



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

WE B [www.exmormonsforjesus.org](http://www.exmormonsforjesus.org)

NEWSLETTER ~ SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2012

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

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**FROM CHAR'S DESK**

Today Mormonism is seeming to become more like true Christianity. They are talking more about God's mercy and grace and the doctrines in the Book of Mormon that come from the Bible. Does this mean that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints no longer believe in their anti-biblical doctrines, no longer believe in temple endowments, no longer believe they are the only true church, etc.? Why don't you ask them?

The Christian (or apostate Church): *is in gross darkness; has narrow & bigoted & false creeds; has departed from the true doctrines; has false heresy; will reap damnation to our souls; has the devil at its foundation; are hypocrites; has an inaccurate bible; has preachers that are false; has false worship which leads to damnation; are harlots; worship the lord but have totally false concept of the nature and kind of being he is; and, finally, believe in the soul-destroying doctrine of gaining salvation by grace alone and without obedience.*

**THE INCREDIBLE DECEPTION OF MORMONISM**

The past era of Mormonism had no problem in boldly dubbing Christianity with the term "apostate Christendom". Today, however, Mormons are taught to accept us Christians because, as they put it, "anyone who believes in Christ is a Christian". While this may be a smart public relations tactic on their part, it is deceptive and wasted verbiage because while their words may have changed, their true position hasn't! To believe otherwise would negate their whole premise for a "restored gospel".

If Mormons really believed all of this, one wonders **why** they would want to lump Christianity and Mormonism into the same category? Well, as said earlier, I guess it just makes for good P.R. even when they know they do not believe we are equal.

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"Only God can turn a mess into a message, a test into a testimony, a trial into a triumph, a victim into a victory. God is good...all the time."

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In his book MORMON DOCTRINE, Bruce R. McConkie described "Christendom" as follows: "That portion of the world in which so-called Christianity prevails—as distinguished from heathen or Mohammedan lands—is called Christendom. The term also applies to the whole body of supposed Christian believers; as now constituted this body is properly termed apostate Christendom." (p.131). The book goes on to further belittle Christianity as follows:

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



Thank You

## REGARDING THE JOURNAL OF DISCOURSES

When sharing on Mormonism, Christians often refer to passages in the “Journal of Discourses”. These are 26 volumes containing sermons of early LDS leaders. But because there are many embarrassing (and even some discarded doctrines - e.g. Adam is Heavenly Father as taught by Brigham Young for many years), some Mormons try and tell us we can't use these books. Their excuses as to why vary (not scripture, uninspired, etc). However, they believe Joseph Smith brought a *restoration* of the truth, so isn't it logical that Joseph Smith and leaders closest to his time would know and teach pure and undefiled doctrines with greater accuracy than those in *our* day?

I think most clear minded people would agree with the above logic, but even if they don't, we have many of the Prefaces (or Introductions) to these volumes that say otherwise. Following are just a few of the pertinent excerpts (all emphasis mine):

Vol.1 - *“...these Sermons will be most valuable, as a gauge [sic] of doctrine, a rule of rectitude, and a square to life...”*

Vol.3 - *“After the fathers and mothers of this generation have made them the study of their lives, their children's children will find that they are still unexhausted, and rejoice that **this Record has been handed down from their fathers to also aid them in following the way of life.**”*

Vol.8 - *“The Journal of Discourses deservedly ranks as one of the standard works (i.e. scripture) of the Church, and every rightminded Saint will certainly welcome with joy every Number as it comes forth from the press...”*

Vol.11 - *“The ‘Journal of Discourses’ is a vehicle of doctrine...No Saint can afford to do without these precious precepts...”*

Vol.18 - *“We regret that the circulation of the JOURNAL OF DISCOURSES is so limited. Its importance would warrant a thousand-fold greater extension of this work. We anticipate a time, not distant in the future, when a copy of the present volume will be more precious than gold...”*

Even though the Preface of Volume 8 (above) tells us that these Journals “ranks as one of the standard works of the Church”, some Mormons will still choose to disagree. However, their own church leadership refers to these individuals as “misinformed” members who “err”, as follows:

*“We should regard both the standard works and inspired declarations of living prophets as valid and necessary sources of truth. Occasionally misinformed members of the Church will maintain that, although they accept the standard works as divinely inspired, they are reluctant to give equal credence to pronouncements of the living prophet. Such individuals are pursuing an inconsistent course and err, not knowing the scriptures (Matthew 22:29)...*

*“The prophet Joseph Smith taught that ‘a prophet was a prophet only when he was acting as such’ (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.278). Prophets have the right to personal opinions. Not every word they speak should be thought of as an official interpretation or pronouncement. However, their discourses to the Saints and their official writings should be considered products of their prophetic calling and should be heeded.*

*“There are those who insist that unless the Prophet of the of the Lord declares, ‘Thus saith the Lord’ the message may not be taken as a revelation. This is a false testing standard...The prophet does not have to say ‘Thus saith the Lord’ to give us scripture.” (“Teachings Of the Living Prophets – Student Manual Religion”, pp.20-21, emphasis added).*

So there we have it. Do not let a Mormon try and dance around this issue with you ever again. If they do not like what their past leaders have taught, then prayerfully they will realize that they have been following false prophets (1 John 4:1), will flee from them and seek the True God.

## CITATIONS OF CONCERN (From LDS Leaders)

In speaking of the Mormon priesthood, President Thomas S. Monson quoted President Wilford Woodruff as follows: *“It is **by this priesthood** that men have ordinances conferred upon them, that **their sins are forgiven**, and that **they are redeemed**. For **this purpose** has it been revealed and sealed upon our head.”* (The November 2000 “Ensign”, p.47, my emphasis)

Once again, it is something other than Jesus that supplies the blessings of forgiveness and redemption! In this same article, President Monson went on to say -- *“I revere the priesthood of Almighty God. I have witnessed its power. I have seen its strength. I have marveled at the miracles it has wrought.”*

If only he would replace the word “priesthood” with “Son” and “it” with “Jesus”, then all Christians could agree and rejoice. It would then sound like this: *“I revere the Son of Almighty God. I have witnessed Jesus’ power. I have seen Jesus’ strength. I have marveled at the miracles Jesus has wrought”.*

We pray that Mormons will take heed of scriptures like 1 John 2:23 – *“Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.”* Jesus, not a priesthood should be given all the reverence and glory!

### THE GREAT STUMBLING STONE

We often hear Mormons say, “of course we are Christians, we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ” (2 Nephi.25:26 B.O.M). How clever of Satan, let the people talk, rejoice in and preach about Christ as long as they stumble over what He did for them on the cross and try to get in right-standing with God through their own good works. This is the same mistake the Jews made: *“What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, **attained righteousness, even the righteousness which is by faith**; but Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at that law. Why? **Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as though it were by works. They stumbled over the***

*stumbling stone.”* (Rom.9:30-32 NAS)

Jesus made it clear that not everyone who says to Him, “Lord, Lord”, will enter the kingdom of heaven even though they did many good works in His Name. In fact, he will say to these people, “I never knew you, depart from me” (see Matt.7:21-23). Now obviously He knew *about* them, just as the Mormons know *about* Jesus, but when a group of people insist on doing things their own way instead of God’s, He will have to deny them.

So what is God’s way? It is to receive His *free gift* of salvation by grace through faith rather than by works (Eph.2:8-9, Rom.3:27-28, Rom. 5:1, Gal.2:16, Gal.2:21, Gal.5:4, Phil.3:9, Titus 3:5-7, etc.). The Mormon’s “Third Article of Faith” says: *“We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, **by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.**”* (My emphasis). However, trying to mix grace with works is like trying to mix oil with water. These two components will always remain separate and so it is when trying to mix God’s way with man’s: *“There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”* (Pr.16:25 NAS).

### CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE

*“I just wanted to thank you for helping me to understand more about the Mormon faith and more about my own beliefs. Lately I’ve been feeling spiritually lost and I wanted to try the Mormon church to see if I could become spiritually ‘whole’ again. I even met with the missionaries and visited the local ward.*

*The idea to become baptized weighted heavily on my mind (even though I have been already baptized in a Baptist church) but I felt the need to do some more research on the LDS beliefs. Somehow, while literally doing a Google search I found this website. I read the section “I’m investigating the Mormon church, and am confused” and when I was finished I picked up my Bible and opened to a random page. The first verse I saw was John 14:6. I realized that Jesus was all I needed and all I should be focusing on. I re-read the investigation section of your site and every verse from the Bible I firmly believed while the LDS beliefs did not make sense to me in my heart. I think God meant for me to find this*

website. I cannot join any church that does not focus primarily on Jesus. I wanted to tell you most of all that I believe that God is using you and this website for good. I pray that more people find this website and are helped in some way as I was. God bless you and thank you gain! A.M.

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From J.F: "Your source that you quote in your anti-mormon article is "mormon doctrine" which is a book that is not published by the church itself. Yes it was written by a member of the church. To go further you twist the words of the author. It is so funny how you attack other religions however I have never seen the LDS church write a public document concerning your religion or others religion. If your God is a God of mercy then I don't think he would write "hate" articles concerning others faith. I do believe that is a famous sticker, God is love right? haha"

Response: "I'm sorry that you feel we write "hate" articles because we only quote from Mormon books. "Mormon Doctrine" was not written by just a member of the Church, it was written by one of your twelve apostles and if he doesn't know correct Mormon doctrine, then who does? Please let us know where we twisted the words of the author and we will correct it. Thank you very much. In His Service, Charlotte Pardee

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From E.T: "Please pray for my parents \_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_ to break down the strongholds Mormonism has had in

their lives. I left the Mormon church around my early twenty's. My Aunt \_\_\_\_ keeps putting my name in the temple for prayer without my permission. Please pray for my relatives to leave my name out of the temple, shred my records and for protection from this oppression. Thank you for all that this organization is doing.,[it] is a blessing and a God send! May God bless you all and keep you protected as well, in Jesus name."

Response: "Thank you for your e-mail. We will put your parents on our prayer list and they will be prayed for each day we are at the Center. As to your request about your Aunt \_\_\_\_, write to your former bishop and tell him you do not want your relatives to put your name on their temple or prayer list and to please shred all of your records. If you don't hear from him telling you he has done it, please let us know. God bless you, Char"

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### SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

We hold monthly support group meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. These gatherings include a mini-lesson, testimony of an ex-Mormon, a question and answer time, and 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.

**EX-MORMONS FOR JESUS**  
**P. O. BOX 489**  
**ORANGE, CA 92856**

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