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New Publications

Kirtland, Ohio: A Guide to Family History and Historical Sources
Kip Sperry

Kirtland is of unique historical interest because of its roots in Church history and because so many Church members trace their ancestry there. In this book, the author has compiled a wealth of family history and historical sources to help genealogists, historians, and other researchers. The volume includes photographs of the Kirtland Temple and maps of the area. Born in Chardon, Ohio, a few miles east of Kirtland, Kip Sperry is the author of several family history reference books, a certified genealogical instructor, and an accredited genealogist.

Available February 2005, 236 pp., $24.95

The Book of Moses and the Joseph Smith Translation Manuscripts
Kent P. Jackson

Just two months after the Church was organized, the Lord directed Joseph Smith to read the Bible carefully and correct it by revelation. The resulting work, the Joseph Smith Translation of the Bible, blesses the Church in many ways. The Book of Moses in the Pearl of Great Price comes from the beginning pages of the Joseph Smith Translation and provides its greatest doctrinal contributions. In this volume, author Kent P. Jackson studies the history of the text of the Book of Moses from the original manuscripts through later handwritten copies and printings. Illustrated with images of original manuscript pages and early editions, this book shows the text of the Book of Moses as Joseph Smith left it for the Church.

Available March 2005, 180 pp., $19.95
Nibley on the Timely and the Timeless, Second Edition
Hugh W. Nibley

Reaching from the apocalyptic visions of original “treasures in heaven” down to the climax of history, Nibley’s essays in this volume are singular in their penetration, originality, and vitality. The delight of Nibley’s brilliant and sometimes biting prose style imparts a sense of the agelessness of what he calls the “three-act play” of human existence. The author’s own intellectual autobiography, together with his fresh introductory paragraphs for the various chapters, completes this fitting and permanent record of one of the outstanding historians of our time. This revised edition of Nibley’s timeless classic includes a foreword by Truman G. Madsen, emeritus professor of philosophy at Brigham Young University, and a new essay by Gary P. Gillum, who serves as religion, philosophy, and ancient studies librarian at Brigham Young University.

Available December 2004, 326 pp., $27.95

Sperry Symposium Classics: The Doctrine and Covenants
Edited by Craig K. Manscill

“If a revelation is outside the limits of your specific responsibility, you know it is not from the Lord and you are not bound by it,” writes Elder Dallin H. Oaks on the principle of personal revelation. Other General Authorities, including President James E. Faust and Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, share classic articles that will help and inspire teachers and students of Church history. The volume, copublished with Deseret Book, features some of the best out-of-print Sperry Symposium articles on the Doctrine and Covenants.

Available December 2004, 400 pp., $25.95
Religious Studies Center

Established in 1975 by BYU Religious Education Dean Jeffrey R. Holland, the Religious Studies Center (RSC) is the research arm of Religious Education at Brigham Young University. Since its inception, it has provided funding for numerous projects, including conferences, books, and articles relating to Latter-day Saint culture, history, scripture, and doctrine. The RSC endeavors to use its resources to, first, facilitate excellence in teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ; second, encourage research and publication that contribute to the mission of the university and its sponsoring institution, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; and third, promote study and understanding of other cultures and religions.

Research and Publication

One of the primary aspects of the RSC’s mission is to enhance understanding of revealed truths. The ultimate interpretation of doctrinal matters rests with the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles; therefore, we seek to discover historical background, provide cultural and linguistic details, and explore new avenues of understanding into our faith, history, and way of life. Thus, research into scripture, Church history, and religious matters in general is an important part of what the full-time Religious Education faculty do. Because BYU is primarily a teaching institution, we recognize as our major thrust the classroom experience. We seek, however, to expand our classroom through the writing and publication of our research.
The RSC helps fund several meaningful projects each year and publishes books, articles, a newsletter, and the *Religious Educator* in helping to promote and disseminate Latter-day Saint research and thought. These publications enhance the libraries of Latter-day Saint readers and others who take an interest in the history or culture of the Latter-day Saints.

**An Invitation to Join with Us**

RSC research and publication projects are sustained by university funding and by financial donations from friends who want to encourage the kind of quality work the RSC does. We are thankful for the generosity of those who support our efforts to bring the best scholarship to light. If you would like to become a donor to the RSC to help its mission, please contact the RSC at 370 JSB, BYU, Provo, UT 84602.

The RSC restricts its publications to items that fit within the scholarly range of the curriculum and mission of Religious Education. It produces materials that are well written, rigorous, and original and that reflect the doctrine, the history, the teachings of the living prophets, and the standard works of the Restoration. It seeks works that meet academic needs or fill a niche in the area of faithful scholarship. It welcomes all materials that fit within these parameters.