

What Caused the Destruction at the Time of Christ in the Book of Mormon?

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Observations from the Book of Mormon

From 3 Nephi chapter 8:5-23, 9:1-12

- 1. Storm
- 2. Tempest
- 3. Thunder
- 4. Shake the whole earth
- 5. Lightning's
- 6. Cities Burned
- 7. City sunk into a sea
- 8. Earth carried up on a city
- 9. Whole face of land changed
- 10. Whirlwinds
- 11. Quaking of whole earth
- 12. Highways broken up
- 13. Level land spoiled
- 14. Smooth places rough
- 15. Cities sunk
- 16. Face of whole earth deformed
- 17. Rocks rent in twain
- 18. Seams and cracks upon face land
- 19. Thick darkness on face of land
- 20. Vapor of darkness
- 21. Could not build a fire
- 22. No sun, moon, or stars
- 23. Mists of darkness
- 24. 3 days of darkness
- 25. City covered with earth
- 26. City buried in depths of the earth
- 27. Water came out of the earth
- 28. Hills and valley's in place of cities

Words generally related to volcanic eruptions, but NOT found in the Book of Mormon.

1. Volcano
2. Ash
3. Clouds
4. Lava
5. Magma
6. Explosion
7. River of fire
8. Falling Rocks
9. Rumbling

Is there evidence for cities being buried?

In what month was Christ crucified and in what month did he appear to the Nephites?

Could tornados occur at this same time of year?

Did a similar event occur near the time of Christ?

Observations witnessed in the 1811-1812 during the New Madrid earthquake series.

Watch the clips from the History Channel's *Earthquake in the Heartland* documentary at www.BookofMormonEvidence.org

VIDEO GALLERY #'s 70-78. Write their observations!

- Earthquakes
- Thunder – Roar
- Strange Gases (vapors), sulfurous smell, (methane gas?)
- Flashing lights
- Large fissures, cracks
- Buildings swallowed up in the fissures
- Sand blows up through the face of the earth 15-20 ft. deep
- 30 ft. wall of water from Mississippi rushes upstream
- Massive flooding
- City flooded
- Familiar landscape dramatically effected
- Became like a “war-zone”
- 3,000 sq. miles of land sunk (subsided)
- Lakes formed in hours

From the book *The Earthquake America Forgot* by Dr. David Stewart, & Dr. Ray Knox. See *Exploring the Book of Mormon in America's Heartland* pp. 188-190.

- “My maw tried to light lamps...but the darkness was so dense they didn't help at all”
- “...awful darkness of the atmosphere during some of the daylight shocks.”
- “...following the severest shocks, a dense black cloud of vapor overshadowed the land”
- “...this darkness returned at each successive shock.”
- “...a vapor seemed to impregnate the atmosphere, had a disagreeable smell, and produce difficulty of respiration.”
- “...from Dec. 16 until Dec. 19, ‘the sun, moon, and stars were concealed by a mist and fog...’
- “I saw a sudden and strange darkness rising from the western horizon...”

Why were some cities “burned with fire” while others could not light a fire with their “exceedingly dry wood?”

Do the observations in the Book of Mormon and the 1811-1812 events correlate?