



Type: Magazine Article

Apostasy and Treason (Concluded)

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Source: *Juvenile Instructor*, Vol. 6, No. 7 (1 April 1871), pp. 54–55

Published by: George Q. Cannon & Sons

Abstract: Lengthy retelling of the conflict of Amalickiah and Ammoron against Moroni, Teacum, and Lehi.

England and Holland, and seeing their case was hopeless they scuttled the ships and sunk them in the depths of the bay, with the whole of this immense wealth in their holds, and there they lay, to this day in the bay of Vigo.

The idea of so much treasure lying useless amidst the mud and sand of the ocean's bottom, induced a French company to make an attempt about two years ago to recover what they could from the wrecks. The proper authorities having given the requisite permission, work was commenced, and here we have a view of the way in which it is carried on. The labors of the society were at first attended with but little success, but with improved machinery, at last accounts, the work was progressing more favorably.

G. R.

APOSTASY AND TREASON.

(Concluded.)

MORONI, having resolved that he would not exchange prisoners with Ammoron, took steps to accomplish the liberation of his people who were prisoners in the hands of the Lamanites. Of course, if he did this he must resort to stratagem, for they were guarded very closely by the Lamanites in a fortified place. He caused search to be made among his troops to see if a Lamanite could be found among them. There appeared to be one of the servants of the king of the Lamanites who was murdered by Amalickiah. You recollect we told you that his servants fled into the wilderness and reached the land of Zarahemla. This man was one of them; his name was Laman. Moroni gave him instructions what to do; and selected a small number of men to go with him. They were to take some sweet, strong wine with them, and go to the city of Gid, where the Nephites were guarded, and pretend that they had escaped from the Nephites, and had brought some wine with them. Laman and his men did so, and the guards of the city received them with joy, and were very glad to drink their wine. Laman and his companions tried to persuade them not to drink the wine then, but to keep it until they should go against the Nephites in battle. But the more they tried to keep them from drinking the more eager they were to drink. The result was they all got drunk and fell asleep. This point gained, Laman returned to Moroni and told him of the success of his plan. Moroni had everything prepared, and immediately sent his men with weapons to throw over the walls of the city of Gid to the Nephite prisoners who were in the city. By this means he armed all the Nephite men and women, and all the children who were able to use weapons.

Moroni could easily have killed the Lamanite guards while they were drunk; but, like all truly brave men, he was a humane man, and was averse to shedding blood unless there was an actual necessity for it. He, therefore, contented himself by surrounding the Lamanite army, and awaited the dawn of day, when they should awake and learn their condition. The Lamanites were terribly surprised in the morning to find their prisoners armed and themselves surrounded by the soldiers of Moroni. They saw that it was of no use to attempt to fight, for they could be readily overpowered; therefore they came and delivered up their weapons of war to Moroni and his men. Moroni took possession of the city, liberated the Nephite prisoners and they joined his army. He immediately set his Lamanite prisoners to work strengthening the fortifications of the city of Gid and also other places; and notwithstanding many intrigues and attempts to obtain their freedom, he kept his prisoners secure.

This victory was a great encouragement to the Nephites and acted as a severe check upon their enemies. After this the Nephites would soon have driven out all the Lamanite armies from their country had they been united; but while Moroni and

his officers and men were fighting the Lamanites, a rebellion had broken out at Zarahemla. The rebels had succeeded in driving out the Chief-Governor of the land, and had attempted to establish a monarchy in the place of the republic. Upon learning the facts Moroni turned over the command where he was to his chief generals Lehi and Teancum, and took a small number of men and marched to the help of the Chief-Governor, or, as we would call him, President of the Republic. In his march he collected all the men he could; thousands flocked to his standard, which when united with the forces of the Chief-Governor made a very formidable force. Moroni was a host of himself, a man of great courage, ripe experience as a general and a thorough soldier. There was no man among the rebels who could stand before him. In a pitched battle the king who had been chosen by the rebels was killed and his people taken prisoners. The Chief-Governor was soon restored to his chair of state. The traitors received trial and were executed.

This work accomplished, Moroni and the Chief-Governor marched with their troops against the Lamanites. They were very successful; they took large numbers of prisoners and released the Nephites who had been taken captive. They pursued the Lamanites from city to city until they were met by Lehi and Teancum. The Lamanites were now all in one body and the Nephites surrounded them. Tired out with their marching, both armies laid down to rest with the full expectation of a bloody contest on the morrow. It was to be the decisive battle of the campaign. Should the Nephites gain the victory there would be an end of the invasion; but on the other hand should the Lamanites be successful the war would be protracted indefinitely. The Nephites, however, were encouraged by their recent successes; their best generals were with them and there was every prospect that victory would perch upon their standard.

Teancum, however, was the only one in either army who could not rest. His comrades resigned themselves quietly to sleep; but he conceived a design, which he hoped to carry into successful execution, and probably, put an end to the war without the necessity of a battle. He had killed Amalickiah; he now determined to kill Ammoron; for he looked upon them as the instigators of the great war between the Lamanites and the Nephites, a war which had been the fearful cause of a terrible amount of bloodshed, famine, and misery among his countrymen. In the night he provided himself with a cord and went forth into the camp of the Lamanites. He unrolled his cord as he went from place to place, so that he would not lose himself in the camp and not be able to find his way back. At last he found where king Ammoron lodged. He succeeded in killing him with his javelin, as he had his brother; but Ammoron before he died waked his servant. The camp was aroused and they pursued Teancum and slew him. He had killed the tyrant and would-be oppressor of his country; but at the cost of his own life. While he lived he had fought valiantly; had been an unflinching friend of liberty and the rights of man; in his patriotic efforts to free his country from the presence of the invader had endured much suffering and affliction, and at last had laid down his life to complete her emancipation. He was deeply mourned by Moroni and Lehi and all the Nephites.

The next morning Moroni made an attack upon the Lamanites, in which he was completely victorious. He slew great numbers of them, and drove the others out of the land. The country was freed from their presence and the war ceased. This was in the thirty-first year of the Republic. Amalickiah had commenced his work of apostasy and treason about eleven years previously. For these eleven years there had been wars and bloodshed; immense loss of life; indescribable suffering and all the dreadful scenes which attend a condition of war. And all this to gratify the wicked ambition of Amalickiah and his brother! What a load of guilt must have rested upon their souls, and how dreadful must their punishment be for the

misery and sorrow which they inflicted upon two nations! We do not know where a more vivid picture can be found of the horrid effects which follow apostasy than is depicted in the Book of Mormon in connection with the apostasy of Amalickiah.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH.
(Continued.)

YOU recollect our mentioning in the Biography of the Prophet Joseph a revelation which had been given at Far West on July 8th, 1838, concerning the Twelve Apostles. Among other things in that revelation the Lord had directed that they should the next Spring cross the great waters to promulgate His gospel and bear record of His name; they were also directed to take leave of His Saints on the building spot of His house, in the city of Far West, on the 26th of the following April. Long before this day arrived, the Church was driven out of Missouri, and it was as much as an apostle's life was worth to be seen in Far West. What was to be done about this revelation? The Lord had given His command to the Apostles, but how was it to be fulfilled? Many of the leading men considered that in the persecuted and scattered condition the Saints were then in, the Lord would not require the Twelve to fulfill His words to the letter, and that, under the circumstances, He would take the will for the deed. The apostates and mobbers rejoiced at what they thought would be the failure of one of the revelations given through the prophet Joseph; they thought that surely in this instance at least his words would be vain. But this was not the feeling of President Young and those of the Twelve Apostles who were with him. He asked them individually what their feelings were upon the subject. Their desires were, they said, to fulfil the revelation. He told them the Lord God had spoken, and it was their duty to obey and leave the event in His hands and He would protect them.

In company with Orson Pratt, John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, George A. Smith and Alpheus Cutler, he, therefore, left Quincy for Far West to fulfill the revelation. He met John E. Page, who was an apostle at that time, on the road, and told him he wanted him to go to Far West with them. He did so. Just before reaching Far West they met the three brethren who had been left at Far West as a committee to attend to the removal of the poor Saints. They had been driven from Far West. They informed President Young and his fellow-apostles that the mob had come into Far West and tantalized them on the subject of the above revelation, saying that it was one of Joseph Smith's revelations which could not be fulfilled, as the Twelve Apostles were scattered to the four winds, and threatened them severely if they were found in Far West next day.

They, however, turned round and accompanied President Young and his brethren to the house of father Timothy B. Clark, near Far West. Early on the morning of the 26th of April—the day mentioned in the revelation—a conference was held, thirty-one persons were cut off from the Church, and the Apostles and Saints proceeded to the building spot of the Lord's House, where Elder Cutler, the master workman of the house, then re-commenced laying the foundation, agreeably to revelation, by rolling up a large stone near the south-east corner. The following of the Twelve were present:—Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Orson Pratt, John E. Page and John Taylor, who proceeded to ordain Wilford Woodruff and George A. Smith to the office of the Twelve, to fill the places of those who had fallen. Darwin Chase and Norman Shearer, (who had just been liberated from Richmond prison, and arrived the evening previous,) were then ordained to the office of the Seventies. The Twelve then offered up a vocal prayer in the following order:—Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Orson Pratt, John E. Page, John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, and George A.

Smith; after which they sang "Adam-ondi-Ahman," and then they took their leave of the following Saints, agreeably to the revelation, viz:—Alpheus Cutler, Elias Smith, Norman Shearer, William Burton, Stephen Markham, Shadrach Roundy, William O. Clark, John W. Clark, Hezekiah Peck, Darwin Chase, Richard Howard, Mary Ann Peck, Artimesia Grainger, Martha Peck, Sarah Grainger, Theodore Turley, Hyrum Clark and Daniel Shearer.

As the Saints were passing away from the meeting, Theodore Turley said to Elders Page and Woodruff, "Stop a bit, while I bid Isaac Russell good-bye;" and knocking at his door, called brother Russell. His wife answered, "Come in—it is brother Turley."

Russell replied, "it is not; he left here two weeks ago," and appeared quite alarmed; but on finding it was Turley, asked him to sit down; but he replied, "I cannot; I shall lose my company."

"Who is your company?" inquired Russell.

"The Twelve."

"The Twelve?"

"Yes; don't you know that this is the twenty-sixth, and the day the Twelve were to take leave of their friends on the foundation of the Lord's House, to go to the islands of the sea? The revelation is now fulfilled, and I am going with them." Russell was speechless, and Turley bid him farewell.

Thus was that revelation fulfilled, concerning which the enemies said, if all the revelations of Joseph Smith were fulfilled that one should not be, as it had day and date to it.

While the Apostles were on their way up to Far West to fulfill the revelation the prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum had escaped from prison, and were on their way to join their families and the Saints at Quincy. On the 2nd of May the Apostles got back to Quincy, and the next day they rode out to Bro. Cleveland's, where Brothers Joseph and Hyrum were stopping, to see them. In speaking of this meeting Brother Brigham has described it as one of the most joyful scenes of his life, to once more shake hands with the Prophets and behold them free from the hands of their enemies. Joseph conversed with them like a man who had just escaped from a thousand oppressions and was now free in the midst of his children.

The two following days a Conference of the Church was held in Quincy, at which the prophet Joseph presided. Among other resolutions, the following was passed:

"Resolved, that this Conference is entirely satisfied with, and does give its sanction to, the proceedings of the Conference of the Twelve and their friends, held on the Temple spot at Far West, Mo., on Friday, the 26th day of April last."

EAST INDIA MISSION.

NINE Elders were the number of Missionaries selected to preach the gospel to "benighted" India. The Elders appointed to missions to the East Indies, Siam, Australia, China and the Sandwich Islands—upwards of forty in all, set out together in October, 1852, and took the southern route via our present Dixie, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, and San Pedro to San Francisco. Like the Elders generally do, we started "without purse or scrip." The sale of our animals and wagons at San Bernardino furnished us with sufficient means to carry us to San Francisco. On our arrival at that point, our next study was to obtain means with which to prosecute our journey westward. At a meeting of the missionaries we ascertained that the following sums would be necessary to carry us to the shores of our respective fields of labor, viz:

Australia,	\$1250 00
Hindustan,	1800 00
Siam,	1200 00
China,	1000 00
Sandwich Islands,	1000 00
Total	\$6250 00