

APPENDIX A

This appendix contains three charts about accuracy in several different religions. The charts are:

Checkable Biblical Accuracy

Scientific Accuracy of the Book of Mormon

Scientific Accuracy of the Koran

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Checkable Biblical Accuracy

In each of the following cases the biblical writer had an opportunity to either state the widely held erroneous belief of his day, or to state a factually true description. In each case what was stated was true, demonstrating knowledge beyond the writer's ability and thus necessarily from God.

FACTS AS STATED IN BIBLE	BIBLICAL REFERENCES	COMMON BELIEF OF DAY IN WHICH AUTHOR LIVED
Blood is essential to life.	Leviticus 17:11–14	Disease and spirits reside in blood. To cure disease, bleed patient.
Both male and female possess “seed of life.”	Genesis 3:15; 22:18	Male has baby in him. Woman is the incubator.
Eating blood of animals forbidden.	Leviticus 17:12, 14	Raw blood used as beverage.
Do not eat animals that died naturally.	Leviticus 17:15	No restrictions on manner of death.
Quarantine of certain diseases.	Leviticus 13–15	No isolation of diseased.
Do not eat pork, scavengers (in Moses' day).	Leviticus 11	No food restrictions.
Principles of avoiding bacterial contamination—one person to another.	Leviticus 15:19–33	No rules of hygiene or isolation.
Human waste products to be buried.	Deuteronomy 23:12–14	Human waste left on ground.

FACTS AS STATED IN BIBLE	BIBLICAL REFERENCES	COMMON BELIEF OF DAY IN WHICH AUTHOR LIVED
Human body can be opened for surgery.	Genesis 2:21	First operations done secretly because populace threatened doctors.
Burning clothes, washing self after contact with deceased man or animal.	Numbers 19:5–22	No recognition of contagion problem.
Earth is round, day and night taking place simultaneously.	Isaiah 40:22 Proverbs 8:27 Luke 17:34	Earth is flat.
Earth is not physically supported.	None mentioned and Job 26:7	Earth held up by four elephants or Atlas (a man), etc.
The North is empty (our North Pole points out of the galaxy).	Job 26:7	Seeing a few stars to the North refuted this idea until 1932.
Space and stars are too large to be measured.	Genesis 15:5 Jeremiah 33:22	Attempts to number the astronomical bodies went on until 1932.
The creation sequence—plants, water creatures, birds, mammals, man, in that order.	Genesis 1:11–28	Most had man first. All varied from correct concept.
The age of everything in the creation is the same.	Genesis 1:1	Different times for different objects.
The continents have floated away from a singular original land mass.	Genesis 1:9	Each continent was autonomous (until 1970).
Herbert Spencer's scientific principles.	Genesis 1	No scientific system of statements.
Lightning is produced naturally.	Jeremiah 10:13; 51:16	Gods throw lightning bolts.
All men are blood relatives.	Acts 17:26	Men have different origins.
The water cycle.	Ecclesiastes 1:7 Job 36:27, 28	Gods pour new water on land continuously.

FACTS AS STATED IN BIBLE	BIBLICAL REFERENCES	COMMON BELIEF OF DAY IN WHICH AUTHOR LIVED
Use of genetics in live-stock.	Genesis 30:30–43	No recognition of inherited physical properties.
Snow and ice seen as valuable.	Job 38:22	Snow and ice seen as a scourge and waste.
Seaworthy ratio for ship construction—30x5x3.	Genesis 6:15	Ships ratio not considered; only the beauty.
Concepts of id and ego.	Romans 7	God induced behavior explanations.
Animals can be changed (mutated).	Genesis 3:14	No change possible.
Directional correctness.	Luke 10:30	Directional error.
Distance accuracy.	Luke 24:13	Errors in distance.

The Scientific Accuracy of the Book of Mormon

MORMON CONCEPT	FACT
Burying swords in the earth will keep them bright (unrust-ed) (Alma 24:16).	Burying swords will accelerate their rusting.
Leprosy occurred in the Americas in A.D. 34 (III Nephi 17:7).	The first known 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.

MORMON CONCEPT	FACT
God cursed the Indians with dark skin and anyone who marries an 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 is genetically false.
When Indians accept the Mormon teachings, they will become “a white and delightful-some 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.

MORMON CONCEPT	FACT
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.
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.

MORMON CONCEPT	FACT
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 very 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.

From “A Biologist Examines the Book of Mormon” by Thomas D. S. Key, *Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation*, June 1985, pages 96–99.

The Scientific Accuracy of the Koran

REFERENCE	STATEMENT	FACT
Al-Nahl 16:66 (Sura of the Bee)	Excretion, blood, and milk come from cattle's abdomen.	Milk and excretion come from different parts of the cow's anatomy.
Al-Nahl 16:69 (Sura of the Bee)	Honey comes out of a bee's abdomen and heals men.	Honey is not produced in a bee's abdomen.
Al-Anam 6:38 (Sura of the Cattle)	All animals and all things that fly form communities like man.	Many forms of life do not live in communities.
Al-Saffat 37:6 (The Ranks) to Al-Jinn 72:8–9 (The Spirits) Al-Tariq 15:16–18, etc.	A piercing flame is a shooting star—a weapon of God used to strike devils.	Meteorites are solid lumps of matter which survive passage through the earth's atmosphere and reach the ground.
Noah 71:15–16 The Dominion 67:3 The Believers 23:17, 86, etc.	There are seven heavens, one above the other. Each holds different things—the lower being fitted with lights.	Groupings of stars do not match the layering description in any way.
The Prophets 21:31 The Bee 16:15 Luqman 31:10 The News 78:6–8 The Overwhelming 88:17, 19	God threw down mountains like tent pegs to keep the earth from shaking.	Mountains do not keep the earth from shaking and are not in any way like tent pegs.

REFERENCE	STATEMENT	FACT
The Women 4:23 (Al-Nisa) The Heights 7:172 (Al-Araf)	Semen comes from the back or kidney area, not from the testicles.	Semen comes from the testicles.
Resurrection 75:37–39 (Al-Qiyama) The Believer 40:67 (Al-Mumin) The Pilgrimage 22:5 (Al-Hajj) The Believers 23:12–14 (Al-Muminun)	Humans are produced by an ejaculated sperm that becomes (alaqa in Arabic) a leech-like clot, a clot of blood, a clot, depending upon which translation you use.	Human development does not involve anything that fits the Koran's description.
The Women 4:23 (Al-Nisa)	Nursing passes on genetic traits from mother to child.	No genetic traits are transmitted by nursing.
The Ant 27:15–44 (Al-Naml)	Solomon talked with ants, birds, and giants (not presented as a miracle or a fable).	This kind of communication does not happen.

Source: *The Qur'an and the Bible in the Light of History and Science* by Dr. William Campbell, available from Reasons to Believe, PO Box 5978, Pasadena, CA 91117-0978, www.reasons.org.

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