

Ex-Mormons for
JESUS

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

INFORMATION & VISITORS CENTER
1107 E. Chapman Ave., #206
Orange, CA 92866

Phone: (714) 997-3498

Email: bill@exmormonsforjesus.org

Website: www.exmormonsforjesus.org

NEWSLETTER - JULY/AUGUST 2023



FROM CHAR'S DESK

Lately I have noticed something different in the Church's magazine, "The Liahona." The Ensign magazine was replaced by the Liahona in 2021. So far, this year, every cover of the Liahona, from January to July, has a picture of Jesus on the cover. I went back a few years to the 2015 Ensign magazine and the only time Jesus was on the cover was on Easter or Christmas. January, it was Ezra Taft Benson; February, A Family; March, Women of Faith; April (Easter), Jesus; May, Family; June, A Black Boy; July, Pioneer Legacy; August, Married Couple; September, Family; October, Family; November, General Authorities; December (Christmas) Jesus & Mary.

I think the ministries to the Cults has started to influence the Mormon Church regarding lifting up Jesus. However, who is this Jesus on the cover of their magazines? Is he still the spirit brother of Lucifer, can't keep his church together like Joseph Smith did his, was begotten on earth the same way mortal men are begotten by mortal fathers; was unable to cleanse men of certain sins such as adultery and murder; worship a different Jesus Christ than Christians worship, etc? If they still believe this about him, then they have what the Apostle Paul called, another Jesus (2 Cor 11:4).

They can put all the pictures of Jesus on the cover of their magazines they want to but until they believe that He is God in human flesh (Jn 1:1,14), they still worship "another Jesus!"

When will the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints teach who the Bible says Jesus really is?

We wonder???

~ STEVE'S CORNER ~

I hope this note finds you and your family well during this hot summer season. I am excited about a new book on Mormonism! It is called Fatal Flaws of the LDS Church by Earl Erskine. It just came out in January of this year. You can order a copy on exmormonfiles.com. This is also a great website where Earl interviews hundreds of ex-Mormons who are now Christian. Earl was raised in a Mormon home and was Mormon for the first 65 years of his life. He was a very committed Mormon who went on a mission to Denmark and held numerous leadership positions in his tenure with the church, including being a bishop. During his last few years as a Mormon, he began to have serious questions and doubts about the truthfulness of Mormonism. When he raised these questions with Mormon leaders, they were not helpful in answering his questions. Although there are dozens of problems he raised with the Mormon Church I will focus on a few.

The beginning of his doubts began when he read a copy of the 1830 Book of Mormon. He has read the current edition of the Book of Mormon 30 times. Earl noticed there were significant changes from the first edition of the BOM when compared to the current edition. For example, in I Nephi it talked about the Father in the 1830 edition and in the current edition it talked about Jesus. He found out there were nearly 4,000 changes made in the Book of Mormon from the 1830 edition until now. Though many of these changes were spelling and grammar issues some were doctrinal variations. Even for the smaller changes these shouldn't have happened because every letter from the Book of Mormon was supposed to come from the power of God. When Earl was told to trust in his feelings and have a burning in the Bosom about the

truthfulness of the Book of Mormon he was disillusioned. Much of the LDS Church he found out was based on feelings and not facts. As he began to research deeper, the foundation of the Mormon Church began to crumble in his mind.

A real strength of the book is when he studied the differences between Biblical temples and the LDS temples. What Earl found out was that current LDS temples have nothing to do with the Biblical temple. In Biblical temples only male descendants from the tribe of Aaron could enter. The main thing that was done in the temple was making animal sacrifices. This shed blood covered the Israelite's sins. Once a year on the day of Atonement the high priest would enter the holy of holies and a bull and two goats would be sacrificed, covering the nation's sins. Biblically there was only one temple at a time in Jerusalem. There are approximately 200 LDS temples around the world. LDS men who are not from the tribe of Levi enter and women participate which is not Biblical. In the Mormon temples there are not animal sacrifices done but baptisms for the dead, secret endowment ceremonies which come from Masonry, and eternal marriage ceremonies so men and women can become gods and goddesses in the afterlife. Earl realized in his study that the Mormon temples were not Biblical at all, even in their architecture. How could the LDS temples be a restoration of the Biblical temples when what goes on inside a Mormon temple has absolutely no resemblance to Biblical temples? This was another fatal flaw he found with Mormonism.

One of the most important fatal flaws of Mormonism that Earl found was the changing nature of the Mormon god. Whereas the Book of Mormon affirms that there is only one God the later writings and scriptures of the Mormon Church taught a polytheistic system of countless gods. He realized that the God of the Bible doesn't change and is eternal. Earl also came to understand that the trinity is a true Biblical teaching. Joseph Smith lived less than 40 years, but in his short life his understanding of God evolved and changed radically.

In conclusion, I have focused on Earl's realization of the falsehood of the Mormon Church on the Book of Mormon, temples, and the nature of God. Along with these three examples he focuses on dozens of other problems he found with Mormonism. Some pastors

shared with him, and he and his wife eventually left the Mormon Church and got saved. Two of his four children have also left the Mormon Church, though it wasn't clear if these two kids got saved as well. r all the books I have read on Mormonism over the years I would definitely include Earl's book as part of my top five of all time.

Charlotte Pardee, who is the director of Ex-Mormons for Jesus, has written an excellent book on Mormonism that is also in my top five as well!

I would highly recommend you get a copy of Earl Erskine's excellent book on his journey out of Mormonism into a relationship with the real, Biblical Jesus. Take some time to also listen to some of the podcasts on exmormonfiles.com.

May the Father, the Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit bless you and your families as you reach out in love to the lost Mormon people that Jesus loves and died for!

BOOK OF MORMON

Some questions you can ask your Mormon friends regarding the Book of Mormon:

If the B of M really contains the fulness of the gospel, why does it not teach the doctrine of "eternal progression?"

If the B of M is true, why hasn't a valid geography been established for the book?

If the B of M is from God, why does it have so little original prophecy?

If the B of M is true, why do not Indians fail to turn white when they become Mormons?

If the B of M was translated by the gift and power of God, why have the Mormons changed it?

Why does the B of M, which claims to be the fulness of the gospel, not mention baptism for the dead?

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

SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

We are excited to announce that our EMFJ Center will reopen Monday, November 15th. We will inform you when our support group meetings will resume.

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

