



H.I.S. Ministries March Newsletter, covering February 2008

Happy Spring time to you. It is coming, believe it or not. Our long and very cold winter is soon past. Salt Lake City, Utah has had record snow amounts and even places in the world where it hardly ever snows, have had snow. "Global warming" has been proven to be a false alarm. Cooling of our planet is now expected, but not feared, for we are looking to our Lord for things we cannot control.

This is what He says:

"He sends forth His command to the earth; His word runs very swiftly.

He gives snow like wool; He scatters the frost like ashes.

He casts forth His ice as fragments; Who can stand before His cold?

He sends forth His word and melts them; He causes His wind to blow and the waters to flow. (Ps. 147:15-18)

Quoting from Moriel Ministries' Newsletter of 2/26/08:

"Over the past year, anecdotal evidence for a cooling planet has exploded. China has its coldest winter in 100 years. Baghdad sees its first snow in all recorded history. North America has the most snow cover in 50 years, with places like Wisconsin the highest since record-keeping began. Record levels of Antarctic sea ice, record cold in Minnesota, Texas, Florida, Mexico, Australia, Iran, Greece, South Africa, Greenland, Argentina, Chile -- the list goes on and on...All four major global temperature tracking outlets (Hadley, NASA's GISS, UAH, RSS) have released updated data. All show that over the past year, global temperatures have dropped precipitously...

Meteorologist Anthony Watts compiled the results of all the sources. The total amount of cooling ranges from 0.65C up to 0.75C -- a value large enough to erase nearly all the global warming recorded over the past 100 years. All in one years time. For all sources, it's the single fastest temperature change every recorded, either up or down...Let's hope those factors stop fast. Cold is more damaging than heat. The mean temperature of the planet is about 54 degrees. Humans -- and most of the crops and animals we depend on -- prefer a temperature closer to 70. Historically, the warm periods such as the Medieval Climate Optimum were beneficial for civilization. Corresponding cooling events such as the Little Ice Age, though, were uniformly bad news...

*And remember the Arctic Sea ice? The ice we were told so hysterically last fall had melted to its "lowest levels on record?" Never mind that those records only date back as far as 1972 and that there is anthropological and geological evidence of much greater melts in the past. **The ice is back.***

Gilles Langis, a senior forecaster with the Canadian Ice Service in Ottawa, says the Arctic winter has been so severe the ice has not only recovered, it is actually 10 to 20 cm thicker in many places than at this time last year. We missed what was right in front of our eyes," says Prof. Russell. It's not ice melt but rather wind circulation that drives ocean currents northward from the tropics. Climate models until now have not properly accounted for the wind's effects on ocean circulation, so researchers have compensated by over- emphasizing the role of manmade warming on polar ice melt. But when Profs. Toggweiler and Russell rejigged their model to include the 40-year cycle of winds away from the equator (then back towards it again), the role of ocean currents bringing warm southern waters to the north was obvious in the current Arctic warming.

Last month, Oleg Sorokhtin, a fellow of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, shrugged off manmade climate change as "a drop in the bucket." Showing that solar activity has entered an inactive phase, Prof. Sorokhtin advised people to "stock up on fur coats."

He is not alone. Kenneth Tapping of our own National Research Council, who oversees a giant radio telescope focused on the sun, is convinced we are in for a long period of severely cold weather if sunspot activity does not pick up soon."

We found this interesting and thought you'd like to know, if you did not know this already. No need to panic – our Lord reigns. ☺

From our mailbox:

In our last month's newsletter I did not have room to include any of my correspondence with LDS writers. I promised to include some this month – so here it is:

(This LDS man has written to me more than a dozen of times during the last couple of years. He has even made threats against me in the past. (See our last November Newsletter.)

His long letter is in italics, my reply below it is in regular text.

“Dear Rauni,

*It really puzzles me why some Evangelicals make such a big deal about the **Mormon belief that Jesus is Satan's brother. I would rather they be brothers, since no one is responsible for the acts of another.** Is it not far worse for Jesus to have created Satan, knowing full well what Satan would do? If Jesus is Satan's brother, then according to God's law, he is not responsible for Satan's choices. However, if Jesus created Satan, then Jesus is responsible for bringing evil into the world, having created Satan with the knowledge of what he would do. This is like creating a dog, and then punishing him because he barks. If Jesus is omniscient and omnipotent, then in Satan he got exactly what he created, knowing exactly what he was doing, and being perfectly able to create a different type of being. **Satan exists because God wanted someone to punish. For endless eons of time, God existed by himself, and then he became bored and created conflict to entertain himself, knowing exactly what he was doing...It is only impossible for God to be Lucifer's brother if Jesus and God are the same being.***

*Yours is circular reasoning. You prove your interpretations by your interpretations. The nature of God has been the single most disputed doctrine in all of Christianity, and still is. It is largely a waste of time to discuss religion with someone who will not concede that there is room for doubt. This is pride, pure and simple. Historically, the best and most faithful Christians have disagreed on God's nature, because there is good biblical evidence for multiple points of view. For every scripture you cite that god is one single being, I can cite two which show the contrary. No one Christian can say with authority that his view is correct, even if he attempts to force others to agree with him, and damns those who won't. For example, Jesus said that he had not come to do his own will, but the will of him that sent him. No matter how much you argue, it is clear to me that one being has one will, two have two wills, and Jesus is not the same as his father. "Not my will, but thine be done." **Your god is wonderfully schizoid!** You are most welcome to damn me for not believing in your god. Try as you might, the most logical, natural, and reasonable conclusion is that Jesus was speaking of another being. I wonder why it is so difficult for you to admit that you are teaching your own interpretations of the scriptures, acting as an authority on a subject where the best minds in the past have failed to concur. **Not only is your Bible inerrant, but your interpretations of it are as well.** Many original Christians did not believe what you do, as their discussions of God's nature clearly indicate.*

*According to modern Christians, God created 100% of man, out of nothing, so he (God) is therefore completely responsible for the nature of his creation. He is omnipotent. He could have created man with a propensity to do good, but he didn't. He created man with a selfish nature. He created man with worldly lusts and appetites, and he created hell where he could put most of humanity, not destroying them out of existence when they disobeyed, but punishing them forever and ever. But those who go to heaven praise him forever and ever. This is an egotistical, sadistic god. It is a god in whom I cannot believe. I cannot praise sadism, I cannot praise irresponsibility for one's creations. **And I am unwilling to spend eternity with a god who will eternally punish my brothers and sisters instead of letting them go out of existence (don't tell me he can't do it) or allowing them a place of their own, to exist as they will.** Christians preach an active torment, not simply being without God, as you say. **After I go to hell for being a Mormon, I will gladly spend eternity there with other Mormons who love, respect and***

appreciate each other, and do not wish others harm, instead of living forever with your sadistic, egotistical god who desires to see me punished for having greater compassion and charity than he. George

P.S. I challenge you to print my letter in its entirety in your newsletter. Your reasoning may make sense to you, but I doubt that you can defend these modern Christian doctrines in others' opinions.

(As he requested, I am including his entire letter here.)

My response:

Jesus is God, Creator of **all things** (John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16) It is impossible that He would be a brother of His creation. Thus He cannot be Lucifer's brother!!

I take the Word of God to say what it means, and mean what it says. My interpretation does not enter into it at all. .. I understand the words, and I believe them.

For true Christians, there is nothing to dispute. There is nothing to doubt in what God has spoken of. Our understanding might be lacking, but not information that God has given to us... Paul explained that God reveals Himself, and many otherwise hard to understand things to us who are His, born from above by the Spirit of God. (1 Cor. 2:19-14), "...for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God: that we might know the things that are freely given to us by God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." Jesus said, "God is Spirit". (John 4:24.) **John explained the Triunity of God as clearly as it can be explained in words, when he wrote, "For there are three that bear witness in heaven, the Father, the Word (Jesus), and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one."** (1 John 5:7.) [Triunity of God (One God, three Persons), is found throughout the Bible.]

True believers in true Christianity have no disagreements on God's nature! The Bible clearly teaches that God is Triune God. I am a firm believer in the Word of God. *God holds His Word even higher than His Holy Name.* (Ps. 138:2). I stand by it. You mention pride! **Is it not pride that makes men think that they can become Gods? Is that not what you and all "temple Mormons" strive for? Pride caused Satan's fall.** (Isa. 14:12-14; Ez. 28:13-19.) **He too wanted to be like the Most High God.** That was what the devil used when he tempted Adam and Eve, in Gen. 3:1-5. But first he caused Eve to question what God had said before he presented his plan. That is the same method that is used by Satan in all "isms", as in Mormonism, namely, you too question what God has said in His Word, the Bible. Devil does not want people to believe God's Word as it is and what it says. He calls people (as Joseph Smith) to take away or/and add to it, doubt it and change it. People generally are lazy, they do not want to study and put their efforts into learning and understanding what God has said. When Joseph Smith wanted to put God's Word aside and not believe what it says, he added, changed and deleted from it. Lastly (in 1844) he made his god to be like he is, another man. Man can understand another man!

The Word clearly says that God is not a man, and that men will not become gods! (See Numbers 23:19; Hosea 11:9; Isa. 43:10; 44:6.) Paul warned about *changing God into a mere man*. In Romans 1:22-23 we read about men like Joseph Smith, "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man..." When Joseph Smith, a "natural man", could not understand eternal God, he created for himself and his followers a god after his (Joseph's) image, "made like to corruptible man". - I am sure you know what Joseph Smith said and what Mormons believe, right? Just in case you do not recall, let me quote him. He said, "God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens!...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..., and take away the veil, so that you may see....you have got to learn how to be Gods yourselves...same as all Gods have done before you..." (Teachings of Joseph Smith, pp. 345-346. Emphasis added.) This was in April 1844, only about two months before he was killed... Up to that time he had taught that God the Father is Spirit and only the Son has a body of flesh and bones. [See 1835 D&C, Part I, Theology of the Church, Lecture V.]

Triune God is not one person, but three Persons! They commune with each other, they love each other, they are eternally co-equal, co-existent Persons. They are, "the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and these three are one". James wrote that even demons believe that there is only one God, why cannot Mormons believe

that? (James 2:19.) Jesus is not the same Person as the Father, but Jesus is God – God the Son. He became a man, (John 1:1, 14). He was 100% God and 100% man. He did the will of the Father, which was His will also, for they, all three Persons of the Godhead, had agreed on God's plan before the world was. *In Christ fullness of Godhead (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) dwelled bodily.* (Col. 2:9.)

Actually, I am not interpreting, but I am reading the Word of God with understanding that has been given by the Holy Spirit, who resides in me. (1 Cor. 2:10-14.)

“Original Christians” were followers Christ and they believed what they wrote for our learning. The New Testament writers are our instructors in Christianity. You should know who they are, namely Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, Peter, James and Jude. Whatever “discussions” came after them, does not concern me for I take the witness of the New Testament, not of those who came centuries after them. The NT writers were “eyewitnesses”, as Peter said (2 Pet. 1:16), and they all taught that God is one God, three Spirit Persons – one of them, *God the Son, became flesh and dwelled among us.* (John 1:1,14.) Peter wrote, “*We have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His Majesty.*”

“The LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breatheth into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul.” (Gen. 2:7).

The LORD God made the world and all that is in it out of nothing, by His Word. The LORD God made man *in His image. God is Spirit, God is love – man as His image has ability to love and have emotions, intelligence and is able to do good, etc.* God made mankind to have love fellowship with Him. Man was created to be free to choose. Love cannot be forced, so God had to allow man to have his choice to love Him and obey Him or not love God and disobey Him. God knew that they would disobey, but He also knew that He can redeem those who will choose to love Him, repent and come back to Him. God the Son, He became as one of us, “*likeness of man*” (Phil. 2:5-8) so that He, God, can pay the penalty we deserve. What we have now, our “*selfish nature*”, is, what came after the fall of man, when man became sinful.

“Lusts and appetites” came when sin entered to man’s heart – when man chose to rebel against God. Hell was not created for mankind, but for angels who rebelled. Mankind can choose to go there, but that is not according to God’s will. *He would that all would come to the knowledge of truth and be saved!* (1 Tim. 2:4.) As I read my Bible, I can see that God has done everything He can to keep people from damnation without forcing anyone. God Himself became a man and died for you and me, so we can choose to live with Him forever. You say that it is sadistic, egoistical God who made it possible for mankind to accept Jesus and become sons and daughters of God?? (John 1:12.) Yet, all who end up in Hell or in eternal punishment, end up there because they did not want to accept God’s gift of salvation as is promised in Eph. 2:8-9 and in John 3:16.

I am afraid that you are going too far. You are blaspheming God and trampling the Son of God under your foot by your arrogant words.

“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God.” (Hebr. 10:29-31)

You just may get what you wish, and be with Joseph Smith who also wanted to be with his Mormon “buddies” in hell... Let me quote here what Joseph Smith had said, *“I see no fault in the Church, and therefore let me be resurrected with the Saints, whether I ascend to heaven OR DESCEND TO HELL, or go to any other place. AND IF WE GO TO HELL, WE WILL TURN THE DEVILS OUT OF DOORS AND MAKE A HEAVEN OF IT. WHERE THIS PEOPLE ARE, THERE IS GOOD SOCIETY. WHAT DO WE CARE WHERE WE ARE, IF THE SOCIETY IS GOOD?”* (History of the Church, vol. 5, p. 517. Emphasis added.) By this time, July 1843, when he said this, it looks as Joseph Smith had realized what lays ahead, and he wanted to comfort his followers saying that if they stick together, they can transform hell into heaven. He had already forgotten what he had written into the Book of Mormon about eternal hell.

In Alma 12:17, he wrote, *“Then is the time when their torments shall be as a lake of fire and brimstone, whose flame ascendeth up forever and ever; and then there is the time that they shall be chained down to an everlasting destruction, according to the power and captivity of Satan...”*

And of the Devil he wrote in 2 Nephi 28:21 (underline added), *“And others will he (the devil) pacify, and lull then away into carnal security, that they will say: All is well in Zion; yea, Zion propereth, all is well – and thus the devil cheateth their souls, and leadeth them away carefully down to hell. And behold, others he flattereth away, and telleth them there is no hell; and saith unto them: I am no devil, for there is none – and thus he wispereth in their ears, until he grasps them with his awful chains,*

from whence there is no deliverance. Yea, they are grasped with death, and hell; and death and hell, and the devil, and all that have been seized therewith must stand before the throne of God, and be judged according to their works, from whence they must go into the place prepared for them, which is endless torment. Therefore, wo be unto him that is at ease in Zion! Wo be unto him that crieth: All is well.”

Come to think of it: don't you still sing a song in your LDS sacrament meetings, with the line, “All is well, all is well”?

(There are many, many references in the Book of Mormon to **hell and fire and eternal punishment** – even more than one can find in the Bible... It seems that, **according to your words**, your “Book of Mormon god” is sadistic...)

Best wishes, Rauni

P.S. Thanks for your suggestion of printing this letter (and my reply) in our Newsletter.

Our class at South Valley Baptist Church has been going already 6 weeks – 4 more to go. We have had very good attendance. Our next class will be again at Salt Lake City Calvary Chapel. So far we have covered *Gods of Mormonism*, *Jesus of Mormonism (Who is he?)*, *Joseph Smith's First Vision story (fact or fiction?)*, *Salvation according to Mormonism and Mormon scriptures*. All attending are getting a paper for each subject including documentation and suggested extended studies.

We again want to thank you for your prayers and assistance in this ministry. As you know, we do not receive a salary for our ministry work, but gifts you give to H.I.S. Ministry help us to cover costs we have for DVDs, books, printed materials etc. we send around the world and postage to mail them.

Please pray for us that we will stay healthy and that Dennis will have enough work to keep our personal bills paid. God has been faithful to us. He has provided for all our needs, as He has promised. (Phil. 4:19.)

We ask you to pray for Judy that she will see God's plan for her life and receive His help in her trials. Bruce is in a very dire situation due to the car accident (that was not even his fault) about 3 years ago that left him unable to work, and his insurance company is not willing to take care of what they are obligated to do. Pray that his attorneys are able to get him the compensation he deserves.

Dave's and Lisa's mother, Marilyn, is very ill. Please pray that she that will receive the best medical care possible and that family around her can comfort her and be comforted.

We just got a word from our friend Lisa – her very dear friend Suzanne, a new believer in Christ, has a serious cancer to deal with. Please pray for her healing and for her doctors to have skill and wisdom to deal with her soon coming surgeries. She is a single mother too.

We also received a prayer request for a young man, Jonn, who has had brain surgery a few months ago, but is now struggling with addiction and depression. His family is traveling to Utah to meet with him this weekend and try to bring him to the love of our Lord.

Please pray for several LDS men, who have been coming to our Mormonism class during the last several weeks, that they will be troubled enough about the facts we present to seriously investigate what they have put their faith and trust in, and repent and come to know the Lord Jesus of the Bible. They have not accepted materials we give to all there. One of them, when I asked why he is not taking papers we offer, said to me, “We are not allowed to take it.” Not allowed by whom? Materials we offer are LDS materials documenting that what we say is their leaders' teachings. **These poor people lack the freedom to even investigate their own stuff!** What a bondage they are in!!

There are several persons right now needing prayer for courage, who are very close to taking their step out of Mormonism and putting their faith in Jesus who is the Great I AM (John 8:24; 14:6.) Pray that we will sense the direction of the Holy Spirit and be able to say the right words of encouragement and offer help each one of them needs.

Our friend Greg Cantrell in Atlanta, GA, has asked prayer for his desire to go with fellow believers to minister in India, and God's provision for covering the cost of this mission trip. They will be ministering in the slums and tribal colonies in Southeast Asia. Each team member will need \$3,200.00, which is "*tax deductible with eternal return*". If you are able to help, please call us, and we will give you Greg's address and other pertinent information.

May you be blessed and rewarded for all you do for our soon coming King Jesus.

In Him,

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