



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Carte Generale Des Parties Connues Du Globe

Stock#: 72271
Map Maker: Mortier
Date: 1809
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 20 x 16 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Putting the World in Biblical Context—with Late Example of California as an Island!

Striking example of this (very) late edition of Mortier's map of the world, showing California as an island.

The map is after Mortier's ca. 1700 map from an unknown Biblical work. This example, engraved by a Mademoiselle Glot, was printed as part of Jacques Desray's *Nouvel atlas de la Bible* (1809).

California is shown an island. Just to the north is the mythic Strait of Anian, which allows for a Northwest Passage via Baffin or Hudson's Bay. A truncated eastern Russia also suggests a Northeast Passage, although the shores of North Pacific chimeras, like Terre de la Compagnie, might make its Pacific entrance difficult to navigate.

The Great Lakes are shown as a collection of waterways and are merely labeled as *Mer Douce*, or the Sweet Sea. A huge, unnamed lake in central North America flows to the Gulf of California via a North River.

Initially completed before the large-scale European exploration of the Pacific in the late-eighteenth century, New Zealand is shown as a small stretch of coast. Both this and the outline of part of Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) come from Tasman's first voyage of 1642-3. New Holland (Australia) is incomplete, with toponyms coming from early-seventeenth century Dutch encounters. Australia seemingly connects to New Guinea, or is separated by only the narrowest of straits.



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Carte Generale Des Parties Connues Du Globe

Extra details are inserted into the exaggerated spaces of the Arctic, a result of the Mercator projection's stretching of polar areas. Here there are five spheres that illustrating various geographic and astronomical theories via a Biblical lens.

At the far left is a Biblically-inflected diagram of the division of day and night. Next is a visualization of the world with no water (again, with Biblical references), in which there are southern lands in the South Pacific. In the center is a geocentric model of the universe showing the phases of the moon. Finally, at the right is a double-hemisphere map of the world. This map, in contrast to the larger one, includes huge southern continents in addition to New Holland.

Detailed Condition: