

Publication Announcement

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The Church of JESUS CHRIST of Latter-day Saints

A REFERENCE GUIDE

Wayne D. Arnett

Co-published by
SHIELDS & FAIR

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www.fairlds.org/pubs/

Full publication may be viewed on-line at SHIELDS

www.shields-research.org

SHIELDS: Scholarly & Historical Information Exchange for Latter-Day Saints.
PO Box 569, Millville, Utah 84326

FAIR: The Foundation for Apologetic Information & Research.
2136 Garden Avenue, Redding, California 96001

WHOLESALE:

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SIZE - FORMAT

52 pages, 3.75" x 8.5", including front/back covers. Publication size and format design are:

❖ for easy reference/distribution (vest pocket, purse, etc.). ❖ for standard #10 envelope mailing.

PURPOSE

Defending is directed to those:

- ❖ who are truly interested in the basic history and tenets of the Church of Jesus Christ. In particular, it is for those whose previous exposure to the LDS faith has been by way of so-called "anti-Mormon" criticisms.
- ❖ who have a sincere desire to investigate the restored gospel of Jesus Christ by prayerful study, but have insufficient background to readily rebut "anti-Mormon" claims.
- ❖ members of the faith seeking help in addressing questions, concerns and criticisms posed by acquaintances, friends and loved ones.
- ❖ who proclaim and perpetrate criticisms of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

FEATURES

Defending is a powerful apologetic reference guide that:

- ❖ promotes faithful LDS scholars and their works. ❖ promotes high apologetic ideals and standards.
- ❖ promotes SHIELDS, FAIR and FARMS. ❖ is a quality Reference Guide designed to stimulate gospel study and/or investigation.
- ❖ is "consumable" in that many will want more than one copy. ❖ proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- ❖ strengthens Latter-day Saints who wonder about or are distressed by criticisms. ❖ fills a definite void in current LDS literature.

EDITORIAL REVIEW

Defending was submitted to intense reviews by the editorial boards of both FAIR and SHIELDS and by prominent LDS scholars.

FURTHER POTENTIAL USES

Note: we are sensitive to the fact that some "potential" uses would require prior ecclesiastical approval.

- ❖ Could be used by stake presidents, bishops, mission presidents, CES directors, etc. when they counsel concerned members.
- ❖ Could be a useful background tool for missionaries.
- ❖ Could be available for reasonable skeptics at events such as pageants, dedications and the like.

A LITTLE BACKGROUND – The Author

Draft versions of Defending have been used as a tool to strengthen several Saints (including new members) who came under anti-Mormon attack.

We have also given draft copies of Defending to friends who are not presently interested in studying the gospel, but who were most interested in reading Defending from an "I don't have any idea about what Mormons believe, I've just heard a lot of bad things about them" point of view. In each instance, they stated that after reading Defending, they had a new perspective and sincerely thanked us for sharing the publication with them. In one case, a friend gave the manuscript to his neighbor who is continually criticizing the Church.

In a different setting, a minister had a practice of having members of his congregation invite our missionaries over for a "missionary discussion." The objective was to proselyte our missionaries. The author was present at one such attempt. We aborted our discussion by bearing testimony and by handing the couple Defending. This couple called the missionaries several days later and asked them to return, without their minister being present.

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