WHAT DOES THE BOOK OF MORMON TEACH?

Class 08

The Secrets of The Language

What is (true) Faith?

אָמוּנָה emunah

The Hebrew root aman means firm, something that is supported or secure.

This word is used in Isaiah 22:23 for a nail that is fastened to a "secure" place.

אָמוּנָה emunah

Derived from this root is the word emun, meaning craftsman.

A craftsman is one who is firm and secure in his talent. .

אָמוּנָה emunah

The feminine form of emun is the word <u>emunah meaning firmness</u>, something or someone that is firm in their actions.



When the Hebrew word emunah is translated as "faith," as it often is, misconceptions of its meaning occur.

Faith is usually perceived as a knowing while the Hebrew emunah is a firm action.

To have faith in Elohiym is not knowing that Elohiym exists or knowing that he will act,

rather it is that the one with emunah will act with firmness toward Elohiym's will.

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אֱמוּנָה

emunah

Therefore:

TRUE FAITH is FIRMNESS TOWARDS or TO DO GOD's WILL

ፈسነሥላት

אֱמוּנָה

emunah

Therefore:

<u>LITERALLY:</u>
<u>FAITH = EMUNAH =</u>
FIRMNESS and/or STEADINESS TO DO GOD's WILL

Why Make this Distinction?

Because <u>FIRMNESS</u> and <u>STEADINESS</u> never occur in the Bible (or D&C)

Instead, we get Faithfulness

Deuteronomy 32:4

HEB: ואין עַוֶל **אֵמוּנַה** מִשְׁפָּט אָל NAS: A God of faithfulness and without KJV: a God of truth and without iniquity, INT: are just A God of faithfulness and without injustice 1 Samuel 26:23 <u>HEB: אַשֶּׁר נְתַנְךָּ אֱמֶנַתְוֹ</u> צִדְקַתְוֹ וְאֵת־ NAS: [for] his righteousness and his faithfulness; for the LORD KJV: his righteousness and his faithfulness: for the LORD **INT:** each his righteousness and his faithfulness after delivered

2 Kings 12:15 ָהָם עֹשִׂים: בֶּאֱמֻנָּהְ הַמְּלָאכֻה כִּי HEB: הָם עֹשִׂים: NAS: the work, for they dealt faithfully. KJV: on workmen: for they dealt faithfully. INT: the work for *faithfully* they dealt 2 Kings 22:7 ָרָם עֹשִׂים: **בֶּאֱמוּנָה** יַדֶם כִּי NAS: for they deal faithfully. KJV: because they dealt *faithfully*. INT: their hands for *faithfully* they deal

Yet where do we see FIRMNESS / STEADINESS equated to FAITH?

Yet where do we see FIRMNESS / STEADINESS equated to FAITH?

Jacob 2:49 Look unto God with <u>firmness of mind</u> and pray unto Him with exceeding faith, And He will console you in your afflictions, And He will plead your cause and send down justice upon those who seek your destruction;

Helaman 2:118 And the Lamanites had become, the more part of them, a righteous people, Insomuch that their righteousness did exceed that of the Nephites because of their firmness and their steadiness in the faith.

Helaman 5:100 "And now because of their steadfastness-when they do believe in that thing which they do believe—For because of their firmness when they are once enlightened, Behold, the Lord shall bless them and prolong their days, notwithstanding their iniquity;

Emunah = Firmness

Mormon 4:94 Be wise in the days of your probation; Strip yourselves of all uncleanness; Ask not that ye may consume it on your lusts;

But ask with a firmness unshaken, that ye will yield to no temptation, But that ye will serve the true and living God.

<u>Emunah = Steadiness/Faithfulness</u>

Alma 1:43 And now because of the **steadiness** of the church, they began to be exceeding rich, having abundance of all things whatsoever they stood in need –

Alma 18:2 And now my son, I trust that I shall have great joy in you because of your steadiness and your faithfulness unto God; For as you have commenced in your youth to look to the Lord your God, Even so I hope that you will continue in keeping His commandments; For blessed is he that endureth to the end.

<u>Emunah = Steadiness/Faithfulness</u>

Alma 19:1 ..., have ye not observed the steadiness of thy brother, his faithfulness and his diligence in keeping the commandments of God?

Helaman 2:118 ...

And the Lamanites had become, the more part of them, a righteous people, Insomuch that their righteousness did exceed that of the Nephites because of their firmness and their steadiness in the faith.

Helaman 4:48 And thus we can behold how false, and also the unsteadiness of, the hearts of the children of men.

Yea, we can see that the Lord in His great infinite goodness doth bless and prosper those who put their trust in Him.

<u>Emunah = Steadfastness</u>

1 Nephi 1:37 And he also spake unto Lemuel, saying: "O that thou mightest be like unto this valley, firm and steadfast and immovable in keeping the commandments of the Lord!"

2 Nephi 11:45 And notwithstanding we believe in Christ, We keep the law of Moses and look forward with steadfastness unto Christ until the law shall be fulfilled, For, for this end was the law given;

Emunah = Steadfastness

2 Nephi 13:29 Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, Having a perfect brightness of hope and a love of God and of all men.

Mosiah 2:21 And humble yourselves, even in the depths of humility, calling on the name of the Lord daily, And standing steadfastly in the faith of that which is to come which was spoken by the mouth of the angel.

Mosiah 3:21 "Therefore, I would that ye should be steadfast and immovable, always abounding in good works, That Christ, the Lord God Omnipotent, may seal you His, That you may be brought to heaven, That ye may have everlasting salvation and eternal life through the wisdom and power and justice and mercy of Him who created all things in heaven and in earth, who is God above all. Amen."

<u>Emunah = Steadfastness</u>

Alma 1:36 Now this was a great trial to those that did stand fast in the faith; Nevertheless, they were steadfast and immovable in keeping the commandments of God, And they bore with patience the persecution which was heaped upon them.

Alma 3:84 "And behold, it is He that cometh to take away the sins of the world; Yea, the sins of every man which **steadfast**ly believeth on His name.

<u>Emunah = Steadfastness</u>

3 Nephi 3:16 And they would not depart from it, for they were firm and steadfast and immovable, willing with all diligence to keep the commands of the Lord.

Describing a Pencil to 'Westerners'

We love adjectives.

Long, round, yellow, skinny, eraser is pink.



If asked 'Eastern' (Hebrew thinking) People:

Hebrews would say:

It writes and erases words.



Western Mind:

Sees as object first—WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE

Eastern Mind:

Sees as purpose first—Instead they see WHAT IT DOES

To be Angry....in Hebrew

Pictograph of anger was a Nose.

Why?



Because when really angry the nose flares.

English translators scramble to translate...Challenge is more than words, it is <u>always</u> to connect Hebrew Culture to Western culture.

'Extensive' use of Adjectives in Hebrew...

Alma 27:30 "And now behold, I say unto you,

I fear exceedingly that the judgments of God will come upon this people

because of their exceeding slothfulness,

Yea, even the slothfulness of our government and their **exceeding** great neglect toward their brethren, yea, toward those which have been slain.

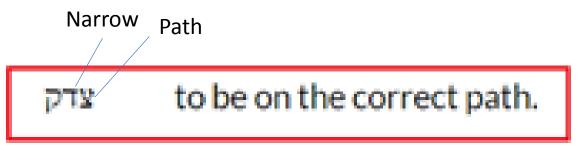
Examples of Nephi's 'extensive use' of Adjectives...

- 1 Nephi 1:5 And it came to pass as he prayed unto the Lord there came a pillar of fire and dwelt upon a rock before him, And he saw and heard much; And because of the things which he saw and heard, he did quake and tremble exceedingly.
- 1 Nephi 1:47 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, being exceeding young, nevertheless, being large in stature
- 1 Nephi 1:66 And it came to pass that when my father had heard these words, he was exceeding glad,
- 1 Nephi 1:74 And we began to be exceeding sorrowful; And my brethren were about to return unto my father in the wilderness,
- 1 Nephi 1:88 And it came to pass that when Laban saw our property, that it was exceeding great, He did lust after it
- 1 Nephi 1:109 And I beheld his sword, And I drew it forth from the sheath thereof and the hilt thereof was of pure gold, And the workmanship thereof was exceeding fine,
- 1 Nephi 1:131 And it came to pass that when Laman saw me, he was exceedingly frightened, and also Lemuel and Sam,

Hebrew 'Righteous' was a Strait Narrow Path

2 Nephi 13:11 And again, it (baptism) showeth unto the children of men the **straitness** of the **path** and the **narrowness of the gate** by which they should enter, He having set the example before them;

2 Nephi 13:25 And then are ye in this strait and narrow path which leads to eternal life;



Ancient Hebrew Definition of 'Correct'=

Means to be on the <u>Straight and Narrow Path</u>

Ancient Hebrew Definition of 'Iniquity'=

Means to be Crooked or Twisted.

Look what the Book of Mormon says...(AND HOW is says it)

Alma 5:34

Yea, I perceive that ye are making His paths strait;

I perceive that it hath been made known unto you by the testimony of His word that He cannot walk in crooked paths,

In the Days of Moses....

1:8 THEBES. INSCRIPTION ON STELE OF MERENPTAH. XIV.

Ancient Hebrew was actually 'Pictograph' not 'letters' taken from Egypt.



Over 700 Egyptian hieroglyphics, Moses people determined to use 22 of these.

That is why eventually, the Hebrew modern language has 22 Hebrew characters. They all started from Egyptian hieroglyphics.

https://www.ancient-hebrew.org/ancient-alphabet/ancient-pictographic-alphabet.htm

The Characters Evolved over time

Early Hebrew

20th-12th Century BC (1900-1100 BC)

Selected Egyptian Pictographs



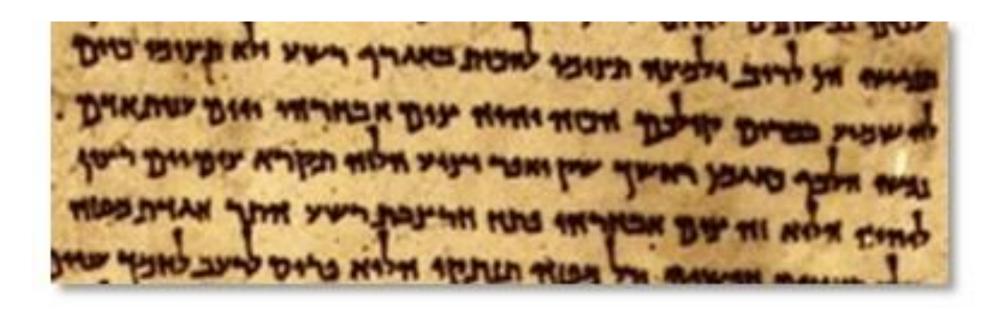
Middle Hebrew

About the 12th Century BC-5th Century Prior to Babylonian Conquest



Late Hebrew

4th-1st Century BC After Babylonian Conquest



Modern Hebrew

After 11 th Century AD



So what was used to write in Lehi's Day?

Egyptian Script

How would minimally educated 1800's rural New York state teenager have known this?



Aleph Image: Meaning:	Ox Head Strong, Power, Leader	8	*	×	3/	Lamed Image: Meaning:	Shepherd Staff Teach, Yoke, Bind, Toward	U	6	ל	L
Boyt Image: Meaning:	Tent Family, House, In	ш	4	ב	В	Mem Image: Meaning:	Water Chaos, Mighty, Blood	~~	my	מ	M
Gimel Image: Meaning:	Foot Gather, Walk	L	1	٦	G	Nun Image Meaning	Sprout Continue, Heir	4	4	3	N
Dalet Image: Meaning:	Door Move, Hang, Entrance	•	4	7	D	Sameth, Sir Image Meaning	Thorn Grab, Hate, Protect	*	#	O	S
Hey Image: Meaning:	Man with arms raised Look, Rowel, Breath	뫗	7	7	Н	Ayin Image Meaning	Eye Watch, Know, Shade	0	0	ע	6
Vav Image: Meaning:	Tent Peg Add, Secure, Hook	Y	Y	1	w	Pey Image Meaning	Mouth Blow, Scatter, Edge	0	2	5	P
Zayin Image: Meaning:	Mattock (Hoe) Food, Cut, Nourish	Æ	I	1	Z	Tsadey Image Meaning	Man on his side (Trail?) Wait, Chase, Snare, Hunt	0	4	Y	C
Hhet Image: Meaning:	Walt Outside, Divide, Half	ш	B	П	Ch	Quph Image Meaning	Sun at the horizon Condense, Circle, Time	-0-	P	7	Q
Tet Image: Meaning:	Basket Surround, Contain, Med/Clay	8	8	U	T	Resh Image Meaning	Head of a man First, Top, Beginning	a	4	٦	R
Yud Image: Moaning:	Arm and closed hand Work, Throw	ىر	2	,	Y	Shin, Sin Image Meaning	Two front teeth Sharp, Press, Eat, Two	ш	W	ש	,š
Kaph Image: Meaning:	Open palm Bend, Open, Allow, Tame	w	1	כ	K	Tav Image Meaning	Crossed Sticks Mark, Sign, Monument	+	×	ת	Th

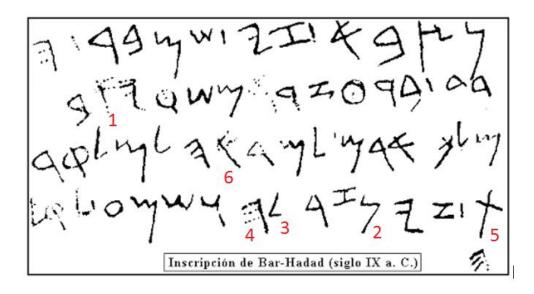
Bat Creek Stone...Paleo Hebrew

• 1889Found in Tennessee



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bat_Creek_inscription

Bat Creek Stone...





In Nephi's Writing

1 I, Nephi, having been born of goodly parents, therefore, I was taught somewhat in all the learning of my father,

And having seen many afflictions in the course of my days, nevertheless, having been highly favored of the Lord in all my days,

Yea, having had a great knowledge of the goodness and the mysteries of God, Therefore, I make a record of my proceedings in my days;

Yea, I make a record in the language of my father, which consists of the learning of the Jews, and the language of the Egyptians;

In the Book of Mormon

Many (all) Words have meaning derived from Ancient Hebrew.

Hebrew writers loved 'double meaning'.....

I Nephi being large in stature.....

The root 'Nephi' is used in Hebrew Old Testament 'Nephillium' word for giants.

The Hebrew root word 'Nephi' means large/tall.

Hebrew writers loved 'double meaning'.....

The **Hebrew** root word '**Nephi**' means **large/tall**. Only one other time is someone's stature mentioned.

1 Nephi 1:47 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, being exceeding young, nevertheless, being large in stature, And also having great desires to know of the mysteries of God,

1 Nephi 1:135 And now I, Nephi, being a man large in stature, and also having received much strength of the Lord, Therefore, I did seize upon the servant of Laban and held him that he should not flee.

Hebrew Prophets loved 'double meaning'.....WHY?

- Demonstrates Mastery of language.
- Exhibits Wit.
- <u>Drives home understanding</u> to those who know the nuance of the language.

• But to 'get it' as Westerners, have to understand the language.

The Book of Mormon demonstrates Ancient Hebrew Authenticity Throughout.

Hebrew Word....Translated in the Bible and <u>Book of</u> Mormon...'Thick Darkness'...

From King James and Inspired Version:

Exodus 10:22

And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a **thick darkness** in all the land of Egypt three days:

Exodus 20:21

And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the **thick darkness** where God was.

Book of Mormon uses Thick Darkness too....

So....fill in the Blank again....

3 Nephi 4:18

And it came to pass that there was thick darkness upon the face of all the land,

insomuch that the inhabitants thereof which had not fallen could the vapor of darkness;

Fill in the Blank again....

3 Nephi 4:18

And it came to pass that there was thick darkness upon the face of all the land,

insomuch that the inhabitants thereof which had not fallen could **feel** the vapor of darkness;

What is the point? Hebrew had a word for 'Darkness' that could 'Be Felt.'

BUT...King James and Inspired Version Never mention a darkness that you can 'feel.'

However...

Go to original Egyptian/Ancient Hebrew pictograph and meaning...

Thick Darkness 'can be felt!'

It is a darkness
that CAN BE FELT.
EXACTLY AS THE BOOK OF
MORMON STATES.

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3067) לכלל Ghrpl) ac: ? co: Dark ab: ?: [from: ליים - dark clouds]

N''') ליים האל (ליים - dark clouds]

Thick Darkness: A heavy darkness that can be felt. [freq. 15] |kjv: thick darkness, darkness, gross darkness, dark cloud, dark| {str: 6205}
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How can someone know this without understanding the Nuance of Hebrew when these words did NOT EXIST in the BIBLE?.

3 Nephi 4:18

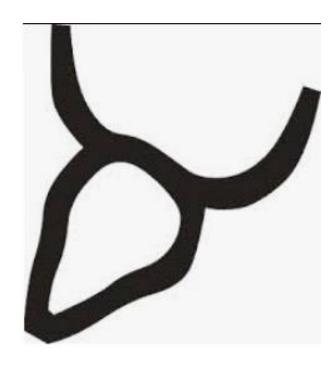
And it came to pass that there was thick darkness upon the face of all the land, insomuch that the inhabitants thereof which had not fallen could feel the vapor of darkness;

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3067) לאל (לפלי) Ghrpl) ac: ? co: Dark ab: ?: [from: ליים - dark clouds]

N<sup>m</sup>) ליים Ghrpl) —

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(From Jeff Benner's <u>Ancient Hebrew Lexicon</u>)
https://www.ancient-hebrew.org/ahlb/aleph.html





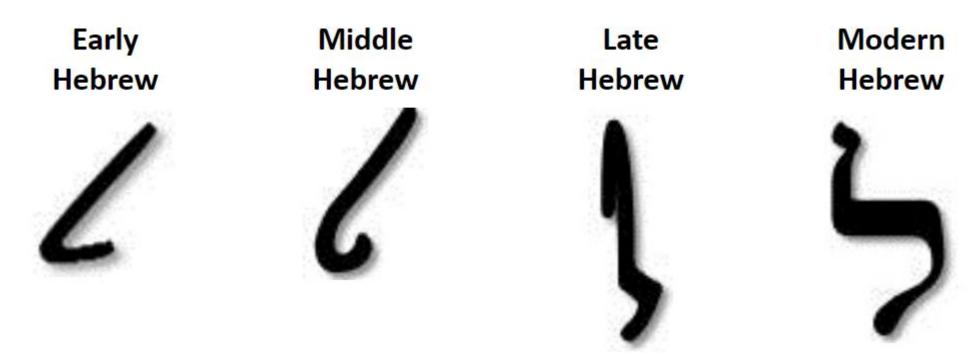
Israel's Idol?

It was a 'calf' (male cow, or OX)

Why?



The language of Egypt associated OX as a symbol of THEIR GOD.



Ancient Name: Lam?

Pictograph: Shepherd Staff

Meanings: Teach, Yoke, Bind, Toward

Sound: L

By Jeff A. Benner



What did Jesus Say?

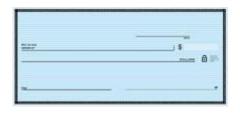
Take my yoke upon you....

When Jesus Commissions Disciples....

What did Jesus Permit his disciples to carry on their missions?

Why?







Why??

You Get a Staff (only)





Why?? Because it represented God's Authority in Them

You Get a Staff (only)





Prayer during Baptism

But Book of Mormon (Jesus) states....

3 Nephi 5:25

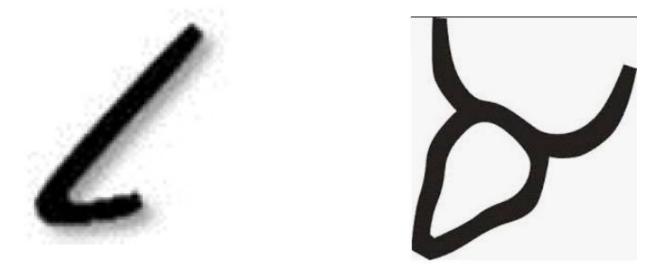
And now behold, these are the words which ye shall say, calling them by name, saying,

'Having authority given me of Jesus Christ,

I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

Amen.'

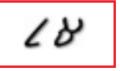
Put them together—God is Strong Authority



Ancient Hebrew Name for God

God

By Jeff A. Benner



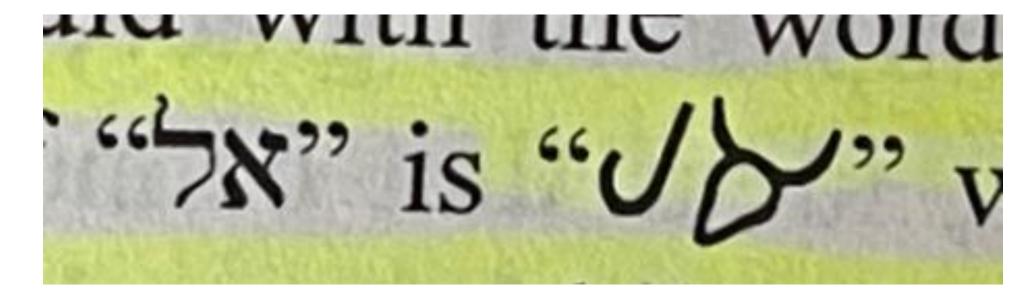


el

When reading the Bible it is better to have an Ancient Hebrew perception of Elohiym rather than our modern western view. The word el was originally written with two pictographic letters, one being an ox head and the other a shepherd staff. The ox represented strength and the staff of the shepherd represented authority. First, the Ancient Hebrews saw Elohiym as the strong one of authority. The shepherd staff was also understood as a staff on the shoulders, a yoke. Secondly, the Ancient Hebrews saw Elohiym as the ox in the yoke. When plowing a field two oxen were placed in a yoke, one was the older more experienced one, and the other was the younger and less experienced. The younger would then learn from the older. The Hebrews saw

God is 'Strong Authority'

- Ox head=Authority
- Shepherd Staff=Strength



God—Elohiym—STRONG AUTHORIT(IES) (PLURAL)

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אלה" (eloah) is made (iym) to the end of ז
ו'אלהים" (elohiym), a
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In Western thinking...

PLURAL is QUANTITY

We think of ONE meaning has to be an object.

And ELOHIM (Plural Gods) causes consternation...

But...we are reading words written by Hebrews...

Hebrew writers were saying....

Elohim wasn't plural Gods or more than one people. It was still 'One' God to the Hebrew. The Plural was qualitative, meaning "God has all these Qualities"

So what does the Book of Mormon say?

1 Nephi 3:197 For there is one God and one Shepherd over all the earth;

2 Nephi 13:32 And now behold, this is the doctrine of Christ, And the only and true doctrine of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, which is one God without end. Amen.

Mosiah 8:31 29

And because He dwelleth in flesh, He shall be called the Son of God;

30 And having subjected the flesh to the will of the Father, being the Father and the Son - The Father, because He was conceived by the power of God, and the Son, because of the flesh, thus becoming the Father and Son,

And They are one God, yea, the Very Eternal Father of heaven and of earth -

Hebrew writers saw many things as ONE....

2 Nephi 1:95

For there is a God and He hath **created all things** - Both the **heavens and the earth and all things that in them is,**

"IS" is correct Hebrew because they saw the Heavens and Earth as ONE Creation

Ancient Hebrew—Spelling of 'Father' (abh)



FATHER = Oxhead AND Tent



Father means = **Authority** of the Home





Ancient Meaning of Father and Nephi's Intellect.....

1 Nephi 1:41 – 45 (Laman and Lemuel murmuring)did murmur because they knew not the dealings of that God who had

.....did murmur because they knew not the dealings of that God who had created them;

And it came to pass that my father did speak unto them in the Valley of Lemuel

with power, Being filled with the Spirit until their frames did shake before him;

And he did confound them, that they durst not utter against him;

Wherefore, they did do as he commanded them;

(LEHI SPEAKS WITH AUTHORITY OF FATHER)

Then what does Nephi say next????

Nephi makes Perfect Hebrew word play on The Word 'Father'

1 Nephi 1:46

And my father dwelt in a tent.



(tent, Authority =Father)

Not coincidentally, Nephi mentions his father 'living in a tent' over 10 times in his writing.

Nephi mentions this many times....demonstrating the Ancient Hebrew meaning of Father

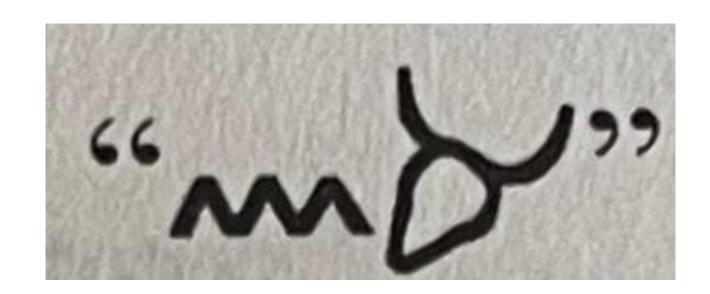
1 Nephi 1:46 And my father dwelt in a tent.

1 Nephi 1:59 And it came to pass that I, Nephi, returned from speaking with the Lord to the tent of my father.

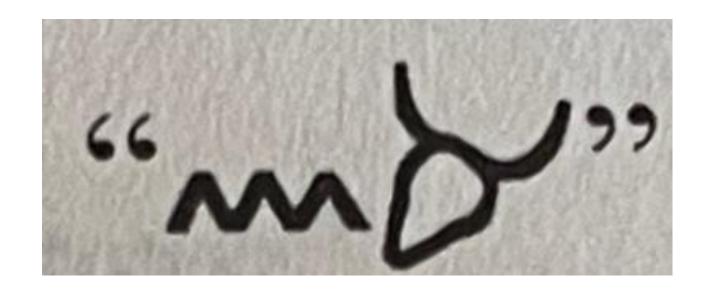
1 Nephi 2:37 And it came to pass that we did come down unto the tent of our father;

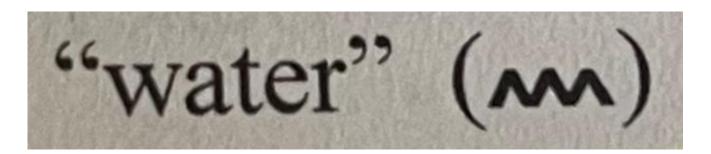
1 Nephi 3:22 And all these things of which I have spoken were done as my father dwelt in a tent in the Valley of Lemuel.

Ancient Hebrew Word—'Woman/Mother'



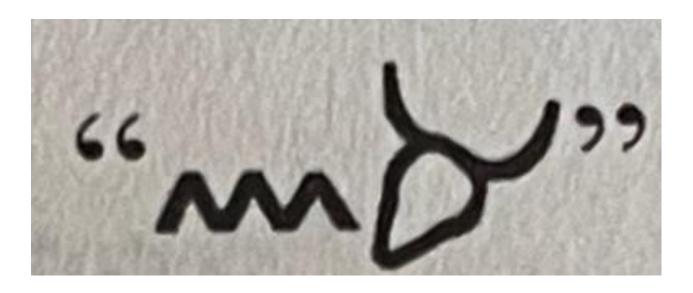
Hebrew—'Woman'





Strong, Sticky Water....one who 'BINDS' the home together.

Woman = 'Strength' of the home.

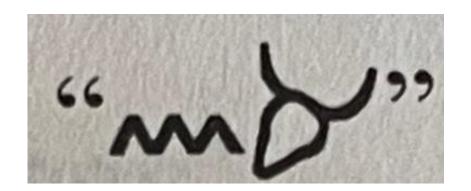


Woman meant 'Strength one who 'BINDS' the home together, or literally 'The STRENGTH of the HOME'

Nephi writes the only place in scripture (I know of) that Women are referred to as 'STRONG'

1 Nephi 5:57

(speaking of the women in the wilderness) **they were strong**, yea, even like unto the **men**;



Woman meant 'Strength one who 'BINDS' the home together, or literally 'The STRENGTH of the HOME'

Ancient meanings:

Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Ancient meanings: Poetic A/B/C

Genesis 1:27

- (A) So God created man in his own image,
- (B) in the image of God created he him;
- => (C) male and female created he them.

- (A) So God created man in his own image,
- (B) in the image of God created he him;
- => (C) male and female created he them

Ancient meanings:

God = is the 'Strong Authority '

<u>Father</u> = 'Authority' of Home <u>Mother</u> (woman) = 'Strength' of Home.

Again, the meaning of "ONE"

The man and woman (masculine and feminine) are 'ONE' deriving Authority (from God) and 'Strength' (also from God).

Both need each other,
the Strength from God,
and Authority from God
To be ONE to have a home.

MERCY, JUSTICE-

The Book of Mormon uses perfect Hebrew gender Pronouns describing GOD. The Masculine Justice, the Feminine Mercy. How would someone have known?:

Alma 19:106 And thus they are restored into His presence, to be judged according to their works, according to the law and justice;
For behold, justice exerciseth all HIS demands, And also mercy claimeth all which is HER own; And thus, none but the truly penitent are saved.

How Could a New York Farm Boy known to have chosen the exact matching Gender for Mercy and Justice and to even use Pronouns to describe them, and wrap it all together...?

MERCY, JUSTICE

Elohim and Adonai—the names of God, roots describe Justice and Mercy.

This is the <u>only place</u> in all Bible or Book of Mormon where His and Her are used in same verse

<u>Perfectly</u> parallels the Hebrew meaning of the masculine and feminine words Justice and Mercy, which perfectly depict the meanings of the names of God, which perfectly represent the right hand and left hand of God.

Which represents the ULTIMATE destiny of man—to experience fully the mercy of God or the Justice of God.

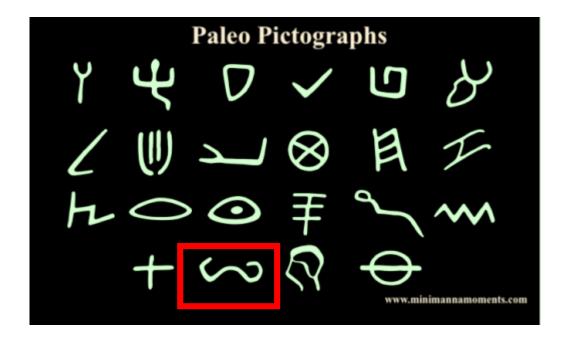
...<u>in Ancient Hebrew Mercy meansto be</u> wrapped in Arms for Protection

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רחם / r.hh.m ) Translation: HAVE.COMPASSION (V) Definition: Literally to cradle in ones arms to protect or cherish. By extension to have or show sympathy or sorrow. KJV Translations: mercy, compassion, pity, love, merciful Strong's Hebrew #: h.7355
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https://www.ancient-hebrew.org/ahlb/hhet.html

Alma 16:217

And thus **mercy** can satisfy the **demands of justice**, and encircles **them in the arms of safety**, while he that exercises no faith unto repentance, is exposed to the whole law of the **demands of justice**; therefore, only unto him that has faith unto repentance, is brought about the great and eternal plan of redemption.



(Review from last week)



Shin

The Ancient picture for this letter is **u**, a picture of the two front teeth. This letter has the meanings of teeth, sharp and (from the function of the teeth when chewing). It also has the meaning of two, again, both or second from the two teeth.

The modern Hebrew name for this letter is shin, a Hebrew word meaning tooth. Hebrew and Arabic agree that the sounthis letter is "sh".

What does this look like?

The parent root for this word is "To" (shad). The original pictographs for this word are, "The "L" (sh) is a picture of the two front teeth and has the meaning of "sharp," "press" (as from chewing) as well as "two." The "L" (d) is a picture of a tent door with a meaning of "hang" or "dangle" as the door is hung or dangles down from the top of the tent.

The combined meanings of the "" and "" would be "two danglers." The goat was a very common animal within the herds of the Hebrews. It produces milk within the udder and is extracted by the goat kid by squeezing and sucking on the two teats dangling below the udder. The function of these teats is to provide all the necessary nourishment for the kids, as they would die without it. The Hebrew word "TD" (shaddai) also has the meaning

This word is....El Shaddai

Hebrews Understood this 'to nourish'

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The word "''' (teat) is often coupled with the word "''' (mighty, strong) creating the phrase "'''' (el shaddai) literally meaning the "mighty teat," hence we can see the translator's reluctance to literally translate this phrase in this manner and instead using the more sanitized "God Almighty."
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El Shaddai Literally means 'Mighty Breasts'

But Why would this be a word for GOD?

The Hebrews saw breasts representing the PERFECT NOURISHMENT.

An human infant can survive first year of life on breast milk.

They saw breasts (animal or human) as the perfect source of Nourishment.

Obscure, but El Shaddai used in Joseph's Blessing...

Genesis 49:25 Even by the God of thy father, who shall help thee;

and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with

blessings of heaven above,

blessings of the deep that lieth under,

blessings of the breasts, and of the womb:

26 The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills.

They shall be on the head of Joseph,

and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren.

But what does Book of Mormon say??

I used to think this was one of the most 'out of place' scriptures in the Book of Mormon.

Now realize it is a beautiful proof of its authenticity

The Blessing of Nourishment

1 Nephi 5

56 And we did travail and wade through much affliction in the wilderness; **And our women bore children** in the wilderness;

57 And so great were the blessings of the Lord upon us that while we did live upon raw meat in the wilderness,

our women did give plenty of suck for their children and were strong, yea, even like unto the men.

And they began to bear their journeyings without murmuring.

The Blessing of Nourishment

1 Nephi 5:

58 And thus we see that the commandments of God must be fulfilled;

59 And if it so be that the children of men keep the commandments of God, <u>He doth nourish them and strengthen them</u> and provide ways and means whereby they can accomplish the thing which He hath commanded them;

60 Wherefore, He did provide ways and means for us while we did sojourn in the wilderness.

Ancient word for God—who nourishes

Remember, they saw a pencil and thought not yellow, but action.

El Shaddai appears only few times, one is in the blessing of JOSEPH (Nephi is a descendent of Joseph)

This is God referred to as El Shaddai—the one who nourishes

Literally means 'Mighty Breasts'

This didn't mean Hebrews saw God with Breasts or was an 'androgenous being' But this was not strange or awkward for Hebrews because they saw this as PURPOSE not OBJECT (remember the pencil—it writes and erases)

באל	Ba'al	master	Isaiah 54:5
עושה	Oseh	maker	Isaiah 54:5
קנא	Qana	jealous	Exodus 34:14
<mark>אל שדי</mark>	El Shaddai	mighty breasts	Genesis 17:1

https://www.ancient-hebrew.org/god-yhwh/hebrew-names-of-god-in-the-bible.htm

And Perfect Parallelism.

Parallel of (earthly) women nourishing their children with plenty, to (eternal) GOD nourishing his children with PLENTY.

A teenage boy couldn't have known any of this. But someone writing about God Nourishing like Breastmilk could only be one acquainted with the Ancient meaning of the Hebrew word.

Dead see Scrolls... Remember they saw as PURPOSE, not OBJECT

Translation

- I recall you, O Zion, for (the purpose of) blessing: with all my might I love you, blessed forever is your memory.
- What you hope for, O Zion, (is) great, that peace, the deliverance you long for (lit., the expectation of your deliverance), will come.
- 3. Generation after generation will dwell in you, faithful generations (in) your wonder.
- 4. Those who desire the day of your salvation will rejoice in your great glory
- They will suckle at the nipple of your glory, and toddle in your glorious squares.
- May you remember the faithful (acts) of your prophets, since through the deeds of (or, in the works of) your faithful you are glorified.

There is a parallel with breastmilk—complete nourishment for the 1st year of life.

El Shaddai conveyed the idea of SUFFICIENCY.

Total dependence, but total reliance without concern

Hebrew word for SINLESS is BLAMELESS.

Blameless, innocent, the one who is fed only from its mother's milk, is the one spiritual comparison to one that relys solely on our Heavenly Father, one who lives without sin. Nephi shares this as they are embarking on a journey of total reliance.

His response, our GOD IS TOTALLY SUFFICIENT.

A breastfeeding mother can not forget she has a nursing child. God can not forget to meet your needs.

HE IS THE ONE WHO MAKES THIS COMPARISON of HIMSELF to prove to us his promise.

Calling the Hebrew God 'The Mighty Breast'??

But the translators had a hard time with this one—couldn't say God was the might breast, because we see as objects rather than purpose.

So instead, they called him 'The Almighty'

But to the Hebrews it was El Shaddai the one who nourishes.

Mark Blizt



(return)

בְראשִׁית, בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים, אֵת הַשְּׁמֵיִם, וְאֵת הָאָרֶץ

Earth and Heavens

Elohim Created In Beginning

בְראשִׁית, בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים, אֵת הַשְּׁמַיִם, וְאֵת הָאָרֶץ

Earth

Aleph Tov

=God The Beginning and the End

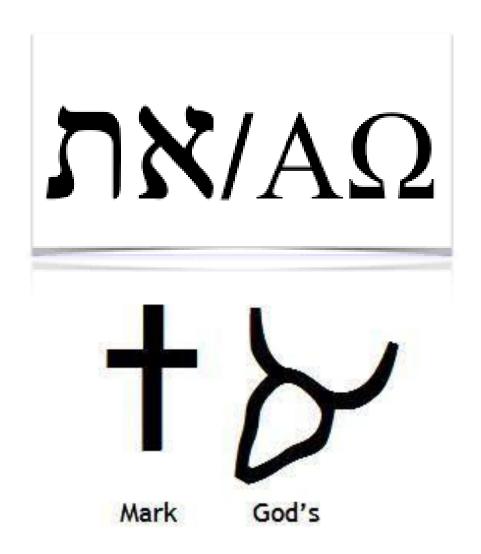
(Greek: Alpha and Omega)

=ALL CREATION (Like from A to Z)

=EVERLASTING

UNTRANSLATED IN ALL ENGLISH VERSIONS!!

Hebrew Aleph Tav / Greek Alpha Omega



The Vav Aleph Tav

 $aleph \mathcal{X} = \text{the ox head, thus strength, power, leader}$ $vav \mathbf{I} = \text{the tent peg, thus add, secure, hook}$ $tav \mathbf{D} = \text{crossed sticks, thus mark, sign, signal, monument}$

Revelation—(Greek) The Alpha and Omega

Revelation 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Revelation 21:6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Revelation 22:13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

Saying (Hebrew) 'I Am the Aleph Tav'

I Am the Aleph-Tav: God and Cross

Most people will be shocked to know that 'Jesus' appears ten times (1000%) more in the Old Testament than he does in the New Testament.

In fact Jesus the Aleph-Tav appears 9612 times (uninterpreted) in the Old Testament but only 983 times in the New Testament.

(Samuel Koiki Author)







Elohim Created In Beginning

GOD would be THE HUMAN CONNECTION between HEAVEN and EARTH

Rashi Says....

- Rabbi Solomon ben Isaac (Shlomo Yitzhaki), known as Rashi
- He was born in France in 1040.
- One of the most influential Jewish commentators in history.

Rashi—God as Judge (Elohim) Created

ברא אלהים וְלֹא נֶאֱמֵר בָּרָא ה', שֶׁבַּתְּחִלָּה עָלָה בְמַחֲשָׁבָה לִבְראׁתוֹ בְּמִדַּת הַדִּין, רָאָה שֶׁאֵין הָעוֹלָם מִתְקַיֵּם, הִקְדִים מִדַּת רַחֲמִים וְשִׁתִּפָּה לִמְהַ״דָּ, וְהַיִינוּ דְּכָתִיב בִּיוֹם עֲשׁוֹת ה' אֱלֹהִים אֱרֵץ וְשֶׁמֶיִם: ברא אלהים GOD [AS JUDGE] CREATED — It does not state 'ברא הים "The Lord (the Merciful One) created, because at first God intended to create it (the world) to be placed under the attribute (rule) of strict justice, but He realised that the world could not thus endure and therefore gave precedence to Divine Mercy allying it with Divine Justice. It is to this that what is written in (Genesis 2:4) alludes — "In the day that the Lord God made earth and heaven".

https://www.sefaria.org/Rashi_on_Genesis.1.1.2?lang=bi&with=TALMUD&lang2=en

Rashi—The Spirit of God....'LIKE A DOVE'

על פני תהום. עַל פְּנֵי הַמַּיִם שֶׁעַל הָאָרֶץ:

על פני תהום ON THE FACE OF THE DEEP — i. e. the waters which were upon the earth.

ורוח אלהים מרחפת. כְּסֵא הַכְּבוֹד עוֹמֵד בְּאֲוִיר וּמְרַחֵף עַל פְּנֵי הַמֵּיִם בְּרוּחַ פִּיו שֶׁל הַקָּבָּ״ה וּבְמַאֲמָרוֹ, כְּיוֹנָה הַמְרַחֶפֶת עַל הַקֵּן, אקוב״טיר בִּלַעַ״ז:

ברחפת AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD WAS HOVERING —

The throne of Divine Glory was standing in space, hovering over the face of the waters by the breath of the mouth of the Holy One, blessed be He, and by His command, even as a dove hovers over its nest. In old French acoveter.

Where have we heard about 'The Spirit Like a Dove?'



Where have we heard about 'The Spirit Like a Dove?'

John 1:32 And John bare record, saying,

I saw the <u>Spirit descending from heaven</u> like a **dove**, and it abode upon him.

25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

(Ezekiel 36:25-27).

The Pouring of Water at the Feast of Tabernacles

At the Feast of Tabernacles, or Booths, the priest would pour water next to the altar as the final ritual of this feast. This event looked forward to the time the Messiah would come. Zechariah wrote of that great day when Messiah would come.

https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/stewart_don/faq/the-identity-of-the-holy-spirit/24-why-is-the-holy-spirit-compared-to-water.cfm

Jesus Gives Life-giving Water to Those Who Believe

But those who drink the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life (<u>John 4:14</u>).

https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/stewart_don/faq/the-identity-of-the-holy-spirit/24-why-is-the-holy-spirit-compared-to-water.cfm

Ezekiel 47:1-12—Water FLOWING from the Temple

47 Then he brought me back to the door of the temple, and behold, water was issuing from below the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east).

The water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar. ² Then he brought me out by way of the north gate and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces toward the east; and behold, the water was trickling out on the south side.

https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ezekiel%204 7%3A1-12&version=ESV

Ezekiel 47:1-12—Water FLOWING from the Temple

47 ³ Going on eastward with a measuring line in his hand, the man measured a thousand cubits, [a] and then led me through the water, and it was ankle-deep. ⁴ Again he measured a thousand, and led me through the water, and it was knee-deep. Again he measured a thousand, and led me through the water, and it was waist-deep. ⁵ Again he measured a thousand, and it was a river that I could not pass through, for the water had risen. It was deep enough to swim in, a river that could not be passed through. ⁶ And he said to me, "Son of man, have you seen this?"

https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ezekiel%204 7%3A1-12&version=ESV

Genesis

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- The same was
- 3 in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made **by him;**And without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 <u>In him was life</u>.

 and the <u>life</u> was the <u>light of men</u>.
- 5 And the **light shineth** in **darkness**.

 And the **darkness** comprehended it not.

=God, All Creation (All) His Words, All Eternity

=God 'Connected' /Man

=God's Light Eternal/ Everlasting Light 1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2 And the earth was without form, and void. And darkness was upon the face of the deep.

And the **Spirit of God** moved upon the face of the waters.

- 3 And God said, Let there be light.
 And there was light.
- 4 And God saw the <u>light that it was good.</u>
 And God divided the light from the darkness.

(return)

5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.

8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

Genesis



=God 'Connected' /Man



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- 3 And God said, Let there be light.
 And there was light.
- 4 And God saw the <u>light that it was good.</u>
 And God divided the light from the darkness.

9 That was the true Light,

which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

- 10 He was in the world and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
- 11 He <u>came unto his own</u>, and <u>his own received him not</u>.
- 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God,

even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

אָת

=God, All Creation (All) His Words, All Eternity

Genesis

וְאֵת

=God 'Connected' /Man

אֶת-הָאוֹר

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even to them that believe on his name:

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Genesis

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And the **Spirit of God** moved upon the face of the waters.

- 3 And God said, Let there be light.
 And there was light.
- 4 And God saw the <u>light that it was good.</u>
 And God divided the light from the darkness.

14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

(and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying,

This was he of whom I spake,

He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

Genesis

=God,
All Creation
(All) His Words,
All Eternity

=God 'Connected' /Man



1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2 And the earth was without form, and void. And darkness was upon the face of the deep.

And the **Spirit of God** moved upon the face of the waters.

3 And God said, Let there be light.
And there was light.

4 And God saw the <u>light that it was good.</u>
And God divided the light from the darkness.

(KJ) 17 For the law was given by Moses,

but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

(Inspired Version) 17 For the law was given through Moses, but life and truth came through Jesus Christ.

18 For the law was after a carnal commandment, to the administration of death; but the gospel was after the power of an endless life, through Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father.

19 And no man hath seen God at any time, except he hath borne record of the Son; for except it is through him no man can be saved.

Genesis

=God, All Creation (All) His Words, All Eternity

4 And God saw the <u>light that it</u> was good.

Mosiah 8:90

=God 'Connected' /Man

"613" =God's Light Eternal/ Everlasting Light

Therefore,

if ye teach the law of Moses, also teach that it is

a shadow of those things which are to come;

26 John answered them, saying, I baptize with water: but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not;

27 He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose.

29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, <u>Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.</u>

<u>Genesis</u>

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3 And God said, Let there be light.
And there was light.

4 And God saw the <u>light that it was good.</u>
And God divided the light from the darkness.

30 This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me.

31 And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water.

32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

Genesis—Rashi (Rabbi 1040 AD)

על פני תהום. עַל פְּנֵי הַמַּיִם שֶׁעַל הָאָרֶץ:

על פני תהום ON THE FACE OF THE DEEP — i. e. the waters which were upon the earth.

ורוח אלהים מרחפת. כָּסֵא הַכְּבוֹד עוֹמֵד בְּאֲוִיר וּמְרַחֵף עַל פְּנֵי הַמַּיִם בְּרוּחַ פִּיו שֶׁל הַקָּבָּ״ה וּבְמַאֲמֶרוֹ, כְּיוֹנָה הַמְרַחֶפֶת עַל הַקֵּן, אקוב״טיר בְּלַעַ״ז:

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The throne of Divine Glory was standing in space, hovering over the face of the waters by the breath of the mouth of the Holy One, blessed be He, and by His command, even as a dove hovers over its nest. In old French acoveter.

Aleph-Tov 'LIGHT'

Genesis Chapter 1 בְּרֵאשִׁית

- . אָבֶרְא אֱלֹהִים, אֲתֹ הַשְּׁמַיִם, וְאֵת הָאָבֶץ. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
 - ב וְהָאָרֶץ, הָיְתָה תֹהוּ וָבֹהוּ, וְחֹשֶׁךְ, עַל-פְּנֵי תְהוֹם; וְרוּחַ אֱלֹהִים, מְרַחֶפֶת עַל-פְּנֵי הַמְּיִם.
- 2 Now the earth was unformed and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the spirit of God hovered over the face of the waters.
- ג וַיֹּאמֶר אֶלֹהִים, יְהִי אוֹר; וַיְהִי-אוֹר.
- 3 And God said: 'Let there be light.' And there was light.
- ד וַיַּרְא אֱלֹהִים <mark>אֶת</mark>-הָאוֹר, כִּי-טוֹב; וַיַּרְדֵּל אֱלֹהִים, בֵּין הַאוֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֵׁךְ.
- **4** And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

Aleph Tov Light—Implies 'Eternal/Everlasting Light'

Phrase 'Everlasting Light' only appears in Book of Mormon

Alma 12:134

Yea, this **light** had <u>infused such joy into his soul</u>, the cloud of <u>darkness</u> having been <u>dispelled</u> And the **light** of **everlasting light** <u>was lit up in his soul</u>,

Alma 14:95 Yea, they were encircled about with everlasting darkness and destruction,
But behold, He hath brought them into His everlasting light,
yea, into everlasting salvation.
And they are encircled about with the matchless bounty of His love.

HEBREW WORD FOR LIGHT='OR'

The LIGHT SHINED IN THE DARKNESS.

WAS THE SAME HEBREW WORD 'OR' FOR <u>LIGHT</u> ALSO <u>MEANS 'SKIN.'</u>

SOME TODAY MAKE IT POLITICALLY INCORRECT

BLESSING OF NEPHITES=WHITE SKIN

CURSING OF LAMANITES=BLACK SKIN

BUT IF 'SKIN' MEANT 'LIGHT' IN HEBREW ALSO MEANT NEPHITES- BLESSED, BESTOWED LIGHT AND TRUTH LAMANITES- CURSED, REMOVED LIGHT AND TRUTH.