An Analysis of Textual Changes in "The Book of Abraham" and in the "Writings of Joseph Smith, the Prophet" in the Pearl of Great Price

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Abstract
The purpose of this study is to compare all the major printings of the texts of "The Book of Abraham" and the "Writings of Joseph Smith," both presently contained in "The Pearl of Great Price", to note the various changes in the texts and to evaluate the significance of those changes.

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In July 1835, a traveling exhibitor named Michael Chandler arrived in Kirtland Ohio.1 For a price, onlookers were able to view ancient Egyptian artifacts in Chandler’s exhibit. At that time, Kirtland was the center of Joseph Smith’s newly formed church that would eventually become known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormonism). Soon Smith began his translation, and revealed to the faithful that the scrolls contained the writings of Abraham and Joseph.3 The Book of Abraham (BoA) was accepted into the LDS canon as Scripture in 18524 as part of the “Pearl of Great Price”5, and reconfirmed as scripture in 19026. This article is about the LDS Book of Abraham’s Egyptus. For the reference from Greek mythology, see Aegyptus. In Latter-day Saint theology (also known as Mormon theology), Egyptus is the name of two women in the Book of Abraham in the Pearl of Great Price. One is the wife of Ham, son of Noah, who bears his children. The other is their daughter, who discovered Egypt while “it was under water” (1:23). Whipple, Walter L., “An Analysis of Textual Changes in ‘The Book of Abraham’ and in the ‘Writings of Joseph Smith, the Prophet’ in the Pearl of Great Price,” unpublished M.A. thesis (Provo: Brigham Young Univ., 1959). Basis of this page is in Wikipedia. Text is available under the CC BY-SA 3.0 Unported License.