

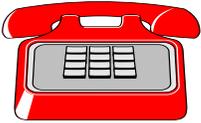


*Our faith will work by love,
or it will not work at all.*

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NEWSLETTER ~ NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020



FROM CHAR'S DESK

It will soon be Christmas and I think of all the turmoil that is our world today. How it must grieve our Lord! I recall a beautiful story I read long ago and I thought this holiday season would be a good time to share it with our readers.

During World War 1, guns of ally and enemy alike poured death upon the troops deep in the trenches of France. Death reigned on the hard throne of hate and revenge. Night came and the guns finally fell silent, but troops on both sides waited, poised for more battle.

However, it was Christmas Eve, the time of miracles and one occurred there. In the midst of the drama of fear and tragedy, there was heard coming from the German trenches the singing of Christmas carols. The allied troops joined in. They sang and sang in unparalleled harmony as their voices blended.

In the midst of the singing, first one side and then the other began moving out of the trenches. No agreement had been made, no command given. Spontaneously and freely, the two sides moved toward each other. The music continued, and as they met singing the age-old melodies of birth and life, they shook hands and embraced under a Christmas moon. That was the night God's will was done on earth as it is in heaven. (From the book "Christmas is...")

Oh, how we pray that 2021 will be the beginning of a physical, as well as spiritual healing for our nation and beyond - **"THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN"**

~ JENELL'S JOTS & TITLES ~

UPSIDE DOWN THEOLOGY

Most of us have heard the meme of one being so heavenly minded that they are of no earthly good, (whatever that means). However, it sure makes sense and fits Mormonism when turned around because many of their teachings are so earthly minded that it renders them unfit for any hope of heaven. A good example of their "earthly minded" beliefs are found in the August 2020 "Ensign" magazine as follows:

"Our purpose in mortality is to become like our heavenly parents. Our divine understanding and use of sexual intimacy are essential to that process of becoming.

All human beings are beloved spirit sons or daughters of heavenly parents with a divine nature and eternal destiny. The reason we have bodies is to build on that divine nature so we can ultimately realize our eternal destiny. Heavenly Father wants us to gain earthly experience, progress toward perfection, and eventually enjoy the fulness of happiness that He enjoys. He knows that for us to have this kind of enduring joy, we need to progress along the course He has established, obeying the commandments He has given.

Understanding that family relationships are to be perpetuated throughout the eternities after this life is vital. After mortality the faithful are promised that 'they shall pass by the angels...to their exaltation and glory...which glory shall be a fulness and a continuation of the seeds forever and ever. 'Then shall they be gods,

because they have no end” (Doctrine and Covenants 132:19-20)” (pp 15-16, ellipses in original)

Mormonism has always tried to paint a picture of heaven as merely an extension of our lives here on earth – marriage, sex, children, family togetherness, etc. And as the above article sadly shares, they see their heavenly father in the same light, no different than them, just further along in the process. There are many Bible scriptures that refute this whole premise, but no matter how a Mormon may try and twist it, Matthew 22:24-30 is one that clearly tells us that there will be no marriage in heaven (also found in Luke 20:28-36).

Of course this unbiblical teaching of earthly life as we know it continuing into the next, is very appealing to a Mormon as well as to a prospective convert who is not familiar with the Bible. However, Christians know that the True God, in one sense, will forever be incomprehensible to us, and to misrepresent Him is nothing less than idolatry. To forget that He will forever be the great I AM, and so far above us in every respect, is to think that our own ideas about Him are equivalent to who He truly is (see Isa.55:8-9), and to their shame, this is exactly what Mormonism has done!

CITATIONS OF CONCERN

(From LDS Leaders)

“From the passage in the forty-fifth Psalm, it will be seen that 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...We have now clearly shown that God the Father had a plurality of wives, one or more being in eternity, by whom He begat our spirits as well as the spirit of Jesus His First Born, and another being upon the earth by whom He begat the tabernacle of Jesus, as His Only Begotten in this world...” (“The Seer” by Orson Pratt, p.172)

LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

“Dear Bishop _____ Please be advised that this is my official notification of resignation from the Mormon church. I request that my name, and the names of my

children, be stricken from the records....I must insist that the record and the letter notifying me that our names have been removed is that I have requested it to be so, as an act of resignation, and as we previously discussed...

You may be assured that this decision of leaving the Mormon church is the result of prayer, study, and the grace of God, and is final. I know beyond any doubt, that Mormonism is in great error and teaches doctrines that are false. I will not participate in any church court for I have done no wrong. The Lord as my witness, I have renounced all ties to Mormonism. The freedom, and the peace of knowing the truth, is worth whatever hardships I have been through and may yet go through in this life, as the result of my decision to follow Jesus Christ.

As you assemble, in my absence, to discuss my standing, I would like to add that I am honored to take my place with my crucified Lord. As Paul stated in 1 Cor.1:8, “The preaching of the cross is to them who perish foolishness, but unto us which are saved, it is the power of God.” In Eph. 2:13-16 we are told that the only way in which we can be reconciled to God is through the blood of Jesus at the cross of Calvary. I am sorry that you consider the cross of Jesus and the Bible to be considered false doctrine...I would urge you to evaluate your standing before the Lord and whether you have accepted or rejected His work on the cross as a free gift, giving Him all the glory. You are in my prayers and my love and concern for you are extended in this letter... Sincerely Yours _____

BITS & PIECES

Due to the pandemic, there will be no Support Group Meetings until further notice. We appreciate your continued support through prayers and financial aid if possible.

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Isa.7:14 tells us, “...A virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel” (Immanuel is translated, “God with us”, Matt.1:23). God drew near to us through Jesus, His loving presence is the greatest gift of all. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and blessed, healthy, faith filled New Year!

