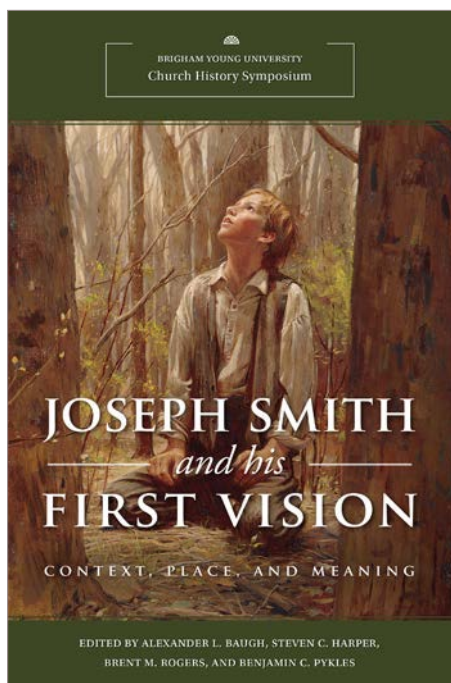


NEW FROM THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES CENTER

JOSEPH SMITH AND HIS FIRST VISION

CONTEXT, PLACE, AND MEANING



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PROVO, UTAH, AND SALT LAKE CITY— Church members, whether they be renowned gospel scholars or newly baptized converts, often study Joseph Smith and his First Vision. While much is known about the boy prophet and his seminal vision, there is still so much more to learn. In this volume, contributors relate a variety of topics to the context, place, and meaning of the First Vision.

Featured are fourteen essays selected from a BYU Church History Symposium. The three keynote addresses were delivered by Richard Lyman Bushman, Sheri Dew, and President Dallin H. Oaks.

In his address, Bushman, a leading authority on the life and ministry of Joseph Smith, declares the purpose of Joseph's vision and mortal mission as a testifier of Jesus Christ.

Sheri Dew, a prominent publisher, author, and biographer, explains that because Joseph knew loneliness and because of the Restoration he facilitated, we can have lasting and powerful answers to the mortal problem of loneliness.

President Dallin H. Oaks, First Counselor in the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, reviews some of his conclusions and experiences through his research into the character and legal cases of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Remaining essays treat various aspects of Joseph's life in connection to his theophany. Some of these topics include the religious excitement in and around the area where Joseph lived, the powers of darkness that assailed him, the many cinematic depictions of the First Vision, and the environment and preservation of the Sacred Grove.

Joseph Smith and his First Vision: Context, Place, and Meaning was edited by Alexander L. Baugh, Steven C. Harper, Brent M. Rogers, and Benjamin C. Pykles. It is copublished by the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University and Deseret Book. Visit rsc.byu.edu/book/joseph-smith-his-first-vision for more information.

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