

# **Mormonism: Cults and Isms**



**Mormon Temple, Washington D.C**

# Who was **Mormon**?

1 John 4:1 Beloved, **do not believe every spirit**, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

**Mormon** Nephite prophet (?) general, and **record keeper**.  
Mormon lived 311–385 A.D.  
(Morm. 1:2, 6; 6:5–6; 8:2–3).



Allegedly **Mormon** was told by another prophet where to find engraved plates which Mormon abridged. He later turned records over to his son **Moroni**.  
When Moroni died—**Moroni** became an angel !

**1,400 yrs later Moroni** told Joe where to find plates?

# Mormon Prophet

1 Thess 5:21 “Examine everything carefully;  
hold fast to what which is good.”

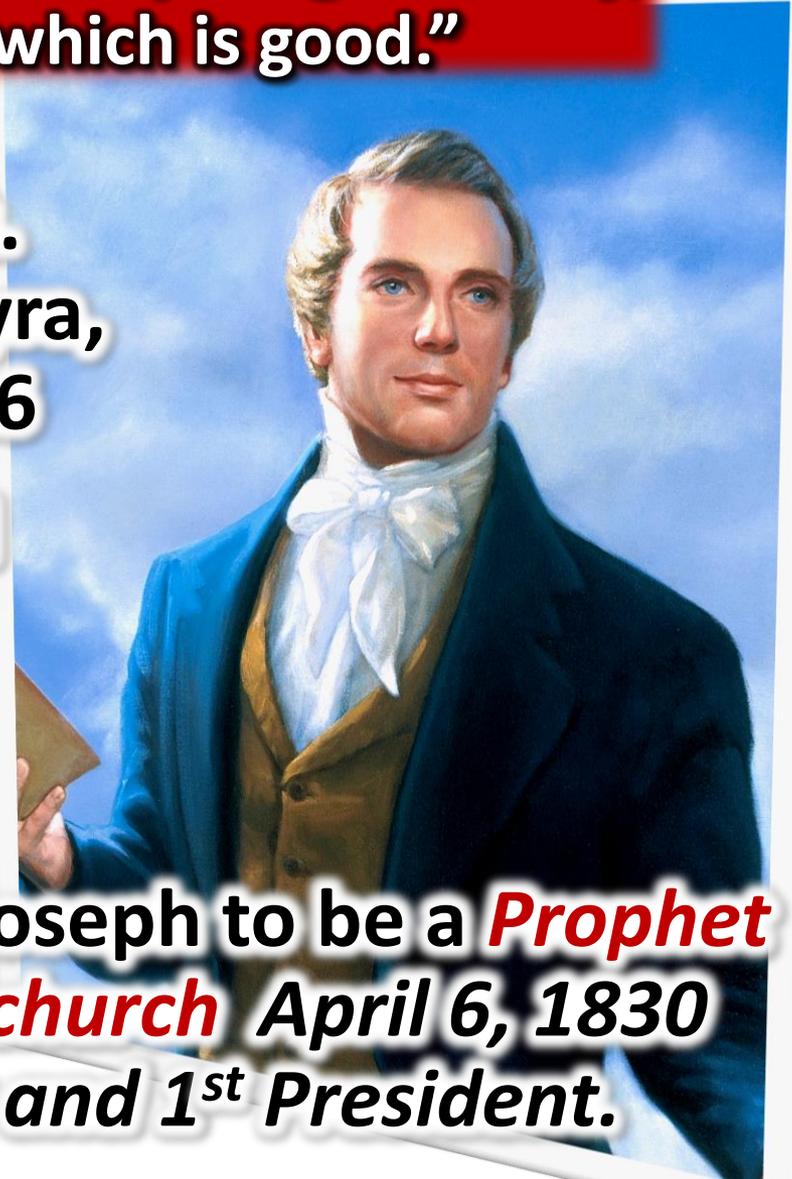
Joseph Smith, Jr.

Born **Dec 23, 1805** Vermont.

Family migrated near Palmyra,  
NY (NE of Cleveland) in 1816

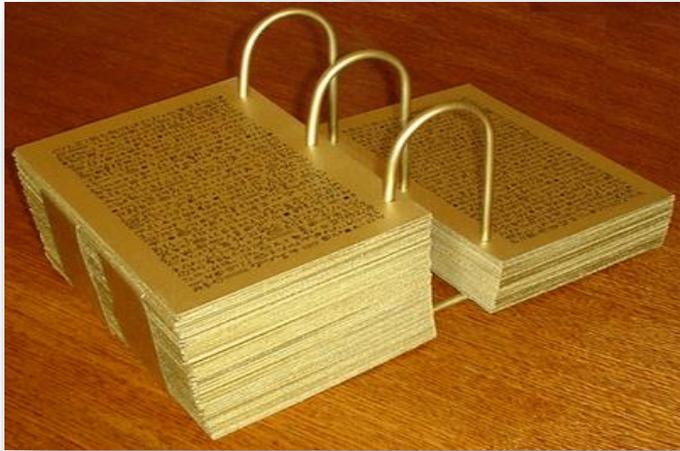
At age 14 (1820) he wanted  
to know which church to  
join & in a vision God  
said **“None of them.”**

Angel **Moroni** (1823) said Joseph to be a **Prophet**  
He started the **Mormon church** April 6, 1830  
and served as prophet and 1<sup>st</sup> President.



# Golden Plates

*Isa 8:20 To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. NIV*



*Moroni (1827) led him to unearth **golden plates** he claimed written in "**Reformed Egyptian.**" (Mormon 9:32-34)*

But linguistic scholars **do not acknowledge** the existence of either a "**reformed Egyptian**" language or script as described by Mormons.

*The **Book of Mormon** was published March 1830. 4*

# The Golden Plates

Joseph Smith said, “Each plate was *six inches* wide and *eight inches* long, not quite so thick as common tin.”



They were filled with engravings, in Egyptian characters and bound together in a volume as the leaves of a book, with *three rings* running through the whole. The volume was something near *six inches in thickness*, a part of which was sealed” (*History of the Church* 4:537).

# Mormon Oddity: *Magic Spectacles*

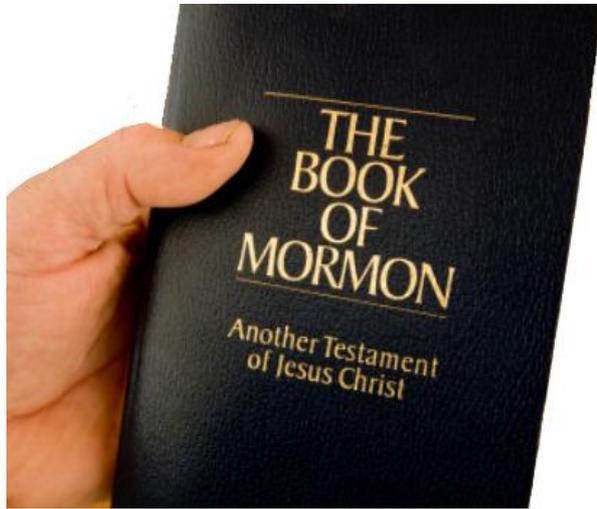
## *Joseph Smith—History; 1 v35*

1:35 “There were *two stones* in *silver bows*— and these stones, fastened to a breastplate, constituted what is called the *Urim & Thummim*— deposited with the plates..”



“... that God had *prepared them* for the purpose of translating the book.” (Magic Spectacles!)

# Book of Mormon: *Flawless?*

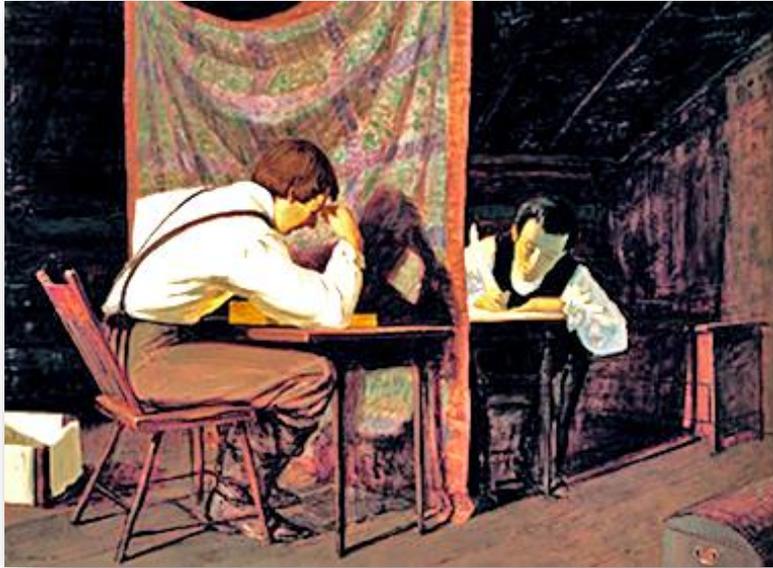


Joseph Smith declared in the preface to his 1830 edition: “*I translated by the gift and power of God.*”

In 1841, Joseph Smith declared the B/M to be “*The most correct of any book on earth*, and the keystone of our religion.” (History of the Church 4:461).

So Joseph couldn't translate it wrong-- because allegedly it was done ***by GOD'S GIFT AND POWER !***

# Book of Mormon: *Flawless?*



And the Scribe couldn't get it wrong either – because “*One character at a time would appear and under it was the interpretation in English.*”

*Joseph would read off the English* to Oliver Cowdery... & when it was written down and repeated to brother Joseph to see if it was correct, then it would disappear, and another character with the interpretation would appear. (Address to All Believers in Christ, David Whitmer; Richmond, Missouri, 1887, p. 12). 8

# Book of Mormon: *Flawless?*

Joseph F. Smith, sixth president of the Mormon church, said “Joseph did **Not** render the writing on the gold plates into the English language in his own style of language as many people believe, ***but every word and letter was given to him by the gift and power of God....***”

“And if there was as ***a word wrongly written or even a letter incorrect***, the writing on the stone would remain there.” (Journal of Oliver Huntington, Utah State Historical Society, p. 168).

# Book of Mormon: *Errors!*

Remember—>each **Word** & **LETTER** must be ***CORRECT!*** Each **LETTER** is approved by God !!!

**1. Dozens** of misspelled words in 1830 edition that were CHANGED in later editions.

- “tempels” (for temples; p268 cf Alma 16:13)
- “yars” (for years; p278 cf Alma 19:16)
- “phrensied” (for frenzied; p305 cf Alma 30:16)
- “eigth” (for eighth; p377 cf Alma 53:23)

And it's ***not the PRINTER'S problem!*** The forward to the 1830 edition contains the printer's explanation 'that he called errors to their attention and was told to print it as it is written !!!' Check it out !

# Book of Mormon: *Errors!*

Remember—>each *Word* & *LETTER* must be ***CORRECT!*** Each LETTER is approved by God !!!

***2. But Thousands*** of grammatical errors in 1830 edition were CHANGED in later editions.

“Could have been *in them days*” p427 (Hel 7:8).

“Writing which *he had wrote*” p351 (Alma 46:19).

“Some ... *arrested* the scriptures” p336 (Alma 41:1)

“They *had arriven in the land*” p270 (Alma 17:13).

“And this *he done.*” p225 (Alma 2:10).

Remember the 1830 reprint done by Mormon publishing contains the printer's statement that he was NOT allowed to correct the grammar!

# Book of Mormon: *Errors!*

## *3. Mormon Mistakes and Inaccuracies*

- a. Jesus “Shall be born of Mary, at Jerusalem which is the land of our forefathers...” (Alma 7:9-10); or at *Bethlehem*? (Mat 2:1-5; Mic 5:2)
- b. Jesus on cross during 3 days of darkness” (1 Neph 19:10) or *three HOURS*? (Lk 23:44; Mt 27:45; Mk 15:33)
- c. Believers first called Christians in BC 72, Decades before Christ ? (Alma 48:10) or in *Antioch*, AD 40 (Acts 11:26)?



# Book of Mormon: *Errors!*

## *3. Mormon Mistakes and Inaccuracies*

d. *Mormon God has a physical, tangible body.*

“The Father *has a body of flesh and bones* as tangible as man’s the Son also.” (D&C 130:22)

Contrast (John 4:24) “God is a *Spirit*”

(Lk 24:39) “Spirit does *NOT have flesh & bones*”

e. *Man was in the beginning with God! D&C 93:23*

v23 “Ye were *in the beginning* with the Father

v29 “Man was also in the beginning w/ God..

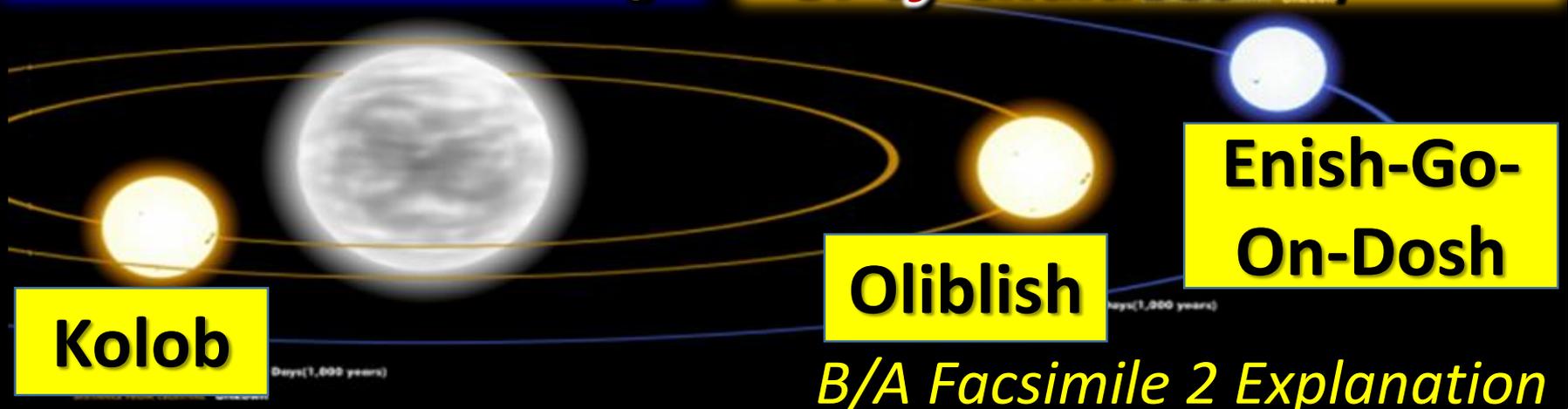
*Intelligence was not created or made..”*

Cf (John 1:1) *Jesus* was in beginning; NOT man !

# Mormon Oddities

Mormon God's throne shielded by a cloud with 3 stars orbiting.

Joe S. claims God gave Abram Urim & Thumim in *Ur of Chaldees*. B/A 3:1



Lord said to Abram by **Urim & Thumim** (B/A 3:4)  
“These are the governing ones; and the name of the *great one is Kolob*, because *it is near unto me*, for I am the Lord thy God.” (B of A 3:2-3)

# Mormon **FALSE** Prophecies!

Deut 18:22 “If the thing does not come about or come true, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken.”

1. Joseph Smith said (1832) that a temple would be built in Missouri **in his generation** and dedicated by Joseph (D&C 84:1-5). **They were driven out 1833 !**



2. Joseph Smith said (Dec 1832) US Civil War would “be poured out on all nations,” (D&C 87:1-3) “**make a full end of all nations**” (D&C 87:7). **That didn't happen !**

# Mormon **FALSE** Book of Abraham !



Translation of papyrus by Joseph Smith claims ***it was written by the hand of Abraham.***

## Joseph's Explanation

1. ***Angel*** of the Lord
2. ***Abram*** on an altar
3. ***Idolatrous Priest*** attempting to offer up Abraham.

Joe says of Abram (1:12)

“And the priests laid ***violence upon me that they might slay me.***.. Altar was the form of a bed stead.”<sup>16</sup>

# Mormon ***FALSE*** Prophecies!



1. ***Egyptology*** in its youth
2. Joe 'translated' but then ***docs thought lost*** in Chicago fire of 1871.
3. NY Metro Museum of Art ***found them*** in 1967 and returned them to the LDS church.

4. This became an embarrassment because the papyri have **NOTHING** to do with Abraham but ***are a standard mummification ceremony !!!***

# Mormon **FALSE** Book of Abraham !

Papyrus has **Nothing** to do with Abraham

*“This great pool of Khonsu... [Osiris Hor, justified], born of Taykhebyt, a man likewise after (his) two arms are [fast]ened to his breast, one wraps the Book of Breathings, which is... with writing both inside and outside of it, with royal linen, it being placed [at] his left arm near his heart...*

*“If this book be recited for him, then he will breathe like the soul [s of gods] for ever and ever.”*



# Golden Plates



Everything in Mormonism stands or falls on the Golden Plates & their religious books.

The whole Mormon Religion and Joseph Smith himself as a prophet is on the line.

There's no plates to examine as Moroni "took them with him back to heaven."

But there's the *Book of Abraham*

**John 8:32 Know the TRUTH  
AND THE TRUTH WILL MAKE YOU FREE”**

