

Flames of Freedom Podcast Episode 12

"Journey's End"

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This is a production of Lance Toland Entertainment.

FLAMES OF FREEDOM

EPISODE 12: JOURNEY'S END

FADE IN UNDER
OPENING MUSIC:

SFX: OPENING MUSIC

ANNOUNCER

Welcome to Flames of Freedom,
Episode 12: Journey's End, a
docudrama based on actual
historical events brought to you by
Lance Toland Entertainment. In the
previous episode, James Oglethorpe
succeeded in establishing a
settlement on Yamacraw Bluff, what
is now known as Savannah, Georgia.
The Jews who had embarked from
London nearly five months
previously found themselves
precariously holding on as
destructive seas once again
buffeted their ship off of the
Outer Banks of North Carolina...

FADE IN: [Pick up from the conclusion of Episode Eleven]

SFX: Brutal winds battering the William & Sarah, with
monstrous waves crashing over the deck.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Stephens, Chapman! Keep your eyes
out for an inlet ahead. By my
reckoning, there's a sound on the
other side of those banks. If we
can get there, we'll have a chance.

SFX: Masts crashing down.

ZIPPORAH

The one remaining mast came
crashing down. Two men barely
escaped in time. All hands were on
deck, doing everything possible to
keep the ship afloat. Captain
Hanson had his spyglass glued on
the coastline. In the meantime, we
were below deck, and Benjamin and
Perla Sheftall crouched, holding
onto a support beam as the ship was
buffeted about.

(MORE)

ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

They were shaking with fear as she prayed from Psalms, and Benjamin clutched the Torah wrapped in a blanket.

PERLA SHEFTALL

The seas have lifted up, Lord, the seas have lifted up their voice; the seas have lifted up their pounding waves. Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the seas, the Lord on high is mighty.

ZIPPORAH

Topside, I heard the captain yell...

CAPTAIN HANSON

There's the inlet. Steer due west, Chapman.

SFX: Musical Transition

ZIPPORAH

The boat slipped through the protective shores of the inlet, and as soon as we entered the sound, the waves subsided. We could hear the crew on deck shouting with joy. Captain Hanson looked skyward.

SFX: Shouts of joy from the cast

CAPTAIN HANSON

(under his breath)

Thank you, Lord.

ZIPPORAH

In the ship's hold, we were huddled in prayer. As the boat ceased its violent pitching, we looked at each other in disbelief.

PERLA SHEFTALL

Baruch Hashem! Blessed be God!

ZIPPORAH

Slowly, we all began climbing to the deck. The air was warm, and the mainland was in sight as rain continued falling.

SAMUEL

Is this the colony?

CAPTAIN HANSON

No, Dr. Nunes. I reckon we're in an area called Pamlico Sound on the Outer Banks of the Carolinas, probably three or four days north of the colony. We can hopefully re-provision the ship while we make repairs.

SAMUEL

Very well. I'll spread the word.

ZIPPORAH

My father motioned for all of us to gather around.

SAMUEL

The Captain says we are north of the colony. We'll be anchoring in this sound until the ship can be repaired. He promised we'd get fresh provisions.

MOSES

How long?

SAMUEL

He doesn't know. From the looks of the damage, I expect it will be a few weeks of repairs.

ISAAC

A few weeks more on this wretched ship? Will we be able to get off?

SAMUEL

Hopefully, yes.

ABRAHAM MINIS

We should all be grateful we're here standing and talking after this ordeal. Finally, we're in America. There's a Jewish prayer for moments like this. The Shehecheyanu.

SAMUEL

Abraham, please say it for us.

ABRAHAM MINIS

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu,
 Melech haolam, shehecheyanu,
 v'kiy'manu, v'higiyanu laz'man
 hazeh. Blessed are You, Adonai our
 God, Sovereign of all, who has kept
 us alive, sustained us, and brought
 us to this season. And might I add,
 safely to these shores. Amen.

SFX: "Amen" from the cast.

ZIPPORAH

Some of us began to weep for joy.
 Even though the rains were
 drenching us to the skin, we didn't
 mind.

SFX: Musical transition

ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

About the time we landed on the
 Outer Banks, Mr. Oglethorpe was
 preparing to travel to Charles Town
 to negotiate for goods and to
 manage a few legal issues. Gathered
 with him were THOMAS CAUSTON, NOBLE
 JONES, and FRANCIS SCOTT.

OGLETHORPE

I'll be gone for a week, two at the
 most. While I'm away, Mr. Scott is
 in charge. Jones, continue
 preparing the land and overseeing
 house construction. Causton, I hope
 to return with three months'
 provisions for the colony. Do your
 best to meet people's essential
 needs with what we have on hand.
 Any questions?

CAUSTON

What of the Negro slaves that Bull
 brought in to clear the land?

OGLETHORPE

They're to be sent back to their
 owners in South Carolina as soon as
 the job is completed. Understood?

CAUSTON

Yes sir.

OGLETHORPE

I'll reiterate we will not be having slaves doing the essential work of the colony that the settlers can do themselves. Also, remember, stay away from the rum John Musgrove is selling at the trading post. We'll have none of that in the colony as well.

ZIPPORAH

Causton nodded but looked at Jones doubtfully as Oglethorpe descended the path to the river and boarded a small skiff.

SFX: Musical Transition

ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

Meanwhile, in the hot summer sun, Captain Hanson's men were feverishly working to repair the damage sustained in the storm. One mast was ruined and needed to be replaced. Two others were cracked, needing reinforcement. Many of the leaks in the hull also needed substantial repair as the sun beat down. I don't think we had ever experienced heat and humidity like that. The air was stifling in the hold, and most of us had migrated to the deck, even to sleep, stripping off as much clothing as possible while remaining decent. People became irritable and incessantly asked my father how much longer. My father, in turn, posed the question to the Captain.

SAMUEL

How much longer?

CAPTAIN HANSON

At least two, maybe three more weeks. Four at most.

SAMUEL

Captain, I don't know if our people can withstand the heat for three more weeks, much less four. It's intolerable here on deck.

(MORE)

SAMUEL (CONT'D)

In the hold, it must be a full twenty degrees warmer, and the air is foul.

CAPTAIN HANSON

What would you have me do, Dr. Nunes?

SAMUEL

Allow us to set up camp on the shore where we can find shade.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Doctor, I cannot be responsible for your people on the shore. I have no idea what kinds of savages and beasts are in those woods, and I can't afford to have my men protect you. They're needed here.

SAMUEL

We can protect ourselves, Captain. Give us some guns and provisions, and we'll forage for food, hunt, and fish.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Very well, Dr. Nunes, have it your way. But I want your assurance that I'm not responsible if anyone is harmed.

SAMUEL

You have my word, Captain.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Ensign Vickers, please provide all our passengers who wish to go ashore with all the necessary provisions and a small skiff.

ENSIGN VICKERS

Aye, aye, sir.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Will there be anything else, Dr. Nunes?

SAMUEL

Not for now, Captain. Just do your best to repair the ship and get us safely to Georgia. We'll have no problem caring for ourselves on shore.

ZIPPORAH

The next day we set up camp with cover from torn sails tied between limbs of the Live Oaks peppering the shoreline. My father turned over control of the operations to Abraham de Lyon and my brother Moses. Abraham's first step was to scout the nearby land, and when he returned, he had two small palm trees in his hands that he had cut down.

ABRAHAM DE LYON

Look what I found!

ABAGAIL MINIS

From the looks of it, Abraham, the remains of two palm trees.

ABRAHAM DE LYON

No. I have found manna from heaven.

ABAGAIL MINIS

Has the heat gotten to you so early in the morning?

ZIPPORAH

He smiled, laid one of the small palms on the ground, and began chopping at it with a machete. Within a minute, he has revealed the white flesh at the tree's heart. He took out a small knife, cut a piece, and handed it to Abigail to taste.

ABRAHAM DE LYON

Try it.

ABAGAIL MINIS

You're sure it's edible.

ABRAHAM DE LYON

Believe me, you will be pleasantly surprised.

ABAGAIL MINIS

You first.

ZIPPORAH

Abraham cut another piece, popped it into his mouth, and began chewing with a smile on his face.

ABRAHAM DE LYON

See. It's harmless and really
tasty.

ZIPPORAH

Abigail reluctantly nibbled at the
edge of the palm's heart. A smile
broke out on her face, and she
placed the rest of the heart of
palm in her mouth, chewing and then
swallowing.

ABAGAIL MINIS

What is this?

ABRAHAM DE LYON

It's called Heart of Palm. I have
read about it in accounts of
settlers and explorers in Africa.
Some say it's a delicacy. The good
news for us is it's plentiful all
along this shoreline and inland. It
can be eaten raw or even roasted
over the fire!

ZIPPORAH

Shem Noah wandered over.

SHEM NOAH

May I?

ZIPPORAH

Abraham cut a small piece and
handed it to him.

ABRAHAM DE LYON

Certainly.

SHEM NOAH

Delicioso!

ZIPPORAH

Others gathered around to sample
the delicacy.

MOSES

Good work, Abraham. But we won't be
able to survive on Hearts of Palm
alone for three more weeks.
Raphael, David, and Isaac, I'm
putting you in charge of fishing.
Have any of you ever caught a fish
with a net?

ZIPPORAH

They all shook their heads no.

MOSES

How about with a hook?

ZIPPORAH

The answer was the same.

MOSES

Well, there's a first for everything. Your task is to learn how to fish. Quickly, by the end of today. Daniel has the nets prepared and lines with hooks. He'll show you how to place the bait on the hooks and how to cast the nets. Abraham, what other foods can we gather in the woods?

ABRAHAM DE LYON

Believe me, it's a cornucopia in there. No one will go hungry.

MOSES

Then, I want you to take all the women and children on a tour of our wild gardens and point out the edible plants and berries and those we need to avoid. And let's be judicious in cutting down these palms. We don't want to run out before the ship is ready to depart.

ABRAHAM DE LYON

Women and children, follow me.

SFX: people entering the brush

MOSES

Shem Noah, we have no way of knowing whether there are any Indians in the vicinity or whether they're friendly or hostile. Who's to say? I'm putting you in charge of securing our camp and ensuring someone is keeping watch each night. We have one rifle. Care for it with your life and keep it loaded and ready to fire.

SHEM NOAH

I'll gladly take that on.

MOSES

Jacob, what do you know about hunting and trapping?

JACOB LOPEZ OLIVERA

Nothing. I have never trapped or hunted anything in my life other than a fly.

MOSES

Well, it's about time you learn.

JACOB LOPEZ OLIVERA

What should I be looking for?

MOSES

I spotted two deer this morning in the woods with their fawns. Venison would be nice for dinner.

JACOB LOPEZ OLIVERA

How do we ensure it's Kosher?

MOSES

Oh, it's kosher, according to Benjamin Sheftall. But we have to catch it and butcher it, according to Halacha. But let's see if we can catch one first. Benjamin will show us how to slaughter it and drain its blood. But my father reminded me that if survival is at stake, then keeping strictly Kosher isn't necessary. If you have just to kill it first, then kill it, and we'll make do.

JACOB LOPEZ OLIVERA

But how am I supposed to catch one?

MOSES

We have some extra fish nets. Think like a deer and then outsmart it.

JACOB LOPEZ OLIVERA

Easier said than done.

MOSES

For God's sake, Jacob, at least try. All of you Delmontes, you're now Jacob's assistants. Now find me a deer!

SFX: Musical transition

BENJAMIN

You can't catch a deer like that,
Nonna.

ZIPPORAH

Of course not. But Jacob and the
Delmonte family made an unexpected
discovery. Their failure to catch a
deer led them to catch something
equally as valuable for us...

SFX: Musical transition

ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

Jacob and the Delmontes rigged up a
fishing net between branches. They
then hid themselves in the brush.
After a short wait, a deer
sauntered over to the area just
under the net.

JACOB LOPEZ OLIVERA

(whispering)

Now. Pull the rope now.

ZIPPORAH

The net shook in the tree for a
moment and then fell to the ground.
The deer heard it and bounded from
the area before getting caught.

JACOB LOPEZ OLIVERA

(standing and approaching
the net)

This will never work. They're too
fast. What's this?

SFX: bird flapping its wings

ZIPPORAH

The Delmontes approached and
discovered they had caught in the
net seven quails that were flapping
around, attempting to escape.

JACOB LOPEZ OLIVERA

Oh my gosh. God gave us manna and
now he's given us quails, just like
in the Bible. Quick, Hannah and
Grace, run to camp and fetch some
small baskets.

DAVID DELMONTE

We did it. We'll have meat for dinner tonight!

JACOB LOPEZ OLIVERA

We'll need more than seven. Let's find another area like this one and set up the net to see what we can catch!

ZIPPORAH

So, we discovered that we could live off the land. Raphael, David, and Isaac learned how to catch fish with their nets in shallow waters along the beach. Abraham, the women, and the children harvested palms and berries from the forest while Jacob and the Delmontes caught quail. Each night, we built a bonfire and feasted like royalty. And while there was dissension and bickering on the boat, on shore, everyone pitched in. We became a close community. Most importantly, we learned we could survive in this land on our own. Years later, I learned that the settlers who had come over with Oglethorpe weren't faring as well...

SFX: musical transition

ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

Oglethorpe had just returned from Charles Town to discover additional slaves working in the encampment and open casks of rum. Most of the settlers were inebriated, sitting under the shade of their tents while the Negro slaves did the heavy lifting of lumber for their houses. Oglethorpe was like Moses coming down from Mount Sinai to discover that the Hebrews had built a Golden Calf...

OGLETHORPE

(screaming at the top of his lungs)

Causton, Jones, Scott--where are you?

ZIPPORAH

Causton stumbled from one of the tents, half-drunk.

CAUSTON

Mr. Oglethorpe, I trust you had a successful journey to Charles Town...

OGLETHORPE

What the hell is going on here?

CAUSTON

Don't quite follow your meaning, sir.

OGLETHORPE

You bloody well do know what I mean. I explicitly gave you a directive not to bring Negro slaves into the encampment to do your work. What are these men doing here, Causton?

CAUSTON

Sir, we didn't think it would be too big an issue to have a few extra hands to help with the difficult jobs...

OGLETHORPE

You lazy bastards. Send them away this moment, you hear.

CAUSTON

But...

OGLETHORPE

I said send them away. Now!

CAUSTON

Yes sir.

ZIPPORAH

Jones and Scott approached but kept their distance.

OGLETHORPE

Jones and Scott, I said, "No rum." Is there anything ambiguous in that order? What is wrong with you, people?

ZIPPORAH

Oglethorpe snatched an axe embedded in a nearby log, lifted it high above his head, and, with two swipes, split open one of the casks of rum. The contents flowed out on the ground. He turned his wrath to the other rum casks, splitting them open as well.

OGLETHORPE

(Shouting)

After everything I have done for you, this is the way you respect me? The next person who brings rum or slaves into this village better be prepared to pay with their life! Do you all hear me?

ZIPPORAH

He then threw the axe to the ground.

OGLETHORPE

My God, what an insolent, stubborn people you are!

ZIPPORAH

Shamefully, all of the settlers looked to the ground, unable to face Oglethorpe's wrath as he stormed into his tent. Later that afternoon, Noble Jones, with some trepidation, approached Oglethorpe's tent standing at the entrance.

JONES

(tentatively)

Sir, may I have a word?

OGLETHORPE

Yes, Jones, what is it?

JONES

You need to know that several people in your absence, including Dr. Cox, have taken ill and come down with a fever.

OGLETHORPE

Damn it, man. There's got to be something in that God-awful rum.

JONES

Dr. Cox doesn't seem to know what's causing it.

OGLETHORPE

Who else is ill?

JONES

John Warren, John MacKay, and Minister Herbert. Elizabeth West, who has a fever, has also been taken to bed.

OGLETHORPE

That's it?

JONES

Well, no, a few others are also not feeling well but not so sick to take to bed. Joshua Overend, Francis Mudridge, and Ellen Muir.

OGLETHORPE

Jesus, mother of God. And Dr. Cox has no idea what's causing this?

JONES

No sir. I'm not sure it's the rum, though, sir...

OGLETHORPE

No, it's the rum, all right. Damn. If I hadn't left, none of this would have happened.

JONES

What would you have me do, sir?

OGLETHORPE

Organize all the able-bodied people who aren't ill to tend to the infirm. I'll make the rounds later to check on all who are sick. Keep me posted if anyone else falls ill.

ZIPPORAH

Later that afternoon, Oglethorpe visited Dr. Cox, who was delirious with a fever. He held his hand while he applied a wet cloth to his forehead. The doctor was sweating and coming in and out of consciousness.

OGLETHORPE

Dr. Cox, it's me, James. What can I do for you?

DOCTOR COX

(breathless)

I don't know. With all my medical knowledge, I can't help myself. I don't know what to tell you.

OGLETHORPE

Others are sick like you. Do you think it's contagious?

DOCTOR COX

I don't know.

ZIPPORAH

The doctor's breathing became shallower and labored. He attempted to sit up but then collapsed back into the bed, gasping for air, and then stopped breathing.

OGLETHORPE

Dr. Cox. Dr. Cox. Don't die on me. What am I going to do without you?

ZIPPORAH

The doctor was unresponsive. Oglethorpe placed his ear on his chest, listening for a heartbeat. He reached out his hand and closed the doctor's eyes, then buried his face in his hands, and began to weep.

OGLETHORPE

(weeping)

SFX: Musical Transition

ZIPPORAH

The next day, the entire settlement, minus those not gravely ill, gathered around a grave that had been dug for the doctor.

OGLETHORPE

In the absence of Minister Herbert, who is too ill to attend this service, I will officiate.

(MORE)

OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

We lay to rest Dr. William Cox, who volunteered his services to assist us in the founding of the Georgia Colony. It has been an unfortunate turn of events that he, of all people, would sacrifice his life after all that he forfeited to join us on this pilgrimage to a new land. Let us pray for William. I commend you, my dear brother, to Almighty God and entrust you to your Creator. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

ZIPPORAH

Oglethorpe took the shovel and threw dirt onto the casket that had been lowered down into the hole. Other men did the same until the hole was filled. As he walked away, Fitzwater approached him.

FITZWATER

Mr. Oglethorpe, thank you for your kind words for Dr. Cox. He was a good man.

OGLETHORPE

Never a truer word has been spoken.

SFX: their footsteps as they walk a few paces in silence

FITZWATER

People are wondering what we shall do in the absence of a doctor.

OGLETHORPE

We'll get by Mr. Fitzwater, somehow, some way. Of that, I can assure you.

SFX: musical transition

ZIPPORAH

A week later, all of us re-boarded the ship in preparation for what we prayed would be the final leg of our journey.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Gentlemen, weigh anchor and shake up the main.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN HANSON (CONT'D)

Ensign, keep her trimmed by the head, and helm a-starboard.

SFX: sails flapping in the wind; anchor being drawn up.

ZIPPORAH

A favorable breeze shot our ship out of the inlet and into the Atlantic. The sailing was smooth and finally calm. On the morning of July 11th, we passed by Charles Town on our starboard side. Captain Hanson and my father stood on the deck surveying the coast.

SFX: ship making its way through light waves

CAPTAIN HANSON

That's the city of Charles Town off to the right, Dr. Nunes.

SAMUEL

Is there any reason to stop there?

CAPTAIN HANSON

No. I'll return there to provision the boat and hopefully pick up some cargo for the journey back to England. Quite frankly, sir, I don't think a ship filled with forty-one Jews would be particularly welcome in Charles Town.

SAMUEL

I see...Do you foresee similar problems in the Georgia colony?

CAPTAIN HANSON

That depends, sir. Oglethorpe truly does not know that you're coming?

SAMUEL

I don't believe so.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Then let's hope he's a generous man...

SFX: Musical transition

ZIPPORAH

Later that afternoon, Mr. Oglethorpe sat down at his makeshift desk to write a letter to the trustees, informing them of the dire events of the past days.

SFX: quill pen writing

OGLETHORPE

(Writing with V/O in a quiet voice)

July 10th, 1733. The epidemic in the settlement has continued to spread. Ten people have already died from a mysterious illness raging throughout the village. I suspect it's something in the rum, but I cannot be certain. Unfortunately, Dr. Cox has succumbed to the illness. More troubling, close to sixty people are bedridden with fevers. Work on the building of houses has come to a near standstill. We continue to do our best given the circumstances...

ZIPPORAH

Almost like a drumbeat, new graves were dug each day. Oglethorpe, like a father, did his best to console the grieving and to keep up the spirits of the rest of the settlement. Meanwhile, on the morning of July 11th, our ship, the William & Sarah, made its way past a large island on its starboard side, then turned westward into the mouth of the Savannah River. Luckily, an offshore wind counteracted the strength of the river's flow, allowing us to gradually make our way upstream.

SFX: wind in sails

CAPTAIN HANSON

Ensign Stephens, what do you see on the maps? Is the river navigable?

ENSIGN STEPHENS

Sir, according to the maps, it appears to be.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Let me take a look. Dr. Nunes,
come, join me.

CAPTAIN HANSON (CONT'D)

Dr. Nunes, by everything we were
told when we departed, my best
guess is we'll find Oglethorpe and
the settlers somewhere about here
near these bluffs. It appears to be
ideal high ground to fend off an
enemy attack. We'll head upstream
as long as we can safely navigate
it.

ZIPPORAH

When we reached Yamacraw Bluff,
Captain Hanson surveyed both
riverbanks for human activity. He
spied two people on the ridge.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Ensign Smith, prepare to moor the
ship. Crew, furl the sails.

SFX: anchor dropping in water

CAPTAIN HANSON (CONT'D)

What now, Dr. Nunes?

SAMUEL

Let me confer with my people, but I
think only you and I should go
ashore to confer with Mr.
Oglethorpe. Give me a few minutes.

CAPTAIN HANSON

And what if he doesn't allow you to
disembark?

SAMUEL

Then, we must do everything in our
power to convince Mr. Oglethorpe
that it's in his best interest for
us to join his colony.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Well, let's hope so, Doctor because
my contract does not call for me to
sail all about looking for a
destination that will accept a
boatload of Jews. As you may have
guessed, turning back is out of the
question.

Samuel points to Abraham Minis and Benjamin Sheftall and motions them to join him in a quiet place on deck.

SAMUEL

Abraham, Benjamin, join me at the bow of the ship.

SFX: footsteps on wooden deck

SAMUEL (CONT'D)

I think it best that just one of us go ashore to meet with Mr. Oglethorpe.

ABRAHAM MINIS

I'm not sure of the wisdom of that.

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

I agree with Abraham.

SAMUEL

I have dealt all my life with kings, princes, royalty, and heads of the church. You will need to trust me. I know how to handle nobles like Mr. Oglethorpe.

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

And if he says no?

SAMUEL

"No" is not an option.

ZIPPORAH

I saw them both nod their heads and my father returned to the captain.

SAMUEL

Captain, whenever you are ready, I'm prepared to go ashore.

ZIPPORAH

At the same time, three of the settlement's children, DANIEL THIEBAUT, JOHN MILLEDGE, and ELIZABETH WRIGHT, all about age 12, were exploring the edge of the bluff when Daniel saw the sails of our ship. Excitedly, they ran into the encampment.

DANIEL THIEBAUT

There's a ship on the river! I believe it's one of ours.

ZIPPORAH

Noble Jones stopped what he was doing and ran to the bluff's edge with a spyglass, seeing it was an English ship. He then ran to find Oglethorpe, who was supervising the construction of a house.

SFX: hammering of nails

JONES

Mr. Oglethorpe, I believe we have visitors approaching from the river.

OGLETHORPE

Visitors? From Charles Town?

JONES

Not certain, sir. It flies an English flag.

OGLETHORPE

I had no word anyone was coming from Charles Town.

JONES

See for yourself, sir.

ZIPPORAH

Jones handed Oglethorpe the spyglass, and the two headed for the bluff. Other settlers followed behind them. Oglethorpe watched as the ship drew closer and dropped anchor, mooring in the middle of the river. Four men descended into a small skiff that had been lowered to the water. Slowly, two of the men began rowing the skiff toward the shore.

OGLETHORPE

How curious.

ZIPPORAH

Oglethorpe and Jones headed down the path of the bluff to the river's edge, waiting until the small boat reached the shore. The two sailors jumped out and pulled it to rest on the bank.

(MORE)

ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

Samuel and the Captain came on shore and approached Oglethorpe and Jones.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Good day, sir. Captain James Hanson, sir.

OGLETHORPE

Good day. Where do you hale from, Captain?

CAPTAIN HANSON

London sir.

OGLETHORPE

London? I wasn't expecting a ship with settlers from London for many weeks.

CAPTAIN HANSON

Perhaps Dr. Nunes can explain.

ZIPPORAH

My father stepped forward and extended his hand to Oglethorpe.

SAMUEL

Samuel Nunes, Mr. Oglethorpe.

OGLETHORPE

Pleased to meet you, sir. The Georgia Trustees arranged for your passage here?

SAMUEL

No. Not directly. Masters da Costa, Suasso, and Salvador arranged our passage.

OGLETHORPE

(surprised)

Hmm. Am I to presume then that all of the passengers on your ship are Jews?

SAMUEL

Not all, sir, not the crew, but all the passengers, yes we are all Jews.

OGLETHORPE

And da Costa and his friends sent you here knowing the Trustees explicitly opposed Jews joining the colony.

SAMUEL

Of that, I am not aware.

OGLETHORPE

You should be aware, sir. How many of you are there?

SAMUEL

Forty-one.

OGLETHORPE

And you have able-bodied men on board?

SAMUEL

Yes, nearly half of the passengers, along with my grown sons.

OGLETHORPE

And did I hear Captain Hanson correctly? You are a doctor? A medical doctor?

SAMUEL

Yes, I am.

OGLETHORPE

Good. Dr. Nunes, I need your assistance with an illness that has spread among my settlers and taken many a life. I am willing to allow you and your immediate family to come ashore, but as for the rest of your passengers, they will need to find an alternative destination.

ZIPPORAH

My father paused and took a deep breath.

SAMUEL

Mr. Oglethorpe, there are some things you need to know about me. Twice, I was arrested by the Inquisition in Lisbon. The first time, my wife and I were repeatedly tortured for secretly practicing Judaism.

(MORE)

SAMUEL (CONT'D)

This mangled hand is a constant reminder of that. Luckily, they chose not to burn us at the stake but took all our possessions. For the next twenty years, I worked to rebuild my reputation and was accepted into the King's court as his and the Inquisitor General's physician. In 1726, we were arrested again and charged with assisting fellow Conversos to flee the brutality of the Inquisition. We luckily escaped to London with the help of one of your countrymen, where for the past six years, my family and I have lived in poverty and experienced first-hand the hatred of Jews that is unjustly rife amongst your peers. Since mid-January, we have suffered the worst nightmares the sea can offer, coming within a hair's breadth of being torn apart by waves the height of our masts. Mr. Oglethorpe, I haven't been tortured, incarcerated, lost all my earthly possessions, and experienced the hatred of my fellow human beings to come all this way in search of freedom to be turned away. If you desire my services as a physician, sir, as God is my witness, it will be all of us or none of us, sir.

SFX: Musical transition

FADE OUT.

END

ANNOUNCER

This is the conclusion of Episode twelve of Flames of Freedom. Written by Richard Stone. Produced and directed by Mark Simon at Cue Tone Productions. Audio Engineering, Original Music, and Sound Design by David Wilson. Executive Producer Lance Toland.

(MORE)

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Special thanks to our ensemble cast...Zipporah played by Angelines Santana. Benjamin played by Jamie Treselyan. Diogo Nunes played by Juan Pablo Gamboa. Gracia Nunes played by Gabriela Lopetegui. James Oglethorpe played by Ian Russell. Additional roles played by Brad Davidorf, Barry Stoltze, Francois Clemenceau, Jerry McDaniel, and Roxanne Rittman.

[pick up from previous recordings]

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