

# **Objective Evidences for the Book of Mormon**

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## **Outline of an argument for the authenticity of the Book of Mormon**

The engraved plates of gold were a real, ancient artifact with solid precedents and credible witnesses.

The text of the Book was translated literally from a Semitic language, was written by several distinguishable authors, none of them being Joseph Smith or associates, contains appropriately ancient names, literary forms, and ideas, and implies a consistent regional geography. The text is complex enough to represent years of skilled literary effort.

The Book makes no impossible claims about the ancient world and presents no anachronisms.

The authors of the Book demonstrate correct knowledge of many things Joseph Smith did not know, generally that no one of his time and place knew: e.g., the geography of Arabia, the existence of civilization in ancient America, trans-oceanic migrations to America, ancient warfare, lineage histories, olive culture, volcanic eruptions, etc.

From the above the critical point follows: the Book was written anciently, not in the 1820s.

All the Book's authors claim to be Christian and teach Christian-seeming doctrines. So, the Christian message made a big impact in some part of ancient America. Where did their Christian tradition come from? Any other possible way besides revelation and heavenly messengers, as the Book itself describes?