

# GOD IS NOT SMARTER THAN A FIFTH GRADER (IF HE AUTHORED THE BOOK OF MORMON)

By  
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Mormons believe that the Book of Mormon came from God. In fact, that nice fellow at your door will come right out and claim that the Book of Mormon is a "flawless" product because of the divine guidance that Joseph Smith received when translating inscriptions upon gold plates which an angel led him to discover at Hill Cumorah (in Manchester, New York) on 22 September 1827.

Well, all that sounds great, but as we will soon see it is simply just a bunch of window dressing. I have in my library a reprint of the first edition of the book of Mormon, published in 1830. For being God's handiwork, the writing sure does leave something to be desired. Indeed, the book contains many grammatical errors. These blunders were removed out of later renditions of the Book of Mormon. Consider the following examples:

- "... And also of Adam and Eve, which was our first parents" (page 15).
- "And it came to pass that whoever was baptized by the power and authority of God, they was added to his church" (page 192).
- "And the priests was not to depend upon the people for their support" (page 193).
- "Now when Amlici was made king over them, he commanded them that they should take up arms against their brethren; and this he done, that he might subject them to him" (page 225).
- "...They did not fight against God no more" (page 290).
- "...That all might see the writing that he had wrote" (page 351).
- "Behold, I were about to write..." (page 506).

Certainly God is smarter than this! Point these things out the next time a Mormon missionary begins to emote about the "flawless" nature of the Book of Mormon.