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The fact that she decided to specifically focus on women adds to the value of this work, since women have often been underrepresented in mainstream historical narratives. Although she was encouraged to make the scope of her work “more universal,” Clayton decided to focus on women because of their great faith and resourcefulness in obeying their Church leaders and settling an area far from civilization (29).

Clayton originally dedicated this work to “the descendants of the noble women who pioneered the West” (iii), but this work is more than a genealogist’s gold mine—it is a treasure for all those interested in the history of Arizona, the history of the Latter-day Saints, women’s studies, and stories of faith.

—Hannah Charlesworth

**Martin Harris: Uncompromising Witness of the Book of Mormon**

by Susan Easton Black and Larry C. Porter

Published by BYU Studies

appendixes, bibliography, index, 590 pages, 6" × 9"

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*Martin Harris: Uncompromising Witness of the Book of Mormon* reveals the compelling story of a man who struggled to keep his faith in the prophetic calling of Joseph Smith and the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ. His is a story of fascination with worldly honors, flirtations with apostasy, and pride that nearly cost him the joy of his later years in the West. It is the biography of a witness who clung tenaciously to his testimony of the Book of Mormon.
The Gospel of Mark is usually read through the lenses of the other Gospels, but the Jesus presented in Mark's Gospel is worthy of study. He is witty, warm, and wise. He's also the Son of God. He has power which leaves people in awe, and he uses that power to help the people most people don't like. His disciples usually misunderstand him, but he teaches them continually and patiently. This Jesus is betrayed and abandoned and alone and humiliated, but he still chooses God's will over his own, even though he didn't want to. Mark tells an amazing story.

The goal of Julie Smith's commentary is to recover Mark's unique voice. Special attention is given to five areas: An examination of the differences in ancient texts of Mark is used to make conjectures about how the text read in its earliest versions. Basic cultural knowledge is supplied to help the modern reader bridge the gap between the modern and ancient worlds. Biblical allusions in Mark's text are explored and explained. Literary structures, both large and small, are considered. The traditional neglect of women's stories is corrected. The result is a commentary that answers the question, “What would Mark’s story of Jesus have meant to its first audiences?” in a way that informs and inspires.