

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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The Book of Mormon is not like God's Book

(Jerry Fite)

The Mormons today claim that the Book of Mormon is from God. Orson Pratt, a Mormon Apostle writes, “The Book of Mormon claims to be a divinely inspired record, written by a succession of prophets who inhabited ancient America...” (The Seer, page 15). We should therefore expect to find similarities between it and the Bible.

When we examine some of the Book of Mormon, we are astonished to find that it's writers do not manifest the certainty of their writings to be from the Holy Spirit (John 16:13). Paul claimed his writings to be from the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 2:10-13). You never read of the inspired men of the New Testament making the following statements as seen in the Book of Mormon:

“and I know that the record which I make is true; and I make it with my own hand; and I make it according to my knowledge” (I Nephi 1:3). God's writers do not write things according to mere personal knowledge, but according to the infallible guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Again... *“Nevertheless, I do not write anything upon plates save it be that I think it be sacred. And now, If I do err, even did they err of old; not that I would excuse myself because of the weakness which is in me; according to the flesh, I would excuse myself” (I Nephi 19:6).*

The writers of the Bible did not say, “If I think it be sacred,” because inspired-men-of-God knew they were guided by the Holy Spirit as to what they wrote. They did not have to talk in terms, “if I do err.” Their message was not “according to the flesh,” so they did not have to “excuse” themselves as to what they wrote.

Moroni writes, *“And whoso receiveth this record and shall not condemn it because of the imperfections which are in it, the same shall know of greater things than these... (Mormon 8:12).*

No New Testament writers warn readers of the “imperfections” in what they were writing, for their message was from the infallible God, and He guided the writers to write down God's very words.

The Book of Mormon claims many records of the Lamanites and Nephi people exist that it speaks of in its pages. *“And now there are many records kept of the proceedings of this people by many of this people, which are particular and very large concerning them” (Helaman 3:13).* Also, the Nephites had gold and silver coins with different values, like our present-day coins according to the Book of Mormon (*Alma 11:4-9*).

The Bible has been proven to be true from archaeological findings. Nations, and various people referred to in the Bible actually existed. Coins from the Old Testament sites have been found, which are much older than the times of the Book of Mormon. But, in all the excavations in North, Central and South America, there are not indications that the people referred to in the Book of Mormon existed. And not one Nephite coin has ever been found.

The Bible is from God. If the Book of Mormon were from God, would it not be similar in how the men viewed their writings, and be verified as a historically accurate document?