

# JESUS

NEWSLETTER ~ MARCH/APRIL 2014

1107 E. CHAPMAN AVE #206

ORANGE, CA 92866

(714) 997-3498

E-Mail [bill@exmormonsforjesus.org](mailto:bill@exmormonsforjesus.org)

WEB [www.exmormonsforjesus.org](http://www.exmormonsforjesus.org)

---

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

---



## FROM CHAR'S DESK

I just received my "Jews For Jesus" newsletter and in it a question was asked, "Is there really a need for Jews for Jesus, why don't you guys just call yourself Christians?" We, at Ex-Mormons For Jesus are often asked the same question. "Why do you call yourselves Ex-Mormons for Jesus? Why do you pick on us? Is there really a need for you?" Yes, there really is a need for this ministry because many Mormons do not even know much of their own faith. Why? Because their leaders keep much of it swept under the rug, hoping they will never find out the real truth about their history and beliefs. However, because of today's computer age, they are now able to find it out privately, in their own homes, on their own computers.

But then where do these people go for support and to get their questions answered? We are here for those who are doubting their faith and also for those who no longer believe and are devastated that they have believed a lie. For them to know that there is someone out there that understands where they are coming from is very comforting. If you know of a Mormon like this, please send them our way. We want them to know that they really can trust in the Bible and then we can lead them to the Lord, whom to know is joy unspeakable and full of glory! Amen!!

~ Jenell's Jots & Tittles ~

## ULTERIOR MOTIVES

Mormons are usually known as family orientated people who are moral and always ready to do a

good deed for their neighbors. It is this clean-cut life style that they like to point to as proof that they are Christians. They love to quote Matt.7:16, "You will know them by their fruits...".

While another, more hostile side can sometimes be seen when confronted, they know that it is their good reputation that promotes their church and makes it easier to proselytize. In this they are correct. We know of many who were converted to Mormonism for this reason alone, while knowing nothing of their doctrines or theology. While today's Mormons are looked upon with favor by many, Brigham Young shared something quite different. He stated:

*"Some of the Elders seem to be tripped up in a moment, if the wicked can find any fault with the members of this Church; but bless your souls, I would not yet have this people faultless, for the day of separation has not yet arrived. I have many a time, in this stand, dared the world to produce as mean devils as we can; we can beat them at anything. We have the greatest and smoothest liars in the world, the cunningest (sic) and most adroit thieves, and any other shade of character that you can mention.*

(Continued on page 2)

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



## ARE MORMONS POLYTHEISTS?

*'We can pick out Elders in Israel right here who can beat the world at gambling, who can handle the cards, cut and shuffle them with the smartest rogue on the face of God's foot-stool. I can produce Elders here who can shave their smartest shavers, and take their money from them. We can beat the world at any game.'* (Journal of Discourses, Vol.4, p.77)

The average Christian is not accustomed to dealing with people who have developed deception into an art-form. Mormonism (the organization, not always the individual) has its way of using half-truths and creative lying to make it difficult for their people, as well as outsiders, to know the truth. They are good at using flexibility to blend in and believe it is permissible to be "wolves in sheep's clothing" if the end results in converts. How different this is from the Apostle Paul's method of making converts. He stated:

*"And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified...And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God."* (1Cor.2:1-5 NAS)

In closing, I refer back to the above scripture in Matt.7:16. When read in *context*, we can see that it is a warning regarding "false Prophets", not a recipe for knowing if one is a Christian or not. Of course the "fruit" of a prophet can be known through his prophecies (c.f. Deut.18:20-22). Joseph Smith, as well as other LDS leaders, had many false prophecies, and if interested, you can contact us and request the tract, "We Thank Tee, O God, for the Prophets" (a donation to cover postage would be appreciated).

= + = + = + = + = + =

*"Across all of my accomplishments,  
GRACE shall be written"*

= + = + = + = + = + =

If you asked a Mormon this question, they would probably respond with a resounding no! They do not like to consider themselves such because polytheism is diametrically opposed to Christianity (which they are currently trying to emulate). Yet anyone who is familiar with Mormonism knows that their theology embraces a belief in a multitude of gods, in fact they believe they can become one themselves. The answer to this paradox lies with their interpretation of polytheism verses its true meaning. Webster's New World Dictionary gives this definition: "*belief in or worship of many gods, or more than one god: opposed to monotheism (poly - many, plus theos - god)*". Mormonism, on the other hand, tries to narrow the meaning down to only those who worship pagan deities, not to those who believe more than one god exists, as follows:

*"It should be remembered that polytheism has reference to pagan deities to whom reverence, devotion, and worship are given. It is not to be confused with the gospel truth that there are 'gods many, and lords many. But to us there is but one God, the Father,...and one Lord Jesus Christ.' (1 Cor.8:4-7). The saints are not polytheists."* ("MORMON DOCTRINE", Second edition, Bruce R. McConkie, p.579). So here McConkie says that "the gospel truth" is yes, many gods and many lords do exist but no problem, we only worship the God of this planet so we are not polytheists.

Yet any Bible commentary or knowledgeable Christian would tell us that 1 Cor.8:4-7 is not affirming the existence of many (a plurality of) Gods, but is most certainly a reference to pagan deities or idols. McConkie gets his misinterpretation of this scripture from Joseph Smith, who said: "*Paul says there are Gods many and Lords many. I want to set it forth in a plain and simple manner; but to us there is but one God - that is pertaining to us; and he is in all and through all. But if Joseph Smith says there are Gods many and Lords many, they cry, 'Away with him! Crucify him! Crucify him!...Some say I do not interpret the Scripture the same as they do. They say it means*

*the heathen's gods. Paul says there are Gods many and Lords many; and that makes a plurality of Gods, in spite of the whims of all men... You know and I testify that Paul had no allusion to the heathen gods. I have it from God, and get over it if you can.*" ("Teachings Of The Prophet Joseph Smith", pp.370-371)

Many areas of Mormonism's theology separates it from Christianity and puts it into the category of a heretical cult. However, almost none is more serious or dangerous than their polytheistic teaching in general, and that of man trying to obtain Godhood in particular. In Isaiah 14:12-15 we can read the account of Lucifer wanting to become like God but was given the sentence of hell instead.

Christianity is monotheistic in the strictest sense of the term, for the scriptures leave no room for anything else: "Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me." (Isa.43:10, also see Deut.4:35, 39; 1 Sam.2:2; 1 Kings 8:60; Isa.44:6, 8; Isa.45:5, 6, 21, 22; Mark 12:29-32; James 2:19).

It is our prayer that Mormons would come to understand and embrace the only True God of the Bible (John 17:3).

## CITATIONS OF CONCERN

### (From LDS Leaders)

*"In the beginning the Bible shows there is a plurality of Gods beyond the power refutation. It is a great subject I am dwelling on. The word Eloheim ought to be in the plural all the way through—Gods. The heads of the Gods appointed one God for us; and when you take [that] view of the subject, its (sic) sets one free to see all the beauty, holiness and perfection of the Gods. All I want is to get the simple, naked truth, and the whole truth."* ("Teachings Of The Prophet Joseph Smith", p.372)

## ADAM-GOD DOCTRINE IN CURRENT LDS THEOLOGY

Many who read this article know that Brigham Young, Joseph Smith's successor, believed and taught that Adam, the first man, was God (their Heavenly Father). I will share a few excerpts to show that this was not just a passing thought or misquoted sermon, but a teaching he (and other Mormons) held to for over twenty years.

*"Now hear it, O inhabitants of the earth, Jew and Gentile, Saint and sinner! When our father Adam came into the garden of Eden, he came into it with a celestial body, and brought Eve, one of his wives with him. He helped to make and organize this world. He is Michael the Archangel, the Ancient of Days about whom holy men have written and spoken—He is our Father and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do. Every man upon the earth, professing Christians or non-professing, must hear it, and will know it sooner or later..."* (Millennial Star, Vol.15, p.769, 1853)

*"This will be fully accomplished when every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that he is the God of the whole earth. Then will the words of the Prophet Brigham when speaking of Adam, be fully realized—He is our Father and our God, and the only God with whom we have to do."* (Millennial Star, Vol.17, p.195, 1855)

*"Some have grumbled because I believe our God to be so near to us as Father Adam. There are many who know that doctrine to be true."* (Journal of Discourses, Vol.5, p.331, 1857)

*"How much unbelief exists in the minds of the Latter-day Saints in regard to one particular doctrine which I revealed to them, and which God revealed to me—namely that Adam is our father and God...Our Father Adam is the man who stands at the gate and holds the keys of everlasting life and salvation to all his children who have or who ever*

*will come upon the earth.*" (Deseret News, p.308, 1873)

If space permitted, many more passages could be cited, but Mormonism's own records make it abundantly clear that the "Adam-God" doctrine was a very **real part** of early Mormonism. With that being said, I add that most Mormons today do not believe that Adam is their Heavenly Father – or do they? A recent article in an "official" LDS source shows how Brigham and others could have come to the conclusions that they did. This article, entitled "ADAM" states:

*"Few persons in all eternity have been more directly involved in the plan of salvation...than the man Adam. Most people know me as the first man to live on the earth, but many don't know that I had a special responsibility before I came to the earth. In the premortal existence, I led God's armies against Satan's armies in the War in Heaven, and I helped Jesus Christ create the earth. I was known as Michael then, which means one 'who is like God.'"*  
(The Ensign, January 2014, p.12)

While this article does not openly portray Adam as God, it certainly elevates him to a place that the Bible does not. The article ends with a "Fact Box" regarding Adam as follows: "Names: Adam, **Father Adam, Ancient of Days, Michael...**Premortal roles: Led armies of God against Satan, **helped Jesus Christ create the earth...**Postmortal roles: Will visit **his people** at Adam-ondi-Ahman, **assist in the Resurrection, lead the final battle against Satan.**" (ibid p.13, my emphasis)

Another current LDS teaching is found in "Doctrine and Covenants" 27:11 where Adam is referred to as "the prince of all, the ancient of days" and in "Doctrine and Covenants" 116 – "Ancient of Days...as spoken of by Daniel the prophet".

Christians have always known that the "Ancient of Days" is referring to the One True God (Elohim) as Dan.7:9-14 clearly portrays. To give Adam this title once again highlights the man-centered theology of

Mormonism. And if Adam is believed to be "Father Adam", "Ancient of Days", "prince of all" and "will assist in the Resurrection", it seems the next step of believing he was a God (and that they can also become one) can be an easy and logical one for them to make.

This article cited about sixteen LDS scriptures (as well as Dan.7:9-14), so it is easy to see how early Mormons leaders could be confused about who Adam was. Even if Mormonism does not teach the Adam-God doctrine today, this article shows that they have not strayed very far from those roots!

## CORRESPONDENCE

*"Hi, I found your group on Facebook. I was saved on 1/28/13 and resigned from Mormonism shortly thereafter. My wife and six children are still Mormon. It's a struggle every day for me. Please pray that they will come to know the true Christ of the Bible. Thank you. RD (Note to our readers, our hearts break for these struggling people, please remember them in your prayers as well as praying for this ministry, thank you and God bless!)"*

## SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

We hold monthly support group meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. Our guest speaker for the month of April will be Alan Chester. He is a Messianic Jew and will be sharing his testimony along with his deep desire to reach Mormons with the true gospel.

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.