

Defending Liberty

In a time of war lasting 13 years, two similar civilizations fought each other for opposite reasons. One group, called the Lamanites, fought to overpower and enslave the Nephites while the Nephites fought to preserve their freedoms: to not be oppressed and to live and worship how they may. They fought to protect their families, lands, and way of life.

This painting depicts Lehi and Moroni, two captains of the Nephite army. Chief Captain Moroni was a great leader and was respected by his people and his soldiers. Moroni appointed Lehi to be a Chief Captain, but he was still under Moroni's command. Both men were valiant soldiers, inspiring leaders, and great friends that loved and respected one another. They formed a brotherhood as they were united in the same objective to fight in defense of liberty. They were great men beloved by their people.

In the painting, Chief Captain Moroni is embracing Chief Captain Lehi after finding each other still alive after a fierce battle. Through strategy and righteous indignation, they had taken back the city of Mulek from the Lamanites. They were both happy and grateful for the other being alive and strengthened in their resolve to continue fighting. Moroni entrusted the city of Mulek into Lehi's hands.

Although less is known about Chief Captain Lehi, he -like Moroni- was a man firm in the faith of Christ and had sworn with an oath to defend the Nephite people, their rights, and their country, and their religion, even to the loss of his own blood.