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Summation of Issues in the Book of Mormon

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Abstract: Miller gives a succinct summary of the issues addressed in his book. He states, "While we cannot rely on science for all the answers that we would like relating to the scriptures, it has provided very important substantiating information." The chief source of evidence, however, must be the witness of the Holy Ghost.

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My mind is satisfied that all the items Joseph Smith translated as relating to the Book of Mormon actually existed in America as he transcribed them from the plates. This includes all the materials, plants and animals he stated were here. Many critics over the years have claimed that the Book of Mormon could not possibly be true, because it lists items that, “should not be in America” during the time indicated. However, scientific research has shown that many were in fact here when the Book of Mormon records that they were. Further scientific investigations continue to add supportive evidences.

While we cannot rely on science for all the answers that we would like relating to the scriptures, it has provided very important substantiating information. In the end, though, our testimonies of the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon must be built on faith in God. B. H. Roberts in writing about this very subject said, “Secondary evidences in support of truth, like secondary causes in natural phenomena [science], may be of first-rate importance, and mighty factors in the achievement of God’s purposes.” “...The Holy Ghost must ever be the chief source of evidence for the truth of the Book of Mormon. All other evidence is secondary to this, the primary and infallible. No arrangement of evidence, however skillfully ordered; no argument, however adroitly made, can ever take its place.” (1950, p. 7-8). I can only second his comments.