

November 18–24

Ether 6–11

“That Evil May Be Done Away”



# Faith and Works

Ether 6:4-5,9-10

What did the Jaredites do that demonstrated their faith in God?

## Todd Budge

"The journey was not easy for the Jaredites..... We live in a world where the monster waves of death, physical and mental illness, and trials and afflictions of every kind break upon us. Yet, through faith in Jesus Christ and choosing to trust in Him, we too can have light continually, whether above the water or under the water. We can have the assurance that God never does cease to blow us toward our heavenly home.

"While being tossed about in the barges, the Jaredites 'did sing praises unto the Lord...'. They felt joy and thanksgiving even in the midst of their afflictions. They had not yet arrived in the promised land, yet they were rejoicing in the promised blessing because of their consistent and resilient trust in Him." (CR, Oct. 2019)

# Political Freedom

Ether 6:19-24

What did the brother of Jared fear would happen to the people if they were ruled by a king?

2 Nephi 10:14

For he that raiseth up a king against me shall perish,  
for I, the Lord, the king of heaven, will be their king, and  
I will be a light unto them forever, that hear my words.

# Political Freedom

*Ether 6:25-27*

## Marion G. Romney

"The freewill choosing of a king by the Jaredites led directly to their captivity.

"This sequence was repeated in the days of Israel. The people—rejecting government by judges, which God had established—clamored for Samuel to give them a king. Notwithstanding Samuel's warning that a king would make servants of their children, lay heavy taxes and services upon their backs, and send them to war, 'the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel, [saying,] Nay; but we will have a king over us;

'That we also may be like all the nations' (1Sam 8:19–20)." (CR, Oct. 1981)

# Secret Combinations

Ether 8:7-9

How did the daughter of Jared know about the “secret plans [used to] obtain kingdoms and great glory”?



## Moses 5:29-32

29) And Satan said unto Cain: Swear unto me by thy throat, and if thou tell it thou shalt die; and swear thy brethren by their heads, and by the living God, that they tell it not; for if they tell it, they shall surely die; and this that thy father may not know it; and this day I will deliver thy brother Abel into thine hands.

30) And Satan sware unto Cain that he would do according to his commands. And all these things were done in secret.

31) And Cain said: Truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret, that I may murder and get gain. Wherefore Cain was called Master Mahan, and he gloried in his wickedness.

32) And Cain went into the field, and Cain talked with Abel, his brother. And it came to pass that while they were in the field, Cain rose up against Abel, his brother, and slew him.

# Secret Combinations

Ether 8:10-16

What do we learn are some of the characteristics of secret combinations from these verses?

# Secret Combinations

Ether 8:20-22

How do you think we can recognize if a nation upholds secret combinations?

## Hugh Nibley

“If the reader has imagined to himself the Gadianton band as abandoned wretches or street Arabs lurking in dark alleys and fleeing from the light of day in dingy and noisome hideouts, let him disabuse his mind of such a concept. They were a highly respected concern that made their handsome profits by operating strictly within the letter of the law, as they interpreted and controlled it. They were the government, the well-to-do, the respectable, and the law-abiding citizens.” (An Approach to the Book of Mormon, pg. 385)

## Ezra Taft Benson

"The Prophet Moroni described how the secret combination would take over a country and then fight the work of God, persecute the righteous, and murder those who resisted. Moroni therefore proceeded to describe the workings of the ancient 'secret combinations' so that modern man could recognize this great political conspiracy in the last days....

"The Prophet Moroni seemed greatly exercised lest in our day we might not be able to recognize the startling fact that the same secret societies which destroyed the Jaredites and decimated numerous kingdoms of both Nephites and Lamanites would be precisely the same form of criminal conspiracy which would rise up among the gentile nations in this day." (CR, Oct. 1961)

# Secret Combinations

Ether 8:23-25

What is the stated objective of those who build up secret combinations?

## Ezra Taft Benson

"I testify that wickedness is rapidly expanding in every segment of our society. It is more highly organized, more cleverly disguised, and more powerfully promoted than ever before. Secret combinations lusting for power, gain, and glory are flourishing. A secret combination that seeks to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations, and countries is increasing its evil influence and control over America and the entire world." (CR, Oct. 1988)

Neal A. Maxwell

“There will be combinations built up by the devil to overthrow freedom. He is still acting out against the principle of freedom.” (Things As They Really Are, pg. 41)



# Secret Combinations

Ether 9:11-13

# Secret Combinations

Ether 11:20-23

Why did the people reject the prophets who sought to lead them out of bondage and away from destruction?

Next Week:

November 25–December 1

Ether 12–15

"By Faith All Things Are Fulfilled"

