

Converting the Book of Mormon Versions

Our thanks to O. J. Swanson for converting the references to the old versions of the Book of Mormon into modern chapter and verse references.

The Book of Mormon was first published in 1830. Rev. Lamb published his *Golden Bible* in 1887. In 1879, the Church published The Book of Mormon with Orson Pratt's divisions of chapters and verses, and with his references.

For a season after Pratt's 1879 edition appeared, the Mormon populace had two editions in general circulation. Therefore, Rev. Lamb's references to Book of Mormon passages appear like this:

"On page 224 (N. Edition., 249) we read the following. . ."

He is saying the passage appears in the old, undivided edition on page 224, and in the new (1879 edition) on page 249. He does not attempt to refer to chapter and verse.

Neither of those references help the modern reader locate the passages in the modern printings of the Book of Mormon. So Swanson creates the following reference system:

When you read on page 20 of *The Golden Bible* the following passage . .

20 THE GOLDEN BIBLE.

The Bible, there should be the same plain internal evidences of the fact.

Opening the book at random it matters little where—turn to the 110th (N. Ed. 123) page, and read:

"And now I, Nephi, must make an end of my prophesying unto you, my beloved brethren. And I cannot write but a few things, which I know must surely come to pass. Wherefore, the things which I have written sufficeth me, save it be a few words which I must speak concerning the doctrine of Christ; wherefore, I shall speak unto you plainly, according to the plainness of my prophesying."

. . . you note a reference to page 110 of the older version in print in use when Rev. Lamb wrote his book. He also tells us that the "New Edition" contains the passage on page 123. When you use Swanson's conversion chart you see the following, telling you the passage Lamb refers to on page 20 of his book is found on page 110 in the older version and in 2 Nephi 3:1-2 in the modern (1985) Book of Mormon.

REFERENCES IN THE 1985 EDITION

CHAPTER	PAGE	OLD	MODERN
	20	110	2 Nephi 3:1-2

If you find mistakes in this reference, or if you have other referencing questions, you can contact O. J. at jswan@manti.com. O. J.'s chart begins on the next page.

REFERENCES IN THE 1985 EDITION

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	20	110	2 Nephi 31:1-2
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	62	33	1 Nephi 16: 9-10	
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	70	436	3 Nephi 2:14-16	
	74	249	Alma 14:15-29	pp. 72-74
	77	401	Helaman 5:20-49	pp. 74-77
	78	430	Helaman 16:2-3	
		368	Alma 56:47-48; 55-56; 57:19; 57:25-27	
	79	519	Ether 2:16-17 Ether 2:18	
	80		Ether 2:19-21 Ether 2:22	

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