

IS THE BOOK OF MORMON SUPPORTED BY SECULAR HISTORY?

The Bible speaks of many cities which are in existence today or whose ruins have been discovered: Jerusalem, Babylon, Damascus, Ashkelon, Sidon, Tyre, etc. The veracity of an account may be checked by comparing historical evidences such as city names. Obviously, "Babylon" is not validated by the existence of "Babylon, New York", so the investigation must confine itself to cities within the geographic area of interest. How does the Book of Mormon stack up? Many cities on the U.S. East coast have identical names to those in England, so the State of Utah must be excluded in finding the original cities listed in the Book of Mormon. The following is a compilation of all city names listed in the Book of Mormon followed by the phrase "city of".

ALL CITY NAMES FOLLOWING "CITY OF" IN BOOK OF MORMON

2 Aaron	2 Jacob	0 Moronihah
0 Ammonihah	0 Jashon	0 Mulek
0 Angola	0 Josh	1 Nephi
0 Antiparah	2 Judea	0 Nephiah
1 Bountiful	0 Kishkumen	2 Noah
0 Cumeni	2 Laman	0 Omner
2 Gad	1 Lehi	0 Onihah
0 Gadiandi	0 Lehi-Nephi	1 Shem
0 Gadiomnah	0 Lemuel	0 Shilom
3 Gid	1 Manti	0 Shimnilom
2 Gideon	0 Mocum	0 Zarahemla
0 Gimgimno	0 Morianton	0 Zeezrom
0 Helam	1 Moroni	

Total number of cities	38
Less American cities not found in Encarta 2000	23
Less modern cities founded by Mormons	6
Less city names borrowed from the Bible	7
Less city named after Gid Bruce, 1888, AR	1
Total possible legitimate cities in existence today	1

CONCLUSION – The Book of Mormon does not have the same historical legitimacy as the Bible. The cities listed in the Bible are older than those spoken of in the book of Mormon, yet a huge number are in existence today or have been rediscovered: Bethlehem, Hebron, Ashdod, Jericho, etc. Why can't we find those listed in the Book of Mormon in North or South America other than those recently-named in Utah?

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