

Why the Bible Is In a Class All By Itself

I. An Overview of Sacred Books

	<u>Bible</u>	<u>Book of Mormon</u>	<u>Quran</u>	<u>Teaching of Buddha</u>
Date of composition	1500BCE-90AD	1830	610-632AD	567-487BCE ?
Number of authors	35+	1	1	1
Archaeological confirm	Yes	No	NA	NA
Fulfilled prophecy	Yes	No	No	No
Historical anachronisms	No	Yes	Yes	NA

NA= not applicable

II. A More Detailed Comparison.

- Does it claim to be divine revelation?

“The eternal Buddha always appears before people in the most friendly forms and brings to them the wisest methods of relief.” The Teachings of Buddha p. 30

“...the timeless compassion of the eternal Buddha that has been operative since unknown time, when mankind went astray due to ignorance.” Ibid.

“All about her were Ashoka blossoms. In delight she reached her right arm to pluck a branch and as she did so a prince was born.” Op.cit. p. 4

- Does it's human authorship suggest a supernatural origin?
- Are its historical claims verified?

“The whole face of the land had become covered with buildings, and the people were as numerous almost, as it were the sand of the sea.” Mormon 1.7

“I did some research into human population growth over history and found that none of the rates reported could have produced the results in the Book of Mormon. The book simply has too many people living and dying.” --John Kunich, Christianity Today. July 8, 1977. Pp. 28-32

“The DNA evidence backs up decades of archaeological, linguistic, cultural, and anthropological research that indicates there is no Israelite influence in the Americas before Columbus arrived. The only conclusion I could reach from this research was that The Book of Mormon does not contain a true history.”

--Simon Southerton, Christianity Today February 2004, pp. 18-19

“And because of their saying: We slew the Messiah Jesus son of Mary, Allah’s messenger- They slew him not nor crucified, but it appeared so unto them: and lo! Those who disagree concerning it are in doubt thereof; they have no knowledge thereof save pursuit of a conjecture; they slew him not for certain.”

Surah IV.157

- Does it contain fulfilled prophecy?

“But behold, the Spirit hath said this much unto me, saying: Cry unto this people, saying—Repent ye, and prepare the way of the Lord, and walk in his paths, which are straight; for behold, the kingdom of heaven is at hand, and the Son of God cometh upon the face of the earth. And behold, he shall be born of Mary, at Jerusalem which is the land of our forefathers, she being a virgin, a precious and chosen vessel, who shall be overshadowed and conceive by the power of the Holy Ghost, and bring forth a son, yea, even the Son of God.”

Alma 7:9-10

- Does it contain historical anachronisms?

“And it came to pass that we did find upon the land of promise, as we journeyed in the wilderness, that there were beasts in the forests of every kind, both the cow and the ox, and the ass and the horse, and the goat and the wild goat, and all manner of wild animals, which were for the use of men. And we did find all manner of ore both of gold, and of silver and of copper.” -- 1 Nephi 18:25

And they also had horses, and asses, and there were elephants and cureloms and cumoms; all of which were useful unto man, and more especially the elephants and cureloms and cumoms. --- Ether 9:19

And (remember) when Moses said unto his people: O my people! Remember Allah’s favour unto you, how He placed among you Prophets, and He made you kings, and gave you that (which) He gave not to any (other) of (His) creatures. – Surah V.20

Pharaoh said: Ye believe in Him before I give you leave! Lo! This is the plot that ye have plotted in the city that ye may drive its people hence. But ye shall come to know! Surely I shall have your hands and feet cut off upon alternate side. Then I shall crucify you every one. – Surah VII.123-124

III. Conclusions