

## **KING LAMAN DIES**

(Mosiah 6:26-58)

### **V26-33**

After the war in verses 17-25, Zeniff prepares his people for continuing conflict by deliberately making weapons (v.26-27) and posting guards around the land (v.28-29). But, another 9 years pass (the first conflict occurred in the 13<sup>th</sup> year of their inheriting the land) in peace (v.30) so they largely return to their agrarian ways with the men laboring in the fields (v.30) and the women spinning cloth (v.31-32) and presumably keeping house. Another 13 years pass for a total of 22 years of peace (v.33).

### **V34-57**

King Laman dies and his son replaces him as king. He stirs up the Lamanites against Zeniff's people (v.34-35). Zeniff is apprized of their warlike preparations by his spies, so the Lamanites lose the element of surprise (v.36). The Lamanites come upon the land of Shilom (v.37-38) apparently with the intent of sacking the city Shilom. But, Zeniff and all of his men who can use weapons go out to meet them before they reach the city, after having the women and children retreat into the forest (v.39-40). Zeniff and his men meet the Lamanites with the strength of the Lord to support them (v.41-43), and while the Lamanites are strong they do not have the strength of the Lord supporting them (v.44-45).

Zeniff pauses to explain the tradition of the Lamanites (v.45-52), which is why they do not have the strength of the Lord to support them. This parenthetical comment is from what he told his people concerning the Lamanites, explaining to them why it is the Lamanites hate them so much (v.53-54).

Zeniff builds his people's morale and strengthens their trust in the Lord, and thus they go into battle (v.55). They route the Lamanites terribly, causing so many casualties they cannot be numbered (v.56).

After the great conflict, Zeniff and his people return to their land and take up their agrarian ways again (v.57).

The Lamanite tradition of institutionalized hatred for the Nephites is explained by Zeniff. Zeniff places the blame squarely at the feet of the original Laman and Lemuel, who claims they were repeatedly wronged (v.45-51) and robbed as well (v.52). In doing so they have taught all of their children through the generations to hate the Nephites and to seek to murder them (v.53). For this very reason king Laman permitted Zeniff and his people to settle in the land, so they could exploit and destroy them (v.54).

### **V58**

Zeniff sees that his mortal life is coming to an end soon so he turns over rulership of his people to one of his sons.

**1. According to the Lamanite "tradition," what was the story of Lehi and his sons?**