

Ex-Mormons for
JESUS

*Our faith will work by love,
or it will not work at all.*

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NEWSLETTER ~ JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021



FROM CHAR'S DESK

The New Year is upon us again and we pray that it will be better than last year! But for Christians, how are we to walk in this New Year? Mormons are taught to follow all that their leaders tell them to do and they work very hard to accomplish this. However, this often causes them to end up in stress, tension and strain. On the other hand, as a born-again Christian, we believe we must follow Him primarily as Lord and Savior, out of love and devotion, not duty (Eph.2:8-9).

May we, this coming year, show our Mormon friends and loved ones the joy we have in following Him. He lives His life in and through us, making His yoke easy and His burden, light. They need to see Jesus in us and be drawn to Him!

We hope, as you begin this new year, it will be filled with His love! We, at Ex-Mormons for Jesus, pray that your new year will also be a fruitful and joyous one.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

~ JENELL'S JOTS & TITLES ~ CHANGES THAT MATTER

Many changes are taking place in Mormonism, but a major one is seen in their efforts to look more Christian. From their decor in their temples to their public talks and articles in their magazines, Jesus is being lifted up like never before. While we pray that this will be a positive move in them coming to know the *real* Jesus (see 2 Cor.11:3-4), we believe that unless they do away with Joseph Smith and recognize that he was a false prophet, nothing of real value will make a difference.

And if they ever did away with Joseph, would their belief in being “the only true church” just crumble? Some of the following quotes from various LDS leaders seem to suggest that getting rid of Joseph would not be an option.

“You call us fools: but the day will be, gentlemen and ladies, whether you belong to this church or not, when you will prize brother Joseph Smith as the Prophet of the Living God, and look upon him as a God...” (Herber C. Kimball, “Journal of Discourses” Vol.5, p.88, emphasis added)

“...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. He holds the keys of that kingdom for the last dispensation—the keys to rule in the spirit-world; and he rules there triumphantly...He reigns there as supreme a being in his sphere, capacity, and calling, as God does in heaven...” (Brigham Young, “Journal of Discourses”, Vol.7, p.289 emphasis added)

“NO SALVATION WITHOUT ACCEPTING JOSEPH SMITH. If Joseph Smith was verily a prophet, and if he told the truth when he said that he stood in the presence of angels sent from the Lord...then this knowledge is of the most vital importance to the entire world. No man can reject that testimony without incurring the most dreadful consequences, for he cannot enter the kingdom of God...” (Joseph Fielding Smith, “Doctrines of Salvation”, Vol.1, pp.189-190, emphasis in the original)

“So great was his [Joseph Smith’s] assigned mission,

with reference to the 'restitution of all things' (Acts 3:21), that holy prophets spoke of him, by name, thousands of years before his mortal birth. (2 Ne.3.)... To the Church the Lord commanded: 'Give heed unto all his words and commandments which he shall give unto you as he receiveth them, walking in all holiness before me; For his word ye shall receive, as if from mine own mouth, in all patience and faith' (D & C 21:4-5),...It is because the Lord called Joseph Smith that salvation is again available to mortal men..." (Bruce R. McConkie, "Mormon Doctrine", 1989, edition, p.396, emphasis added)

"The practical sage, President Brigham Young, who died with the name of Joseph upon his lips, said, 'I honor and revere the name of Joseph Smith. I delight to hear it; I love it. I love his doctrine...I feel like shouting Hallelujah, all the time, when I think that I ever knew Joseph Smith...' " (The Ensign, Jan.1996, p.7)

"The simple truth of the matter is that without the Restoration, the great Plan of Salvation would be forever thwarted...Without the Prophet Joseph Smith, we...would be left with fragmented scriptures, unrelated doctrine, conflicting opinions, uninspired practices that over time became binding traditions." (Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, Church News, July 6, 2002)

"...If it had not been for Joseph Smith and the restoration, there would be no salvation..." (Bruce R. McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, 1989 edition, p.670)

Only time may tell if their current push is just superficial or if real changes are in the makings; we in this ministry are praying for this to be so but obviously many changes will have to be made!

CITATIONS OF CONCERN

(From LDS Leaders)

"THE STRAITNESS OF THE WAY. Mortality is the testing or proving ground for exaltation to find out who among the children of God are worthy to **become Gods themselves**, and the Lord has informed us that "few there be that find it..." (Joseph Fielding Smith Jr., Doctrines of Salvation, Vol.1, p.69, my emphasis)

LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

Each newsletter, we will be sharing with our readers portions of resignation letters that we have copies of from 1984 to present. As most of you probably know, it is never easy to face this task after finding out the truth. Hopefully it will be of some help for those of you who have also gone through this (or will be doing so in the future) –

"Bishop G.B. This is a request to have my name taken off of the records of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day (sic) Saints. Please be advised that my request...is made freely from my heart and after much prayers and thought and is final. Because it has been demonstrated to my satisfaction that Mormonism is in great error and teaches false doctrines, tho I was lulled into accepting it for too long a time.

I hold no animosity towards anyone in my Ward. I love them all. What a sweet bunch of misled people you all are!! I pray for you constantly.

We were asked to study the Bible in my Ward and that's what I've been doing. You all should do it too and maybe you's find the truth as I have. As a result of my studies, I have decided to come to the REAL JESUS and become a follower of the real Jesus Christ and no longer follow Joseph Smith with his false Jesus who you propose was once a person as you now are. Jesus Christ declared, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, and no man cometh unto the father but my me.' (John 14:6). I have chosen this day to follow HIM. Sincerely, M.F.E."

SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

These meetings will have to, once again, be suspended until further notice. We especially appreciate your support through prayers and financial aid if possible.



