



Religious Educator: Perspectives on the Restored Gospel

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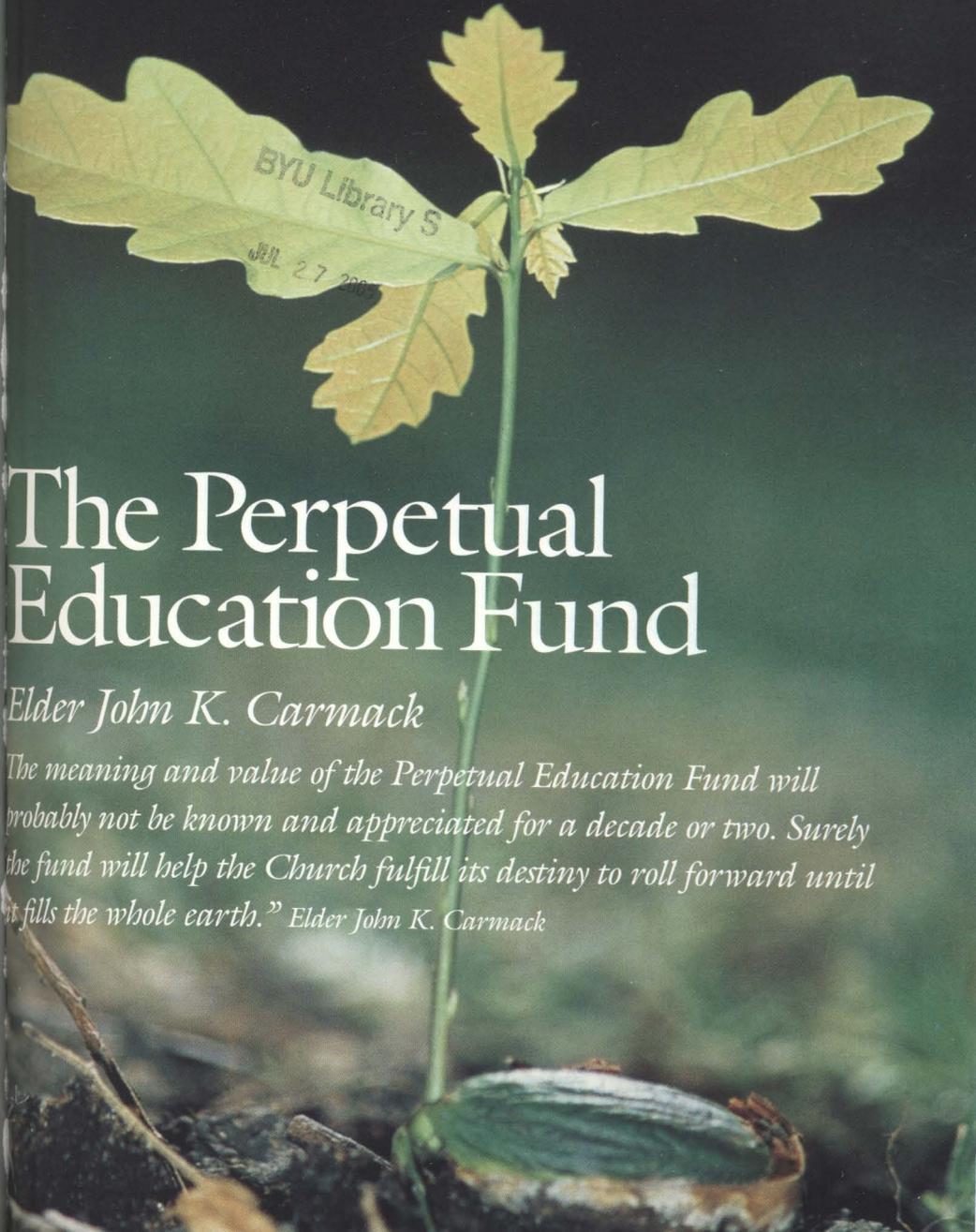
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THE
RELIGIOUS
EDUCATOR

PERSPECTIVES ON THE RESTORED GOSPEL

VOL 3 NO 3 • 2002



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The Perpetual Education Fund

Elder John K. Carmack

The meaning and value of the Perpetual Education Fund will probably not be known and appreciated for a decade or two. Surely the fund will help the Church fulfill its destiny to roll forward until it fills the whole earth.” Elder John K. Carmack

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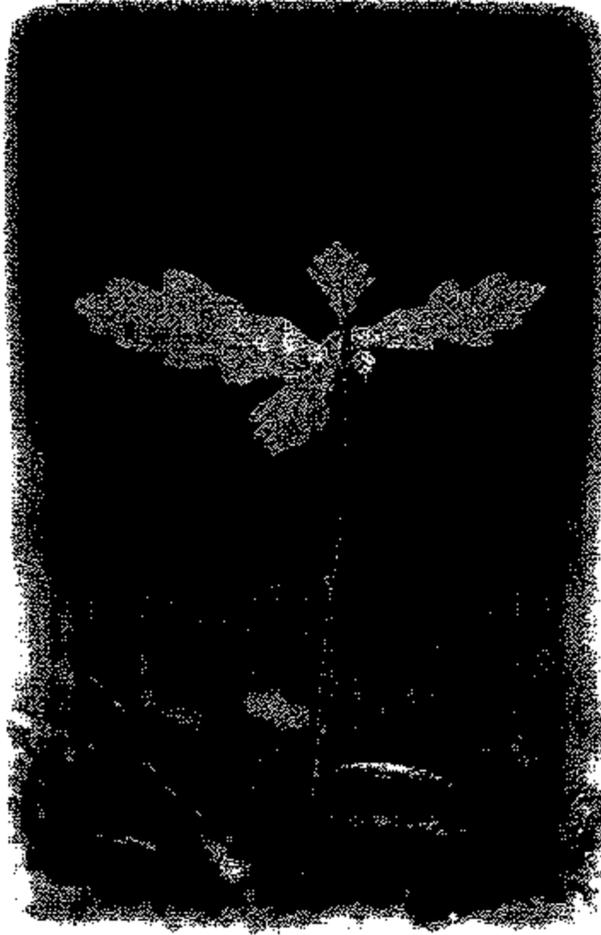


RELIGIOUS STUDIES CENTER
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

PROVO, UTAH

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 3

2002



“The scope of the plan is enormous, limited only by the size and income of the fund. The fund is rapidly growing through the generosity of the Saints. This program greatly enhances the future of disadvantaged returned missionaries and other young adults.”

Elder John K. Carmack

ON THE COVER:
THE PERPETUAL EDUCATION FUND'S MISSION
TO NURTURE GROWTH AMONG YOUNG CHURCH
MEMBERS IS SYMBOLIZED BY A TENDER SHOOT.

The *Religious Educator* is published three times a year by the Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University, 167 Heber J. Grant Building, Provo, Utah 84602-2701.

The *Religious Educator* is designed to serve the interests and needs of those who study and teach the gospel on a regular basis. The distinct focuses of the *Religious Educator* are on teaching the gospel; publishing studies on scripture, doctrine, and Church history; and sharing the messages of outstanding devotional essays. The contributions to each issue are carefully reviewed and edited by experienced teachers, writers, and scholars.

We anticipate that the articles published in the *Religious Educator* will appeal to anyone interested in perspectives on the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. Articles will be selected on the basis of their appeal to and appropriateness for religion professors at each of the Brigham Young University campuses, full-time seminary and institute teachers and administrators, volunteer early-morning and home-study seminary teachers, and volunteer institute of religion teachers. In every issue, we plan a selection of articles that will be helpful and appealing to this diverse audience. In each issue, we hope that each group will find one or more articles that meet the individual needs of members of the group. The beliefs of the respective authors are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University, or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Each year, issue number two of the *Religious Educator* is dedicated to the publishing of selected presentations, including a General Authority address, from the Annual Church Educational System Religious Educators Conference held in August at BYU. This issue provides a unique opportunity for educators throughout the Church to have access to these helpful presentations by a wide variety of part- and full-time CES teachers.

Manuscripts submitted for consideration must be word processed in double-spaced format, including quotations. A minimum of embedded word-processing commands should be used. Authors should follow style conventions of the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 14th edition, and the *Style Guide for Publications of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, 3d edition, as reflected in a recent issue of the *Religious Educator*.

At the time an author submits an article for possible publication, the author should submit one copy of the prospective article, an electronic file of the article on an IBM-compatible diskette formatted in Corel WordPerfect or Microsoft Word, and photocopies of all source materials cited, arranged in order, numbered to coincide with endnotes, and highlighted to reflect the quotations or paraphrases. Photocopies of source material must include title page and source page with the quotations used highlighted.

Complete author guidelines, including suitable topics, are provided at the Web site for the *Religious Educator*, tre.byu.edu. Send manuscripts to the *Religious Educator*, Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University, 167 Heber J. Grant Building, Provo, UT 84602-2701.

Manuscripts received will be checked to see if they conform to style-guide requirements and will undergo a preliminary review. Those manuscripts that meet all criteria will be peer reviewed and will receive a friendly, but careful, review. Authors will then be notified of the decision about publication.

Subscriptions to the *Religious Educator* are open to anyone interested in perspectives on the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. The subscription rate is \$10 per annum. Subscribers can place orders online at tre.byu.edu (preferred method) or by mail addressed to Creative Works, Brigham Young University, A-285 ASB, Provo, UT 84602-1231. Mail subscriptions must include the following information: name, mailing address, phone number, e-mail address (optional; for renewal purposes only), current CES responsibilities, an indication of the number of years of subscription desired (up to three), and a check or money order made out to Creative Works. Subscription questions should be sent via e-mail to "TRE Subscriptions," catalog@byu.edu. Back issues are available online only.

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Editors' Introduction

President Gordon B. Hinckley tells of a man who changed his prayers from “Bless the poor and the sick and the needy” to “Father, show me how to help the poor and the sick and the needy, and give me resolution to do so.” In May 2001, President Hinckley announced the Perpetual Education Fund, a bold new program to help less-advantaged members get on their feet financially. In this issue of the *Religious Educator*, Elder John K. Carmack, managing director of the PEF, offers a behind-the-scenes look at the program and the inspiration that gave it birth.

“What a wonderful journey!” said Stanley A. Peterson of his experiences as an administrator in the Church Educational System. But the term *journey* is more than figurative. During his twenty-four-year leadership, Brother Peterson traveled more than four million miles and visited instructors in 150 countries. In this time period, seminary and institute enrollments more than doubled, and the curriculum was significantly streamlined.

Since 1938, General Authorities have offered nearly 130 talks relative to education. In “‘Those Who See’: A Century’s Charge to Religious Educators,” authors Scott and Brent Esplin have distilled the essence of this counsel, offering their own insights as well. A list of these inspired addresses from beloved Church leaders is included at the end of their article.

Our youth need heroes, and Brigham Young was one of the finest, demonstrating his discipleship through both word and action. In “Brigham Young: A Disciple Indeed,” W. Jeffrey Marsh, associate professor of ancient scripture at BYU, highlights Brother Brigham’s discipleship, including striking similarities to the work of President Gordon B. Hinckley, testifying of their undeviating faith.

Since the theatrical release of *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* and the new release of *The Two Towers*, an ever-increasing number of people have become acquainted with the works of J. R. R. Tolkien. We think our readers will appreciate knowing more about this important Christian author and scholar. Paul Nolan Hyde’s essay, “The Moral Mythmaker: The Creative Theology of J. R. R. Tolkien,” brings important background to the current movie phenomenon.

We hope you enjoy the rich variety in this issue.

Richard Neitzel Holzapfel, Editor-in-Chief
Ted D. Stoddard, Associate Editor
R. Devan Jensen, Executive Editor

Note: In the *Religious Educator*, volume 3, no. 2, pages 170–71, the name “Elder Pratt” was used by mistake. It should read “Elder Hyde.” Sorry for the confusion; it is part of our learning curve.

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