

## **SERIOUS TROUBLE FOR *THE BOOK OF MORMON***

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**(AUTHOR OF *THE KEYSTONE OF MORMONISM* )**

### **SMITH'S OFFENSIVE RACISM**

Joseph Smith's *Book of Mormon* God is a racist who changed the skin pigmentation of a large group of people from "white and delightsome" to "dark and loathsome" for sin and then later changed it back to "white and delightsome" for righteousness. (2 Nephi 5:21-23, 3 Nephi 2:14-16) Also, dark skinned people will be in big trouble on judgment day. (Jacob 3:5-8) How can LDS Church members defend this highly offensive racism?

It is with reluctance that this paper will now present further evidence against the authenticity of *The Book of Mormon*. Presenting additional evidence may imply that Smith's disgusting racism alone is not enough to invalidate his book, when it certainly is!

### **APPEARING AND DISAPPEARING STEEL**

Where did Nephi get a spring steel hunting bow in 600 B.C.? And why didn't his brothers or anyone else on earth have one? (1 Nephi 16:18) And where did Joseph Smith's Jaredites get steel swords in 1900 B.C., almost 1000 years before the iron age? (Ether 7:9) And why haven't archaeologists found any iron or steel in ancient American ruins? Did all the iron and steel just disappear? (See any good encyclopedia for information about iron and steel.)

### **IMAGINARY WOODEN SUBMARINES**

Joseph Smith's story about eight wooden submarines built by righteous "Jaredites" about 2000 B.C. is ludicrous! These mythical submarines were **airtight** except for one small "stoppable hole" in the bottom and another in the top. How could they have loaded their "flocks and herds" and enough food and water on board to last 344 days at sea through these small holes? What about human and animal needs for fresh air and sunlight? And what about human and animal excrement? Even a few days in one of these underwater stockyards would probably have been fatal for humans and animals. (Ether 6:2-12) These eight submarines were under the water much of the time, and yet strong winds kept them together and blew them half way around the world to a "promised Land."

## **AN EMPTY CONTINENT**

How could Lehi's family have come to an **empty** "promised land" in 600 B.C. and had it all to themselves? *The Book of Mormon* clearly states that no one else was living in America at that time. (2 Nephi 1:8-9) And yet, the Mayans and several other civilizations had been living in the Americas for many centuries. If Smith's book is true history, then why isn't trade or war with the Mayans or anyone else ever mentioned in his *Book of Mormon*?

Mormon apologists have tried to argue for a small and limited area for *Book of Mormon* geography, but this contradicts not only the information clearly stated in Smith's book but also pronouncements made by a long list of LDS Church leaders.

## **THE WRONG DNA**

Dr. Simon Southerton and a number of other leading scientists have made studies of Native American DNA and concluded that Native Americans are not Israelites as claimed by Joseph Smith. About 99.5 % of Native American DNA matches that of Northeast Asians. (Just type DNA and Native Americans on the internet.)

## **IMAGINARY HORSES, CHARIOTS, AND ELEPHANTS**

How could Smith's superman, Ammon, have taken care of King Lamoni's horses and chariots when archaeologists tell us that there were no horses or wheels in ancient America? (Alma 18:9-12) Smith's Jaredites also had domesticated elephants! (Ether 9:19)

## **AMAZING BUILDERS**

How could a few men and boys have built a temple like King Solomon's temple in a few years in their spare time? (2 Nephi 5:16) It took 150,000 laborers and 3,300 supervisors seven years to build King Solomon's temple. (1 Kings 5:1-16, 1 Kings 6:38)

## **WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THE LAW OF MOSES?**

If Smith's *Book of Mormon* Nephites were strictly living The Law of Moses (2 Nephi 5:10), then why is there no record of anyone observing The Passover? And why were there no Jubilees, thank offerings, scapegoats, purifications, and other aspects of that law?

## **BEWARE OF FALSE PROPHETS**

Smith's *Book of Mormon* prophets made a large number of prophecies. Why haven't those things that were supposed to happen after 1830, when *The Book of Mormon* was published, come true? For example, Smith's "remnants" (Native Americans) are to "tread down the gentiles and tear them into pieces like a young lion." This prophecy is repeated five different times. (3 Nephi 16:14-15, 3 Nephi 20:16, 3 Nephi 21:12, 3 Nephi 25:3, Mormon 5:20-24) Why hasn't this prophecy come true? And why haven't the other prophecies made by *Book of Mormon* prophets about things that were supposed to happen after 1830 come true?

## **BIASED WITNESSES**

Joseph Smith's witnesses to his gold plates included his father, his two brothers, and eight of his closest friends. Some of these men had invested a great deal of time and money in writing and publishing *The Book of Mormon*. How can they be considered reliable witnesses? And why did Martin Harris, a witness and an investor, claim Dr. Anthon told him that Smith's translation of "Reformed Egyptian" was the most accurate that he had ever seen, when Anthon couldn't even read Egyptian, much less "Reformed Egyptian"? (P. of G.P., J.S. Hist. 63-65) Harris was obviously lying.

## **MUCH MORE EVIDENCE IS AVAILABLE.**

An objective observer would not need any more evidence against *The Book of Mormon* than just the racism. A true Latter-Day Saint would probably not change his or her mind no matter how much good scientific information against it was presented. It would be too devastating! It would mean that there were no gold plates and that Mormonism itself is based upon deception. The evidence against *The Book of Mormon* presented in this paper is just a small fraction of that found in *The Keystone of Mormonism*.

## **STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE BOOK OF MORMON**

"I told the brethren that *The Book of Mormon* was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book."

JOSEPH SMITH, Founder of Mormonism

“*The Book of Mormon* is the keystone of our religion. . . . Just as the arch crumbles if the keystone is removed, so does the Church stand or fall with the truthfulness of *The Book of Mormon*. . . . If it can be discredited, the Prophet Joseph Smith goes with it and so does the claim to priesthood keys, and revelation, and the restored Church. . . . Yes, my beloved brothers and sisters, *The Book of Mormon* is the keystone of our doctrine.”

EZRA TAFT BENSON, LDS Church President

“While the coming forth of *The Book of Mormon* is but an incident in God's great work of the last days, . . . still the incident of its coming forth and the book are facts of such importance that the whole work of God may be said in a manner to stand or fall with them. That is to say, if the origin of *The Book of Mormon* could be proved to be other than set forth by Joseph Smith; if the book itself could be proved to be other than it claims to be, then the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and its messages and doctrines, which in some respects may be said to have risen out of *The Book of Mormon*, must fall; for if that book is other than it claims to be; if its origin is other than that ascribed to it by Joseph Smith, then Joseph Smith says that which is untrue: he is a false prophet of false prophets; and all he taught and all his claims to inspiration and divine authority, are not only vain but wicked; and all that he did as a religious teacher is not only useless, but mischievous beyond human comprehending.”

B.H. ROBERTS, LDS Historian and General Authority

These statements by Joseph Smith and other Church leaders along with mounting scientific evidence against the authenticity of *The Book of Mormon* make it apparent that the **keystone** in the arch of Mormonism is **crumbling**. And if we accept the declaration made by B.H. Roberts, then Joseph Smith was a false prophet and his claims to inspiration and divine authority are vain, wicked, and mischievous beyond human comprehension!

### **A PROFESSIONAL OPINION**

Mark Twain called *The Book of Mormon* “chloroform in print,” “imaginary history,” and “tedious plagiarism.” He also said that if Smith had left out the phrase, “And it came to pass,” his book “would have been only a pamphlet.”

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**THE KEYSTONE OF MORMONISM is a powerful book. Contact me at: [arza@charter.net](mailto:arza@charter.net). Book orders: Amazon.com, keystonebooks.com, Bookstores. Good Websites: keystonebooks.com, postmormon.org, exmormon.org, latterdaylampoon.com, lds-mormon.com.**