Old Testament Bibliography
Latter-day Saint Publications, 1997–2005

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This is a continuation of the comprehensive bibliography of LDS writings on the Old Testament published in BYU Studies 37, no. 2 (1997–98), available at byustudies.byu.edu, under Resources. This bibliography includes publications from 1997 to the end of 2005 as well as a few older publications that were not included in the first bibliography.

Since that bibliography, there has been a Sperry Symposium dedicated to the Old Testament; all of those printed proceedings (Covenants, Prophecies, and Hymns of the Old Testament) are included in this bibliography. Published in 2005 is the volume Sperry Symposium Classics, a collection of papers from previous symposia; since many of those articles were revised for the 2005 volume, they are included here. Also relevant to the Old Testament is a volume published by FARMS entitled Glimpses of Lehi’s Jerusalem.

Of note but not included in this bibliography because of space considerations are the many Old Testament topics discussed in encyclopedic form in The Book of Mormon Reference Companion, edited by Dennis Largely, Deseret Book, 2003.

Frequently Cited Sources


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When I was a student, before there were computerized concordances, I decided to create a scripture index of the published teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith. I quickly realized that in almost every sentence the Prophet quoted, paraphrased, or alluded to the Bible. The Prophet and the early Saints read and loved the Bible, particularly the Old Testament. In the Old Testament they found the foundations of the restored gospel. The first biblical commentary written by a Latter-day Saint was Oliver Cowdery’s short commentary on the book of Zephaniah, which he interpreted as a prophecy of the Restoration. One of the reasons that I made and now have updated this LDS Old Testament bibliography was to acknowledge the love the modern Saints have for the Old Testament as measured by their writings.

Several things of interest have emerged from this ongoing project. Much of LDS scholarship on the Old Testament is intertwined with research on the Book of Mormon, the Pearl of Great Price, and the Joseph Smith Translation—highlighting the blessings we enjoy of these modern scriptures.

LDS scholars have written a great deal on Genesis and Isaiah but far less on other important books in the Bible such as Deuteronomy, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and in particular the Psalms—a book which in many ways is the spiritual heart of the Old Testament. Much important work remains. LDS scholarship has begun a great conversation on the Old Testament. My hope is that Latter-day Saint scholars, before beginning to work on an Old Testament topic, will use this bibliography to quickly survey what has been done before to more intelligently and productively enter into this conversation.

Making bibliographies is tedious work, and even in the days of computers it is difficult to locate every entry. I would appreciate any feedback on entries that have been overlooked so that we can further update this comprehensive bibliography. I have always enjoyed the help of good assistants, and I thank Erica Lamb Holland and Ken Hamblin for their work on this project.
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Erica Lamb Holland is an undergraduate at BYU majoring in political science and minoring in English. She loved working with David Seely and is thankful for the opportunity this research gave her to learn more about the Old Testament. She is married to Brad Holland.

*For full citations, see Bibliography by Author, pages 145–54*