

BROTHER RIVERA - BYU RELA 122 ~ LESSON 9

THE EVIL PLAN OF AMALICKIAH ~ ALMA 47

THIS WAS THE FAITH OF MORONI ~ ALMA 48

WHY SO MANY DETAILS ABOUT WAR?



“The Book of Mormon
is our latter-day
survival guide.”

Russell M. Nelson



Called to Share

“From the Book of Mormon we learn how disciples of Christ live in times of war. From the Book of Mormon we see the evils of secret combinations portrayed in graphic and chilling reality. In the Book of Mormon we find lessons for dealing with persecution and apostasy. We learn much about how to do missionary work. And more than anywhere else, we see in the Book of Mormon the dangers of materialism and setting our hearts on the things of the world. Can anyone doubt that this book was meant for us and that in it we find great power, great comfort, and great protection?” (Pres. Ezra T. Benson, November 1986 general conference)

“Now behold, this was the desire of Amalickiah; for he being a very subtle man to do evil therefore he laid the plan in his heart to dethrone the king of the Lamanites.”

– ALMA 47:4

“Now it was not Amalickiah’s intention to give them battle according to the commandments of the king; but behold, it was his intention to gain favor with the armies of the Lamanites, that he might place himself at their head and dethrone the king and take possession of the kingdom.”

– ALMA 47:8

AMALICKIAH'S EVIL PLAN

- Gain favor of the Lamanite Army ~ vs. 8
- Place himself as their Chief Commander ~ vs. 18-19
- Dethrone the Lamanite King Lehonti by poisoning him ~ vs. 18
- Ally with the Queen ~ vs. 35
- Be enthroned and acknowledged as King
- Ally with Nephite dissenters ~ 36



“Therefore he had accomplished his design, for he had hardened the hearts of the Lamanites and blinded their minds, and stirred them up to anger, insomuch that he had gathered together a numerous host to go to battle against the Nephites. For he was determined...to overpower the Nephites and to bring them into bondage.”

—ALMA 48:3-4

“Now it came to pass that while Amalickiah had thus been obtaining power by fraud and deceit, Moroni, on the other hand, had been preparing the minds of the people to be faithful unto the Lord their God.”

—ALMA 48:7

MORONI'S RIGHTEOUS PLAN

- Preparing the faithful - Alma 48 vs. 7
- Strengthening the Army - vs. 8
- Building fort and wall defenses around cities and borders
- Fortify and strengthen the land - vs. 9
- Prepare to support Liberty, Lands, Families, & Peace - vs. 10
- Maintain the Cause of Christians



RIGHTEOUS LEADERSHIP

- Moroni the Ideal Righteous Leader
- A Strong and Mighty man
- Perfect Understanding
- Did not delight in bloodshed
- Did Joy in Liberty and Freedom of his country - vs. 11
- Heart of Thanksgiving to God
- Labored for the Welfare and Safety of his people - vs. 12
- Firm in the Faith of Christ
- Swore an Oath to defend with his life his people, rights, country, and religion - vs. 13



DEFENDING OURSELVES

- Nephites taught to defend themselves - 48:14
- Taught never to give offense
- Faithfully guard the Commandments of God - 48:15
- God will warn them, prepare them, reveal danger
- God will reveal places of safety, He will save them
- Moroni's main defense was in doing good, defending the people, obedience to commandments, and resisting iniquity



HOW TO DEAL WITH THE POWERS OF HELL

“Yea, verily, verily I say unto you, if all men had been, and were, and ever would be, like unto Moroni, behold, the very powers of hell would have been shaken forever; yea, the devil would never have power over the hearts of the children of men.”

—ALMA 48:17

OUR SURVIVAL GUIDE

- Be like Moroni, Alma, and his sons, be like Ammon and the sons of Mosiah - 48:19
- Preach the Word of God and baptize believers - 48:20
- Serve and Humble ourselves
- Be highly favored of the Lord - Have the Lord on your side
- Be free and seek Peace, avoid war
- Feel sorry for those killing each other, who die unprepared to meet their God - 48:23
- Do not be a victim - Stand up for Family and Church - 48:24





“Defend your beliefs with courtesy and with compassion, but defend them” (Jeffrey R. Holland, “The Cost—and Blessings—of Discipleship,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2014, 9).



“Followers of Christ should be examples of civility. We should love all people, be good listeners, and show concern for their sincere beliefs. Though we may disagree, we should not be disagreeable. Our stands and communications on controversial topics should not be contentious. We should be wise in explaining and pursuing our positions and in exercising our influence. ...

“When our positions do not prevail, we should accept unfavorable results graciously and practice civility with our adversaries” (Dallin H. Oaks, “Loving Others and Living with Differences,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2014, 27).