

GLYPH

Notes

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Relevancy of Book of Mormon Today to All—Part 1

By Eric B. Scott

Note: This article is an edited version of a paper presented by Eric Scott at The Book of Mormon Roundtable in November 2009.

*Is The Book of Mormon relevant today and, if so, to whom is it relevant? I have put together various sources to support my contention that it **is** relevant today and it is relevant to **all**. All the sources are referenced by the author and page number in their works. Any unreferenced comments may be attributed to me.*

The Purpose and Testimony of The Book of Mormon

The Title Page of The Book of Mormon states that its purpose is for "...the convincing of the Jew and Gentile that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God, manifesting Himself to all nations." God commanded that the scriptures of The Book of Mormon be written.

Jesus said: "I command you that ye shall write these things after I am gone...that these sayings which ye shall write shall be kept and shall be manifested unto the Gentiles...[that they] may be brought to a knowledge of me, their Redeemer" (III Nephi 7:27-28; Rupe:37).

Nearly every Sunday you can find a TV program quoting some scholar's contention that Jesus was not divine. Obviously the additional witness of Christ's divinity as found in The Book of Mormon is needed.

"The Book of Mormon bears testimony with absolute certainty that Jesus was and is the Messiah, the literal Son of the Almighty God, who took our sins upon Him, broke the bands of death, and lives as a resurrected, glorified Being in the heavenly realm. While some scholars question the biblical testimony of these realities, there is no room for argument when it comes to the Book of Mormon's declaration – Jesus is the very Christ! Not only does The Book of Mormon stand as a powerful second witness of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, but it also bears witness of the biblical record. ... the Bible can be renewed and strengthened through study and acceptance of the Book of Mormon" (Top:230, from Heuston:108).

The Book of Mormon speaks to the issues of our day. It specifically addresses: Social equality, democracy, marriage, taking care of the poor, what happens after death, paradise and hell, the final judgment, being judged on our works and saved by grace, gathering to Zion the New Jerusalem, how and what to pray for, faith and how to increase it, continuing revelation and spiritual gifts, the necessity of repentance and baptism, charity, thanksgiving, discipleship, and Christ's commandments and love for us.

The Book of Mormon bears testimony of many of the events in the Bible such as Mary the mother of Christ, John the Beloved, the 12 apostles, and destruction of Jerusalem (I Nephi 3:2, 4-9, 52, 99, 95, 115); the coming of Christ, his mission, crucifixion and rising from the dead (Mosiah 1:93-101-106). Unlike the Bible, the name of Jesus Christ was revealed in plain language long before his physical birth in Palestine (Ether 1:7-78; II Nephi 11:35-36). "The Book of Mormon testifies that this Jesus is the One of whom all prophets have spoken - that He was the Lamb slain since before the foundation of the world.... Unlike the Old Testament, there is almost no time when the prophecy of the coming Messiah is not known. ... Not only was the name of

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The Book of Mormon stands as a powerful second witness of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

An 1830 first edition of The Book of Mormon (lower right-hand side of photo below) on display at the Michigan Regional Book of Mormon Day, September 2009.



Relevancy of Book of Mormon Today to All *(cont. from page 1)*

Jesus revealed long before his birth, but many other details of his life and subsequent crucifixion and resurrection. These details stand out because they are not explicitly revealed in the Old Testament" (Rupe:57).

The Book of Mormon is one with the Bible. It fulfills Bible prophecy in Ezekiel 37:16-20 that the Bible and Book of Mormon should be joined together [records of Judah and Joseph] (II Nephi 2:19-22). "How valuable a guide to people everywhere is the prophetically established principle that the Bible and The Book of Mormon were to be 'one' in God's hand for 'confounding false doctrine,' 'establishing peace' and bringing an erring people to the knowledge of the 'covenants' of the Lord" (Velt:161)!

William W. Phelps stated: "The Book of Mormon, is just what it was when it first came forth – a revelation from the Lord. The knowledge it contains is desirable; the doctrine it teaches is from the blessed Savior; its precepts are good; its principles righteous; its judgments, just; its style simple, and its language plain: so that a way-faring man, though a fool, need not err therein" (Top:227, from Phelps 1835:178).

"In a magazine survey reported in the United States in 1991, ... the Book of Mormon was eighth on a list of books readers said had been most influential in their lives" (Top:220, from "Our Best Books," *Parade*, 29 Dec 1991:20).

Plain and Precious Truths

Christ told Nephi in a vision: "Wherefore, thou seest that after the book hath gone forth through the hands of the great and abominable church that there are many plain and most precious things taken away from the book, which is the book of the Lamb of God; and after these plain and precious things were taken away, it goeth forth unto all the nations of the Gentiles" (I Nephi 3:171-172 RCE).

"For behold, saith the Lamb, I will manifest Myself unto thy seed, that they shall write many things which I shall minister unto them, which shall be plain and precious; and after thy seed shall be destroyed and dwindle in unbelief, and also the seed of they brethren, behold these things shall be hid up, to come forth unto the Gentiles by the gift and power of the Lamb" (I Nephi 3:184-85 RCE).

The question then naturally arises: What are those "plain and precious" things that are supposedly missing from the Bible? The Book of Mormon sheds a brilliant light on the basic doctrines of the gospel and the plan of salvation. "Some of these 'plain and precious' doctrines are missing or only superficially treated in the Bible. ... We would probably not even realize that they are superficially treated if it weren't for the Book of Mormon. We would struggle on with the limited understanding, confusion, and uncertainty that sometimes beset those who rely solely on the Bible for doctrine" (Top:225).

"Perhaps in many cases it's not so much the words that have changed [in the Bible] but the meaning and understanding of the words. ... By reading the texts of the Bible in light of the knowledge afforded by the Book of Mor-

mon, many plain and precious parts of the gospel can be clearly understood; that is: 'they are plain to him that understandeth' (Proverbs 8:9)" (Rupe:55). [brackets added]

Except where identified, the following list is primarily from Velt:205-221. I have added scriptures to Velt's list, but the list came primarily from Velt. The scriptures themselves are the real reference.

- Jesus appears in America and shows his wounded side and the prints of nails in his hands and feet (II Nephi 5:11-14).
- Jesus commands us to repent and be baptized (III Nephi 12:33).
- Jesus teaches the need for baptism by means of immersion (III Nephi 5:24-26), thus agreeing with Acts 8:36-39.
- Many Book of Mormon prophets teach the importance of repentance and baptism (II Nephi 6:47-49; Mosiah 11:129; III Nephi 5:40, 49; Moroni 7:35; Alma 5:24-27; Mormon 1:65).
- Baptism is not for babies as little children are whole and not capable of committing sin (Moroni 8:8-17).
- Baptism is a covenant with God and must be accompanied by repentance and obedience (Mosiah 9:41-44).
- "The Book of Mormon specifically teaches that the Holy Ghost is given through the laying on of hands by those whom Jesus had called and given such authority." Christ "...spake unto his disciples, the twelve whom he had chosen, as he laid his hands upon them. And he called them by name saying, Ye shall call on the Father in my name, in mighty prayer; and after ye have done this, ye shall have power that on him whom ye shall lay your hands, ye shall give the Holy Ghost; and in my name shall ye give it, for thus do mine apostles. - Moroni 2:1-2. In the scriptures from the Old World we do not find recorded this specific command of the Lord, yet He had obviously given this same ordinance to the church in the Holy Land for we find His chosen apostles practicing this ordinance as outlined in the Book of Mormon (See Acts 8:17 and 19:6). Because this plain and precious ordinance of the Lord has been removed from these sacred texts great confusion exists in the minds of many concerning one of God's greatest promises to mankind" (Rupe:64; Acts 8:5; 12-18; 19:1-6).
- Social equality and all things common (IV Nephi 1:1-4; Mosiah 9:60-64; Acts 2:41-45).
- Monogamy is the rule of marriage (Jacob 2:30-58; Matthew 19:3-6).
- God is unchangeable (Moroni 8:19; Alma 5:35).
- A promise of continuation of spiritual gifts (Moroni 10:8-14). According to Moroni spiritual gifts shall not be "done away even as long as the world shall stand, only according to the unbelief of the children of men. ... [If] spiritual gifts of Bible times were intended also for our time, should we not, ... naturally expect to witness the gifts of healing, miracles, ... etc.? Faith in God was always a prerequisite to the exercise of spiritual gifts" (Velt:168-169 italics in original; brackets added).
- How and when to pray. "Yea, cry unto him for mercy; for he is mighty to save. Yea, humble yourselves, and continue in prayer unto him. Cry unto him, when ye are in your fields,

yea over all your flocks. Cry unto him in your houses, yea over all your household, both morning, mid-day and evening. Yea, cry unto him against the power of your enemies. Yea, cry unto him against the devil, who is an enemy to all righteousness. Cry unto him over the crops of your fields, that ye may prosper in them. Cry over the flocks of your fields that may increase. But this is not all; ye must pour out your souls in your closets, and your secret places, and in your wilderness. Yea, and when you do not cry unto the Lord, let your hearts be full, drawn out in prayer unto him continually for your welfare, and also for the welfare of those who are around you" (Alma 16:219).


- Zion conditions after an entire nation was converted to the Lord following Christ's appearance on this continent and the ministry of his disciples (IV Nephi 1:3-4).
- Jesus blesses little children in America (III Nephi 8:23-27).
- Angels ministered to children (III Nephi 8:23-27).
- Prosperity follows obedience to God's commandments, the rules for our happiness (Alma 1:43-47).
- Danger of selfish riches (Alma 19:20; II Nephi 6:62).
- Seek riches to do good (Jacob 2:23).
- Impart to the poor as we are able and for it is not required that a man should run faster than he has strength (Mosiah 3:43).
- Turn not away unworthy beggars (Mosiah 2:28-34).
- Purpose and value of written scripture (Mosiah 1:3-6).
- Cultivating faith provides a step by step how to do instruction (Alma 16:151-154).
- The means of accomplishing God's commandments (I Nephi 1:65-66).
- How Christ's sacrifice allows mercy to satisfy the demands of justice and provide the means that men might have faith unto repentance (Alma 16:215-216).
- Discourages death bed repentance (Alma 16:231-233).
- Jesus introduces administering the sacrament of the bread and wine to those who repent and are baptized (III Nephi 8:28-32).
- Jesus commands us to perpetuate this sacrament (III Nephi 8:33-36).
- The spirits of all men return to God at death (Alma 19:42-43).
- At the first death the righteous go to Paradise which is a state of happiness and rest and learning (Alma 19:44).
- The spirits of the wicked shall be cast into [hell] which is also a place of learning so that they can make an informed decision at the final judgment (Alma 19:45-47; Mormon 4:62-64).
- Paradise and hell explained. The Book of Mormon's "view of heaven and hell" demonstrates "the purpose and character of God" (Rupe:139).
- At the resurrection the soul shall be restored to the body and every limb and joint shall be restored to the body, not even a hair of the head shall be lost; this is followed by a quickening of knowledge and understanding of our guilt and uncleanness or perfect knowledge of their enjoyment and righteousness

(II Nephi 6:28-35; Alma 19:57-59). In Christianity "there is no unanimity concerning who gets assigned where after death. The Biblical scriptures are true but in and of themselves, they are incomplete." Says Jeffrey Weiss of the Dallas Morning News (Rupe:62) The Book of Mormon explanation brings great relief to those who read this explanation.

- The first resurrection [there are more than one] shall include those who lived and died before the resurrection of Christ, those dying in ignorance and those dying in infancy are saved (Mosiah 8:54-59).
- The willfully rebellious have no part in the first resurrection (Mosiah 8:61-64; II Nephi 6:56).
- We are judged according to works (Mosiah 1:126). "And it is requisite with the justice of God that men should be judged according to their works; and if their works were good in this life and the desires of their hearts were good, that they should also, at the last day, be restored to that which is good..." (Alma 19:66).
- We are saved by grace. "And remember, that after you are reconciled unto God, that it is only in and through the grace of God that ye are saved." (II Nephi 7:42) "For we know that it is by grace that we are saved after all we can do" (II Nephi 11:44).
- Those remaining unrighteous are still unsaved in final judgment and are assigned to eternal torment as a final act of their agency (II Nephi 6:36-40).
- There is eternal joy for the righteous (II Nephi 6:42-43).
- Serving our fellow men is serving God (Mosiah 1:49-50).
- Natural man is an enemy to God and needs the atonement of Christ (Mosiah 1:119-122).
- The principles of democracy including voting and elections (Mosiah 13:34-37).

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Part 2 will be in the next glyph notes, continuing with "more plain and precious truths" & "warnings and promises." We hope you will find this assemblage of scriptures a beneficial resource that will strengthen your testimony of The Book of Mormon. 

More on Indian/Hebrew DNA

By Glenn A. Scott

The controversial 2003 film titled *DNA vs The Book of Mormon*, produced by ex-Mormons under the label Living Hope Ministries, was based on a lengthy article by Thomas W. Murphy titled, "Lamanite Genesis, Genealogy, and Genetics." Both article and film claimed that genetic research had found no evidence of any Middle East blood types among any of the Native American blood groups tested. The article and film were clearly produced for the sole purpose of proving that The Book of Mormon was a fraud.

That film did cause quite a stir, especially among Book of Mormon believers, and reportedly caused many to question, to doubt, and some even to surrender their belief in the authenticity of The Book of Mormon. But those so-called authorities spoke too soon!

Soon after the film debuted, the LDS church assembled a group of genetic scientists who declared that both the article and the film were based on faulty evidence primarily because of testing procedures which did not follow recognized scientific guidelines. However, even Murphy's article allowed that no confirming evidence had been found *to date*, and suggested that future research might offer the LDS some hope. That hope has been answered from some unexpected sources, some of which while not specifically supporting The Book of Mormon, soundly refute both Murphy's article and the ex-Mormon's DVD film based on it.

The following information gleaned from the Internet is not directly related to The Book of Mormon, coming from a different geographic area and from a later time, and nothing in this article is intended to *prove* the validity of The Book of Mormon. This information is presented here only because it adds to growing weight of evidence which clearly refutes Murphy's DNA claim.

ITEM NUMBER ONE is the text of a recent report posted on the www.CherokeeofLawrenceCountyTN.org website. It is from Ugo A. Perego, MSc, Director of Operations & Study Research Coordinator, of the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation. It was addressed to Joe Sitting Owl, Principal Chief of the Central Band of Cherokee of Lawrence County, TN. It read as follows:

All the samples from the Tullahoma [Cherokee] collection ... have been analyzed for the paternal Y chromosome and the maternal mitochondrial DNA data ... the mitochondrial DNA of Native Americans is generally divided in haplogroups A, B, C, and D. Rarely we can find some X, but there is still a lot [of] discussion in the scientific world about the Native American origin of haplogroup X ... A, B, C, and D have been linked to Asian migrations through the Bering Strait. The mitochondrial DNA from the list of people that participate in the Tullahoma collection DOES NOT have any A, B, C, D, indicating that all these people do not have a maternal affiliation with Asian migrations in the American continent. I found all sort of mtDNA

haplogroups among them from Europe and *the Middle East* (italics added).

Continuing work in DNA research has revealed a previously unclassified blood group identified as Haplotype-X, which has now been classified as European (a broad term meaning Caucasian). X2 is classified as Western Asian which includes the Middle East, [which is the link to the Hebrews].

ITEM NUMBER TWO is from a paper titled, "Story of Our Tribal Patch & Logo," which is available from the Cherokee of Lawrence County, TN, Cherokee Museum & Cultural Center, Cherokee Camp, #1 Public Square, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464. The following are excerpts quoted directly from that paper:

The Cherokee of Lawrence County, TN, has proven [sic] through the written historical record and scientific DNA that the Cherokee, and many Eastern Tribes are Hebrew, and a 'Lost Tribe of Israel.' During this time we had a few archaeological artifacts that also supported the other evidence. The Jubilee Stone, and stone artifacts that was inscribed with an ancient middle east language known as Ogam Conseine, and the Hamesh Hand artifacts found in the Alabama mounds.

James Adair's *A History of the American Indians*, published in London, 1775, proves [sic] with his 23 Arguments that there is no question, or doubt that we are Hebrew. We also have the John Howard Payne Papers, 2200 pages, and the research of Dr. Daniel Butrick, that also verify our Hebrew roots. Our tribe was the first to prove [sic] thru scientific DNA that the Cherokee and most eastern tribes are a 'Lost Tribe of Israel.' Our DNA proves that the Cherokee came from the middle east. We have found Ashkenazi, Sephardic, Levite, and even the Cohenime Gene (The Jew Gene).

Unfortunately the artifacts found in the Alabama mounds (ancient Jewish Kabbalah) were photographed, and displayed in the archaeological journals by the experts upside down. This simple error caused many years to pass before they could be understood as to their great significance. It is 'The Hand of God' reaching down to man. This same mistake was repeated by the experts in studying The Bat Creek Stone inscription and caused it to be suspected as fraud. [The Bat Creek Stone was authenticated by Cyrus Gordon in 1971, in his book *Before Columbus*.]

In Cleveland, TN there is a 700 foot wall, three layers deep, each layer plastered with yellow clay full of ancient Jewish inscriptions. The people of that time were following God's commandment in Deuteronomy, 'And it shall be, on the day when ye [shall] pass over Jordan into the land which The Lord thy God giveth thee that thou shall set great stones and plaster them all the words of this law



when thou art passed over, that thou mayest go in, into the land which The Lord thy God giveth thee.' This wall is Tennessee's most important Cherokee historic location. When Sequyah [Sequoia] invented the Cherokee alphabet someone made it a point to inscribe some of this alphabet on this wall as a remembrance proving that the recent Cherokee knew of the major significance of this wall and its location before 'The Trail of Tears.'

Some of the other important inscriptions in stone that is positively Hebrew are the Grave Creek Stone, the Gardner Rock, the Las Lunas Decalogue Stone, and a vast number of stone artifacts that are inscribed with a pre-Hebrew language that is known as Ogam. The Ogam language is found all over the United States and three artifacts have been found in Lawrence County, TN. The stone and sea shell artifacts cannot be carbon dated. Fortunately Robert L. Pyle located and carbon dated a bone needle that was inscribed with Ogam, the result was 2300 BC. "Joe Sitting Owl White, Principal Chief"

A Press Release issued by the same Cherokee of Lawrence County, TN, Cherokee Museum & Cultural Center, reads as follows:

Local Cherokee Prove Jew Connection, The Ashkenazi Jew Test Results, scientifically proves [sic] James Adair's 1775 research of the Cherokee culture, and his "23 arguments as to why the Cherokee are Hebrew...Unfortunately Adair was under the impression that all native Americans were Hebrew, very little was known of other tribes in 1775, especially the western tribes.

The ancient Hebrew writing has been found all over the U.S. and Europe, and is well documented, and is hard in stone proof that the Ashkenazi Jews were here a long time ago, and are still here in the Cherokee.

In summary, the archaeological record proves [sic] that the Hebrew were prehistoric settlers in North America and eventually [some] became of the Eastern Tribes of Native Americans known as the Cherokee, Iroquois, Creek and Seminole, as well as others.

It has long been my position that researchers claiming to seek genetic evidence of Semitic DNA among the Ancient Americans, especially within the time period embraced by The Book of Mormon narrative, have simply been looking

The Bat Creek Stone: excavated in 1889 by the Smithsonian's Mound Survey project from an undisturbed burial mound in Eastern Tennessee. Cyrus Thomas, director of the project, declared that the engravings on the stone were "beyond question letters of the Cherokee alphabet" (Thomas 1894: 391:4). Controversy concerning whether the incisions on the stone were a fraud clouded the discovery for almost 80 years. In 1971, Semitic scholar Cyrus Gordon authenticated the stone through his argument that when the letters on the stone were inverted from Thomas' orientation, the inscription uses the Paleo-Hebrew alphabet of the first or second century A.D. (Gordon 1971). Hebrew scholar and archaeologist Robert R. Stieglitz of Rutgers University agreed with Gordon's reading (Stieglitz 1976, 1993).

in the wrong places. Since it has been demonstrated that it is possible to extract traces of DNA from fossil skeletal material (as has been done with Neanderthal remains), I believe that serious archaeological searches should be made among tombs of known Chicanel (Nephite) and Mamom (Mulekite) sites, such as El Mirador and Nakbe, which have been proven by means of radiocarbon dating to have existed in Book of Mormon times (approximately 585 BC to AD 385).

The reason it is important to search for Nephite and/or Mulekite DNA is because those peoples managed to keep their Hebrew blood lines relatively pure until they were destroyed by the Lamanites; whereas, Laman and Lemuel in their mad desire to rule, obviously joined and adopted the primitive life style of the native tribes which surrounded their initial landing site. They soon managed to dominate those tribes through their superior cultural knowledge. Then, by allowing their children to intermarry with those indigenes, after only a few generations their relatively small contribution of Hebrew genetic material was swamped by that of the vast numbers of the native peoples with whom they intermarried. Thus the descendants of Laman, Lemuel, and the sons of Ishmael (intermarried with numberless native tribesmen) became the so-called Lamanites of The Book of Mormon, having DNA far more Indian than Hebrew.

Let us look forward to the time when geneticists will finally look in the right places, and finally put an end to the questions raised by those ex-Mormons. In addition let us pray that the Lord will prevent any secular or satanic force from suppressing the confirming evidence when it is found.

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GLYPH *Clips*

Camel, Horse, and Human Bones Discovered Together in Oregon

In the last few years, Dennis L. Jenkins, a professor with the University of Oregon, has been investigating the eight Paisley Caves in south-central Oregon. Although the results of his work are controversial, several discoveries warrant investigation.

One is the fact that the human bones and remains found in the caves appear older than the Clovis Culture, which is accepted by North American archaeologists as being the first humans on the continent, sometime around 11,000 years ago. "It caused quite a stir in April 2008 when Oregon archaeologists announced they had scientific proof people were here at least 1,000 years earlier, before the ice bridge formed" (emphasis added; *True West*, Jan./Feb. 2010, p. 14). This means they would have been here before people came over the Bering Strait.

Second, in a little pit at the bottom of a cave they found camel, horse, and mountain sheep bones and a human coprolite (fossilized feces). They radiocarbon-dated the camel and mountain sheep bones, as well as the coprolite, to 14,300 years ago. "With radiocarbon dating adjusted to calendar years, the materials date back to about 14,400 years ago, he [Jenkins] added. Such a dating puts the Oregon site into about the same time period as Chile's Monte Verde site."

Among some of the artifacts found in the caves were manufactured threads of sinew and plant fibers, hide, basketry, rope, and projectile point fragments. "We found little tiny threads that were .04 millimeters, I mean, so tiny they're as small as the threads in your shirt. Clearly, people were sewing their clothing, form-fitting clothing just like we have, shirts,

pants, those kinds of things, perhaps moccasins."

Jenkins, with others, reported on their finds in *Science* (May 9, 2008, pp. 786-789). Others, though, are skeptical and propose the study has been faulty and results unreliable. (See *Science* magazine, July 10, 2009.) Jenkins argued back for the "authenticity of our ancient DNA results and the reliability of the radiocarbon data and stand by the conclusion that our data provide strong evidence of pre-Clovis Native Americans." The arguments are only online at <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/325/5937/148-b>. Change the "b" at the end to "d" to see the second response.

Although the early dates for human occupation in the North American continent are outside biblical dates for creation, what's interesting is that the scientists from the University of Oregon state people were here before the ice



bridge at the Bering Strait formed. A note about the 14,000 BC dates. The Bible seems to indicate that before the flood the atmosphere might have been different (Genesis 2:7), and therefore radiocarbon dating is probably not as accurate prior to the flood. Radiocarbon dates after the flood appear to be correct because in Jaredite and Nephite times they agree with history in The Book of Mormon.

Second—camel and horse bones were found in the cave, both extinct at the time of "discovery" by the Europeans, causing criticism of Joseph Smith's translation of The Book of Mormon that claimed the people had horses before Columbus arrived.

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Pre-Columbian Studies Institute is proud to introduce the newest member to the Editorial Committee of glyph notes, Mindy Mulheron. We look forward to having the benefit of Mindy's many talents and her enthusiasm for The Book of Mormon.

I am currently in my fifth year teaching at Wellington-Napoleon R-IX High School, where I teach freshmen and sophomore English in addition to four other English electives. I love my work and my kids. I am also privileged to serve as the sponsor for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes group and meet with 20-30 kids weekly for Bible studies and fun extracurricular events.

I attended and graduated from Graceland University with majors in Publications Design and Communications: English (Writing emphasis). I was a member of Aponivi

GLYPH *Quotes*

And their eyes were towards the sound thereof — 3 Nephi 5:7

By Mindy Jane Mulheron

I, like Nephi, was born of goodly parents and brought up in the church. I grew up watching the *Animated Stories from the Book of Mormon* videos, and watched my heroes save the day time after time. There was Nephi—the most patient, strong, and kind person I'd ever seen (besides my dad of course). Ammon gave up everything and went to enemy lands to preach the gospel. Alma the Younger saw the error of his worldly ways, returned to the straight and narrow path, and spent the remainder of his days reaching out to those who were like he had been. So many awesome witnesses for Christ shown in those videos, and then came my favorite in the series: *The Savior in America*.

I watched that story again and again, marveling at the awesomeness and magnitude of the event. If I could pick any moment in history to experience, it would be the moment when

Their eyes were towards the sound thereof; and they did look steadfastly towards heaven, from whence the sound came; and behold, the third time they did understand the voice which they heard; And it said unto them, Behold, my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, in whom I have glorified my name, hear ye him. And it came to pass as they understood, they cast their eyes up again towards heaven; and behold, they saw a man descending out of heaven; And he was clothed in a white robe, and he came down and stood in the midst of them, and the eyes of the whole multitude were turned upon him, and they durst not open their mouths, even one to another, and wist not what it meant, for they thought it was an angel that had appeared unto them. And it came to pass that he stretched forth his hand, and spake unto the people, saying, Behold I am Jesus

House and served as House President for two years.

I am a third generation member of the Oak Grove Restoration Branch. My grandmother, Mirl A. Edwards, was converted to the church in 1960, and we've been at Oak Grove ever since. I serve on the Gathering and Greeting Committee at Oak Grove, where I am responsible for the layout and publication of the branch newsletter, *Zion's Path*, and assist in the editing of the *Zion's Call* publication.

I'm incredibly excited to work with the *glyph notes* crew, individuals whom I have looked up to my whole life, and am grateful for the opportunity to serve in this way. ☺



Christ, of whom the prophets testified should come into the world (3 Nephi 5:7-12).

What a moment...To hear the voice of God and see the Savior descend from above. All of my life I have longed to be in that place—to have an experience like that.

While in college at Graceland, I had the opportunity to visit Mesoamerica with Lyle [Smith] and Don [Beebe]. I was finally going to see those places and walk where my heroes had walked!

On the second day of the trip, while at the site Dzibanche, I wandered from the group in search of shade. I found a small wall on the edge of the site and sat down to take it all in. As I gazed on the ruins of the city, it came alive before me; it was as if I was watching one of those videos I loved as a child. The city was magnificent! Its grounds were lush and vibrant, and the colors were beautiful. There were people everywhere: adults buying and selling at places of business, children running and playing, horses and carts pulling goods, and all kinds of animals.

It was only the briefest moment, but it was the most breath-taking moment of my life. I've never doubted The Book of Mormon. I've believed it was true from the time I was a little girl. I went on the trip just to see the sites, but the Lord, in His infinite mercy, blessed me with a tremendous experience, and I am so grateful.

The Book of Mormon is true; it is the word of God. "And we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we prophecy of Christ, and we write according to our prophecies, that our children may know to what source they may look for a remission of their sins" (2 Nephi 1:48). ☺

Animated Stories from the Book of Mormon. The Living Scriptures. Ogden, Utah (twelve videos). 1987-1992.

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Glyph Clips (cont. from page 6)

See also these reports on-line.

Hochberg, Lee. "Discovery Challenges Beliefs About First Humans." *PBS News Hour*. 30 June 2008 (originally aired). 9 January 2010 http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/science/jan-june08/firstamerican_06-30.html.


Jenkins, Dennis L. "NGBPP Research at the Paisley Caves." *University of Oregon Archaeological Field School*. 2009. 9 January 2010 http://www.uoregon.edu/~ftrock/paisley_caves_description.php.

University of Oregon. "Researchers, Led by UO Archaeologist, Find Pre-Clovis Human DNA." *Media Relations*. 3 April 2008. 9 January 2010 <http://pmr.uoregon.edu/science-and-innovation/uo-research-news/research-news-2008/april/researchers-led-by-uo-archaeologist-find-pre-clovis-human-dna>.

New Bronze Inscription from South Arabia

A "startling bronze inscription that has surfaced on the antiquities market," documents that South Arabia traded with "the towns of Judah" at about the end of the seventh century B.C. The inscription, written on a bronze tablet, apparently was a memorial inscription once displayed on the wall of a temple. It is written in the South Arabian alphabet and Sabaeen, the language of the South Arabian kingdom of Sabaea (Sheba) and adjacent areas.

This adds more "proof" that people were writing on metal plates at the time of Lehi—something unknown at the time of Joseph Smith when he told of having received "metal plates" from the angel in 1829. Since that time, numerous examples of writing on metal have surfaced in archaeological digs and other avenues, such as antiquities markets, to substantiate his claim that ancient peoples wrote on metal.

Reported in "Solomon & Sheba, Inc.: New Inscription Confirms Trade Relations Between 'Towns of Judah' and South Arabia," by André Lemaire. *Biblical Archaeology Review* (BAR), January/February 2010, pp. 54-59, 82. 



<http://dev.bib-arch.org/image.asp?PubID=BSBA&Volume=36&Issue=01&ImageID=05400&SourcePage=article.asp>