



NEWSLETTER ~ SEPT./OCT. 2013

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



FROM CHAR'S DESK

Our September Support Group Meeting had the privilege of hosting the "Adam's Road Band". We met at Plaza Bible Church and were pleased to have many guests attend, some as far away as San Diego. What a joy to hear these ex-Mormon young men, three of whom were former Mormon missionaries, share their wonderful testimonies of how they came to know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

Their music was a special blessing as they wrote all the songs which were strictly from the Bible and sung so beautifully. Lynn Wilder, a former BYU professor and mother of two of the boys, also shared how God brought she and her husband out of Mormonism.

Lynn has written a book about their astounding experiences entitled "Unveiling Grace". The first printing was sold out in two days and the second printing in three. In it she shares how God was working in their lives even before they came to know Him. We have her book at our Center for a donation of \$10.00. If you have a Mormon friend or loved one, this book will encourage you as to how God is working behind the scenes even though we may not see it, praise His wonderful Name!

~ Jenell's Jots & Tittles ~

MORMON TEMPLES

Currently there are 140 Mormon temples operating throughout the world. No worship services are

held in these impressive looking buildings, rather this is where they perform their unbiblical rituals such as baptism for the dead, "sealings" and eternal marriages. Non-Mormons are not allowed in these temples except for a brief period before it is "dedicated".

Temple ceremonies are at the center of Mormonism and are considered an integral part of their progression into godhood in the next life. Never-the-less, only about 20% of the Mormon population have been through the temple ceremony and fewer than that attend regularly.

Mormons believe that the early church established by Jesus practiced these temple rituals and are an extension of the Jerusalem temple described in the Bible. However, a comparison of the activities between the two show that they have nothing in common. Furthermore, what Mormons practice in their temples is not even mentioned in the Bible, ancient Jewish literature, early Christian history or even the Book Of Mormon.

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



Israel was to have but one temple (Deut.12:5-6, 13-14, Deut.16:5-6) where only priests were allowed to enter and these priests had strict lineage requirements (Ex.29:4-9; Num.3:10, Num.18:1-7). Also, unlike Mormonism which tries to keep its temple rituals secret, the biblical temple activities were public knowledge (i.e. Ex.30:7-10; Lev.4:5-7, Lev.16:1-28, Lev.24:1-9).

Before going to the cross, Jesus taught that temple worship would be replaced by a new form of worship without a temple building: *“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship him”* (John 4:23). These words were fulfilled and God signaled the end of temple worship when Jesus died on the cross. It was at this point in time that the veil in the temple was torn in two *“from top to the bottom”* (Matt.27:51, also Mark 15:38 & Luke 23:45), a supernatural act of God. Since that time, the Bible tells us that God does not dwell *“in temples made with hands”* (Acts 7:48, Acts 17:24), but rather in people, His body of true believers (1 Cor.3:16, 1 Cor.6:19; 2 Cor.6:16).

For Mormonism to continue with what God has made obsolete is a further indication of their spiritual blindness. They want to be known as Christians but do not understand Christ’s once-for-all atoning sacrifice. It is our prayer that these outwardly beautiful, but spiritually dangerous Mormon temples, will not entice the uninformed. For further information regarding this topic, you can contact us and request our tract “The Mormon Temple” (a donation to cover postage would be appreciated).

LIVE & LET LIVE?

When Christians speak out against Mormonism, their members often try to put us off by quoting their eleventh “Article Of Faith” which says: *“We claim the privilege of worshiping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may.”* In other words, “if you don’t agree with us, then just leave us alone and we will do likewise”. But do they? According to their

April 2013 “General Conference” report, 65,634 missionaries have been sent out and 26,000 more are waiting in the wings (July 2013 “Ensign”, p.9). Obviously, their sole purpose is to convince people to leave their faith and join the LDS Church.

Yes, “live and let live” is exactly what Mormons would love for us to do. However, we are thankful that we live in a country where the same privilege of freedom afforded to the Mormons applies to those who confront them as well. They are free to spread their false gospel, and we in turn are free to expose these deceptions. But for Christians, what is even more relevant than that of our civil liberties, is the mandates of our God.

In this day and age, it may be more popular, and even more “politically correct” not to oppose anyone, but we have a higher authority that tells us just the opposite! Following is just a sampling of scripture that speaks to this issue (all are from New American Standard):

“But just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing men but God, who examines our hearts” (1 Thess. 2:4)

“But even though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so I say again, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to that which you received, let him be accursed. For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ” (Gal.1:8-10ff)

“...remain on at Ephesus, in order that you may instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines.” (1 Tim. 1:3)

“I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus...preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.” (2 Tim. 4:1-2)

I think it is clear that ignoring the “wolves in sheep’s clothing” is not an option for Christians because false

religion is more of a danger to mankind than any terrorist. I am not speaking about the **people** of the false religions, but of **the theology** they bring. Jesus said, “*And do not fear those who kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*” (Matt.10:28). No, in this instance Christians do not have the luxury to “live and let live”, we must deeply care about those for whom Christ paid the highest price.

CITATION OF CONCERN (From LDS Leaders)

*“Every individual in the Lord’s Church is entitled to the sure knowledge, received by personal revelation through the Holy Ghost, that **the Church** [meaning Mormonism] is **true**. Personal revelation to the individual is the strength of the Church of Jesus Christ in any age.”* (Elder Delbert L. Stapley of the Quorum of the Twelve, “Church News” week ending 1/20/01, my emphasis)

What a contrast from that which we read in the Bible. The great Apostle Paul also spoke of receiving “personal revelation” but it was quite different from that of the Mormon elder. He prayed - “*that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him.*” (Eph.1:17)

I know of no Christian church that would even suggest, let alone **want** their people to have a personal revelation that the place where they worship is the “true” one. Once again Mormonism errs in not understanding that the “true church” is made up of individual believers, not an organization, and that having a personal revelation of Jesus far surpasses anything they are suggesting!

POLYGAMY “AN EVERLASTING COVENANT”

More than 100 years ago Utah banned their practice of polygamy in order to obtain statehood. Since that time, the Mormon Church has worked hard to obliterate this ugly stain from its past.

Most Mormons today do not even think about it. In a 1989 interview on *60 Minutes*, the then LDS President, Gordon B. Hinkley responded to a question on plural marriage with the dismissive statement of “*that was then, this is now*”. Again on CNN’s *Larry King Live* (Sept.8, 1998), President Hinkley said: “*It’s behind us, I condemn it as a practice. It is not doctrinal. It is not legal.*”

In regards to the legality of polygamy we agree with President Hinkley, but are puzzled as to how he can “condemn it” and say it is not doctrinal. Section 132 of “Doctrine And Covenants” (LDS scripture) is very clear that the “plurality of wives” is to be an everlasting covenant and a person is damned if they reject it (one may wonder where that puts Hinkley!)? Verse 4 of Sections 132 says:

“For behold, I [the Lord] reveal unto you a new and an everlasting covenant; and if ye abide not that covenant, then are ye damned; for no one can reject this covenant and be permitted to enter into my glory.”

To be clear, the introduction to Section 132 says: “*Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, at Nauvoo, Illinois, recorded July 12, 1843, relating to the new and **everlasting covenant**, including the eternity of the marriage covenant, **as also plurality of wives**. HC 5:501-507...*” (My emphasis). While this “revelation” was recorded in 1843, no LDS prophet or leader has ever rescinded or reversed it. Whether Mormons want to acknowledge it or not, the fact is that it is still valid for today.

Either polygamy is an acceptable practice, commanded by God, or it’s not. Mormon leaders need to decide if it is *wrong* or merely *illegal*. If they believe it is not wrong, they should lobby to make it legal. But if they believe it is wrong they should publicly admit that it was *never* right and that Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, and all the Mormon leaders who practiced it were in error. Oh yes, one more thing – remove D&C 132 from their scriptures!

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*If you meet the Master in the morning  
and pray,  
you will master what you meet all day*

## CORRESPONDENCE

*“Hi, I am having a hard time. I am a Christian Catholic and now a light Catholic/non-denominational Christian. I am dating a guy who is Mormon and don’t know what to do. I know that soon he will probably try to convert me but how can I get him to realize how far out there Mormonism is and that I will never convert? Is there a way to have him realize the truth? He was raised Mormon and hasn’t pressured me yet but I am scared that he will give me an ultimatum and I want to keep this from happening. (J.) ”*

Dear J, We received your e-mail today and understand the dilemma you are in. We always counsel Christians not to date Mormons because it causes so many problems. Because Mormons are taught that you must be sealed in an LDS temple to a Mormon girl in order to go to the highest level of the Celestial kingdom, they have a lot more pressure put on them to convert you.

The best way to witness to your boyfriend is to tell him what Jesus means to you, has given you the free gift of salvation and it is not something you have to earn. Make him hungry for what you have. It is not a “true religion with priesthood authority” that he needs but it is Jesus! You can do this with a very loving spirit but he must understand that you will never convert to Mormonism as you have already been saved by your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and Mormonism does not teach the truth about Him...I pray God will give you the love, courage and also the wisdom to be able to do this. May God bless you, Charlotte Pardee, EMFJ Director

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*“I just found your website and read some of your newsletters, they were wonderful, the tone was so loving and nurturing. May God bless you richly and fully and may you continue in your wonderful ministry!” (S.W.)*

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*“Sign me up for you bi-monthly e-newsletter and send me a listing of available resources. So that you know,*

*I am both a former Mormon as well as a former Seventh-day Adventist and have developed a heart for those who are hurting from the spiritual abuse from both groups. I know this very well because I have gone through this myself, and am continuing to heal from the ramifications from my experience.” (A.)*

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## ANTI-MORMON/ANTI-MORMONISM (WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES?)

**M**ormons (and even some Christians) who do not know better, often think our ministry, “Ex-Mormons For Jesus”, is against the Mormon people. However, nothing could be further from the truth. This is a non-profit organization made up of people who give freely of their time and talents because they love the Mormon people and want to see them set free from spiritual darkness. What we are against is Mormonism, its cult based theology that is an embarrassment to Christianity and an abomination to God.

Many of us in this ministry have loved ones still caught up in the depth of deception that Mormonism produces. They are good and sincere people who should be given respect, but to keep silent regarding their eternal destiny is not what the Bible teaches about love. And while this message may not fit in with today’s society of striving for “tolerance” and “political correctness”, we nevertheless choose to please God, not man (1 Thess.2:4). Please contact us if you have questions regarding Mormonism’s theology or our ministry.

## SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

We hold monthly support group meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. On October 8<sup>th</sup>, ex-Mormon Marcus Surjopolos and his wife Princess, will be teaching on Mormonism “pre-existence and afterlife” versus the Bible. 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 W. Chapman Avenue in Orange and we look forward to seeing you there.

