

A Book of Mormon Anachronism: The Deutero-Isaiah Problem

Scholars identify a major historical inconsistency undermining the book's ancient claims.

Book of Mormon Timeline (Claimed)

Historical Timeline (Scholarly Consensus)



Lehi's Family Leaves



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Deutero-Isaiah Passages Appear Here



Quoted verbatim from King James Version, including unique language and errors.

THE IMPOSSIBLE OVERLAP: Anachronistic Text

586 BCE



Jerusalem Destroyed (Babylonian Exile)

POST-586 BCE (Exilic & Post-Exilic Period)



Deutero-Isaiah (Isaiah 40-66) Written



Names King Cyrus (Persian King)



Complete Change in Theological Tone



Later Linguistic Influences

Scholars identify "Second Isaiah" (Deutero-Isaiah) written after the Exile.

This material was not available to pre-exilic peoples.

The Defenses:

Biblical scholars have determined that chapters 40-66 of the Book of Isaiah were written by a different author long after the original prophet Isaiah. This material, called "Deutero-Isaiah," was written after the Book of Mormon's protagonists supposedly left Jerusalem, yet it appears extensively in their record.

APOLOGETIC THEORY



Theory 1: Joseph Smith copied it from the Bible to "save time."



CONTRADICTION: This contradicts witness accounts of a word-for-word translation from a seer stone.

CONTRADICTION



Most Correct Book

Flawed Bible Copy



CONTRADICTION: This defense suggests God approved using an "inferior" text. The Book of Mormon was meant to be the "most correct book," not a copy of a flawed Bible.



CONCLUSION

An "open and shut case" against the book's historicity.

Deutero-Isaiah is material the Book of Mormon authors simply would not have had access to.