

8. We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly. We also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.

The Bible is the First Testament of Jesus Christ. The Book of Mormon is Another Testament of Jesus Christ. These are powerful hand in hand when they are used together. They bear record of each other.

The word Bible means “sacred book.” The Bible is divided into two sections, the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament foretells the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and records the Lord’s dealings with men before His birth. The New Testament tells about the life of Jesus when He was on the earth and about the Apostles He chose to lead His early church.

The Book of Mormon is about some of the people who were led anciently to the Americas and about the Savior’s visit to them soon after He was resurrected. The purpose of this book is to convince all people that Jesus is the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

Prophets Prophecy of the Future

Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets (Amos 3:7).

“Prophets Prophecy of the Future,” *Friend*, Nov. 2001, 44

In the Old Testament, the prophet Ezekiel said that the Lord told him, “Take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel ... : then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel. ...

“I will take the stick of Joseph ... and will put [it] ... with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick.”

We know that the stick of Judah is the Bible and the stick of Joseph is the Book of Mormon, both testaments of Jesus Christ and His gospel.* How the Lord would put the sticks together was prophesied in the Book of Mormon by Nephi:

“I looked and beheld a man among the Gentiles, ... and he went forth upon the many waters, even unto the seed of my brethren, who were in the promised land. ...

“And I beheld a book. ...

“And the angel ... said: ... The book that thou beholdest is a record of the Jews, which contains the covenants of the Lord, which he hath made unto the house of Israel.”

The man was Christopher Columbus, and those who came after him to the Americas brought the Bible, which was “put with” the Book of Mormon when the Church of Jesus Christ was again upon the

earth.” (See 1 Ne. 13:12-14, 20-26, 29, 38; *Encyclopedia of Mormonism*—Columbus, Christopher—volume 1, pages 294-295.)

“The Joseph Smith Translation: “Plain and Precious Things” Restored”

By David Rolph Seely

Through the Prophet Joseph Smith’s inspired revisions of the King James Version of the Bible, we receive truths essential to a full understanding of the gospel.

[David Rolph Seely, “The Joseph Smith Translation: ‘Plain and Precious Things’ Restored,” *Ensign*, Aug. 1997, 9](#)

“The Prophet Joseph Smith loved the Bible. He regularly read it, revered its teachings, and found divine truths in its writings. His preaching and writings are full of biblical allusions and interpretations. He relied upon the Bible for comfort. In a period of trial and persecution in 1831, he wrote of the Lord’s “watchful care and loving kindness . . . day by day” and of making it a rule “wherever there was an opportunity, to read a chapter in the Bible, and pray; and these seasons of worship gave . . . great consolation.”

“Yet the Prophet’s reverence for the Bible was accompanied by his awareness of its incompleteness and of problems with the transmission of its texts. On one occasion he said, “I believe the Bible as it read when it came from the pen of the original writers. Ignorant translators, careless transcribers, or designing and corrupt priests have committed many errors.”

“As early as June 1830, the Prophet responded to divine direction by beginning an inspired revision of the book of Genesis. The section of the Pearl of Great Price known as the book of Moses began to come forth through revelation at this time. Work on the book of Genesis proceeded until 7 March 1831, when the Prophet was instructed by the Lord to pursue a rigorous study and inspired revision of the New Testament (see D&C 45:60-61). The Lord later called the Prophet’s efforts a “new translation” (D&C 124:89). The Prophet took this task very seriously, referring to it as a “branch” of his prophetic calling. The result of his inspired efforts, known today as the Joseph Smith Translation (JST), is a most remarkable body of work.

“We don’t know exactly how he corrected the translation of the bible, but it is known that the Lord wanted the teachings of the bible corrected.”

“Eighth Article of Faith Word Search”

By Nancy Ann Asher

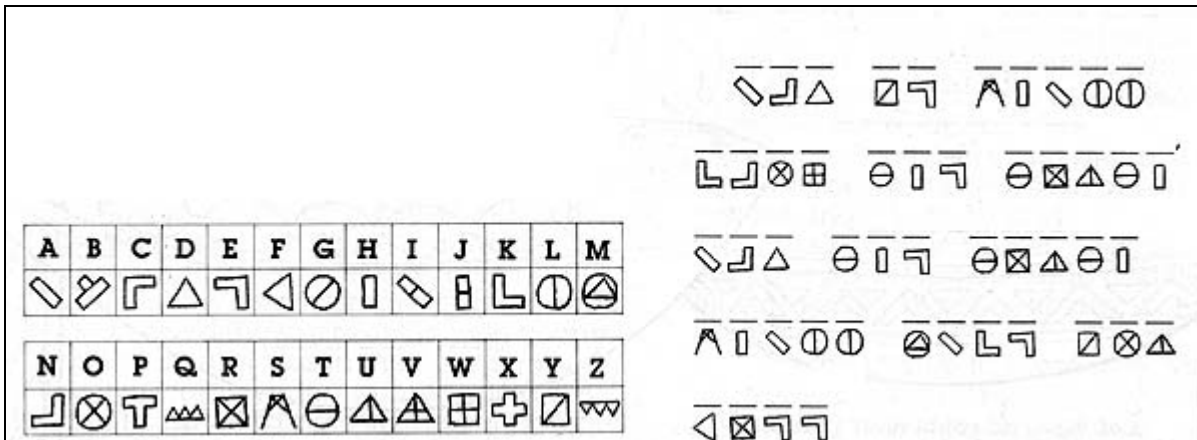
Nancy Ann Asher, “Eighth Article of Faith,” *Friend*, Sept. 1993, 23

Find each word in the eighth article of faith by reading forward, backward, down, up, and diagonally. Two words have already been done for you. (Note: Start with the longer words—though the same letter may occur in more than one word, no shorter word will be within a longer one. For example, *be* in this puzzle is not in *believe* but is a separate word.) Place the leftover letters and punctuation mark on the blanks in order, reading each line from left to right. Then unscramble each word to find a message that will help you to remember what the eighth article of faith is about.

Eighth Article of Faith: We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly. We also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.

N	O	M	R	O	M	F	O	K	O	O	B
W	D	R	O	W	E	:	Y	A	E	E	K
O	O	E	F	H	V	R	R	S	L	I	D
B	G	A	T	W	E	T	T	I	R	G	N
L	I	I	A	A	I	H	E	S	T	H	E
E	A	B	T	C	L	V	T	B	L	T	E
F	P	H	L	S	E	S	S	U	R	H	M
O	A	E	E	E	B	O	N	E	S	F	W
E	I	R	Z	H	O	S	L	A	D	O	G
M	A	C	Y	L	T	C	E	R	R	O	C
T	I	R	L	E	T	H	G	D	E	T	I

Bible Codes



“Scripture Wheres”

By Ann Woodbury Moore

Ann Woodbury Moore, "Scripture Wheres," *Friend*, May 1998, 24-25

“The Old Testament has 39 books, the New Testament has 27 books, the Book of Mormon has 15 books, the Pearl of Great Price is divided into 4 books plus the Articles of Faith, and the Doctrine and Covenants is divided into sections 1-138 plus 2 Official Declarations. This game tests your knowledge of where each is located.”

Activity Instructions:

Cut out the Title Cards, place them in a small container, and mix them up. Use the tables of contents in the front of each volume of scriptures to check your answers. Younger children might use “The Books in the Old Testament,” “The Books in the New Testament,” and “The Books in the Book of Mormon” (*Children’s Songbook*, pages 114, 116, and 119) to help them.

Game 1

In turn, each player picks a Title Card, tells where that book or other division of scripture is found, then, if correct, puts the Title Card in its place in his/her area of the game board. If the answer is not correct, he/she puts the Title Card back in the container.

Game 2

In addition to the information needed in Game 1, the players must also name the scripture book or division that comes before and the one that comes after the one named on the Title Card (unless one doesn’t exist).

Old Testament	New Testament	Book of Mormon	Doctrine and Covenants	Pearl of Great Price
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[illustrations] Paintings by Ted Henninger, Del Parson, Tom Lovell, and Alvin Gittins

Title Cards

(See previous page for instructions)

	Ephesians	James	1 Kings	1 Nephi	Revelation
Abraham	Esther	Jarom	2 Kings	2 Nephi	Romans
Acts	Ether	Jeremiah	Lamentations	3 Nephi	Ruth
Alma	Exodus	Job	Leviticus	4 Nephi	1 Samuel
Amos	Ezekiel	Joel	Luke	Numbers	2 Samuel
Articles of Faith	Ezra	John (the gospel of)	Malachi	Obadiah	Sections 1-138
1 Chronicles	Galatians	1 John	Mark	Official Declaration 1	Song of Solomon
2 Chronicles	Genesis	2 John	Matthew	Official Declaration 2	1 Thessalonians
Colossians	Habakkuk	3 John	Micah	Omni	2 Thessalonians
1 Corinthians	Haggai	Jonah	Mormon	1 Peter	1 Timothy
2 Corinthians	Hebrews	Joseph Smith—History	Moroni	2 Peter	2 Timothy
Daniel	Helaman	Joseph Smith—Matthew	Moses	Philemon	Titus
Deuteronomy	Hosea	Joshua	Mosiah	Philippians	Words of Mormon
Ecclesiastes	Isaiah	Jude	Nahum	Proverbs	Zechariah
Enos	Jacob	Judges	Nehemiah	Psalms	Zephaniah