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The Book of Mormon and the Stranger

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Abstract: The Book of Mormon is a witness of Jesus Christ and a valuable tool in teaching the gospel. The article discusses a program of placing copies of the Book of Mormon in hotel rooms.



The Book of Mormon and the stranger

The Book of Mormon is a silent, continuing, effective witness for the divinity, the work, and the purpose of Jesus Christ the Lord. With the Bible it satisfies with the written word the age old test that in the mouths of two witnesses shall all things be established.

The book incidentally describes the fortunes of family groups, which, guided by the inspiration of the Lord, came to America from the Holy Land and later multiplied to become a great people. This incidental history is the setting for the great message and witness that the Lord Jesus Christ gave them the gospel. It witnessed also the history of what happened to those who, having received, rejected its teachings.

So important is this book to the teaching of the gospel in this day, that the Lord brought it forth through the agency of Joseph Smith as a witness of the universality of his teachings, and that Joseph Smith was truly the Prophet of this restoration. Joseph Smith made its distribution a major activity of those who taught the truth. Its distribution in our year is still of primary importance.

One means of making the Book of Mormon available to everyone is the project of the high priest quorums for motels, hotels, and public places.

Here the quorum supplies a copy of the book for each guest room and for offices of professional men. Within the book is a note stating the purpose of the book, references to important passages, and an envelope for deposit of the cost, should the reader care to take it with him.

In those stakes where quorums of high priests have actively pursued this project many books have been distributed. In some cases conversions have resulted. In all cases the book continues to bear its silent witness to those who now read it because of this wider distribution.

The cost of the project is very little. The results are endless and immeasurable.

High priests quorums are invited to assess their past successes and to continue on with renewed effort to gain maximum results in this program for 1964. The presidency of the quorum should revive the interest of old committees or appoint new ones, survey their territory and give effective leadership to the project.

