



Insights: The Newsletter of the Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship

Volume 32 | Number 4

Article 3

January 2012

Lectures & Events

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/insights>



Part of the [Mormon Studies Commons](#), and the [Religious Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

(2012) "Lectures & Events," *Insights: The Newsletter of the Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship*: Vol. 32: No. 4, Article 3.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/insights/vol32/iss4/3>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Insights: The Newsletter of the Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship* by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

explore and enjoy the magnificent ruins of this ancient city, ending up in the grand theater, where we imagined the crowds praising (the rather hideous looking) Diana of the Ephesians (Acts 19). The other sites were less crowded, though no less evocative, and we all enjoyed the ruins of the ancient markets of Smyrna with their stone arches and the Acropolis of Pergamum towering high above the plains.

Turkey's varied landscape was always interesting and often stunning, no more so than among the stark geological wonders found in Cappadocia. The highlands of central

Turkey are not just home to geographical wonders, however. There we found evidence of centuries of Christians living in the harshest of environments, with homes, churches, and monasteries hewn out of volcanic rock formations. The frescoes in these rock-hewn churches were far simpler and less elegant than



The Göreme Valley of Cappadocia, Turkey

the fine urban mosaics we saw in Istanbul, but the devotion was no less obvious. Even in the Byzantine period, Christians in these regions lived precarious lives and were often forced to find refuge in large underground cities as advancing armies crossed the region heading for

wealthier areas in the west. Although the Christian population of Turkey today is miniscule, the magnificent cathedral churches and humble rock-hewn monastery bear witness to centuries of earnest devotion in this other holy land. It was this personal aspect of the history of Christianity lived in

rural, unstable, and harsh conditions that struck us, just as much as the steady decline and loss of plain and precious truths that we, as Latter-day Saints, see in the development of the creeds formulated in this remarkable country.

Kristian Heal, PhD, is director of advancement at the Maxwell Institute.

Lectures & Events

Laura F. Willes Book of Mormon Lecture

BYU Professor James Faulconer will give the Laura F. Willes Book of Mormon Lecture for 2012-13 on "Sealings and Mercies: Moroni's Final Exhortation in Moroni 10." The lecture will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2013, at 7:00 PM in the Gordon B. Hinckley Alumni and Visitors Center at Brigham Young University.

Neal A. Maxwell Lecture

The Neal A. Maxwell Lecture for 2013 will be given by James S. Jardine of the law firm Ray Quinney & Nebeker on Wednesday, March 20, in the Gordon B. Hinckley Alumni and Visitors Center. Exact time to be announced.

Lectures by Royal Skousen

BYU Professor Royal Skousen, editor of the Book of Mormon critical text project, will present a series of three illustrated lectures on "25 Years of Research: What We Have Learned about the Book of Mormon Text" at the Gordon B. Hinckley Alumni and Visitors Center.

- Tuesday, February 26, 2013, 7:00 PM:
"The Original and Printer's Manuscripts"
- Tuesday, March 5, 2013, 7:00 PM:
"The Printed Editions"
- Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 7:00 PM:
"The Nature of the Original Text"