

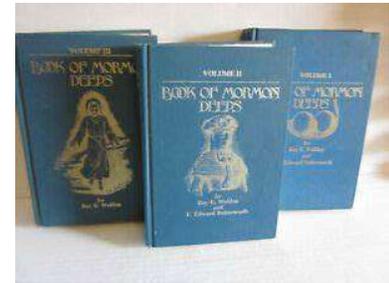


The Book of Mormon speaks of Zion

ELDER ERIC ENGLISH

AUGUST 2022

Book of Mormon Deeps



By Roy Weldon, in the 1970s

“Modern Christianity has its back to the wall, besieged by Communism from without and liberalism from within. The Nephite record now powered by some 10 million printings has a mighty date with destiny as it rolls on with ever increasing momentum toward the eventual full limelight of world acceptance. When this happens the record will have a devastating impact upon the false ideologies and isms of our modern world as pictured in the second chapter of Daniel in the Bible”

Volume 1	Volume 2	Volume 3
Philosophical deeps	Philosophical deeps	Prophetic deeps
	Psychological deeps	Theological deeps
	Prophetic deeps	Literary deeps

Topics

A Holy City in the New World

The Book of Mormon Prophecies of Zion

The Bible and Zion in the New World

America – Joseph’s Land

Were the Bible Prophets Aware of the New World?

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A Remnant to Escape from Jerusalem

The Colony of Joseph to Have a Sacred Book

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Spiritual Gold

The Purpose of the Book of Mormon as Told by Those Who Created It

Remnants of Joseph Build the City

Lamanites Steadfastness

Lamanites and the Endowment

Endowment to Start When Gospel is Preached to Lamanites

Ancient American Gold Yet to Come Forth

Key Messages

1. Multiple BoM writers testify that Zion, the New Jerusalem will be built in this land
2. Zion mentioned 42 times in the BoM; New Jerusalem 8 times
3. The Bible also prophecies of Zion / New Jerusalem in the New World
4. America is Joseph's Land
5. The seed of Joseph will have a sacred book
6. The purpose of the BoM is to come forth through the gentiles to restore a knowledge of God's covenant to descendants of Joseph
7. The Restoration movement and Zion hang on the authenticity of the Book of Mormon
8. The remnant of Joseph will build Zion
9. BoM must go to the Lamanite descendants BEFORE Zion
10. Our greatest missionary opportunity is to the Lamanite descendants
11. The Endowment will start WHEN the Gospel is preached to the Lamanites
12. Why do we REALLY seek the Sealed Portion?

A Holy City in the New World

“The Restoration movement is unique for believing in, promoting, and gathering to a Zion, a New Jerusalem in the New World. There are three major sources for belief in the establishment of a holy city in the New World – the Nephite record, the Bible, and the Doctrine and Covenants containing the revelations of the prophet Joseph Smith”

~ Roy Weldon



The BoM Prophecies of Zion

- Ether 6:1-6
- Zion is mentioned 42 times in the Nephite record.
 - I Nephi – 4; II Nephi – 28; Mosiah – 4; III Nephi – 5; Moroni – 1
- New Jerusalem is mentioned 8 times.
 - III Nephi – 3; Ether – 5
- Examples:
- I Nephi 3:187
- II Nephi 12:30,31
- Jesus, in words directed to the Gentiles in the last days, spoke thus concerning Zion:
- III Nephi 10:1-4



Ether 6:1-6

1 And now I, Moroni, proceed to finish my record concerning the destruction of the people of which I have been writing.

2 For behold, they rejected all the words of Ether; For he truly told them of all things from the beginning of man, And how that after the waters had receded from off the face of this land, it became a choice land above all other lands, a chosen land of the Lord -

3 Wherefore, the Lord would have that all men should serve Him which dwelt upon the face thereof - **And that it was the place of the New Jerusalem**, which should come down out of heaven, and the holy sanctuary of the Lord.

4 Behold, Ether saw the days of Christ; And **he spake concerning a New Jerusalem upon this land** - And he spake also concerning the house of Israel and the Jerusalem from whence Lehi should come - After that it should be destroyed, it should be built up again a holy city unto the Lord;

5 Wherefore, it could not be a New Jerusalem, for it had been in a time of old, But it should be built up again and become a holy city of the Lord; And it should be built up unto the house of Israel -

6 And **that a New Jerusalem should be built up upon this land unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph**, for the which things there has been a type - For as Joseph brought his father down into the Land of Egypt, even so he died there;

Examples of Zion in the BoM

I Nephi 3:187 And blessed are they which shall **seek to bring forth My Zion** at that day, for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost;

188 And if they endure unto the end, they shall be lifted up at the last day and shall be saved in the everlasting kingdom of the Lamb;

II Nephi 12:30 Therefore, **wo be unto him that is at ease in Zion!**

31 Wo be unto him that crieth, "All is well"! Yea, wo be unto him that hearkeneth unto the precepts of men and denieth the power of God and the gift of the Holy Ghost!

III Nephi 10:1-4

1 "But if they will repent, and hearken unto My words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish My church among them; And they shall come in unto the covenant and be numbered among this, **the remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance, And they shall assist My people, the remnant of Jacob -**

2 And also as many of the house of Israel as shall come - That they may build a city which shall be called the New Jerusalem;

3 And then shall they assist My people **that they may be gathered in**, which are scattered upon all the face of the land, in unto the New Jerusalem;

4 And then shall **the powers of heaven come down among them**, And I also will be in the midst; And then shall the work of the Father commence at that day, **even when this gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people.**

An Attack on the BoM

“From the standpoint of historical precedence and vital importance in this great movement, the revelation of the Book of Mormon ranks first. **It is the main pillar which supports the whole superstructure of what is termed Mormonism.** Prove that false and all else so far as authority and distinctiveness are concerned, must tumble like a “house of cards” before a gale.

Conversely, **if the Book of Mormon is actually what its friends claim it to be,** then it is obvious that Joseph Smith is one of the greatest, if not the greatest prophet the world has ever seen. **If true**, it follows that the latter-day Restoration is veritably the “marvelous work and a wonder” visualized by the prophet Isaiah, and as such, should be accepted by all Christian men and women in the same spirit of faith as the Bible. **If true**, then God has spoken, and that which followed, such as the organization of the church and the revelations concerning the founding of Zion or the building up of the Kingdom of God, were and are true also.”

~ J.H.N. Jones “The Case of the Book of Mormon”
Printed in Saints’ Herald, June 18, 1930

America – Joseph’s Land

The Nephite record throughout is committed to the fact that the colony of ancient Hebrews led to America were of the tribe of Joseph. One example:

III Nephi 4:72, 73

72 Behold, our father Jacob also testified concerning a remnant of the seed of Joseph, And behold, are not we a remnant of the seed of Joseph?

73 And these things, which testify of us, are they not written upon the plates of brass which our father Lehi brought out of Jerusalem?

Were the Bible Prophets Aware of the New World?

Isaiah 18:1,2

“Woe to the land shadowing with wings which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia (Africa): that sendeth ambassadors by the sea.”

The prophet **Zephaniah** appears to have had a glimpse of the New World also.

“From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my supplicants (those who pray to the God of Israel, therefore Israelites ~ R.W.), even the daughter of my dispersed (Israelites who had been dispersed to America ~ R.W.), shall bring mine offering.” ~ **Zeph 3:10**

Ethiopia in Isaiah’s and Zephaniah’s time included all of the known continent of Africa.

Zion in America Joseph's Holy City

- Ether 6:8 - Wherefore, **the remnant of the house of Joseph shall be built up upon this land**, And it shall be a land of their inheritance; And they shall build up a holy city unto the Lord, like unto the Jerusalem of old; And they shall no more be confounded until the end come when the earth shall pass away;
- The statement that the New Jerusalem in Joseph's Land shall be a holy city of Joseph has had backing from the biblical prophets about a colony of Joseph coming to the New World
 - "Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock" (Psalms 80:1)
- Where did the Shepherd of Israel lead the flock of Joseph? Let's trace the movements of Joseph and see if the Bible will not give a plain, clear-cut answer.
- Jacob declared "Joseph is a fruitful bough even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall" (Genesis 49:22-26)

Zion in America Joseph's Holy City (cont.)

- Isaiah 16:8
- Jeremiah 48:32
- Psalm 80:1,8,11
- Jeremiah 49:30,31

A Remnant to Escape from Jerusalem

- Isaiah 37:32 – “For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion; the zeal of the Lord of Hosts shall do this.”
- Gen 49:26 – the remnant of Joseph whose branches were to pass over the sea to the “utmost bound of the everlasting hill”
- I Chronicles 9:3 – “And in Jerusalem dwelt of the children of Judah, and of the children of Benjamin, and of the children of Ephraim, and Manasseh.”
- “The Bible contains the history of God’s dealings with a colony of Hebrews who came out of Egypt. If a colony of Hebrews were led to America by the prophetic “zeal of the Lord of Hosts,” then the history of God’s dealings with such a group would constitute a sacred book, the Sacred Book of the New World.”

The Colony of Joseph to Have a Sacred Book

- Ezekiel 37:15-17 = Two sticks growing together passage
- Among the major pillars supporting a Zion in the New World is the Nephite record. Therefore, all evidences that support the existence of such a book are, in the final analysis, Zionic assurances.
- Judah's book and Joseph's book – Where is the book of Joseph?
- If America is Joseph's land, we ought to find evidence of Joseph's book in the New World.
- Moses' blessing for Joseph – Deut 33:13-16
- One of seven descriptive terms used for Joseph's land – “the precious things of heaven”
- I Peter 2:7 = He is precious (meaning Jesus)
- John 10:16 – Other sheep ; this is one of Jesus' most significant statements that he made

Zion to Be a City of Joseph

The Nephite record's continual insistence that Zion is to be a city of the House of Israel raises some serious questions.

The prophet Mormon, knowing the records that he was engraving would one day come to the gentiles, said:

Mormon 2:37 And now behold, this I speak unto their seed, and also to the Gentiles which hath care for the house of Israel, that realize and know from whence their blessings come;

38 For I know that such will sorrow for the calamity of the house of Israel, Yea, they will sorrow for the destruction of this people; They will sorrow that this people had not repented, that they might have been clasped in the arms of Jesus.

Zion to Be a City of Joseph



“Surely the gentiles have not cared for the House of Israel in America, neither have many of them sorrowed for the calamity of this unfortunate people. As a church we can perhaps say that we are not responsible for what has befallen the Indian at the hands of the white man. We comfort ourselves with the thought that we did not rob them of any of their gold. **Yet thus far we have taken and withheld from them more gold than Cortez or Pizarro ever dreamed.** You say such a statement is unbelievable?”

The really great treasure of Indian gold was not found by Cortez or Pizarro in either Mexico or Peru. It was found in New York State by a backwoods country youth. He was led to it voluntarily by one who belongs to and represents the Indian people both ancient and modern. This ancient American, Moroni, led Joseph Smith to where he had secreted this golden treasure, **for a purpose which has apparently thus far been largely if not entirely overlooked.** ~ Roy Weldon

The Purpose of the Book of Mormon as Told by Those Who Created It

- Enos 1:18-29
- The gentiles are to be set up a free people (U.S.) that records might come to the Lamanites by way of the gentiles.
- III Nephi 9:87-92
- Mormon
 - Words of Mormon 1:2
 - Mormon 4:102,103
- Moroni, to the Lamanite descendants
 - Moroni 1:14

Remnant of Joseph Build the City

- **Ether 6:4-9** Behold, Ether saw the days of Christ; And he spake concerning a New Jerusalem upon this land... And that a New Jerusalem should be built up upon this land **unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph...** Wherefore, the Lord brought a remnant of the seed of Joseph out of the Land of Jerusalem... **Wherefore, the remnant of the house of Joseph shall be built up upon this land,** And it shall be a land of their inheritance; **And they shall build up a holy city unto the Lord,** like unto the Jerusalem of old; And they shall no more be confounded until the end come when the earth shall pass away;
- **Do we have the cart before the horse? Can we build Zion before we carry the priceless testimony of their fathers to the Lamanites?**

Lamanites' Steadfastness

- Alma 14:46 - “And thus we see, that when these Lamanites were brought to believe and know the truth, they were firm, and would suffer even unto death, rather than commit sin.”
- After seeing some of the really great and consecrated men of our church hurl the full force of their ministry against the stone wall of indifference, lethargy, and inconsecration of our people and scarcely make a dent, we wonder if after all our biggest hope for Zion is not to do it the Lord’s way and go and convert a few thousand of the kind of people who would rather die physically than break their covenant instead of the kind of people who would rather die spiritually than keep their covenant.
- Where are our 4 sons of Mosiah who are willing to take the message to the Lamanites?
- Surely the marvelous work and a wonder is not finished; it has hardly begun. Surely no greater opportunities have ever knocked on the door of any generation since time began than are knocking at our door.

Lamanites and the Endowment

Practically every mention of the discharge of our responsibility to the Lamanites and the Nephites is followed by or coupled with a promise of endowment.

III Nephi 9:57-60

57 "And it shall come to pass that I will establish My people, O house of Israel.

58 And behold, this people will I establish in this land, unto the fulfilling of the covenant which I made with your father Jacob, **And it shall be a New Jerusalem.**

59 And the powers of heaven shall be in the midst of this people, Yea, even I will be in the midst of you.

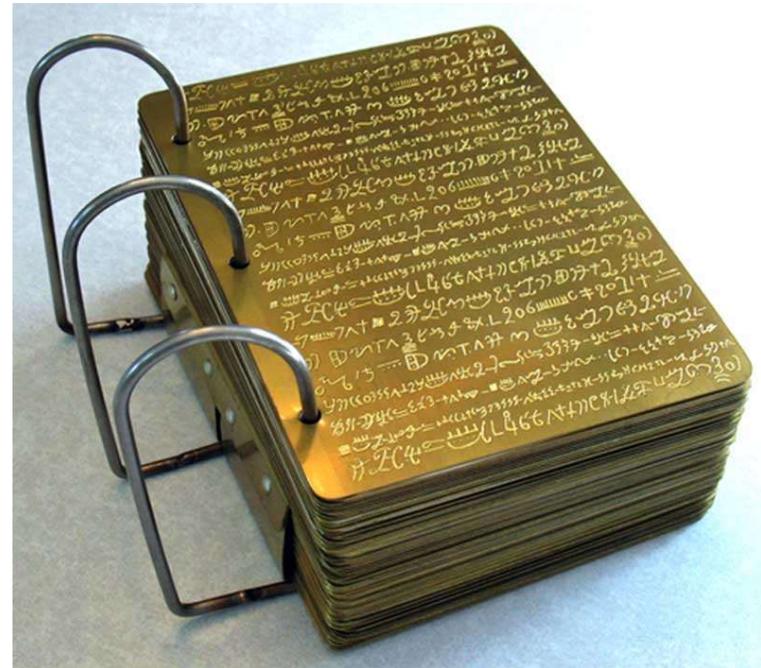
Endowment to Start When Gospel is Preached to Lamanites

- III Nephi 10:4 – “And then shall the powers of heaven come down among them, And I also will be in the midst; And then shall the work of the Father commence **at that day, even when this gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people.**”
- Can it be possible that instead of our waiting for the endowment, the endowment is waiting for us to carry our ancient American gold to its rightful owners?
- The early church was condemned for its failure to discharge this obligation. Zion will remain under condemnation until the Book of Mormon is carried to the Lamanites.
- Remembering that the Book of Mormon is nothing more or less than a covenant the Lord made with Ancient American prophets to bring their testimony to the Lamanites in the last days, let us give earnest consideration to this very clear statement from D&C83:8

Ancient American Gold Yet to Come Forth

“Not long ago we overheard some of our people talking about how they wished that the balance of the Book of Mormon might soon come forth. Having obtained and kept for our own enjoyment the greatest treasure of Ancient America ever discovered, we would like to get the rest of this ancient treasure; but for what purpose?

To consume on our own lusts OR to redeem the remnants of the house of Israel?”





Scientific vs Zionics Future

BOOK OF MORMON DEEPS – PROPHETIC DEEPS - PART SEVEN

Two potential futures?

“Two fabulous futures are being offered to modern man – one, a man-made one without God; the other, a Zionite future with God and Jesus Christ.”

- Ether 6:8
- When Jesus visited the Nephites he promised them he would return some day.

A Golden Age in Ancient America

The Nephite record offers mankind a glorious hope and witness that when Jesus comes again he will introduce a thousand-year millennial, utopian golden age of “joy unspeakable” the like of which “eye hath not seen nor ear heard neither hath it entered into the heart of man.” (1 Cor 2:9)

The basis for this hope rests upon the Book of Mormon’s account of the visit of Jesus to the New World and the 200 year golden age that resulted – now authenticated by both American Indian traditions and archaeology.

The Jews in Palestine did not give our Savior a chance to lead them into a golden age; they crucified him.

Open arms

In the New World, the Nephites received Jesus with open arms and a glorious age was initiated.

And it came to pass in the thirty and sixth year, the people were all converted unto the Lord, upon all the face of the land, both Nephites and Lamanites, and there were no contentions and disputations among them, and every man did deal justly one with another.

In dramatic and moving testimony, the Book of Mormon demonstrates that a heavenly society can come only from a heavenly Personage who introduced himself thusly among the Nephites:

III Nephi 5:11,12

Light and the Life

That Jesus Christ is the “light and life of the world” is demonstrated by two major facts –

1. What happened to the people in Ancient America who accepted him and took him at His word, and
2. What is happening to modern America as they reject him and refuse to take him at his word

Only fabulous future

“There is only one fabulous future – the Christian one.”

Bill Graham, World Aflame, pg 191

What has made America great?

The Nephite record says the blessings of God shall make this nation mighty above all.