

Skin of Blackness: What the Book of Mormon *Really* Says

Modern Mormon apologists propose alternative meanings for the "skin of blackness" curse, arguing it is not literal but refers to things like animal pelts, paint, or tattoos. This infographic contrasts these new theories with the plain meaning of the scriptural text and historical teachings of church prophets.

The Apologists' Claim: "Skin" Isn't Literal

Apologists propose four main non-literal theories for "skin of blackness."



Animal Skins



Body Paint



Tattoos



Symbolic Spiritual
Darkness

These theories suggest it means animal skins, body paint, tattoos, or symbolic spiritual darkness.

A key argument cites a single scripture change from "white" to "pure" in 1840.

This is used to claim the curse was about spiritual purity, not skin color.

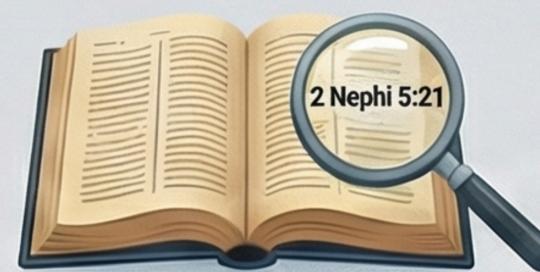


“To make it so I don't have to face the reality that God... is super racist.”

The podcast suggests the goal is to create plausible deniability for believers.

The Rebuttal: Text & History Say Otherwise

The change from "white" to "pure" was not applied consistently.



The original verse describing the curse (2 Nephi 5:21) was never changed from "white."



The curse is repeatedly described as hereditary, passed through through "seed."

Animal skins, paint, or tattoos cannot be genetically passed on to children.

For over 150 years, Mormon prophets taught the curse was literal skin color.

No prophet has ever officially taught these new apologetic theories.

