

Conferring the Mantle of Liberty

At the young age of 25, Moroni became the leader of the Nephite army. For half of his adult life, he fought for his people, his country, and his God. Chief Captain Moroni was a man who loved God and feared only God and His judgments. He loved liberty and freedom and he defended it with an oath he had sworn to his people and with God. He was a strong man in both character and body. A man who labored for the welfare and safety of his people for the most part of his life. After all that he did, he never took the credit or honor for himself but was continually showing gratitude unto God. Captain Moroni served with integrity to the end of his command then “Conferring the Mantle of Liberty” he blessed his son to continue to serve in his stead.

After serving in a war that lasted 13 years, Moroni retired around 38 years old and appointed his son to take his place as leader of the army and defend his people against their enemies the Lamanites. His son, Moronihah named after his father, took over the Nephite army and Moroni went home to spend the rest of his life with his family in quietude.

This painting depicts Captain Moroni blessing his son and conferring to him the mantle of liberty or charge over the Nephite army. A few years later dissension arose and once again the Lamanites came to fight the Nephites. Although the Lamanites’ numbers were great, they were defeated. Many Lamanite warriors were slain, and the rest retreated to their lands. Moronihah followed in the footsteps of his father to defend the lives and liberties of his people and retain their freedom of religion. Moroni died peacefully between 43 and 44 years old with the love and respect of his people.