



Religious Educator: Perspectives on the Restored Gospel

Volume 8 | Number 2

Article 1

7-1-2007

Front Matter

Religious Educator

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

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Educator, Religious. "Front Matter." *Religious Educator: Perspectives on the Restored Gospel* 8, no. 2 (2007).
<https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/re/vol8/iss2/1>

This Front Matter is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Religious Educator: Perspectives on the Restored Gospel* by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

Testimony of Jesus Christ

Scholarly Books on the
New Testament

Profiles of the Prophets:
Spencer W. Kimball

THE
RELIGIOUS
EDUCATOR

PERSPECTIVES ON THE RESTORED GOSPEL

VOL 8 NO 2 • 2007

Truth Restored

Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf

“Of all the treasures of knowledge, the most vital is the knowledge of God—of His existence, His powers, His love, and His promises.”

THE
RELIGIOUS
EDUCATOR

PERSPECTIVES ON THE RESTORED GOSPEL



RELIGIOUS STUDIES CENTER
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

PROVO, UTAH

VOLUME 8 NUMBER 2

2007



ON THE COVER:
Radiant sunlight bursts through the clouds, representing the
light of revealed truth.

*“Of all the treasures of knowledge, the most vital is the knowledge of God—
of His existence, His powers, His love, and His promises.”*

Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf

Editor's Note

In this issue of the *Religious Educator*, we are pleased to publish several essays that are based on talks given at BYU in 2006, including Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf's thoughtful BYU Education Week devotional address, "Truth Restored."

Each year about Easter time, the popular media turn attention to Jesus Christ, the New Testament, and the early Church. Last year, it was *National Geographic's* report of a long-lost gospel, "The Gospel of Judas" (a Gnostic text that provides no historically reliable information about the Savior's last days). This year, it was Discovery Channel's *The Lost Tomb of Jesus* (a film that provides no new information about first-century Jewish burial practices but offers lots of unfounded speculation about Jesus's supposed burial place). Such media hype often diminishes quickly, but the resultant attention provides faithful disciple-scholars an opportunity to think about "those things which are most surely believed among us, even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word" (Luke 1:1–2).

A few years ago, Professor Thomas A. Wayment and I organized an Easter conference to celebrate the life and ministry of Jesus Christ from both a scholarly perspective and a perspective of faith—beginning a dialogue about important issues in New Testament current scholarship and popular ideas about Jesus as presented in the media. The tradition continued, and this past year President Cecil O. Samuelson and Academic Vice President John S. Tanner offered two excellent talks at the Easter Conference, which we are pleased to include in this issue.

At the same conference, Joseph Fielding McConkie provided an intimate look at the context of his father's last conference address. Like other significant historical moments, such as the assassination of John F. Kennedy (1963), Neil Armstrong's first steps on the moon (1969), and the fall of the Berlin Wall (1989), Latter-day Saints living in 1985 will long remember Elder Bruce R. McConkie's talk, "The Purifying Power of Gethsemane."

We are pleased to continue with our New Testament theme in this issue with an essay by Gaye Strathearn and Frank F. Judd Jr., one by Thomas A. Wayment, and one by Brian M. Hauglid, all of whom are professors at BYU.

Finally, at the request of the Religious Education Administrative Council, we include an edited version of my keynote address delivered in October 2006 at the thirty-fifth annual Sidney B. Sperry Symposium, "*The Da Vinci Code*, the Gospel of Judas, and Other Bad Ideas."

The above comments reflect merely a taste of what you will find inside the covers of this issue.

Enjoy!

Richard Neitzel Holzzapfel
Editor-in-Chief

Contents

The Religious Educator

Volume 8 Number 2 • 2007

- 1 Truth Restored
Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf
- 15 Testimony of Jesus Christ
President Cecil O. Samuelson
- 27 Christ, Our Advocate and High Priest
John S. Tanner
- 35 Bruce R. McConkie's Final Testimony
Joseph Fielding McConkie
- 43 The Longevity of Our Leaders
Michael D. Taylor
- 47 Do You Know Who You Really Are?
Cynthia Doxey
- 59 The Distinctive Testimonies of the Four Gospels
Gaye Strathearn and Frank F. Judd Jr.
- 87 Scholarly Books on the New Testament
Thomas A. Wayment
- 101 Searching for God's Word in New Testament Textual Criticism
Brian M. Hauglid
- 115 *The Da Vinci Code*, the Gospel of Judas, and Other Bad Ideas
Richard Neitzel Holzapfel
- 131 Profiles of the Prophets: Spencer W. Kimball
Matthew O. Richardson and Timothy G. Merrill
- 141 New Publications