This remarkable book is "must" reading for students of early LDS history. The Knights, who were with Joseph Smith from the beginning, experienced all the joys and sorrows of the LDS experience in New York, Ohio, Missouri, Illinois, and early Utah. Their story is the Mormon story.

—James B. Allen
Professor of History Emeritus
Brigham Young University

Ordinary folks, honest and hard-working, the Knights were not at the top of the hierarchy but were remarkably well placed for witnessing many important events. Historian William G. Hartley has assembled what can be known of them. Because of his willingness to tackle tough issues and offer fresh insights, in chapter after chapter I learned something new or was brought to see events from a different angle. It is a rousing good story.

—Davis Bitton
Professor of History Emeritus
University of Utah
Why have Mormons become as they are—holding values of right and wrong and the moral compass that navigates between them? One answer may lie in the life and teachings of Heber J. Grant, who led the Church for twenty-seven years in the early twentieth century. Learn about President Grant’s values before he became president. Read how his parents, friends, and early experiences instilled certain qualities and see how these qualities grew and matured in him. Then discover how these qualities became part of everyday Mormon culture.

“When a leader reaches distinction we often wonder about his background, the experiences that influenced and molded his aspirations and character. Here, Ronald W. Walker has painstakingly accessed the most reliable sources, mined intimate details, and penetrated to the story behind the story. This is the finest work yet on the formative years of the Church’s seventh president.”

—Truman Grant Madsen

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More than a century after Latter-day Saints trekked across the Mormon Trail, Church members continue to celebrate this pioneer experience as an identity-defining touchstone of their American-born religion. While several studies have recounted the Mormon Exodus, this work is the first to examine the historical development, geographic distribution, and cultural function of Latter-day Saint remembrances of their pioneer past.

Eliason shows how Mormon culture has responded to the challenges of rapid global growth and increased contact with the world while maintaining its distinct identity through the use of special holiday customs such as annual plays, pageants, and parades throughout the West.

This project suggests a new area of scholarly inquiry—the study of sacred migrations or “trek studies”—as a useful tool in understanding the history and identity-forming processes undergone by many peoples.
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PUBLISHED INDEXES AND ABSTRACTS

BYU Studies is abstracted in Current Contents, Social and Behavioral Science; indexed in ATLA Religion Database (published by the American Theological Library Association, Chicago, email: atla@atla.com, website: http://www.atla.com) and Index to Book Reviews in Religion; and listed in Historical Abstracts; Arts and Humanities Citation Index; America, History, and Life; and MLA International Bibliography.

BYU Studies is published quarterly at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

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Printed in the U.S.A. on acid-free paper
4-99-46359-3.3M ISSN 0007-0106
The shadowed background of “The Son of Man” includes architectural elements from ancient Jerusalem. They remind us that the holy city of Jerusalem was a major stage for Christ’s mortal ministry, as it had been for many high priests in Israel who prefigured Him.

That setting also points us toward Christ as the Great High Priest who serves as our intercessor with the Father. His efficacy was made possible because the Son of Man “descended below” all things in order to perfectly succor us in our trials and suffering.

Through his use of layers of light and shadow, the artist connects us with an ageless view of Christ’s mortal ministry, a view that conveys knowledge and assurance of how we can come out of darkness into the light of Christ.

— Richard Oman