



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

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Forthcoming Publications

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(the idea that the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost are different modes of the same being) to binitarianism (a belief in the Father and Son as separate beings, but a denial of the divinity of the Holy Ghost) and finally to cosmic henotheism (the idea that many gods exist, but only the one God is worshipped). Widmer also claims that LDS theology remained unclear until the early 1900s, when LDS General Authorities James E. Talmage, John A. Widstoe, and B. H. Roberts clarified and defined the nature of God.

In his review Paulsen responds to Widmer's claims by quoting the scriptures and the writings of Joseph Smith and other early church leaders. While he admits that the early LDS concept of God grew and changed as Joseph Smith received knowledge "line upon line, precept upon precept" (2 Nephi 28:30), Paulsen shows that the Book of Mormon, the Book of Moses, the Book of Abraham, and the Doctrine and Covenants consistently point to a Godhead of three beings who are unified in purpose and action.

This issue also includes reviews of *Come unto Christ: The Conversion of Alma the Younger*, by Merrill Jenson and Betsy Jenson; *The Book of Mormon and Other Hidden Books*, by John A. Tvedtnes; *Charting the Book of Mormon*, by John W. Welch and J. Gregory Welch; *A Guide to the Joseph Smith Papyri*, by John Gee; *The Temple in Time and Eternity*, edited by Donald W. Parry and Stephen D. Ricks; and many others, as well as responses to several articles and books written by detractors of the church. Reviewers include Barry R. Bickmore, Brant A. Gardner, William J. Hamblin, Hugh W. Nibley, John A. Tvedtnes, and John W. Welch. The *Review* also includes a bibliography of books on the Book of Mormon published in 2000.

To purchase the *Review*, see the enclosed order form or visit the catalog section of the FARMS Web site. 

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

The Hôr Book of Breathings: A Translation and Commentary, by Michael D. Rhodes, treats the fragments of the Joseph Smith Papyri associated with Facsimiles 1 and 3 of the Book of Abraham. Available in March 2002.

Susanna: Text, Translations, and Commentary, edited by Mark Sedgwick, includes the Greek, Latin, and English texts of the apocryphal book of Susanna. Available in March 2002.

A Thematic Bibliography of Ancient Maya Writing, compiled by Stephen D. Houston and Zachary Nelson, presents over 200 pages of sources about the Ancient Maya.

Insights

A Window on the Ancient World
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A Publication of the
**Foundation for Ancient Research
and Mormon Studies (FARMS)**

**Institute for the Study and
Preservation of Ancient Religious Texts**
Brigham Young University

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FARMS is a research arm of Brigham Young University's Institute for the Study and Preservation of Ancient Religious Texts. As such, it encourages and supports research on the Book of Mormon, the Book of Abraham, the Bible, other ancient scripture, and related subjects. Under the FARMS imprint, the Institute publishes and distributes titles in these areas for the benefit of scholars and interested Latter-day Saint readers.

Primary research interests at FARMS 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.

FARMS makes interim and final 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. As a service to teachers and students of the scriptures, research results are distributed in both scholarly and popular formats.

It is hoped that this information will help all interested people to "come unto Christ" (Jacob 1:7) and to understand and appreciate more fully the scriptural witnesses of the divine mission of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

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P.O. Box 7113, University Station, Provo, UT 84602
1-800-327-6715 (or 801-373-5111)
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