

JARED M. HALVERSON

Associate Professor of Ancient Scripture
Brigham Young University
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EDUCATION

PhD in Historical Studies, Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University – 2022
Major area: American Religious History; Minor area: Rhetoric
Dissertation: “The Art of Ridicule in the Age of Reason: The Anti-Biblical Rhetoric of Thomas Paine” (available online at <https://ir.vanderbilt.edu/handle/1803/17052>)

MA in Historical Studies, Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University – 2012
Major area: American Religious History; Minor area: Homiletics and Liturgics
Thesis: “‘Extravagant Fictions’: The Book of Mormon in the Antebellum Popular Imagination”

MA in Religious Education, Brigham Young University – 2005
Thesis: “‘To Make Ready a People Prepared for the Lord’: Italy’s Waldensian Saints as a Case Study on Conversion”

BA in History, Brigham Young University, *magna cum laude* – 1999
Presidential Scholar

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2022–present	Associate Professor, Department of Ancient Scripture, Brigham Young University
2021	Adjunct Instructor, Department of Ancient Scripture, Brigham Young University
2014–2022	Instructor, University of Utah Institute of Religion; Seminaries & Institutes of Religion, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
2018–2020	Director, Westminster Institute of Religion; Seminaries & Institutes of Religion, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
2014–2018	Assistant Director, University of Utah Institute of Religion; Seminaries & Institutes of Religion, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

2014	Instructional Designer, Curriculum Division, Seminaries & Institutes of Religion, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Salt Lake City, Utah
2006–2014	Coordinator, Seminaries & Institutes of Religion, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Nashville, Tennessee
2012–2014	Historical Studies Bibliographer, Divinity Library, Vanderbilt University
2012–2014	Teaching Assistant, Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University
2010–2012	Research Assistant, Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University
2005–2006	Part Time Faculty, Department of Church History and Doctrine, Brigham Young University
2005–2006	Writing Committee (<i>Ensign</i> Magazine), Curriculum Department, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Salt Lake City, Utah
2000–2005	Institute Instructor, Seminaries & Institutes of Religion; Provo, Utah
1999–2005	Seminary Instructor, Seminaries & Institutes of Religion; Highland, Utah
1998–1999	Editorial Intern, Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University (worked on transcription of manuscripts of Joseph Smith Translation of the Bible)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught: Brigham Young University

- Teachings and Doctrine of the Book of Mormon (2021)
- Doctrine and Covenants (2005, 2006)
- Teachings of the Living Prophets (2005, 2006)
- Pearl of Great Price (2006)

Courses Taught: Institutes of Religion, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Book of Mormon
- Doctrine and Covenants
- Pearl of Great Price
- Jesus Christ and the Everlasting Gospel
- Teachings and Doctrines of the Book of Mormon
- Foundations of the Restoration
- Teachings of the Living Prophets
- The Power of the Word

- Women in the Scriptures
- The Writings of John
- The Words of Isaiah
- A Thematic Approach to the Epistles of Paul (self-designed)
- Becoming a Disciple-Scholar (self-designed)
- Navigating Trials of Faith (self-designed)
- Introduction to the Restored Gospel (self-designed; for non-Latter-day Saints)

Individual University Lectures:

- “Race in Latter-day Saint History” (Religion department, Tennessee State University)
- “Latter-day Saint Plural Marriage” (Sociology department, Belmont University)
- “Introduction to Mormonism” (Psychology department, Belmont University; Religion department, Lipscomb University; Religion department and Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University)
- “Jonathan Swift’s *Tale of a Tub*” (English department, Vanderbilt University)
- “Mocking the Methodists” (Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University)
- “Principles of Interfaith Dialogue” (Communications department, University of Utah)
- “Marital Views of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints” (College of Social Work, University of Utah)

PUBLICATIONS

(In process) “Merely a Messenger: Escaping the Pride Cycle in Gospel Teaching.” Submitted to *The Religious Educator* and currently under review.

“Loosing and Binding,” and “Lord’s Day.” In *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*, edited by Christine Helmer, Steven Linn McKenzie, Thomas Christian Römer, Jens Schröter, Barry Walfish, and Eric Ziolkowski. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2009–2024.

“Hate and Hermeneutics: Interpretive Authority in Luther’s *On the Jews and Their Lies*.” In *Newberry Essays in Medieval and Early Modern Studies*, vol. 8, edited by Mary P. Angelo, 59–71. Chicago: Newberry Library, 2014.

“The Rejection and Rehabilitation of Worship in the Old Testament.” In *Ascending the Mountain of the Lord: Temple, Praise, and Worship in the Old Testament*, edited by David Rolph Seely, Jeffrey R. Chadwick, and Matthew J. Grey, 185–203. Provo, UT: Brigham Young University Religious Studies Center; Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 2013.

“Lehi’s Dream and Nephi’s Vision as Apocalyptic Literature.” In *The Things which My Father Saw: Approaches to Lehi’s Dream and Nephi’s Vision*, edited by Daniel L. Belnap, Gaye Strathearn, and Stanley A. Johnson, 53–69. Provo, UT: Brigham Young University Religious Studies Center; Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 2011.

“Writing in the Margins: Canonization and the Ordering of Charisma.” *Glossolalia* 4, no. 1 (Fall 2011), 133–149. [peer-reviewed graduate student journal published by Yale Divinity School]

“Of Soils and Souls: The Parable of the Sower.” *The Religious Educator* 9, no. 3 (2008): 31–47.

“The Problem of Pride: A Book of Mormon Perspective.” In *Selections from the Religious Education Student Symposium*, 1–14. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Religious Studies Center, 2004.

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS AND LECTURES

“Empathy Elected or Compassion Compelled.” Presented at the 49th Annual Sidney B. Sperry Symposium, Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah; October 2021.

“‘Devil Words’: Ideographic Negativity in Religious Polemic.” Presented at the 38th Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference, “The Meaning and Power of Negativity”; Claremont Graduate University; February 2017.

“The Scottish Enlightenment Confronts American Scripture: The Book of Mormon, Alexander Campbell, and the Rhetoric of Scottish Common Sense Realism.” Presented at the 49th Annual Mormon History Association Conference, “The Immigration of Cosmopolitan Thought”; San Antonio, Texas; June 2014.

“Global Gatherings: Temple Dedications and the Spread of Sacred Space.” Presented at the LDS Church History Symposium on the Worldwide Church, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah; March 2014.

“Hate and Hermeneutics: Interpretive Authority in Luther’s *On the Jews and Their Lies*.” Presented at the Newberry Library Center for Renaissance Studies Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Conference; Chicago, Illinois; January 2014.

“The Rejection and Rehabilitation of Worship in the Old Testament.” Presented at the 42nd Annual Sidney B. Sperry Symposium, Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah; October 2013.

“‘Mormon Slang’: Reason, Revelation, and the Limits of Religious Certainty.” Paper presented at the Harvard Divinity School Graduate Conference on Religion, “Ways of Knowing,” Harvard University; Cambridge, Massachusetts; October 2012.

“‘Civil Sacraments’: Inaugurations, Presidential Proselytizing, and Conversion to the American Faith.” Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association of Theater in Higher Education; Washington, D.C.; August 2012.

“Lehi’s Dream and Nephi’s Vision as Apocalyptic Literature.” Presented at the 40th Annual Sidney B. Sperry Symposium, Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah; October 2011.

“Writing in the Margins: Canonization and the Ordering of Charisma.” Presented at the Communal Studies Association Annual Conference; South Union, Kentucky; September 2011.

“Fictionalizing Faith: Popular Polemics and the Gold Plates.” Presented at the Mormon Scholars Foundation Symposium on “The Gold Plates as Cultural Artifact”; Provo, Utah; August 2011.

“The Problem of Pride: A Book of Mormon Perspective.” Presented at the 5th Annual Religious Education Student Symposium, Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah; February 2004.

“A Ram in the Thicket and a Boy in the Woods: The Offering of Abraham and the Prophet Joseph Smith.” Presented at Foundation of Ancient Research and Mormon Studies conference entitled “Genesis 22: Latter-day Saint Perspectives on the Akedah,” Brigham Young University; Provo, Utah; February 2003.

SCHOLARLY RECOGNITION AND SERVICE

American Philosophical Society Fellowship

Udo Keller Stiftung *Forum Humanum* Grant

Mormon Scholars Foundation Summer Seminar Fellowship

Graduate Department of Religion Scholarship, Vanderbilt University

Hugh W. Nibley Fellowship, Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship, Brigham Young University

Ezra Taft Benson (Presidential) Scholarship, Brigham Young University (university’s highest academic honor)

National Merit Scholar

Dean’s List, College of Social Science, Brigham Young University

Graduated from Brigham Young University *magna cum laude*

Research grant, Office of Research and Creative Activities, Brigham Young University

DIGITAL TEACHING

“Unshaken” YouTube channel, Facebook page, and podcast (lessons to accompany the “Come Follow Me” program of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints): content creation and all post-production

As of July 31, 2022:

- over 356 hours of content
- over 9.1 million views
- over 4.9 million hours of watch time
- over 71,000 subscribers
- over 4.0 million podcast downloads

OTHER INFORMATION

Languages Studied

Spanish (fluent)
French (reading)
Portuguese (intermediate)
Hebrew (introductory)

Significant Academic Travel

Israel, Egypt, Jordan: January–June 1997

Interfaith Work:

- On Interfaith Council at Vanderbilt University, and for greater Nashville TN area
- LDS representative at Interfaith panel discussions at Vanderbilt University
- Hosted interfaith dialogues for University of Utah Institute of Religion (multiple semesters)
- Co-sponsored interfaith conference for Westminster College, Salt Lake City, Utah
- Lectured on cross-cultural communications for the communications department, University of Utah (multiple semesters)

Featured Speaker for Adult, Young Adult, and Youth Conferences/Firesides/Workshops (100+ from coast to coast; 2000–present)