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David L. Paulsen Professor Department of Philosophy Brigham Young University

### Education

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Michigan 1975
Major Emphasis: Philosophy of Religion
J.D., Law, University of Chicago Law School 1964
B.S., Political Science, Brigham Young University 1961
A.S., English, Snow College 1957

## Additional Training in Philosophy of Religion

NEH Institute in the Philosophy of Religion

Western Washington University 1986

Directors: William Alston, Syracuse University & Alvin Plantinga, Notre

Dame

**NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers** 

**Purdue University 1982** 

Director: William Rowe, Purdue

Topic: Rationality of Belief and the Problem of Evil

**NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers** 

**Brown University 1977** 

Director: James Ross, University of Pennsylvania

Topic: Faith and Meaning

### Selected Honors and Awards

Eliza R. Snow Fellowship, 2000-2002 Richard L. Evans Professor for Religious Understanding, 1994-1998 National Honors Scholar, University of Chicago Law School, 1961-1964 First Place, Hinton Moot Court, University of Chicago Law School, 1964 Valedictorian, Brigham Young University, 1961

### **Doctoral Thesis**

Comparative Coherency of Mormon (Finitistic) and Classical (Absolutistic) Theism (1975)

Chairman of Doctoral Committee: George Mavrodes, University of Michigan

#### **Publications**

"Are Christians Mormon? Reassessing Joseph Smith's Theology in his Bicentennial," BYU Studies 45:1 (2006) 35-128.

- "Joseph Smith Challenges the Theological World," John Welch, ed., *The Worlds of Joseph Smith* (Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 2006) 175-212.
- "Joseph Smith Challenges the Theological World," BYU Studies 44:4 (2005) 175-212.
- "The Redemption of the Dead: A Latter-day Saint Perspective on the Fate of the Unevangelized," Roger Keller and Robert Millet, eds., Salvation in Christ: Comparative Christian Views (Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Religious Studies Center, 2005) 263-298.
- "Divine Embodiment: The Earliest Christian Understanding of God," Noel Reynolds, ed., Early Christians in Disarray: Contemporary LDS Perspectives on the Christian Apostasy (Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 2005) 239-294.
- "Joseph Smith and the Problem of the Unevangelized," FARMS Review 17:1 (2005) 171-204.
- "Joseph Smith and the Problem of Evil," *Praise to the Man: Fifteen Classic BYU Devotionals About the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 1955-2005 (Provo, Utah: BYU Publications, 2005) 151-167.
- "Joseph Smith and the Problem of Evil," *BYU Magazine*, October 2005 (Provo, Utah: BYU Publications, Oct. 2005) 37-38.
- "The Search for the Cultural Origins of Mormon Doctrines," Newell G. Bringhurst and Lavina Fielding Anderson, eds., Excavating Mormon Pasts: The New Historiography of the Last Half Century (Salt Lake City: Greg Kofford Books, 2004) 27-52.
- "Are Mormons Trinitarians?" *Modern Reformation* Volume 12, No 6 (November/December 2003), 40-43.
- "A New Evangelical Vision of God: Openness and Mormon Thought," *The Farms Review* 15:2 (2003), 417-43.
- Reviews of John Sanders, *The God Who Risks* and Clark Pinnock, et. al., *The Openness of God, BYU Studies* Vol. 42, Nos. 3&4 (2003) 110-123.
- "Augustine and the Corporeality of God," Harvard Theological Review 95:1 (2002) 97-118.
- "A General Response to The New Mormon Challenge, "Farms Review 14:1-2 (2002) 99-111.
- "Sin, Suffering and Soul-making: Joseph Smith and the Problem of Evil." Donald W. Parry, Daniel C. Peterson, and Stephen D. Ricks, eds. Revelation, Reason and Faith: Essays in Honor of Truman G. Madsen (Provo, Utah: Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies, 2002) 237-284.
- "Early Mormon Modalism and Other Myths," Farms Review 13 (2001) 69-109.
- "The God of Abraham, Isaac and (William) James." *Colloquium: Literature and Belief* (Provo, Utah: BYU Press, 2001)
- Review of Al Ghazali, "The Incoherence of the Philosophers," BYU Studies 40:04:00 (2001)

- "Joseph Smith and the Problem of Evil," BYU Studies, 39, no.1, (2000) 53-65.
- Review of Roger Olson, The Story of Christian Theology, BYU Studies 39, no. 4 (2000) 185-194.
- "The Seventy's Course in Theology," Arnold K. Garr, Donald Q. Cannon, and Richard O. Cowan, eds. *Encyclopedia of Latter-day Saint History* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Company, 2000) 1093
- "How Deep the Chasm?" FARMS Review of Books, vol. 11, no. 2, pp. 221-264 (1999).
- "The God of Abraham, Isaac and (William) James." *The Journal of Speculative Philosophy*, Penn State University, vol. 13, no. 2, pp.114-146 (1999).
- "Foreword," B. H. Roberts, *The Mormon Doctrine of Deity: the Roberts-Van Der Donckt Discussion* (Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1998) pp. v-xxvii.
- "Theology," B. H. Roberts, The Truth, The Way, The Life: An Elementary Treatise in Theology, Jack Welch ed. (Provo, Utah: BYU Studies, 2d. 1996) pp. 619-632.
- "Must God be Incorporeal?," Douglas Davies, ed., Mormon Identities in Transition (London: Cassells, 1996), Chapter 22, pp.204-209.
- "The Doctrine of Divine Embodiment: Restoration, Judeo-Christian, and Philosophical Perspectives," BYU Studies 35 no. 4, pp. 6-94 (1995-1996).
- "Review of Francis J. Beckwith and Stephen E. Parrish, The Mormon Concept of God: A Philosophical Analysis." *The International Journal for the Philosophy of Religion* 35:118-120, 1994.
- "Reply to Kim Paffenroth's Comment," Harvard Theological Review, 86 (1993): 235-39.
- "Evil," Encyclopedia of Mormonism, vol. 2 (New York: MacMillan, 1992) pp. 477-78.
- "Harmonization of Paradox," *Encyclopedia of Mormonism*, vol. 1 (New York: MacMillan, 1992)
  pp. 402-403.
- "Omniscience, Omnipotence, and Omnipresence," *Encyclopedia of Mormonism*, vol. 3 (New York: MacMillan, 1992) p. 1030.
- "Temptation," Encyclopedia of Mormonism, vol. 4 (New York: MacMillan, 1992) pp. 1468-69.
- "Early Christian Views of a Corporeal Deity: Origen and Augustine as Reluctant Witnesses," in *Harvard Theological Review*, 83 (1990): 105-16.
- "Must God be Incorporeal?" Faith and Philosophy, vol. 6, no. 1 (January 1989), pp. 76-87.
- "The Logically Possible, the Ontologically Possible, and Ontological Proofs of God's Existence," in the *International Journal for the Philosophy of Religion*, The Hague, 16.1 (1984): 41-49.

"Divine Determinateness and the Free Will Defense," Analysis, Oxford University, (June 1981) vol. 41, no. 3, pp. 150.

### **Selected Paper Presentations**

- "Are Christians Mormon? Reassessing Joseph Smith's Theology in his Bicentennial, Harvard Divinity School, February 23, 2006.
- "Joseph Smith Challenges the Theological World"
  Library of Congress, Washington D.C., May 6, 2005.
  Meeting of the Society for Mormon Philosophy and Theology, Utah State
  University, Logan, Utah, March 10, 2005.
- "The Earliest Mormon Understanding of God: Binitarianism and the *Lectures on Faith*."

  Meeting of the Mormon History Association, Kirtland, Ohio, May 2003;
- "What Does It Mean to be a Christian: Soren Kierkegaard and Joseph Smith."
  Meeting of the Mormon History Association, Copenhagen, Denmark, June 26, 2000.
  Mountain-Plains Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers,
  University of Colorado, Boulder, September 29, 2000.
  Meeting of the Society for Mormon Philosophy and Theology, Utah Valley State
  College, March 2004.
- "The Search for the Cultural Origins of Mormon Doctrine."

  Mormon Studies Conference, University of Durham, U.K., April 1999.
- "God, Our Father."

  Mormon Studies Conference, Yale Divinity School, March 2003.
- "Joseph Smith and the Problem of Evil,"

  Brigham Young University Forum Address, September 21, 1999.
- "Can the Resurrected Christ be God: The Mormon Doctrine of Divine Embodiment"
  Mormon Studies Conference, University of Nottingham, England, April 1995.
  NEH Institute in Philosophy of Religion, Western Washington University, August, 1986.
- "B. H. Roberts: Defender of the Faith,"
  Honor's Program Flea Market Lecture Series, BYU, Provo, Utah, March, 1980.