

## Searching the Scriptures: Ideas and Computer Resources

17 Feb. 2017

The scriptures and modern prophets encourage us to search and study the scriptures.

- Search the scriptures. (John 5:39; Alma 33:1)  
GR search, explore, examine, investigate
- They ... searched the scriptures daily (or *diligently*). (Acts 17:11; Jacob 7:23; Alma 17:2)
- Search the prophets. (3 Ne. 23:5)
- Search the prophecies of Isaiah. (Morm. 8:23; 3 Ne 20:11; 23:1)

At the time these commandments were given, people did not have personal copies of the scriptures. Priests and scribes read and explained scriptures to the people like Nephi and Jacob did.

Today we have printed personal scriptures with Study Helps. We also have computerized scriptures that make it easy to search the scriptures. For some young people, “search the scriptures” may mean Google the scriptures.

- Computers are useless; they can only give you answers.<sup>1</sup>
- Questions are places in your mind where answers fit. ... If you haven’t asked the question, the answer has nowhere to go. It hits your mind and bounces right off.<sup>2</sup>

Computers do not tell us what to questions to ask, but they help us find answers to questions. Like the *Urim and Thummim* and the *white stone* (D&C 130:10), computers are not very useful without questions. “Ask not and ye shall not receive.” Every computer search has an implied question. *The value of our searches depends on what we search for and what we do when we find it.*

A person who does not read good books has no advantage over one who can’t read them.

### Computer program features suggest questions

Being aware of the capabilities of different programs can suggest types of questions and help you select the best tool for a question. In the examples below, WordCruncher comments apply also to LDS View (a version of WordCruncher for LDS scripture study). Item 22 below lists some [free WordCruncher eBooks](#).

#### 1. What documents contain these words? (Document search)

##### See a list of documents in some order. (Document retrieval)

Google shows results in a PageRank order based on a formula for measuring the relative importance of documents.<sup>3</sup> Others show documents with the most search hits.

At [scriptures.lds.org](#) search for *charity*. If you are sorting by *relevance*, the first result is Moroni 7:46, one of two verses with 3 hits in chapters containing 9 hits.

*WordCruncher*. The Library Search shows how many times words occur in each book, and the Frequency Distribution helps one find parts of a book (e.g., chapter) that contain search words.

##### Select and see a document, web page, or chapter.

For internet searches (e.g., scriptures.lds.org), books are usually split into chapters for searching and viewing.

#### 2. How often are words used in a text? (Word counts)

When you search for words, the computer usually shows you how many times the words occur in the scriptures or in parts of the scriptures.

*WordCruncher*. The WordWheel shows how many times each word appears in a Word list like Scripture Text. The Frequency Distribution shows which parts of a book (e.g., chapter) contain search words. See [appendix A](#) for more advanced information.

#### 3. Where are words used in a text? (Word or text search)

This question comes up if you are studying a topic or word, or if you are trying to find a verse and remember some words in it.

*Printed scriptures*. The Study Helps include the Topical Guide and Indexes. These show verses containing words (e.g., *ball*) related to the topic (e.g., *Liahona*). To save space, they do not include (a) every word, or (b) every verse containing each word.

*WordCruncher*. You can find every place words occur in the scriptures, headings, or topics listed in the Guide to the Scriptures. The “Getting Started Tutorial” (see the Help menu) shows how to do simple and complex searches.

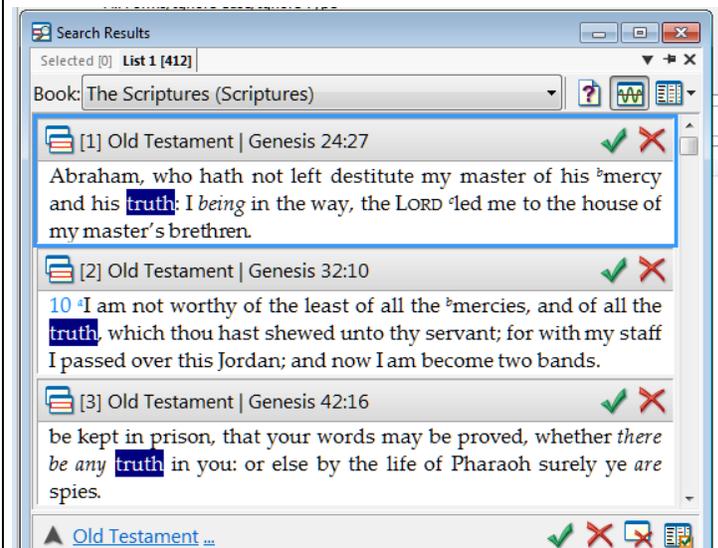
#### 4. Where is a verse? (Verse search)

In a class you may be invited to turn to a chapter and verse. You may also want to check wording or context of a footnote or quote that includes the reference.

*WordCruncher*. To see verses mentioned in footnotes, click on the link. You can also select or type a reference (e.g., 1 Ne. 3:7) to jump to that verse.

#### 5. How can search results be organized? (Pattern searches)

Elder Russell M. Nelson looked up every reference to *truth* as he was preparing a 1985 talk called “Truth and More.” Elder David A. Bednar looked up all references to *gathering* and looked for patterns (e.g., types of gathering).



*WordCruncher*. You can easily look up all forms of a word. You can copy part or all of the entire list and paste it into a word processor so you can organize the results as you wish.

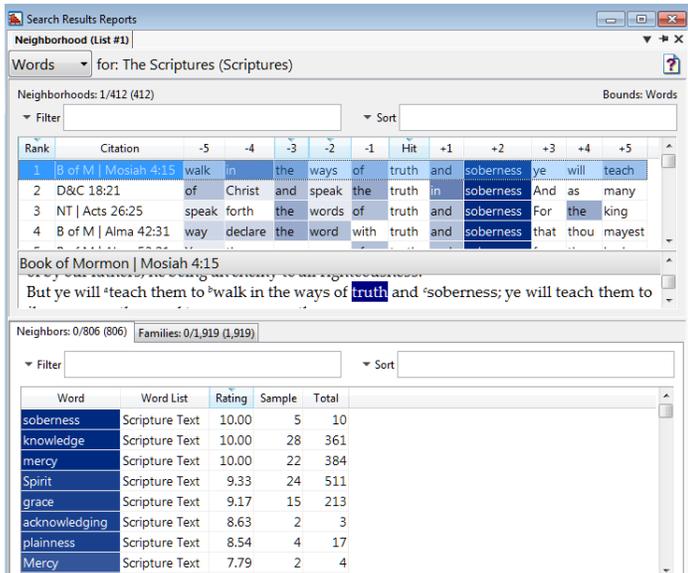
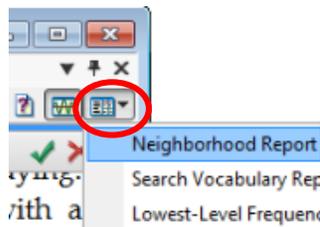
#### 6. Where are words used the most? (Frequency Distribution)

Table of contents	Actual	≈Rating	≈Actual/Expected
Old Testament	118	-6.1	
New Testament	119	7.4	
Book of Mormon	79	-1.3	
Doctrine and Covenants	82	5.9	
Pearl of Great Price	14	1.4	

Table of contents	Actual	≈Rating	≈Actual/Expected
New Testament	119	7.4	
Matthew	3	-1.7	
Mark	3	-0.8	
Luke	5	-1.2	
John	27	7.6	

## 7. What words are found near search words? (Neighborhood)

*WordCruncher*. After a word search, you can see a Neighborhood Report. The top part shows the words before and after the search word. The bottom part shows words found near the search word. The better “friends” are highlighted. Click on a column heading to sort.



## 8. What were the actual search words?

When you search using “All Forms” or wildcards (e.g., \*ing), you can see the actual search words by selecting Search Vocabulary Report from the menu with the Neighborhood Report (see above).

## 9. Which phrases are repeated? (Phrase Compare Report)

*WordCruncher*. While looking at a text window, you can select the Phrase Compare Report. This shows repeated phrases in the different books, the same book, or in parts of a book. Click on a column heading to sort.



Num.	Freq.[1]	Fre...	Phrase	Freq./M.[1]	Fre...	Len.
1	2		"a bible we have got a"	7.1		6
2	6		"a broken heart and a contrite"	21.2		6
3	2		"a change wrought upon their bodies"	7.1		6
4	3		"a child of the devil for"	10.6		6
5	2		"a commandment i give unto you"	7.1		6
6	2		"a covenant that they would not"	7.1		6

Num.	Freq.[1]	Fre...	Phrase	Freq./M.[1]	Fre...	Len.
1	1,042		"and it came to pass that"	3,677.4		6
2	216		"it came to pass that the"	762.3		6
3	153		"it came to pass that when"	540.0		6

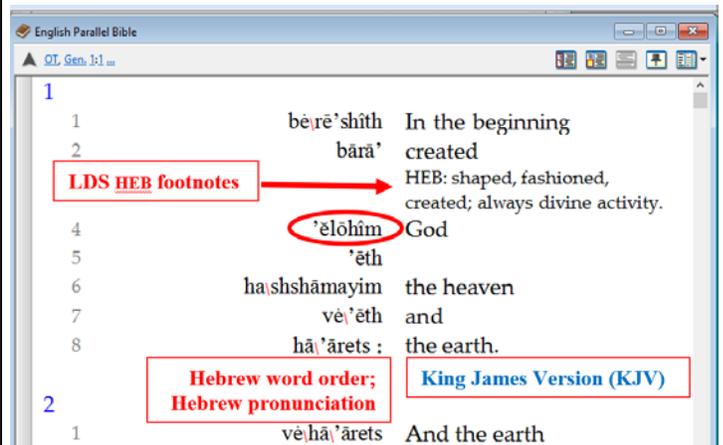
## 10. How are words used in scripture? (Search for contexts)

Words change meanings over time. For example, when the Bible was translated about 400 years ago, *gay* meant beautiful, fine, or cheerful. About 1950 *gay* began to refer to same-sex attraction or behavior. Many common words (e.g., flatter, offend, men) have different meanings now. President Benson’s talk on *pride* showed the importance of learning the meaning of words “as contained in the scriptures” regardless of how the words are used now.

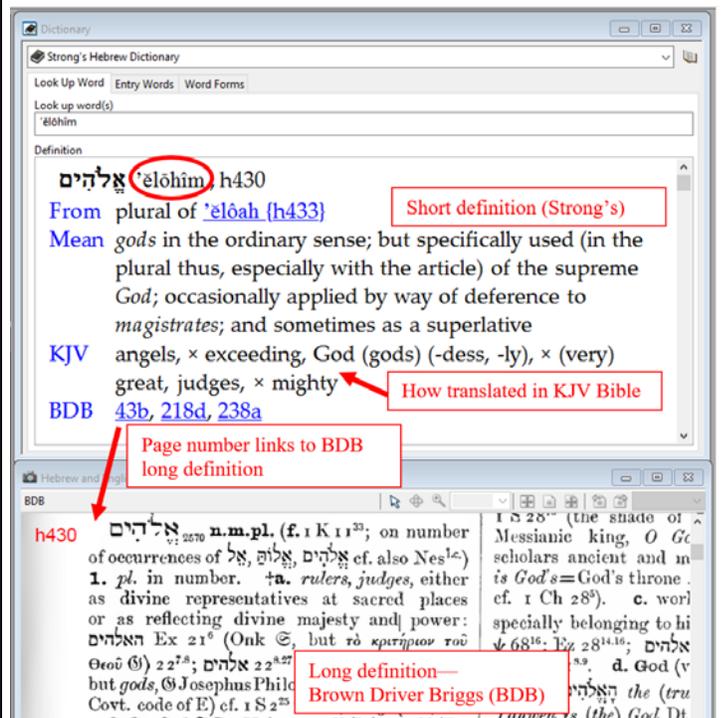
**Ezra Taft Benson:** In the scriptures there is no such thing as righteous pride—it is always considered a sin. Therefore, no matter how the world uses the term, we must understand how God uses the term so we can understand the language of holy writ and profit thereby. (“Beware of Pride,” *Ensign*, May 1989)

## 11. What was the Hebrew or Greek word and its meaning?

The LDS Bible has HEB or GR footnotes that give alternate translations for about 1% of the original Hebrew or Greek words. With the *English Parallel Bible* in WordCruncher, you can see Hebrew and Greek words written with English letters and how they were translated in the King James Bible. You can click on a Hebrew or Greek word to see a brief or longer definition. You can double-click on a word to see every place the word occurs. See the LDS View “Getting Started Tutorial” in the Help menu for more information.



*Hebrew and Greek dictionaries*. When you click on a Hebrew or Greek word (e.g., 'elohim), you will see a brief definition from Strong’s Hebrew or Greek Lexicon and how the word was translated in the Bible. You will also see links to a pdf of *Brown Driver Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon* (BDB), or *Thayer’s Greek Lexicon* where you will see longer definitions.



## 12. What are the meanings of English words?

Google: type *define flatter* to search for the definition. This will usually find modern meanings, not old meanings.

*Webster's 1844*. If you have downloaded this WordCruncher book, you can click on an English word to see the meaning in the dictionary window. This dictionary is basically the same as the 1828 dictionary, but with more technical words. Webster often gave Bible examples for word meanings.

(*Shorter*) *Oxford English Dictionary (OED or SOED)*: This dictionary shows the historical meanings of words. It is very helpful when studying the scriptures and related books with meanings from AD 1500–1850. The Book of Mormon manuscripts and the 1830 edition appear to match the variations in grammar and word meanings found in English writings from the 1500s to 1700s (e.g., 1611 King James Bible, Tyndale, Shakespeare), not 1830 American English.<sup>4</sup>

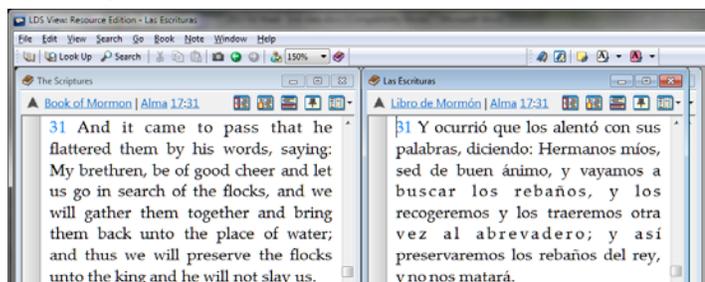
## 13. How else could this be translated?

A BYU New Testament instructor required his students to read each assignment in the King James Bible (KJV) and at least one other translation. Differences in translation suggest questions and improve understanding. For example,

- Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with ... wanton eyes, walking and mincing [as] they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: (KJV Isa 3:16)
- The women of Zion are haughty, walking along ..., flirting with their eyes, strutting along with swaying hips, with ornaments jingling on their ankles. (NIV Isa 3:16)

At [www.blueletterbible.org](http://www.blueletterbible.org) you can see more than 10 English Bible translations. The Old Testament translations are usually based on the same Hebrew original as the KJV, but the New Testament translations are often based on a Greek text that is about 80% the same as the Greek text used for the KJV.

*WordCruncher*. You can open the LDS Scriptures in about 30 languages. Currently Spanish and Portuguese are the only languages with an LDS Bible. If you open the scriptures in two or more languages, you can look up a verse in one language and the other language windows will automatically synchronize or show the same verse (unless you pin a window). This facilitates comparisons. For example, when you see *LORD* or *host of heaven* in the English Bible, you will see *Jehová* or *ejército* [army] *del cielo* in Spanish.



## 14. What are “opposition” words with contrasting meanings?

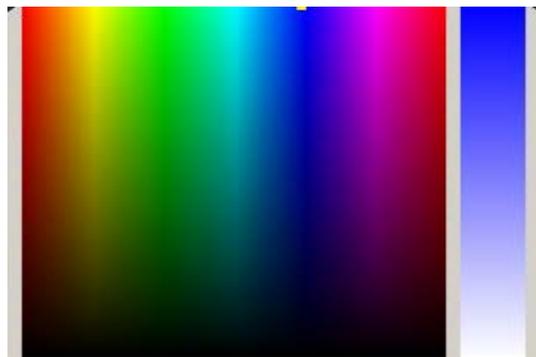
“It must needs be, that there is an opposition in all things” (2 Ne 2:11). A friend applied this to language by saying you don’t know what a word means unless you know what it does not mean. One meaning of *opposition* is “placing one thing in contrast with another” (SOED). Perception requires contrast. One cannot notice a polar bear in snow storm, or white letters on white background. A thesaurus suggests words with similar or opposite meanings.

**What is the opposite of \_\_\_\_\_?** For example, what is the opposite of *faith* in Christ? *Doubt, fear, disobedience*? The scriptures often suggest word pairs (e.g., hard heart/broken heart, pride/humility, friend/enemy, love/hate, bitter/sweet, light/dark).

*Merism* is a rhetorical term for a pair of contrasting words (such as near and far, young and old, rich and poor, high and low, good and evil, heavens and the earth, light and darkness) used to express totality or completeness. It is like referring to the two ends of a continuum (e.g., A to Z, alpha and omega) to describe everything in between the two ends.

The Lord ... inviteth ... all to come unto him ... black and white, bond and free, male and female; ... Jew and Gentile. (2 Ne 26:33)

**Definition: What is and is not meant?** For example, as you look at the colors below and move your eyes from left to right or from bottom to top, where does *blue* begin and end?



## 15. What verses contain more of these words?

For language learning, it may be useful to look of the most frequent 50 words and to find verses with many of these words. You might also look up all words ending in *ing*.

*WordCruncher*. You can sort the WordWheel by frequency, add a *Normal text* filter, and search for the top 50 words (e.g., the, and). While looking at the Search Results window, you can select *Lowest-Level Frequency Distribution Report*. You can click on the “Hits” or “Unique” column header to sort the list. When you select one of the verses, you will see that verse with top 50 words highlighted in the window below. For example, “And they shall be my people, and I will be their God:” (Jer. 32:38) consists entirely of 11 out of the 50 top words.

## 16. Where has this verse been quoted or cited?

Before computerized scriptures were widely available, *Most Quoted Scriptures* (Kay Briggs, 1981) was a reference guide to over 1,000 LDS scriptures referred to in talks by General Authorities. With a computer, it is easy to find many other scriptures instead of relying on the most quoted scriptures.

At <http://scriptures.byu.edu> you can look up any verse of scripture and see where it was cited by speakers (a) in LDS General Conference (1942 to present), (b) in the *Journal of Discourses* (1839–1886), and (c) in *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*. The year, conference, volume, page, and initials identify the source and speaker. You can click on one to see the text.

**Alma 17:2-3** (13–A,69,TSM) (08–O,98,WDO)  
 (01–A,75,JBW) (96–A,75,WML) (92–O,81,JEJ)  
 (92–O,81,JEJ) (90–O,24,RKD) (90–O,27,HM)  
 (89–A,23,REP) (86–A,63,TSM) (79–O,16,MGR)  
 (75–O,26,MDH) (73–A,28,BRM) (69–O,94,TSM)  
 (67–O,17,RLS) (61–A,34,HBL) (51–O,124,DLS)  
 (191,JS)

**Alma 17:2-9** (16:57a,OP)

**Alma 17:3** (09–A,48,RMN) (92–O,83,AAL)  
 (62–A,68,TBI) (148,JS) (155,JS)

**Alma 17:4** (288,JS)

**Alma 17:5** (02–A,32,RRS) (92–O,83,AAL)  
 (89–A,23,REP) (32,JS)

At <https://www.lds-general-conference.org/> you can search General Conference talks (1850–now) and see word frequencies and charts for each decade. This helps identify when words were being emphasized. For example, *grace* is mentioned more frequently in the last 30 years. You can click on a decade to see the words in context.

### 17. What is the context of a verse?

Computers make it easy to search for a verse containing a word or words. They also make it easy to take words out of context. Sometimes this is fun.

- First car accident: “They ... ran upon him with one accord” (Acts 7:57).
- First smoker: “She lighted off the camel” (Gen 24:64).

Sometimes words are taken out of context to change the meaning for political or financial gain. For example, political opponents quoted only the underlined words from a Mitt Romney speech in 2012: “I’m in this race because I care about Americans. I’m not concerned about the very poor. We have a safety net there. If it needs repair, I’ll fix it.”<sup>5</sup> A movie ad quoted only the underlined words from a movie review: “The credit sequence, with its jumpy frames and near-subliminal flashes of psychoparaphernalia, is a small masterpiece of dementia.”<sup>6</sup>

When we find a verse, computers make it easy to see verses before and after. This helps us understand the meaning of a verse.

For example: “by grace are ye saved through faith ... not of works” (Eph. 2:8–9). When one looks up Paul’s other references to *faith* and *works*, it is clear that he is referring to “faith in Jesus Christ” and “the works of the law” of Moses (e.g., circumcision, dietary rules, Sabbath rules). Paul argued against Jewish Christians who said Gentile Christians needed to keep the law of Moses as taught by the rabbis (see Acts 15; Gal. 2). However, when James said “faith without works is dead” (James 2:20), he was referring to “good deeds” like feeding the hungry, not to the works of the law of Moses. Paul also teaches people to do good, not “the works of the flesh.” (Gal 5:13–26)

About 1400 years later, Martin Luther quoted Paul’s teachings on faith and works as he argued against the seven sacraments (works) that the Catholic Church said were necessary for salvation. He and many other Protestants accepted only two: baptism, sacrament.

### 18. What is omitted or not written?

**What priesthood office is not mentioned?** Computers can help us find possible priesthood titles and where they occur. But we have to notice the absence of titles. What title(s) is missing?

The high priest and elder ... have a right to officiate in all these offices [elder, priest, teacher, deacon] ... when there are no higher authorities present. (D&C 107:10–12)

Perhaps, this omission was considered before all stake quorums of the seventy were discontinued in 1986.

### What types of food or drink are not in the Word of Wisdom?

It is interesting (a) to identify various types of plants, animals, foods, and drinks mentioned in Bible and modern literature, and (b) to see which ones are not mentioned in the Word of Wisdom.

### 19. What do pronouns refer to?

Pronouns like *he, she, they, these, or those* commonly refer to a noun or noun phrase used earlier. Plural pronouns refer to plural nouns. Feminine pronouns refer to feminine nouns. Sometimes it is clear what a pronoun refers to. In the verse below, *they* clearly does not refer to the singular nouns *man* or *Lord*.

Yea, flesh also of beasts and of the fowls of the air, I, the Lord, have ordained for the use of man with thanksgiving; nevertheless they are to be used sparingly; (D&C 89:12)

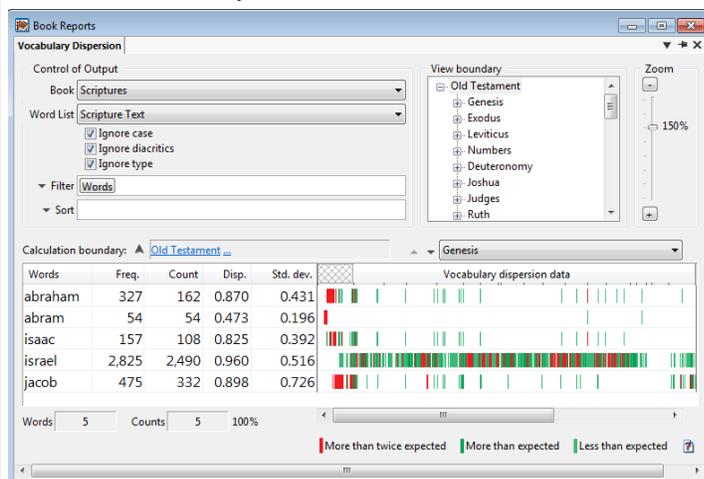
Sometimes it unclear what a pronoun refers to.

All grain is ordained for the use of man and of beasts, to be the staff of life, not only for man but for the beasts of the field, and the fowls of heaven, and all wild animals that run or creep on the earth; And these hath God made for the use of man only in times of famine and excess of hunger. (D&C 89:14–15)

Does *these* refer to all four underlined words or phrases? Vegans and vegetarians may assume *these* refers to *beasts, fowls, and wild animals*. For them, *sparingly* means “only in times of famine or excess of hunger.” Others may assume *these* refers only to *wild animals* which the Jews considered *unclean*, and that *beasts* and *fowls* earlier were to be *used sparingly*, not just *in times of famine*.

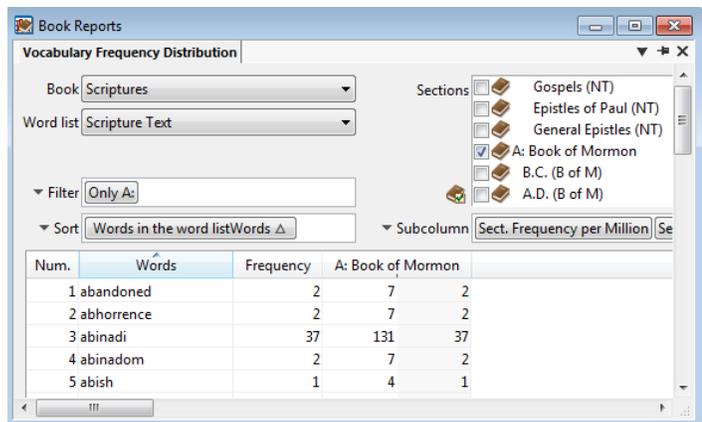
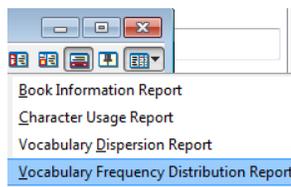
### 20. Where do words appear in the scriptures?

In the top right corner of the scripture window, (a) select the Vocabulary Dispersion Report, (b) add a word filter to see only Abram, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Israel, and (c) set the “Calculation boundary” to Old Testament.

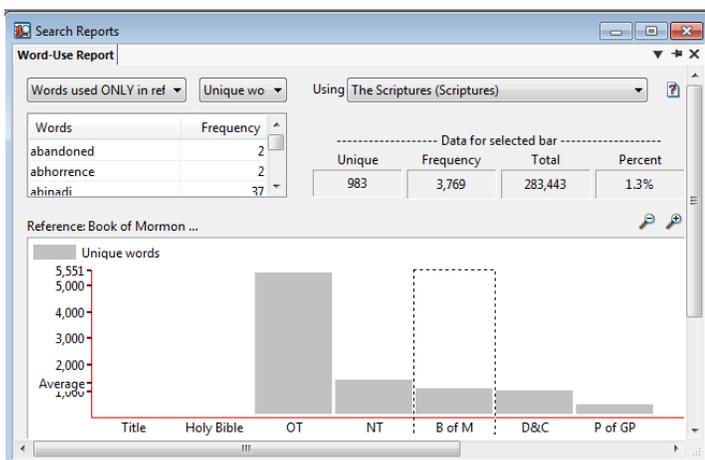
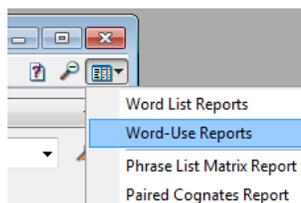


## 21. What words occur only in the Book of Mormon?

In the top right corner of the scripture window, (a) select the Vocabulary Frequency Distribution Report, (b) select Book of Mormon section, (c) select the filter “Only in Section A,” and (d) click on the Recompute button.



For a similar graphical report, (a) select “Word-Use Reports” from the top right corner of the Search Window, (b) select “Words used ONLY in reference,” and (c) click on the “B of M” bar in the chart to see the words in the top left window. To zoom in, double-click on the “B of M” bar.



## 22. Other WordCruncher reports and features

The Search window, Search Results window, and text windows like the Scripture text window all have report buttons in the top right corner. Reports may have filters and sort options (e.g., click on a column heading). If you have questions about a report, you can press the F1 key or select Contents... from the Help menu.

## 23. Other computer resources

### LDS View Scriptures

LDS View is a version of WordCruncher that includes the LDS Scriptures in about 30 languages. If you are interested in the scriptures as well as other LDS Gospel Library materials (see below) you can use WordCruncher or LDS.org.

### WordCruncher eBooks

After you download WordCruncher at [www.wordcruncher.com](http://www.wordcruncher.com), you can download various eBooks. Webster’s 1844 dictionary can be a helpful resource for scripture study. The following is a brief list of free eBooks that can help one better understand the scriptures. When you go to the WordCruncher Bookstore, you will see a brief description of these and other eBooks.

### LDS Gospel Library

- *The Scriptures* in about 30 languages.
- General Conference Addresses
- *Teachings of Presidents of the Church* manuals
- Institute Student Manuals: Old Testament to Pearl of Great Price

### WordCruncher Library

#### LDS Authors

- Bradford, Gerald. *Uncovering the Original Text of the Book of Mormon*
- Faulconer, James E. *Scripture Study: Tools and Suggestions*
- ——. *Romans 1*
- ——. *Life of Holiness*
- Nibley, Hugh W. *Teachings of the Book of Mormon*
- ——. *Teachings of the Pearl of Great Price*
- ——. *Of All Things*
- ——. *When the Lights Went Out*
- Parry, Donald W. *Harmonizing Isaiah*
- —, ed. *Echoes and Evidences of the Book of Mormon*
- —, ed. *Isaiah in the Book of Mormon*
- —, *Poetic Parallels in the Book of Mormon*,
- —, ed. *Temples of the Ancient World*
- —, ed. *Temple in Time and Eternity*
- Pinnock, Hugh W. *Finding Biblical Hebrew and Other Ancient Literary Forms in the Book of Mormon*
- Ricks, Stephen D., ed. *Allegory of the Olive Tree*
- —, ed. *King Benjamin’s Speech*
- —, ed. *Warfare in the Book of Mormon*
- Reynolds, George, *Commentary on the Book of Mormon*
- Reynolds, Noel B., ed. *Early Christians in Disarray*
- ——. *Book of Mormon Authorship*
- Roberts, B. H. *Comprehensive History of The Church*
- Skinner, Andrew, ed., *Third Nephi: An Incomparable Scripture*
- Smith, Hyrum M. *Doctrine and Covenants Commentary*
- Smith, Joseph. *Documentary History of the Church*
- ——. *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*
- Sorenson, John L. *Mormon’s Map*
- ——. *Ancient American Setting for the Book of Mormon*
- —, ed. *Rediscovering the Book of Mormon*
- Taylor, John. *Life and Writings of*
- Talmage, James E. *Religious Writings* (includes *Jesus the Christ*, *Articles of Faith*, and more)
- Thorne, Melvin J. *Pressing Forward with the Book of Mormon*

- Welch, John W. *Illuminating the Sermon at the Temple ...*
  - ———, ed. *Legal Cases in the Book of Mormon*
  - ———, ed. *Reexploring the Book of Mormon*
  - Woodruff, Wilford. *Life and Writings of*
- Joseph Smith's Translation (JST) Electronic Library
  - Early LDS Periodicals (e.g., *Times and Seasons*, *Messenger and Advocate*, *Evening and Morning Star*, *Elder's Journal*)

#### Non-LDS Authors

- Edersheim, Alfred. *The Temple*
- ———. *Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*
- ———. *Sketches of Jewish Social Life*
- Falk, Ze'ev W. *Hebrew Law in Biblical Times*
- Farrar, Frederic W. *Life of Christ*
- Freeman, James M. *Handbook of Bible Manners and Customs*
- Ginzberg, Louis. *Legends of the Jews*
- Hatch, Edwin. *Influence of Greek Philosophy and Usages upon the Christian Church*
- Josephus (Jewish historian, AD 37–100), *Writings of Josephus*
- Mountford, Lydia. *Writings of Lydia Mountford* [Includes two books about the Bible from a Middle Eastern perspective.]
- Roberts, ... *Early Christian Fathers* (ANF, NPNF)
- Schaff, Philip, ed. *Creeds of Christendom*
- Webster, Noah. *Dictionary of the English Language* (1844)

#### Church Internet Resources

At [www.lds.org](http://www.lds.org) you can find many resources by clicking on the Resources button near the top right. You can also go directly to these resources: [scriptures.lds.org](http://scriptures.lds.org), [mobile.lds.org](http://mobile.lds.org), [institute.lds.org](http://institute.lds.org), [seminary.lds.org](http://seminary.lds.org), [manuals.lds.org](http://manuals.lds.org), [magazines.lds.org](http://magazines.lds.org), [lds.org/media-library](http://lds.org/media-library)

#### BYU Internet Resources

[mi.byu.edu](http://mi.byu.edu) is the Maxwell Institute website. It has online versions of many books they have published including those published under the name of F.A.R.M.S. (e.g., Hugh Nibley's writings). Many of these books are also available as WordCruncher eBooks (see brief list above). You can download some of these books as PDFs (e.g., [Donald Parry, Visualizing Isaiah](#)).

[scriptures.byu.edu](http://scriptures.byu.edu) lets you see and read where scripture verses were cited in general conference talks (1942–present), in *Journal of Discourses* (1839–86), and in *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*. See [examples in item 15 above](#).

[speeches.byu.edu](http://speeches.byu.edu) lets you read, watch, or listen to BYU devotionals and firesides given by Church leaders, BYU presidents and professors, and distinguished campus visitors.

[rsc.byu.edu](http://rsc.byu.edu) is the Religious Studies Center's website that provides online access to their publications.

[edl.byu.edu/webster](http://edl.byu.edu/webster) lets you use a browser to access Webster's 1844 dictionary. This dictionary is also a WordCruncher eBook.

[byustudies.byu.edu](http://byustudies.byu.edu) provides access to scholarly articles on topics of LDS interest that have been published in BYU Studies.

#### Other Internet Resources

[www.ldsgospeldoctrine.net](http://www.ldsgospeldoctrine.net): This has links to several websites with free notes or handouts created by a variety of Gospel Doctrine instructors to help with discussions of the scriptures.

[www.blueletterbible.org](http://www.blueletterbible.org): This has 16 English Bible translations. Differences in translations suggest questions or improve understanding of old English words.

[www.fairmormon.org](http://www.fairmormon.org) gives faithful answers to critical questions.

[www.mormoninterpreter.com](http://www.mormoninterpreter.com) is A Journal of Mormon Scripture with many past and present BYU scholars on the board.

[bookofmormoncentral.org](http://bookofmormoncentral.org) provides free access to Book of Mormon research and scholarship.

#### Book of Mormon Geography

The Church has no official position on the location of Book of Mormon lands. Three proposals are: Mesoamerica (Mexico and Guatemala), the U.S. Heartland or Great Lakes (East of the Mississippi), and Baja California. To find other proposals, search online for *Book of Mormon geography*.

- Mesoamerica: [fairmormon.org](http://fairmormon.org), [bmaf.org](http://bmaf.org), [poulsenll.org](http://poulsenll.org)
- Heartland: [ancientamerican.com](http://ancientamerican.com), [firmlds.org](http://firmlds.org)
- Baja: [achoiceand.com](http://achoiceand.com)
- These and several others: [bookofmormononline.net](http://bookofmormononline.net)

#### Jewish Traditions, Customs, and Perspective

[jewishencyclopedia.com](http://jewishencyclopedia.com) contains the 12 volume Jewish Encyclopedia published between 1901 and 1906. It provides a Jewish perspective about people and events in the Old Testament.

[donna-connections.blogspot.com](http://donna-connections.blogspot.com) is a blog by an LDS author and speaker that includes interesting insights based on the language and culture of the Bible.

[engediresourcecenter.com](http://engediresourcecenter.com) has resources to help people understand the Old and New Testaments in their Hebraic and Jewish context.

#### Ancient and Modern Temples

[templestudy.com](http://templestudy.com) is an LDS website about ancient and modern temples.

[templeinstitute.org](http://templeinstitute.org) is a Jewish website about the Jewish temples. It includes art, photos, and video to help one visualize and understand ancient temple worship.

An interesting article describes old Catholic traditions and rituals. This helps to understand and appreciate restored temple worship.

- Marcus von Wellnitz, "The Catholic Liturgy and the Mormon Temple," *BYU Studies* 21:1 (1981), <http://byustudies.byu.edu/showtitle.aspx?title=5448>

# Appendix A: Word Counts

**Frequency Distribution:** At the bottom of each search you can see the total number of words in each section (e.g., Old Testament) of the text. This “Total” count includes all *normal* words in all Word Lists (e.g., Scripture, Preface, Headings). It does not count punctuation, verse numbers, subwords, or tagwords. If you cannot see the “Total” column, right-click on a column heading and select Total.

Table of contents	Actual	Total
Old Testam	3,256	637,703
New Testan	552	188,259
Book of Mo	1,108	283,349
Doctrine an	621	133,173
Pearl of Gre	93	29,626

## Word Counts for a Word list

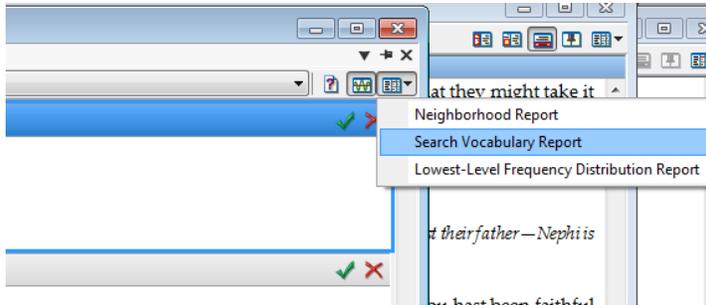
**Search for all words in a Word list** (e.g., Scripture Text): Type an asterisk in the Find box and press Enter to see the Frequency Distribution. This type of search gets the same results for a Word list regardless of which search options (e.g., All Forms) are selected. However, it also includes all “words” (e.g., punctuation marks, subwords, and tagwords) that are in the WordWheel. Therefore, in the Frequency Distribution, you will see that the Actual column is greater than the Total column.

**Search for all “normal” words in a Word list:** To omit punctuation marks or other “words” from your search, add a Word-Type filter and put a check by “Normal text.” If you have version 7.1.56 or later of WordCruncher/LDS View, adding this filter will shut off the *All Forms* and *Ignore Type* search options. If you now search for all words (“\*”), the Actual column will be less than the Total column which includes prefaces and headings. [The Actual and Total column are the same when you search “All text” for “Normal words.”]

**Search for all words in part of a book** (e.g., Alma): Set the bounds (e.g., Table of Contents). Type an asterisk in the Find box and press Enter to see the Frequency Distribution. This type of search gets the same results for a Word list regardless of which search options (e.g., All Forms) are selected. However, it also includes all “words” (e.g., punctuation marks, subwords, and tagwords) that are in the WordWheel. Therefore, in the Frequency Distribution, you will see that the Actual column is greater than the Total column.

Book	Search bounds
Scriptures	Book of Mormon   Alma

To find the most frequently used words in this part of the text, select the Search Vocabulary Report to see an alphabetical list of all words in the Search Results.



To sort the list by frequency, click on the Frequency column heading.

Search Results Reports

Search Vocabulary (List #1)

Words Book: The Scriptures (Scriptures)

Num.	Word	Frequency
1	,	6,602
2	the	5,870
3	of	3,808
4	and	3,429
5	to	2,439
6	that	2,154
7	;	2,092
8	;	1,518
9	they	1,477
10	And	1,237
11	their	1,140

Total words: 3,449 Descending sort [Frequ]

## Section Word Counts

**Vocabulary Frequency Distribution Report (Book Report):** This report can show word counts for each word in up to FOUR sections. You can also select different Word lists (e.g., Preface, Heading, Scripture). In the bottom left corner, you can check “Ignore case” or “Ignore diacritics.”

Book Reports

Vocabulary Frequency Distribution

Book: Scriptures Word list: Scripture Text

Filter: Sort: Subcolumn: [Sect. Frequency] [Sect. Rating]

Num.	Words	Frequency	A: Book of Mormon	B: New Testament	C: Doctrine and Covenants	D: Pearl of Great Price				
1	a	11,732	2,149	-9.0	1,909	4.2	1,054	-4.9	247	-1.6
2	aaron	399	51	-4.0	4	-7.1	28	-2.1	1	-2.6
3	aaronic	6	0	-0.9	0	-0.6	4	2.6	2	1.7
4	aaronites	2	0	-0.4	0	-0.3	0	-0.2	0	0.0
5	aaron's	31	0	-2.5	1	-1.5	0	-1.6	0	-0.5
6	abaddon	1	0	-0.2	1	0.8	0	-0.1	0	0.0
7	abagtha	1	0	-0.2	0	-0.1	0	-0.1	0	0.0
8	abana	1	0	-0.2	0	-0.1	0	-0.1	0	0.0
9	abandon	3	1	0.4	0	-0.3	0	-0.3	1	0.0

Ignore case  Ignore diacritics Words: 15,717 Calculated: 15,717 Recompute

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> Pablo Picasso, 1881–1973; c. 1964.
- <sup>2</sup> Jason Fried, “A Conversation with Innovation Guru Clayton Christensen,” <http://www.inc.com/magazine/20121001>
- <sup>3</sup> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PageRank>
- <sup>4</sup> Royal Skousen, “[The Archaic Vocabulary of the Book of Mormon](#),” *Insights* 25 (2005):2–6.  
Stanford Carmack, “[A Look at Some ‘Nonstandard’ Book of Mormon Grammar](#),” *Interpreter* 11 (2014):209–262.  
Stanford Carmack, “[Why the Oxford English Dictionary \(and not Webster’s 1828\)](#),” *Interpreter* 15 (2015):65–77.  
Daniel Peterson, “[Defending the Faith: The very surprising language of the Book of Mormon](#),” *Deseret News*, Aug. 21, 2014.
- <sup>5</sup> Mitt Romney interview with Soledad O’Brien on CNN, Feb. 1, 2012
- <sup>6</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fallacy\\_of\\_quoting\\_out\\_of\\_context](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fallacy_of_quoting_out_of_context)