

## Book of Mormon Geography

D&C 28:8-9

(City of Zion shall be built on the borders of the Lamanites)

8 And now, behold, I say unto you that you shall go unto the <sup>a</sup>Lamanites and preach my <sup>b</sup>gospel unto them; and inasmuch as they <sup>c</sup>receive thy teachings thou shalt cause my <sup>d</sup>church to be established among them; and thou shalt have revelations, but write them not by way of commandment.

9 And now, behold, I say unto you that it is not revealed, and no man knoweth where the <sup>a</sup>city <sup>b</sup>Zion shall be built, but it shall be given hereafter. Behold, I say unto you that it shall be on the borders by the Lamanites.

D&C 54:8

(Borders of Lamanites in Missouri)

8 And thus you shall take your journey into the regions westward, unto the land of <sup>a</sup>Missouri, unto the borders of the Lamanites.

D&C 125:3

(Zarahemla in Lee County, Iowa)

3 Let them build up a city unto my name upon the land opposite the city of Nauvoo, and let the name of <sup>a</sup>Zarahemla be named upon it.

Alma 6:7

(Zarahemla is on the west side of the river Sidon)

7 And now it came to pass that when Alma had made these regulations he departed from them, yea, from the church which was in the city of Zarahemla, and went over upon the east of the <sup>a</sup>river Sidon, into the <sup>b</sup>valley of Gideon, there having been a city built, which was called the city of Gideon, which was in the valley that was called Gideon, being called after the man who was <sup>c</sup>slain by the hand of Nehor with the sword.

2 Nephi 5:15

(Nephite buildings built of wood, not stone)

15 And I did teach my people to <sup>a</sup>build buildings, and to <sup>b</sup>work in all <sup>c</sup>manner of wood, and of <sup>d</sup>iron, and of copper, and of <sup>e</sup>brass, and of steel, and of <sup>f</sup>gold, and of silver, and of precious ores, which were in great abundance.

2 Nephi 5:16

(Temple built after manner of Solomon's Temple (rectangle with a structure at one end), not square)

16 And I, Nephi, did <sup>a</sup>build a <sup>b</sup>temple; and I did construct it after the manner of the temple of <sup>c</sup>Solomon save it were not built of so many <sup>d</sup>precious things; for they were not to be found upon the land, wherefore, it could not be built like unto Solomon's <sup>e</sup>temple. But the manner of the construction was like unto the temple of <sup>f</sup>Solomon; and the workmanship thereof was exceedingly fine.

Mosiah 11:8-10

(Buildings, palace, and temple built of wood, not stone)

8 And it came to pass that king Noah built many elegant and spacious buildings; and he ornamented them with fine work of wood, and of all manner of <sup>a</sup>precious things, of gold, and of silver, and of iron, and of brass, and of ziff, and of copper;

9 And he also built him a spacious palace, and a throne in the midst thereof, all of which was of fine wood and was ornamented with gold and silver and with precious things.

10 And he also caused that his workmen should work all manner of fine work within the walls of the <sup>a</sup>temple, of fine wood, and of copper, and of brass.

Helaman 3:3-7

(Large bodies of water. Have you seen the Great Lakes area?)  
(Timber is scarce in the land northward. Could timber be scarce in a Tropical Rain Forest like Central America?)

3 And it came to pass in the \*forty and sixth, yea, there was much contention and many dissensions; in the which there were an exceedingly great many who departed out of the land of Zarahemla, and went forth unto the land <sup>a</sup>northward to inherit the land.

4 And they did travel to an exceedingly great distance, insomuch that they came to <sup>a</sup>large bodies of water and many rivers.

5 Yea, and even they did spread forth into all parts of the land, into whatever parts it had not been rendered desolate and without timber, because of the many inhabitants who had before inherited the land.

6 And now <sup>a</sup>no part of the land was desolate, save it were for timber; but because of the greatness of the <sup>a</sup>destruction of the people who had before inhabited the land it was called <sup>b</sup>desolate.

7 <sup>a</sup>And there being but little timber upon the face of the land, nevertheless the people who went forth became exceedingly <sup>a</sup>expert in the working of cement; therefore they did build houses of cement, in the which they did dwell.

Helaman 3:7-11

(Because of scarcity of timber, houses are built of cement. People dwelt in tents and houses of cement. They preferred to build their buildings with timber. Shipping from the land southward allowed cities to be built of wood, as well as cement, but not stone.)

7 And there being but little timber upon the face of the land, nevertheless the people who went forth became exceedingly <sup>a</sup>expert in the working of cement; therefore <sup>a</sup>they did build houses of cement, in the which they did dwell.

8 And it came to pass that they did multiply and spread, and did go forth from the land southward to the land northward, and did spread

insomuch that they began to cover the face of the whole earth, from the sea south to the sea north, from the sea <sup>a</sup>west to the sea east.

9 And the people who were in the land northward did dwell in <sup>a</sup>tents, and in houses of cement, and they did suffer whatsoever tree should spring up upon the face of the land that it should grow up, that in time they might have timber to build their houses, yea, their cities, and their temples, and their <sup>b</sup>synagogues, and their sanctuaries, and all manner of their buildings.

10 And it came to pass as timber was exceedingly scarce in the land northward, they did send forth much by the way of <sup>a</sup>shipping.

11 And thus they did enable the people in the land northward that they might build many cities, both of wood and of cement.

Helaman 3:8

(Where in Central America is there a sea south, a sea north, a sea west, and a sea east?)

8 And it came to pass that they did multiply and spread, and did go forth from the land southward to the land northward, and did spread insomuch that they began to cover the face of the whole earth, from the sea south to the sea north, from the sea <sup>a</sup>west to the sea east.

Ether 10:18-28

(“The sea divides the land,” not the land divides the sea)  
(Their land was choice above all lands)

19 And it came to pass that Lib also did that which was good in the sight of the Lord. And in the days of Lib the <sup>a</sup>poisonous serpents were destroyed. Wherefore they did go into the land southward, to hunt food for the people of the land, for the land was covered with animals of the forest. And Lib also himself became a great <sup>b</sup>hunter.

20 And they built a great city by the <sup>a</sup>narrow neck of land, by the place where the sea divides the land.

21 And they did preserve the land <sup>a</sup>southward for a wilderness, to get game. And the whole face of the land northward was covered with inhabitants.

22 And they were exceedingly <sup>a</sup>industrious, and they did buy and sell and <sup>b</sup>traffic one with another, that they might get gain.

28 And never could be a people more blessed than were they, and more prospered by the hand of the Lord. And they were in a land that was **choice above all lands**, for the Lord had spoken it.

1 Nephi 2:20  
(Choice land)

20 And inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments, ye shall <sup>a</sup>prosper, and shall be led to a <sup>b</sup>land of promise; yea, even a land which I have prepared for you; yea, **a land which is choice above all other lands.**

1 Nephi 13:30  
(Gentiles upon the Choice Land)

30 Nevertheless, thou beholdest that **the Gentiles who have gone forth out of captivity, and have been lifted up by the power of God above all other nations, upon the face of the land which is choice above all other lands**, which is the land that the Lord God hath covenanted with thy father that his seed should have for the <sup>a</sup>land of their inheritance; wherefore, thou seest that the Lord God will not suffer that the Gentiles will utterly destroy the <sup>b</sup>mixture of thy <sup>c</sup>seed, which are among thy brethren.

1 Nephi 22:6–11  
(Gentiles will be a mighty nation on this land)  
(Gentiles will scatter Lehi's seed)  
(The Lord will bring about his covenants and the gospel through the gentiles)

7 And it meaneth that the time cometh that after all the house of Israel have been scattered and confounded, that **the Lord God will raise up a mighty nation among the Gentiles**, yea, even **upon the face of this land**; and **by them shall our seed be scattered.**

8 And after our seed is scattered the Lord God will proceed to do a marvelous work among the Gentiles, which shall be of great worth unto our seed; wherefore, it is likened unto their being nourished by the Gentiles and being carried in their arms and upon their shoulders.

9 And it shall also be of worth unto the Gentiles; and not only unto the Gentiles but unto all the house of Israel, unto the making known of the covenants of the Father of heaven unto Abraham, saying: In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

10 And I would, my brethren, that ye should know that all the kindreds of the earth cannot be blessed unless he shall make bare his arm in the eyes of the nations.

11 Wherefore, the Lord God will proceed to make bare his arm in the eyes of all the nations, in bringing about his covenants and his gospel unto those who are of the house of Israel.

2 Nephi 1:5-7

(Choice land)

(It shall be a land of liberty)

5 But, said he, notwithstanding our afflictions, we have obtained a <sup>a</sup>land of promise, a land which is <sup>b</sup>choice above all other lands; a land which the Lord God hath <sup>c</sup>covenanted with me should be a land for the inheritance of my seed. Yea, the Lord hath <sup>d</sup>covenanted this land unto me, and to my children forever, and also all those who should be <sup>e</sup>led out of other countries by the hand of the Lord.

6 Wherefore, I, Lehi, prophesy according to the workings of the Spirit which is in me, that there shall <sup>a</sup>none come into this land save they shall be brought by the hand of the Lord.

7 Wherefore, this <sup>a</sup>land is consecrated unto him whom he shall bring. And if it so be that they shall serve him according to the commandments which he hath given, it shall be a land of <sup>b</sup>liberty unto them; wherefore, they shall never be brought down into captivity; if so, it shall be because of iniquity; for if iniquity shall abound <sup>c</sup>cursed shall be the land for their sakes, but unto the righteous it shall be blessed forever.

2 Nephi 10:19  
(Choice land)

19 Wherefore, I will <sup>a</sup>consecrate this land unto thy seed, and them who shall be numbered among thy seed, forever, for the land of their inheritance; **for it is a choice land**, saith God unto me, **above all other lands**, wherefore I will have all men that dwell thereon that they shall worship me, saith God.

Jacob 5:43  
(Choice spot of ground in vineyard)

43 And behold this last, whose branch hath withered away, I did plant in a <sup>a</sup>good spot of ground; yea, even that which was **choice unto me above all other parts of the land of my vineyard**.

Ether 2:5-12  
(Land of Promise) (Choice land) (Gentiles inhabit the land)  
(Nation that possesses this land shall be free from bondage and captivity if they serve Jesus Christ)

5 And it came to pass that the Lord commanded them that they should <sup>a</sup>go forth into the wilderness, yea, into that quarter where there never had man been. And it came to pass that the Lord did go before them, and did talk with them as he stood in a <sup>b</sup>cloud, and gave <sup>c</sup>directions whither they should travel.

6 And it came to pass that they did travel in the wilderness, and did <sup>a</sup>build <sup>b</sup>barges, in which they did cross many waters, being directed continually by the hand of the Lord.

7 And the Lord would not suffer that they should stop beyond the sea in the wilderness, but he would that they should come forth even unto the <sup>a</sup>land of promise, which was **choice above all other lands**, which the Lord God had <sup>b</sup>preserved for a righteous people.

8 And he had sworn in his wrath unto the brother of Jared, that whoso should possess this land of promise, from that time henceforth and forever, should <sup>a</sup>serve him, the true and only God, or they should be <sup>b</sup>swept off when the fulness of his wrath should come upon them.

9 And now, we can behold the decrees of God concerning this land, that it is a **land of promise**; and whatsoever nation shall possess it shall serve God, or they shall be <sup>a</sup>swept off when the fulness of his <sup>b</sup>wrath shall come upon them. And the fulness of his wrath cometh upon them when they are <sup>c</sup>ripened in iniquity.

10 For behold, this is a land which is **choice above all other lands**; wherefore he that doth possess it shall serve God or shall be <sup>a</sup>swept off; for it is the everlasting decree of God. And it is not until the <sup>b</sup>fulness of iniquity among the children of the land, that they are <sup>c</sup>swept off.

11 And this cometh unto you, **O ye <sup>a</sup>Gentiles**, that ye may know the decrees of God—that ye may repent, and not continue in your iniquities until the fulness come, that ye may not bring down the fulness of the <sup>b</sup>wrath of God upon you as the **inhabitants of the land** have hitherto done.

12 Behold, **this is a choice land**, and **whatsoever nation shall possess it shall be <sup>a</sup>free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations under heaven, if they will but <sup>b</sup>serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ**, who hath been manifested by the things which we have written.

Ether 9:20

(Choice land)

(Whoso shall possess this land shall serve the Lord, or be destroyed)

20 And thus the Lord did pour out his blessings upon this land, which was **<sup>a</sup>choice above all other lands**; and he commanded that **whoso should possess the land should possess it unto the Lord, or they should be <sup>b</sup>destroyed when they were ripened in iniquity**; for upon such, saith the Lord: I will pour out the fulness of my wrath.

Ether 13:1-14

(Choice land)

(All who dwell on this land shall serve the Lord)

(This land is the place of the New Jerusalem)

- 1 And now I, Moroni, proceed to finish my record concerning the destruction of the people of whom I have been writing.
- 2 For behold, they rejected all the words of Ether; for he truly told them of all things, from the beginning of man; and that after the waters had <sup>a</sup>receded from off the face of this <sup>b</sup>land it became a **choice land above all other lands**, a chosen land of the Lord; wherefore the Lord would have that **all men should <sup>c</sup>serve him who dwell upon the face thereof**;
- 3 And that it was **the place of the <sup>a</sup>New Jerusalem**, which should <sup>b</sup>come down out of heaven, and the holy sanctuary of the Lord.
- 4 Behold, Ether saw the days of Christ, and he spake concerning a **<sup>a</sup>New Jerusalem upon this land**.
- 5 And he spake also concerning the house of Israel, and the <sup>a</sup>Jerusalem from whence <sup>b</sup>Lehi should come—after it should be destroyed it should be built up again, a <sup>c</sup>holy city unto the Lord; wherefore, it could not be a new Jerusalem for it had been in a time of old; but it should be built up again, and become a holy city of the Lord; and it should be built unto the house of Israel.
- 6 And that **a <sup>a</sup>New Jerusalem should be built up upon this land**, unto the remnant of the seed of <sup>b</sup>Joseph, for which things there has been a <sup>c</sup>type.
- 7 For as Joseph brought his father down into the land of <sup>a</sup>Egypt, even so he died there; wherefore, the Lord brought a remnant of the seed of Joseph out of the land of Jerusalem, that he might be merciful unto the seed of Joseph that they should <sup>b</sup>perish not, even as he was merciful unto the father of Joseph that he should perish not.
- 8 Wherefore, **the remnant of the house of Joseph** shall be built upon this <sup>a</sup>land; and it shall be a land of their inheritance; and they **shall build up a holy <sup>b</sup>city unto the Lord, like unto the Jerusalem of old**; and they shall <sup>c</sup>no more be confounded, until the end come when the earth shall pass away.
- 9 And there shall be a <sup>a</sup>new heaven and a new earth; and they shall be like unto the old save the old have passed away, and all things have become new.
- 10 And then cometh the New Jerusalem; and blessed are they who dwell therein, for it is they whose garments are <sup>a</sup>white through the

blood of the Lamb; and they are they who are numbered among the remnant of the seed of Joseph, who were of the house of Israel.

11 And then also cometh the <sup>a</sup>Jerusalem of old; and the inhabitants thereof, blessed are they, for they have been washed in the blood of the Lamb; and they are they who were scattered and gathered in from the four quarters of the earth, and from the <sup>b</sup>north countries, and are partakers of the fulfilling of the covenant which God made with their father, <sup>c</sup>Abraham.

12 And when these things come, bringeth to pass the scripture which saith, there are they who were <sup>a</sup>first, who shall be last; and there are they who were last, who shall be first.

13 And I was about to write more, but I am forbidden; but great and marvelous were the prophecies of Ether; but they esteemed him as naught, and cast him out; and he <sup>a</sup>hid himself in the cavity of a rock by day, and by night he went forth viewing the things which should come upon the people.

14 And as he dwelt in the cavity of a rock he made the <sup>a</sup>remainder of this record, viewing the destructions which came upon the people, by night.

2 Nephi 10:10-14

(This land shall be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles)

(There shall be no kings upon this land)

(This land will be protected from all other nations)

(The Lord will be their king)

10 But behold, this land, said God, shall be a land of thine inheritance, and the <sup>a</sup>Gentiles shall be blessed upon the land.

11 And this land shall be a land of <sup>a</sup>liberty unto the Gentiles, and there shall be no <sup>b</sup>kings upon the land, who shall raise up unto the Gentiles.

12 And I will fortify this land <sup>a</sup>against all other nations.

13 And he that <sup>a</sup>fighteth against Zion shall <sup>b</sup>perish, saith God.

14 For he that raiseth up a <sup>a</sup>king against me shall perish, for I, the Lord, the <sup>b</sup>king of heaven, will be their king, and I will be a <sup>c</sup>light unto them forever, that hear my words.