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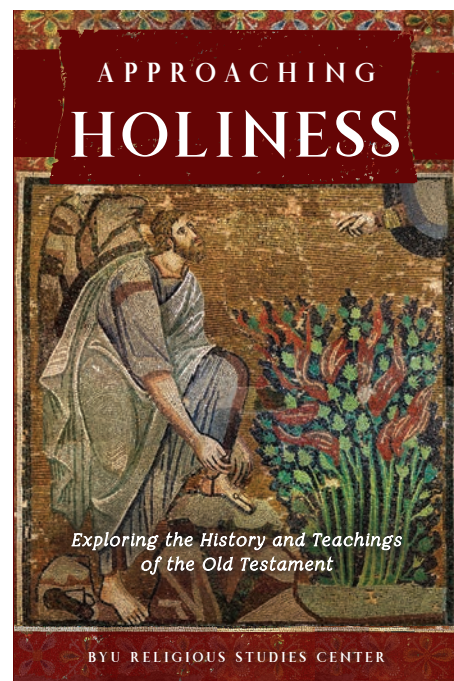
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PROVO, UTAH, AND SALT LAKE CITY—

Approaching Holiness aims to assist in the personal and family study of the history and teachings of the Old Testament. Not only is the Old Testament foundational to our understanding of the birth, life, atonement, crucifixion, and resurrection of the Savior, as found in the New Testament, the Book of Mormon, and other scripture, but it also teaches us about God, our faith history, and the spiritual heritage of the house of Israel.

The Old Testament introduces us to the character and purposes of God. We are taught about the creation of the world and humanity, the Fall of Adam and Eve and the entrance of sin into the world, the role of prophets and the priesthood, the expectations accompanying kingship, and the punishments and blessings of the laws and covenants of God. God is revealed to be one who protects, provides, rescues, and guides but also one who corrects, punishes, chastises, and forgives.

This book is a sampling from the vast archives of the Religious Studies Center, written by experts and other professionals from BYU, BYU–Hawaii, the John A. Widtsoe Foundation, and Saint John’s University. The collection represents some of the center’s



most frequently utilized publications, selected to represent the earlier testament, or covenant, along with key episodes in the biblical history of the ancient Near East.

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