Illuminating the Jaredite Records

Provo, Utah, and Salt Lake City—The book of Ether, a record of the ancient Jaredite civilization, is rich in human drama: an epic migration to a promised land, a prophet’s unexcelled vision of the premortal Christ and “all things,” a people meant to be a great nation falling prey to works of darkness and suffering extinction—all interspersed with inspiring lessons and meditations on prayer, faith, repentance, revelation, and more.

Given its enduring narrative appeal and spiritual value, the book of Ether may seem to be fully plumbed. Yet, as with all scripture, intriguing questions invite further study, with new perspectives and insights ever in the offing.

Illuminating the Jaredite Records is a multipronged foray beneath the surface of Ether’s record. Through cultural, historical, literary, and theological lenses, ten BYU researchers probe its nature and far-reaching impact on the later Nephite and Lamanite societies. The varied readings deepen understanding of the text and yield insights and thoughtful applications for teachers and students of the Book of Mormon today.

Contributors in the volume are Daniel L. Belnap, Amy Easton-Flake, Nicholas J. Frederick, Tyler J. Griffin, Kerry Hull, Frank F. Judd Jr., Jared Ludlow, Ryan Sharp, Joseph M. Spencer, and Charles Swift.

Illuminating the Jaredite Records was edited by BYU professor of ancient scripture Daniel L. Belnap and copublished by the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University and by Deseret Book. Visit https://rsc.byu.edu/book/illuminating-jaredite-records for more information.