



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

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Featured Publications

The Encyclopedia of Mormonism, published in 1992, is now available online at www.lib.byu.edu/spc/Macmillan/, or search Google for Encyclopedia of Mormonism. This valuable resource answers many questions about Church doctrine and history and is useful in any teaching situation. BYU Studies will be assisting the Harold B. Lee Library to add links and update content in coming months.

Glimpses of Lehi's Jerusalem, edited by John W. Welch, David Rolph Seely, and Jo Ann Seely, will help readers to imagine what Jerusalem was like around 600 BC, before much of the city was obliterated by the Babylonians in fulfillment of prophecy a few years after Lehi's departure. Subjects include culture, family life, agriculture, politics, religious practices, inscriptions, law, and international relations.

Images of Ancient America: Visualizing Book of Mormon Life, by John L. Sorenson. This large-format, full-color volume combines the best scholarly information about the way of life in ancient Mesoamerica with careful interpretations of what that information can tell us about life in Book of Mormon times. Over four hundred beautiful photographs, drawings, and maps help readers form visual images of life among the peoples of the Book of Mormon. After studying and enjoying this unique volume, students of the scriptures will read and see the Book of Mormon in new ways.

Journey of Faith: From Jerusalem to the Promised Land (Maxwell Institute, 2006). Filmed on location in the Middle East and combined with the art of Joseph Brickey and Howard Lyon, this popular DVD features scholarly insights on Lehi and Sariah's journey across the harsh Arabian desert. Included on the DVD is the documentary *A Filmmaking Odyssey: The Making of Journey of Faith* as well as Spanish and Portuguese soundtracks with English closed-captioning. The hard-cover book version, edited by S. Kent Brown and Peter Johnson, contains all of the commentary and artwork from the DVD plus movie stills from the DVD, a foreword by the editors, Brown's and Johnson's reflections on the project, additional

commentary by scholars, an appendix on the famed Incense Trail across the Arabian Peninsula, and a bibliography.

Taking the Gospel to the Japanese, 1901–2001, edited by Reid L. Neilson and Van C. Gessel, received Mormon History Association's Geraldine McBride Woodward Award for the best publication on the international history of Mormonism. It is the first full publication about the history of the Church in Japan written in English. The articles explore the historical and cultural challenges to successful missionary work in Japan, the Japanese presses' portrayal of Mormonism, the translation of the Book of Mormon, and regional differences in the religiosity of the Japanese people.

To order these titles or other materials from the Maxwell Institute, visit the BYU Bookstore's Web site at www.byubookstore.com.

INSIGHTS

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The Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship encourages and supports research on the Book of Mormon, the Book of Abraham, the Bible, other ancient scripture, and related subjects. The Maxwell Institute publishes and distributes titles in these areas for the benefit of scholars and interested Latter-day Saint readers.

Primary research interests at the Maxwell Institute include the history, language, literature, culture, geography, politics, and law relevant to ancient scripture. Although such subjects are of secondary importance when compared with the spiritual and eternal messages of scripture, solid research and academic perspectives can supply certain kinds of useful information, even if only tentatively, concerning many significant and interesting questions about scripture.

The Maxwell Institute makes reports about this research available widely, promptly, and economically. These publications are peer-reviewed to ensure that scholarly standards are met. The proceeds from the sale of these materials are used to support further research and publications.

