



1107 E. CHAPMAN AVE
P.O. BOX 489
ORANGE, CA 92856
(714) 997-3498

FAX (714) 997-3499

E-MAIL bill@exmormonsforjesus.org

WEB www.exmormonsforjesus.org

NEWSLETTER ~ MARCH/APRIL 2013

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



FROM CHAR'S DESK

Can a Christian add anything to Christ in order to be saved or is being in Christ enough? I believe if we add anything to Christ, we lose what it means to be "in Christ." Mormonism adds so much to Christ that they lose the meaning of the gospel (good news). I read in the book "Mormon Doctrine", by Bruce R. McConkie, what the Mormon gospel is and it saddened my heart.

According to Mormonism, the gospel "embraces all the laws, principles, doctrines, rites, ordinances, acts, powers, authorities and keys necessary to save and exalt men in the highest heaven hereafter." (p.331). Talk about adding to Christ! The Bible says that Jesus died, was buried and rose again (1 Cor.15:1-4). That, my friend, is the Christian gospel and when we accept what He did for us and He comes in and transforms us, believe me, that is good news!

~ Jenell's Jots & Tittles ~

"STAND BY JOSEPH"?

In our last newsletter (Jan/Feb 2013) we shared an article entitled "Misplaced Reverence For Joseph Smith". In it, we documented many references that show Mormons do, indeed, give misplaced and unbiblical reverence for Joseph. Now, in a recent LDS magazine article, it seems as if they have gone one step further by telling their people that it is actually *dangerous* if they should fail to stand by their prophet. Excerpts from this article, "Stand By My Servant Joseph" is as follows:

"The Lord said to Oliver Cowdery, 'Therefore be diligent; stand by my servant Joseph, faithfully, in whatsoever difficult circumstances he may be for the word's sake' (D&C 6:18). What did the phrase 'stand by my servant Joseph' mean to Oliver, and what should it mean to us?..."

*"Testimony: A subset of those who recognize, appreciate, and admire Joseph are those who have a testimony of the truthfulness of his mission, teachings, and accounts of encounters with heavenly beings. They have **no reservations about him or the doctrines he revealed**, but they may not have fully internalized what this should mean to them.*

"Loyalty: To those who have a testimony of the Prophet Joseph Smith and his unique and special mission, I frame this question: What does it mean to 'stand by my servant Joseph'? It means more than just recognition, appreciation, admiration, and testimony...John Taylor, who would follow Brigham Young as Joseph's successor, was stalwart from the time of his baptism in 1836. During the dark days in Kirtland, he attended a meeting where Joseph Smith, not in attendance, was severely criticized by apostates

(Continued on page 2)

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



Thank You

who once had been Joseph's friends and associates. Elder Taylor courageously offered this defense:

"...The children of Israel, formerly, after seeing the power of God manifested in their midst, fell into rebellion and idolatry, and there is certainly very great danger of us doing the same thing.' John Taylor saw what had happened to his colleagues and recognized the attendant **spiritual risks** they faced. **I submit that the danger to us as well is both great and real should we also fail to stand by Joseph...**" (February 2013 Ensign, pp 34-38, my emphasis).

Wow, that last sentence must strike fear in any Mormon's heart! No wonder they are held in such deep bondage by the enemy of their souls – they are continually barraged by threats if they don't fully submit to their leaders. This is a good example of a mind control tactic that cults like to use. An excellent piece of wisdom is shared on the back page of our tract, "Mind Control". It says that "the *only tool* one can use to grasp reality and test truth is A FREE MIND". Sadly, Mormons are led to fear the usage of this tool. For anyone interested, please contact us for the tract "Mind Control" that goes into more detail on this issue (a donation to cover postage would be appreciated). Thank you.

CUNNING CRAFTINESS

I am sure most Mormons would disagree with the above article. However, Ephesians 4:14 and 6:11-12 warns of the "cunning craftiness" that can come from man as well as the devil. The nature of the enemy works in such a subtle way that Mormons do not even realize that they are constantly being bombarded with the message, "follow your leaders or else"! I say bombarded because this is what they are spoon fed through every means possible (church magazines, hymns, the pulpit, T.V., radio, scriptures, testimonies, etc.). Mormons are taught to believe that obeying their leaders is the same as obeying Jesus. The following LDS Church hymn is a prime example:

*"We listen to a prophet's voice and hear
the Savior too.
With love he bids us do the work the*

*Lord would have us do.
The Savior calls his chosen seer to preach
the word of God,
That men might learn to find the path
marked by the iron rod...
The prophet has confirmed that by Him
we are known.
Attend, ye earth! The prophet speaks;
come listen and obey.
He is the man who holds the keys of
priesthood pow'r today."*
(Hymns, 1985, no.22 - reprinted in "The Ensign/May 1995)

Another example comes from a well known LDS scripture: "*What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken, and I excuse not myself...whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same.*" (D&C 1:38). Many a Christian has pondered the question, how can something so obviously wrong deceive so many intelligent and well-meaning people? Well brainwashing is a powerful tool, especially when someone *wants* a certain thing to be true and submits to it by blind faith.

Speaking of blind faith, following is an "Ensign" article that shows the extent a Mormon will go to in order to be obedient. The article is regarding a couple who found "Blessings from obedience". It is quite long but in one paragraph, "Shelley" states:

*"In the years since, we have been blessed in many other ways by heeding the prophetic word. We have learned **not to question** the validity of what the prophets and apostles teach **or to wonder if it makes sense**. We have learned that by acting—and acting immediately—on their counsel, our lives are blessed. Some might call our actions **blind obedience** [my note: yes we do]. But we have the Lord's personal promise that the prophets will never lead us astray. Knowing this helps us hear their voices as we would hear His own (see D&C 1:38)." (The Ensign, March 2012, pp 21-22, my emphasis).*

We (and others) toil in the counter-cult ministries in the hopes that blinders will come off and these dear people will come to know the truth. However, in the end, only Jesus can truly deliver them as He has done for so many of us. To Him be the glory!!!

CITATION OF CONCERN (From LDS Leaders)

“If Abraham reasoned thus—If Jesus Christ was the Son of God, and John discovered that God the Father of Jesus Christ had a Father, you may suppose that He had a Father also. Where was there ever a son without a father? And where was there ever a father without being a son?...Hence if Jesus had a Father, can we not believe that He had a Father also? I despise the idea of being scared to death at such a doctrine, for the Bible is full of it.

“I want you to pay particular attention to what I am saying. Jesus said that the Father wrought precisely in the same way as His Father had done before Him. As the Father had done before? He laid down His life, and took it up the same as His Father had done before...I know it is good reasoning.” (“Teaching Of The Prophet Joseph Smith”, p.373).

What hog wash (as my grandpa would say)! And this is supposed to be from a man who had personally met with God? No, the Bible is not full of such a ridiculous belief; but what the Bible is full of is scriptures that tell us that only one True God has always existed, independent of anything or anyone else (e.g. Ps.90:2; Isa.40:12-25, 43:10, 44:6,8, 45:5-6, 46:9, James 219, etc.).

CIRCULAR REASONING

We have an excellent booklet at our Center entitled “The Book of Mormon, A Book of Error and Fraud” by Jon Gary Williams. In it, Mr. Williams covers such things as “misspelled words”, “errors in grammar”, “redundant phrases and words”, “fabricated words”, “absurdities” and much more. It is in my opinion that no one could read this little booklet and come away believing the Book of Mormon to be true or inspired by God. Following is a sample entitled, “CIRCULAR REASONING AND FAITH IN THE BOOK OF MORMON”:

*“The Book of Mormon closes with an appeal to pray to God asking him to **reveal** that the book is true.*

*An assurance is then given that if one is “sincere” God will “manifest” that it is **true**. (See Moroni 10:4) However, this is **circular** reasoning. First, after **assuming** (expecting) the Book of Mormon to be **true**, one is to then ask God to **reveal** that it is **true**. So to **establish** the proof of this book, one must first **accept** it to be true! Such logic is completely **worthless** but is typical of the **subjective** nature of Mormon religion.*

*In contrast, the Bible is an **objective revelation** and needs **no subjective confirmation**. It is not necessary to ask God to **reveal** its authenticity through a separate source, for it stands on its **own merits**. However, the Book of Mormon cannot so stand and this deceptive effort to **create faith** in the book exposes its author as a perpetrator of a **hoax**.” (p. 35)*

The fraudulent nature of Mormonism can easily be detected with just a little common sense and study. Second Timothy 2:15 says - “*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*” If any of you have an interest in witnessing to Mormons, we have a large supply of materials (DVD’s, CD’s, books, tracts, etc.) for you to utilize. For more information, just contact us and request our “Resource Catalogue”. It greatly encourages us to hear from you, so please drop us a line even if you are not in need of materials, thanks!

THE BOOK OF MORMON (Anti-Mormon Literature?)

Mormons are encouraged to put their testimony of Mormonism in a Book Of Mormon and give it as a gift to a prospective convert. If this has ever happened to you, and you turned it down, we suggest a different approach. We have always said that the BOM is the best **anti-Mormon** book that exists, so why not use it in a way that might help a Mormon see the problems contained therein? Whether you obtain this book from a Mormon or some other source doesn’t matter. You can highlight a few things, put YOUR testimony of being born again in it, and show why it is not true and then return it or mail it to a Mormon. For those of you who wouldn’t know what passages to highlight, here are a few suggestions:

Helaman 12:25-26 (6 B.C.): Ask what Helaman was reading? Verse 25 says “we read” and then, almost word for word, verse 26 quotes John 5:29 at least 90 years before it was written.

1 Nephi 22:20: Here Peter’s *paraphrase* (Acts 3:22-23) of Moses’ words (Deut.18:15, 18f) is mistakenly referred to as Moses’ own words. Thus, Peter is accidentally quoted hundreds of years before the book of Acts was written or Peter had ever spoken those words.

It speaks of discoveries before they were made: Compass (Alma 37:38), cement (Helaman 3:7,9), candles (3 Nephi 8:21), etc.

2 Nephi 5:15-16: verse 15 contradicts verse 16 regarding the presence of minerals.

There are numerous other problems in the the BOM, but the most damaging of all is in the fact that **NO** Mormon doctrine is found in this, their most sacred book (even though the “Introduction” of the BOM says it “contains the fulness of the everlasting gospel”). Some examples are: no mention of “baptism for the dead”, “temple marriages”, “pre-existence”, “three distinct levels for Heaven”, “Heavenly Father has a body of flesh and bones”, a plurality of gods”, etc. Of course, when sharing these things with a Mormon, it needs to be done in a spirit of love and with the view of winning them to a saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Ex-MORMONS FOR JESUS
P.O. BOX 489
ORANGE, CA. 92856

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

FROM THE WEB

“My sister has a friend who grew up in Mormonism and was recently married in the Lutheran church. The woman appears to have spirit guides and says they have been with her as long as she can remember as well as seeing apparitions. She is trying to pull my sis into seeking out the spirits that are manifesting as harmless folks. So I am wondering if there is anything that I might be able to send or encourage her to read.”

Our reply: We suggest that you order Carma Naylor’s book, “A MORMON’S UNEXPECTED JOURNEY” to give to your sister. Carma is an ex-Mormon, went on a LDS mission, married in the Salt Lake Temple, had nine children and ended up becoming a wonderful Christian. She talks about such things in her book. This is common in many Mormons and it is not of God...

SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

We hold monthly support group meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. This month Joe Ferraiz, an ex-Mormon, will be speaking on what Mormons believe regarding the law and reconciliation compared to the Biblical view on this topic. At the end, there will be a question and answer time, followed by 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-A W. Chapman Ave. In Orange and we look forward to seeing you there.

<p>NON PROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID ORANGE, CA. PERMIT NO 186</p>
