

encouragement that all readers undertake a serious study of all the different accounts separately. *The First Vision* is best seen in this light; it is an aid to help curious readers learn and be uplifted by the unified accounts and to encourage them to seek out more involved research about the accounts. Ultimately, *The First Vision* is intended to strengthen testimony and show that the different accounts are indeed harmonious and accordant.

—Kimball Gardner

*Ancient Temple Worship: Proceedings of the Expound Symposium, 14 May 2011*, edited by Matthew B. Brown, Jeffrey M. Bradshaw, Stephen D. Ricks, and John S. Thompson (Salt Lake City: The Interpreter Foundation and Eborn Books, 2014)

*Temple Insights: Proceedings of the Interpreter Matthew B. Brown Memorial Conference: "The Temple on Mount Zion," 22 September 2012*, edited by Matthew B. Brown, William J. Hamblin, and David Rolph Seely (Salt Lake City: The Interpreter Foundation and Eborn Books, 2014)

*Ancient Temple Worship* and *Temple Insights* are both compilations of works by various authors and published as proceedings of symposia organized by the late Matthew B. Brown, who was an author and historian writing for the Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies, the Neal A. Maxwell Institute of Religious Scholarship, and the Foundation for Apologetic Information and Research. Readers that have ever been mystified by temple symbolism, ancient temples, or modern temple worship will find these books helpful in their pursuit of understanding.

By a thorough analysis of scriptures and historical evidence, *Ancient Temple*

*Worship* helps readers make connections between ancient worldviews and temple worship. Topics explore the symbolic meaning of measuring tools, hand gestures, the tabernacle, sacred tree iconography, and the Holy of Holies. The book includes broader topics such as the genetics of indigenous populations and how that relates to the historicity of the Book of Mormon.

*Temple Insights* will enhance readers' understanding and appreciation of current temples, but in doing so, readers are treated to a panorama of temple worship throughout time and place. The book stands as a witness that the pre-exilic Hebrews understood the temple concept to originate with Adam, not Moses, which understanding is reflected in Joseph Smith's teachings. Articles also provide insights on temple worship by exploring temples in the Book of Mormon. *Temple Insights* was dedicated to Matthew B. Brown after his sudden death, which occurred before Brown finished organizing the conference upon which this book is based.

These two books serve as a fitting dedication to Brown's love of and appreciation for the temple, along with its symbolism and worship. Brown's lifelong study and tireless interest in sacred things, which developed into a deep devotion for temple worship, is reflected in the wide-ranging scholarship that the authors undertook in his honor.

Both books enrich previous Latter-day Saint writings on temple symbolism and worship. Readers are brought up to date on how scholars are interacting with such works as *Temple and Cosmos*, *The Message of the Joseph Smith Papyri*, *Temples in the Ancient World*, *One Eternal Round*, and *Illuminating the Sermon at the Temple and the Sermon on the Mount*. On the pages of *Ancient Temple Worship* and *Temple Insights* are found new perspectives about ancient texts and

objects that were used in temple worship. No doubt these new insights will give patrons something to contemplate as they seek inspiration in modern temples.

—BYU Studies Editors

*The Prophet and the Reformer: The Letters of Brigham Young and Thomas L. Kane*, edited by Matthew J. Grow and Ronald W. Walker (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015)

Matthew J. Grow is the director of publications for the LDS Church History Department and is the author of *Liberty to the Downtrodden*, which is a biography of Thomas L. Kane. Ronald W. Walker, formerly a professor of history at Brigham Young University, is a prolific writer and Latter-day Saint historian. These two join their considerable talents and expertise to bring readers *The Prophet and the Reformer: The Letters of Brigham Young and Thomas L. Kane*.

Brigham Young was of course essential to the development of the Mormon community in Utah during the mid to late 1800s, both as a political and religious leader. In 1846, Brigham Young met Thomas L. Kane, an idealistic Philadelphia reformer, and he often relied on Kane for advice, political or otherwise, resulting in a rich correspondence over many years. Kane was a friend to and a public supporter of the early Saints and became known as the most important non-Mormon in the history of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The unique camaraderie between Young and Kane led to many letters

that are filled with valuable historical information and that give glimpses into their personal views, which are not widely known. Preceding every letter in *The Prophet and the Reformer* is a commentary by Matthew J. Grow and Ronald W. Walker, who elaborate on the historical context and provide readers with insights into the lives of Young and Kane. Readers will enjoy learning more about the lives of these two great men in Mormon history, as well as the various political upheavals and cultural tensions during this time period—such as the Mormon westward movement, Indian relations, and the Utah War.

Brigham Young and Thomas L. Kane wrote at least one letter every year except for the years 1862, 1863, and 1865. The highest volume of letters was written during 1857 and 1858, the years of the Utah War. This high volume provides detailed accounts of the perplexing struggles that President Young and the Saints faced during that time, as well as the trust Young placed in Kane to act as a mediator between the Church and the federal government.

*The Prophet and the Reformer* is a valuable compilation of correspondence coming out of the nineteenth-century West. This book provides a unique understanding of the lives, characteristics, and friendship of two prominent men, as well as the life and times in which they lived. The world of Latter-day Saint documentary history is enhanced by this work, as *The Prophet and the Reformer* is the first publication to bring all the extant Young and Kane correspondence together in one place.

—Alexsandra Foster