

6/28/20

Alma 17-22

BofM #25

1 Will Make an Instrument of Thee

GT

Ch 17

Alma encounters sons of Mosiah

tale of Ammon

Ammon gains <sup>instant</sup> favor with King Lamoni in two ways:

- I will be thy <sup>your</sup> servant
- I desire to live among <sup>you</sup> perhaps until I die

Protects flocks. How many bandits?

\* 6 fall by the sling. (while they were slinging at him)  
ancient sling had a long range BUT this was for battle conditions

where many slingers could fill the air with "bullets"  
- accurate <sup>moving</sup> range maybe about 50 meters +/- a few?

- to hit 6 <sup>moving</sup> targets while they're slinging/charging at you means:

- 1) you don't miss
- 2) you have nerves of steel

\* cuts off several more arms

"not a few" they don't mention the number, but must have been greater than 6 since that's a number they already mention

PLUS the leader he kills, plus the men who ran away -

I'm guessing a rustling party of 20 or more armed with slings, clubs, and bad attitudes

Notice BofM only says "flocks" never "sheep." Were they sheep descended from those brought by Nephi's group, or were they "lamas"? something else?

Ch 18

v.2 King Lamoni is concerned that ~~the~~ Ammon is the "Great Spirit" come to take revenge for all their murders. Proof that the Lamanites had a consciousness of guilt.

v.6 "He had slain many of them" Ammon had likely heard why herding was an undesirable job, and gone prepared

v.10 Ammon's power and exactness further impress the King

v.14 the King doesn't answer for an hour? sounds like an indication of embellishment

v.23 Ammon asks the King to believe his words, and the King says he will. Then reports the King was caught with "guile." Is this true? Does God sometimes ask us to commit to a covenant before we know ~~the~~ everything that is entailed?

King Lamoni is taught first of the Fall then of the Savior

Ammon is familiar with the phenomenon of people going unconscious upon conversion (Alma)

## Ch 19.

When the King awakes, he reveals that he has seen his Redeemer.

The Queen, Ammon, and all the servants are then overcome

Abish, 1 of only 3 named women in the B.o.M., gathers a crowd

- she was converted because her father had a vision. What had life been like for her?

- one of the aggrieved Lamanites tries to kill Ammon and falls dead.
  - The Queen, the King, and then Ammon arise and preach. Why were they so reluctant to try waking them up? It seems to work as soon as someone tries it.
- A church is established.

Ch 20 the time they spent unconscious made Lamoni late for a ceremonial event (renewal of fealty?) in the court of his father.

Lamoni invites Ammon to meet his father, but Ammon refuses, saying his brethren are in prison and he has to go to them, and Lamoni accompanies him.

They encounter his father on the road. This leads us to some conclusions:

- their form of government appears to be feudal. So Lamoni is a lesser "king" or vassal, and when he didn't show up at the feast, this is likely a sign he is in a state of rebellion. The conversation they have on the road seems to confirm all the king's fears.

Ammon again gains a convert by force of arms. His generosity in victory paves the way for later success.

Ch 21 tale of Aaron → flashback within a flashback (until v. 13)

Amalekites (Amlicites?) introduced/reintroduced.

Amlicites called in one manuscript "Amlikites" > together, solving the question of the vowel & consonant diff.

Amalekites called in one manuscript "Amalicitis"

1) The Amalekites introduced as though we knew their origins

2) The Amlicites ~~disappear~~ disappear in spite of their prominence

3) Both Nehors in contact with Lamanites

Lamoni creates religious liberty, which seems to be a hallmark of ~~the~~ prophet-led worshippers. When a church merges with the state and shuts down religious freedom, you may know Satan is behind it.

## Ch 22

Aaron teaches the King in the land of Nephi, with many similarities to Ammon's episode with Lamoni, including the unconsciousness and attending mob.

- also teaches the Fall, followed by the Atonement
- proclamation mentioned, which is not explained until Ch. 23
- Geography of Lamanites explained. (upshot: they have not occupied more than a small region)