

Ex-Mormons for
JESUS

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

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NEWSLETTER ~ MARCH/APRIL 2019



FROM CHAR'S DESK

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN
INDEED! How I loved to sing the following song each
Easter Sunday at my little Presbyterian Church in
Ashtabula, Ohio, in the year 1945. I was 16 years old.

*LOW IN THE GRAVE HE LAY
JESUS MY SAVIOR
WAITING THE COMING DAY
JESUS MY LORD*

*UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE WITH A
MIGHTY TRIUMPH
O'ER HIS FOES
HE AROSE A VICTOR
FROM THE DARK DOMAIN
AND HE LIVES FOREVER
WITH HIS SAINTS TO REIGN
HE AROSE! HE AROSE! HALLELUJAH,
CHRIST AROSE!*

It made me cry and also gave me goosebumps! I wonder
if the Mormon teenagers of today know that song? And
if they do, I wonder if they know what it means? In the
line, “*and he lives forever with his saints to reign*”, it is
not referring to the Latter-day Saints, but only to those
who have been truly born-again by the Spirit of the
Living God and depend on no one but Jesus to get them
to heaven. They are the TRUE saints! HAPPY EASTER
EVERYONE!

+ * + * + * + * +

*The Lord bless you, and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine on you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance on you,
And give you peace.” (Numbers 6:24-27)*

~ JENELL'S JOTS & TITLES ~

MORMONISM'S JESUS

A common question Mormons ask us is why we say that
they are not Christians. We often tell them it is because
they preach about a different (or another) Jesus as
2Cor.11:3-4 warns that some would do. To believe
fundamental teachings about Jesus which are not true, is
in effect believing about “another Jesus”, who of course
does not exist, and has no power to save. Some examples
that describe the fictitious Mormon Jesus are as follows:

He was a polygamist – “*The grand reason of the burst of
public sentiment in anathemas upon Christ and his
disciples, causing his crucifixion, was evidently based
upon polygamy...A belief in the doctrine of a plurality of
wives caused the persecution of Jesus, and his
followers...We might almost think they were
'Mormons'*”. (Journal of Discourses, Vol.1, p.346)

“*...Jesus Christ was married at Cana of Galilee, that
Mary, Martha, and others were his wives, and that he
begat children.*” (Journal of Discourses, Vol.2, p.210)

“*...the great Messiah who was the founder of the
Christian religion, was a Polygamist...the Messiah chose
to take upon himself his seed; and by marrying many
honorable wives himself, show to all future generations
that he approbated the plurality of Wives under the
Christian dispensation...*” (The Seer, p.172)

He was not born of a virgin – “*...our Lord is the only Son
of the Father in the flesh...Christ was begotten by an
Immortal Father in the same way that mortal men are
begotten by mortal fathers.*” (Mormon Doctrine by
Bruce R. McConkie, pp.546-547)

“God the Father is a perfected, glorified, holy Man, an immortal Personage. And Christ was born into the world as the literal Son of this Holy Being; he was born in the same personal, real, and literal sense that any mortal son is born to a mortal father. There is nothing figurative about his paternity; he was begotten, conceived and born in the normal and natural course of events, for he is the Son of God, and that designation means what it says.” (Mormon Doctrine by Bruce R. McConkie, p.742)

“Therefore, the Father and Mother of Jesus, according to the flesh, must have been associated together in the capacity of Husband and wife; hence the Virgin Mary must have been, for the time being, the lawful wife of God the Father...” (The Seer, 1853, p.158)

He was the spirit brother of Lucifer – *“The appointment of Jesus to be Savior of the world was contested by one of the other sons of God. He was called Lucifer...this spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind.”* (The Gospel Through the Ages, p.15)

“...It was then explained that one of the spirit children of the Father would be chosen to be the Redeemer and work out the infinite and eternal atonement...Two mighty spirits answered the call and volunteered their services. Christ said, in effect: Here am I, send me; I will be thy Son; I will follow thy plan; and thy will be done, and the glory be thine for ever. But Lucifer sought to amend the plan of the Father and to change the proffered terms of salvation...” (Mormon Doctrine by Bruce R. McConkie, p.164)

His blood is inadequate – *“Joseph Smith taught that there were certain sins so grievous that man may commit, that they will place the transgressors beyond the power of the atonement of Christ. If these offenses are committed, then the blood of Christ will not cleanse them from their sins even though they repent. Therefore their only hope is to have their own blood shed to atone, as far as possible, in their behalf. This is scriptural doctrine, and is taught in all the standard works of the Church...”* (Doctrines of Salvation, by Joseph F. Smith, Vol.1, p.135)

“Will you love your brothers and sisters likewise, when they have committed a sin that cannot be atoned for without the shedding of their blood? Will you love that man or woman well enough to shed their blood?...This is

loving our neighbor as ourselves; if he needs help, help him; and if he wants salvation and it is necessary to spill his blood on the earth in order that he may be saved, spill it.” (Journal of Discourses, Vol.4, pp.219-220)

He had to work out his own salvation – *“The pages of the New Testament uniquely and resplendently show us Jesus working out His salvation, at one point, with trembling. (See D&C 19:18)...”* (The Ensign, Dec.1986, p.21)

“...What did Jesus do? Why; I do the things I saw my Father do when worlds came rolling into existence. My Father worked out his kingdom with fear and trembling, and I must do the same...” (Teachings Of The Prophet Joseph Smith compiled by Joseph Fielding Smith, p.347)

The Jesus of the Bible is the way, the truth and the life, and no one comes to the Father but through Him (John 14:6). As was stated in the first paragraph of this article, a fictitious Jesus has no power to save so it becomes quite obvious that the eternal well being of our Mormon friends and loved ones are in serious peril. This is why we, at EMFJ, freely give of our time, talents and finances to help these precious souls come to know the Biblical Jesus and hear about His finished work on the cross. Please join us in prayer for the Mormons as well as this ministry, thank you!

HELP

We know many of you have enjoyed the book Charlotte wrote, “Mormons, How God Loves Them”. Char originally thought she was writing this book for Mormons, but as it turns out, ex-Mormons and Christians who wanted to learn more seemed to be blessed by it the most. We here at EMFJ are down to just a couple of copies but when we went to see about getting it reprinted, the price had tripled. It is in manuscript form and the original printing was \$1,000 but now has gone up to \$3,000, and neither our ministry nor Char can afford this. If any of you know of a printer that can give us a discount, we would greatly appreciate hearing from you. Thank you!

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 (notice the dates on the following quotes) –

“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,m 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 of 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 fairly recent article from an “official” LDS source shows how Brigham and others could have come to the conclusions that they did. This article is entitled “ADAM” and 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 directly say Adam is 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 regarding Adam is found in their scripture, “Doctrine and Covenants”. In Verse 27:11, Adam is referred to as “*the Prince of all, the ancient of days*” and in “Doctrine and Covenants” 116:1 it says “*...Adam shall come to visit his people, or the Ancient of Days shall sit, as spoken of by Daniel the prophet.*”

Christians, as well as scholars, have always referenced the “Ancient of Days” as being the One True God (Elohim) as Dan.7:9-14 clearly portrays Him to be. 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) would be an easy and logical one for them to make.

The referenced “Ensign” article cited about sixteen LDS scriptures (as well as Dan.7:9-14), so it is easy to see how early Mormon 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!

CITATIONS OF CONCERN

“Now, brethren, this is a consolation to us all. Believe in God, believe in Jesus, and believe in Joseph his Prophet, and in Brigham his successor. And I add, ‘If you will believe in your heart and confess with your mouth that Jesus is the Christ, that Joseph was a Prophet and the Brigham was his successor, you shall be saved in the kingdom of God,’ which I pray, in the name of Jesus, may be the case. Amen.” (Journal of Discourses, Vol.6, p.229, my emphasis)

THE MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE

For Christians, Jesus is the center of our universe, our everything. With Easter fast approaching, we wanted to share a glimpse of Him throughout the entire Bible. The following is taken from “Decision” magazine, a publication of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association:

- * In Genesis, He is the Seed of the Woman.
- * In Exodus, He is the Passover Lamb.
- * In Leviticus, He is the Atoning Sacrifice.
- * In Numbers, He is the Smitten Rock.
- * In Deuteronomy, He is the Prophet.
- * In Joshua, He is the Captain of the Lord’s Hosts.
- * In Judges, He is the Deliverer.
- * In Ruth, He is the Heavenly Kinsman.
- * In 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, and 1 and 2 Chronicles, He is the Promised King.
- * In Nehemiah, He is the Restorer of the Nation.
- * In Esther, He is the Advocate.
- * In Job, He is My Redeemer.
- * In Psalms, He is My Song.
- * In Proverbs, He is Wisdom.
- * In Ecclesiastes, He is My Goal.
- * In the Song of Solomon, He is My Satisfier.
- * In the Prophets, He is the coming Prince of Peace.
- * In the Gospels, He is God in Christ Jesus, come to redeem.
- * In Acts, He is alive in the Church.
- * In the Epistles, He is Christ at the Father’s right hand.
- * In Revelation, He is the Mighty Conqueror.

The message of Jesus Christ, our Savior, is the story of the Bible—it is the story of salvation; it is the story of the Gospel; it is the story of life, peace, eternity and Heaven. The whole world ought to know the story of the Bible.

MORMON ENCOUNTERS CONTINUED

We shared some encounters our ministry has had with Mormons in our last couple of newsletters. Hopefully, you will find them interesting as we continue sharing God’s miracles –

“One day I (Charlotte) got a call at the Center from a man in Los Angeles telling me the Mormons kidnaped his daughter, Mary. I found this hard to believe. I told him Mormons don’t do that kind of thing. Come to find out, it was true, in a way, and I had to eat my words. The Mormons told his daughter that her parents were trying to keep her from the truth so they offered to take her away to Utah and enroll her in BYU (at the time she was going to a college in Pasadena). This was all done without her parent’s knowledge or consent. Her father went to the police and they ended up finding her and bringing her home. Her father brought her into our Center and she now no longer believes in Mormonism.”

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“Sharon’s father was a Stake President when she met a Christian guy that started to witness to her about Jesus. Her father sent her to BYU to get her away from this young man; he pulled some strings to get her accepted even though she didn’t pass the entrance exam! While there, Sharon started asking hard questions that she said even 90-year-old Mormon men couldn’t answer. When she told her father about this, he said, ‘Sharon, you have to understand that Mormonism can’t be proven true. You have to accept it by blind faith.’ She started to realize something was terribly wrong and ended up no longer trusting in Mormonism but in Jesus alone. Sharon has been a Christian now for many years and what a joy it is to see her freed from a religion which she found couldn’t stand up under investigation.”

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“Cathi became a convert to the Mormon Church after two missionaries came to her door. One day her husband came home from work and told her there was an article in the L.A. Times about her Church and it said that Mormonism teaches that you can become a God. She told him that was NOT true, her Church did not believe that! Cathi went to the phone and called her home teacher who, of course, told her that it was true, that they did believe you could become a God. It was through this experience that she found out the Mormon Church had kept many of its doctrines from her and she ended up leaving Mormonism and came back to Christianity.”

