



# **The Words of Joseph Smith: The Contemporary Accounts of the Nauvoo Debates of the Prophet Joseph (Religious Studies Monograph Series)**

*Andrew F. Ehat, Lyndon W. Cook (Editor)*

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The Contemporary Accounts of the Nauvoo Discourses of the Prophet Joseph

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## **From Reader Review The Words of Joseph Smith: The Contemporary Accounts of the Nauvoo Debates of the Prophet Joseph (Religious Studies Monograph Series) for online ebook**

### **James Carroll says**

This is by far the best collection of what Joseph Smith actually taught published so far. If I had to give up all my religious books but the standard works and one other book, this is the one I would choose.

Joseph's main focus in Nauvoo was the temple, so if you have ever been curious about the meaning of the Temple, this is also the book for you.

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### **Jacob J says**

An indispensable resource providing all the original accounts of the sermons of Joseph Smith in the Nauvoo era. Unlike the classic Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith in which lots of the entries were probably not written by Joseph Smith himself, this book provides only reliable sources and without amalgamation. The only problem is that this book keeps going out of print and the price shoots into the hundreds of dollars for a copy until the next printing. Luckily I got one early.

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### **James Miller says**

A very interesting book. I somehow acquired a photocopy of it during my stay in Utah. As far as I know, it was originally published by some BYU professors, then the church quickly bought the copyright and never allowed it to be published again. It was just TOO interesting. They cut out all of the controversial stuff, what I like to think of as Joseph's opinions of doctrine, and then reprinted the more traditional teachings as "The Teachings of Joseph Smith".

Anyone interested in reading this should have the prerequisites of a temple recommend, and having read the complete standard works, Jesus the Christ, and should have a VERY good knowledge of church history.

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### **Christian Larsen says**

This is the single most important history concerning Joseph Smith ever written. Contained in this volume are every existing account of Joseph's Nauvoo discourses gleaned from diaries, minutes, newspaper accounts, etc... The footnotes are reason enough to read this and provide historical insights that cannot be found anywhere else. This is not as accessible a volume as others because it is written as a documentary history, so quote is followed by quote with no narrative connecting them, so I would recommend first reading narrative histories before this, particularly on Joseph Smith like Bushman's "Joseph Smith: Rough Stone Rolling," and on Nauvoo like Flander's "Nauvoo: Kingdom on the Mississippi" or Leonard's "Nauvoo: A Place of Peace, A People of Promise."

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### **Michael says**

The ebook version (for the Kindle at least) should lose a star due to character set conversion issues; but this is a six star book, so it still gets five. :)

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### **Stephen Cranney says**

A little disappointing. Not because of the editorial job or the words themselves, it's just a little hard to get inspired from hastily scribbled notes: "Joseph...lectured on the plan of salvation..[illegible]" (and on for 300 pages). Occasionally some good finds, but most of the items of interest here are already repeated elsewhere in Sunday School manuals and such. It's not like the Journals of Discourses where you occasionally find interesting nuggets that nobody seems to be aware of. People interested in JS's views are just going to have to deal with the fact that JS's sermons were not recorded nearly as well as those of his successors.

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### **Matt says**

If Joseph Smith Papers is cool, this book is uber-cool. I only wish someone would do the same for his pre-Nauvoo discourses.

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### **Michelle Gross says**

Some parts are good. The Lucy Mack Smith history is a bit on the disjointed side.

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### **James says**

Fantastic book. I am so glad that my friend Greg recommended it. By reading these speeches of Joseph Smith you realize what a powerful orator he was and how close he was to God. I gained many new insights into the gospel of Jesus Christ by studying these words, and I learned much about Joseph Smith's character. My testimony of the Savior and of the Lord's chosen prophet Joseph was strengthened.

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### **Viliami says**

I am forever indebted to Andrew Ehat. Just used this book today for background on Celestial marriage and exaltation.

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**Cory Jensen says**

A must read.

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**Dustin says**

A classic. A read must for any student of Joseph Smith. The contemporary primary sources from Joseph's Nauvoo sermons. I had just finished reading Teachings (which contain amalgamated versions of many of these sermons) and I was surprised at how much more I was able to learn by going to the sources. The notes are well done and give incredibly valuable context, a feature very much lacking in Teachings.

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