



Type: Book Chapter

1 Nephi Chapter 7

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Chapter 7

{Original 1830 Chapter II – continued}

Lehi's Family to Marry & Raise up Seed to the Lord

7:1 And now I [Nephi] would
that ye might know that after my father Lehi aa
had made an end of prophesying 01
concerning his seed
it came to pass bb
that the Lord spake _____ unto him [my father Lehi]
again
^saying / [] [^O / deleted on P]
that it was NOT meet [proper] for him [my father] Lehi {AL}
that he should take his family into the wilderness alone cc
but that his sons
should take daughters
to wife
that they might raise up seed unto the Lord [O [] / ^"they" added on P]
in the land of promise

~~~ Nephi & His Brethren Return to the Land of Jerusalem for Ishmael and His Family

2 And it came to pass
that the Lord commanded _____ him [my father]
[saying]
that I Nephi and my brethren
and should again return ^into / unto the land of Jerusalem [^O / 1830]
[should] bring down Ishmael
and his family
into the wilderness
3 And it came to pass
that I Nephi did again
with my brethren go forth _____ into the wilderness
to go up _____ to [the land of] Jerusalem
4 And it came to pass
that we _____ went up
unto the house of Ishmael 02

[Par. aa – Like beginning initiators “that”]

[Heb. 01 – Use of the phrase “made an end”]

[Par. bb – Like “paragraph” beginnings]

[Par. cc – Circular repetition “into the wilderness”]

[Heb. 02 – Two nouns connected by “of” = adjective]

[1 Nephi 7]

and we _____ did gain favor **in** the **sight** of Ishmael dd
insomuch
that we _____ did **speak** _____ unto him [Ishmael]
the **words** of the Lord

5 And **it came to pass** that the Lord
_____ did soften the **heart** of Ishmael
and also [of]his **hole** hole / **^whole** household [OC / ^ conjecture]

insomuch
that **they** took **their** journey with us
down _____ into the wilderness
to **the tent** of our father

[Note: According to Donald Parry (2007: 13) verses 3-5 can be viewed as a **chiastic parallelism**. A basic outline of the parallel elements is as follows:

- 3. And it came to pass . . .
 - [A] into the wilderness
 - [B] to go up
- 4.
 - [C] house of Ishmael
 - [D] gain favor . . . of Ishmael
 - [E] insomuch that we did speak unto him the words of the Lord
- 5.
 - [D] soften the heart of Ishmael
 - [C] his household
 - [B] took their journey down
 - [A] into the wilderness

6 And **it came to pass**
that as we journeyed in the wilderness
behold

Laman
and Lemuel [my **two** brothers] 03
and **two** of the **Daughters** of Ishmael
and **the two** **Sons** of Ishmael
and **their families** [?]

_____ did **rebel** against us 04

yea [they did **rebel**] **against** **me** **Nephi** [P=1] ee
and [**against**] Sam
and [**against**] their father **Ishmael**
and [**against**] his **Wife**
and [**against**] his **three** other daughters

[Par. dd – Like endings “Ishmael”]

[Par. ee – Enumeration]

[Heb. 03 – Symbolism number 2 = uniting with]

[Heb. 04 – Repetition of a preposition “against”]

7 And **it came to pass** that **in the which rebellion** {AG}
they were **desirous**
to return **unto the land of Jerusalem**

*Nephi Warns Laman & Lemuel Again
 The Lord Is Able to Do All Things through Covenants
 Obedience Brings Deliverance--Disobedience Brings Destruction
 Both Literally & Spiritually*

8 And now I **Nephi** being grieved for the **hardness** of their **hearts** ff

therefore I **Nephi** **spake** unto them
saying

yea I **Nephi** **spake**
even unto Laman
and unto Lemuel
saying

Behold and **How is it that** **ye are mine elder brethren** [O= thou art] gg
ye **_____ [mine elder brethren]** hh
are so hard in **your hearts**
and **[are]so blind** in **your minds**

that I **Nephi** **that ye _____ [mine elder brethren]** have need
your younger brother

yea and should **speak** unto **you**
[should] set an example for **you ?**

9 **How is it that** **ye** have NOT **hearkened** unto the **word** of **the Lord ?** ii

10 [A] **How is it that** **ye** have **forgotten** jj

[B] **that** ye have **seen** an **angel** of **the Lord ?** kk

11 Yea and [A] **How is it that** **ye** have **forgotten** [[^]O / 1837]

[B] **^how / what GREAT things _____ the Lord** hath **done**
 for us

in **delivering** us out of the hands
 of **Laban**

and also **that** we should **obtain** the **record** **[of Laban] ?**

[Par. ff – Like beginnings “I Nephi”]

[Par. gg – Circular repetition “ye”]

[Par. hh – Questions to make a point]

[Par. ii – Like beginnings “How is it that ye”]

[Par. jj – Repeated alternating parallelism]

[Par. kk – Circular repetition “the Lord”]

[1 Nephi 7]

12 Yea and [A] **How is it that** ye have **forgotten**
[B] **that** _____ **the Lord** is able to do
ALL **things**
according to **His** [**the Lord's**] will
for the children of men

if it so be that _____ they [the children of men]
exercise **faith** in **Him** [**the Lord**]?

Wherefore _____ let us be **faithful to Him** [**the Lord**] [O= in]
13 **And** **if it so be that** we are **faithful to Him** [**the Lord**] [O= in]
[then] we shall **obtain** the **land of promise**

and **ye shall know at some future period**

that the **word** of **the Lord** shall be **fulfilled**
concerning the **destruction** of **Jerusalem** [duality - covenant]

for ALL **things** which **the Lord** hath **spoken**
concerning the **destruction** of **Jerusalem**
[ALL **things**] **MUST** be **fulfilled**

[Note: According to Donald Parry (2007:13), there is a *chiastic parallelism* in verse 13. It is as follows:

13. . . . the word of the Lord

- [A] shall be fulfilled
- [B] concerning the destruction of Jerusalem
- [C] for all things which the Lord hath spoken
- [B] concerning the destruction of Jerusalem
- [A] must be fulfilled

14 **For behold** **the Spirit of the Lord** **ceaseth soon** to strive with **them** [*the Jews at Jerusalem*]
for behold

they [**the Jews**] have **rejected** the **prophets** LL
and **Jeremiah** have

they [**the Jews**] _____ **cast into prison**

And they [**the Jews**] have **sought to take away the life** [see v. 16, 19]
of **my father**

insomuch
that

they [**the Jews**] have **driven** him [**my father**]
out of the land [of Jerusalem]

[Par. LL – Circular repetition “the Jews”]

15 Now behold

I [**Nephi**] **say** unto **you**
 that **if** **ye** will *return unto* _____ **Jerusalem** mm
 [then] **ye** shall also **perish** with **them**
 And now **if** **ye** have **choice** [correct judgment, discernment] {AL}
 [then] *go up to the land [of Jerusalem]*
 which I [**Nephi**] **and remember the words**
 speak
 unto **you**
 that **if** **ye** _____ *go [up to the land of Jerusalem]*
 [then] **ye** will also **perish** [with **them**]
 for thus **the Spirit of the Lord constraineth** me [compels me] {AL}
 that I [**Nephi**] should **speak**

*Laman and Lemuel Seek to Take Away Nephi's Life
 Nephi (and His Future Seed) Are Delivered by the Lord*

16 And **it came to pass**

that **when** I [**Nephi**] had **spoken** these **words**
 unto **my brethren** nn
 they [**my brethren**] **were angry with me*** [*see v. 19]
 And **it came to pass**
 that they [**my brethren**] **did lay their hands upon me*** [*see v. 19]
 for **behold** they [**my brethren**] **were exceedingly wroth**
 and they [**my brethren**] **did bind me with cords*** [*see v. 17]
 for they [**my brethren**] **sought to take away my life*** [*see v. 14, 19]
 that they [**my brethren**] **might leave me in the wilderness**
 to be devoured by wild beasts

17 But **it came to pass**

that I [**Nephi**] **prayed** unto **the Lord** 05
 saying
 O Lord according to my **faith** which is in **me / ^Thee** [O* / ^O^c] oo
 [O Lord] wilt **Thou deliver** me from _____ the **hands** [evil power] pp
 of **my brethren**
 that **yea** **[O Lord]** even **give me strength**
 I [**Nephi**] **may burst** these **bands**
 [of **my brethren**]
 with which **[bands]**
 I [**Nephi**] _____ am **bound***

[Par. mm – Repeated alternating “If / then”]

[Par. oo – Like beginnings (3 times)]

[Par. nn – Circular repetition “my brethren”]

[Par. pp – Rhyming]

[Heb. 05 – A wish or a prayer]

18 And **it came to pass**

that **when** I [Nephi] had **said** these **words**
behold

the **bands** were **loosed**
from off my **hands** [symbolic of covenant power]
and [from off my] **feet**

and I [Nephi] **stood** before **my brethren**
and I [Nephi] **spake** unto them [my brethren] _____ **again**

19 And **it came to pass**

that
and they [my brethren] **were angry with me** _____ **again***
they [my brethren] **sought to lay hands upon me** [again]*

but behold
yea and **one** of the **daughters** of **Ishmael**
and also **her mother**
and **one** of the **sons** _____ of **Ishmael**

06

insomuch that

did **plead**
with **my brethren**
and they [my brethren] did soften **their hearts**
they [my brethren] did cease **striving to take away my life ***

20 And **it came to pass**

that
insomuch that
and they [my brethren] were sorrowful because of their **wickedness**
they [my brethren] did bow down before **me**
[they **my brethren**] did plead _____ with **me**

that I [Nephi] would _____ **forgive** qq
them [my brethren] _____ of the **thing**
that they [my brethren] had done _____ **against me**

21 And **it came to pass**

that I [Nephi] did **frankly** {freely} **forgive** {AL}
them [my brethren] _____ ALL [the **things**]
that they [my brethren] had done _____ [against **me**]

and I [Nephi] did _____ **exhort**
them [my brethren]
that they [my brethren] would **pray** unto **the Lord Their God** rr
for **forgiveness**

And **it came to pass**

that they [my brethren] did so **pray** unto **the Lord Their God**
for **forgiveness**

[Heb. 06 – Number symbolism - three in number = witness]

[Par. qq – Circular repetition “forgive”]

[Par. rr – Like endings “the Lord their God”]

And after [that] they [my brethren] had done praying unto **the Lord** [O= that] {AG} 07

we did again travel on our journey towards **the tent of our father** ss

22 **And it came to pass**

that we did come down unto **the tent of our father**

And after

[that] I [Nephi] and [they] my brethren [O= that]

and ALL the house of Ishmael had come down unto **the tent of my father**

and they did give thanks unto **the Lord Their God**
 and they did offer sacrifice [unto **the Lord Their God**]
 and [they] did offer burnt offerings unto Him [the Lord Their God] 09 10

8:1 **And it came to pass**

that we had gathered together ALL manner of seeds of every kind tt 11
 both of grain of every kind
 and also of the seeds of fruits [del. In 1840] **
 of every kind 12

[Note: The “seeds of every kind” especially included the potential “seeds” or posterity of Nephi and Lehi. The “fruit of every kind” especially included the “fruit of the womb” of the daughters of Ishmael. The purpose of this return trip to Jerusalem was so that the sons of Lehi could take these “daughters to wife, that they might raise up seed unto the Lord in the land of promise” (1 Ne. 7:1). Thus Nephi and Lehi were blessed with the covenant gift of “eternal lives.”]

[Note: The parallel initiating phrase “it came to pass” (also viewed as “like paragraph beginnings”) has been used 17 times in chapter 7 (including verse 1 of chapter 8).]

[Heb. 07 – Repetition of the phrase “had done” (see verses 20, 21)]

[Par. ss – Like endings (3 times = the highest importance)]

[Heb. 09 – Verb and noun with the same root “offer”]

[Heb. 10 – Symbolism 3 times = the highest praise]

[Par. tt – Distribution]

[Heb. 11 – Separated prepositions “of . . . of”]

[Heb. ** -- Plurals]

[Heb. 12 – Symbolism 3 times = the very best “kind” of “seed”]

[1 Nephi 7]

[Note: According to Donald Parry (2007:14), 1 Nephi 7: 16-19 can be viewed as a **complex chiasmic parallelism**. I have taken the liberty to modify it slightly. The following is a brief outline of the parallel phrases:

16 And it came to pass that when I, Nephi had spoken these words unto my brethren,

- A 1 they were angry with me
- 2 they were exceedingly wroth
- 3 they sought to take away my life

17 B I prayed unto the Lord, saying

- C wilt thou deliver me
- C' give me strength that I may burst these bands

18 B' when I had said these words

- 19 A' 1' they were angry with me again
- 2' [they] sought to lay their hands upon me
 - 3' they did cease striving to take away my life
-