

January 29–February 4

1 Nephi 16–22

"I Will Prepare the Way Before You"



Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 2:9-12

What kept Laman and Lemuel from not accepting that their father was a prophet and from striving to follow God?

Ezra Taft Benson

"The proud cannot accept the authority of God giving direction to their lives. They pit their perception of truth against God's great knowledge, their abilities versus God's priesthood power, their accomplishments against His mighty works.

"Our enmity toward God takes on many labels, such as rebellion, hard-heartedness, stiff-neckedness, unrepentant, puffed up, easily offended, and sign seekers. The proud wish God would agree with them. They aren't interested in changing their opinions to agree with God's." (CR, April 1989)

Christoffel Golden, Jr.

“Strange as it may seem, no teaching, no miracle, and no appearance even of a heavenly angel, as witnessed by Laman and Lemuel, appears to have the persuasive power to convince some individuals to alter their course, outlook, or belief that something is true. This is especially the case when teachings or miracles do not agree with an individual’s preconceived whims, wishes, or ideas.” (CR, Oct. 2021)

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 16:1-5

What causes Laman and Lemuel to be humble, at least for the time being?

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 16:10,28

Can you think of anything that we have been given that can help us in a way similar the way that the Liahona helped Lehi?

David A. Bednar

“As we strive to align our attitudes and actions with righteousness, then the Holy Ghost becomes for us today what the Liahona was for Lehi and his family in their day. The very factors that caused the Liahona to work for Lehi will likewise invite the Holy Ghost into our lives. And the very factors that caused the Liahona not to work anciently will likewise cause us to withdraw ourselves from the Holy Ghost today....

“As we each press forward along the pathway of life, we receive direction from the Holy Ghost just as Lehi was directed through the Liahona....

“The Holy Ghost operates in our lives precisely as the Liahona did for Lehi and his family, according to our faith and diligence and heed.” (CR, April 2006)

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 16:22-27,31-32

What causes Laman and Lemuel to humble themselves, at least for the time being?

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 16:34-39

What causes Laman and Lemuel to turn away their anger and repent of their sins, at least for the time being?

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 17:17-21

With all the miracles that Laman and Lemuel had seen and experienced do you think that they believed that it was impossible to build a ship and cross the ocean?

Again, after all the signs and wonders that they experienced, what was the one thing that they still had their hearts focused on?

Neal A. Maxwell

"Ironically, many like Laman and Lemuel who are the first to demand signs are then the first to discount them. Some demand more miracles even while consuming a daily menu of manna and forgetting its remarkable Source." (CR, Oct. 1999)

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 17:26-30

In addition to what Laman and Lemuel had personally experienced, how did they know that all things are possible with God?

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 17:45-46

What do you think it means when Nephi tells them that they are “past feeling”?

Neal A. Maxwell

“Determined to walk in his own way, the natural man often persists to the point where he is ‘past feeling,’ having been sedated by pleasing the carnal mind. Sadly, like the drug addict, he is always in need of a fresh fix. (CR, April 1999)

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 17:48,52-55

What causes Laman and Lemuel to listen to Nephi, at least for the time being?

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 18:1,4

What causes Laman and Lemuel to worship the Lord and humble themselves, at least for the time being?

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 18:9,17-18

What affect did the sorrow, suffering, and pleading of their father, mother, and brothers have on the hearts of Laman and Lemuel?

Willfully Rebellion

1 Nephi 18:15,20

What finally causes Laman and Lemuel to soften their hearts, at least for the time being?

Laman and Lemuel could be humbled briefly if they were overwhelmed by a miraculous event

An angel appeared to them while beating Nephi

They received the brass plates

Lehi's dream revealed the fate that awaited them

The miraculous appearance of the Liahona

Being kept from starvation

Hearing the voice of the Lord

Hearing, seeing, and feeling the power of the Lord

Being inspired by the Lord to build a ship

Facing certain death because of the stormy sea

2 Nephi 5:20-21

20 Wherefore, the word of the Lord was fulfilled which he spake unto me, saying that: Inasmuch as they will not hearken unto thy words they shall be cut off from the presence of the Lord. And behold, they were cut off from his presence.

21 And he had caused the cursing to come upon them, yea, even a sore cursing, because of their iniquity. For behold, they had hardened their hearts against him, that they had become like unto a flint...

Neal A. Maxwell

“Laman and Lemuel’s rejection of the prophets and the scriptures meant there could be no useful likening or rehearsals of remembrance and no freshening of personal revelation to them for their time. They simply did not understand that God’s ways are higher than man’s ways....

“Hence Laman and Lemuel became rebels instead of leaders, resentful instead of righteous--all because of their failure to understand either the character or the purposes of God and His dealings with His children.”

(CR, Oct. 1999)

Next Week:

February 5–11

2 Nephi 1–2

"Free to Choose Liberty and Eternal Life,
Through the
Great Mediator"

