

THE SCIENTIFIC ACCURACY OF THE BOOK OF MORMON

MORMON CONCEPT	FACT
Burying swords in the earth will keep them bright (unrusted) (Alma 24:16).	Burying swords will accelerate their rusting.
Leprosy occurred in the Americas in A.D. 34 (III Nephi 17:7).	The first know case of leprosy in the Americas was in 1758.
Indians had many official records (Helaman 3:15), scrolls (Mormon 5:23), and other writings (Mormon 9:2; III Nephi 9:18; 12:18).	The Indians wrote no books and used only simple picture writing.
God cursed the Indians with dark skin and anyone who marries and Indian “shall be cursed with the same cursing” (II Nephi 5:21; Jacob 3:3–9; Mormon 5:15–17; II Nephi 5:23; Alma 3:6–10).	If this were true, there would be no part Indians, only full Indians. The statement in genetically false.
When Indians accept the Mormon teachings, they will become “a white and delightsome people” (II Nephi 30:5–7; III Nephi 2:15).	No case histories. In fact such a change would imply a correlation between goodness and degree of whiteness.
Baldness is caused by sin (II Nephi 13:24).	Baldness is hereditary or chemically caused.
Domestic cattle, oxen, and cows are separate species, all present in the Americas when man came here (Ether 9:18–19).	They are all the same species and were not in the Americas when man arrived here.
Numerous people and animals in North America were exterminated by poisonous snakes, with sheep driven to the south by the snakes who cooperated with each other. The people ate the animals that had been killed by the snakes (Ether 9:30–34).	There are very few poisonous snakes in North America. Going south increases the probability of contact with snakes. Snakes do not cooperate. There would be too many dead animals for the people to have eaten them, and this would have been against Jewish dietary laws anyway.
Lions are beasts of the forests (III Nephi 20:16; 21:12).	Lions live in the savannahs, not in the forests.
Silk was produced in the Americas (I Nephi 13:7; Alma 4:6; Ether 9:17; 10:24).	Silk was and is produced in Asia, at that time exclusively.
Indians used butter, honey, and candles (II Nephi 17:15; III Nephi 8:21).	These items were unknown to the Indians and were introduced by Europeans after Columbus.

MORMON CONCEPT	FACT
Disease is caused by climate (Alma 46:40).	Disease is not caused by climate.
Arabia has much fruit and honey (I Nephi 17:5).	Arabia is a desert and has been for many thousands of years.
Jews made ships from the “ample timber of Arabia” (I Nephi 18:1).	There are very few trees in Arabia and none useable for ship building.
Nephi and other faithful Jews left the “Land of Jerusalem” to go to North America where they planted seeds they had brought. “These seeds grew exceedingly.” The claimed date is 591 B.C. (I Nephi 18:24; Mosiah 9:9; Jacob 5:1).	Crops of the Near East were olives, wheat, barley, figs, dates, onions, pomegranates, and peaches. Crops from the Americas were potatoes, tobacco, blueberries, cranberries, eggplants, and maize (corn). There is no support for early European crops being the start of American crops.
The Arabia river named Laman flows continually into the Red Sea (I Nephi 2:6–9).	There are no rivers at all in Arabia flowing into the Red Sea nor have there been in human history.
North America has cows, oxen, asses, and horses (I Nephi 18:25).	There were no cows, horses, or asses in North America when it was discovered.
Jared and his family kept all species of fish that inhabit the Americas alive in aquaria for 344 days (Ether 6:1). He also brought these as well as birds, bees, and seed which populated North America (Ether 2:2–3; 5:4).	American birds and fish are for the most part different than those of the Old World. There are <i>very</i> few species of any of these forms that are the same on both continents.
Native language of the Hebrews between 600 B.C. and 91 B.C. was Egyptian (I Nephi 1:2; Mosiah 1:4). Mormon 9:32 refers to “Reformed Egyptian” around A.D. 400.	The Hebrews spoke Hebrew in 600 B.C. Due to the Babylonian Captivity from 560 to 538 B.C. Aramaic became the language. Reformed Egyptian is unknown.
Plant grafting was done in the Americas between 600 B.C. and A.D. 421 (I Nephi 15:16; Jacob 5).	Grafting was not practiced by the Indians.
Leopards, asps, cockatrices were present in North America (II Nephi 21:6–8, 30:12–14).	None of these animals are native to North America.

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