

Mormon Scholars Testify

Messages of faith from scholars who belong to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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Kristine Hansen

English, Brigham Young University

The evidence or proof I have to support the truth of my testimony is not really transferable to others—I can only tell you how and why I know these things and promise you that the testimony I have can also be had by anyone who desires to know and who will earnestly seek. ...[more]



Robert Joseph

Law, New Zealand

My name is Robert Joseph. From my heritage, I descend from a long line of *rangatira*, or chiefs, in both my Maori and British *whakapapa* or genealogy. I have been raised in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Church) all of my life. ...[more]



Keith Thompson

Law, New Zealand and Australia and Africa

When I was fourteen years old, I read the Book of Mormon through, cover to cover for the first time. I knew it was true. I knew that Joseph Smith could not have written it as some suggested. But that knowledge was not enough for me. ...[more]



Mark Peterson

Korean Social History, Brigham Young University

Thanks be to God. For a brief moment, I was an instrument in his hands. I've felt his inspiration before that time, and after that time as well, but never more dramatically and never in a way that touched so many people. I'm forever grateful. ...[more]

Academics from the south Pacific region who are members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are using the Internet to share their experiences as members of the Church.

[Bill Glen](#), [Grant Pitman](#), [Lionel Walters](#), [Robert Joseph](#), [Keith Thompson](#), and [Neville Rochow](#) are among the growing number of Latter-day Saint scholars who are contributing to the website www.mormonscholarstestify.org.

The site was started by Brigham Young University academic, Daniel Peterson, as a way to provide “LDS scholars the opportunity to express their views and feelings about the Gospel of Jesus Christ and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,” according to the website’s home page.

It continues: “There are some who may feel that people of education and learning can’t be religious. It is hoped that these testimonies will help dispel that myth, educate, and give insights into the thoughts and feelings of LDS scholars.”

An excerpt from Adelaide barrister and Senior Counsel Neville Rochow’s testimony follows:

“I was born into a family of very modest means. Growing up in the outer suburbs of Sydney, there seemed few prospects for me to enjoy success. Emotionally, intellectually, economically, and spiritually, my family was challenged. Family relations were strained and dysfunctional. Despite being a bright young student, I received no real guidance at home. None of the members of my family finished high school. And they did not share my interest in eternal destiny. Even if religion were talked about, it was not to be practised. My interest in religion was often the subject of ridicule and derision. I was left alone with my books and beliefs. I yearned for something better.”