

LESSON 31 ? Alma 43-52  
"Firm in the Faith of Christ"

(Objective: help members use Nephite example in <sup>an</sup>)

Outlined by  
Dennis Roberts

**Welcome**

Why did Mormon include so much information about BofM wars?

**1- Nephites fight to defend families and liberty**

Alma 43:1-4,9-11 Why did Nephites fight against Lamanites?

Supplement #1 President Charles W. Penrose

Alma 44:3-4 To what did Moroni attribute their success?

**Attitudes and actions of righteous in times of war**

1-Alma 43:9-10 Fight for righteous reasons

2-Alma 43:53-54 No hate towards your enemies

3-Alma 44:3-4 Live righteously / trust in God / faith

4-Alma 48:11-13 Follow righteous and wise leaders

**2- Captain Moroni raises the "title of liberty"**

Alma 45:20-22;23-24 Contrast purpose of Helaman vs dissenters

Alma 46:1-7,10 How did Amalickiah persuade others?

Alma 46:11-13,19 Why did Moroni create the title of liberty?

Alma 46:21-22 How did people respond to title of liberty?

**3- Amalickiah becomes king of Lamanites**

Alma 46:33;47:1,4 Amalickiah's response when failed to be king?

Alma 47:36 Why do apostates fight hard against church?

Supplement #2 Prophet Joseph Smith

Alma 48:1-4 / 7,10 Contrast Amalickiah and Moroni.

**4- War continues between Nephites and Lamanites**

**How do BofM wars apply to our fight against Satan?**

1-Alma 48:7-9 Nephites built walls to protect cities

2-Alma 50:1-6 Continued to strengthen defenses

3-Alma 44:3-4 Kept commandments and followed leaders

4-Alma 45:1;49:28 Expressed gratitude for protection

5-Alma 51:2-7 Contention allows enemies to gain power

6-Alma 49:30;50:23 Happiness and prosperity even during war

**How does this apply to me?**

Whether a political war or personal war, we can learn from the BofM how to handle ourselves and help our families when there is a conflict.

Next Lesson

Alma 53-63

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## LESSON 31 SUPPLEMENTS

### Supplement #1

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**President Charles W. Penrose** (member of First Presidency)

“It is not right for us to engage in the shedding of human blood, for vengeance or retaliation. But when the Lord commands or inspires his servants to counsel the sons and daughters of Israel to lend their aid in the work of righteous warfare that is different... We are to arise in our might and in our strength and go forth to victory; not with a desire to shed blood, not with the desire to destroy our fellow creatures, but in self defense and because we do want to maintain and hand down to our prosperity those sacred principles of liberty that have been revealed from on high.”

(October Conference, 1917)

### Supplement #2

**Prophet Joseph Smith**

“Before you joined this church you stood on neutral ground. When the gospel was preached good and evil was set before you. You could choose either or neither. There were two opposite masters inviting you to serve them. When you joined this church you enlisted to serve God. When you did that you left neutral ground, and you never can get back to it. Should you forsake the Master you enlisted to serve, it will be by the instigation of the evil one, and you will follow his dictation and be his servant.”

(Juvenile Instructor, 15 August 1892, 492)

### Supplemental Quotes

“Are you afraid of a scratch? A little mud? A little hurt? That war in Southeast Asia is a pipsqueak war! It will not affect the eternal destiny of one single man, except as it brings men closer to Christ and the realities of the restored gospel. This war—the one you are fighting here and now against evil and corruption and misery—this war with Lucifer for the souls of men—this is the war that counts!”

(Wayne M. Beck, from the journals of Ted Gibbons)

“If Lucifer is successful in making our lives miserable, it is not because he is corrupt and evil, but because we are.”

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## “Firm in the Faith of Christ”

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(Objective: help members use Nephite example in battle against Satan)

### Welcome

Why did Mormon include so much information about BofM wars?

### 1- Nephites fight to defend families and liberty

Transition from Alma and his sons to Moroni

Alma 43:1-4,9-11 Why did Nephites fight against Lamanites?..... Under what circumstances does Lord approve of war?

Supplement #1 President Charles W. Penrose

Alma 44:3-4 To what did Moroni attribute their success?..... Faith (How strong is this country's faith in God?)

#### Attitudes and actions of righteous in times of war

- |                 |  |   |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 1-Alma 43:9-10  | Fight for righteous reasons .....            | How can we apply these principles in dealing with conflicts in our personal and family lives? |
| 2-Alma 43:53-54 | No hate towards your enemies .....           |   |
| 3-Alma 44:3-4   | Live righteously / trust in God / faith..... |   |
| 4-Alma 48:11-13 | Follow righteous and wise leaders.....       |   |

### 2- Captain Moroni raises the “title of liberty”

After battles, Helaman & brethren preached throughout land & organized churches; some Nephites grew proud.

Alma 45:20-22;23-24 Contrast purpose of Helaman vs dissenters..... Helaman = preach gospel / Amalickiah = grow rich / Alma 46:8-9

Alma 46:1-7,10 How did Amalickiah persuade others?..... Nonverbal appearance / words of flattery “become rulers”

Alma 46:11-13,19 Why did Moroni create the title of liberty? ..... How do we respond to flag? It's a symbol

Alma 46:21-22 How did people respond to title of liberty? ..... How does the making of covenants affect our lives?

“And thus we see...”

### 3- Amalickiah becomes king of Lamanites

Alma 46:33;47:1,4 Amalickiah's response when failed to be king? ..... Summarize Alma 47:1-35 how Amalickiah became Lamanite king

Alma 47:36 Why do apostates fight hard against church?..... Does worldly popularity last long?

Supplement #2 Prophet Joseph Smith..... Do you know of anyone who fits this description?

Alma 48:1-4 / 7,10 Contrast Amalickiah and Moroni. .... What influence can one man have? Children today strong headed

### 4- War continues between Nephites and Lamanites

#### How do BofM wars apply to our fight against Satan?

- |                    |  |   |
|--------------------|--|---|
| 1-Alma 48:7-9      | Nephites built walls to protect cities .....   | What walls can we build to protect our families?                |
| 2-Alma 50:1-6      | Continued to strengthen defenses .....         | How can we strengthen our defenses?                             |
| 3-Alma 44:3-4      | Kept commandments and followed leaders.....    | Are we following by command or following by convenience?        |
| 4-Alma 45:1;49:28  | Expressed gratitude for protection .....       | Do we express gratitude for all we have despite our challenges? |
| 5-Alma 51:2-7      | Contention allows enemies to gain power .....  | Are we giving our enemies power by contending over policies?    |
| 6-Alma 49:30;50:23 | Happiness and prosperity even during war ..... | How can one be happy in the midst of war and turmoil?           |

### How does this apply to me?

Whether a political war or personal war, we can learn from the BofM how to handle ourselves and help our families when there is a conflict.

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Alma 53-63