

Ether 8:18-26 Chiasm

by Sterling D. Allan © GREATER THINGS, June 25, 1992

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- v18 **A-1** And it came to pass that they *formed a secret combination, even as they of old;*
A-2 which combination is *most abominable*
A-3 and *wicked above all*, in the sight of God;
- v19 **B** For the *Lord worketh not in secret combinations,*
C-1 neither doth he will that man should *shed blood,*
C-2 but in all things hath forbidden it, from the beginning of man.
- v20 **D** And now I, Moroni, do not write the *manner of their oaths and combinations*, for it hath been made known unto me that they are had among all people, and they are had among the Lamanites.
- v21 **E** And they have caused the ¹destruction of this people of whom I am now speaking, and also the ²destruction of the people of Nephi.
- v22 **F-1** And *whatsoever nation shall uphold* such secret combinations, to get power and gain,
F-2 until they shall spread over the nation,
F-3 behold, *they shall be* ³destroyed;
- G-1** for the Lord will not suffer that the blood of his saints,
G-2 which *shall be shed* by them,
G-3 shall always cry unto him from the ground
G-4 for vengeance upon them
G-5 and yet he *avenge them not.*
- v23 **H-1** Wherefore, O ye Gentiles,
H-2 it is *wisdom in God*
H-3 that these things should be *shown unto you*,
H-4 that thereby ye may repent
H-5 of your *sins*,
- I-1** and suffer not
I-2 that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain--
J and the work, yea, even the work of ⁴destruction
K come upon you,
L yea, even the SWORD OF THE JUSTICE of the Eternal God (see 3 Nephi 20:20)
K' shall fall upon you,
J' to your overthrow and ⁵destruction
I-1' if ye shall suffer
I-2' *these things to be.*
- H-1'** Wherefore,
H-2' the *Lord commandeth you*,
H-3' when ye shall *see these things* come among you
H-4' that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation,
H-5' because of this secret combination which shall be among you;
- G-1'** or wo be unto it, because of the blood of them
G-2' who *have been slain*;
G-3' for they cry from the dust
G-4' for vengeance upon it,
G-5' and also upon those who built it up.
- v25 **F-1'** For it cometh to pass that *whoso buildeth it up*
F-2' seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations, and countries;
F-3' and it bringeth to pass the ⁶destruction of all people,
E' and it bringeth to pass the ⁷destruction of all people,
D' for it is *built up by the devil*, who is the *father of all lies*; even that same liar who beguiled our first parents,
C-1' yea, even that same liar who hath caused man to *commit murder*
C-2' from the beginning;
C-1' who hath hardened the hearts of men that they have *murdered* the prophets, and stoned them, and cast them out
C-2' from the beginning.
- v26 **B'** *Wherefore, I, Moroni, am commanded to write these things* that evil may be done away,
A-1' and that the time may come that *Satan may have no power* upon the hearts of the children of men,
A-2' but that they may be *persuaded to do good continually*,
A-3' that they may *come unto the fountain of all righteousness and be saved.*

Cross Reference

"And it shall come to pass, saith the Father, that the SWORD OF MY JUSTICE shall hang over them at that day; and except they repent it shall fall upon them, saith the Father, yea, even upon all the nations of the Gentiles."
--3 Nephi 20:20

Ezra Taft Benson
General Conference
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"I testify that...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. (See Ether 8:18-25)"