

Ex-Mormons for
JESUS

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

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NEWSLETTER - JAN/FEB 2024

FROM CHAR'S DESK

Every time a new year pops up, I get excited! I always wonder how God is going to use our ministry this year. However, the world is so different now than when God first called us to the Mormons. The Christians were so interested in the cults back then, especially in Mormonism. Today I don't see the same interest.

For one thing, Mormon leaders started to sound more Christian. As a matter of fact, the LDS president during that time (2001), the late Gordon B. Hinckley, hired a New York firm to make Mormonism sound more Christian. They told him to change their logo to emphasize Jesus rather than the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, to use the Bible more rather than the Book of Mormon, etc.

Hinckley said, "Those who observe us say that we are moving into the mainstream of religion. We are not changing. The world's perception of us is changing. We teach the same doctrine. We have the same organization. We labor to perform the same good works. But the old hatred is disappearing, the old persecution is dying." Ensign, Nov 2001 (By the way, it doesn't count if you are persecuted because you are a Mormon. It only counts if you are persecuted for Jesus sake)!

I pray Jesus uses us this year to help Mormons be more honest about their true doctrines instead of trying to sound Christian and deceiving multitudes of people.

THE BLINDNESS OF MORMONISM

The Bible talks about two kinds of blindness: those who

are blind but want to see and those who say they see but want to remain blind. "And Jesus said, for judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind." Jn 9:39

In Lk 4:18, Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and to preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

This seems contradictory. But it really isn't. As usual the Bible has the answer to seeming contradictory statements. In 2 Cor 4:3,4, it says, "But if our gospel is hid, it is hid to them that are lost, in whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." And in Jn 12:40, it says, He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them."

As there are two kinds of blindness, there are also two kinds of Mormons and I have met both kinds. It boils down to this: the believers and the unbelievers. Either they believe the record God has left us or they don't. It's that simple. If they don't believe it, they end up believing a lie.

Satan has different means, plans and schemes to deceive, entrap, enslave and ruin the souls of men. If we are ignorant of his schemes, we become entrapped by them. Following are some of the schemes he uses on those entrapped by Mormonsim:

1. Causes them not to think. (When the leader speaks

the thinking has been done. None of your business whether he is right or wrong)

2. Pride (We are the only true church and were valiant spirits in the pre-existence)

3. Fear (If you leave the true church of which you had a testimony, you will end up in hell)

4. Lust after power (You will become gods)

5. Unteachable (Don't read anti-Mormon material, it's all lies)

6. Wrong teaching (Taught their prophets would never lead them astray so they don't bother to try the spirits)

7. Cast doubt on God's Word (You can't fully trust the Bible as it had many plain and precious parts missing)

8. Testimony of the Book of Mormon (Feel it is from the Holy Ghost - if you deny it, it is the same as denying the Holy Ghost which is unforgiveable)

This is why it is so important for Christians to help Mormons trust the Word of God!

HOW DO WE KNOW WHO HAS THE TRUTH?

In the Bible, Pilate asked Jesus a very important question: "What is Truth?"

So, then, what is Truth?

Jesus said, "I am the way, the Truth and the life: no man comes unto the Father, but by me." Jn 14:6

To this end was I born and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the Truth. Everyone that is of the Truth heareth my voice. Jn 18:37

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, "If ye continue in my word, then are you my disciples indeed; and you shall know the Truth and the Truth shall make you free." Jn 8:32

So people should not be looking for an "only true church." They should be looking for Truth and Jesus is it!" Hallelujah!

MORMON "DENOMINATIONS"

I have a list from the Reorganized Church of Jesus

Christ of Latter-day Saints with their world headquarters in Independence, Missouri, of 96 breakoffs from the original 1830 church founded by Joseph Smith. They each claimed they were the true church and successor to Joseph Smith. However I am only going to list some of them.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - 1830
Led by Joseph Smith (formerly called The Church of Christ)

The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - 1830-1861 - Led by Joseph Smith's son

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - 1844 -
Led by James J. Strang (Strangites)

True Church of Jesus Christ - 1853 - Led by
Alpheus Cutler (Cutlerites)

The Church of Christ (Temple Lot) 1853-1857 - Led by
Granville Hedrick (Hedrickites)

The Church of Jesus Christ - 1857 - Led by William
Bickerton Bickertonites)

The Aaronic Order or The True Church of God - 1942
First Communal settlement - Eskdale - 1956

The Church of Jesus Christ with the Elijah message -
1943 (W. A. Draves - breakoff)

The Fundamentalists - Short Creek - 1951 (Leroy
Johnson)

So much then said about the "only true church" !!!

~ NOTICE ~

We are so sorry to inform you that Steve's Corner will not be in our newsletter any longer as he is unable to do it because of health problems. We want to thank you for all the wonderful articles you supplied us with, Steve, and pray God continues to use the wonderful gift of teaching He has given you. God Bless You richly!

ADVERTIZING

We are wanting to advertize our ministry in the local paper but we don't have the funds. So if any of our viewers would like to donate to this cause, we would greatly appreciate it. Just write on the check "For Advertizing." Thank you so much!

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

SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

We hold monthly support group meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. They include a guest speaker and end with 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. We meet at Plaza Bible Church, 1026 S. East St. Anaheim 92805.

