



NEWSLETTER ~ MAY/JUNE 2014

E-MAIL bill@exmormonsforjesus.org

WEB www.exmormonsforjesus.org

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



FROM CHAR'S DESK

I believe we are starting to see a major upset in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. You know the old saying, "You can fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time but you can't fool all the people all the time." More and more Mormons are starting to leave the Mormon Church due to the information they are able to receive from the internet regarding the truth about Mormonism. I am sure the General Authorities of the Mormon Church are thinking of ways to stop this mass exodus.

Now is the time when Christians are going to have to be bold in witnessing to these disillusioned people by sharing the true gospel of Jesus Christ with them. It is not God's will that any should perish so let us be there for them when their eyes are opened to the truth about Mormonism so that by His grace, they can be set free from deception and find the Lord.

~ Jenell's Jots & Tittles ~

RECURRING THEMES

"Great is his glory and endless his priesthood. Ever and ever the keys he will hold". Of whose great "glory" and whose "endless priesthood" do you suppose is being told of here? Christians would naturally assume this would be a tribute to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Sadly, however, this is a quote from an article, "Recurring Themes of President Hinckley" as follows:

*"The Prophet Joseph Smith – I did not know much about Joseph Smith when I was 12, but I had a **feeling in my heart**. Since then I have come to know Joseph Smith. I have read his experiences. I have read his testimony. I have read the Book of Mormon...And I think I know Joseph Smith. **Great is his glory and endless his priesthood. Ever and ever the keys he will hold** (Hymns, no.27). He is God's prophet in the restoration of the gospel in this, the dispensation of the fulness of times. **If we can only get that into our hearts, then we will know that this is truly the work of God**". (The Ensign, June 2000, p.18, my emphasis).*

Although today's Mormons try and downplay such feelings, the truth is that they do worship Joseph Smith. That line above came from their hymn, "Praise To the Man" which also includes the following: "Jesus anointed that Prophet and Seer. Blessed to open the last dispensation, Kings shall extol him and nations revere...Long shall **his** [Joseph's] **blood**, which was shed by assassins, **Plead unto heaven** while the earth lauds his fame." (Note: Hinckley cited hymn no.27 but it is number 147 in the LDS hymn book we have).

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Thank You

And then we have the comparison Brigham Young made between Joseph Smith and Jesus as follows: “*Well, now, examine the character of the Savior, and examine the characters of those who have written the Old and New Testaments; and then compare them with the character of Joseph Smith...and you will find that his character stands as fair as that of any man’s mentioned in the Bible...*” (Journal of Discourses, Vol.14, p.203)

Even Joseph Smith himself had no problem in saying, “*...I have more to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam. A large majority of the whole have stood by me. Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it. I boast that no man ever did such a work as I...*” (History of the Church, Vol.6, pp.408-409, my emphasis).

A true prophet of God would never think of making such a statement! In 1 Cor.1:31, the Apostle Paul reminded the church at Corinth what the Prophet Jeremiah had to say regarding boasting: “*Thus says the Lord, let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me...*” (Jer.9:23-24). We pray that knowing Jesus, rather than Joseph Smith, would become their **new** “recurring theme”. For those of you who would like to receive the FREE DVD, Jesus Christ vs. Joseph Smith, please contact us (a donation to cover postage would be appreciated).

FINDING THE TRUE RESERVOIR

I was saddened by a picture in an “Ensign” magazine of an elderly man reading what looked like a Mormon publication. Written in the top left corner was this: “*The Church is the great reservoir of eternal truth from which we can constantly and freely drink.*” (June 1996, p.5). Mormons are always being led to “The Church” for their spiritual nourishment, yet Jesus wants to lead us to a far superior fountain. He said: “*...I will give to the one*

who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.” (Rev.21:6 NAS).

After I left Mormonism and became a Christian, I remember sharing with my Mormon mother-in-law the new excitement and love I had for Jesus. Her reply was, “but Jesus **is** the church”. That may be hard for those who have never been a Mormon to understand, but I know many Mormons who share those same feelings, and it is so tragic that they don’t even recognize the problem!

In John 4:7-14 we can read of a beautiful encounter Jesus had with a Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well. Here He explained to her about the spiritual water He alone could give that would satisfy. When Mormons are constantly being told that their church can supply their spiritual needs, they have no need to seek the living water God longs for them to have (Isa.55:1, Ps.42:1, John 6:35, John 7:37). Trying to replace the “True Reservoir” for a church is idolatry and akin to committing spiritual suicide.

*“My soul waits in silence for God **only**; From Him is my salvation. He **only** is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be greatly shaken....”* (Ps.62:1-2 NAS)

EIGHTH ARTICLE OF FAITH

Mormonism’s eighth “Article of Faith” states: “*We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.*” There are several problems we would like to point out in light of this statement.

First, the KJV Bible is one of Mormonism’s four “standard works” so they must believe some parts **are** translated correctly. Doesn’t it seem unreasonable not to point out where the **incorrect** translated portions are? After all, the LDS church employs a large number of translators covering many languages, not to mention their claim to having prophets, seers and revelators that should fix the problem if their translators couldn’t do it.

Second, if they were really concerned about the Bible

being mistranslated, they could just discard it and use Joseph Smith's "Inspired Version" of the Bible. This unique "version" is accepted by their leaders and in the "Preface To The First Edition" it says: "*As concerning the manner of translation and correction, it is evident, from the manuscripts and the testimony of those who were conversant with the facts, that it was done by direct revelation from God. It was begun in June, 1830, and was finished July 2, 1833.*" (My emphasis). So why would any responsible person use a so-called mistranslated version over a "direct revelation from God" version?

The famous evangelist, D.L.Moody, once said: "*The best way to show that a stick is crooked is not to argue about it, but to lay a straight stick along side it*". How true this is. But God's word, the straight stick, becomes a problem for Mormons when they try and compare their doctrines to it (temple marriages, baptism for the dead, pre-existence, men becoming a god, etc.). When asked why their doctrines are not found in the Bible, their only recourse is to say that it is because it has been polluted by man (e.g. 1Nephi 13:26-29).

Unlike the Mormon God, the True God is more than capable of keeping His word in tact and has foreseen to address this issue. Just a couple of examples are: "*The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.*" (Ps.12:6-7). "*For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.*" (1 Peter 1:24-25).

The fact that our current Bibles are reliable and accurate come from many outside sources as well. Archaeology, fulfilled prophecy, Dead Sea Scrolls, and historical accuracy are just a few. The Bible is a weapon that Satan has no defense for. Obviously it is he who would like to cast suspicious upon it in order to keep people from truth that could set them free – "*For the word of God is quick, and*

powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thought and intents of the heart." (Heb.4:12). It is our prayer that Satan's lie of a compromised Bible be exposed for all Mormons to see.

CITATIONS OF CONCERN (From LDS Leaders)

"Murders Have No Forgiveness: *A murderer, for instance, one that sheds innocent blood, cannot have forgiveness. David sought repentance at the hand of God carefully with tears, for the murder of Uriah; but he could only get it through hell: he got a promise that his soul should not be left in hell.*" ("Teachings Of The Prophet Joseph Smith", p.339)

But if David was not forgiven for murder, why was Jesus pleased to be known as "The Son of David" (Matt.20:30, Matt.21:9, Luke 20:41, etc.), which was a very popular Messianic title of the times? We also see that the genealogy of Jesus is *proudly* recorded through the royal line of David (Matt.1:1-17), as prophesied. How strange if God had not forgiven him.

In speaking about this subject in his book, Dr. John B. Wallace points out: "*what are we to make of the majority of the book of Psalms, which reflects David's tribute and praise to his gracious, forgiving God?*" ("Starting At The Finish Line" p.182-183, see book review in this newsletter). Once again, we see that Joseph Smith's false teachings fall apart when highlighted by the Bible!

NEW BOOK REVIEW & OTHER RESOURCES

Some of you may not know that our ministry has many resources that can encourage and help educate Christians so they can reach their Mormon acquaintances. These resources include books, DVD's and tracts. One of the newest is a book by a former Mormon, Dr. John Wallace entitled "Starting At The Finish Line". Unlike many other books that deal with Mormonism, Dr. Wallace takes a different approach and speaks directly to the Mormon. He shares...

“Struggling with the strict laws and ordinances of the Mormon faith? Longing for a more fulfilling (and less complex) relationship with Jesus Christ? Want to know with certainty that you have eternal life? Mormons are leaving their faith in record numbers. And studies reveal that few leave Mormonism to embrace the more traditional Christian worldview. Sadly, many drift into complete Atheism...having concluded that if Mormonism isn’t true, then nothing is!”

His book challenges the transitioning Mormon to take a closer look at the reliability of the Bible and its message of salvation by grace, through faith, not by works. He states: *“And while this ought to be music to their ears, most Latter-day Saints struggle to accept the simplicity of this promise and the fact that the work of their salvation was already completed by Christ dying on the cross.”*

Following is a partial list of additional items that can be obtained by contacting us. All prices are “suggested donations”. For a complete list of materials please request our “Resource Catalogue”.

STARTING AT THE FINISH LINE by Dr. John Wallace.....\$15.00

MORMONS ~ HOW GOD LOVES THEM (2nd Ed) by Charlotte Pardee: A manual written of Charlotte’s personal journey and experiences with Mormons after God’s call upon her life.....\$15.00

ANSWERING MORMONS’S QUESTIONS by Bill McKeever: A very helpful book that gives solid Biblical answers to many questions Mormons try to stump Christians with.....\$8.00

LOVED INTO THE LIGHT by La Vonne Earl: A riveting testimony of a woman’s search for truth. This unique book will help you understand the powerful, spiritual experiences behind a Mormon’s testimony.....\$18.00

UNVEILING GRACE by Lynn Wilder: Lynn was a tenured faculty member at BYU and tells her story of abandoning the deception of Mormonism to receive God’s grace.....\$10.00

WHERE DOES IT SAY THAT? By Bob Whitte: A three column format showing the contradictions between Mormon doctrine, Mormon scriptures & the Bible.....\$6.50

3,913 CHANGES IN THE BOOK OF MORMON by Jerald & Sandra Tanner.....\$14.00

SHADOW OR REALITY? by Jerald & Sandra Tanner: A great book that unmasks Mormonism.....\$18.00

DNA vs THE BOOK OF MORMON -DVD.....\$10.00

BIBLE vs BOOK OF MORMON - DVD.....\$10.00

UNVEILING GRACE - DVD.....\$10.00

JESUS CHRIST vs JOSEPH SMITH - DVD.....FREE

TRACTS (suggested donation .30)

AN HONEST MESSAGE TO MORMONS

MIND CONTROL

WAS THE VIRGIN MARY REALLY A VIRGIN?

MORMONISM’S ATTACK ON CHRISTIANITY

THE MORMON TEMPLE

THE MORMON TESTIMONY

THOSE PLAIN & PRECIOUS THINGS

An additional donation to cover postage would be greatly appreciated, thank you!

SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

We hold monthly support group meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Our guest speaker for the month of June will be David Maxfield, and he will be sharing his new book: “What It Means To Be A God-Fearing, Jesus-Loving, Spirit-Filled Christian”. You will not want to miss this meeting as David is an ex-Mormon who has led small groups, taught classes, and given lectures on apologetics and evangelism.

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.

