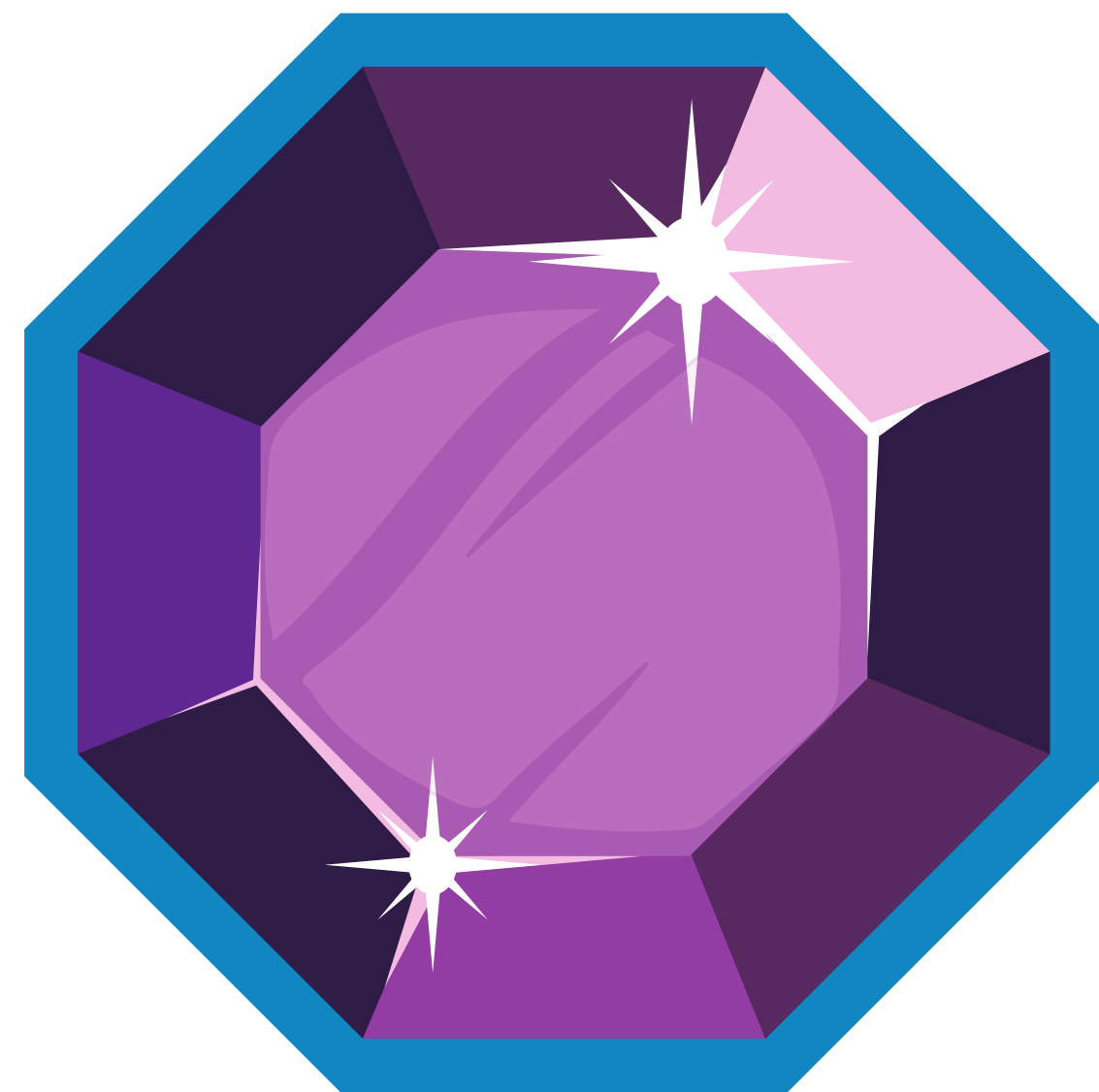
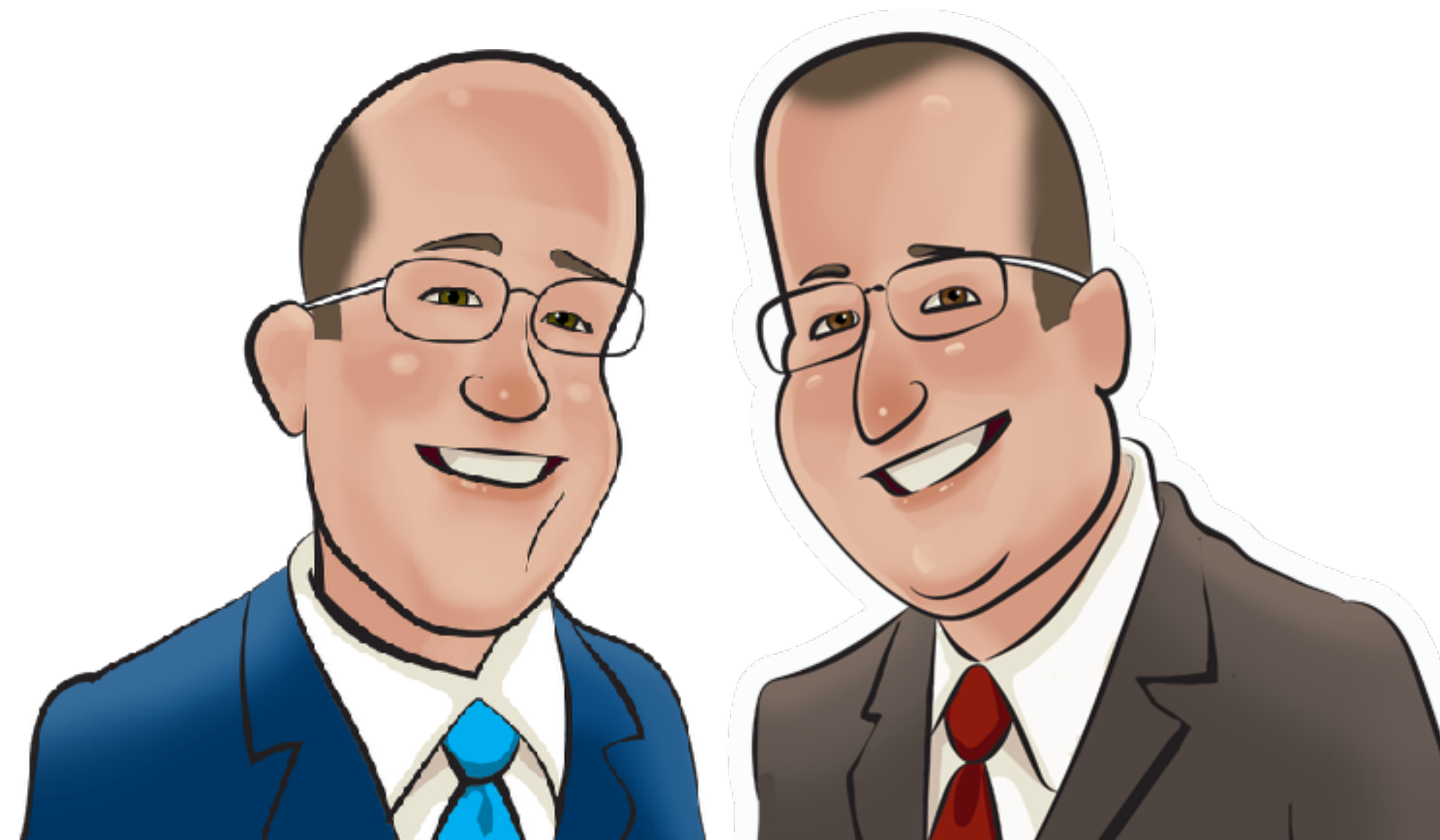
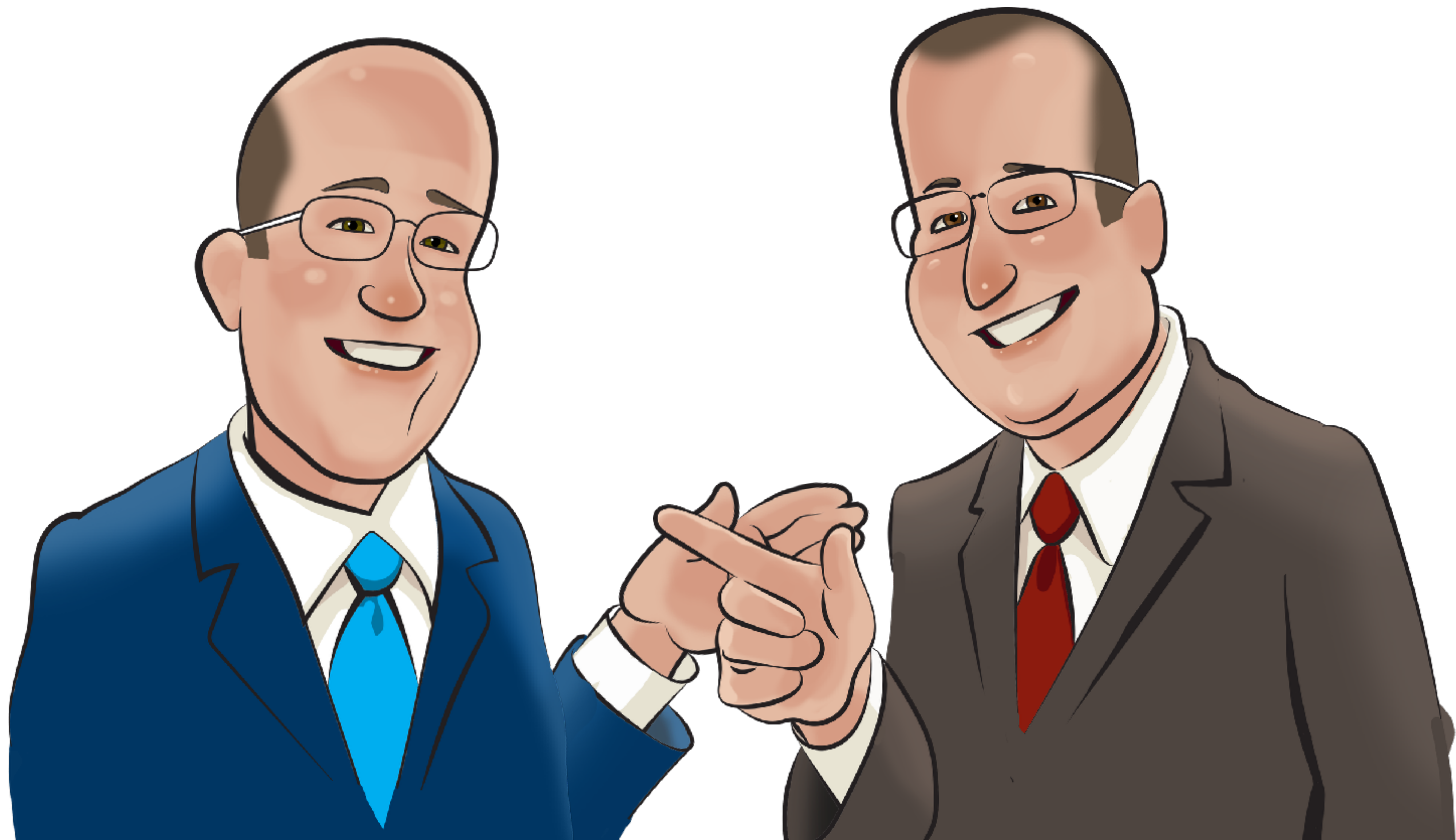


Episode 41



# Scripture GEMS

*October 26-November 1, 2020: **Mormon 1-6***



# THE BOOK OF MORMON

## CHAPTER 1

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father into the land southward, even to the land of Zarahemla.

7 The whole face of the land had become covered with buildings, and the people were as numerous almost, as it were the sand of the sea.

8 And it came to pass in this year there began to be a war between the <sup>a</sup>Nephites, who consisted of the Nephites and the Jacobites and the Josephites and the Zoramites; and this war was between the Nephites, and the Lamanites and the Lemuelites and the Ishmaelites.

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12 And it came to pass that the Lamanites withdrew their design, and there was peace settled in the land; and peace did remain for the space of about four years, that there was no bloodshed.

13 But wickedness did prevail upon the face of the whole land, insomuch that the Lord did take away his <sup>a</sup>beloved disciples, and the work of miracles and of healing did cease because of the iniquity of the people.

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19 And it came to pass that there were <sup>a</sup>sorceries, and witchcrafts, and magics; and the power of the evil one was wrought upon all the face of the land, even unto the fulfilling of all the words of Abinadi, and also <sup>b</sup>Samuel the Lamanite.

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## Nephites Retreat

**Remember Mormon's description of those who turned away from the true path in his day. They did not sin in ignorance. They willfully rebelled against God. It did not occur as a universal movement. It began as individual members of the Church knowingly began to make compromises with the Lord's standard. They sought justification for their diversions in the knowledge that others were compromising as well. Those who willfully sin soon seek to establish a standard of their own with which they can feel more comfortable and which justifies their misconduct. They also seek the association of those who are willing to drift with them along this path of self-delusion.**

**“As the number of drifting individuals increases, their influence becomes more powerful. It might be described as the ‘great and spacious building syndrome.’ The drifting is the more dangerous when its adherents continue to overtly identify with and participate**

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**“As the number of drifting individuals increases, their influence becomes more powerful. It might be described as the ‘great and spacious building syndrome.’ The drifting is the more dangerous when its adherents continue to overtly identify with and participate with the group that conforms to the Lord’s way. Values and standards that were once clear become clouded and uncertain. The norm of behavior begins to reflect this beclouding of true principles. Conduct that would once have caused revulsion and alarm now becomes somewhat commonplace”**

*(“Likening the Scriptures unto Us,” in Monte S. Nyman and Charles D. Tate Jr., eds., Alma, the Testimony of the Word [1992] {collection of articles}, 8).*

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**“It is not good practice to become intrigued by Satan and his mysteries. No good can come from getting close to evil. Like playing with fire, it is too easy to get burned. ... The only safe course is to keep well distanced from him and any of his wicked activities or nefarious practices. The mischief of devil worship, sorcery, casting spells, witchcraft, voodooism, black magic, and all other forms of demonism should be avoided like the plague”**

*(President James E. Faust in Conference Report, Oct. 1987, 40; or Ensign, Nov. 1987, 33).*

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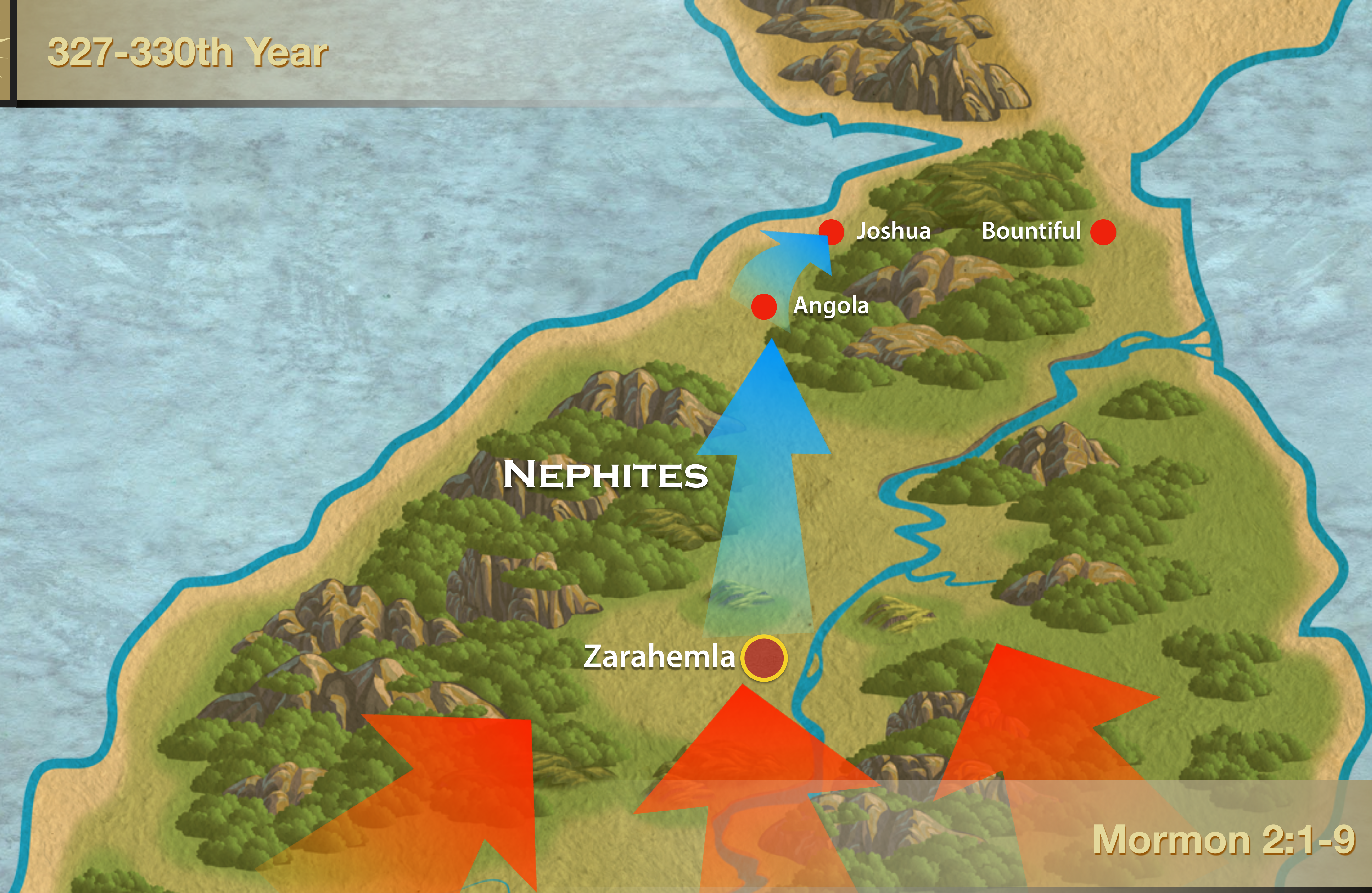
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## Nephites Retreat





327-330th Year



Joshua Bountiful

Angola

NEPHITES

Zarahemla

Mormon 2:1-9



possible, that we might get them together in "one body.

8 But behold, the land was "filled with "robbers and with Lamanites; and notwithstanding the great destruction which hung over my people, they did not repent of their evil doings; therefore there was blood and carnage spread throughout all the face of the land, both on the part of the Nephites and also on the part of the Lamanites; and it was one complete revolution throughout all the face of the land.

9 And now, the Lamanites had a king, and his name was "Aaron; and he came against us with an army of forty and four thousand. And behold, I withstood him with forty and two thousand. And it came to pass that I beat him with my army that he fled before me. And behold, all this was done, and three hundred and thirty years had passed away.

10 And it came to pass that the Nephites began to repent of their iniquity, and began to cry even as had been prophesied by Samuel the prophet; for behold no man could "keep that which was his own, for the thieves, and the robbers, and the murderers, and the magic art, and the witchcraft which was in the land.

11 Thus there began to be a "mourning and a lamentation in all the land because of these things, and more especially among the people of Nephi.

12 And it came to pass that when I, Mormon, saw their lamentation and their "mourning and their sorrow before the Lord, my heart did begin to rejoice within me, knowing the mercies and the long-suffering of

the Lord, therefore supposing that he would be merciful unto them that they would "again become a righteous people.

13 But behold this my joy was vain, for their "sorrowing was not unto repentance, because of the goodness of God; but it was rather the "sorrowing of the "damned, because the Lord would not always suffer them to take "happiness in sin.

14 And they did not come unto Jesus with broken "hearts and contrite spirits, but they did "curse God, and wish to die. Nevertheless they would struggle with the sword for their lives.

15 And it came to pass that my sorrow did return unto me again, and I saw that the "day of "grace "was passed with them, both temporally and spiritually; for I saw thousands of them hewn down in open "rebellion against their God, and heaped up as "dung upon the face of the land. And thus three hundred and forty and four years had passed away.

16 And it came to pass that in the three hundred and forty and fifth year the Nephites did begin to flee before the Lamanites; and they were pursued until they came even to the land of Jashon, before it was possible to stop them in their retreat.

17 And now, the city of Jashon was near the "land where Ammaron had "deposited the records unto the Lord, that they might not be destroyed. And behold I had gone according to the word of Ammaron, and taken the "plates of Nephi, and did make a record according to the words of Ammaron.

18 And upon the plates of Nephi I

Sorrow without Repentance

Mormon Updates the Records

The Land is Divided

did make a full account of all the wickedness and abominations; but upon "these plates I did forbear to make a full account of their wickedness and abominations, for behold, a continual scene of wickedness and abominations has been before mine eyes ever since I have been sufficient to behold the ways of man.

19 And wo is me because of their wickedness; for my heart has been filled with sorrow because of their wickedness, all my days; nevertheless, I know that I shall be "lifted up at the last day.

20 And it came to pass that in this year the people of Nephi again were hunted and driven. And it came to pass that we were driven forth until we had come northward to the land which was called Shem.

21 And it came to pass that we did "fortify the city of Shem, and we did gather in our people as much as it were possible, that perhaps we might save them from destruction.

22 And it came to pass in the three hundred and forty and sixth year they began to come upon us again.

23 And it came to pass that I did speak unto my people, and did urge them with great energy, that they would stand boldly before the Lamanites and "fight for their "wives, and their children, and their houses, and their homes.

24 And my words did arouse them somewhat to vigor, insomuch that they did not flee from before the Lamanites, but did stand with boldness against them.

25 And it came to pass that we did contend with an army of thirty thousand against an army of fifty thousand. And it came to pass that we did stand before them with such firmness that they did flee from before us.

26 And it came to pass that when they had fled we did pursue them

with our armies, and did meet them again, and did "beat them; nevertheless the "strength of the Lord was not with us; yea, we were left to ourselves, that the Spirit of the Lord did not abide in us; therefore we had become weak like unto our brethren.

27 And my heart did sorrow because of this the great calamity of my people, because of their wickedness and their abominations. But behold, we did go forth against the Lamanites and the robbers of Gadianton, until we had again taken possession of the lands of our inheritance.

28 And the three hundred and forty and ninth year had passed away. And in the three hundred and fiftieth year we made a treaty with the Lamanites and the robbers of Gadianton, in which we did get the lands of our inheritance divided.

29 And the Lamanites did give unto us the land "northward, yea, even to the "narrow passage which led into the land southward. And we did give unto the Lamanites all the land southward.

CHAPTER 3

Mormon cries repentance unto the Nephites—They gain a great victory and glory in their own strength—Mormon refuses to lead them, and his prayers for them are without faith—The Book of Mormon invites the twelve tribes of Israel to believe the gospel. About A.D. 360–62.

AND it came to pass that the Lamanites did not come to battle again until ten years more had passed away. And behold, I had employed my people, the Nephites, in preparing their lands and their arms against the time of battle.

2 And it came to pass that the Lord did say unto me: Cry unto

A Chance for Repentance

7a 3 Ne. 3:22 (22–25).

12a TG Mourning.

15a Hel. 13:38.



**“After recognition, real remorse floods the soul. This is a ‘godly sorrow,’ not merely the ‘sorrow of the world’ nor the ‘sorrowing of the damned’ when we can no longer ‘take happiness in sin’ (2 Corinthians 7:10; Mormon 2:13). False remorse instead is like fondling our failings. In ritual regret, we mourn our mistakes but without mending them”**

*(Elder Neal A. Maxwell in Conference Report, Oct. 1991, 40; or Ensign, Nov. 1991, 31).*

possible, that we might get them together in <sup>a</sup>one body.

8 But behold, the land was <sup>a</sup>filled with <sup>b</sup>robbers and with Lamanites; and notwithstanding the great destruction which hung over my people, they did not repent of their evil doings; therefore there was blood and carnage spread throughout all the face of the land, both on the part of the Nephites and also on the part of the Lamanites; and it was one complete revolution throughout all the face of the land.

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Sorrow without Repentance

Mormon Updates the Records

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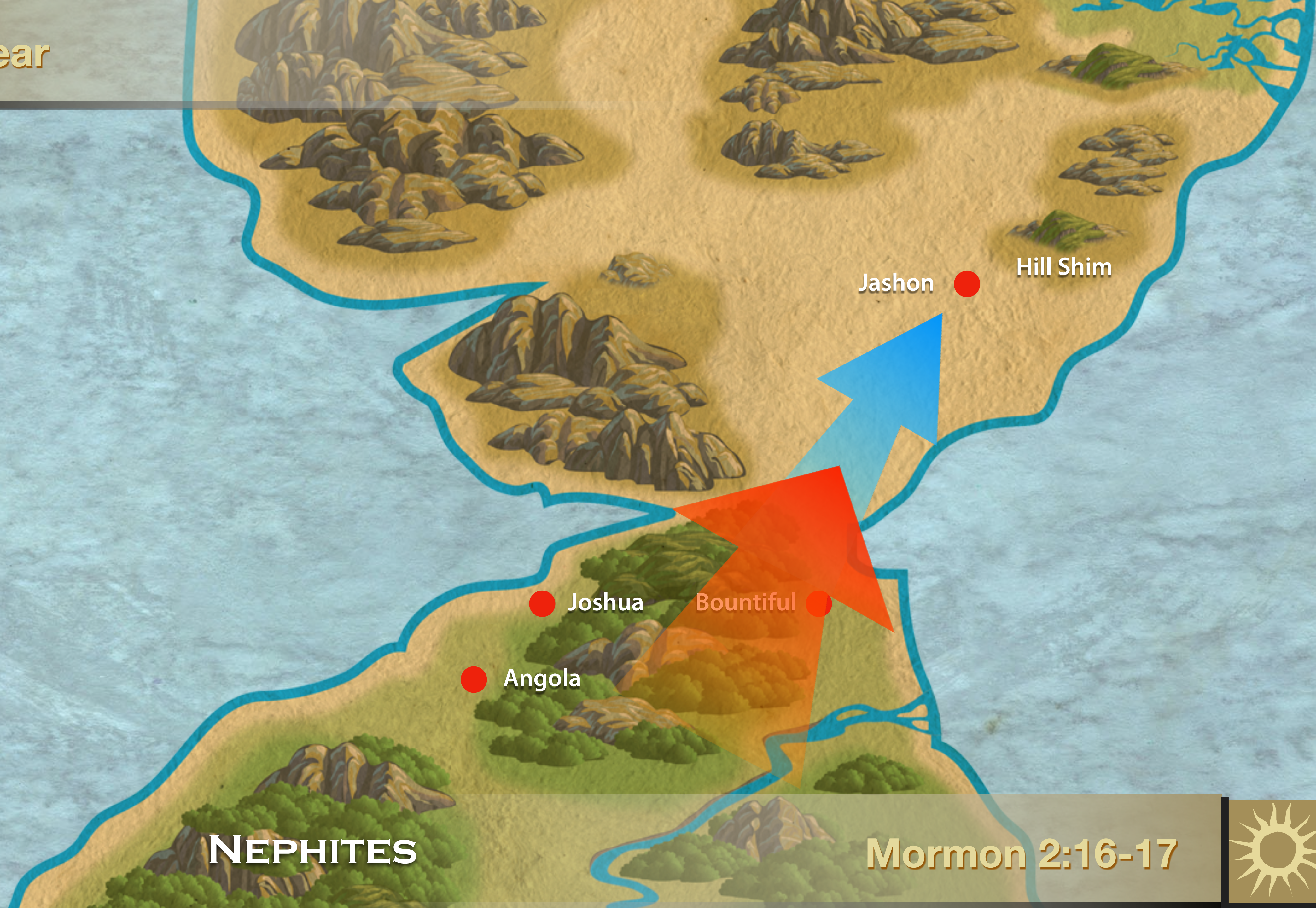
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The Land is Divided



345th Year



Jashon



Hill Shim

Joshua



Bountiful



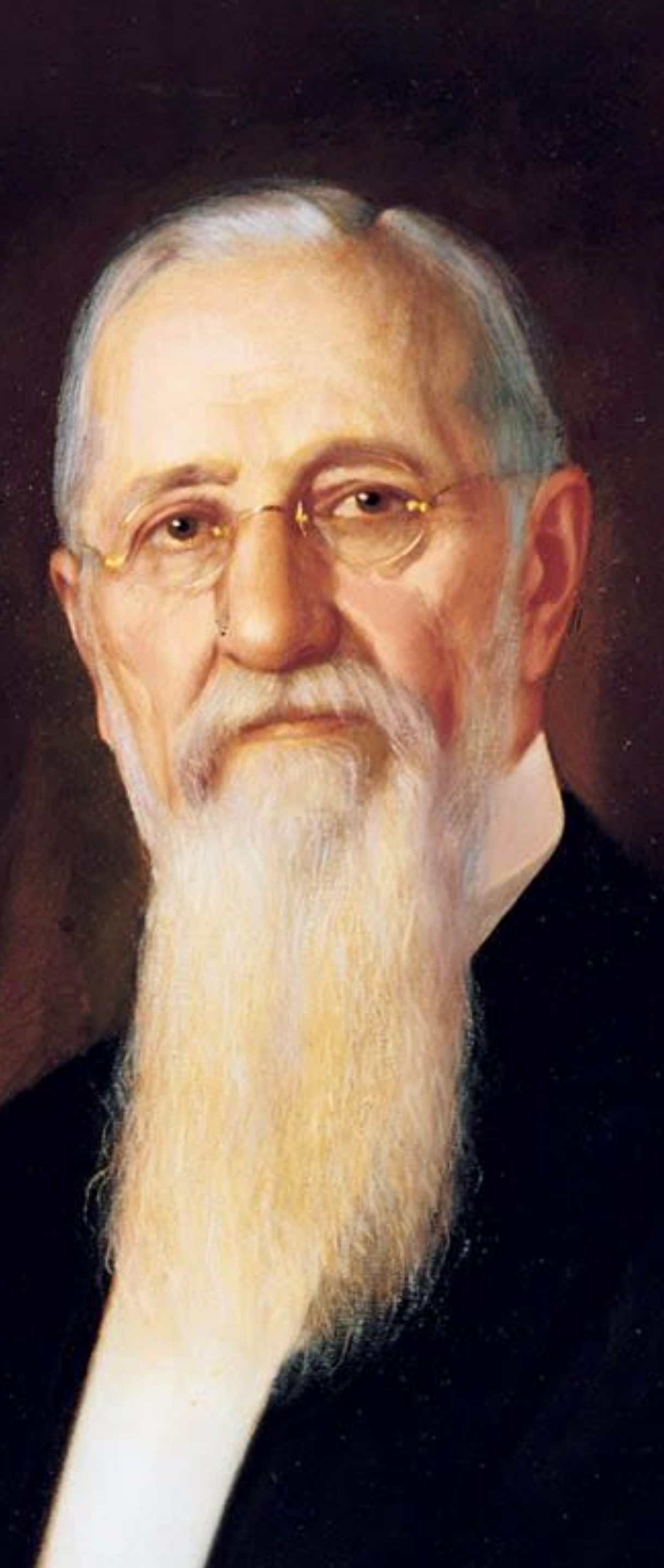
Angola



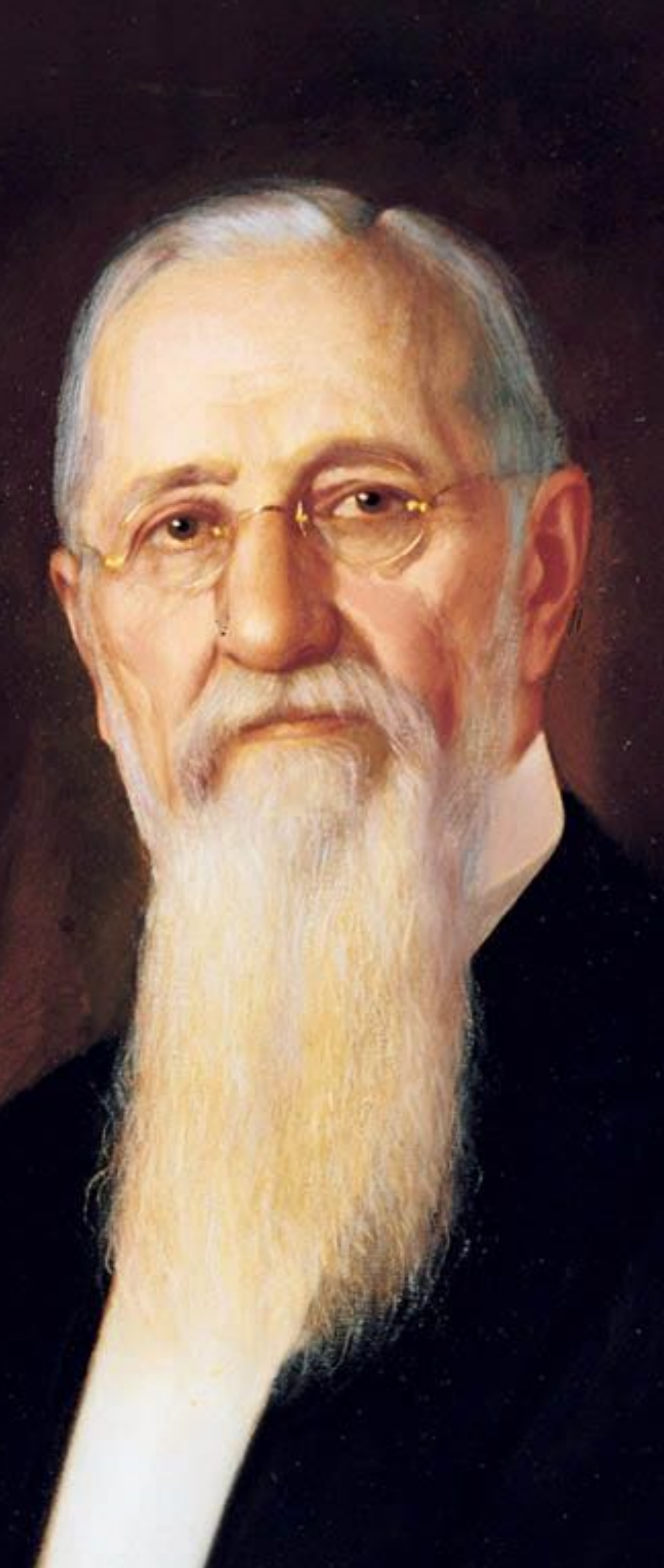
**NEPHITES**

Mormon 2:16-17





**“While in that condition I dreamed [one night] that I was on a journey, and I was impressed that I ought to hurry—hurry with all my might, for fear I might be too late. I rushed on my way as fast as I possibly could, and I was only conscious of having just a little bundle, a handkerchief with a small bundle wrapped in it. I did not realize ... what it was, when I was hurrying as fast as I could; but finally I came to a wonderful mansion. ... I thought I knew that was my destination. As I passed towards it, as fast as I could, I saw a notice [which read B-A-T-H], ‘Bath.’ I turned aside quickly and went into the bath and washed myself clean. I opened up this little bundle that I had, and there was [some] white, clean [clothing], a thing I had not seen for a long time, because the people I was with did not think very much of making things exceedingly clean. But**



**and washed myself clean. I opened up this little bundle that I had, and there was [some] white, clean [clothing], a thing I had not seen for a long time, because the people I was with did not think very much of making things exceedingly clean. But my [clothing was] clean, and I put [it] on. Then I rushed to what appeared to be a great opening, or door. I knocked and the door opened, and the man who stood there was the Prophet Joseph Smith. He looked at me a little reprovably, and the first words he said: ‘Joseph, you are late.’ Yet I took confidence and [replied]:**

**“Yes, but I am clean—I am clean!”**

**“He clasped my hand and drew me in...”**

*(Joseph F. Smith, “Gospel Doctrine”, 5th ed. [1939], 542–43).*

possible, that we might get them together in <sup>a</sup>one body.

8 But behold, the land was <sup>a</sup>filled with <sup>b</sup>robbers and with Lamanites; and notwithstanding the great destruction which hung over my people, they did not repent of their evil doings; therefore there was blood and carnage spread throughout all the face of the land, both on the part of the Nephites and also on the part of the Lamanites; and it was one complete revolution throughout all the face of the land.

9 And now, the Lamanites had a king, and his name was <sup>a</sup>Aaron; and he came against us with an army of forty and four thousand. And behold, I withstood him with forty and two thousand. And it came to pass that I beat him with my army that he fled before me. And behold, all this was done, and three hundred and thirty years had passed away.

10 And it came to pass that the Nephites began to repent of their iniquity, and began to cry even as had been prophesied by Samuel the prophet; for behold no man could <sup>a</sup>keep that which was his own, for the thieves, and the robbers, and the murderers, and the magic art, and the witchcraft which was in the land.

11 Thus there began to be a <sup>a</sup>mourning and a lamentation in all the land because of these things, and more especially among the people of Nephi.

12 And it came to pass that when I, Mormon, saw their lamentation and their <sup>a</sup>mourning and their sorrow before the Lord, my heart did begin to rejoice within me, knowing the mercies and the long-suffering of

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Sorrow without Repentance

Mormon Updates the Records

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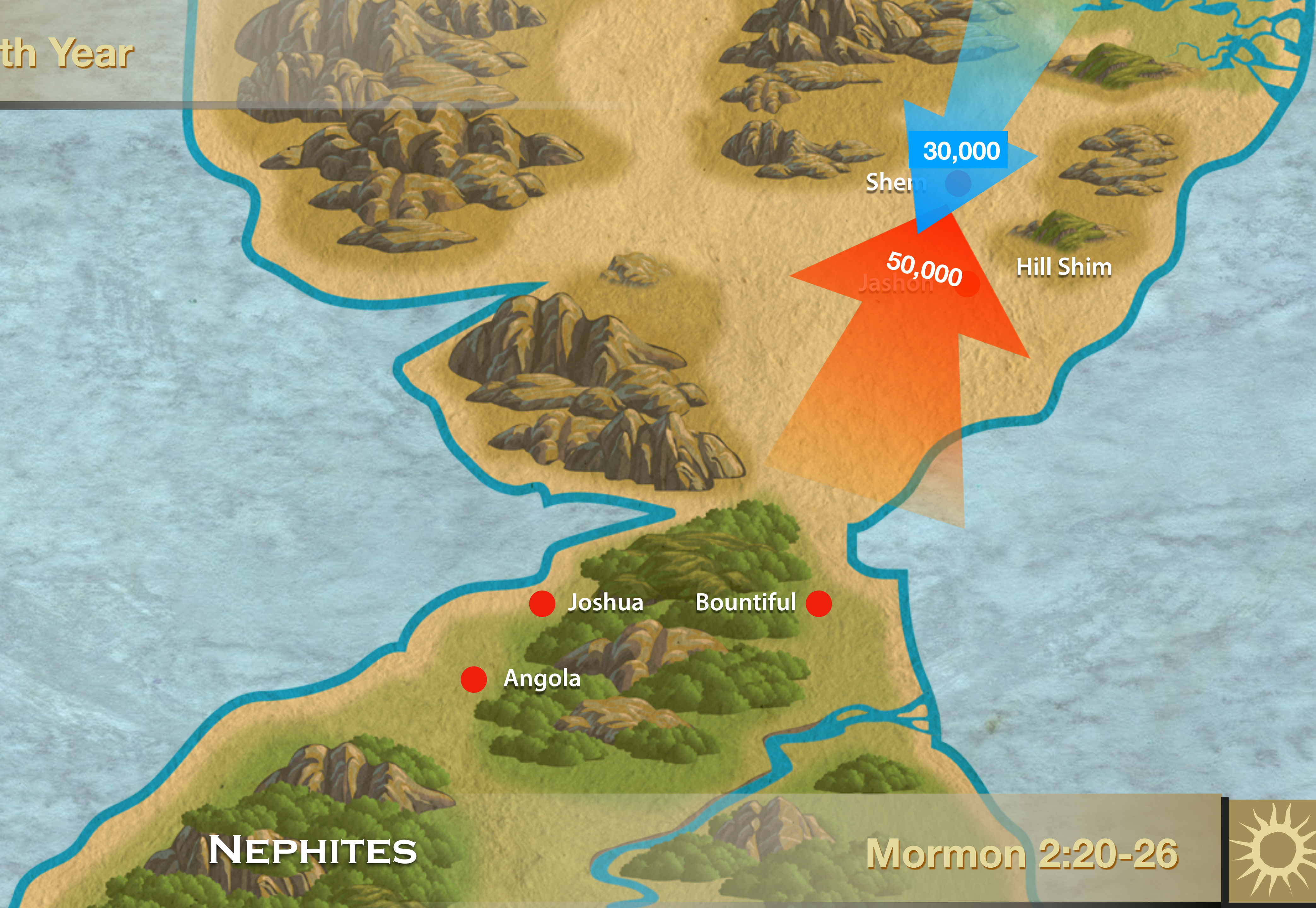
12a TG Mourning.

15a Hel. 13:38.





345-346th Year



NEPHITES

Mormon 2:20-26



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Sorrow without Repentance

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The Land is Divided

A Chance for Repentance

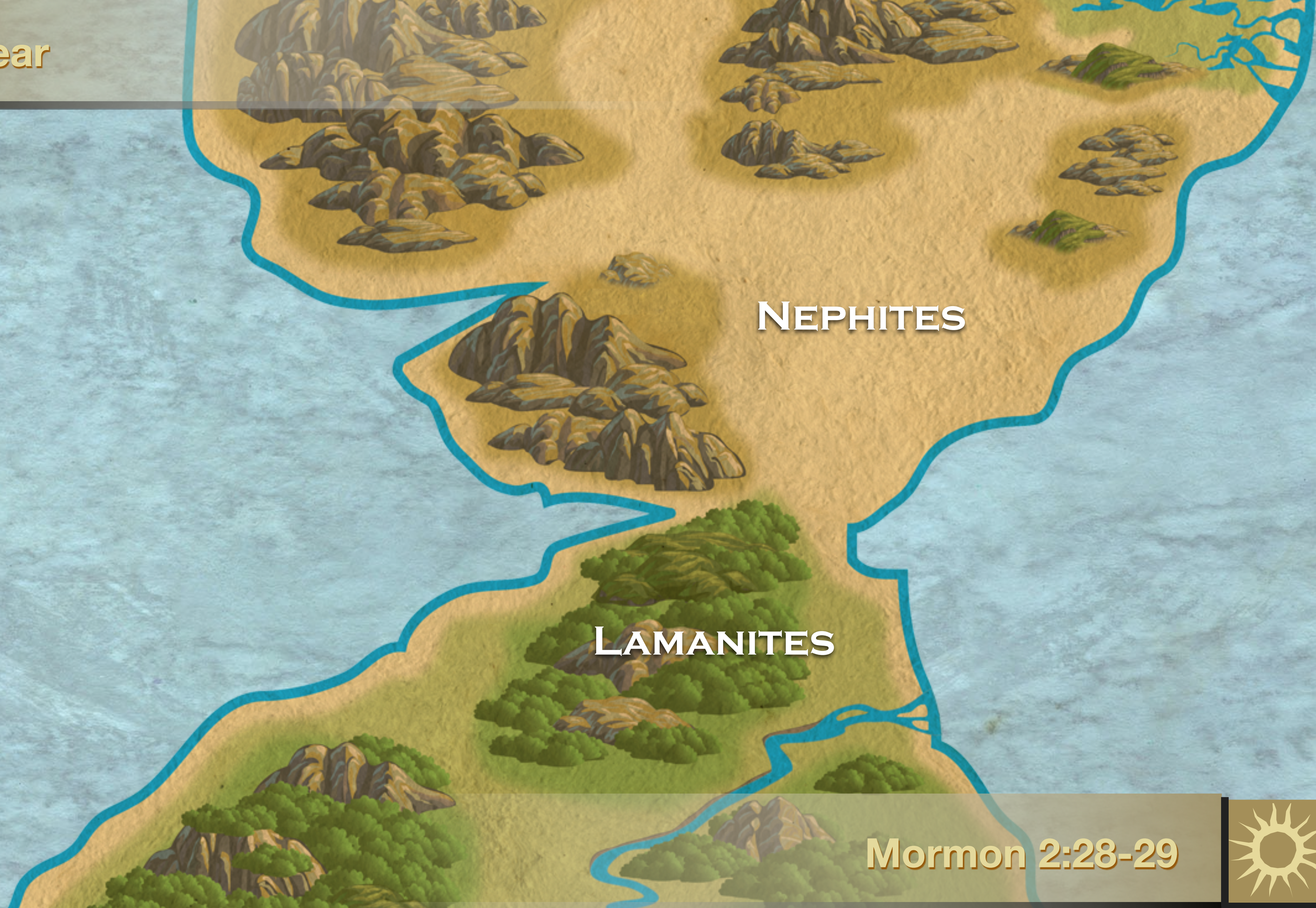
7a 3 Ne. 3:22 (22–25).

12a TG Mourning.

15a Hel. 13:38.



350th Year



NEPHITES

LAMANITES

Mormon 2:28-29



**While serving as a member of the Seventy, Elder Ray H. Wood explained: “When a person violates any of God’s commandments, if there is no repentance the Lord withdraws His protective and sustaining influence. When we lose power with God, we know of a certainty that the problem lies within us and not within God. ‘I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise’ (D&C 82:10). Our misdeeds bring despair. They sadden and extinguish the ‘perfect brightness of hope’ offered by Christ (2 Nephi 31:20). Without God’s help, we are left to ourselves”**

*(in Conference Report, Apr. 1999, 54; or Ensign, May 1999, 40–41).*

possible, that we might get them together in <sup>a</sup>one body.

8 But behold, the land was <sup>a</sup>filled with <sup>b</sup>robbers and with Lamanites; and notwithstanding the great destruction which hung over my people, they did not repent of their evil doings; therefore there was blood and carnage spread throughout all the face of the land, both on the part of the Nephites and also on the part of the Lamanites; and it was one complete revolution throughout all the face of the land.

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7a 3 Ne. 3:22 (22–25).

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A Chance for Repentance

this people—Repent ye, and come unto me, and be ye baptized, and build up again my church, and ye shall be <sup>a</sup>spared.

3 And I did cry unto this people, but it was <sup>a</sup>in vain; and they did <sup>b</sup>not realize that it was the Lord that had spared them, and granted unto them a chance for repentance. And behold they did harden their hearts against the Lord their God.

4 And it came to pass that after this tenth year had passed away, making, in the whole, three hundred and sixty years from the coming of Christ, the king of the Lamanites sent an epistle unto me, which gave unto me to know that they were preparing to come again to battle against us.

5 And it came to pass that I did cause my people that they should gather themselves together at the land <sup>a</sup>Desolation, to a city which was in the borders, by the narrow pass which led into the land <sup>b</sup>southward.

6 And there we did place our armies, that we might stop the armies of the Lamanites, that they might not get possession of any of our lands; therefore we did fortify against them with all our force.

7 And it came to pass that in the three hundred and sixty and first year the Lamanites did come down to the <sup>a</sup>city of Desolation to battle against us; and it came to pass that in that year we did beat them, inso-much that they did return to their own lands again.

8 And in the three hundred and sixty and second year they did come down <sup>a</sup>again to battle. And we did beat them again, and did

slay a great number of them, and their dead were cast into the sea.

9 And now, because of this great thing which my people, the Nephites, had done, they began to <sup>a</sup>boast in their own strength, and began to swear before the heavens that they would avenge themselves of the blood of their brethren who had been slain by their enemies.

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### Mormon Refuses to Lead His People Message to Latter-Day People



**President Henry B. Eyring urged us “to find ways to recognize and remember God’s kindness. ... Pray and ponder, asking the questions: Did God send a message that was just for me? Did I see His hand in my life or the lives of my children? ... I testify that He loves us and blesses us, more than most of us have yet recognized”**

*(“O Remember, Remember,” Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2007, 67, 69).*



360-362 Year



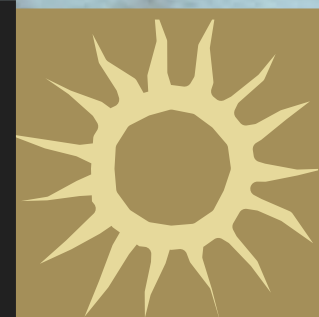
**NEPHITES**

Land of  
Desolation

**FORTIFICATION**

**LAMANITES**

Mormon 3:4-8





this people—Repent ye, and come unto me, and be ye baptized, and build up again my church, and ye shall be <sup>a</sup>spared.

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**“Before enjoying the harvests of righteous efforts, let us therefore first acknowledge God’s hand. Otherwise, the rationalizations appear, and they include, ‘My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth’ (Deuteronomy 8:17). Or, we ‘vaunt’ ourselves, as ancient Israel would have done (except for Gideon’s deliberately small army), by boasting that ‘mine own hand hath saved me’ (Judges 7:2). Touting our own ‘hand’ makes it doubly hard to confess God’s hand in all things (see Alma 14:11; D&C 59:21)”**

*(Elder Neal A. Maxwell in Conference Report, Apr. 2002, 43; or Ensign, May 2002, 37).*

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**“This scripture of the New World, is before us as an added witness of the divinity and reality of the Lord Jesus Christ, of the encompassing beneficence of His atonement, and of His coming forth from the darkness of the grave. Within these covers is found much of the sure word of prophecy concerning Him who should be born of a virgin, the Son of the Almighty God. There is a foretelling of His work among men as a living mortal. There is a declaration of His death, of the lamb without blemish who was to be sacrificed for the sins of the world. And there is an account that is moving and inspiring and true of the visit of the resurrected Christ among living men and women in the western continent. The testimony is here to handle; it is here to be read; it is here to be pondered; it is here to be prayed over with a promise that he who prays shall know by the power of the Holy Ghost of its truth and validity (see Moroni 10:3–5)”**

*(President Gordon B. Hinckley in Conference Report, Apr. 1994, 95; or Ensign, May 1994, 72).*

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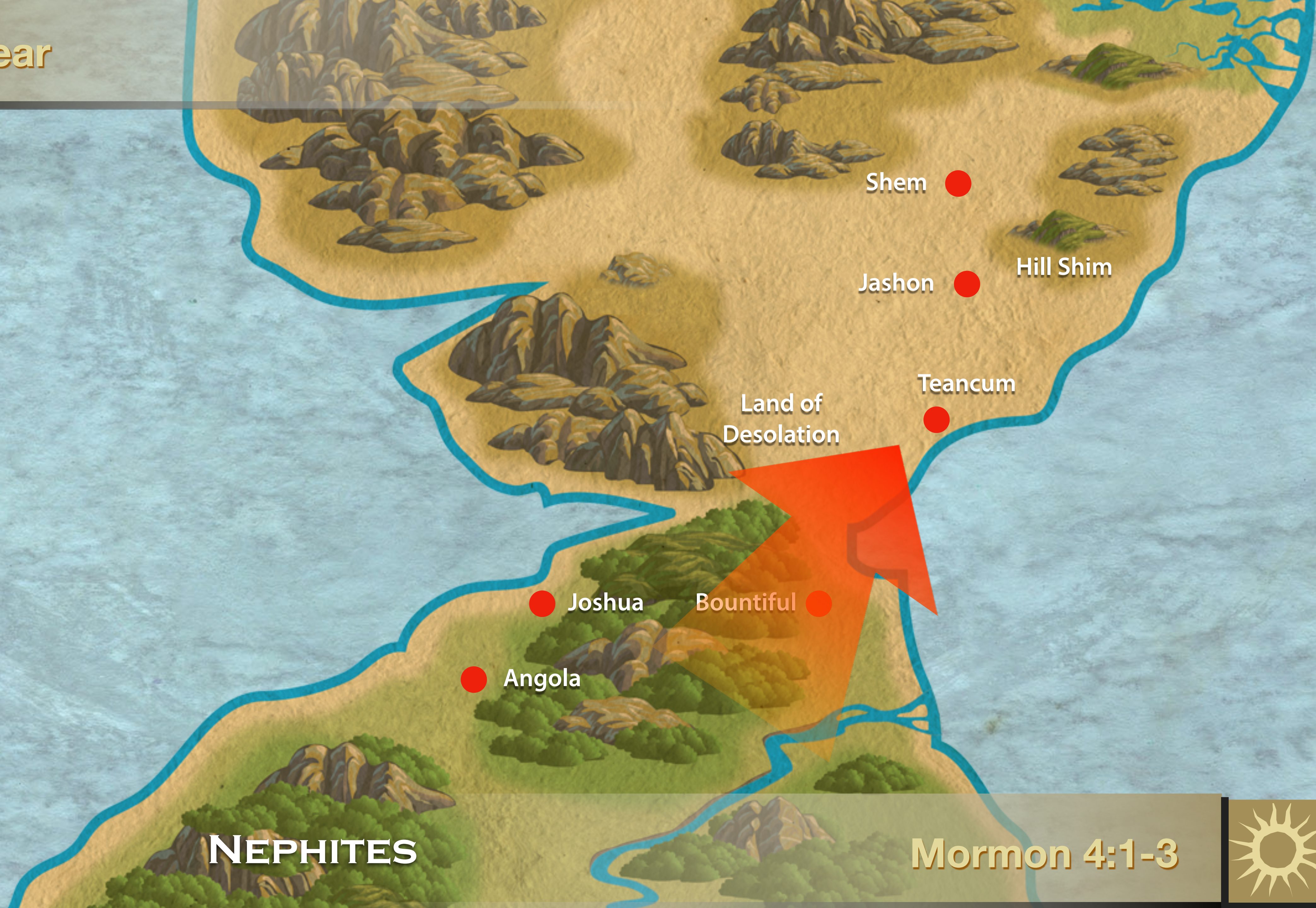
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363rd Year



Shem ●

Jashon ●

Hill Shim

Teancum ●

Land of Desolation

Joshua ●

Bountiful ●

Angola ●

**NEPHITES**

Mormon 4:1-3



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that the <sup>c</sup>Jews, the covenant people of the Lord, shall have other <sup>d</sup>witness besides him whom they saw and heard, that Jesus, whom they slew, was the <sup>e</sup>very Christ and the very God.

22 And I would that I could persuade <sup>a</sup>all ye ends of the earth to repent and prepare to stand before the judgment-seat of Christ.

#### CHAPTER 4

*War and carnage continue—The wicked punish the wicked—Greater wickedness prevails than ever before in all Israel—Women and children are sacrificed to idols—The Lamanites begin to sweep the Nephites before them. About A.D. 363–75.*

AND now it came to pass that in the three hundred and sixty and third year the Nephites did go up with their armies to <sup>a</sup>battle against the Lamanites, out of the land Desolation.

2 And it came to pass that the armies of the Nephites were driven back again to the land of Desolation. And while they were yet weary, a fresh army of the Lamanites did come upon them; and they had a sore battle, inso-much that the Lamanites did take possession of the <sup>a</sup>city Desolation, and did slay many of the Nephites, and did take many prisoners.

3 And the remainder did flee and join the inhabitants of the city Teancum. Now the city Teancum lay in the borders by the seashore; and it was also near the city <sup>a</sup>Desolation.

4 And it was <sup>a</sup>because the armies of the Nephites went up unto the Lamanites that they began to be smitten; for were it not for that, the

### Mormon Refuses to Lead His People Message to Latter-Day People

Lamanites could have had no power over them.

5 But, behold, the judgments of God will overtake the wicked; and it is by the wicked that the wicked are punished; for it is the wicked that stir up the hearts of the children of men unto bloodshed.

6 And it came to pass that the Lamanites did make preparations to come against the city Teancum.

7 And it came to pass in the three hundred and sixty and fourth year the Lamanites did come against the city Teancum, that they might take possession of the city Teancum also.

8 And it came to pass that they were repulsed and driven back by the Nephites. And when the Nephites saw that they had driven the Lamanites they did again boast of their own strength; and they went forth in their own might, and took possession again of the city Desolation.

9 And now all these things had been done, and there had been thousands slain on both sides, both the Nephites and the Lamanites.

10 And it came to pass that the three hundred and sixty and sixth year had passed away, and the Lamanites came again upon the Nephites to battle; and yet the Nephites repented not of the evil they had done, but persisted in their wickedness continually.

11 And it is impossible for the tongue to describe, or for man to write a perfect description of the horrible scene of the blood and carnage which was among the people, both of the Nephites and of the Lamanites; and every heart was hardened, so that they delighted in the shedding of blood continually.

12 And there never had been so great wickedness among all the children of Lehi, nor even among all the house of Israel, according to the words of the Lord, as was among this people.

13 And it came to pass that the Lamanites did take possession of the city Desolation, and this because their number did exceed the number of the Nephites.

14 And they did also march forward against the city Teancum, and did drive the inhabitants forth out of her, and did take many prisoners both women and children, and did offer them up as sacrifices unto their idol gods.

15 And it came to pass that in the three hundred and sixty and seventh year, the Nephites being angry because the Lamanites had sacrificed their women and their children, that they did go against the Lamanites with exceedingly great anger, insomuch that they did beat again the Lamanites, and drive them out of their lands.

16 And the Lamanites did not come again against the Nephites until the three hundred and seventy and fifth year.

17 And in this year they did come down against the Nephites with all their powers; and they were not numbered because of the greatness of their number.

18 And from this time forth did the Nephites gain no power over the Lamanites, but began to be swept off by them even as a dew before the sun.

19 And it came to pass that the Lamanites did come down against the city Desolation; and there was an exceedingly sore battle fought in the land Desolation, in the which they did beat the Nephites.

20 And they fled again from before them, and they came to the city Boaz; and there they did stand against the Lamanites with exceeding boldness, insomuch that the Lamanites did not beat them until they had come again the second time.

21 And when they had come the second time, the Nephites were driven and slaughtered with an exceedingly great slaughter; their women and their children were again sacrificed unto idols.

22 And it came to pass that the Nephites did again flee from before them, taking all the inhabitants with them, both in towns and villages.

23 And now I, Mormon, seeing that the Lamanites were about to overthrow the land, therefore I did go to the hill Shim, and did take up all the records which Ammaron had hid up unto the Lord.

#### CHAPTER 5

*Mormon again leads the Nephite armies in battles of blood and carnage—The Book of Mormon will come forth to convince all Israel that Jesus is the Christ—Because of their unbelief, the Lamanites will be scattered, and the Spirit will cease to strive with them—They will receive the gospel from the Gentiles in the latter days. About A.D. 375–84.*

AND it came to pass that I did go forth among the Nephites, and did repent of the oath which I had made that I would no more assist them; and they gave me command again of their armies, for they looked upon me as though I could deliver them from their afflictions.

2 But behold, I was without hope, for I knew the judgments of the Lord which should come upon them; for they repented not of their iniquities, but did struggle for their lives without calling upon that Being who created them.

3 And it came to pass that the Lamanites did come against us as we had fled to the city of Jordan; but behold, they were driven back that they did not take the city at that time.

4 And it came to pass that they came against us again, and we did maintain the city. And there were also other cities which were maintained by the Nephites, which strongholds did cut them off that they could not get into the country which lay before us, to destroy the inhabitants of our land.

5 But it came to pass that whatsoever lands we had passed by, and the inhabitants thereof were not gathered in, were destroyed by the Lamanites, and their towns, and villages, and cities were burned with fire; and thus three hundred and seventy and nine years passed away.

6 And it came to pass that in the three hundred and eightieth year the Lamanites did come again against us to battle, and we did stand against them boldly; but it was all in vain, for so great were their numbers that they did tread the people of the Nephites under their feet.

7 And it came to pass that we did again take to flight, and those whose flight was swifter than the Lamanites' did escape, and those whose flight did not exceed the Lamanites' were swept down and destroyed.

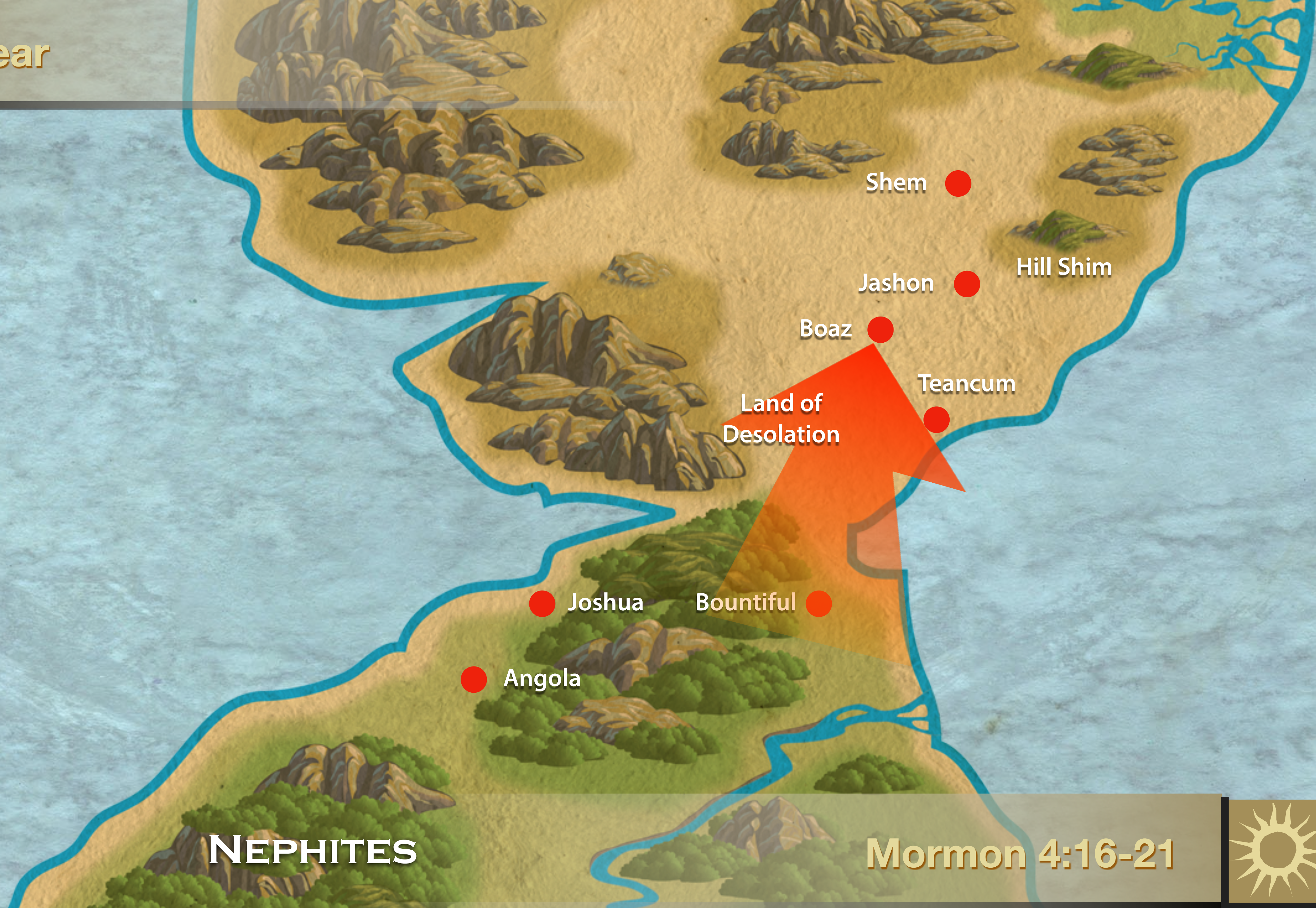
8 And now behold, I, Mormon, do not desire to harrow up the souls of men in casting before them such an awful scene of blood and carnage as was laid before mine eyes; but I, knowing that these things must surely be made known, and that all things which are hid must be revealed upon the house-tops—

9 And also that a knowledge of these things must come unto the remnant of these people, and also unto the Gentiles, who the Lord





375th Year



Shem ●

Hill Shim

Jashon ●

Boaz ●

Land of Desolation

Teancum ●

Joshua ●

Bountiful ●

Angola ●

**NEPHITES**

Mormon 4:16-21



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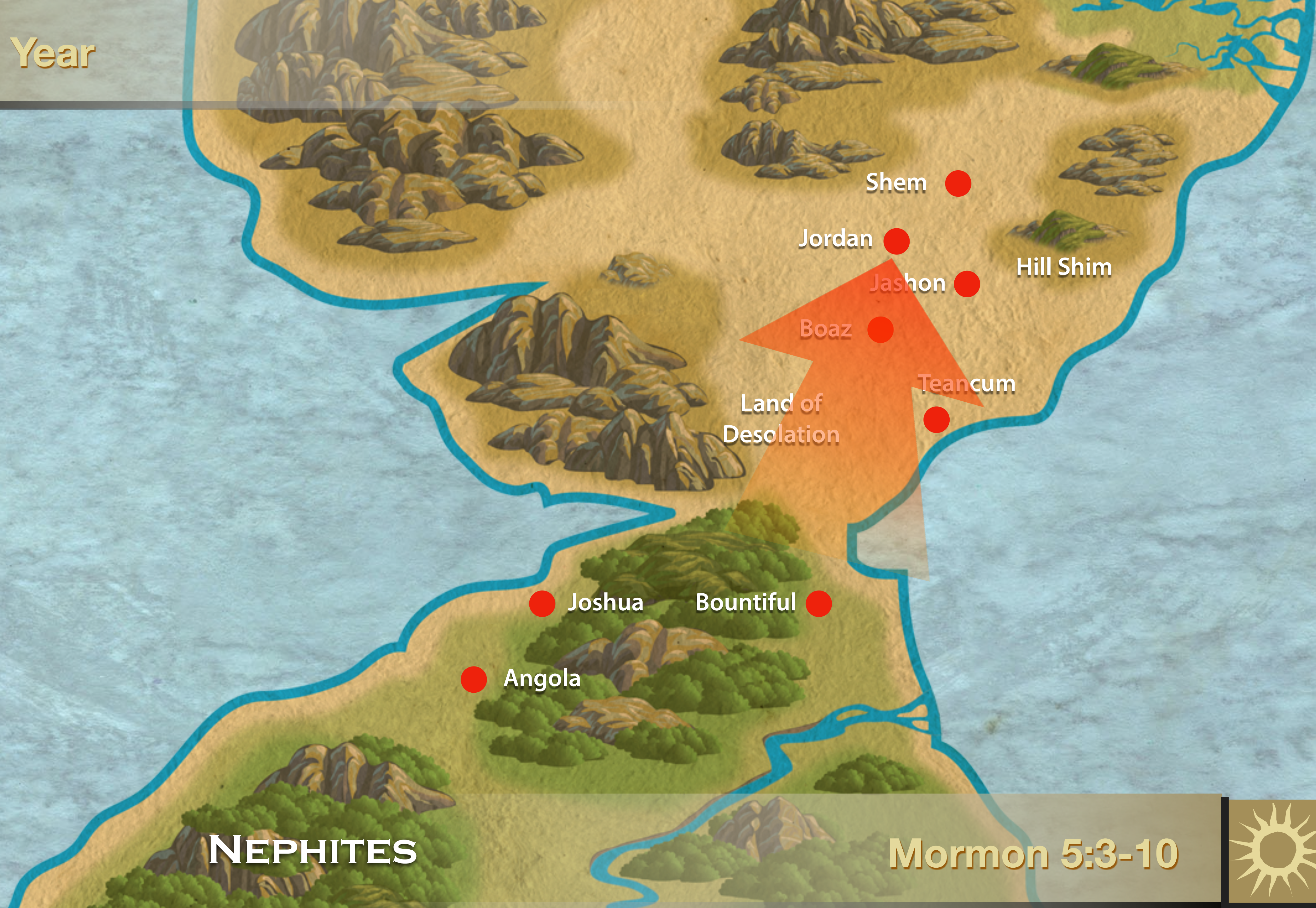
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375-380 Year



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Jordan ●

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Jashon ●

Boaz ●

Teancum ●

Land of Desolation

Joshua ●

Bountiful ●

Angola ●

**NEPHITES**

**Mormon 5:3-10**



hath said should <sup>b</sup>scatter this people, and this people should be counted as naught among them—therefore <sup>c</sup>I write a <sup>d</sup>small abridgment, daring not to give a full account of the things which I have seen, because of the commandment which I have received, and also that ye might not have too great sorrow because of the wickedness of this people.

10 And now behold, this I speak unto their seed, and also to the Gentiles who have care for the house of Israel, that realize and know from whence their blessings come.

11 For I know that such will sorrow for the calamity of the house of Israel; yea, they will sorrow for the destruction of this people; they will sorrow that this people had not repented that they might have been clasped in the arms of Jesus.

12 Now <sup>a</sup>these things are <sup>o</sup>written unto the <sup>c</sup>remnant of the house of Jacob; and they are written after this manner, because it is known of God that wickedness will not bring them forth unto them; and they are to be <sup>d</sup>hid up unto the Lord that they may come forth in his own due time.

13 And this is the commandment which I have received; and behold, they <sup>a</sup>shall come forth according to the commandment of the Lord, when he shall see fit, in his wisdom.

14 And behold, they shall go unto the <sup>a</sup>unbelieving of the <sup>b</sup>Jews; and for this intent shall they go—that they may be <sup>c</sup>persuaded that Jesus

is the Christ, the Son of the living God; that the Father may bring about, through his most Beloved, his great and eternal purpose, in restoring the Jews, or all the house of Israel, to the <sup>d</sup>land of their inheritance, which the Lord their God hath given them, unto the fulfilling of his <sup>e</sup>covenant;

15 And also that the seed of <sup>a</sup>this people may more fully believe his gospel, which shall <sup>b</sup>go forth unto them from the Gentiles; for this people shall be <sup>c</sup>scattered, and shall <sup>a</sup>become a dark, a filthy, and a loathsome people, beyond the description of that which ever hath been amongst us, yea, even that which hath been among the Lamanites, and this because of their unbelief and idolatry.

16 For behold, the Spirit of the Lord hath already ceased to <sup>a</sup>strive with their fathers; and they are without Christ and God in the world; and they are driven about as <sup>b</sup>chaff before the wind.

17 They were once a delightsome people, and they had Christ for their <sup>a</sup>shepherd; yea, they were led even by God the Father.

18 But now, behold, they are <sup>a</sup>led about by Satan, even as chaff is driven before the wind, or as a vessel is tossed about upon the waves, without sail or anchor, or without anything wherewith to steer her; and even as she is, so are they.

19 And behold, the Lord hath reserved their blessings, which they

might have received in the land, for the <sup>a</sup>Gentiles who shall possess the land.

20 But behold, it shall come to pass that they shall be driven and scattered by the Gentiles; and after they have been driven and scattered by the Gentiles, behold, then will the Lord <sup>a</sup>remember the <sup>b</sup>covenant which he made unto Abraham and unto all the house of Israel.

21 And also the Lord will remember the <sup>a</sup>prayers of the righteous, which have been put up unto him for them.

22 And then, O ye Gentiles, how can ye stand before the power of God, except ye shall repent and turn from your evil ways?

23 Know ye not that ye are in the <sup>a</sup>hands of God? Know ye not that he hath all power, and at his great command the <sup>b</sup>earth shall be <sup>c</sup>rolled together as a scroll?

24 Therefore, repent ye, and humble yourselves before him, lest he shall come out in justice against you—lest a <sup>a</sup>remnant of the seed of Jacob shall go forth among you as a <sup>b</sup>lion, and tear you in pieces, and there is none to deliver.

## CHAPTER 6

*The Nephites gather to the land of Cumorah for the final battles—Mormon hides the sacred records in the hill Cumorah—The Lamanites are victorious, and the Nephite nation is destroyed—Hundreds of thousands are slain with the sword. About A.D. 385.*

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3 And it came to pass that the king of the Lamanites did grant unto me the thing which I desired.

4 And it came to pass that we did march forth to the land of Cumorah, and we did pitch our tents around about the hill Cumorah; and it was in a land of <sup>a</sup>many waters, rivers, and fountains; and here we had hope to gain advantage over the Lamanites.

5 And when <sup>a</sup>three hundred and eighty and four years had passed away, we had gathered in all the remainder of our people unto the land of Cumorah.

6 And it came to pass that when we had gathered in all our people in one to the land of Cumorah, behold I, Mormon, began to be old; and knowing it to be the last struggle of my people, and having been commanded of the Lord that I should not suffer the records which had been handed down by our fathers, which were <sup>a</sup>sacred, to fall into the hands of the Lamanites, (for the Lamanites would <sup>b</sup>destroy them) therefore I made <sup>c</sup>this record out of the plates of Nephi, and <sup>d</sup>hid up in the hill Cumorah all the records which had been entrusted to me by the hand of the Lord, save it were <sup>e</sup>these few plates which I gave unto my son <sup>f</sup>Moroni.



**“Mormon described some people, his people, from whom the spirit of the Lord had departed, and when I read that ... it seems clear to me that what he was talking about was not merely the inability to have the companionship of or the gift of the Holy Ghost, but he was talking of that light of truth to which every one born into the world is entitled and will never cease to strive with the individual unless he loses it through his own sinning”**

*(President Harold B. Lee in Conference Report, Apr. 1956, 108).*

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7 And it came to pass that my people, with their wives and their children, did now behold the <sup>a</sup>armies of the Lamanites marching towards them; and with that awful <sup>b</sup>fear of death which fills the breasts of all the wicked, did they await to receive them.

8 And it came to pass that they came to battle against us, and every soul was filled with terror because of the greatness of their numbers.

9 And it came to pass that they did fall upon my people with the sword, and with the bow, and with the arrow, and with the ax, and with all manner of weapons of war.

10 And it came to pass that my men were hewn down, yea, even my <sup>a</sup>ten thousand who were with me, and I fell wounded in the midst; and they passed by me that they did not put an end to my life.

11 And when they had gone through and hewn down <sup>a</sup>all my people save it were twenty and four of us, (among whom was my son Moroni) and we having survived the dead of our people, did behold on the morrow, when the Lamanites had returned unto their camps, from the top of the hill Cumorah, the ten thousand of my people who were hewn down, being led in the front by me.

12 And we also beheld the ten thousand of my people who were led by my son Moroni.

13 And behold, the ten thousand of Gidgiddonah had fallen, and he also in the midst.

14 And Lamah had fallen with his ten thousand; and Gilgal had fallen with his ten thousand; and Limhah had fallen with his ten thousand; and Jeneum had fallen with his ten thousand; and Cumenihah, and Moronihah, and Antionum, and Shiblom, and Shem, and Josh,

had fallen with their ten thousand each.

15 And it came to pass that there were ten more who did fall by the sword, with their ten thousand each; yea, even <sup>a</sup>all my people, save it were those twenty and four who were with me, and also a <sup>b</sup>few who had escaped into the south countries, and a few who had deserted over unto the Lamanites, had fallen; and their flesh, and bones, and blood lay upon the face of the earth, being left by the hands of those who slew them to molder upon the land, and to crumble and to return to their mother earth.

16 And my soul was rent with <sup>a</sup>anguish, because of the slain of my people, and I cried:

17 <sup>a</sup>O ye fair ones, how could ye have departed from the ways of the Lord! O ye fair ones, how could ye have rejected that Jesus, who stood with open arms to receive you!

18 Behold, if ye had not done this, ye would not have fallen. But behold, ye are fallen, and I <sup>a</sup>mourn your loss.

19 O ye <sup>a</sup>fair sons and daughters, ye fathers and mothers, ye husbands and wives, ye fair ones, how is it that ye could have <sup>b</sup>fallen!

20 But behold, ye are gone, and my sorrows cannot bring your return.

21 And the day soon cometh that your mortal must put on immortality, and these bodies which are now moldering in corruption must soon become <sup>a</sup>incorruptible bodies; and then ye must stand before the judgment-seat of Christ, to be judged according to your works; and if it so be that ye are righteous, then are ye blessed with your fathers who have gone before you.

22 O that ye had repented before this great <sup>a</sup>destruction had come upon you. But behold, ye are gone,

and the Father, yea, the Eternal Father of heaven, <sup>b</sup>knoweth your state; and he doeth with you according to his <sup>c</sup>justice and <sup>d</sup>mercy.

## CHAPTER 7

*Mormon invites the Lamanites of the latter days to believe in Christ, accept His gospel, and be saved—All who believe the Bible will also believe the Book of Mormon. About A.D. 385.*

AND now, behold, I would speak somewhat unto the <sup>a</sup>remnant of this people who are spared, if it so be that God may give unto them my words, that they may know of the things of their fathers; yea, I speak unto you, ye remnant of the house of Israel; and these are the words which I speak:

2 Know ye that ye are of the <sup>a</sup>house of Israel.

3 Know ye that ye must come unto repentance, or ye cannot be saved.

4 Know ye that ye must lay down your weapons of war, and delight no more in the shedding of blood, and take them not again, save it be that God shall <sup>a</sup>command you.

5 Know ye that ye must come to the <sup>a</sup>knowledge of your fathers, and repent of all your sins and iniquities, and <sup>b</sup>believe in Jesus Christ, that he is the Son of God, and that he was slain by the Jews, and by the power of the Father he hath risen again, whereby he hath gained the <sup>c</sup>victory over the grave; and also in him is the sting of death swallowed up.

6 And he bringeth to pass the <sup>a</sup>resurrection of the dead, whereby man must be raised to stand before his <sup>b</sup>judgment-seat.

7 And he hath brought to pass the <sup>a</sup>redemption of the <sup>b</sup>world, whereby he that is found <sup>c</sup>guiltless before him at the judgment day hath it given unto him to <sup>d</sup> dwell in the presence of God in his kingdom, to sing ceaseless praises with the <sup>e</sup>choirs above, unto the Father, and unto the Son, and unto the Holy Ghost, which are <sup>f</sup>one God, in a state of <sup>g</sup>happiness which hath no end.

8 Therefore repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus, and lay hold upon the <sup>a</sup>gospel of Christ, which shall be set before you, not only in this record but also in the record which shall come unto the Gentiles <sup>b</sup>from the Jews, which record shall come from the Gentiles <sup>c</sup>unto you.

9 For behold, <sup>a</sup>this is <sup>b</sup>written for the intent that ye may <sup>c</sup>believe that; and if <sup>d</sup>ye believe that ye will believe this also; and if ye believe this ye will know concerning your fathers, and also the marvelous works which were wrought by the power of God among them.

10 And ye will also know that ye are a <sup>a</sup>remnant of the seed of Jacob; therefore ye are numbered among the people of the first covenant; and if it so be that ye believe in Christ, and are baptized, first <sup>b</sup>with water, then with fire and with the Holy Ghost, following the <sup>c</sup>example of our Savior, according to that which

## Mormon's Lament

22b 2 Sam. 7:20;  
D&C 6:16

Alma 24:23.  
6a <sup>we</sup> Resurrection

b 2 Ne. 29:4 (4-13).  
c 1 Ne. 13:38 (20, 29, 38).





**Then Elder Nelson taught that the word Atonement is related to an Aramaic and Arabic word meaning “a close embrace...”**

**“References to that embrace are evident in the Book of Mormon. One states that ‘the Lord hath redeemed my soul ... ; I have beheld his glory, and I am encircled about eternally in the arms of his love’ [2 Nephi 1:15]. Another proffers the glorious hope of our being ‘clasped in the arms of Jesus’ [Mormon 5:11]”**

*(Russell M. Nelson, “The Atonement,” Ensign, Nov. 1996, 34).*



**“The scriptures speak of His arms being open, extended, stretched out, and encircling. They are described as mighty and holy, arms of mercy, arms of safety, arms of love, ‘lengthened out all the day long’ [2 Nephi 28:32].**

**“We have each felt to some extent these spiritual arms around us. We have felt His forgiveness, His love and comfort. The Lord has said, ‘I am he [who] comforteth you’ [2 Nephi 8:12].**

**“The Lord’s desire that we come unto Him and be wrapped in His arms is often an invitation to repent”**

*(Neil L. Andersen, “Repent ... That I May Heal You,” Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2009, 40).*