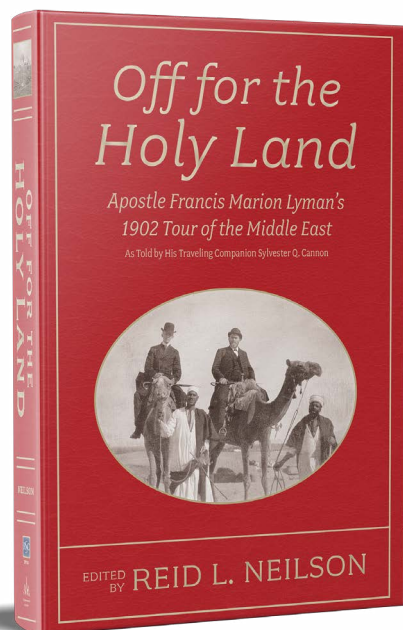


NEW FROM THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES CENTER

# Off for the Holy Land

*Apostle Francis Marion Lyman's 1902 Tour of the Middle East*

As Told by His Traveling Companion Sylvester Q. Cannon



PROVO, UTAH—Apostle Francis M. Lyman's 1902 pilgrimage to the Holy Land comes into vivid focus in a new book, *Off for the Holy Land*, which draws on previously unpublished personal writings of his traveling companion and personal secretary, Sylvester Q. Cannon.

The new volume presents a richly contextualized and carefully curated account of their three-month expedition to the Holy Land and Ottoman Empire. Drawing from Cannon's vivid personal journals and the nine travelogues published in the *Millennial Star*, editor Reid L. Neilson constructs a compelling documentary history that opens a window into early twentieth-century Latter-day Saint missionary work, travel, and interfaith encounters in the Middle East.

*Off for the Holy Land* is framed by two introductory essays: Reid L. Neilson's offering historical background on the travelers and the motivations for their tour, and a second—by historian James R. Swensen—featuring a stunning photographic essay. Swensen brings to light Cannon's personal

photo album, pairing rare images with selected excerpts from letters and diaries, offering a visually immersive experience of sacred and storied landscapes. The book's endsheets include a beautiful, full-color map of the adventure.

From the shores of the Mediterranean to the streets of Jerusalem, *Off for the Holy Land* invites readers to retrace a journey of faith, diplomacy, and devotion—one that deepened these men's testimonies of Jesus Christ and broadened the Church's international vision at the dawn of a new century.

*Off for the Holy Land: Apostle Francis Marion Lyman's 1902 Tour of the Middle East As Told by His Traveling Companion Sylvester Q. Cannon* is copublished by the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University and Deseret Book. Visit [rsc.byu.edu/book/off-holy-land](https://rsc.byu.edu/book/off-holy-land) for more information.

## ABOUT THE EDITOR

Professor REID L. NEILSON is the assistant academic vice president for Religious Scholarly Publications at Brigham Young University. He and his wife, Shelly, served as leaders of the Washington DC North Mission. He previously worked as assistant Church historian and recorder, managing director of the Church History Department in Salt Lake City, and assistant professor of Church history and doctrine at BYU. He is the author and editor of more than thirty books, including *Restless Pilgrim: Andrew Jensen's Quest for Latter-day Saint History* and *The Salt Lake Temple* (both with Scott D. Marianno).

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