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A Reason For Faith: Navigating LDS Doctrine And Church History



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Synopsis

A Reason for Faith was written to do just as the title implies, provide reasons for faith by offering faithful answers to sincere questions. Before the Internet, historical and doctrinal questions not addressed in LDS Church curriculum were mostly found in the scholarly articles of academic journals. This is no longer the case. These topics are now widely debated and discussed online and in other forums. And when members of the LDS Church come across information that is unfamiliar, they may feel surprise, fear, betrayal, or even anger. Laura Harris Hales has assembled a group of respected LDS scholars to offer help in A Reason for Faith: Navigating LDS Doctrine and Church History. Together these authors have spent an average of 25 years researching these topics. Their depth of knowledge and faith enables them to share reliable details, perspective, and context to both LDS doctrine and Church history. The information in these essays can begin an exciting process of discovery for readers as they learn from a source they can trust. Each chapter is engaging and thought-provoking, providing an invaluable resource for both the merely curious and the seriously concerned.

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Customer Reviews

Kudos to Laura Hales for undertaking this vital project! In recent years I have begun to read many books, articles, and the like that seek to expand the underdeveloped field of LDS apologetics. The mainstream Christians began developing and fine-tuning their "Arguments in Defense of..." centuries ago, but the LDS branch of the Christian faith, young though it may be, has been sorely lacking in this area. By not making fact-based apologetic discussions a serious piece of Sunday School, Seminary, Institute, Devotionals, and even General Conference, the faith that many hold so dear has been losing adherents, largely because of a better organized, better prepared opposition. This has got to change, and change quickly. Books like Hales' represent a step in the right direction. Section by section the contributors to Hales' project present clear, concise, well-researched, and thoroughly readable theses on a wide variety of vital contemporary topics. The writers do not shy away from difficult subjects, and they are quick to give readers the assertions and arguments of dissidents and critics, as well as those of the apologetic community, which helps greatly in understanding why some of these topics are or have been controversial. In such a presentation, the curious and concerned are invited to choose for themselves which side of the argument they find most compelling. I didn't feel much, if any, information was deemed too "vexatious" to divulge, and the range of topics covered was quite adequate, though two or three more books on additional issues could easily be written- and I encourage Hales to do so!

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