



Authoring the Old Testament: Genesis- Deuteronomy (Contemporary Studies in Scripture)

David Bokovoy

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Book Description: For the last two centuries, biblical scholars have made discoveries and insights about the Old Testament that have greatly changed the way in which the authorship of these ancient scriptures have been understood. In the first of three volumes spanning the entire Hebrew Bible, David Bokovoy dives into the Pentateuch, showing how and why textual criticism has led biblical scholars today to understand the first five books of the Bible as an amalgamation of multiple texts into a single, though often complicated narrative; and he discusses what implications those have for Latter-day Saint understandings of the Bible and modern scripture. Praise for *Authoring the Old Testament*: "Authoring the Old Testament is a welcome introduction, from a faithful Latter-day Saint perspective, to the academic world of Higher Criticism of the Hebrew Bible. . . . [R]eaders will be positively served and firmly impressed by the many strengths of this book, coupled with Bokovoy's genuine dedication to learning by study and also by faith." - John W. Welch, editor, *BYU Studies Quarterly* "Bokovoy provides a lucid, insightful lens through which disciple-students can study intelligently LDS scripture. This is first rate scholarship made accessible to a broad audience-nourishing to the heart and mind alike." - Fiona Givens, co-author, *The God Who Weeps: How Mormonism Makes Sense of Life* "Authoring the Old Testament opens up a much-needed dialog on the historical-critical approach for Latter-day Saints. It demonstrates, in insightful and meaningful ways, how the historical-critical method can be faithfully applied to the Book of Mormon, the Book of Moses, and the Book of Abraham. In my view, this book is a must for those seeking to incorporate the best of biblical scholarship in their personal or professional scripture study." - Brian Hauglid, author, *A Textual History of the Book of Abraham: Manuscripts and Editions* "Bringing fresh insights to the Old Testament, a book like this for a Latter-day Saint audience is long overdue. Bokovoy skillfully weaves together biblical scholars with LDS leaders and texts to demonstrate the religious benefits of confronting post-Enlightenment readings of the Bible, clarifying long-standing questions. Charting a middle path between conservative inerrancy and secular dismissal of biblical texts, this book refreshingly expounds on the nature of ancient and modern scripture." - Taylor G. Petrey, Lucinda Hinsdale Stone Assistant Professor of Religion, Kalamazoo College "As clear an introduction to historical and source criticism as Friedman's *Who Wrote the Bible* and Baden's *The Composition of the Pentateuch*, Bokovoy's *Authoring the Old Testament: Genesis-Deuteronomy* provides an important resource in making many of the intricacies of higher criticism available to Latter-day Saint readers in an accessible fashion. Because Bokovoy has geared it to an LDS audience, he has also been able to make interesting suggestions for critically reading Restoration texts. Regardless of one's final position on the Documentary Hypothesis, this book should be basic reading for serious LDS students of the Bible." - Eric D. Huntsman, Coordinator of Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Brigham Young University

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