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The Temple, a Holy School

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The Education in Zion Gallery in BYU’s Joseph F. Smith Building houses two murals, standing nearly twenty feet tall. One is of the Kirtland Temple and the other depicts Brigham Young Academy. It is not by accident that these murals face each other, for both represent houses of learning and the importance of the sacrifice involved in educating the whole soul.

Learning and teaching others are important principles for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We teach about Jesus Christ, who is the foundation of a Zion education. He is the source of all light and truth, and as we draw near to him our minds become enlarged, and we experience a desire to share our knowledge and skills so others might also have opportunities to learn and grow.

Through revelation in the Doctrine and Covenants, Latter-day Saints have been instructed to learn both sacred and secular truths, “things both in heaven and in the earth, and under the earth; things which have been [and] things which are” (88:79). And Church members believe their knowledge and intelligence “will rise with [them] in the resurrection” (130:18). Because Latter-day Saints believe all truth is ultimately spiritual, secular truths may be obtained through diligent study coupled with inspiration from the guidance of the Holy Ghost.

The Education in Zion Gallery is designed to be a learning center for students and faculty, as well as the larger community. In fact, the majority of research, design, fabrication, video production, and artwork was completed by BYU students and recent graduates.

Readers of BYU Studies Quarterly are invited to explore this tradition of learning by visiting the gallery. Be inspired by stories of faith, sacrifice, and strength; reflect upon your own commitment to learning as you see the murals in person.

The gallery offers a wide variety of enlightening programs, tours, and rotating exhibitions. For program dates, times, and details, visit the gallery’s website at educationinzion.byu.edu.