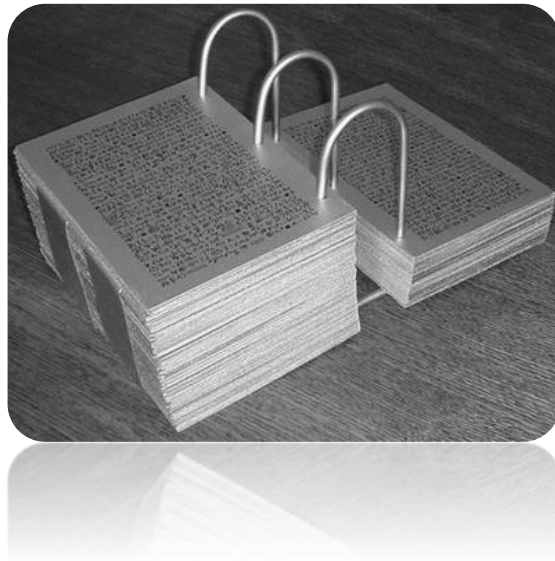


Studying the Book of Mormon Using Hook-Dates



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(See answers to blanks on page 4)

As you begin your in-depth study of this sacred record which the Lord refers to as a “Marvelous _____ and a _____”, you will be introduced to a fascinating technique for study called “Learning with _____ dates.” This is one of the most effective educational tools available for learning history. Once learned, this method will benefit you throughout your entire life. Not only will you continually attach information to the “hook dates,” but you will be delighted by the continual usefulness of your knowledge. You will also find that your capacity to _____ facts, people, and events will be increased dramatically.

This method also helps to maintain the highest level of interest, because there are so many events and personalities that can be correlated with and “_____” to each date. Here is why this method is so effective.

You know that your brain is divided into _____ hemispheres—referred to by scientists and medical research as the Left Brain and the Right Brain. The researchers tell us that the Left Brain stores _____. The Right Brain stores things that have _____ and _____.

Learning is most effective when both hemispheres of the brain are used simultaneously. This is sometimes referred to as “_____ -Brain learning.”

This hook date method of study utilizes these scientific findings. Memorizing the hook dates activates the left brain, and adding the stories, doctrines and other teachings that have meaning and feeling, activates the right brain. When right-brain stories are attached to left-brain numbers, the mind instantly _____ the stories and visual images associated with the dates. These facts and stories are never _____.

Now that you have nearly completed this fill-in-the-blank _____ material, you should follow these steps:

STEP 1: _____ the inside cover picture, or if you like design your own cover. Having your individual cover will give you a sense of ownership and individuality to your own book.

STEP 2: Memorize the _____ Hook Dates. You can rehearse them aloud or to yourself, but you should know them so well that you can say them forward and backward.

STEP 3: Memorize the Key _____ which is attached to each date. The left-brain date will now have more right-brain meaning. Rehearse these personalities with the hook-dates you have already memorized.

STEP 4: Memorize the Key _____ associated with the key personality and the hook date. Now you have a good over-view of the entire contents of the Book of Mormon.

STEP 5: Now spend about _____ week studying the material included for each of the hook dates. NOTE: Obviously you will not be able to learn everything about each date in just a week. But remember that after you have studied all the ten dates, covering one week for each, you will then want to _____ with the first hook date and spend another week on each date. Every time you study the hook dates you will go deeper and deeper into the stories, teachings and doctrines of the Book of Mormon. You will actually go through the Book of Mormon at least _____ times each _____. You will want to repeat this process for the _____ of your life.

STEP 6: Compile all your work pages and research into your own personal “Book of Mormon _____”. This could be a 3-ring binder, a folder, or other notebook. Keep it where you can refer to it often, and also so you can add other information that you will be studying and researching in the future. Eventually, you might want to have one or more file _____!

STEP 7: Review the hook-dates themselves _____, so you can always have an _____ of the Book of Mormon fresh in your mind.

When you follow these steps, you will find that the Book of Mormon will come _____ for you. Your life will be enriched many-fold as the pages of America’s rich past come into focus. Remember Moroni’s promise in Moroni 10:2-5:

And I _____ up these records, after I have spoken a few words by way of exhortation unto you.

Behold, I would exhort you that when he shall _____ these things, if it be wisdom in God that ye should read them, that ye would remember how _____ the Lord hath been unto the children of men, from the creation of Adam even down until the time that ye shall receive these things, and _____ it in your hearts.

And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would _____ God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not _____; and if ye shall ask with a _____ heart, with real _____, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost.

And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of _____ things.

And maybe, when we do this, the condemnation will be lifted from the Church, and we will be worthy to receive “the _____ of the story!”

On the following page, you will find the ten Hook Dates of the Book of Mormon. See how quickly and well you can memorize them.



ANSWERS TO BLANKS: work, wonder, hook, remember, hooked, two, facts, meaning, feeling, whole, recalls, forgotten, introductory, color, ten, personality, events, one, start, over, five, year, rest, journal, cabinets, often, overview, alive, seal, read, merciful, ponder, ask, true, sincere, intent, all, rest

The Book of Mormon Hook-Dates

2200 B.C.

600 B.C.

130 B.C.

90 B.C.

73 B.C.

64 B.C.

-0-

A.D. 34

A.D. 333

A.D. 421

The Hook-Dates with Key Personalities

2200 B.C.	Brother of Jared
600 B.C.	Lehi and Mulek
130 B.C.	Mosiah & Benjamin
90 B.C.	Alma
73 B.C.	Captain Moroni
64 B.C.	Helaman
-0-	Nephi III
A.D. 34	Jesus Christ
A.D. 333	Mormon
A.D. 421	Moroni

The Hook-Dates with Key Personalities and Key Events

2200 B.C.	Brother of Jared	Tower of Babel
600 B.C.	Lehi and Mulek	Journeys to America
130 B.C.	Mosiah & Benjamin	A Covenant People
90 B.C.	Alma	Missionary Work
73 B.C.	Captain Moroni	Title of Liberty
64 B.C.	Helaman	2,000 Faithful Sons
-0-	Nephi III	Christ's Birth
A.D. 34	Jesus Christ	Savior Visits America
A.D. 333	Mormon	A Fallen People
A.D. 421	Moroni	Plates of Gold Hidden

2200 B.C.

Summarizing 2200 B.C.

(Comprising the Book of Ether)

1. Tower of Babel
2. Division of Continents (See also Genesis 10:25)
3. How we got the 24 plates and contents
4. Name--Moriancumer
5. Barges--how built, how lit, what the people took, how long they were on the sea
6. Promises about America
7. Moriancumer sees the Lord
8. Secret combinations (Ether Chapter 8; see also President Benson's talk "I Testify")
9. Destruction of Jaredites, cause of (Talk by Ezra T. Benson, "Pride"; Moroni 8:27)
10. Special doctrines
 - a. They knew of a choice land (Ether 2)
 - b. Prayer three hours (Ether 2:14)
 - c. Sealed portion-contents (Ether 4: 1)
 - d. Three witnesses to be called (Ether 4)
 - e. What is idolatry? (2 Nephi 9:37)
 - f. Lord gives weaknesses so we can be humble (Ether 12:27)
 - g. Moroni saw Savior face to face (Mormon 8)
 - h. Brother of Jared moves mountain (Ether 12:30)
 - i. New Jerusalem to be in America (Ether 13:6)

Nimrod, the Builder of Babel

When Noah and his three sons went forth to multiply and replenish the earth, they apparently began to establish a pastoral civilization. As the population began to increase, however, there were certain factions of the people who wanted to build a city similar to the ones they had heard their fathers describe as flourishing during the pre-Flood period. This group of ambitious city-builders were led by a descendant of Cain named Nimrod.

Nimrod was the grandson of Ham through Cush. (Genesis 10:6-8.) He is described in the King James translation as "a mighty hunter before the Lord." (Genesis 10:9.) But the Inspired Version gives him no such distinction. It says: "And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter in the land. Wherefore, it is said: Even as Nimrod, the mighty hunter in the land. And he began a kingdom, and the beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh in the land of Shinar." (JST Genesis 10:5-6.)

From subsequent events we will see that Nimrod was a mighty hunter against the Lord and the Inspired Version verifies the fact that there has been a mistranslation in our modern Bible. He was a mighty hunter "in the land," not "before the Lord."

As we have already mentioned this first settlement by Noah and his sons was in the "east" and would appear to have been in Media or on the eastern side of the Mesopotamian

Valley. Therefore, when Nimrod and some of the other people became restless the path of migration was toward the west. The Inspired Version says:

"And it came to pass that many journeyed from the east and as they journeyed from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and dwelt there in the plain of Shinar. And they said one to another, Come, go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and they had slime [asphalt] for mortar. And they said, Come, go to, let us build a city, and a tower whose top will be high, nigh unto heaven; and let us make us a name lest we be scattered abroad upon the face the whole earth." (JST Genesis 11:1-3.)

This is the city which became Babel. Three things are noteworthy about this city. First, it was built for purposes which were in direct opposition to the commandment of God. The Lord had told them to spread abroad in the earth, but they built this city to concentrate the population. The Lord knew that city life under the wrong kind of leadership could corrupt a whole nation in one generation. You will observe that as long as patriarchal government survived it encouraged pastoral living. The "tent" of Noah and "the tents of Shem" are mentioned specifically. (Genesis 9:21,27.)

Before the Flood, the City of Enoch was an exception but it was set up under divine guidance and was governed in righteousness.