

Dr. Milton V. Backman, Jr. is an emeritus professor of Church History and Doctrine from Brigham Young University. He grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah and Los Angeles, California and served at the end of World War II in the maritime service and during the Korean War in the Air Force. He received his B.S. and M.A. degrees in history from the University of Utah and his Ph.D. degree in 1959 from the University of Pennsylvania. He has published many books and articles on LDS Church history and Christianity in America. For thirty-one years he taught at Brigham Young University. After retiring in 1991, he served several missions in Nauvoo, helped organize the BYU Semester Program in that historic community and taught LDS Church history and early American history in that program for eight semesters.

Following the death of his first wife, Kathleen McLatchy, he married Sharon Richey. They are the parents of thirteen children and fifty-two grandchildren.

His love of Nauvoo and the early Saints who settled there is reflected in his latest publication *People and Power of Nauvoo*.