seat to destroy Helaman, behold one of the servants of Helaman, having been out by night, and having obtained, through disguise, a knowledge of those plans which had been laid by this band to destroy Helaman—

7. And it came to pass that he met Kishkumen, and he gave unto him a sign; therefore Kishkumen made known unto him the object of his desire, desiring that he

g, see 2*k*, Al. 22. *h*, Om. 13. CHAP. 2: *a*, see *c*, Mos. 29. *b*, He. 1:9. *c*, see *t*, 2 Ne. 10. *d*, vers. 3, 6, 9. *e*, see *d*. * B. C. 50.

would conduct him to the judgment-seat that he might murder Helaman.

8. And when the servant of Helaman had known all the heart of Kishkumen, and how that it was his object to murder, and also that it was the object of all those who belonged to his band to murder, and to rob, and to gain power, (and this was their 'secret plan, and their combination) the servant of Helaman said unto Kishkumen: Let us go forth unto the judgment-seat.

9. Now this did please Kishkumen exceedingly, for he did suppose that he should accomplish his design; but behold, the servant of Helaman, as they were going forth unto the judgment-seat, did stab Kishkumen even to the heart, that he fell dead without a groan. And he ran and told Helaman all the things which he had seen, and heard, and done.

10. And it came to pass that Helaman did send forth to take this band of 'robbers and secret murderers, that they might be executed according to the law.

11. But behold, when Gadian-ton had found that Kishkumen did not return he feared lest that he should be destroyed; therefore he caused that his band should follow him. And they took their flight out of the land, by a secret way, into the wilderness; and thus when Helaman sent forth to take them they could nowhere be found.

12. And more of this Gadian-ton shall be spoken hereafter. And thus ended the forty and second year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.

13. And behold, in the end of this book ye shall see that this

Gadian-ton did prove the overthrow, yea, almost the entire destruction of the people of Nephi.

14. Behold I do not mean the end of the book of Helaman, but I mean the end of the ^hbook of Nephi, from which I have taken all the account which I have written.

CHAPTER 3.

More migrations to the north—A land of large waters—Buildings of cement—Many records kept—Helaman's son, Nephi, succeeds him.

1. And now it came to pass in the *forty and third year of the reign of the judges, there was no contention among the people of Nephi save it were a little pride which was in the church, which did cause some little dissensions among the people, which affairs were settled in the ending of the forty and third year.

2. And there was no contention among the people in the forty and fourth year; neither was there much contention in the forty and fifth year.

3. And it came to pass in the †forty and sixth, yea, there was much contention and many dissensions; in the which there were an exceeding great many who departed out of the ^aland of Zarahemla, and went forth unto the ^bland northward to inherit the land.

4. And they did travel to an exceeding great distance, inso-much that they came to ^clarge bodies of water and many rivers.

5. Yea, and even they did spread forth into all parts of the land, into whatever parts it had not been rendered desolate and without timber, because of the ^dmany inhabitants who had before inherited the land.

f, see *i*, 2 Ne. 10. *g*, see *i*, 2 Ne. 10. *h*, see *f*, 1 Ne. 1. CHAP. 3: *a*, Om. 13. *b*, Al. 46:17. 63:4. *c*, see *i*, Mos. 8. *d*, see *j*, Mos. 8. * B. C. 49. † B. C. 46.

6. And now no part of the land was desolate, save it were for timber; but because of the greatness of the destruction of the people who had before inhabited the land it was called ^edesolate.

7. And there being but little timber upon the face of the land, nevertheless the people who went forth became exceeding expert in the working of cement; therefore they did build houses of ^fcement, in the which they did dwell.

8. And it came to pass that they did multiply and spread, and did go forth from the land ^gsouthward to the land ^hnorthward, and did spread insomuch that they began to cover the face of the whole earth, from the sea south to the sea ⁱnorth, from the sea ^kwest to the sea ^least.

9. And the people who were in the land ^mnorthward did dwell in tents, and in houses of ⁿcement, and they did suffer whatsoever tree should spring up upon the face of the land that it should grow up, that in time they might have timber to build their houses, yea, their cities, and their ^otemples, and their ^psynagogues, and their ^qsanctuaries, and all manner of their buildings.

10. And it came to pass as timber was exceeding ^rscarce in the land northward, they did send forth much by the way of ^sshipping.

11. And thus they did enable the people in the land ^tnorthward that they might build many cities, both of wood and of ^ucement.

12. And it came to pass that there were many of the ^vpeople of Ammon, who were Lamanites

by birth, did also go forth into this land.

13. And now there are many ^wrecords kept of the proceedings of this people, by many of this people, which are particular and very large, concerning them.

14. But behold, a ^xhundredth part of the proceedings of this people, yea, the account of the Lamanites and of the Nephites, and their wars, and contentions, and dissensions, and their preaching, and their prophecies, and their ^yshipping and their building of ships, and their building of ^ztemples, and of ^{2a}synagogues and their ^{2b}sanctuaries, and their righteousness, and their wickedness, and their murders, and their robbings, and their plundering, and all manner of abominations and whoredoms, cannot be contained in this work.

15. But behold, there ^{2c}are many books and many records of every kind, and they have been kept chiefly by the Nephites.

16. And they have been ^{2d}handed down from one generation to another by the Nephites, even until they have fallen into transgression and have been murdered, plundered, and hunted, and driven forth, and slain, and scattered upon the face of the earth, and mixed with the Lamanites until they are ^{2e}no more called the Nephites, becoming wicked, and wild, and ferocious, yea, even becoming Lamanites.

17. And now I return again to mine account; therefore, what I have spoken had passed after there had been great contentions, and disturbances, and wars, and

e, see 21, Al. 22. *f*, vers. 9, 11. *g*, see *n*, Al. 46. *h*, see *p*, Al. 46. *j*, 1 Ne. 21:12. *k*, Al. 22:27, 32, 33. He. 11:20. *i*, see *k*. *m*, see *h*. *n*, see *f*. *o*, see *h*, 2 Ne. 5. *p*, see *u*, Al. 16. *q*, see *t*, Al. 15. *r*, vers. 5, 9. *s*, see *f*, Al. 63. *t*, see *h*. *u*, see *f*. *v*, Al. 27:26. *w*, ver. 15. *x*, 3 Ne. 26:6—11. *y*, see *f*, Al. 63. *z*, see *h*, 2 Ne. 5. *2a*, see *u*, Al. 16. *2b*, see *t*, Al. 15. *2c*, ver. 13. *2d*, 1 Ne. 5:16—19. Al. 37:4. *2e*, Al. 45:12—14. ABOUT B. C. 46.

dissensions, among the people of Nephi.

18. The *forty and sixth year of the reign of the judges ended;

19. And it came to pass that there was still great contention in the land, yea, even in the forty and seventh year, and also in the forty and eighth year.

20. Nevertheless ^{2f}Helaman did fill the judgment-seat with justice and equity; yea, he did observe to keep the statutes, and the judgments, and the commandments of God; and he did do that which was right in the sight of God continually; and he did walk after the ways of his father, insomuch that he did prosper in the land.

21. And it came to pass that he had two sons. He gave unto the eldest the name of Nephi, and unto the youngest, the name of Lehi. And they began to grow up unto the Lord.

22. And it came to pass that the wars and contentions began to cease, in a small degree, among the people of the Nephites, in the latter end of the forty and eighth year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi.

23. And it came to pass in the †forty and ninth year of the reign of the judges, there was continual peace established in the land, all save it were the ^{2o}secret combinations which Gadianton the robber had established in the more settled parts of the land, which at that time were not known unto those who were at the head of government; therefore they were not destroyed out of the land.

24. And it came to pass that in this same year there was exceeding great prosperity in the church,

insomuch that there were thousands who did join themselves unto the church and were ^{2h}baptized unto repentance.

25. And so great was the prosperity of the church, and so many the blessings which were poured out upon the people, that even the ²ⁱhigh priests and the teachers were themselves astonished beyond measure.

26. And it came to pass that the work of the Lord did prosper unto the ^{2j}baptizing and uniting to the church of God, many souls, yea, even tens of thousands.

27. Thus we may see that the Lord is merciful unto all who will, in the sincerity of their hearts, call upon his holy name.

28. Yea, thus we see that the gate of heaven is open unto all, even to those who will believe on the name of Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God.

29. Yea, we see that whosoever will may lay hold upon the word of God, which is quick and powerful, which shall divide asunder all the cunning and the snares and the wiles of the devil, and lead the man of Christ in a ^{2k}straight and narrow course across that everlasting ^{2l}gulf of misery which is prepared to engulf the wicked—

30. And land their souls, yea, their ^{2m}immortal souls, at the right hand of God in the kingdom of heaven, to sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and with Jacob, and with all our holy fathers, to go no more out.

31. And in this year there was continual rejoicing in the ²ⁿland of Zarahemla, and in all the regions round about, even in all the land which was possessed by the Nephites.

2f, He. 2:2. 2g, see i, 2 Ne. 10. 2h, see u, 2 Ne. 9. 2i, see g, Mos. 26. 2j, see u, 2 Ne. 9. 2k, see e, 2 Ne. 31. 2l, see i, 1 Ne. 15. 2m, Al. 42:9, 11. See t, Al. 12. 2n, Om. 13. * B. C. 45. † B. C. 43.

32. And it came to pass that there was peace and exceeding great joy in the remainder of the forty and ninth year; yea, and also there was continual peace and great joy in the fiftieth year of the reign of the judges.

33. And in the *fifty and first year of the reign of the judges there was peace also, save it were the pride which began to enter into the church—not into the church of God, but into the hearts of the people who professed to belong to the church of God—

34. And they were lifted up in pride, even to the persecution of many of their brethren. Now this was a great evil, which did cause the more humble part of the people to suffer great persecutions, and to wade through much affliction.

35. Nevertheless they did ²⁰fast and pray oft, and did wax stronger and stronger in their humility, and firmer and firmer in the faith of Christ, unto the filling their souls with joy and consolation, yea, even to the purifying and the sanctification of their hearts, which sanctification cometh because of their yielding their hearts unto God.

36. And it came to pass that the fifty and second year ended in peace also, save it were the exceeding great pride which had gotten into the hearts of the people; and it was because of their exceeding great riches and their prosperity in the land; and it did grow upon them from day to day.

37. And it came to pass in the †fifty and third year of the reign of the judges, ^{2p}Helaman died, and his eldest son Nephi began to reign in his stead. And it came to pass that he did fill the judg-

ment-seat with justice and equity; yea, he did keep the commandments of God, and did walk in the ways of his father.

CHAPTER 4.

Lamanites again invade land of Zarahemla—The city captured—Nephites driven into the land Bountiful—Moronihah fortifies the way—Weakened by wickedness, the Nephites prevail not.

1. And it came to pass in the †fifty and fourth year there were many dissensions in the church, and there was also a contention among the people, insomuch that there was much bloodshed.

2. And the rebellious part were slain and driven out of the land, and they did go unto the king of the Lamanites.

3. And it came to pass that they did endeavor to stir up the Lamanites to war against the Nephites; but behold, the Lamanites were exceedingly afraid, insomuch that they would not hearken to the words of those dissenters.

4. But it came to pass in the fifty and sixth year of the reign of the judges, there were dissenters who went up from the Nephites unto the Lamanites; and they succeeded with those others in stirring them up to anger against the Nephites; and they were all that year preparing for war.

5. And in the §fifty and seventh year they did come down against the Nephites to battle, and they did commence the work of death; yea, insomuch that in the fifty and eighth year of the reign of the judges they succeeded in obtaining possession of the †land of Zarahemla; yea, and also all the

²⁰, see *t*, Mos. 27. ^{2p}, He. 2:2.

CHAP. 4: *a*, Om. 13.

* B. C. 41. † B. C. 39. ‡ B. C. 38. § B. C. 35.

