



Take your
family and
flee!

1 NEPHI 1

King Josiah's Reforms 620 BC

Rediscovery (and editing) of the Book of Deuteronomy

Strict adherence to the letter of Law of Moses

Limited all sacrifice to the Temple

Belief in Israel's 'righteousness' [and divine protection] due to strict obedience to the Law

Persecution of false prophets (visionaries)

Rejection of any additional divine guidance outside of the Law (A Torah, a Torah, we have a Torah!)

Strict punishment against any performing sacrifices outside the Temple

Lehi's Family

The situation in Jerusalem after Josiah's reforms may shed some light on understanding Laman and Lemuel as well as illuminating some of the religious conflict that runs throughout the Book of Mormon. ...

Lehi's family may be a microcosm of the conflict in Jerusalem between those who espoused Josiah's Deuteronomic reforms and the pre-reform religion. Lehi's theology had affinities with the older religion.

What if Laman and Lemuel were believers in the reform?

Brant A. Gardner, *Second Witness: Analytical and Contextual Commentary on the Book of Mormon*, 6 vols. (Salt Lake City, Utah: Greg Kofford Books, 2007–2008), 1:92.

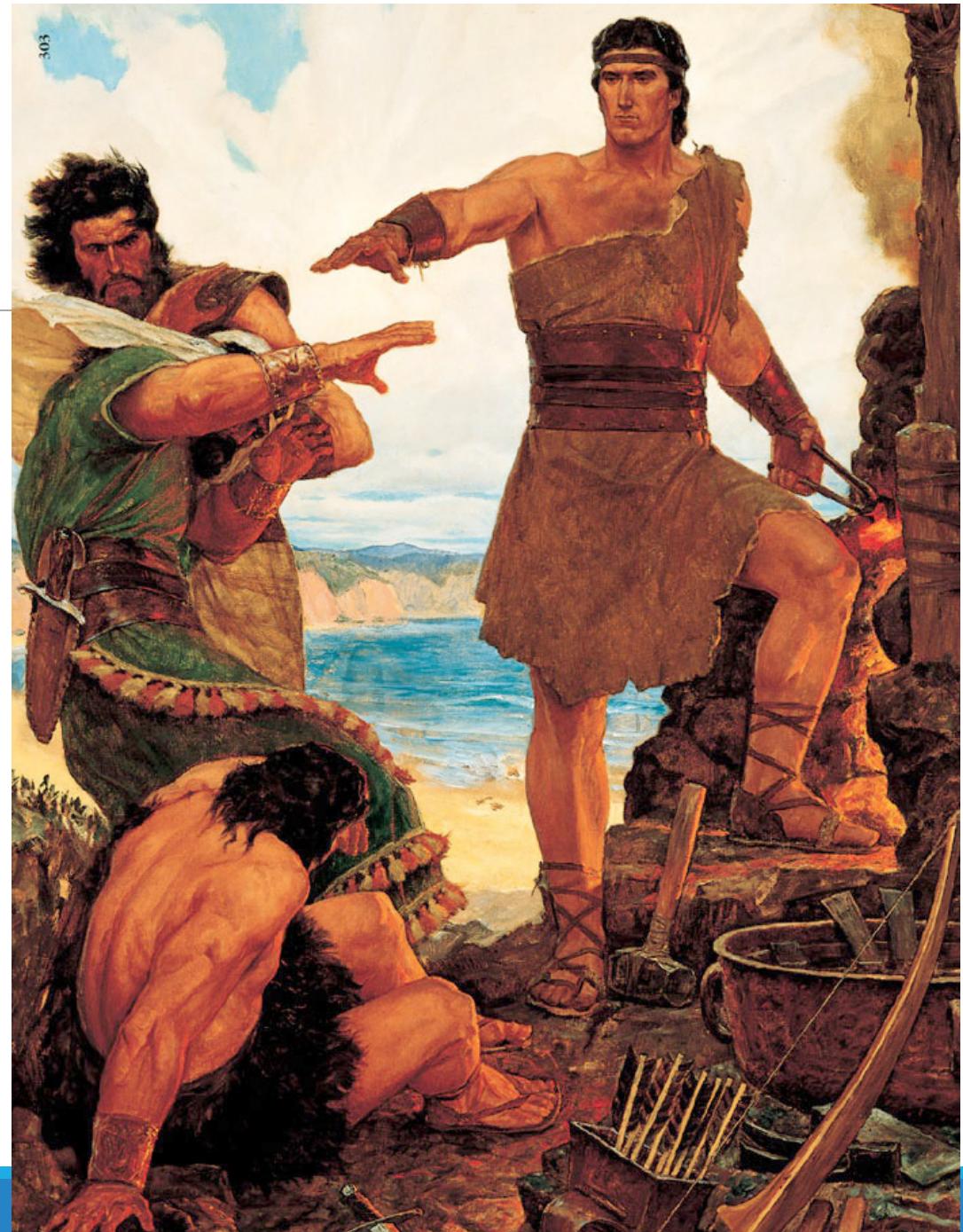


600 BC



Nephi

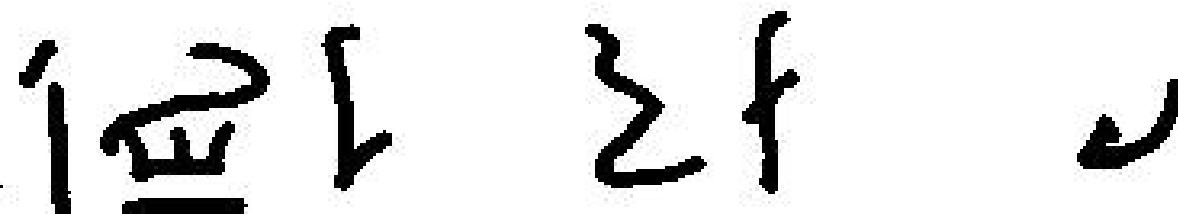
1 Nephi 1:1



"Ammon"



Hieroglyphic



Hieratic

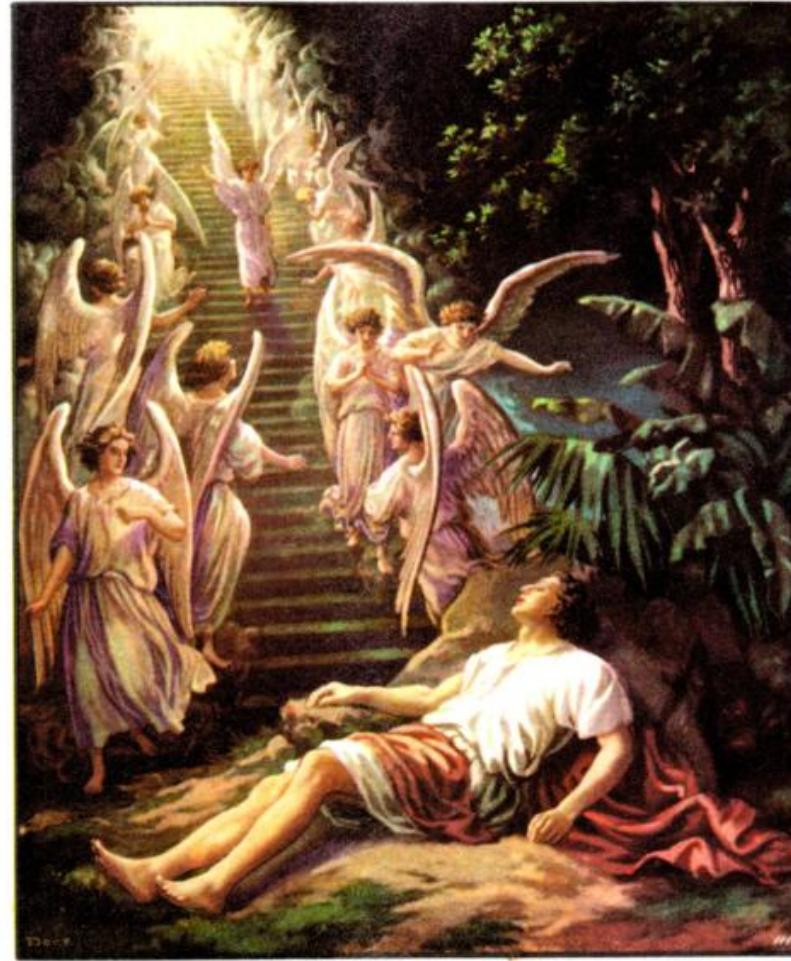
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The Lord of Hosts Seeing the ‘sod’ (Heb: cowd)

1 Nephi 1:8

Jeremiah 23:18,22



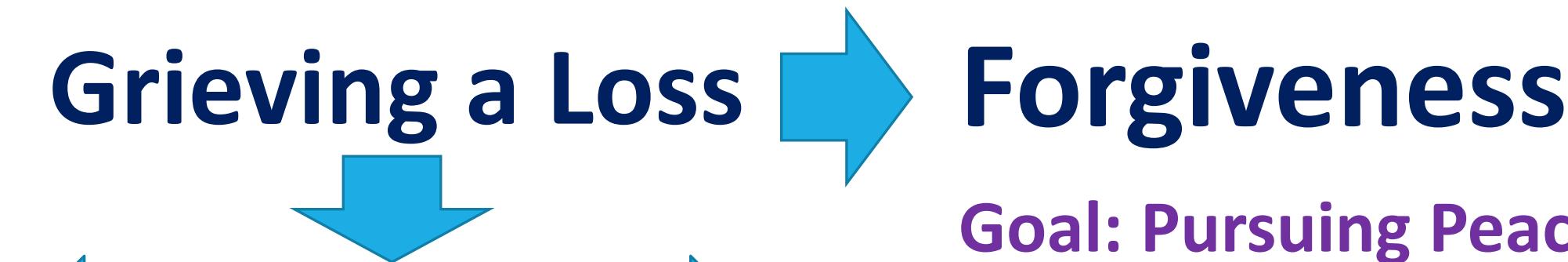
I, Nephi, will show unto you...

1 Nephi 1:20

1 Nephi 1:1



Grief and Forgiveness



Forgiveness

Goal: Pursuing Peace

How?

- 1) Avoid personalization
- 2) Rewrite the story you tell yourself and others (Hero or Victim)
- 3) Develop a gratitude disposition

Life Script

Grievance/Grudge/Victim Story

Repeat it often in your head

Tell your grievance to other people

Relive the emotional trauma when triggered

You are the victim, controlled by another's unfairness.

Harden your “captive” self image

Make daily decisions based on that image



Gratitude Story

Nephi 1:1

Repeat it often in your head

Tell your gratitude to other people

Remember but do not re-live

You are blessed, despite life's unfairnesses.

Mold your self image as “one who is loved” and overcomes hard things.

Make daily decisions based on that image.