

Ex-Mormons for
JESUS

*Our faith will work by love,
or it will not work at all.*

INFORMATION & VISITORS CENTER
1107 E. Chapman Ave., #206
Orange, CA 92866

Phone: (714) 997-3498

Email: bill@exmormonsforjesus.org

Website: www.exmormonsforjesus.org

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FROM CHAR'S DESK



It never ceases to amaze me all that God is doing in the Mormon Church these days. So many of their eyes are being opened to the truth of His Word and it is wonderful! Just this past week, we have received calls from three different people sharing their experiences with us. One girl from Utah was asked to call us and we spent 3 hours on the phone as she explained how God opened her eyes to the truth through the internet. Her husband is still Mormon but I am sure he is seeing the difference in his wife since she came to know the Lord! We had a wonderful visit. Bless her heart!

Another girl is witnessing to two older Mormon Missionaries (husband and wife) that are on a mission for their church. She asked Rosa and I to come to see her so she could meet us before we go and witness to her friends. It was a 100 mile trip but it was worth it. She is going to come to the Center to see what we have and then we will meet with the missionaries. Please pray that God will prepare their hearts to receive the truth when we meet with them.

Another girl called to tell me about a mission to the cults in Korea. It is called "Fight Against Cults" and they were meeting at a large Korean Church on Brookhurst in Anaheim. She wants me to contact them and share the many letters we have received from ex-Mormons leaving the church. She said the cults are convincing the innocent that they are Christians, too. She feels these letters will be helpful in showing them what true Christianity is compared to when they were Mormons.

Thank the Lord that He loves those lost in the cults and

is exposing them to real Christianity and opening their eyes to the truth. Praise His Holy Name!

~ Jenell's Jots & Tittles ~

**THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF
B. H. ROBERTS**

(Excerpts From "The 5 Questions")

Brigham H. Roberts is revered in Mormon history as one of the Mormon Church's greatest theologians and historians. His six-volume "Comprehensive History of the Church" is still one of the most respected works of Mormon history. Roberts was a General Authority, member of the Mormon Council of the Seventy, a group which is second only to the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. In 1898 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives although he was never seated because he was a polygamist.

In 1921 an event occurred which forever changed Roberts' life. A young Mormon from Salina, Utah, William Riter, wrote to Apostle James E. Talmage with five questions challenging the Book of Mormon. Talmage was too busy to answer the questions, so he sent the letter on to Roberts. This was the beginning of an investigation which would trouble Roberts until his death in 1933. The study deeply challenged his faith in the Book of Mormon and ultimately changed his opinion of its divine origin. Roberts' personal struggle with his waning confidence is recorded in three documents he produced in the last years of his life. None of these works was published during his lifetime, but they are now available. A comprehensive study of these

documents were published in 1985 as “Studies of the Book of Mormon” by the University of Illinois. The five questions that could not be answered are as follows:

1. Linguistics: Riter asked, if the American Indians were all descendants of Lehi, why there was such diversity in the languages of the American Indians and why there was no indication of Hebrew in any of the Indian languages?

2. The Book of Mormon says that Lehi found horses when he arrived in America. The horse described in the Book of Mormon (as well as many other domestic animals) did not exist in the New World before the arrival of the Spanish Conquistadors.

3. Nephi is stated to have had a “bow of steel.” Jews did not know steel at that time. And there was no iron smelted on this continent until after the Spaniard conquest.

4. The Book of Mormon frequently mentions “swords and scimitars (scimitars)”. Scimitars are unknown until the rise of the Moslem faith (after 600 A.D.).

5. The Book of Mormon says the Nephites possessed silk. Silk did not exist in America in pre-Columbian times.

Of the five questions, Roberts was most concerned about the linguistic problem. However, he also discovered new problems, such as literary and geographic problems. Where, he asked, were the Mayan cliffs and high mountain peaks in the Book of Mormon? The geography of the Book of Mormon, Roberts said, looked suspiciously like the geography of the New England where Joseph Smith was raised!

Roberts eventually concluded that Joseph Smith wrote the Book of Mormon himself, that he did not translate it from gold plates. Smith produced it, Roberts said, by drawing upon his own natural talent and materials like Ethan Smith’s “View of the Hebrews” (published near Joseph’s home a few years before the translation of the Book of Mormon). One must empathize with Roberts as he came to realize he had spent a lifetime defending something which he now knew was a fraud. It is so sad that millions of Mormons base their faith in

Mormonism upon this book which is no more than the invention of Joseph Smith.

One of Mormonism’s famous apostles of past days said: *“If true, (the Book of Mormon) is one of the most important messages ever sent from God to man. If false, it is one of the most cunning, wicked, bold, deep-laid impositions ever palmed upon the world, calculated to deceive and ruin millions who sincerely receive it as the Word of God, and will suppose themselves built upon the rock of truth, until they are plunged, with their families, into hopeless despair.”* (“Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon”, p.1, Orson Pratt). I guess this says it all, Lord help them!

“THE GODS”

In the “Pearl Of Great Price”, Abraham chapters 4 and 5, “the Gods” are referred to about 40 times. Abraham 4:1 says: *“And then the Lord said: Let us go down. And they went down at the beginning, and they, **that is the Gods**, organized and formed the heavens and the earth.”* (My emphasis). Mormons try and tell us that this is not talking about polytheism (more than one God) but is merely referring to the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. However, an Ensign article (an official Mormon publication) makes it clear that multiple Gods **are** being taught in these chapters as follows:

*“In 1830, Joseph Smith had learned clearly that God the Father created ‘this heaven, and this earth’ through his Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. (See Moses 2:1; John 1:10-14.) But in 1835, the Prophet translated a record that revealed more concerning who created the earth and how it was done. He learned from the book of Abraham that Jesus Christ **acted in concert with other Gods** to create our world: ‘Then the Lord said: let us go down. And they went down at the beginning, and they, that is the Gods, organized and formed the heavens and the earth.’” (Abr. 4:1.)* (“The Ensign”, Jan.1989, pp 31-32, my emphasis).

Not only do Mormons believe in multiple Gods, but they believe that they themselves can become a God. Just one example of this is found in “Teaching of the Prophet” where Joseph Smith taught, *“...you have got to learn how to be Gods yourselves...the same as all Gods*

have done before you,...” (p.346).

This is not something that can be taken lightly for the Bible makes it clear that there is, and always has been, and always will be, only ONE God (Deut.6:4, 4:39; 1 Sam.2:2; 1 Kings 8:60; Isa.43:10, 44:6, 8, 45:5-6, 14b, 21b, 22; Mark 12:32, James 2:19. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (the Trinity) make up this one God and there is NO other. Many of Mormonism’s doctrines and theology separate it from Christianity, but their belief in polytheism makes the divide absolutely impossible to reconcile. It is our prayer that they will read the Bible and discover this for themselves.

THE MOON & SUN INHABITED

In the Mormon publication, “The Young Woman’s Journal”, O.B. Huntington gives this interesting information: *“As far back as 1837, I know that he [Joseph Smith] said the moon was inhabited by men and women the same as this earth, and that they lived to a greater age than we do – that they live generally to near the age of 1000 years. He described the men as averaging near six feet in height, and dressing uniformly in something near the Quaker style.”* (pp. 263-264).

Not to be out done, Brigham Young came up with this: *“...We are called ignorant; so we are: but what of it? Are not all ignorant? I rather think so. Who can tell us of the inhabitants of this little planet that shines of an evening, called the moon?...and when you inquire about the inhabitants of that sphere you find that the most learned are as ignorant in regard to them as the most ignorant of their fellows. So it is with regard to the inhabitants of the sun. Do you think it is inhabited? I rather think it is. Do you think there is any life there? No question of it; it was not made in vain...”* (Journal of Discourses, Vol.13, p. 271).

JOSEPH SMITH’S PERSONAL FINGER PRINT

Many people have a pet word or phrase that they use repeatedly. My grandson (and his mom) often use the

phrase “or what not” for et cetera. Our director said her husband, Bill, loved to use the word “essentially”. In her book, “Mormons, How God Loves Them”, our director, Charlotte Pardee, shared her discovery of Joseph Smith’s pet phrase “in other words” (pp 11-12).

While there is nothing wrong with repeatedly using a favorite phrase, it becomes very suspicious when we see Smith’s, “in other words” show up in all of their Standard Works (except the Bible). Some examples are as follows:

Book of Mormon: *“And it came to pass that while my father tarried in the wilderness he spake unto us, saying: Behold, I have dreamed a dream; **or, in other words**, I have see a vision.* (1 Nephi 8:2).

Doctrine and Covenants: *“...let them come not again upon the waters, save it be upon the canal, while journeying unto their homes; **or in other words** they shall not come upon the waters to journey, save upon the canal.”* (D&C 61:23).

Doctrine and Covenants: *“Let my servant Newel K. Whitney retain his store, **or in other words**, the store, yet for a little season.”* (D&C 63:42).

Doctrine and Covenants: *“Verily, I say unto my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., **or in other words**, I will call you friends, for you are my friends...”*

Pearl Of Great Price: *“Fig. 5 Is called in Egyptian Enish-go-on-dosh; this is one of the governing planets also, and is said by the Egyptians to be the Sun, and to borrow its light from Kolob through the medium of Kae-e-vanrash, which is the grand Key, **or, in other words**, the governing power, which governs fifteen other planets or stars...”* (No.2 Facsimile from the Book of Abraham).

Joseph Smith’s Inspired Revision of the Bible: *“And this Melchizedek, having thus established righteousness, was called the king of heaven by his people **or, in other words**, the King of peace.”* (Genesis 14:36, all above emphasis’ mine).

It doesn’t take much of a detective to deduce that Joseph Smith’s favorite phrase becomes a “personal

finger print” that identifies him as the author of Mormonism’s Standard Works, or at least had a hand in writing them. If someone wanted to take the time, I am sure many more “in other words” could be found in Mormon writings. Numbers 32:23 fits well here: “...you have sinned against the Lord, and be sure your sin will find you out.” (NAS).

MORMON CONVERSIONS

Many Mormons have come to know the Lord and have a personal relationship with Him through our ministry at Ex-Mormons For Jesus. The following is one example taken from Charlotte’s book, “Mormons, How God Loves Them” (pp.96-97):

“Garrick was a Mormon man that was engaged to a Christian girl, Joanne. He wanted to be married in the L.D.S. Temple so Joanne would have had to eventually become a Mormon. One day she was on her way to the Wedding chapel to plan their wedding when she saw our sign EX-MORMONS FOR JESUS as she was driving by. She came in and was there for about 3 hours as I shared with her many things about Mormonism. I finally asked her if she thought she could get her fiancé to come into the Center to talk with us. She told me he would never come in here!

However, I received a call from her a few weeks later and she told me that Garrick would come in to hear what we had to say as she promised him she would never argue religion with him again if he would. Although they loved each other very much, they were always arguing over religion so this sounded great to Garrick. He felt he finally found a way to get her off his back!

I made an appointment with them at 5:30 and just before they were to come, we got a call from Joanne. She said he would still come but would only stay 10 minutes and if we “Bible-bashed” him he would get up and walk right out. I told her we would not Bible-bash him so not to worry. Well, he was so upset, she had to drive him to the Center even though it was only 15 to 20 minutes away.

They came in, Joanne introduced us to each other and we went into the Library where we keep all of our LDS

books. We talked a while, getting to know each other, and then I lovingly shared many Mormon doctrines with Garrick right out of his Church’s own books. Many of these things are so unbelievable, if you didn’t see it with your own eyes, you wouldn’t believe it, for instance, the Adam-God doctrine. No matter how much the LDS authorities try to say that Brigham Young never taught that Adam, the first man, was Heavenly Father, they won’t be able to with us because we have the proof.

After I shared with him for about two and a half hours, he said, “I want you to know I came in here a Mormon but you’re starting to get to me”, and Joanne’s eyes filled with tears. At 11 o’clock that night, Garrick no longer believed in Mormonism. He told me that I proved to him beyond a shadow of doubt that the Mormon Church was not true, while just a short time earlier he said he was willing to die for it.

Garrick was aware that the Holy Spirit did a mighty miracle that night in his heart and now he was freed from Mormonism but he still needed to be born again. He and Joanne started attending a Bible-believing Church and about a year later, Garrick was wonderfully born again. They invited my husband and I to their baptismal service where they were baptized together! God is good!!!

SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

We hold monthly support group meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. This includes a guest speaker followed by a question and answer time and refreshments. All are welcome – those who have a burden to reach the Mormons, those who want to learn more, those who need support, and the Mormons themselves. The address is 671 N. Poplar St., Orange. We look forward to seeing you there.

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ALL GIFTS DONATED TO EMFJ ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED AS WELL AS YOUR PRAYERS FOR THIS MINISTRY



Thank You

