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NEWSLETTER ~ MARCH/APRIL 2012

OUR FAITH WILL WORK BY LOVE OR IT WILL NOT WORK AT ALL



### FROM CHAR'S DESK

A holy man in India, who was worshiped by his disciples, had a friend who stayed in his Ashram. One day his friend said, "He knows and I know he is a fraud, but I love him." I have heard a similar thing from some of those of the LDS faith. They admit that they don't believe in Mormonism, they know it is not true, but they love it. Even though Joseph Smith was a fraud, his charisma caused people to follow him, whether he was a true prophet or not. We must help the Mormon people see that Jesus is the only One we must follow. No man is worthy of being followed no matter how great he seems to be. Jesus said, "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." Let's go fishing for those who are caught in the false belief of a false prophet in a false church.

### ONLY ONE MEDIATOR

The Bible tells us: "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Tim.2:5). However, In the mystery religions, particularly Gnosticism, they had built up a hierarchy of angels and principal powers as intermediaries between God and man. Similarly, "we find some Roman Catholics who also believe there is a hierarchy between man and God: the priest, behind the priest the church, behind the church the Virgin Mary, behind the Virgin Mary Christ, behind Christ-God! ("In Christ" by E. Stanley Jones, p.74)

In the Mormon religion, they have done the same thing. Brigham Young said: "...no man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God without the consent of Joseph Smith....every man and woman must have the

*certificate of Joseph Smith, junior, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are-I with you and you with me. I cannot go there without his consent..."* (Journal of Discourses Vol.7 p.289).

We need to help the Mormon people see that they don't need a "certificate" or "passport" to get to God because He comes to us in Christ, our mediator. Jesus is the door (John 10:7-9) and we can go directly to the Father through Him. That my friends, is good news!

~ Jenell's Jots & Tittles ~

### OUTDATED & OBSCURE DOCTRINES?

Mormons often complain that critics bring up outdated and obscure doctrines of their church. Well I am sorry, but when you claim to have "the only true church", a "restoration", then we must look at those beliefs that the restorer (Joseph Smith and LDS Church leaders) espoused. If these things were true when they were first taught, they must, by sound logic, still be true today. And not only true, but shouldn't they be embraced? If not, label these men what they are, false  
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Thank You

prophets! Following is just a sampling of teachings the LDS Church wishes no one knew about:

**POLYTHEISM:** *“I will preach on the plurality of Gods. I have selected this text for that express purpose. I wish to declare I have always and in all congregations when I have preached on the subject of the Deity, it has been the plurality of Gods. It has been preached by the Elders for fifteen years.”* (Joseph Smith, “History of the Church”, Vol.6, p.474 – My note: While they still believe this, and that they also can become a God it is now made much more obscure)

**BLOOD ATONEMENT:** *“There are sins that men commit for which they cannot receive forgiveness in this world, or in that which is to come, and if they had their eyes open to see their true condition, they would be perfectly willing to have their blood split upon the ground...I know, when you hear my brethren telling about cutting people off from the earth, that you consider it is strong **doctrine**; but it is to save them, not to destroy them.”* (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol.4, p.53, my emphasis)

*“This is loving our neighbour as ourselves; if he needs help, help him; and if he wants salvation and it is necessary to spill his blood on the earth in order that he may be saved, spill it...”* (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol.4, p.220)

**NON-VIRGIN BIRTH:** *“When the time came that His first-born, the Saviour, should come into the world and take a tabernacle, the Father came Himself and favoured that spirit with a tabernacle instead of letting any other man do it...”* (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol.4, p.218).

*“God the Father is a perfected, glorified, holy Man, an immortal Personage. And Christ was born into the world as the **literal** Son of this holy Being; **he was born in the same personal, real, and literal sense that any mortal son is born to a mortal father. There is nothing figurative about his paternity; he was begotten, conceived and born in the normal and natural course of events, for he is the Son of God, and that designation means what it says.**”* (Bruce McConkie, “Mormon Doctrine”, p.742, 1979 edition, my emphasis)

If space permitted, we could share where Mormons believed blacks were inferior, where Brigham Young taught that Adam was God – their Heavenly Father, where polygamy is still ordered in their scripture and the belief that it will be practiced in the next life, etc.

Also, each of the above topics have many more references that show they were not just a passing thought but rather real doctrines and beliefs. Space does not permit more detail, however, we are happy to provide additional documentation for anyone who is interested.

While it is true that many of today’s Mormons are not knowledgeable when it comes to some of these doctrines, we believe it is in the best interest of the general public, as well as the Mormons themselves, to become informed. As the Lord told Israel – *“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou has rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me...”* (Hosea 4:6).

## **CITATIONS OF CONCERN (From LDS Leaders)**

*“From the passage in the forty-fifth Psalm, it will be seen that the great Messiah who was the founder of the Christian religion, was a polygamist...Abraham the Polygamist, being a friend of God, the Messiah chose to take upon himself his seed; and by marrying many honorable wives himself, show to all future generations that he approbated the plurality of Wives under the Christian dispensation, as well as under the dispensations in which His Polygamist ancestors lived.*

*We have now clearly shown that God the Father had a plurality of wives, one or more being in eternity, by whom He begat our spirits as well as the spirit of Jesus His First Born, and another being upon the earth by whom He begat the tabernacle of Jesus...We have also proved most clearly that the Son followed the example of his Father, and became the great Bridegroom to whom kings’ daughters and many honorable Wives were to be married...”* (“The Seer” by Orson Pratt, published by Seagull Book & Tape, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1993; Pratt was an LDS Apostle)

## “FEELINGS” CAN WE TRUST THEM?

Recently I was going through some old “Ensign” magazines (an official LDS publication) and noticed how often Mormons spoke of a “feeling”, or a “burning in their bosom” when seeking to know if the Book of Mormon, or Joseph Smith, or “the church” was true. The following sampling illustrates this point (all emphasis is mine):

*“I asked Heavenly Father if The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was His and if it was true...No sooner had I asked that than I was overcome with the **warmest feeling**, and I began to sob on my knees for at least half an hour...”* (Sept.1999, p.68)

*“...Again I prayed, asking if Joseph Smith was a prophet and if the Book of Mormon was true, and again He answered me. The **burning in my heart** continued to swell as I found answers...”* (July 2000, p.59)

*“A **warm, sweet feeling** came over me. The Holy Ghost testified to me that the Book of Mormon was true, and therefore I knew that Joseph Smith was a prophet of the Lord. I knew the Church was true...”* (Jan.2003, p.72)

*“...he gave me a copy of the Book of Mormon. He read me the promise in Moroni 10:35 and told me that if I prayed, I would **feel a burning in my heart** that would confirm to me that the Book of Mormon was true...Suddenly I had an overwhelming feeling of joy. I had never felt anything like it before. It was the burning my friend had said I would feel, and it came as a confirmation of the decision [to join Mormonism] I had made.”* (April 2007, pp 68-69)

*“For Gary, the solution is simple: ‘I was challenged by the missionaries to pray about the Book of Mormon, the Restoration, and Joseph Smith to know if they are true. One night I was praying on my knees. I felt the Spirit. **It was a feeling** I had never experienced before...’”* (April 2011, p.35)

Feelings can be a powerful thing. We at Ex-Mormons

For Jesus have heard of many Mormons who say they know Mormonism is false, but because of testimonies like the above, they simply *can not* leave. So where can these feelings come from? There are several possibilities, one being Satan. The Bible tells us “*Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power **and signs and lying wonders***”(2 Thess.2:9). Another can be from deceitful spirits – “*Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to **seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.***” (1 Tim.4:1).

We are to **test** things like the Book of Mormon, not pray about it and of course the yardstick for this testing is the Bible. Acts 17:11 gives us an example of this – “*These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, **and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.***” In closing, I will share a poem from Charlotte’s book, “Mormons How God Loves them”, that puts an interesting spin on this subject.

*“Three men were sitting on a wall,  
Feeling, Faith and Fact,  
When Feeling took an awful fall  
and Faith was taken back.  
So close was Faith to Feeling,  
that he stumbled and fell, too,  
But Fact remained and pulled Faith back  
and Faith brought Feeling, too.”*

## CORRESPONDENCE

From the UK: “*I have recently come to realise (sic) that the book of Mormon is false doctrine, as an active member of the LDS church I’m looking for support and ideas of how to distance myself from that organization. I know how persistent they can be, as I’ve only been a member for just over a year. I feel foolish, but looking back my grandmother had passed away only days before the missionaries came calling, I feel they preyed upon my grief. I look forward to your reply, thanks.*”  
L.C.

Dear L.C. Thank you for your E-Mail. We understand your dilemma as it is very hard to distance yourself from the Mormon Church. As a Christian, if you wish

to leave your denomination, you are free to do so but it is not the same with cults. I suggest you witness to them the true doctrines of Christianity from the Bible and I think they will not be as willing to pursue you.

We also know that the Mormon Church preys on those who are needy...They fail to tell you the unbiblical doctrines they embrace so it is easy to fall for their "conditional" love. Mormons need to be born again by the Spirit of the living God where they can experience God's unconditional love. We have some free DVD's that we think would be helpful for you...let us know. Thank you and God bless you, Charlotte Pardee, Director, EMFJ

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From J & P: *"My sister has been a Mormon for 56 years and I have been a Protestant for 25 years. We are very close and I have always known that there are major differences in are (sic) beliefs. We get along great and now the subject of her Jesus Christ or my Jesus Christ. I believe there is a huge difference but she doesn't seem to see it. I don't want to offend her and risk never talking to her again. I don't know how to respond."*

Hi J. We received your e-mail and we understand how difficult it is to talk to a Mormon without offending them. God told us how to do it in His Word - speaking the truth in love (Eph.4:15). Why not lovingly share with your sister things out of LDS books - these should not offend her. We could send you

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documentation from their own books regarding what their prophets have said about Jesus, God, etc. Many Mormons do not even know many of these things. If you feel comfortable doing this with your sister, please send us your mailing address... Never give up until your sister knows Jesus. Love in Him, Charlotte Pardee, Director, EMFJ

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

First Fundamentalist Church, Whittier (every Tues. 7:00 p.m., February 7<sup>th</sup> thru April 10<sup>th</sup>)

Christian Business Men's Association (June 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:45 - 1:00, Sizzler Restaurant, Downey)

Please call our Center for further information on the above or if your church or group would also like Ex-Mormons For Jesus to come and share with them.

## **SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS**

We hold monthly support group meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. These gatherings include a mini-lesson, testimony of an ex-Mormon, 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 240 W. Chapman Avenue in Orange and we look forward to seeing you there.

