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

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## FROM CHAR'S DESK

It never ceases to amaze me how little Mormons know about their faith and its' teachings. On our EMFJ facebook page, we are so often criticized for spreading lies about Mormonism when, in fact, we are only quoting what we have read from their *own* apostles and prophets.

I wish Mormons weren't afraid to come into the Ex-Mormons for Jesus Information & Visitors Center and find out the truth for themselves. We have a large library of LDS books plus many notebooks filled with quotes from their own church magazines, the "Church News" and the "Ensign". Certainly the Church wouldn't publish lies about their own faith.

I remember holding a Mormon woman in my arms while tears streamed down her face and onto my blouse when she found out we were not tearing down her faith but showing her, in love, the truth about it. And another Mormon woman took the copies I had given her out of Mormon books down to the Deseret Book Store and stood there sobbing because everything I had shared with her was true and she said it felt like her whole world was falling apart.

We know how hard it is to find out the truth but as Paul said in the Bible, "Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?" (Gal.4:16)

### Jenell's Jots & Tittles

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF OUR LIFE ON EARTH?

The title of a January '08 "Ensign" article once again reveals the man-centered, non-Biblical, nature of Mormonism. The article is entitled, "*Jesus Christ Taught the Purpose of Our Life on Earth*". For women, according to this article, their purpose is to prepare for the eternal mission of motherhood, as follows:

*"Female roles did not begin on earth, and they do not end here. A woman who treasures motherhood on earth will treasure motherhood in the world to come, and where [her] treasure is, there will [her] heart be also' (Matthew 6:21). By developing a mother heart, each girl and woman prepares for her divine, eternal mission of motherhood..."* (p.69, my emphasis)

While the title states - "Jesus Christ Taught...", we are given no references for Jesus teaching any such thing. However, one of His most important teachings is found in Matthew 22:37 "*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.*". This is the true purpose for our life on this earth!

"Families are forever" is a very important slogan for Mormons, but once again it is not Biblical, and outside of Mormonism, we find no references for such a belief. Christians know that God created us for fellowship with Him, to be redeemed and become His possession (Titus 2:14). Again, our role in this life is to worship, glorify and enjoy Him now and then throughout eternity.

## CITATIONS OF CONCERN (From LDS Leaders)

*“Obligation of Men to Marry. Any young man who carelessly neglects this great commandment to marry, or who does not marry because of a selfish desire to avoid the responsibilities which married life will bring, is taking a course which is displeasing in the sight of God. Exaltation [becoming a God] means responsibility. There can be no exaltation without it.”* (Joseph Fielding Smith, “Doctrines of Salvation”, Vol.2, p.74, my emphasis).

This is quite the opposite from the Apostle Paul’s thoughts on marriage (see 1Cor.7:6-9, 11, 38-40). And even more importantly, we can read where Jesus said there would be no marriage in the next life (Matt.22:24-30 & Luke 20:28-26).

## WHAT IS “THE GOSPEL”?

According to Mormonism, “the gospel” is as follows:

*“Gospel means ‘good news’ – the good news that Jesus Christ has made it possible for us to **return to the presence of our Heavenly Father**. Through his perfect, sinless life and his suffering in Gethsemane and on the cross, Jesus Christ atoned for **the original transgression of Adam and Eve** and made it possible for us to be redeemed from spiritual death, which is the consequence of sin. Also through his atonement, including his crucifixion and resurrection, **he has saved us from the permanent effects of physical death**.*

*“In addition to these aspects of the Atonement, which apply to all mankind, the ‘good news’ also includes **things that we must do** in order to reenter God’s presence...”* (The September 1985 “Ensign”, p.17, all emphasis mine)

So, according to Mormonism, the gospel has enabled us to (1) return to Heavenly Father (pre-existence), (2) paid for Adam and Eve’s sin, (3) purchased our resurrection from the grave, and (4) gives us things we

must do. Now lets compare the biblical account of what the gospel *really* is:

*“Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel, which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, **by which also you are saved**...For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that **Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.**”* When one believes and receives (by faith, Eph.2:8-9) what Jesus did for them on the cross, it truly becomes good news!

## 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 prophets! Following is just a sampling of teachings the LDS Church wishes no one would talk 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 this is still a Mormon belief, it is now made more obscure than what Joseph Smith originally taught).

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 spilt 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, my emphasis).

*“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 which were taught for many years. Space does not permit more detail, however, we are happy to provide additional documentation for anyone who is interested.

While it is true that some 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).

## MIND CONTROL THRU SCARE TACTICS

An “Ensign” magazine article that cautioned Latter-day Saints not to look at the Internet, follows:

*“So much information of man is now at our fingertips. But the Internet is also full of much that is filthy and misleading...In particular, I caution you not to view filthy images or give your attention to the false accusers of Christ and the Prophet Joseph Smith. Both actions create the same effect: **the loss of the Holy Ghost and His protecting, sustaining power. Vice and unhappiness always follow.”*** (The November 2013 “Ensign”, p.102, my emphasis)

While it is good advice not to view “filthy images” or give attention to “false accusers of Christ”, telling members that giving attention to false accusers of the Prophet Joseph Smith is quite another thing. By telling them that they will lose the Holy Ghost and His protecting, sustaining power is nothing more than a fear tactic for the purpose of mind control.

Have you ever wondered why, when you ask a Mormon to look at a certain teaching or doctrine in their church that they refuse to look? Even when what you are trying to show them comes from their **own** publications? Warnings from their leaders, like the one above, give us the answer! Their protective mechanism against the perceived enemy of doubt, is to erect all sorts of mental barricades. Any data that would normally penetrate this barricade is refused.

Attacking independent thought is a basic principle that all the cults use. Mormons are often caught up in having to accept beliefs and teachings that are inconsistent, illogical, and doctrinally absurd (even to them). However, they are taught that if they have faith in “the Church”, they are serving and pleasing God, and the two become inseparable (the Church *is* God). Out of fear, blind obedience and trust, they then relinquish their objective thought processes, allowing the system to be the final authority.

Dear Friends of Ex-Mormon For Jesus:

This ministry has been serving the body of Christ for over 28 years. Other than a simple “*all gifts donated to EMFJ are greatly appreciated*” in our bi-monthly newsletters, we have seldom mentioned our need for monetary support. However, the expenses of keeping our ministry running (rent, insurance, postage, printing of newsletters, telephone, etc.) is becoming an ever increasing burden and so we are taking this opportunity to let our needs be known to those of you who may be able to help.

In addition to “keeping our heads above water”, there is so much more we could do if we had the resources. Since we were forced to move 4 ½ years ago, we do not get the foot traffic we used to due to our almost hidden location. As most of you know, our mission is

two-fold. The first is to win as many Mormons to the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the second is to warn and teach the Body of Christ how to defend against false prophets and wolves in sheep’s clothing (Matt.7:15). We would love to be able to advertise in newspapers, on radio, and maybe even have a booth at street fairs and other places so people will know we are here and available.

Regular monthly pledges are so helpful so we can plan ahead, however, any and all gifts to EMFJ would be greatly appreciated! Please ask the Lord if He would have you donate at this time and as always, your prayers for this ministry are also greatly appreciated and needed. If you feel led, please fill out the slip below and return it to us in the enclosed envelope. Thank you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Single Gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly Gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give...” (2 Corinthians 9:7)