

he was “sent to Earth ... to save the world’s six billion people,” and that “Emperors, kings and presidents ... have declared to all Heaven and Earth that Reverend Sun Myung Moon is none other than humanity’s Savior, Messiah, Returning Lord and True Parent.”

Moon and his Unification Church have a long history of wooing and entertaining respected evangelical and political leaders in an effort to gain legitimacy for his message and ambitions.

—MKG

## BOOK OF MORMON GOES COMMERCIAL

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has found a new channel for its most conspicuous scripture to be made available: Doubleday Publishing. The New York-based publisher will release to bookstores on Nov. 16, a hardcover edition of *The Book of Mormon*. It will sell for \$24.95.

Doubleday and Mormon church officials have jointly worked on the project for more than a year. While the new edition is said to “reflect design changes introduced by Doubleday to make the volume more easily read and understood by a non-Mormon audience,” church leaders promise that the text will remain faithful to the editions published by the LDS church and used by its members. The style changes will eliminate exhaustive cross refer-

ences, footnotes, and the index. However, a seven-page “Reference Guide” will be added to acquaint the reader unfamiliar with the intent of the Mormon scripture.

According to Elder Henry B. Eyring, who serves on the church’s Scripture Committee and is a member of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, the Doubleday edition is not aimed at LDS church members. “However, many members may feel that this new edition would be an ideal gift for friends who are not members of the Church,” he said.

The volume will be the first official trade edition of the LDS scripture. Since first being published in 1830, more than 120 million copies of *The Book of Mormon* have been printed and distributed by the LDS church, with over five million copies in 2002 alone. The typical method of distribution has been through the church’s missionaries, members, and other distribution outlets such as visitors centers at its temples and historical sites. The Doubleday edition is hoped to increase distribution through avenues such as retail shops, airport bookstores, and Internet outlets.

According to an LDS church news release, Michelle Rapkin, Religion Division Vice President for Doubleday, said, “The Mormon faith has become one of the largest in America. We’re proud to be the first publisher to bring this vitally important work to bookstores across the country and to add it to our outstanding library of authorized religious texts.”

—MKG

### PERSONAL FREEDOM OUTREACH — STATEMENT OF BELIEF

- I. THE BIBLE AS THE DIVINELY INSPIRED, INERRANT WORD OF GOD: IT IS IN ITS ENTIRETY THE SOLE AUTHORITY FOR ALL MATTERS OF CHRISTIAN BELIEF AND PRACTICE.
- II. THE ONE TRUE GOD. IN THE ONE TRUE GOD THERE EXIST THREE PERSONS, BEING: THE FATHER, THE SON JESUS CHRIST, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- III. JESUS CHRIST: HIS DEITY, HUMANITY, VIRGIN BIRTH, SINLESSNESS, DEATH AND BODILY RESURRECTION; WHO WILL PERSONALLY AND VISIBLY RETURN AGAIN TO EARTH.
- IV. THE PERSONALITY AND DEITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- V. THE EXISTENCE AND PERSONALITY OF SATAN, HIS TOTAL OPPOSITION TO GOD, AND HIS POWER OVER THE UNREGENERATE.
- VI. THE COMPLETE AND TOTAL DEPRAVITY OF ALL MEN WHICH MAKES THEM HOPELESSLY LOST WITHOUT THE NEW BIRTH OBTAINABLE THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.
- VII. THE FINAL ESTATE OF MAN: FOR THE SAVED, EVERLASTING LIFE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND FOR THE UNSAVED, EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT BECAUSE OF THEIR UNBELIEF.
- VIII. THE GOSPEL BY WHICH WE ARE SAVED BEING SUMMED IN THE DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.
- IX. THE CHURCH BEING THE BODY OF CHRIST, UNITED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, CONSISTING OF THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOR. A LOCAL CHURCH IS AN ORGANIZED ASSEMBLY OF BELIEVERS UNITED FOR THE PURPOSE OF CARRYING OUT THE GREAT COMMISSION OF CHRIST.
- X. THE GREAT COMMISSION OF CHRIST BEING TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO ALL MEN, BAPTIZING AND DISCIPLING THOSE WHO HAVE BELIEVED.