



NEWSLETTER ~ MAY/JUNE 2011

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



FROM CHAR'S DESK

~ Jenell's Jots & Tittles ~

JOSEPH SMITH'S "MISSION" FORETOLD IN GENESIS???

How often have we heard Christians say, "I don't talk about my religion, I live it"; or, "religion is personal, between God and me"; or, "I worship God in my heart." This past week we received an e-mail from a former Mormon Missionary from Africa and he entitled it, "Don't Keep Quiet!" Through the inspiration of the scriptures, he said it made him go to hamlets, villages, cities and so forth, to preach the gospel and it is still his motivation today.

As many of you know, Joseph Smith "revised" the King James Version of the Bible, now called JOSEPH SMITH'S "NEW TRANSLATION" OF THE BIBLE (the JST for future reference). For any man to even have the nerve to touch God's holy word seems incredible, but then to see him include a prophesy about himself is beyond belief!

He shared: "I've got to tell the untold about Jesus and the extraordinary life that He has made available to us. The supernatural life that He brought didn't end with His death, burial, resurrection and ascension to heaven. He's alive today, and reigns and rules in the affairs of men. You've got to tell it around the world. Wake up everyday with the fire of God burning in your bones to tell the whole world that Jesus is alive and He wants all men saved, well and sound! Let this be a burden in your heart."

The reference is found in Genesis 50:24-28, 31-32 of the JST. It basically speaks of "a choice seer" coming from the fruit of Joseph's (the son of Jacob) loins. And then verse 33 says, "And that seer will I bless, and they that seek to destroy him shall be confounded; for this promise I give unto you; for I will remember you from generation to generation; and his name shall be called Joseph, and it shall be after the name of his father..." (my emphasis). Of course Joseph Smith's father was named Joseph Smith Sr., but often Mormons will try and deny that this is speaking of their (Continued on page 2)

I feel if an ex-Mormon Missionary, that has only been a Christian for 3 years, has this kind of zeal, how much more Christians who have never been in a cult should have it. We should share our faith with everyone we meet, especially those in Mormonism that have never heard the true gospel Of JESUS CHRIST. Please - Don't Keep Quiet!

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

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Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.



prophet. While it seems pretty obvious to non-Mormons as to who this Joseph (who would be named after his father) is, we have had Mormons try and wiggle out of this embarrassing scripture by saying, “well it doesn’t actually say Joseph SMITH”. While that is true, we can show them where one of their past prophets confirmed it as follows:

“Joseph, son of Jacob, prophesied of the future mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith twenty-four hundred years before this latter-day prophet was born...”, and then gives the above JST verses as reference. (“Religious Truths Defined” by Joseph Fielding Smith, p.256-257).

Matthew 7:15-16 tells us that we will recognize a false prophet by their fruits. Well this “fruit” of Joseph Smith’s not only shows him as a false prophet, but sheds a ton of light on the nature of his true character. What a sad spoilage of human souls his deceptive ways have left behind.

## AN IDENTIFYING MARK OF A CULT

One of the marks of a cult is that they try to deify man while humanizing God and the following quote is a prime example of why Mormonism fits into that category:

“*In Mormonism man is the center. Everything converges in him...Also man is, literally and not figuratively, the child of God, and as such inherits the nature and potentialities of his Parents of the spirit. God, therefore, is watchfully anxious for the welfare of his child—more so than any earthly parent could be. In a sense God exists for the glory of man, not man for the glory of God, as in the age-old Christian dogma.*” (“JOSEPH SMITH An American Prophet”, p.226, my emphasis)

A person who has truly met the Holy, True and Living God, shudders at such a blasphemous statement! A good reference regarding God’s relationship with man is seen in Isaiah chapter 40:12-31. Verse 25 of that chapter says: “*To whom then will you liken Me that*

*I should be his equal? Says the Holy One*” (NAS). Of course the question is rhetorical for all real born-again Christians know that the obvious answer is NO ONE!

## CITATIONS OF CONCERN (From LDS Leaders)

“*In the words of Dr. John A. Widtsoe, ‘God and man are of the same race, differing only in their degrees of advancement.’*” (“The Gospel Through The Ages” by Milton R. Hunter Of The First Council Of The Seventy, p.107, my emphasis).

## THE GOSPEL – WHAT IS IT?

To Mormons, “the gospel” is simply a generic word for Mormonism’s doctrines and system. The following is how one of their late apostles put it:

“*The gospel of Jesus Christ is the plan of salvation. It embraces all of the laws, principles, doctrine, rites, ordinances, acts, powers, authorities, and keys necessary to save and exalt men in the highest heaven hereafter...the gospel is concerned with those particular religious truths by conformity to which men can sanctify and cleanse their own souls, thus gaining for themselves salvation in the eternal worlds...The true gospel of Jesus Christ was restored to earth in the last days through the instrumentality of Joseph Smith. It is found only in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.*” (“Mormon Doctrine”, Second edition, By Bruce R. McConkie, pgs.331-334, my emphasis).

How sad and far different this is from the real gospel that the Apostle Paul preached: “*Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.*” (1Cor.15:1-4)

The word “gospel” comes from the Greek word “euaggelizo” and simply means “to announce good news (evangelize)”. (“Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance Of The Bible”). The LDS’s “Third Article of Faith” says: “*We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.*”(my emphasis). However, we can see that the gospel preached by the Apostle Paul didn’t have a single law or ordinance in it anywhere! He further gave a strong warning to those who would attempt to distort it:

*“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. (Gal.1:6-8)*

When you add “laws” and “ordinances” to the gospel (good news), you’ve just turned it into bad news because no one ever got saved through keeping laws as scripture makes clear: “*Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*” (Rom.3:20; also see vs.27-28, Rom.6:14; Gal.2:16, 2:21, 5:4; Eph.2:8-9; Phil.3:9; Titus 3:5, etc.). Don’t ever make the mistake of thinking your Mormon friends have heard the real gospel. We hope you will take every opportunity to share it with them.

**F.Y.I.**

Mormonism’s First Presidency has given the following report for their church as of December 31, 2010:

Total Church Membership.....	14,131,467
New Children of Record.....	120,528
Converts Baptized in 2010.....	272,814
Full-Time Missionaries.....	52,225
Temples in Operation.....	134

(May 2011 “Ensign”, p.29)

It is interesting to note that “new converts” are down from last year, which were reported as 280,106. It

would also be of interest to know how many have left Mormonism but, to my knowledge, that number is never reported.

**OPEN HOUSE**

We are planning the Open House for our new Ex-Mormons for Jesus Information & Visitors Center on Saturday, July 9, 2011 from 12:00 noon until 4:00 P.M. Our guest speaker will be Cary Trivanovich, an ex-Mormon who wrote the book “Sharing Christ with your Mormon Friends” and also the wonderful little booklet “Sharing the Truth in Love.” We will also be celebrating our **23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary** (thank you Lord), so be sure to mark your calendars as we wouldn’t want you to miss this special time of gathering. Refreshments will be served. Our new address is 1107 E. Chapman Ave., #206, in the City of Orange.

**“OPPOSITES”**

In her book, “Mormons How God Loves Them”, our director, Charlotte Pardee, shows some Mormon beliefs and doctrines that are in direct opposition to the Bible. I will share a few from her book as follows (Bible references are taken from NASB):

**BIBLE - God becomes man:** “*In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us...*” (John 1:1 & 14, also see 1 Cor.15:47; John 3:31)

**MORMONISM - Man becomes God:** “*...it is necessary we should understand the character and being of God and how he came to be so; for I am going to tell you how God came to be God...he was once a man like us; yea, that God himself, the Father of us all, dwelt on an earth...*” (“Teachings of the Prophet Smith Joseph Smith”, p.345-346)

**BIBLE - Few saved, many lost:** “*Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it. For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.*” (Matt.7:13-14)

MORMONISM - Many saved, few lost: “*All sins shall be forgiven, except the sin against the Holy Ghost; for Jesus will save all except the sons of perdition.*” (“Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith”, p.358)

BIBLE - Hell is everlasting: “*And if your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life crippled, than having your two hands, to go into hell, into the unquenchable fire, where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.*” (Mark 9:43-44, also see 2 Thess.1:9; Rev.20:10-15)

MORMONISM - Hell has an end: “*Hell will have an end. Viewing future events, John saw that ‘death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.’ (Rev.20:13)...*” (“Mormon Doctrine” by Bruce R. McConkie, p.349)

Sources (Mormon as well as Bible) are not exhaustive

## CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE

*“I have been in a relationship with a Mormon woman for 2 years. I thought I could show her the truth but I failed because I have not been living right with the Lord. I love her truly [sic] and now she is on her way back to Utah to attend BYU for her second year. Pray that God speaks to her and He gives me the strength and wisdom to bring her to the truth. We both love each other and she wants to marry me but you know about the temple and being sealed for eternity. She is*

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

*torn inside between me and the church...Please pray for both of us...”*

Hi \_\_\_\_\_, we received your e-mail and understand your dilemma. However, we are very proud of you for realizing that to marry your girlfriend would mean you would have to convert to Mormonism in order to be able to eventually be married in an LDS temple. Because Mormons are taught to live a moral life, we, as Christians, agree with them in their way of life but their doctrines are far from being Christian. We will pray that you will be able to show \_\_\_\_\_ the truth, in love.

Would she ever be willing to talk with me? I have led many Mormons out of Mormonism by using LDS books. I have found that many Mormons do not really know the history of their religion...I do this with gentleness and love. We have you on our prayer list...The Lord bless you, Charlotte, Director of EMFJ

## 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 226 W. Chapman Avenue in Orange and we look forward to seeing you there.

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