



The Voice Of Truth

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1621 Hillcrest Drive
Green Bay, WI 54313
(920) 499-5677

www.hillcrestchurchofchrist.com

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Which One Will You Take Your Stand With? Part VIII

By Jimmy Pettigrew

Now, let's look at the Mormons. Let us look at their authority for guiding them in their worship and work. The Mormons consider themselves as Christians for the faith in Christ as Savior, but their founder claims no authority by succession from any other church of sect. Neither did he claim any authority from the Bible. Instead he and his followers testified that they received their authority by direct revelation. The belief is that God continues to reveal His word through the prophets (president of this faith). Four books are their guide: (1) Book of Mormon, (2) Doctrine and Covenants, (3) Pearl of Great Price, (Inspiration is claimed for all other writings of the president their "prophet and seer", (4) Bible (King James Version) Article of Faith 8: The Bible is God's word in as far as it is translated correctly. See 1 Nephi 13:28, 39-41. During the first 13 years, Joseph Smith claimed 135 direct revelations.

The man who promises "Continuous Revelations" downgrades that which God has revealed in His word, and minimizes its completeness; he is an enemy of the Bible! God has in these last days spoken unto us in His Son (Hebrews 1:1-2). There is a curse placed on anyone, including an angel that preaches another gospel (Galatians 1:8-9). Jude tells us that "**THE FAITH**", the gospel, has "**ONCE FOR ALL**" been delivered to the saints (Jude 3). A curse is placed on

those who would dare to add to or take from God's word (Revelation 22:18-19). God has given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3).

"A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies" (Proverbs 14:5). We know that it is impossible for God to lie (Hebrews 6:18). We are not receiving further revelation! God has given us all we need to be right before Him! Who's lying?

Also, Mormons deny the eternal nature of God. Joseph Fielding Smith stated, "The Prophet [Joseph Smith] taught that our Father had a Father and so on." **Doctrines of Salvation, Vol. 1, p. 10-12**. This absurd idea implies that God had a beginning and denies that He is an eternal being (Revelation 1:8; 1 Timothy 1:17; Deuteronomy 33:27).

With regard to man, Mormonism teaches: (1) that men can become Gods; (2) that men pre-exist as spirits before their birth, and (3) that men are made in the physical image of God. Brigham Young stated: "The Lord created you and me for the purpose of becoming Gods like himself... we are created... to become Gods like unto our Father in Heaven." Journal of Discourses, Vol. 3, p. 93, as quoted in Mormonism - Shadow or Reality, p. 164. The Bible teaches there is one God, not a plurality of

gods (Isaiah 43:1-11; Galatians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:5; Ephesians 4:6). It should be noted that the Book of Mormon does not teach the plurality of Gods (Alma 11:27-29).

The Bible teaches that the existence of mankind is due to the creative ability of God (Genesis 2:7). Furthermore, a man's spirit does not pre-exist (Zechariah 12:1).

Mormonism teaches the following: that God has a physical body, God the Father has a Father, He is merely an exalted man, and God and Adam are the same. The Bible teaches that God is a Spirit (John 4:24); that God is not a man (Numbers 23:19); and that God is unchangeable (Malachi 3:6; James 1:17); and "a spirit hath not flesh and bones" (Luke 24:39).

The Mormons teach the doctrine of proxy baptism. Any faithful Mormon can be baptized for any person who has died outside of Mormonism. This is the driving force behind the Mormon obsession for Genealogical research. They want to know who their ancestors were so they can be baptized for them.

How could the action of another person after we are long dead affect our eternal destiny? Our responsibility to God is personal. "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12). We must believe or be lost. "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24). We must repent of our sins. "And the times of this ignorance God wrinkled at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent" (Acts 17:30). We must confess Christ. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. We must be baptized for the remission of our sins. "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38). No one can do these things for us. The clearest rebuke for the

practice of proxy baptism, strangely enough, comes from the Book of Mormons, the ones who practices baptism for the dead. Please note: "Yea, I would that ye would come forth and harden not your hearts any longer; for behold, now is the time and the day of your salvation; and therefore, if ye will repent and harden not your hearts, immediately shall the great plan of redemption be brought about unto you. For behold, this life is the time for men to prepare to meet God; yea, behold the day of this life is the day for men to perform this labors. And now, as I said unto you before, as ye have had so many witnesses, therefore, I beseech of you that ye do not procrastinate the day of your repentance until the end; for after this day of life, which is given us to prepare for eternity, behold, if we do not improve our time while in this life, then cometh the night of darkness wherein there can be no labor performed. Ye cannot say, when ye are brought to that awful crisis that I will repent, that I will return to my God. Nay, ye cannot say this; for that same spirit which doth possess your bodies at the time that ye go out of this life, that same spirit will have power to possess your body in that eternal world. For behold, if ye have procrastinated the day of your repentance even until death, behold, ye have become subjected to the spirit of the devil, and he doth seal you his; therefore, the Spirit of the Lord hath withdrawn from you, and hath no place in you, and the devil hath all power over you; and this is the final state of the wicked" (Alma 34:31-35). Which one will you take your stand with?

(Part 9 printed in next week's bulletin)