

THE BOOK OF JAROM

CHAPTER 1

The Nephites keep the law of Moses, look forward to the coming of Christ, and prosper in the land—Many prophets labor to keep the people in the way of truth. About 399–361 B.C.

1 Now behold, I, Jarom, write a few words according to the commandment of my father, Enos, that our ^agenealogy may be kept.

2 And as ^athese plates are ^bsmall, and as these things are ^cwritten for the intent of the benefit of our brethren the ^dLamanites, wherefore, it must needs be that I write a little; but I shall not write the things of my prophesying, nor of my revelations. For what could I write more than my fathers have written? For have not they revealed the plan of salvation? I say unto you, Yea; and this sufficeth me.

3 Behold, it is expedient that much should be done among this people, because of the hardness of their hearts, and the deafness of their ears, and the blindness of their minds, and the ^astiffness of their necks; nevertheless, God is exceedingly merciful unto them, and has not as yet ^bswept them off from the face of the land.

4 And there are many among us who have many ^arevelations, for they are not all ^bstiffnecked. And as many as are not stiffnecked and have faith, have ^ccommunion with the Holy Spirit, which maketh manifest unto the children of men, according to their faith.

5 And now, behold, two hundred years had passed away, and the people of Nephi had waxed strong in the land. They observed to ^akeep the law of Moses and the ^bsabbath day holy unto the Lord. And they ^cprofaned not; neither did they ^dblaspheme. And the ^elaws of the land were exceedingly strict.

6 And they were scattered upon ^amuch of the face of the land, and the Lamanites also. And they were exceedingly more ^bnumerous than were they of the Nephites; and they loved ^cmurder and would drink the ^dblood of beasts.

7 And it came to pass that they came many times against us, the Nephites, to battle. But our ^akings and our ^bleaders were mighty men in the faith of the Lord; and they taught the people the ways of the Lord; wherefore, we withstood the Lamanites and swept them away out of ^cour lands, and began to fortify our cities, or whatsoever place of our inheritance.

8 And we multiplied exceedingly, and spread upon the face of the land, and became exceedingly rich in ^agold, and in silver, and in precious things, and in fine ^bworkmanship of wood, in buildings, and in ^cmachinery, and also in iron and copper, and brass and steel, making all manner of tools of every kind to till the ground, and ^dweapons of war—yea, the sharp pointed arrow, and the quiver, and the dart, and the javelin, and all preparations for war.

9 And thus being prepared to meet the Lamanites, they did not prosper against us. But the word of the Lord was verified, which he spake unto our fathers, saying that: ^aInasmuch as ye will keep my commandments ye shall ^bprosper in the land.

10 And it came to pass that the prophets of the Lord did threaten the people of Nephi, according to the word of God, that if they did not keep the commandments, but should fall into transgression, they should be ^adestroyed from off the face of the land.

11 Wherefore, the prophets, and the priests, and the ^ateachers, did labor diligently, exhorting with all long-suffering the people to ^bdiligence; teaching the ^claw of Moses, and the intent for which it was given; persuading them to ^dlook forward unto the Messiah, and believe in him to come ^eas though he already was. And after this manner did they teach them.

12 And it came to pass that by so doing they kept them from being ^adestroyed upon the face of the land; for they did ^bprick their hearts with the word, ^ccontinually stirring them up unto repentance.

13 And it came to pass that two hundred and thirty and eight years had passed away —after the manner of wars, and ^acontentions, and dissensions, for the space of ^bmuch of the time.

14 And I, Jarom, do not write more, for the plates are ^asmall. But behold, my brethren, ye can go to the ^bother plates of Nephi; for behold, upon them the records of our wars are engraven, according to the writings of the ^ckings, or those which they caused to be written.

15 And I deliver these plates into the hands of my son Omni, that they may be kept according to the ^acommandments of my fathers.