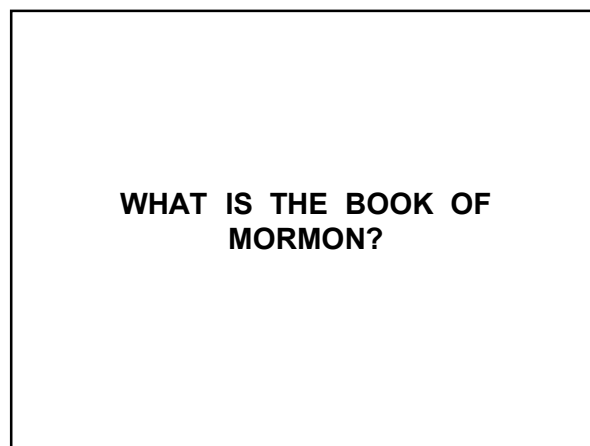
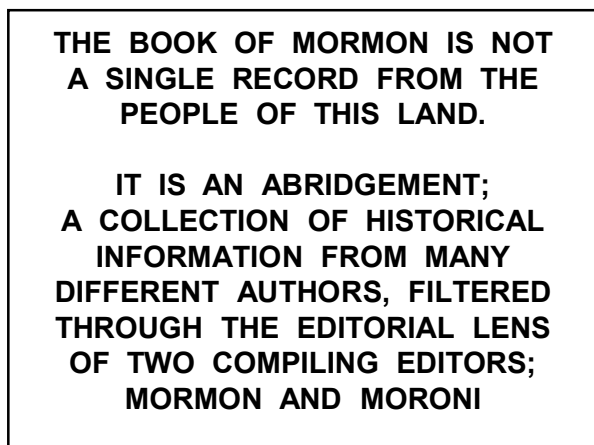


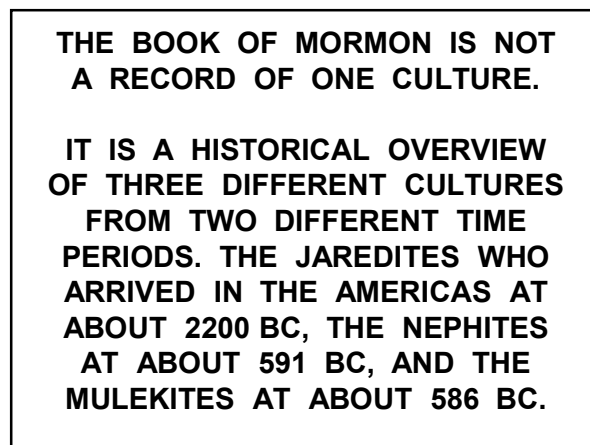
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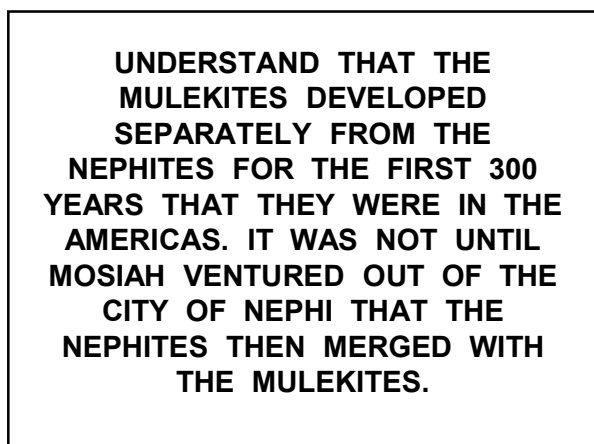
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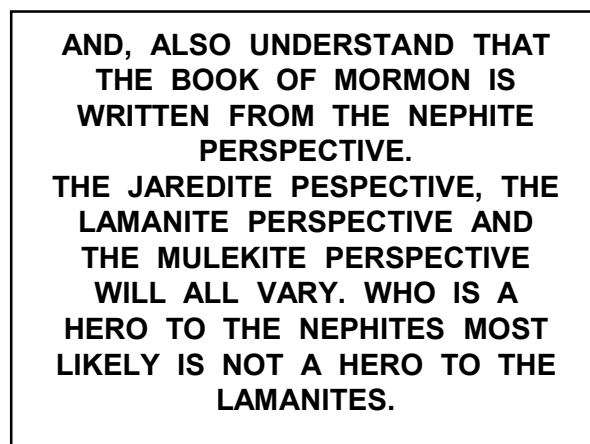
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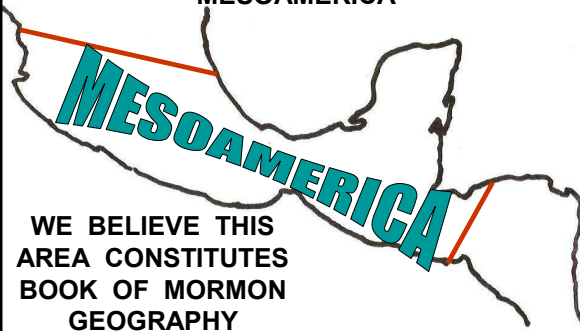


6

**ALL OF THIS PROVIDES A  
CONTEXT FOR THE CULTURES  
WE EXPECT TO FIND WHILE WE  
LOOK FOR THE ANCIENT  
CULTURE OF THE NEPHITES.**

7

**BELOW IS AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE  
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA KNOWN AS:  
"MESOAMERICA"**



**WE BELIEVE THIS  
AREA CONSTITUTES  
BOOK OF MORMON  
GEOGRAPHY**

8

**IN SEARCHING FOR THE  
GEOGRAPHY OF THE BOOK OF  
MORMON, SEVERAL ASPECTS  
MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.**

**HERE ARE SEVERAL  
CONSIDERATIONS**

9

**THE BOOK OF MORMON  
DESCRIBES A CULTURE THAT IS  
VERY HIGHLY DEVELOPED.**

**MESOAMERICA HAS THE MAYA  
CULTURE WHICH WAS VERY  
HIGHLY DEVELOPED.**

10

**THE BOOK OF MORMON  
DESCRIBES A VERY COMPLEX  
ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE  
WITH KINGS, HIGH PRIESTS  
AND JUDGES.**

**THE MAYA CULTURE OF  
MESOAMERICA HAS KINGS,  
INDIVIDUALS FUNCTIONING AS  
SACRED LEADERS, AND THEY  
HAD JUDGES.**

11

**THE BOOK OF MORMON  
DESCRIBES A CULTURE WITH  
A HIGHLY DEVELOPED  
CURRENCY AND COMPLEX  
EXCHANGE SYSTEM.**

**THE MAYA HAD A COMPLEX  
WEIGHT AND EXCHANGE  
SYSTEM ESTABLISHED ON CORN.**

12

THE BOOK OF MORMON IS STRANGELY SILENT CONCERNING EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS. THERE IS NO MENTION OF ICE, SNOW, OR DEALING WITH INCLIMATE WEATHER. THE ONLY REFERENCE TO SNOW IS A SIMILI WHERE THE FRUIT OF THE TREE OF LIFE WAS "AS WHITE AS THE DRIVEN SNOW."

13

THIS DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS WERE NOT PRESENT, BUT IT DOES LEND ITSELF TO BEING IN A MODERATE CLIMATE ZONE AS OPPOSED TO A MORE NORTHERN LOCATION SUCH AS MOST OF THE UNITED STATES.

14

THE BOOK OF MORMON CULTURE IS MULTI-FACETED; THERE ARE COUNTLESS WARS BETWEEN TWO OPPOSING FORCES; TWO OPPOSING ASPECTS WITHIN A SINGLE SOCIETY.

THE MAYA ARE PRESENTLY SEEN AS MULTIPLE CITY-STATES DUE TO THE NUMBERLESS RECORDED WARS AND STRUGGLES

15

AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE MAYA ARE DIVIDED INTO TWO BASIC TYPES; THE HIGHLAND MAYA AND THE LOWLAND MAYA. WE BELIEVE THAT IN PRE-CLASSIC TIMES THE LOWLAND MAYA WERE THE MULEKITES. LATER, THE LOWLAND MAYA BECAME WHAT WE KNOW AS THE NEPHITES ONCE MOSIAH'S PEOPLE MINGLED WITH THE MULEKITES.

16

THIS TRANSLATES AS THE FOLLOWING:

THE MULEKITES ARE THE LOWLAND MAYA AND THE LAMANITES ARE THE SOUTHERN HIGHLAND MAYA. THE NEPHITES ARE THE NORTHERN HIGHLAND MAYA UNTIL THEY MERGE WITH THE MULEKITES AND BECOME LOWLAND MAYA ALSO.

17



18

**THE BOOK OF MORMON DESCRIBES A LARGE AND SUCCESSFUL CULTURE NAMED THE JAREDITES THAT PRECEDED THE NEPHITES.**

**PRIOR TO THE MAYA, THE OLMEC WAS THE HIGH CULTURE OF THE MESOAMERICAN REGION.**

19

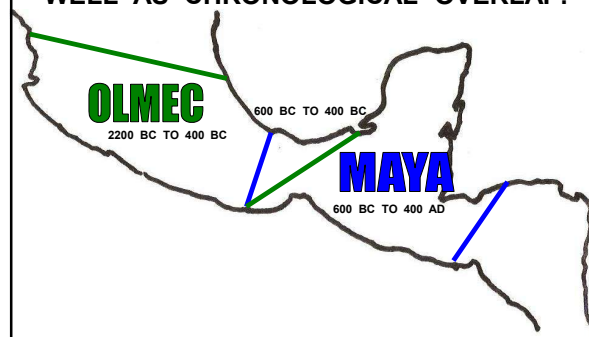
**IN THE BOOK OF MORMON RECORD THERE IS VERY LITTLE SOCIAL INTERACTION BETWEEN THE JAREDITE AND NEPHITE CULTURES; CORIANTUMR IS THE ONLY KNOWN OVERLAP BETWEEN THE TWO.**

20

**ARCHAEOLOGISTS KNOW THAT THERE IS VERY LITTLE INTERACTION BETWEEN THE OLMEC AND THE MAYA; ALTHOUGH THE MAYA DID RE-ESTABLISH MANY OF THE OLMEC CITIES ALONG THE GULF OF MEXICO.**

21

**NOTE THAT THE MAYA AND THE OLMEC HAVE VERY LITTLE GEOGRAPHICAL AS WELL AS CHRONOLOGICAL OVERLAP.**



22

**THE BOOK OF MORMON DESCRIBES A CULTURE THAT WRITES IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES; REFORMED EGYPTIAN AND HEBREW ARE NAMED.**

**SIMILAR TO THE EGYPTIANS, THE MAYA USED HIEROGLYPHS. IT CAN ALSO BE DEMONSTRATED THAT THEY HAD ACCESS TO HEBREW SCRIPTURE CONCEPTS.**

23

**THE BOOK OF MORMON DESCRIBES A CULTURE THAT BUILDS TEMPLES AND HAS CENTRALIZED GOVERNMENTS WORKING IN CONCERT WITH THEIR SACRED LEADERS.**

**THE MAYA WERE CLEARLY TEMPLE BUILDERS AND PLACED THEIR GOVERNMENT IN THE MIDST OF THEIR SACRED CENTERS.**

24

**ONE OF THE STRONGEST ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE MAYA BEING THE BOOK OF MORMON CULTURE IS THE ISSUE OF THE DATES ASSIGNED TO THE CULTURE.**

**WE BELIEVE THAT THE MAYAN CLASSICAL PERIOD IS THE GOLDEN AGE IN THE BOOK OF MORMON.**

25

**THE GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ANY CULTURE OCCURS WHEN THE PEOPLE ARE UNIFIED AND HAVE A CLEAR VISION OF THEIR PURPOSE. THEREFORE, WE BELIEVE THAT THE GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE MAYA OCCURRED BETWEEN 50 AND 300 AD, AT THE HEIGHT OF THE GOLDEN AGE.**

26

**BUT, THE DATES ASSIGNED TO THE MAYAN CLASSICAL PERIOD RUN FROM 600 TO 900 AD.**

**THIS IS APPROXIMATELY 500 YEARS LATER THAN THE BOOK OF MORMON GOLDEN AGE.**

27

**ADDRESSING THIS ISSUE MEANS WE MUST EXAMINE ALL OF THE AVAILABLE EVIDENCE.**

**WE WILL CONSIDER TWO CATEGORIES OF THIS EVIDENCE:  
JAREDITE DATES  
AND  
MULEKITE/NEPHITE DATES**

28

**GENERALLY SPEAKING, THE JAREDITE DATES FIT WITH THE MESOAMERICAN OLMEC CULTURE.**

**MANY EARLIER STUDIES STATE THAT THE OLMEC CULTURE RAN FROM 1800 TO 400 BC.**

**BUT NOW THOSE DATES HAVE CHANGED.**

29

**IT HAS RECENTLY BEEN DEMONSTRATED THAT THE OLMEC CULTURE RAN FROM 2200 TO 400 BC.**

**THIS IS EXACTLY THE BOOK OF MORMON TIMELINE.**

30

IT SEEMS THAT MOST OF THE BOOK OF MORMON EVENTS OCCURRING IN BC DATES DO COINCIDE WITH MAYA EVENTS. IT IS THE AD DATES THAT ARE CONSISTANTLY OFF. IT IS INTERESTING THAT THE TIME GAP COINCIDES WITH THE ADVENT OF CHRIST.

WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS IS MERELY COINCIDENCE.

31

IT IS AT 34 AD THAT THE BOOK OF MORMON RECORDS MASSIVE DESTRUCTION JUST PRIOR TO CHRIST APPEARING IN THE AMERICAS.

32

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE HOW ALL OF THE RECORDED DISASTER EVENTS CAN BE EXPLAINED BY ONE CAUSE:

A SHIFT OF THE TECTONIC PLATES RESULTING IN EARTHQUAKES AND CAUSING A CATAclySMIC VOLCANIC ERUPTION.

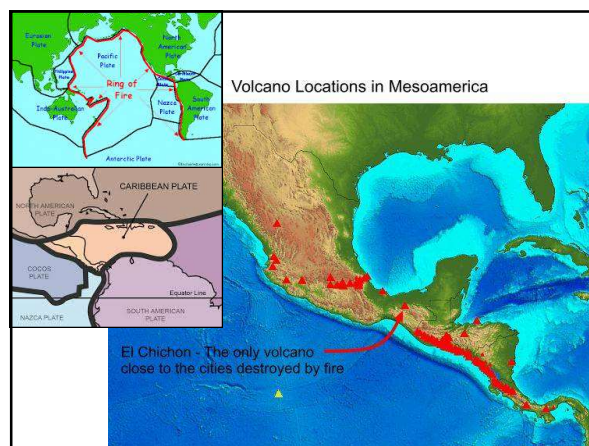
33

THE REDISTRIBUTION OF MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS;  
THE RELEASE OF WATERS FROM THE DEEP;  
THE ATMOSPHERIC BLOCKING OF THE SUN;  
FIRE FALLING FROM THE SKY;  
AIR SO THICK THAT THEY WERE UNABLE TO START A FIRE;

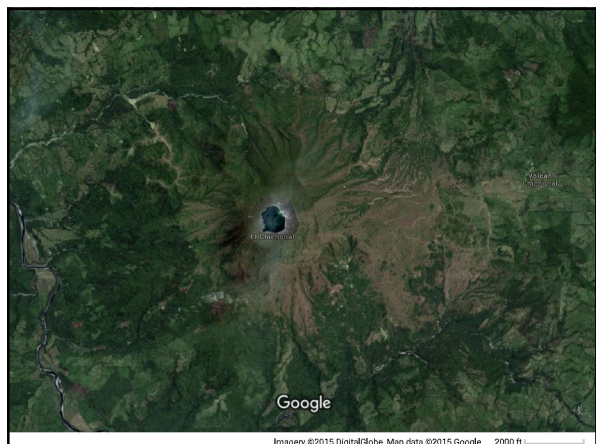
34

ALL OF THIS IS CLEARLY POSSIBLE IN MESOAMERICA BECAUSE THE REGION SITS ON TOP OF FAULT-LINES FROM FOUR TECTONIC PLATES; PACIFIC, CARIBBEAN, NORTH AMERICAN, AND COCOS. THE VOLCANOES THROUGHOUT THE REGION TESTIFY TO ITS VOLATILITY.

35



36



37

**WE BELIEVE THAT A  
"RADIOACTIVE VOLCANO"  
ERUPTED DURING THIS  
DESTRUCTION EVENT AND  
DISRUPTED THE C-14 TIMELINE.**

**WE MUST STRESS THAT THIS IS  
SPECULATIVE THEORY, BUT IT IS  
ALSO FEASIBLE AND  
REASONABLE.**

38

**IF A "RADIOACTIVE VOLCANO"  
ERUPTED DURING THIS TIME,  
THEN IT WOULD HAVE  
INCREASED THE AMOUNT OF  
RADIOACTIVITY FOUND IN  
ORGANIC MATERIALS THAT  
WERE EXPOSED TO THE EVENT.**

39

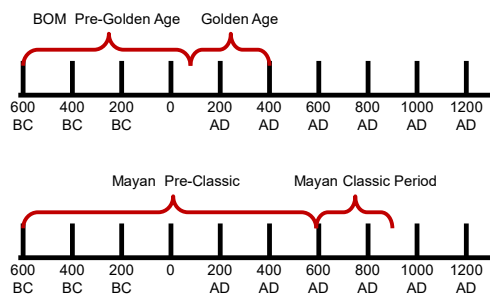
**THIS INCREASE IN RADIOACTIVE  
ISOTOPES WOULD THEN SKEW  
THE C-14 DATING SCALE.**

**THE MATERIALS WILL TEST  
"YOUNGER" SO THAT ORGANIC  
MATERIAL DATES AT 600 AD  
INSTEAD OF 100 AD**

40

**THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT WE  
FIND IN THE DATING ISSUES  
CONCERNING MESOAMERICA.  
THE PRE-CLASSIC PERIOD IS  
EXCEPTIONALLY LONG, THEN  
SUDDENLY THERE IS AN  
EXPLOSION OF CULTURAL  
DEVELOPMENTS THAT RESULT  
IN THE CLASSICAL PERIOD.**

41



**THE SKEWED C-14 DATES MAKE THE  
PRE-CLASSIC PERIOD APPEAR LONGER**

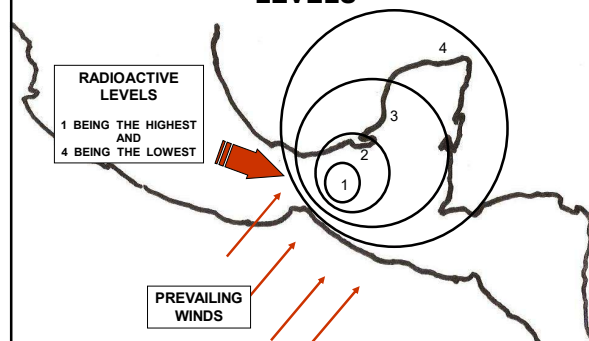
42

MAYAN EVENT DATES AFTER THE TIME OF CHRIST VARY 500 – 800 YEARS LATER THAN BOOK OF MORMON EVENTS.

SO, IF THERE WAS AN ALTERATION IN RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASSICAL PERIOD, IT WOULD MAKE THE PRE-CLASSIC PERIOD APPEAR LONGER.

43

#### MESOAMERICA AND THE POSSIBLE AREAS AND INTENSITIES OF RADIATION LEVELS



44

THEREFORE, WE DO NOT FEEL CONSTRAINED BY THE AD C-14 DATES ASSIGNED TO MAYAN EVENTS FOR OUR STUDIES.

THE CARBON-14 DATING MECHANISM IS NOT AN ACCURATE MEASUREMENT WHEN THE RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPES HAVE BEEN SKEWED.

45

RATHER, WE USE HISTORICAL FIGURES AND EVENTS IN OUR EFFORTS TO CORRELATE BOOK OF MORMON STORIES TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS

AND THERE ARE AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF THESE CORRELATIONS THAT SEEM TO VALIDATE OUR THEORY

46

WE APPROACH BOOK OF MORMON ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE FROM THE ASPECT OF WHAT WE CALL TRENDS OR PATTERNS.

THAT IS TO SAY, WE LOOK FOR EVIDENCES OF SPECIFIC BOOK OF MORMON STORIES AND EVENTS.

BY DOING SO WE HAVE FOUND:  
THE MOSIAH/MAYA MATRIX.

47

THIS MATRIX IS FOUNDED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE MAJOR CHARACTERS IN THE BOOK OF MORMON ARE ALSO THE MAJOR CHARACTERS FOUND IN MESOAMERICA.

48



**ALSO, THAT THE MAJOR CITIES MENTIONED IN THE BOOK OF MORMON ARE MAJOR CITIES FOUND IN MESOAMERICA.**

**IF THE BOOK OF MORMON IS TRUE, THEN WE EXPECT THAT THESE BOOK OF MORMON PEOPLE AND EVENTS WILL BE FOUND.**

49

**THE BOOK OF MORMON PROVIDES US WITH A LIST OF FOUR KINGS AT ZARAHENLA THAT END WITH A TRANSITION TO JUDGES.**

**THEREFORE, WE BELIEVE THIS IS A UNIQUE PATTERN THAT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND IN MESOAMERICA.**

50

**WE DO NOT LOOK FOR EXACT NAME MATCHES ESPECIALLY WHEN WE CANNOT FULLY READ THE MAYAN LANGUAGE. THE BOOK OF MORMON IS A TRANSLATED DOCUMENT. HOWEVER, PATTERNS OF NAMES SHOULD BE EMBEDDED IN THE TRANSLATION EVEN THOUGH NAMES MAY NOT MATCH.**

51

**UNDERSTAND, WE RESPECT THE WORK BEING DONE BY MODERN ARCHAEOLOGISTS AND EPIGRAPHERS. THEY HAVE UNCOVERED REMARKABLE FINDS AND HAVE DEVELOPED VERY RELIABLE CONCEPTS THAT EXPLAIN SOME OF THE ANOMALIES THEY HAVE ENCOUNTERED.**

52

**IN ALMOST ALL CASES WHERE WE DRAW PARALLELS BETWEEN BOOK OF MORMON EVENTS WITH MESOAMERICAN HISTORY, WE BOW TO, AND RELY ON, THE WORK BEING DONE BY ARCHAEOLOGISTS.**

53

**OUR ONLY EXCEPTIONS ARE BASED ON THE INSIGHTS THAT THE BOOK OF MORMON PROVIDES. THEREFORE, WE ADHERE TO THE BOOK OF MORMON TIMELINE BECAUSE TOO MANY OTHER PARALLELS ALIGN WHEN THE ASSIGNED DATING IS IGNORED.**

54

**A GOOD INVESTIGATOR UNDERSTANDS THAT IF THE OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF EVIDENCE CORRELATES, THEN SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DATA ON THE TIME ASPECT.**

55

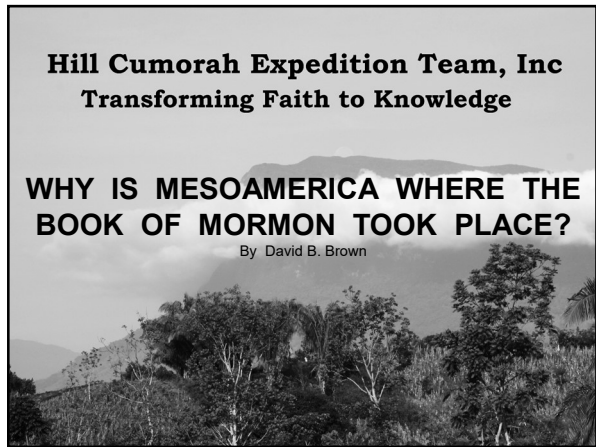
**IN THE CHAPTERS TO COME, WE WILL DEMONSTRATE THE OVERWHELMING EVIDENCES AS TO WHY CENTRAL AMERICA (MESOAMERICA) IS THE REGION, AND THE OLMEC AND MAYA ARE THE CULTURES DESCRIBED IN THE BOOK OF MORMON.**

56

**Hill Cumorah Expedition Team, Inc  
Transforming Faith to Knowledge**

**WHY IS MESOAMERICA WHERE THE  
BOOK OF MORMON TOOK PLACE?**

By David B. Brown



57