



# An Honest Message to Mormons

\* ALL QUOTES ARE FROM MORMON PUBLICATIONS OR THE BIBLE \*

*Jerry & Dianna Benson*

*This message is written out of a heart of compassion and concern for those valuable souls who are putting their trust in the system of Mormonism.*

The purpose of this pamphlet is to honestly present and document evidence that is not generally known among Mormons and to compare the teachings of the Mormon Church with the Word of God, the Bible. Accurately evaluating ALL the evidence for one's faith is necessary to keep from being deceived. If what you believe is true, you have nothing to fear from investigation. Your eternal destiny is dependent upon whom or what you put your trust. Your family will even be effected by your decisions. What a tremendous responsibility!

Joseph Fielding Smith, who became the 10th Prophet of the Mormon Church, stated:

**"Mormonism, as it is called, must stand or fall on the story of Joseph Smith.** He was either a prophet of God. . . or he was one of the biggest frauds this world has ever seen.

If Joseph Smith was a deceiver, who willfully attempted to mislead the people, then he should be exposed; his claims should be refuted, and his doctrines shown to be false, for the doctrines of an impostor cannot be made to harmonize in all particulars with divine truth. **If his claims and declarations were built upon fraud and deceit, there would appear many errors and contradictions, which would be easy to detect.**" (*Doctrines of Salvation*, Vol. 1, p. 188)

### THE FIRST VISION

For over 130 years Mormon leaders have suppressed the earliest known account of the "First Vision," which is the only account in the 'actual handwriting' of Joseph Smith. This account was written in a diary of Joseph Smith's around 1832. Mormon leaders finally allowed a photograph of this document in the Spring issue of B.Y.U. Studies, 1969, p. 281. (Actual handwriting of Joseph Smith's, B.Y.U. Studies, Summer 1971, p. 462 note 78)

The following are just a few of the contradictions between the suppressed account and the 'official' account which was written in 1838 and accepted as scripture in the Pearl of Great Price:

1) **In the suppressed account Joseph Smith claimed prior to the time he received his first vision he knew all the churches were wrong:**

"... by Searching the Scriptures I found that mankind did not come unto the Lord but they had apostatised from the true and living faith and there was no society or denomination that built upon the Gospel of Jesus Christ as recorded in the new testament. . ."

**In the 'official' account written 6 years later, Joseph Smith claimed he prayed to the Lord to find out which church was right:**

"My object in going to inquire of the Lord was to know which of all the sects was right. . . for at this time it had never entered into my heart that all were wrong. . ." (*Pearl of Great Price*, 1981 edition, Joseph Smith-History, 1:18)

2) **In the suppressed account, Joseph Smith claimed he saw this vision "in the 16th year of my age."**

In the account accepted today, Joseph Smith was "a little over fourteen years of age." (*Pearl of Great Price*, Joseph Smith-History, 1:23)

3) **The most serious contradiction between the suppressed account and the account published in the Pearl of Great Price, is the number of personages in the vision. In the earlier account Joseph Smith only mentions one personage:**

"... I saw the Lord and he spake unto me saying. . . I am the Lord of Glory I was crucified [sic] for the world . . ."

The personage indicated is obviously Jesus Christ. There is absolutely no mention of seeing God the Father, yet this vision is often used to prove that God the Father has a body of flesh and bones.

The later accepted account says "I saw two Personages." In this account both personages speak to Joseph Smith. (*Pearl of Great Price* 1981 edition Joseph Smith-History, 1:17)

**The most damaging evidence that Joseph Smith did not see the Father and the Son in 1820, to those who believe in the restoration of the Priesthood, is the fact that in the year 1832 Joseph Smith claimed to have a revelation which stated that a man could not see God without the Priesthood!**

"And without the ordinances thereof, and the authority of the priesthood, the power of godliness is not manifest unto men in the flesh;

For without this no man can see the face of God, even the Father, and live." (*Doctrine and Covenants*, Section 84:21,22)

Even Mormon leaders agree, the Priesthood was not given until many years after Joseph Smith claimed he saw the Father and the Son!

### REVELATIONS FALSIFIED!!!

Joseph Fielding Smith stated:

“There was no need for eliminating, changing, or adjusting any part to make it fit: but each new revelation on doctrine and priesthood fitted in its place perfectly to complete the whole structure, as it had been prepared by the Master Builder.” (*Doctrines of Salvation*, Vol. 1, p. 170)

Despite this statement, many of the revelations have been falsified. Over 2800 words have been changed since the revelations were first printed. Many of the revelations were altered to cover up errors in the Church.

The Doctrine and Covenants contains revelations supposedly given by God to Joseph Smith and a few others at a particular place and on a particular date. The revelations were first printed in a book known as, “The Book of Commandments” in 1833. When the revelations were reprinted a few years later in the “Doctrine and Covenants,” new revelations were added and many of the old revelations underwent drastic change. **The following revelation had over 400 words added to it years later, yet the same date and place are given with no indication whatsoever that any changes have been made.** Here is the actual photocopy of the revelation as it appeared in the Book Of Commandments, Chapter 28. The words surrounding this revelation would have to be added to bring it into conformity with Section 27 of the current edition of the Doctrine and Covenants.

This is the revelation the Mormon Church refers to in order to prove they had the Melchizedek Priesthood by 1830 when the Church was officially established.

Mormonism claims this special priesthood is absolutely necessary to speak for God, yet this revelation has been falsified to prove this priesthood existed in 1830.

The Preface to the *Book of Commandments*, as well as Section 1 of the *Doctrine and Covenants*, contains this statement:

“Search these commandments, for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them shall all be fulfilled.

What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken, and I excuse not myself; and though the heavens and the earth pass away, my word shall not pass away. . .” (v. 37,38)

**THIS REVELATION HAD ONLY 7 VERSES WHEN IT WAS FIRST PRINTED, YET OVER 400 WORDS HAVE BEEN ADDED YEARS LATER WITH NO INDICATION WHATSOEVER.**

AND TAKE UPON YOU MY WHOLE ARMOR THAT YE MAY BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND THE EVIL DAY, HAVING DONE ALL, THAT YE MAY BE ABLE TO STAND. STAND, THEREFORE, HAVING YOUR LOINS GIRT ABOUT WITH TRUTH, HAVING ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHEOUSNESS, AND YOUR FEET SHOD WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE, WHICH I HAVE SENT MINE ANGELS TO COMMIT UNTO YOU; TAKING THE SHIELD OF FAITH WHEREWITH YE SHALL BE ABLE TO QUENCH ALL THE FIERY DARTS OF THE WICKED; AND TAKE THE HELMET OF SALVATION, AND THE SWORD OF MY SPIRIT, WHICH I WILL POUR OUT UPON YOU, AND MY WORD WHICH I REVEAL UNTO YOU, AND BE AGREED AS TOUCHING ALL THINGS WHATSOEVER YE ASK OF ME,

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#### CHAPTER XXVIII.

1 A Commandment to the church of Christ, given in Harmony, Pennsylvania, September 4, 1830.

**L**ISTEN to the voice of Jesus Christ, your Lord, your God and your Redeemer, whose word is quick and powerful.

2 For behold I say unto you, that it mattereth not what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, when ye partake of the sacrament, if it so be that ye do it with an eye single to my glory;

3 Remembering unto the Father my body which was laid down for you, and my blood which was shed for the remission of your sins:

4 Wherefore a commandment I give unto you, that you shall not purchase wine, neither strong drink of your enemies:

5 Wherefore you shall partake of none, except it is made new among you, yea, in this my Father's kingdom which shall be built up on the earth.

6 Behold this is wisdom in me, wherefore marvel not, for the hour cometh that I will drink of the fruit of the vine with you, on the earth, and with all those whom my Father hath given me out of the world:

7 Wherefore lift up your hearts and rejoice, and gird up your loins and be faithful until I come: Amen.

AND YE SHALL BE CAUGHT UP THAT WHERE I AM YE SHALL BE ALSO.

SENT UNTO YOU; MY SERVANTS, JOSEPH SMITH, JUN., AND OLIVER COWDERY, TO ORDAIN YOU UNTO THE FIRST PRIESTHOOD WHICH YOU HAVE RECEIVED, THAT YOU MIGHT BE CALLED AND ORDAINED EVEN AS AARON; AND ALSO ELIJAH UNTO WHOM I HAVE COMMITTED THE KEYS OF THE POWER OF TURNING THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS TO THE CHILDREN, AND THE HEARTS OF THE CHILDREN TO THE FATHERS, THAT THE WHOLE EARTH MAY NOT BE SMITTEN WITH A CURSE; AND ALSO WITH JOSEPH AND JACOB, AND ISAAC, AND ABRAHAM, YOUR FATHERS, BY WHOM THE PROMISES REMAIN; AND ALSO WITH MICHAEL, OR ADAM, THE FATHER OF ALL THE PRINCE OF ALL, THE ANCIENT OF DAYS; AND ALSO WITH (PETER, AND JAMES, AND JOHN) WHOM I HAVE SENT UNTO YOU, BY WHOM I HAVE ORDAINED YOU AND CONFIRMED YOU TO BE APOSTLES, AND ESPECIAL WITNESSES OF MY NAME, AND BEAR THE KEYS OF YOUR MINISTRY AND OF THE SAME THINGS WHICH I REVEALED UNTO THEM; UNTO WHOM I HAVE COMMITTED THE KEYS OF MY KINGDOM, AND A DISPENSATION OF THE GOSPEL FOR THE LAST TIMES; AND FOR THE FULNESS OF TIMES, IN THE WHICH I WILL GATHER TOGETHER IN ONE ALL THINGS, BOTH WHICH ARE IN HEAVEN, AND WHICH ARE ON EARTH; AND ALSO WITH

WORDS ADDED

MORONI, WHOM I HAVE SENT UNTO YOU TO REVEAL THE BOOK OF MORMON, CONTAINING THE FULLNESS OF MY EVER-LASTING GOSPEL, TO WHOM I HAVE COMMITTED THE KEYS OF THE RECORD OF THE STICK OF EPHRAIM; AND ALSO WITH ELIAS, TO WHOM I HAVE COMMITTED THE KEYS OF BRINGING TO PASS THE RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS SPOKEN BY THE MOUTH OF ALL THE HOLY PROPHETS SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN, CONCERNING THE LAST DAYS; AND ALSO JOHN THE SON OF ZACHARIAS, WHICH ZACHARIAS HE (ELIAS) VISITED AND GAVE PROMISE THAT HE SHOULD HAVE A SON, AND HIS NAME SHOULD BE JOHN, AND HE SHOULD BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF ELIAS; WHICH JOHN I HAVE

WORDS ADDED

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Certainly if these revelations were from God there would be no need to tamper with them.

## A TRUE PROPHECY?

*Doctrine and Covenants*, Section 3, contains a revelation given to Joseph Smith in July, 1828. Verse four states:

"For although a man may have many revelations, and have power to do many mighty works, yet if he boasts in his own strength, and sets at naught the counsels of God, and follows after the dictates of his own will and carnal desires, he must fall and incur the vengeance of a just God upon him."

**Approximately 16 years later in May, 1844, Joseph Smith made this boast:**

"Come on! ye prosecutors! ye false swearers! All hell, boil over! Ye burning mountains, roll down your lava! for I will come out on top at last. **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. The followers of **Jesus** ran away from Him; but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet. . . When they can get rid of me, the devil will also go." (*History of the Church*, Vol. 6, pp. 408, 409)

**31 days later Joseph Smith was murdered by an angry mob. However, Joseph Smith shot and killed at least two people in the process.** (*History of the Church* Vol. 7, pp. 102, 103)

## MORMONISM AND THE BIBLE

Brigham Young stated:

"Take up the Bible, compare the religion of the Latter-day Saints with it, and see if it will stand the test." (*Journal of Discourses*, Vol. 16, p. 46)

**Mormonism teaches God wasn't always God, God is an exalted man, and men may become Gods:**

"God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man . . . for I am going to tell you how God came to be God. We have imagined and supposed that God was God from all eternity. I will refute that idea, . . . you have got to learn how to be Gods yourselves. . . ." (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, pp. 345, 346)

**The Bible emphatically declares:**

". . . I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me." (Isaiah 43:10)

". . . the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him." (Deuteronomy 4:35)

## WHICH JESUS?

The Word of God, the Bible, gives a warning about those who will come and preach 'another Jesus':

"For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, . . . For such are false apostles . . ." (II Corinthians 11:4, 13)

**The Jesus of Mormonism is the spirit-brother of Lucifer and is the Savior only because Satan's plan was rejected:**

"The appointment of Jesus to be the 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)

**Nowhere in the Bible does it indicate that Satan submitted a plan to be Savior of the world. The Bible teaches Jesus created everything, including Satan, so they cannot be brothers:**

"For by him [Jesus] were all things created, that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him." (Colossians 1:16)

**Mormonism teaches that Jesus Christ was not begotten by the Holy Ghost and denies the Virgin Birth:**

"Now, remember from this time forth, and for ever, that Jesus Christ was not begotten by the Holy Ghost." (Brigham Young, *Journal of Discourses*, Vol. 1, p. 51)

Christ was begotten by an Immortal Father in the same way that mortal men are begotten by mortal fathers." (Apostle Bruce McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, 1979 edition, p.547)

**The Bible refutes these teachings:**

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. . . for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost." (Matthew 1:18,20)

**Mormon leaders have taught that Jesus was a polygamist:**

". . . the great Messiah who was the founder of the Christian religion, was a polygamist, . . . both God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ inherit their wives in eternity as well as in time;" (Apostle Orson Pratt, *Seer*, p. 172)

**The Bible does not support this teaching.**

## THE GOOD NEWS

“. . . Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.” (I Corinthians 15:3, 4)

“That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith. . .”  
(Ephesians 3:17)

“But as many as received him [Jesus], to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.” (John 1:12)

“Behold, I [Jesus] stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.” (Revelation 3:20)

“He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life,. . .” (I John 5:12,13)

**WE LOVE YOU ENOUGH TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH.**

If you would like further information concerning Mormonism, or if this tract has been a blessing to you, write:

**Challenge**  

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**MINISTRIES**

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P.O. Box 20195  
El Cajon, Calif. 92021

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