

Logan's Talk on the 2000 Stripling Warriors

Introduction

Hi, my name is Logan Urie, for anyone who doesn't know me. I'm 8 years old and I just got baptized this summer. Today, I am going to talk about the 2000 stripling Warriors in the Book of Mormon and what we can learn from their story.

The 2000 Stripling Warriors' first battle

The 2000 stripling warriors were teenagers. Their dads took an oath that wouldn't go to war with anyone ever again and they buried their weapons to show they were serious. But when the Lamanites attacked the Nephites, their dads couldn't do anything to defend themselves.

But luckily, their sons didn't take the oath and so 2000 of those sons formed themselves into an army.

We usually call them the 2000 stripling warriors.

"Stripling" means a young man. It comes from a word that means skinny because they didn't have dad muscles yet.

The 2000 stripling warriors asked Helaman to be their commander. He led them to their first assignment which was to help the army of Antipus.

My siblings like to call him "octopus."

Helaman and Antipus decided to try and trick the Lamanites. So, Helaman and the 2000 stripling warriors marched by their city and the Lamanite army started following them.

Antipus started chasing the Lamanites. They marched all day, camped out, then marched most of the next day.

Then, Helaman and the 2000 stripling warriors turned around and realized the Lamanites weren't following them anymore.

Helaman thought that it might be a trap so he asked the 2000 stripling warriors what they wanted to do.

This is what they said to Helaman in Alma chapter 56:

“...behold our God is with us, and he will not suffer that we should fall; then let us go forth...”

They told Helaman that their moms had taught them that “if they did not doubt, god would deliver them.” (47)

So they marched into battle and beat the Lamanites. After the battle, Helaman wrote:

“...behold I numbered those young men who had fought with me, fearing lest there were many of them slain. But behold, to my great joy, there had not one soul of them fallen to the earth;” (Alma 56:55-56)

Lessons

There are a lot of lessons we can learn from this story, but I want to share two.

The first is that you should listen to your mom.

When the Stripling warriors were in trouble, they remembered what their moms taught them and it saved their lives.

The second lesson is that if you have faith, God will deliver you.

But what about Antipus?

But sometimes even when we have faith, things don't go the way we want.

For example, Antipus died in that battle. Didn't he have faith? Why did he have to die?

Sometimes God's plan is different than what we want.

But if we trust God, everything will work out how it's supposed to.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

There's another story in the Old Testament that talks about this.

There were once three young men named Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

They lived in Babylon and the king made a rule that everyone had to worship a big golden statue.

If they didn't they would be thrown into a fiery furnace.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn't worship the statue.

So, the king's guards arrested them

The king asked them if they knew the rules about the golden statue and the fiery furnace.

They said:

"...our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden [statue] which thou hast set up." (Daniel 3:17-18)

Shadrach Meshach and Abednego knew that if they died in the fiery furnace it would be okay because this life is not the end of the story.

So, maybe the lesson that we should learn from the 2000 stripling warriors is

- 1) if we trust God, he will deliver us.
- 2) But if not, he still has a plan for us and we should trust Him.

Testimony

I know that God has a plan for all of us. I know that Jesus lives and I say these things in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.