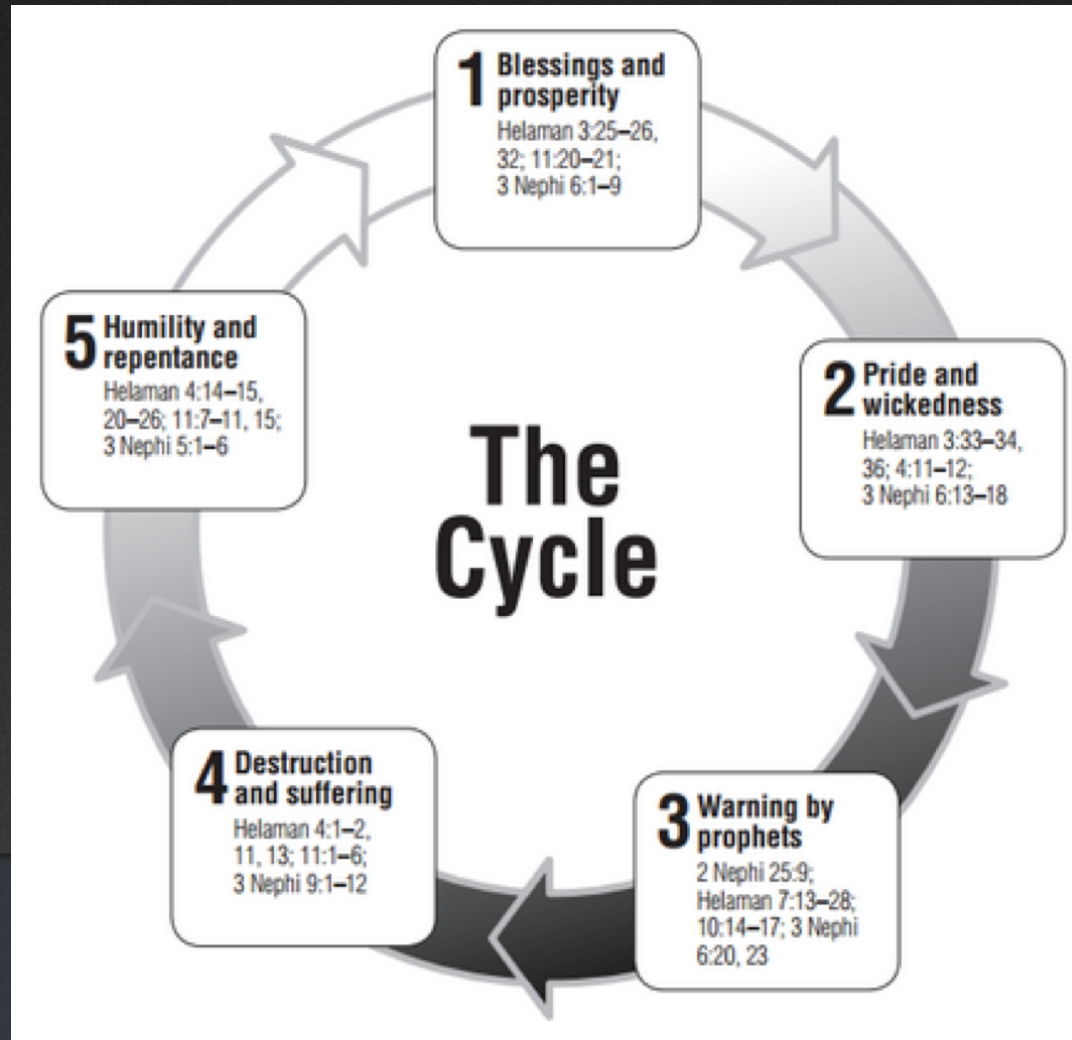


August 26–September 1
Helaman 1–6
"The Rock of Our Redeemer"



Secret Combinations

Helaman 1:9-11

Secret Combinations

Helaman 2:4-5

What did those who were in secret compliance with Gadianton expect to gain by installing him as their chief judge?

Secret Combinations

Helaman 2:11-14

What did Gadianton, his followers, and his successors do that proved to be so destructive to the Nephite nation?

Ether 8:23,25

23) Wherefore, O ye Gentiles... suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain...

25) For it cometh to pass that whoso buildeth it up seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations, and countries; and it bringeth to pass the destruction of all people, for it is built up by the devil, who is the father of all lies; even that same liar who beguiled our first parents, yea, even that same liar who hath caused man to commit murder from the beginning; who hath hardened the hearts of men that they have murdered the prophets, and stoned them, and cast them out from the beginning.

Secret Combinations

Helaman 6:21-24

How were members of this band able to get away with committing “all manner of wickedness, contrary to the laws of their country”?

Righteousness and Prosperity

Helaman 3:24-30

What reasons are given for the Lord pouring out His blessings upon the people?

Pride and Wickedness

Helaman 3:33-36

What was a cause of wickedness among the people and dissension in the church?

George Q. Cannon

"We read in the Book of Mormon that when the ancient Nephites began to increase in means and become rich, as we are now increasing, the Spirit of God began to decrease in their midst.... The wealthy could have... comforts and advantages which their poorer brethren and sisters could not have. In consequence of these things they became divided into classes. The rich were raised up in their feelings above the poor.... They became puffed up in pride, and the Lord suffered the Lamanites to come upon and scourge them....

"We are now exposed to precisely the same influences as they were. We are increasing in wealth, and if we allow our hearts to be placed upon it, we shall have to undergo or to pass through difficulties similar in character to those which they had to endure." (JD 16:115)

Henry B. Eyring

"The scriptures teach us that among other things, we can be sanctified or become more holy when we exercise faith in Christ, demonstrate our obedience, repent, sacrifice for Him, receive sacred ordinances, and keep our covenants with Him. Qualifying for the gift of holiness requires humility, and patience." (CR, Oct. 2019)

Warning by Prophets

Helaman 4:13-15

What did the Nephite prophets (Moronihah, Nephi, and Lehi) do to convince the people to turn from their pride and wickedness?

Joseph B. Wirthlin

"As people heed the words of the prophets, the Lord blesses them. When they disregard His word, however, distress and suffering often follow. Over and over, the Book of Mormon teaches this great lesson. In its pages we read of the ancient inhabitants of the American continent who, because of their righteousness, were blessed of the Lord and became prosperous. Yet often this prosperity turned into a curse in that it caused them to 'harden their hearts, and... forget the Lord their God' (Hel 12:2).

"There is something about prosperity that brings out the worst in some people. In the book of Helaman, we learn of one group of Nephites who experienced great loss and slaughter....

"This sorrow would not have afflicted them 'had it not been for their wickedness' (Hel 4:11). If only they had heeded the words of the prophets of their day and journeyed to higher ground, their lives would have been dramatically different." (CR, Oct. 2005)

Warning by Prophets

Helaman 5:1-4

Note that they were at a state where the majority of the people chose evil -

Do you recall what Mosiah warned would happen if this were to happen?

Mosiah 29:27

And if the time comes that the voice of the people doth choose iniquity, then is the time that the judgments of God will come upon you; yea, then is the time he will visit you with great destruction even as he has hitherto visited this land.

Marion G. Romney

"While living under a government providing for the freest exercise of agency. 'Their laws and their governments,' says the record, 'were established by the voice of the people, and they who chose evil were more numerous than they who chose good.' Therefore, 'they could not be governed by the law nor justice, save it were to their destruction.' Under these circumstances, they chose as rulers wicked men, who would certainly destroy their political liberties, to replace righteous men who had in the past protected and preserved those liberties and would have continued to do so in the future." (CR, Oct. 1981)

Warning by Prophets

Helaman 5:17-20

What had Nephi and Lehi been blessed with that made it possible for them convince the dissenters and Lamanites of their wickedness?

Warning by Prophets

Helaman 5:42,45-52

What do you think Mormon is referring to when he talks about “the greatness of the evidences which they had received”?

Michael T. Ringwood

"The quality of their conversion led these Lamanites to lay down their hatred for the Nephites and their weapons of war, they were firm and steadfast in their faith, they kept the commandments and walked in truth and uprightness, and they grew in their knowledge of God

"Yet most impressive to me was their easiness and willingness to believe in the word of God. This easiness and willingness to believe brought them the Spirit in great abundance and aided them to endure in faith to the end." (CR, Oct. 2009)

Humility and Repentance

Helaman 6:1-5

How were the Lamanites able to teach “with exceedingly great power and authority” and what effect did that have on the Nephites?

Barbara A. Lewis

“Having humility means that we present to our Heavenly Father and the Savior 'a broken heart and a contrite spirit'. We become meek and teachable like a child. We overcome pride and 'recognize gratefully our dependence on the Lord.' We repent when we need to repent. We understand that we need Heavenly Father's support and that our talents and our gifts come from Him”. (“What Is Humility, and How Do We Develop It?”, Ensign, Sept 2016)

Righteousness and Prosperity

Helaman 6:7-9

What happened when all the hatred stopped between the Nephites and Lamanites and they lived the principles of the gospel?

Dean L. Larsen

“The Lord has demonstrated throughout the generations that when the inhabitants of the earth remember him and are obedient to his direction, he will bless them not only with spiritual blessings, but with material abundance as well.

“The scriptures contain many evidences of the Lord’s willingness to prosper his people with the riches of the earth when they demonstrate that they will use this abundance prudently, with humility and charity, always acknowledging the source of their blessings.

“When the lives of the people are in harmony with the Lord’s will, all of the essential factors that produce the blessings God deigns to give to his children seem to come into line. Love and harmony prevail.” (CR, Oct. 1992)

Pride and Wickedness

Helaman 6:16-17

Why is it common for righteousness and prosperity lead to pride and wickedness?

Hugh Nibley

“The sequence is a natural one: with easy wealth comes the feeling of superiority which makes people status-conscious; and with a feeling for status comes a desperate need to acquire the one thing that will give status; and with the recognition of the all-importance of that one thing, any scruples that may stand in the way of its acquisition are pushed aside.” (Since Cumorah, pg. 363)

Pride and Wickedness

Helaman 6:32-35

Why do you think that the blessings of the world's riches led the Nephites to great iniquities while the Lamanites continued in “uprightness before [God]”?

Next Week:

September 2–8

Helaman 7–12

“Remember the Lord”

