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Autobiography Of Parley P. Pratt



Synopsis

Parley Pratt was born in Burlington, New York, the son of Jared Pratt and wife, a descendant of Anne Hutchinson. He married Thankful Halsey in Canaan, New York on 9 September 1827. The young couple settled near Cleveland, Ohio on a plot of "wilderness" where Parley had constructed a crude home. In Ohio, Pratt became a member of the Reformed Baptist Society, also called Campbellites, through the preaching of Sidney Rigdon. Pratt soon decided to take up the Campbellite ministry as a profession, and sold his property. While traveling to visit family in western New York, Pratt had the opportunity to read a copy of the Book of Mormon owned by a Baptist deacon. Convinced of its authenticity, he traveled to Palmyra, New York and spoke to Hyrum Smith at the Smith home. He was baptized in Seneca Lake by Oliver Cowdery on or about 1 September 1830, formally joining the Latter Day Saint church (Mormons). He was also ordained to the office of an elder in the church. Continuing on to his family's home, he introduced his younger brother, Orson Pratt, to Mormonism and baptized him on 19 September 1830. This biography was written by Parley and published posthumously.

Book Information

File Size: 974 KB

Print Length: 480 pages

Publication Date: March 15, 2009

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B001VNCI6E

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #180,003 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #63
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Customer Reviews

This is a first-hand account of the growth and history of the Church of JESUS CHRIST of Latter-day Saints, as seen through the eyes of one of its highest-ranking insiders (and Apostle), Parley P. Pratt. Pratt, a traveling preacher, first heard of the Book of Mormon in late August, 1830, and was baptized on about Sept 1, 1830. From then on, his life was one of total commitment and devotion to God's work on Earth. Pratt served several missions for the Church and also suffered through many persecutions with the Prophet Joseph Smith himself, including several months in a filthy jail cell in 1838-1839. These experiences are told in fair detail so that it is easy for me to visualize them as if I had lived through them myself. If you want to know what life was really like for early LDS Church members and leaders, you need to read this book.--George Stancliffe

Parley P. Pratt along with his brother Orson was among the earliest leaders of the Mormon church. His historical significance alone makes this worth the read. Luckily not only is this work historically important is is also really entertaining. Of all the books I have read on the early church this was easily the most entertaining. Parley Pratt is a master storyteller. Furthermore, he lead a fascinating life that makes for an engrossing read. My favorite was the story about the dogs. (You have to read it to find out what I mean) There is some inspirational talk here as would be expected from any work by a religious devotee. Really a fun read and worth your time.

A very vivid account of the early history of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints written by man who lived it and contributed much to the LDS church. The book is written in flowing prose and interspersed with poetry, letters, etc. Parley Pratt joined the church after reading and accepting the Book of Mormon. His story follows the LDS church through their persecutions in Missouri, and Illinois and brings the church to its present location in Utah. I recommend this book to anyone who has an interest in the LDS church as it is written by one of their early leaders.

Its been a long time since I read a book that impacted me as much as this one. This is an incredible autobiography full of true American adventure by one incredible human being. To endure the incredible hardships and torture, as described so eloquently and vividly by a great writer, at the hands of American citizens is a tale almost beyond belief. I am not Mormon and have no particular feelings one way or the other but Mr. Pratt's incredible faith and endurance are truly awe-inspiring, and it would be difficult to comprehend how one could survive without a divine presence lending a hand. I think those who read this book will come away with a very important message about religious

tolerance and the horrors that occur when religious prejudice rules the law of the land. While reading this book I found my breath quickening, my hands clenching, and my nose smelling the foul stench of the cruel prison conditions Mr. Pratt and others were forced to endure. Probably Mr. Pratt got what he deserved in the end. Whether or not you accept the practice of polygamy - mess with another man's wife and you are liable to get hurt. Nevertheless I can't help but admire this man and wonder how he survived so many perilous adventures and even more difficult - 12 wives! God Bless you Parley P. Pratt - may you rest with the Saints in Heaven.

Parsley P. Pratt was an original and amazing apostle whose life reflected his faith and belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He was diligent and steadfast. He worked tirelessly spreading the Word of the Lord enduring unspeakable persecutions and vile and evil acts committed against the Saints of God along the way. He brought many hundreds of souls to the knowledge of Christ and his teachings. He went many times without purse or script across vast distances to preach the Gospel. He suffered hunger and thirst including many bouts of sicknesses but remained steadfast and good heartedly loyal to the principles of goodness and faith. He worked his entire life towards being an obedient and faithful servant of God. He accomplished more in a single life than a dozen or so men. It would be difficult to find many to keep up with his accomplishments during 50 years. His words and poems show the depth of his strong emotions and Love of God and the Savior. I got so caught up in his adventures that it felt like he was talking to me directly. I was engrossed in the tales of his life and appalled at the atrocities committed against good people who only wanted to live a righteous life. It made me weep. Worth reading and rereading.

This is an exceptional history of the times of the restoration of the Lord's church upon the earth by an eye witness who is a true friend of God, and one endowed with a great gift of pen and speech. I highly recommend this work to anyone interested in LDS matters and truth in religion. Neil Reid Dallas Tx.

This book read just like the history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints. He lived through slot of the horrible stuff that happened but always remained valiant. I was a little disturbed that he didn't think his marriages or the births of his children worth mentioning but towards the end of his book he mentions them lovingly and he obviously cared for them and loved to be with them. He was a great and humble man.

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