assignments, and anchor learning on a scriptural foundation. The study of the scriptures is also enhanced by articles published in Church magazines, written by lay members, leaders, and scholars. Courses on the Bible, the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price are offered through the Church educational system, and Brigham Young University helps coordinate scripture research and makes research reports available to the Church membership.

The 1979–1981 published edition of the scriptures aids readers in their scriptural study, making available extensive cross-references, maps, an index, a topical guide, and a Bible dictionary. Members may also examine alternative English or other translations in their study. Joseph Smith once expressed appreciation for the Martin Luther German translation (WJS, p. 351) and the Greek and Hebrew versions: “My soul delights in reading the word of the Lord in the original” (PWJS, p. 161). In addition to the editions of the scriptures published by the Church in many languages, tape recordings of the scriptures and computer word-search programs are available as further study aids.

Religious research studies indicate that the more education Latter-day Saints receive, the more likely they are to study the gospel. Nearly half of the LDS college graduates surveyed in the United States and Canada regularly study gospel principles.

In Latter-day Saint scripture, the Lord urges all people to open their hearts and give ear to his word, to lay hold of it, to cling to it (1 Ne. 8:1–35), to ponder it, to search it, to feast upon it, and to treasure it (2 Ne. 32:3; 3 Ne. 23:1; D&C 84:85). With such receptiveness, one understands the word of the Lord in one’s heart and mind, does not rebel against the Lord, lets go of prejudice, and is compassionate and caring (Mosiah 2:9; 3 Ne. 19:33; 2 Ne. 7:5; D&C 31:7, 75:25; 101:92; 109:56; 124:9). Those who study the scriptures with an open heart are promised that their tongues will be loosened and they will learn what to say with the convincing power of God (D&C 11:21–22; 23:2–3; 84:85; cf. Alma 17:2–3).

BIBLIOGRAPHY


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SCULPTORS

The earliest LDS sculptors were English emigrant craftsmen who provided ornamentation for the Nauvoo and pioneer temples. A temple sunstone, one of the most distinctive surviving artifacts from
Nauvoo, is part of the collection of the Smithsonian Institution.

A tradition of creating public monuments that celebrate the history of the Latter-day Saints is now a century old. Contributors include Cyrus Dallin (1861–1944), who studied in Paris. He sculpted the angel MORMON that Caps the tallest tower of the SALT LAKE TEMPLE. This beaux arts sculpture has become the most recognized and copied piece in the LDS tradition. Most of Dallin’s career was spent in Boston, where he sculpted John Winthrop, Paul Revere, and Massasoit. His life-sized bronze equestrian figures also grace Chicago, Kansas City, Philadelphia, and Vienna.

A grandson of Brigham Young, Mahonri Young (1877–1957), also studied in Paris, where he was strongly influenced by Rodin. “THIS IS THE PLACE” MONUMENT, which marks the entry of the pioneers into the SALT LAKE VALLEY, is one of his major religious works, the largest sculptured monument in Utah.

Avard Fairbanks (1897–1987), who created the Department of Fine Arts at the University of Utah, is well known in the Church for his elaborate frieze around the Hawaii Temple, his statue of the restoration of the AARONIC PRIESTHOOD, and the WINTER QUARTERS Cemetery Monument. He was knighted by King Paul of Greece after sculpting “Lycurgus the Lawgiver.”

On TEMPLE SQUARE (Salt Lake City) stands a monument to the dramatic epic of the pioneer trek, the Mormon HANDCART COMPANIES, sculpted by Torlief Knaphus (1881–1965), a convert from Norway.

The Mormon Arts Festival, held at Brigham Young University since the early 1970s, has displayed religious pieces produced by Franz Johansen (1929–) and Trevor Southey (1940–) that are now in the Museum of Church History and Art. The Monument to Women sculpture garden in Nauvoo displays life-sized bronze statues of women. Most of the pieces are done by Dennis Smith (1942–), but the sculpture of Joseph and Emma Smith was created by Florence Hansen (1920–).

The last quarter of the twentieth century has produced many LDS sculptors, including some with roots in cultures that reflect the international presence of the Church. Representative sculptors are Epanaia Christy (1921–) and Mataumu Alisa (1942–) from Polynesia; Native Americans Lowell

Florence Hansen created this model for her statue Teaching with Love, a life-sized bronze now part of the Nauvoo Monument to Women (1978), at the LDS Church Visitors Center in Nauvoo, Illinois.

Talishoma (1950–), Oreland Joe (1958–), and Harrison Begay (1961–); Victor de la Torres (c. 1935–) of Venezuela; and Mae Cameron (n.d.) from Australia.

[See also Architecture; Historical Sites; Kirtland Temple; Museums, Latter-day Saint; Symbols, Cultural and Artistic.]

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