

WHY YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT KOLOB

Astronomy and the incomprehensibilities of our own galaxy and millions of others fuel speculation, research, and entertainment—imagination, science, and science-fiction. And religion.

A Mormon church apostle has written that astronomy is not “a modern science,” but that “the greatest astronomers of all time lived in the early ages of the earth and received their knowledge by revelation from the Creator, Maker, and Organizer of all things.” He identified “Abraham...as the greatest astronomer of all the ages.”

According to the church, Abraham “talked with the Lord [identified as Jehovah], face to face, as one man talketh with another,” then recorded his experiences on papyrus, using hieroglyphics. That record, identified in 1835 and “translated” by Joseph Smith, is “The Book of Abraham,” one of five short books in the church’s extra-biblical volume of scripture called *The Pearl of Great Price*.

Among other things, Abraham learned details about Creation and stars and planets—including Kolob—their names, rotations, and revolutions.

According to the Mormon church [website](#) Kolob is the star “nearest unto the throne of God.” It’s not unusual, however, to hear Kolob called a planet, even by Mormon authorities.

SO, WHAT’S THE PROBLEM?

Abraham’s Kolob is only one of many distortions of biblical truth found in the five chapters of “The Book of Abraham.” For example:

- Creation of the universe was not a task of creating, but of *organizing* matter that always existed. Mormons deny that God created *ex nihilo* (out of nothing). As the effort began, “the Spirit of the Gods was brooding upon the face of the waters.”

- Creation was the work of “the Gods.” In a story roughly paralleling the Genesis account of Creation, “the Gods...organized and formed the heavens and the earth.” Christ, (“one...like unto God”) took the lead in forming the earth. In the end “the Gods” organized “man in their own image”: Mormon

scripture says that “the Gods went down to organize man...to form they him, male and female to form they them.”

- Jesus Christ (“one...like unto the Son of Man”) and Satan, both spirit offspring of Elohim (“God the Father”)—as are all humans, past, present, and future—volunteered when Elohim asked, “Whom shall I send?” to redeem those who would dwell on earth. All future mortals were present (as spirits) and approved when Elohim chose Christ, angering Satan.

- The purpose of creation was to provide mortality to spirits who had proved themselves worthy of it, “to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them”—that is, in their physical test on earth to prove worthy again, this time in pursuit, not of mortal life, but of eternal life.

- “The Book of Abraham” saga perpetuates several unique Mormon doctrines: ••Revelation of Christian truth has continued from the 1800s to the present through a single living prophet. ••Revelation is sometimes found in mysterious documents and languages such as ancient papyrus scrolls Joseph Smith bought from a peddler in Ohio (The Book of Abraham), and inscribed gold plates he unearthed in New York (The Book of Mormon). ••Translation of languages and revelations of new truths may come through visions, dreams, and visits of ancient persons to prophets; and through use of magical objects called “peep stones” or “interpreters.”

Mormon hymn: flying beyond Kolob

In the hymn “If You Could Hie to Kolob” (Number 284 in the official Mormon church hymnal), Mormons imagine racing to and beyond their fictional Kolob, but never discovering “where Gods began to be,” or “where Gods and matter end.”

Mormons who may ignore the unbiblical doctrines of their church, a few of which are mentioned herein, are nonetheless without excuse.

No small matters: the nature and works of one true God and our Savior; scripture; eternal life.

More

- See for yourself what the Mormon church says about “The Book of Abraham”—its history and content: <http://www.lds.org/ensign/1997/03/the-book-of-abraham-a-most-remarkable-book>.
- On our website, [see MOQ and other papers](#) published by Immanuel Bible Church.