

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

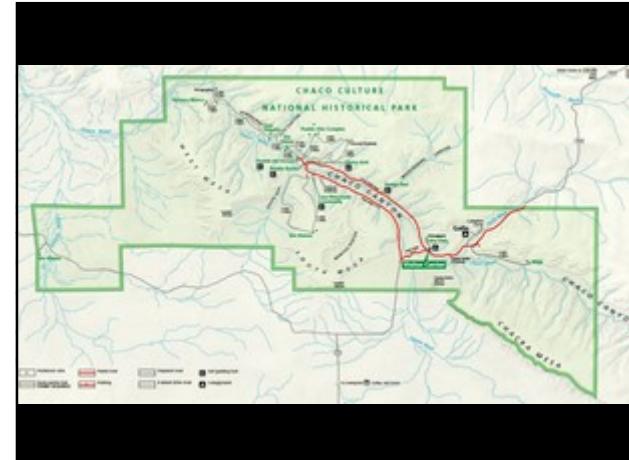
**EVIDENCE OF BOOK OF MORMON  
NORTHWARD MIGRATIONS**

By David B. Brown



**IN MID-JUNE OF 2022, FOUR  
MEMBERS OF THE HILL CUMORAH  
EXPEDITION TEAM TRAVELED TO  
NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO TO  
SPEND A WEEK RESEARCHING  
THE ANASAZI CULTURE IN THE  
FOUR CORNERS REGION.**

**THREE DAYS WERE SPENT  
RESEARCHING THE CHACO  
CANYON SITE WITH ALL OF ITS  
MANY STRUCTURES AND  
PETROGLYPHS.**



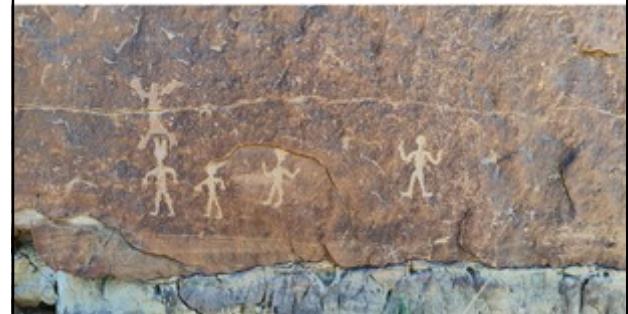
**DAY ONE WAS SPENT AT THE  
LARGEST STRUCTURE CALLED  
PUEBLO BONITO.**



**DAY TWO WAS SPENT AT SEVERAL OF THE SMALLER STRUCTURES.**



**DAY THREE WAS SPENT FOCUSING MOSTLY ON PETROGLYPHS.**



**DAY FOUR WAS SPENT VISITING TWO EXCELLENT MUSEUMS; ONE IN AZTEC, NEW MEXICO AND THE OTHER IN DOLORES, COLORADO.**



**DAY FIVE WAS SPENT VISITING THE LORETO CHAPEL IN SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO.**



**WE HAVE SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS RESEARCHING AND CONSULTING WITH EACH OTHER ON WHAT WE OBSERVED AND TRYING TO FORMULATE A REASONABLE CONCEPT OF WHAT WE GATHERED BY PHOTOS, ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERIENCE AND CONVERSATIONS WITH PROFESSIONALS.**

**WHILE THERE IS MORE RESEARCH YET TO BE DONE, HERE IS WHAT WE ARE ABLE TO SHARE:**

THE ORIGINAL POPULATION OF THE FOUR CORNERS AREA WERE BASKETMAKING, HUNTERS AND GATHERERS. SOCIETY WAS INFORMAL AND FOCUSED ON SURVIVAL. THIS IS A REFUGEE MINDSET.



IT IS DURING THIS TIME THAT CORN WAS INTRODUCED TO THE REGION. THE PEOPLE WERE BEGINNING TO DEVELOP AGRICULTURE AND FARMING.



NOTE THAT THE JAREDITE FINAL BATTLES WERE OCCURRING AT ABOUT 300 BC AND THAT IS RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS DEVELOPMENTAL BASKETMAKER II PERIOD.



ALSO NOTE THAT IT WAS JUST PRIOR TO THE BASKETMAKER III PERIOD ABOUT 450 AD THAT MAJOR SHIFTS BEGAN HAPPENING. THIS IS WHEN THE NEPHITE FINAL BATTLES OCCURRED AND TEOTIHUACAN IS SACKED.



AT THIS TIME, BEANS AND SQUASH WERE INTRODUCED TO THE MAIZE ALREADY BEING GROWN IN THE REGION. AND PITHOUSES BEGAN TO BE UTILIZED.

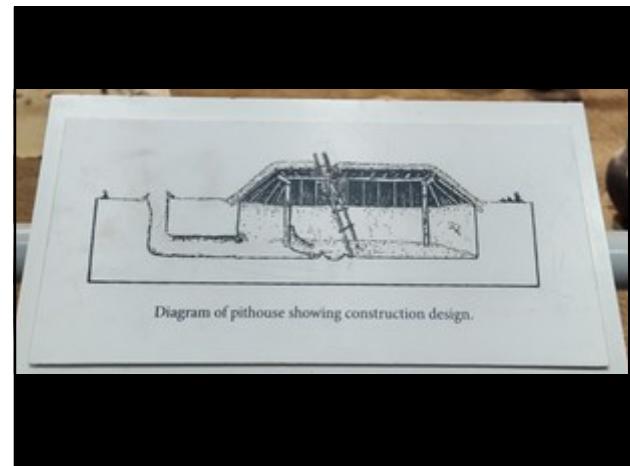


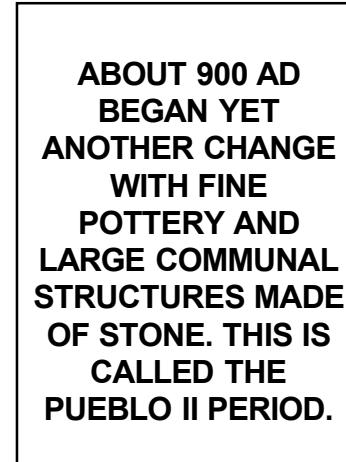
Diagram of pit house showing construction design.



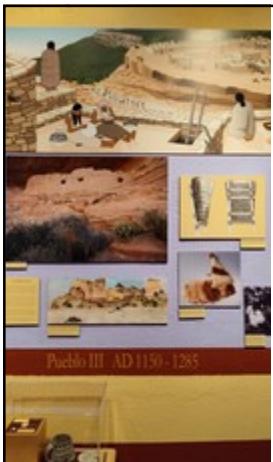
**ABOUT 750 AD BEGAN ANOTHER CHANGE IN LIFESTYLES. THIS BEGAN THE PUEBLO I PERIOD WITH AN INFLUX OF POLYCHROME POTTERY.**



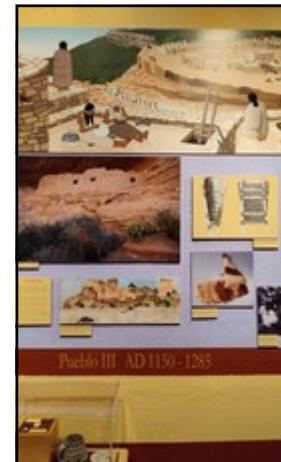
**ALSO, THERE BEGAN TO BE TERRAFORMING FOR WATER CONSERVATION AND FORMAL COMMUNAL HOUSING ABOVE THE GROUND.**



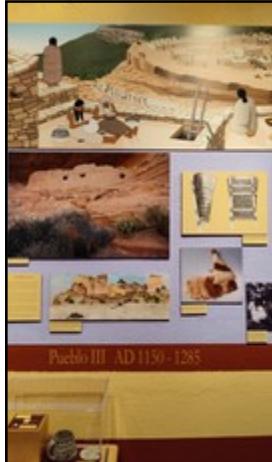
**ABOUT 900 AD BEGAN YET ANOTHER CHANGE WITH FINE POTTERY AND LARGE COMMUNAL STRUCTURES MADE OF STONE. THIS IS CALLED THE PUEBLO II PERIOD.**



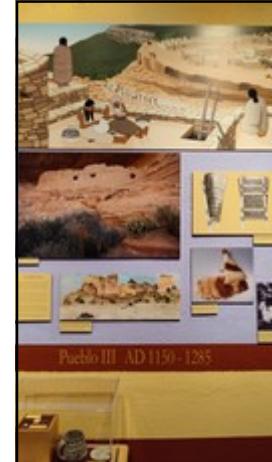
**THE PUEBLO III PERIOD BEGAN ABOUT 1150 AD. THIS IS WHEN ABANDONMENT OF THE CHACO CANYON SITES BEGAN TO OCCUR AND THERE WAS A SHIFT TO LOCATIONS SUCH AS MESA VERDE.**



**THE CLIFF-DWELLINGS LIKE MESA VERDE WERE DEFENSIVE IN NATURE AND IMPLIED SOME FORM OF CULTURAL DANGER THAT REQUIRED SUBSTANTIAL SECURITY.**



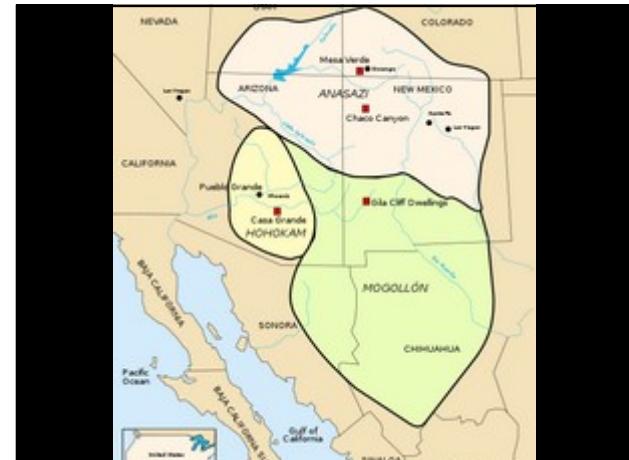
THE PUEBLO III PERIOD ENDED ABOUT 1285 AD. THE ANASAZI PEOPLE WHO POPULATED THESE AREAS JUST SEEMED TO DISAPPEAR.



AFTER THESE WERE ABANDONED, THE UTE, NAVAJO AND HOPI TRIBES BEGAN TO FILL THE VOID, BUT IT WAS CLEAR THEY WERE NOT THE CULTURES THAT ORIGINALLY OCCUPIED THE AREA.

BASED ON THE FACTS WE JUST RECITED AND WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT THE ARTIFACTS THAT HAVE BEEN FOUND IN THE REGION, WE MAKE THE FOLLOWING ASSERTIONS CONCERNING THE CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE FOUR CORNERS REGION:

1. THE SPARSE POPULATION OF THE REGION IN THE 1500 BC TO 450 AD BASKETMAKING PERIOD WERE MOSTLY VESTIGES OF THE CONTINUAL JAREDITE SOCIAL TENSIONS AND WARS. THESE FRINGE FAMILIES WERE THE PIONEERS OF THEIR TIME AND WERE LOOKING FOR FREEDOM FROM SOCIAL HARRASSMENT. WHY THE FOUR CORNERS REGION?



THE COMMON ROUTE OF TRAVEL WOULD BE TO LEAVE THE MEXICO REGION BY MEANS OF THE GULF OF CALIFORNIA NORTHWARD TO THE MOUTH OF THE COLORADO RIVER.

THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM WAS DIFFICULT TO SETTLE AND REQUIRES CEMENT-LIKE STRUCTURES SIMILAR TO THE DESCRIPTION IN HELAMAN.

THE NORTHERN PARTS (HIGHER ELEVATIONS) OF THE COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM HAVE LARGE WOODED AREAS GOOD FOR WOOD STRUCTURES AND LOTS OF WILD GAME FOR COMMUNAL SUSTENANCE.

2. THE CULTURAL SHIFT THAT BEGAN ABOUT 450 AD BROUGHT WITH IT BEANS AND SQUASH, AND AN EXPANSION IN HOUSING CALLED PITHOUSES. WE BELIEVE THAT THESE ARE TEOTIHUACAN REFUGEES THAT ARE BRINGING WITH THEM THE STRONG IDENTITY OF THEIR JAREDITE HERITAGE, AND THAT IT IS REFLECTED IN THEIR PITHOUSE DESIGN.

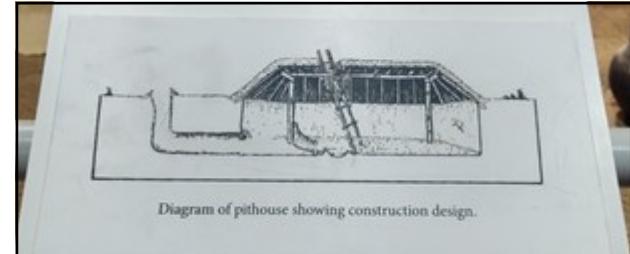


Diagram of pithouse showing construction design.

THESE PIT HOUSES DEMONSTRATE THE DESIGN OF THE BARGES THAT BROUGHT THEM TO THE PROMISED LAND. TIGHT LIKE UNTO A DISH WITH ACCESS FROM ABOVE AND BELOW.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE CULTURAL BAGGAGE OF THE 450 AD CULTURE THEY EXPERIENCED IN THE MEXICAN TEHUACAN VALLEY TRANSFERRED TO THEIR NEW LOCATION AND MORE FORMALIZED ASPECTS OF TRADE AND COMMUNAL LIVING BEGAN TO DEVELOP.

AS MORE AND MORE FAMILIES OF LIKE-MIND BEGAN TO SETTLE IN THE FOUR CORNERS REGION, THEY DEVELOPED A LONGING FOR CONTINUAL INTERACTION THAT FOCUSED ON THEIR SHARED HERITAGE AND BELIEFS. WE PROPOSE THAT THE INITIAL PURPOSE FOR CHACO CANYON WAS AS A MARKETPLACE AND REUNION GROUND.

ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL ASPECTS OF CHACO CANYON IS THE CONCEPT THAT IT IS REFERRED TO AS THE "CENTER PLACE". WE PROPOSE THAT IT WAS A CENTRAL LOCATION FOR ALL OF THE REFUGEES WHO STILL HELD FIRM TO THEIR BELIEF IN CHRIST AND NEEDED REGULAR MEETINGS TO REMAIN FIRM IN THEIR SPIRITUAL HERITAGE.

NEARLY ALL OF THE STRUCTURES AT CHACO CANYON ARE COMMUNAL IN FUNCTION, AND THEY INCORPORATE CELESTIAL ALIGNMENTS ALONG WITH SOME FORM OF SYMBOLIC DESIGN. THESE AREN'T UTILITARIAN, THEY ARE SYMBOLIC AND IMPLY SACRED FORM. IT WAS A SPIRITUAL LEARNING CENTER.



3. THE 850 AD TIME PERIOD DEMONSTRATES ANOTHER SHIFT FROM SMALLER STRUCTURES TO ONES OF A MUCH GRANDER SCALE WITH STONE MATERIALS FOR WALL STRENGTH. STRUCTURES NOT ONLY EXPANDED OUTWARD WITH LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF KIVAS, BUT THEY ALSO WENT UP TO THREE STORIES IN HEIGHT.



THIS EXPANSION IMPLIES ANOTHER INFLUX OF REFUGEES. PERHAPS THIS ONE COMING FROM THE YUCATAN VIA THE RIO GRANDE. THE 850 TO 900 AD TIMEFRAME IS THE TERMINAL CLASSIC MAYAN PERIOD WHERE IT APPEARS ARTISAN CLASSES SUCH AS STONE MASONS, AMONG OTHERS, WERE LEAVING THE REGION.

**THERE WERE VERY FEW MAJOR MAYAN CONSTRUCTIONS THAT TOOK PLACE AFTER THE TENTH CENTURY AD. HOWEVER, WE SEE A MAJOR STONE MASON CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN CHACO CANYON. AND, IN 927 AD, KING ATHELSTAN OF ENGLAND ISSUED A FIRST-EVER CHARTER TO A GILD OF STONE MASONS AND CATHEDRAL BUILDING BEGAN IN WESTERN EUROPE.**





4. WE BELIEVE THIS 900 AD INFLUX AT CHACO CANYON WAS PRIMARILY PEOPLE FROM THE MAYAN INFLUENCE FOR SEVERAL REASONS:

A. THE STONE STRUCTURES WERE SIMILAR IN FORM TO LOWLAND MAYAN CONSTRUCTIONS WITH SMALLER, OFTEN FLAT STONES THAT PROVIDED STRENGTH TO THE WALLS AND THESE WERE THEN COVERED WITH PLASTER. VERY SIMILAR TO CONSTRUCTIONS IN BELIZE.



B. LIKE BELIZE, THE STRUCTURES THAT WERE ADDED TO THE REUNION GROUND KIVAS, WERE SMALL ROOMS THAT COULD HAVE HOUSED MURALS OR BEEN TEACHING ROOMS TO REMEMBER THEIR COMMON SPIRITUAL HERITAGE.



**C. MOST OF THE STRUCTURES ERECTED AT CHACO CANYON ARE ALIGNED TO SOME FORM OF CELESTIAL ALIGNMENT, ESPECIALLY TRACKING SOLSTICES AND EQUINOXES. THESE PEOPLE ARE ARDENT ASTRONOMERS LIKE THE MAYA.**

**D. POLYCHROME AND FINE POTTERY BECAME AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE CULTURE. ADDITIONALLY, THERE WERE POTTERY EFFIGIES OF FOWL (DUCKS) AND SHOE POT POTTERY. THESE POTTERY STYLES ARE FOUND IN THE MAYA REGION CENTURIES BEFORE.**

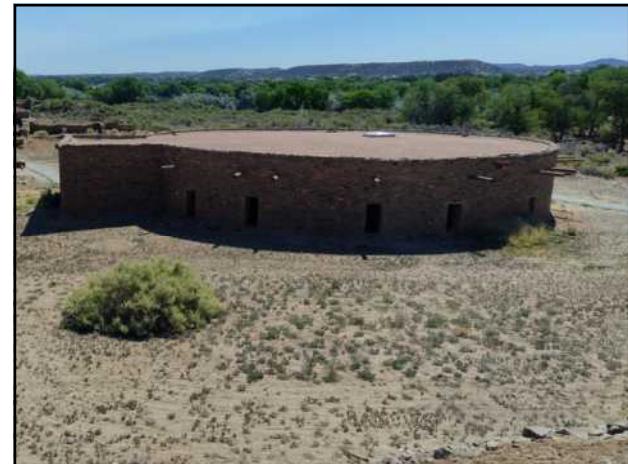
**E. ARTIFACTS THAT INCLUDED BLACK POTTERY (OAXACAN), MACAW SKELETONS AND FEATHERS, CACAO RESIDUE IN POTTERY LIKE THAT FOUND IN THE MEXICAN HIGHLANDS, AND KAMINALJUYU STYLE POTTERY WERE FOUND.**





AND, HERE IS AN INDISPUTABLE EXAMPLE OF MARRIED OGAM SCRIPT, WHICH IS FOUND AMONG THE OLMEC IN MEXICO.

F. PROBABLY THE BIGGEST CLUE FOR ME WAS THE GREAT HOUSE THAT WAS RECONSTRUCTED AT THE ANASAZI SITE CALLED AZTEC. THIS IS A TYPICAL KIVA DESIGN WHICH IS A LARGE SCALE PITHOUSE. IT IS A HUGE ROOM WHOSE DESIGN CONTAINED SEVERAL KEY SYMBOLS THAT CONNECTED IT TO THE JAREDITES.



THE BUILDING IS A CIRCLE WITH A TOTAL OF 16 WINDOWS ON THE OUTSIDE WALLS. IT HAS FOUR HUGE PILLARS THAT SUPPORTS A 90-TON ROOF. EACH PILLAR HAS FOUR STONE DISCS STACKED BENEATH IT TO ACT AS A FOUNDATION.



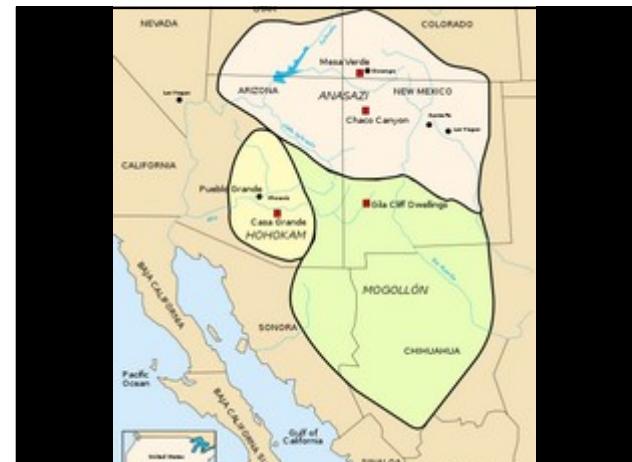
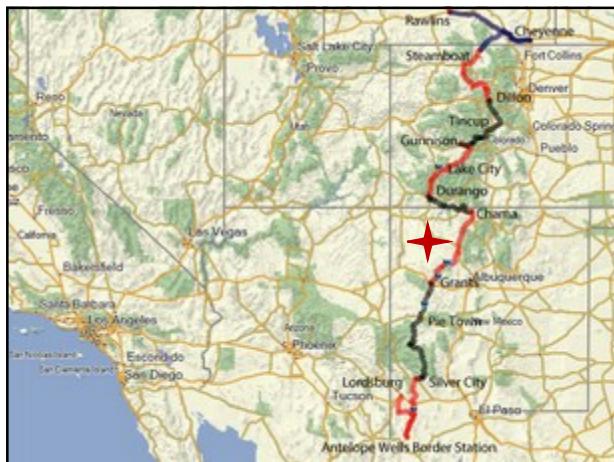
EACH DISC RESEMBLES A MAYAN THRONE. THEREFORE, THE CANOPY OF THEIR SACRED SPACE IS FOUNDED ON THE THRONE OF THE KING OF LIGHT. AND THE LIGHT IN THE ROOM IS PROVIDED BY SIXTEEN WINDOWS WHICH I BELIEVE ALLUDES TO JARED'S 16 STONES OF LIGHT. AND THERE IS A HOLE IN THE ROOF LIKE THE BARGES THAT BROUGHT THEM TO THE PROMISED LAND.

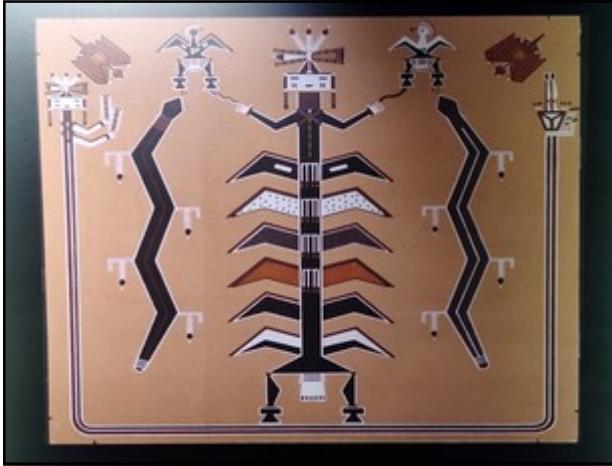


THEREFORE, I BELIEVE THE KIVA IS INTENDED TO REMIND THEM OF THE ORIGINAL EXPERIENCE THAT THEIR JAREDITE ANCESTORS ENCOUNTERED ON THEIR JOURNEY TO THE LAND OF PROMISE.

“WE JOURNEY BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT”  
“OUR ONLY LIGHT IS THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”

WE BELIEVE THAT THE CHACO CANYON REGION WAS A REUNION GROUND THAT HELD FESTIVALS AT THE SPRING AND FALL FEASTS. AND EVENTUALLY, THE GATHERINGS GREW SO LARGE THAT IT REQUIRED A FULL TIME CONTINGENT WHO EVENTUALLY LIVED THERE AND GATHERED FOOD AND STORES REQUIRED FOR THE LARGE FESTIVALS.





DURING THIS PERIOD FROM 900 TO 1200 AD, THERE WAS A CULTURAL EXPLOSION THROUGHOUT THE HEARTLAND OF THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT. THE MISSISSIPPIAN AND EASTERN WOODLAND CULTURES ARE BEGINNING TO THRIVE AND REACH THEIR ZENITH AROUND 1200 AD.

THERE IS EVIDENCE OF MISSISSIPPIAN INFLUENCE REACHING FROM THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS TO THE EASTERN SEABOARD. THERE IS A LARGE MEDICINE WHEEL FEATURE FOUND AT CAHOKIA AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE MISSOURI AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS. THIS FEATURE IS CALLED THE CAHOKIAN WOODHENGE.



THE SAME SUNDIAL/MEDICINE WHEEL FEATURE IS FOUND 10,000 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL IN BIGHORN NATIONAL PARK, WYOMING.



AND THIS SAME SUNDIAL/MEDICINE WHEEL FEATURE IS FOUND IN FLORIDA WHERE THE MIAMI RIVER EMPTIES INTO BISCAYNE BAY.



THE POINT OF ALL THIS IS THAT THIS MEDICINE WHEEL CONCEPT CONNECTS THE HEAVENS TO THE EARTH THROUGH ASTRONOMICAL ALIGNMENTS, SIMILAR TO THE MAYA CONCEPTS OF CONNECTING HEAVEN TO EARTH. AND THE TEACHINGS OF THE MEDICINE WHEEL ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO WHAT IS CONSIDERED SACRED TO NATIVE AMERICANS.

THEREFORE, THERE IS A SACRED BELIEF SYSTEM THAT IS SPREADING ACROSS THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT THAT IS CREATING AN INTERCONNECTED SYSTEM OF COMMERCE AND TRADE. GROWTH ALWAYS TENDS TO RUN PARALLEL WITH CULTURES THAT PROMOTE THE GOSPEL VIRTUES.

A MAJOR CULTURAL SHIFT OCCURRED ABOUT 1200 AD THAT FORCED THE ANASAZI TO BEGIN RELOCATING TO OTHER SITES LIKE MESA VERDE. DUE TO THE DEFENSIVE NATURE OF THE CLIFF DWELLINGS, IT IS REASONABLE TO BELIEVE THAT THERE WERE WARRING GROUPS COMING INTO THE REGION SIMILAR TO THE CHICHIMECAS THAT HAD INVADED THE TEOTIHUACAN REGION.

ONCE YOU GET INTO SERIOUS RESEARCH ABOUT THE ANASAZI, YOU WILL FIND CLAIMS THAT THEY WERE A CANNABALISTIC CULTURE WHO KILLED, ROASTED AND ATE THEIR DEAD. HOWEVER, THAT TYPE OF BEHAVIOR DOES NOT BUILD CULTURAL COHESION, BUT INSTEAD DESTROYS, SO THIS EVIDENCE IS ANOMALOUS. UNLESS....

YOU FACTOR IN INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE BOOK OF MORMON CONCERNING THE DEPRAVITY OF THE WARRING GROUPS.

**Moroni 9:7** “*And now, I write somewhat concerning the sufferings of this people. [8] For according to the knowledge which I have received from Amoron, behold, the Lamanites have many prisoners which they took from the tower of Sherrizah; and there were men, women, and children.*”

**Moroni 9:9** “*And the husbands and fathers of those women and children they have slain; and they feed the women upon the flesh of their husbands, and the children upon the flesh of their fathers; and no water, save a little, do they give unto them. [10] And notwithstanding this great abomination of the Lamanites, it doth not exceed that of our people in Moriantum.*”

**Moroni 9:11** “*For behold, many of the daughters of the Lamanites have they taken prisoners; and after depriving them of that which was most dear and precious above all things--which is chastity and virtue--and after they had done this thing, they did murder them in a most cruel manner, torturing their bodies even unto death; and after they have done this, they devour their flesh like unto wild beasts because of the hardness of their hearts; and they do it for a token of bravery.*”

**Moroni 9:12** “*O my beloved son, how can a people like this, that are without civilization (and only a few years have passed away, and they were a civil and a delightsome people), but, O my son, how can a people like this, whose delight is in so much abomination, how can we expect that God will stay his hand in judgment against us? [13] Behold, my heart cries, Wo unto this people!*”

THIS IS A TESTIMONY OF THE DARKNESS THAT OVERCOMES A PEOPLE WHO WERE ONCE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT AND THEN HAVE TURNED AWAY INTO THE DEPTHS OF THEIR ANIMAL NATURE. THEY ARE GIVEN OVER TO THEIR REPROBATE SPIRITS THAT FEED THE DARK ENERGIES OF THE SPIRITUAL REALM.

WE BELIEVE THAT THIS ACCOUNT IN THE BOOK OF MORMON IS AN INTIMIDATION PRACTICED BY INVADING ARMIES OVER THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN INVADED. WHERE THIS BEGAN, WE DO NOT KNOW, HOWEVER, THIS IS THE PRACTICE THAT MORMON REPORTED AT ABOUT 380 AD, AND IT IS EERILY ACCURATE TO WHAT WAS FOUND IN THE FOUR CORNERS REGION THAT DATES AT 1150 AD.

AND, THIS IS NOT ISOLATED AT THIS TIME IN HISTORY. THE CHICHIMECAS OF MEXICO WERE REPORTED TO BE RUTHLESS AND CRUEL AS THEY SPREAD SOUTHWARD ACROSS THE MEXICAN HIGHLANDS. ALSO, THERE WAS A DECLINE IN THE MISSISSIPPIAN CULTURE AS WELL, WHICH IMPLIES THAT THIS CULTURAL DARKNESS SPREAD ACROSS THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT.

EVENTUALLY, DURING THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY, EVEN THE CLIFF-DWELLING ANASAZI DISAPPEARED. MANY OF THEIR SITES WERE HURRIEDLY ABANDONED AS POTTERY AND CLOTHING WERE LEFT BEHIND. IT WAS AS IF THEY WERE ONCE AGAIN FORCED TO BECOME REFUGEES.

FROM THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY ON, THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE OF NORTH AMERICA IS PRIMARILY TRIBAL, MANY OF WHICH ARE MIGRATORY AND SEARCHING FOR PEACEFUL LOCATIONS THAT PROVIDE SUSTENANCE FOR THE PEOPLE. IT IS IN THIS CULTURAL CLIMATE THAT EUROPEAN CONTACT IS MADE AND THE COLONIZATION PERIOD BEGINS.

SO, THE TIMELINE OVERVIEW OF THE CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REGION AS IT RELATES TO EVENTS PROVIDED IN THE BOOK OF MORMON LOOKS SOMETHING LIKE THIS:



