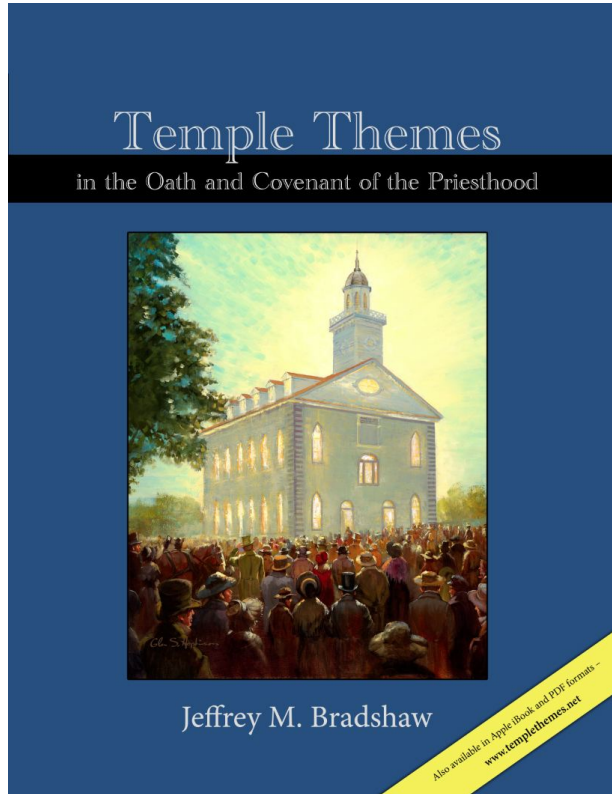


## Temple Themes in the Oath and Covenant of the Priesthood

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The Oath and Covenant of the Priesthood, as found in D&C 84:33-48, is an ideal focus for a scripture-based study of temple themes. These verses speak plainly about the highest blessings of the Melchizedek Priesthood. What may be less-appreciated is the clarity with which the same revelation describes the required sequence of ordinances through which individuals and families may qualify for exaltation. It is significant that this revelation was given in 1832, a decade before the Prophet began to teach many doctrines of the higher priesthood and the temple in plainness to the Saints in Nauvoo.

The purpose of this book is to explore the meaning of the verses summarizing the Oath and Covenant of the Priesthood in light of the ordinances required for exaltation. In matters of doctrine, the author has relied on what can be found in scripture and in statements of members of the First Presidency and the

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. To provide illustrations and additional background, he has drawn from a wealth of other sources. Written engagingly, and illustrated with carefully-selected images, this book is designed to encourage readers in their own study of priesthood doctrines and in their personal efforts to understand and keep their covenants.



Jeffrey M. Bradshaw, Ph.D., is a Senior Research Scientist at the Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition (IHMC) in Pensacola, Florida ([www.ihmc.us/groups/jbradshaw/](http://www.ihmc.us/groups/jbradshaw/)). His professional writings have explored a wide range of topics in human and machine intelligence and their interaction. Jeff has written a highly-acclaimed scholarly commentary on the book of Moses entitled *In God's Image and Likeness* ([www.imageandlikeness.net](http://www.imageandlikeness.net)). It has been praised by the eminent Old Testament scholar Margaret Barker as “remarkable,” by the Emeritus Director of FARMS S. Kent Brown as a “most interesting tapestry,” by BYU Professor of Ancient Scripture David R. Seely as being of “cosmic scope” with a “wealth of stunning artistic and literary images,” and by prominent LDS scientist David H. Bailey as a “uniquely modern and honest treatment.” With David J. Larsen, Jeff is preparing a second volume of commentary (*In God's Image and Likeness 2: Enoch, Noah, and the Tower of Babel*, Eborn, 2012). He has also authored *Temple Themes in the Book of Moses*, *Temple Themes in the Oath and Covenant of the Priesthood*, and articles on temple studies and the ancient Near East for *Studies in the Bible and Antiquity*, *Element: A Journal of Mormon Philosophy and Theology*, *Interpreter: A Journal of Mormon Scripture*, and *BYU Studies* ([www.templethemes.net](http://www.templethemes.net)). Jeff serves on the Executive Board of *Interpreter: A Journal of Mormon Scripture* ([www.mormoninterpreter.com](http://www.mormoninterpreter.com)). He was a missionary in the Belgium-Brussels mission, and has since served in a variety of Church capacities including early-morning seminary teacher, bishop, high councilor, stake presidency counselor, and temple ordinance worker. Jeff and his wife Kathleen are the parents of four children and seven grandchildren.