

Ex-Mormons for
JESUS

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

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NEWSLETTER ~ JULY/AUGUST 2021



FROM CHAR'S DESK

Do you know the difference between contending for the faith and commending the faith? Contending does not mean being contentious. It means we are to preach the true gospel, not the false one, like many were doing in that day (Jude 1:3,4).

In my devotional book "In Christ" by E. Stanley Jones, p.104, he says: *"To contend for the faith is to commend the Author of that faith (not by contention but by commending).* One is egocentric and the other Christ-centric. One says, I must contend; the other says, I must commend Him. One points to oneself as the defender of the faith; the other points to Him as the Faith itself. One tries to win the argument and the other tries to win the man. One creates combativeness, the other creates conversion. One tries to show off himself – his cleverness, his ability to down an opponent, the other shows off Jesus and His ability to save. One goes around in circles in argument, the other puts the others' feet upon the Way. One is unchristian, the other Christian."

Being contentious is not loving. That is why, at the top of our newsletters, it says, "Our faith will work by love or it will not work at all!" Amen!

~ JENELL'S JOTS & TITTLES ~

"IN THE NEWS"

Racism, like maybe never before, has been a hot topic in the news for quite some time now. We see things like someone paying a high price for a raciest comment they made *many* years ago or someone

being fired from a job or ostracized because of a raciest thought or comment. Yet I wonder how many know about the extreme prejudice and racial discrimination that existed in Mormonism's history? However, before going any further, I want to warn that this article may be disturbing to some but my reason for exposing this side of Mormonism is two-fold. First, it is in hopes that some prospective converts may come to know these facts and have their eyes opened before joining and will instead seek truth before they get taken in. Second, even though LDS scriptures speak of the Negro being a cursed people, many of today's Mormons are unaware of how deep these feelings ran.

Prior to 1978, no one of African ancestry could hold the Mormon priesthood. And worse yet, their "Book of Mormon" scriptures portray a white or light skin as a sign of righteousness and a black or dark skin was a sign of unrighteousness. For example: *"And he had caused the cursing to come upon them, yea, even a sore cursing, because of their iniquity...wherefore, as they were white, and exceedingly fair and delightsome, that they might not be enticing unto my people the Lord God did cause a skin of blackness to come upon them."* (2Nephi 5:21, also see 1Nephi 12:23, Jacob 3:5, Alma 3:6-9 Mormon 5:15). Their reasoning for this comes from their belief in a "pre-existence" (Father God and His many wives living with their children before coming to this earth).

Past President, Joseph Fielding Smith, further explained it thus: *"There is a reason why one man is born black and with other disadvantages, while another is born white with great advantages. The reason is that we once had an estate before we came here...Those who*

were faithful in all things there received greater blessings here, and those who were not faithful received less...*The Negro, evidently, is receiving the reward he merits.*" ("Doctrines of Salvation" Vol.1, pp 61, 66).

Brigham Young taught: "*You see some classes of the human family that are black, uncouth, uncomely, disagreeable and low in their habits, wild, and seemingly deprived of nearly all the blessings of the intelligence that is generally bestowed upon mankind...*" (Journal of Discourses, Vol.7, p 290). And again we hear from Brigham: "*Shall I tell you the law of God in regard to the African race? If the white man who belongs to the chosen seed mixes his blood with the seed of Cain, the penalty, under the law of God is death on the spot. This will always be so.*" (Journal of Discourses, Vol.10, p 110).

Many other shocking references on this topic could be shared but I will just give one more from a Mormon Apostle: "*...Those who were less valiant in pre-existence and who thereby had certain spiritual restrictions imposed upon them during mortality are known to us as the negroes. Such spirits are sent to earth through the lineage of Cain, the mark put upon him for his rebellion against God and his murder of Abel being a black skin. (Moses 5:16-41, 7:8,12,22)...Negroes in this life are denied the priesthood; under no circumstances can they hold this delegation of authority from the Almighty. (Abra.1:20-27). The gospel message of salvation is not carried affirmatively to them (Moses 7:8,12,22)...*" ("Mormon Doctrine" 1966 edition, p 527; "Moses" and "Abraham" are LDS scriptures found in their "Pearl Of Great Price" section).

Some current Mormons may be appalled by these teachings, and of course they should be, but if so, how can they continue to believe in and follow their leaders ("prophets of God") who taught this for over 150 years? And how can they ignore the fact that two of their canonized scriptures **still** plainly teach these ugly and unholy things against those of the African heritage? Of course the Bible is clear that our God is "no respecter of persons" (Acts 10:34) and would in no way support Mormonism's beliefs on this subject: "*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither*

slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Gal.3:28 NAS, also see 1Sam.16:7, Acts 17:26, Eph.6:9, etc.).

Maybe we can take advantage of today's news by bringing this subject up and lovingly ask our Mormon friends and acquaintances how they can follow leaders who obviously did not have the heart and mind of the True God (be prepared with documentation). And if they were so wrong then, how can they be worthy of their trust today?

CITATIONS OF CONCERN

(From LDS Leaders)

"But if you are told by your leader to do a thing, do it. None of your business whether it is right or wrong." (Herber C. Kimball, *Journal of Discourses, Vol.6, p.32*). *"When our leaders speak, the thinking has been done. When they propose a plan – it is God's plan."*(Improvement Era, June 1945, p.354). *"We have been promised that the President of the Church will receive guidance for all of us as the revelator for the Church. Our safety lies in paying heed to that which he says and following his counsel."* (President James E. Faust, Ensign, Nov.1989, p.10).

SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

We are excited to announce that our EMFJ Center reopened on June 1st of this year. We will also be restarting our Support Group meetings and are going to try having them here at our Center. The address is 1107 E. Chapman Ave. #206 in Orange. The next one will be on August 10th (always on the second Tuesday of every month) at 7:00 p.m. (please note the new time). Steve Welch will be sharing an informative lesson on Jehovah Witnesses at this meeting.

There will be a question and answer time after the lesson 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. We look forward to seeing you there.

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