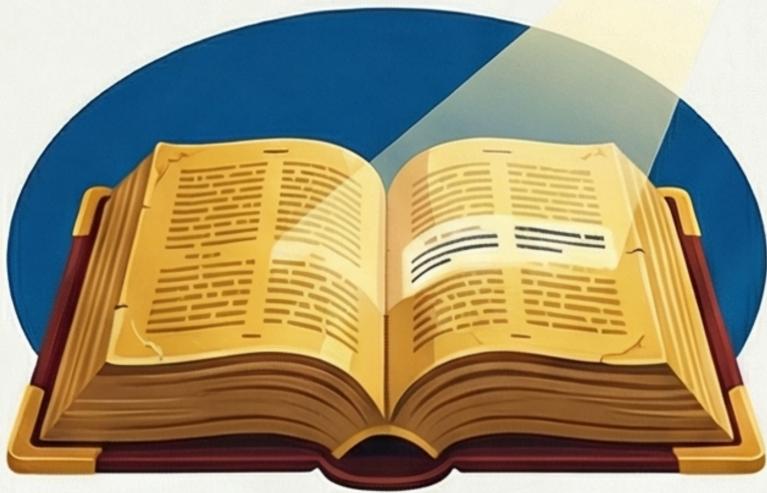


# Dark Skin as a Curse: Race in Mormon Scripture

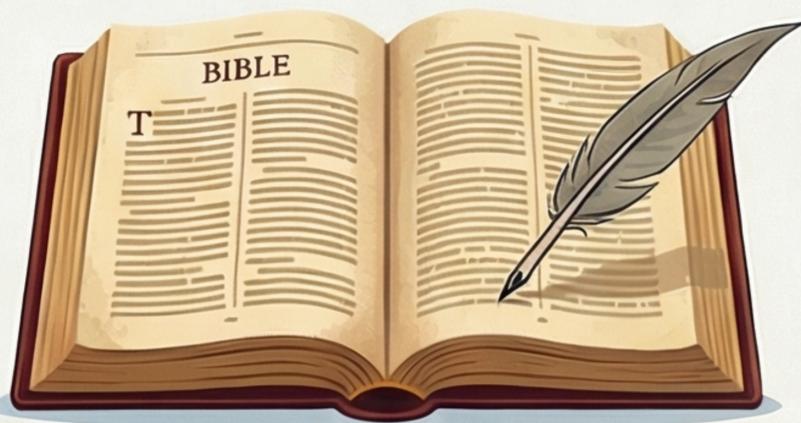
This infographic summarizes how Mormonism's foundational scriptures explicitly linked dark skin to a divine curse, representing a 19th-century worldview consistently taught as doctrine by church leaders.

## THE SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION OF THE CURSE



### The Book of Mormon: Dark Skin as a Divine Curse

“God caused a “skin of blackness” to make a group “loathsome” to prevent intermixing.” (2 Nephi 5)”



### Rewriting the Bible: The Curse Extended to Black Skin

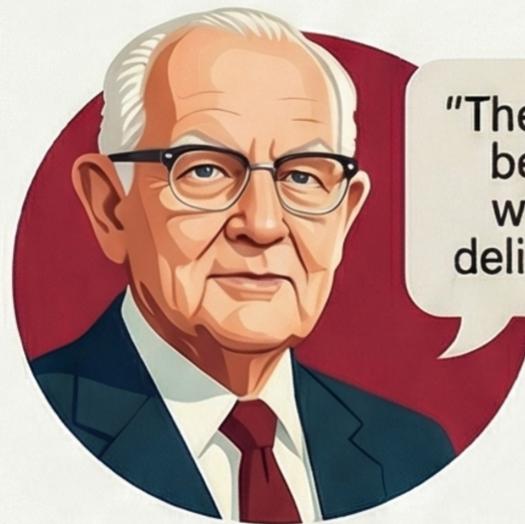
Joseph Smith's "translations" added verses stating Cain's descendants were "black" and Pharaoh's lineage could not hold the priesthood.



#### A Product of Its Time, Not Ancient Revelation

These ideas mirrored common 19th-century myths used to justify colonialism and slavery.

## PROPHETIC TEACHINGS & LASTING HARM



“They are now becoming white and delightful.”

### Prophet Spencer W. Kimball (1960)

He taught that Native American members' skin was physically lightening due to their righteousness.

### The Priesthood Ban Was “Doctrine,” Not Just “Policy”

A signed 1947 First Presidency letter affirmed the ban was church doctrine since Joseph Smith.



### 1978 Reversal Driven by Practicality, Not Just Revelation

An apostle revealed the decision was prompted by the new temple in Brazil, which many members couldn't enter.