



August 1, 2012

## H.I.S. Ministries August Newsletter, covering July 2012

Summer is almost half over. ☺ However, we have enjoyed it and we took a few days to go camping with friends. We had great discussions about our common salvation and the joy in the Lord Jesus and our freedom in Him that we all as former Mormons now enjoy. The Word of God, the Bible, gives us confidence that in spite of the world *spinning out of control*, we can trust in the Lord and lean on Him...

The recent Colorado shooting tragedy has caused questions among unbelievers like: ***Where was God? Why did a “loving God” allow this to happen?*** Indeed, why? When something like this happens, **people acknowledge by their questioning that there must be a God, and ask why did He not prevent this?** Let's look at some basic facts: ***God/Jesus created the heavens and the earth and all that there is*** (Col. 1:16) and He gave mankind freedom to choose. Man chose to disobey God and sin entered into the world. Then God promised to ***give Himself as a Lamb that takes away the sins of the world*** – and that also by our own choosing. (Gen. 3:15; 22:8; John 1:29; Eph. 2:8-9.) **Jesus came and He gave His life to save all who believe in Him and come to Him.** (1 Cor. 15:1-4; Rom. 10:9-10.) People can choose to ignore those facts, but ignoring them does not make them less true. (Pro. 1:7; Ps. 14:1.)

Over 230 years ago America began with Pilgrims giving us that foundational faith in the God of the Bible. During the last sixty years God, the Bible and the name Jesus, have been removed from our schools and governments and businesses. ***People have said that they do not need God in government or in their schools.*** Let's examine what has happened since this was first forced on us. We have killed about sixty million babies by abortion. (Ex. 20:13.) We have given approval to homosexuality that the Bible calls sin. (Lev.18:22; Rom. 1:18-32.) Truth about God and Jesus is not taught even in many churches that have become “seeker-friendly”, trying to satisfy unbelieving crowds with entertainment rather than teaching the truth of the Bible. (2 Tim. 3:2-5.) Families are falling apart, children have no understanding of their purpose in life, and alarming number of teens commit suicide. Computer games and movies have desensitized people about violence and killings. Our national debt is out of control. Our government has been slowly moving towards control in all aspects of life, which is socialism - fast going towards communism. Each one of us can make our own list of problems that have come from forsaking God and His Word. **We have told God to leave us alone – and He has.** We are reaping what we have sown.

God offers a solution – in **2 Chron. 7:14**. That is, if we as His people would repent and humble ourselves before God Almighty and turn from our wicked ways, then He will hear from heaven and forgive, and heal our land.

***“We must repent, which means that we must change directions and publicly and without shame acknowledge that Jesus is the only true God (John 10:30; 14:6). We must restore the Bible as supreme authority in everything – in government, in our schools, homes and churches. We must acknowledge the Bible’s definition of sin and desire to live by biblical instructions. We must teach the power of the***

*shed blood of Jesus in our churches without reservation and we must defend the correctness of the Bible (1 Pet. 3:15). We must share the truth and necessity of biblical salvation with our family, friends and all we meet.”* (Compass eNews, 7/2012.)

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We have received many emails asking our opinion as former Mormons about the up-coming presidential election and the situation this country is facing. Many are wondering who they should vote for. Some have pondered that perhaps they *have to vote for the “lesser-evil”*, whichever that is in their minds! We ought to ask ourselves: *Would the Lord approve of our vote for a “lesser-evil?” Isn’t a “lesser evil” still evil?* The question of who to vote for has to be presented to the Lord in a sincere prayer, and if you’d ask the Lord – your conscience through the Spirit of the Lord will let you know what you need to do if you are willing to listen. How about voting for our real King - King Jesus? We could write on our ballot – “we want Jesus, *His Kingdom come*”. **Wouldn’t it be something if all Christians voted for Jesus – and the Lord actually came...☺**

Many wonder if Mitt Romney was elected as a president, how much influence would the Mormon Church have on him? **You can reason that from teachings Mitt Romney has been under all his life and what obeying and following the Prophet means to a temple active Mormon - as Mitt Romney is.** Many do not know what the **Mormon plan for America and the world is, anymore than they know what the Muslim plan for America and the world is... Both of these religions (Mormonism and Islam) are seeking world domination** (even if by different methods). [In contrast to these religions, Christian Church’s only plan and purpose is to bring people to salvation through the Lord Jesus of the Bible.]

We have noticed that in spite of serious differences in fundamental doctrines between Mormonism and biblical Christianity, many Evangelical Christians favor a Mormon candidate because of the LDS Church’s stand on *morality and clean living* and because of their seemingly good economic stand in the world and their success and presumed good work-ethics.

When talking with a Mormon about doctrinal issues, it will soon become evident that they use Christian words and terms, but they have attached a different interpretation to them. Thus also the word “*kingdom*” or phrase “*Kingdom of God*” do not have the same meaning to a Mormon as what they mean to a biblical Christian. Considering our limited space, I can only briefly explain what the “*kingdom of God*” is in “*Mormonese*”.

**Unlike all other churches in the United States, the Mormon Church does not view itself as merely a religious organization, but one that combines religion and political power with a purpose of leading the USA and eventually the world into a One World Religion and Government under the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.** Studying the history of the Mormon Church, we have discovered that this has been their goal from their early years onward.

Current **Mormon Doctrine** says, “*The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as it is now constituted, is the Kingdom of God on earth. Nothing more needs to be done to establish the kingdom. The kingdom is here, and it is the same kingdom which Daniel said would be set up in the last days (Dan. 2:44-45.) This same kingdom has been set up... The Church and the kingdom are one and the same...The Church (or kingdom) is not a democracy...The [Mormon] Church is the kingdom. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Eternal King, and the President of the Church, the mouthpiece of God on earth, is the earthly king. All things come to the Church from the King of the kingdom of heaven, through the king of the kingdom on earth. There is, of course, the democratic principle of common consent where-under the people may accept or reject what the Lord offers to them. Acceptance [of the Mormon Church and Kingdom] brings salvation; rejection leads to damnation...On April 6, 1830, the ecclesiastical kingdom of God on earth was set up...*”

(Mormon Doctrine, pp. 415-416, emphasis added.)

Joseph Smith viewed himself as the “*prophet of the Restoration*” and that he did not have to be accountable to the “*Gentile laws*” (i.e. the laws of the United States). For example, he performed marriages without marriage licenses “*according to the rules and regulations of the Church of Christ*”, and married people who had not divorced their previous spouses. He established polygamy, which was illegal in the USA, and called it “the new and everlasting covenant”. (See D&C 132.) He himself made marriage proposals to girls as young as twelve, and had plural wives as young as fourteen, and he even took eleven married women who had living husbands as his own wives declaring that marriages performed before and outside of his church were not valid. He justified all this and more by naming his ways as “*theocratic ethics*”. It begun full force in Kirtland (1835-1838) and continued from there on. He encouraged stealing from non-Mormons, he threatened dissenters or other alleged enemies with physical violence, etc... (For more detailed information on this, see D. Michael Quinn’s, “*Mormon Hierarchy, Origin of Power*”, Chapter 3, *Theocratic Beginnings*.)

LDS author, Klaus J. Hansen in his book, “*Quest for Empire*”, explains further the role of *the Mormon Church as the political kingdom of God*, saying that “in order to prepare the world for the reign of the Son of God, the Saints (LDS) would have to establish a political government on earth prior to His coming,” He quoted apostle George Q. Cannon, who said “the time will come when the elders of the church would go out to the world not as representatives of an ecclesiastical organization, but also as literal ambassadors of the Mormon kingdom of God, accredited to foreign governments. For the kingdom of God was to become a political power, known and recognized by the powers of earth.” The Mormon leaders have continued to work towards combining the political and religious plans into one, even though not as openly in these days as they did before.

President Brigham Young said, “The business of the Latter-day Saints is to bring forth the kingdom of God in the last days, morally, religiously and politically.” (Journal of Discourses, vol. 9:316.)

Another Mormon prophet, John Taylor, preached, “We used to have a difference between Church and State, but it is all one now... In politics as in everything else we want to know the will of God, and then do it... I very much doubt the right of men to do as they please when they profess to be Latter-day Saints; because we have covenanted [in Temple] together to keep the commandments of God and obey the holy priesthood.” (JoD 11:355-356. Emphasis, and words in brackets, added.) And how do Mormons believe they can know what is the will of God? They know it by following their prophet, and doing whatever he says. Note again what the prophet said, “As a Mormon, you do not have the right to do as you please... you have covenanted [in temple]... to obey the holy priesthood”, which means “*obey the prophet of the Church*”.

However, the Mormon Church cannot any longer openly defy the US Government, yet **they also believe that a time will come, or perhaps now has come**, when “*the U.S. Constitution is going to hang by a thread*” and be just about destroyed until/unless Mormons are going to step in and save it. This is believed to be a prophecy of Joseph Smith. (Statements for this can be found in JoD 6:152; 2:182; 7:15; 21:31 and in other writings of the Church.) This prophecy could be fulfilled by a US President, who is a faithful Mormon (as Mitt Romney is), and “*who has covenanted to obey the priesthood*”. President Ezra Taft Benson, the 13<sup>th</sup> President and Prophet of the Mormon Church, gave a speech in BYU, on Feb. 26, 1980, titled “*The Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet.*” This was considered to be mandatory instructions for anyone who is worthy to be counted as a true Mormon.

Let’s look at them here:

“Fourteen Fundamentals In Following the Prophet,” for our salvation hangs on them.

**FIRST:** The prophet is the only man who speaks for the Lord in everything.

**SECOND:** The living prophet is more vital to us than the standard works [i.e. scriptures].

**THIRD: The living prophet is more important to us than a dead prophet.**

**FOURTH: The Prophet will never lead the Church astray.**

**FIFTH: The prophet is not required to have any particular earthly training or credentials to speak on any subject or act on any matter at any time.**

**SIXTH: The prophet does not have to say "Thus Saith the Lord," to give us scripture.**

**SEVENTH: The prophet tells us what we need to know, not always what we want to know.**

**EIGHTH: The prophet is not limited by men's reasoning.**

**NINTH: The prophet can receive revelation on any matter, temporal or spiritual.**

**TENTH: The prophet may be involved in civic matters.**

**ELEVENTH: The two groups who have the greatest difficulty in following the prophet are the proud who are learned and the proud who are rich.**

**TWELFTH: The prophet will not necessarily be popular with the world or the worldly.**

**THIRTEENTH: The prophet and his counselors make up the First Presidency--the highest quorum in the Church.**

**FOURTEENTH: The prophet and the presidency--the living prophet and the First Presidency--follow them and be blessed--reject them and suffer.**

So that today's Mormons could not say that *this was what President Benson said 30 some years ago but things have changed*, Ezra Taft Benson's Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet were re-emphasized in October 2010 General Conference and brought back as a current and very important teaching, to be followed by all Mormons. Not just one, but two General Authorities of the LDS Church, in October 2010 General Conference, repeated ALL President Ezra Taft Benson's "Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet", thus assuring that Benson's teaching is to be believed and obeyed. [Claudio R.M. Costa's message was titled "Obedience to the Prophets", and Kevin R. Duncan titled his message "Our Very Survival". (Ensign, Nov. 2010.) ]

Mitt Romney comes from a prominent LDS stock. Mitt Romney's uncle, Marion G. Romney was an apostle of the LDS Church (who, like Mitt's father, was born in a polygamist Mormon Colony in Mexico). Marion G. Romney was ordained an apostle in 1951, and he also served as a counselor in the First Presidency to President Harold B. Lee in 1972, and after his passing, also to the next President, Spencer W. Kimball, from 1973 till his death. President Harold B. Lee, emphasized, "...a person is not truly converted until he sees the power of God resting upon leaders of this church, and until it goes down into his heart like fire." Apostle Marion G. Romney confirmed this by saying, "...I have never hesitated to follow the counsel of the Authorities of the Church even though it crossed my social, professional and political life."

The 3rd Mormon prophet, John Taylor, had emphasized, "We are not fit to occupy our places in the kingdom...except we are willing to be obedient."

The Mormon Church has convinced their members that "the Holy Priesthood will qualify them for all positions of life". They demand that obedience to the prophets has to be absolute, even if that prophet has no earthly training, knowledge or experience on issues he may command ...That should frighten most Americans! What if they get a president who has sworn to obey and put the Mormon Church above all else? Mitt Romney has done just that!

Mitt Romney has taken an oath in an LDS temple, "before God, angels and these witnesses (present when he took this oath) to consecrate himself, his time, talents, and everything he now has, or will have in the future, for the building up of the Kingdom of God (i.e. the Mormon Church) here upon the earth, and for the establishment of Zion."

-----I was asked about 5 years ago to give my take on Mitt Romney, when he was first time a candidate for US President, and what I thought it would mean to this country to have a president who is a devout Mormon. I hesitated at first, but eventually relented, seeing that this question was more related to Mormonism than politics, and after all, our ministry's purpose is to expose Mormonism and eternal dangers that it presents to those who follow its gods, "Jesus" and plan of salvation.

**Following (in italics) is what I wrote in June 2007 - and nothing has changed:**

*I would not vote for Mitt Romney, not because I think he is a bad person, or that Mormons in general are evil people. Quite the opposite. I can say that I do not think we could find a more morally decent person for a president in this country than Mitt Romney. So what is the problem? The problem is that Mitt Romney is a Mormon, and Mormonism is a very aggressive cult, a religion that leads people to eternal separation from Jesus Christ of the Bible. Mitt Romney served an LDS mission as a young man. He has served as an LDS Bishop and also as a Stake President (presiding over several Mormon wards). All his adult life he and his wife have been active, temple-recommend holding Mormons. In other words, he is a dedicated and motivated Mormon!*

*A US president with no definite religious beliefs, or a membership in some mainstream Christian denomination, may not have an influence that could have an effect on eternal lives of individuals, but a man with deep-rooted cultic beliefs could influence millions into joining Mormonism, especially when taking into consideration that the LDS Church has a nearly sixty-thousand-strong missionary force, that could and would use President Romney as "bait" for an introduction into Mormonism, not only in the United States, but around the world.*

*Majority of people in this country as well as elsewhere are not familiar enough with Mormonism to be able to separate it from traditional Christianity – after all, they sound the same – but are they?*

*About ten days ago (in May 2007) Rev. Al Sharpton made a visit to Salt Lake City to apologize and clear up some derogatory statements he had made about Mitt Romney. According to the papers, the LDS leadership "cleared" them up all right... After this visit Al Sharpton said, "It [his visit] was about our trying to learn about each other as believers in God and Christ, to find a common ground... [and] work together for the good of humanity." (SL Tribune, May 22, 2007 – Section B, p. 1.) Al Sharpton obviously did not ask enough questions, or if he did, he was not told that the Mormon Church does not believe in the same God and Christ as biblical Christianity, even though President Gordon B. Hinckley has said publicly that he does not believe in the traditional Christ of Christianity.*

*Sharpton may not know that Mormonism uses Christian terms, but that it has given to all of them a totally different meaning. He also may have gotten some vague answers that seemed to speak of the same beliefs, but in reality they are not even close. Had he been told the truth, he would have learned that the God of the Mormon Church is not Eternal God of the Bible (Isa. 43:10; Ps. 90:2). He is a creation of Joseph Smith, made after his image. Quoting Joseph Smith, "God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man... 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... the same as all Gods have done before you... until you attain to the resurrection of the dead and are able to dwell in everlasting burnings..." (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, pp. 345-347.) [Everlasting burnings? That is hell, is it not?]*

*Mormon men, including Mitt Romney, are planning on becoming gods themselves, "same as all Gods have done before [them]"*

*Jesus of Mormonism is not a unique and the only Son of God, but he is the eldest of all spirit children of God born to God and his multiple wives in the "pre-existence". Mormon-Jesus is also a spirit-brother of Lucifer and all angels. When Jesus of Mormonism was born into mortality, He was not begotten by*



*the Holy Ghost, but he was begotten by their “father in heaven”, an exalted god-man. They teach that “Christ was begotten by an Immortal Father in the same way that mortal men are begotten by mortal fathers.” (Mormon Doctrine, p. 547.) Thus He was not Virgin born, Immanuel (Matt. 1:23), God, who became a man to die for mankind’s sins, but **He is a man who became a god, as all Mormon men are told they too can become.** There are many more differences between Mormonism and Christianity. **Are evangelical Christians going to support Mitt Romney’s presidency if they know more about his beliefs? Does person’s religious belief have an effect on the decisions they make? Are religious matters important when electing a president? Maybe not in an ordinary case, but Mormons have their own plan for America and the world, even though they say that they are Christians, but they are no more Christians than Muslims are.***

*Mitt Romney does not believe what Christians believe. If Mitt Romney knows what Christianity believes about God and Jesus, then he is being deceitful when he says or implies that he is a Christian. If Romney is willing to deceive for votes in this issue that could effect the eternal destiny of people world-wide, can he be trusted in protecting our interests in temporary matters?*

*Mitt Romney and Mormons in general maybe nice people as people go, but would his influence lead millions, who do not know what Mormonism teaches about God, Jesus and salvation, into the Mormon Church, thinking they are Christians, and thus lead them away from true Christ and to Christ-less eternity? I would say that would be the case.*

*The only way to solve this problem would be for Mitt Romney to be honest and make it clear publicly what Mormonism teaches and believes, and that Christian words used by Mormons do not mean the same to them as what they mean to Christians. He needs to admit that Mormonism is polytheistic, that they believe in many gods and men becoming gods, and that they too in the future will create worlds and populate them with their spirit children, who in turn will worship them as Father and Mother Gods. He needs to let the world know that in Mormon temples they go through rituals that include “eternal or celestial marriage”, which makes Mormon couples potential gods and goddesses and promises them eternal increase in their posterity. Only the most faithful of Mormons are eligible to enter a Mormon temple. Mitt Romney is in that elite group of Mormons. He is a temple-card (recommend) holding Mormon. Not only is he planning on godhood after this life, through his temple vows and oaths, he has also taken oaths in a Mormon temple to put the LDS church above all else. He has taken a solemn oath in a temple to “consecrate himself, his time, talents, and everything he now has, or will have in the future, for the building up of the Kingdom of God here upon the earth, and for the establishment of Zion”.*

*It is important to know and understand that the Kingdom of God to a Mormon is The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as it is now constituted, is the Kingdom of God on earth. The Church and the kingdom are one and the same.”(Mormon Doctrine, p. 415, 1966 ed.) His oath to consecrate himself means that he would have to do all that his church orders him to do, even if the US Government and her interests some day, while he is the president, are in opposition to the wants and desires of the Mormon Church. As a temple Mormon he must believe and accept what the LDS Church says it is,” the only true and living church upon the face of the whole earth.” (Doctrine and Covenants, 1:30.) The LDS scriptures also teach that all other churches and their professors (believers) are abomination to God. (Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith – History – 1:19.) Romney, as a temple-card holding Mormon, must accept and believe that whether he admits it or not to his voters. Joseph Smith is the founding prophet and all Mormons must revere him as such. Joseph Smith was, in a secret ceremony of his council of fifty, “ordained as the King to rule and reign over the House of Israel forever.” Joseph Smith was also a candidate for presidency, as was Brigham Young, and several other Mormons after that. The*

*Mormon Church has had political ambitions from the start, and Joseph Smith even made a prophecy concerning the “elders of the church” saving this country’s government and the world.*

*Some years back all temple-Mormons swore an oath against the United States, that said, “You and each of you do covenant and promise that you will pray and never cease to pray to Almighty God to avenge the blood of the prophets upon this nation, that you will teach the same to your children and to your children’s children unto the third and fourth generation.”* (This oath was considered treason against United States.)

*Mitt Romney’s father, grandfather, and his ancestry prior to that, have participated in this oath. This oath was discontinued about 80 years ago, but Mitt Romney is under that covenant, since his father, grandfather, great grandfather and great-great grandfather have taken that oath. The “prophets” spoken of in this oath are Joseph and Hyrum Smith, who were both killed in a gunfight, in Carthage Ill. in 1844. Joseph Smith killed two men and wounded a third one before he was gunned down (all that is documented in LDS History).*

*Mitt Romney has close relations to polygamy. His grandparents were polygamists. His father, George Romney, former presidential candidate and governor of Michigan, was born in Mexico, because his parents chose to leave Utah to be able to “legally” practice polygamy.*

*Maybe this is something to think about and consider. I do not have anything against Mitt Romney as a citizen and a man, but as a president of the United States, he would become a “poster-boy” for the Mormon Church, and his name would draw millions into Mormonism – and he could be influenced by the LDS Church on how this country and the world should be run.*

*For more details in this issue, please get Dr. Charles Wood’s book, “The Mormon Conspiracy, A Review of Present Day and Historical Conspiracies to Mormonize America and the World”. It can be ordered from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). I would also highly recommend Rocky Hulse’s (2007) book “When Salt Lake City Calls”, on this same topic. It is well researched and documented. (Rauni Higley, June 2007.)*

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#### **FROM OUR MAILBOX:**

I have been communicating with a Mormon lady since the latter-part of May. I have sent to her several DVDs (*DNA vs. The Book of Mormon; The Bible vs. the Book of Mormon; The Bible vs. Joseph Smith*) and our “*The Truth About Mormonism*” and also two of Mark Cahill’s challenging booklets comparing various religious beliefs, and what happens after we die. She says that she has watched all the DVDs and read what I have sent. I have already answered many of her questions giving biblical references to all doctrinal points, hoping that she will consider them and make her life right with the Lord Jesus and receive Him. She is having a hard time understanding. I will share her new questions (in italics) and my answers below hers here (to be continued next month).

#### **She wrote:**

*“.....My heart hurts at the thought that what I have learned and lived my whole life are possibly not the truth. I have a notebook that I have been writing my thoughts, ideas and questions in as I research. I was wondering if I just list them, you would address them for me as you find time.*

*1) May seem scattered but wrote as I thought. I guess my biggest question is what exactly do you believe happens when we die if there are no kingdoms or work? Do we just exist, float around??”*

**My reply:** *1) Because Bible doctrine is so different from Mormonism, and as long as all Mormon-teachings are still “in your head”, you cannot help but wonder. As still a Mormon I too wondered about what will we do in heaven if it is not like what we had been taught as Mormons – for *Mormon-heaven* is pretty much like this earth, and we as women would be having children, one after the other for eternity*

*and taking care of them* ... I was happy to learn that this was not so. I was determined to take the Bible as what it says, which is His Word for us, approaching it with trust in God who gave it to us (2 Tim. 3:16). After I received the Lord Jesus, and BECAME a child of God (John 1:12-13; Matt.1:23), I determined **not to question God's ability to make our life after death be more wonderful than we could imagine...** I learned that we will not have “*eternal increase*”, and we will not “*progress*” to godhood, for **God alone is God – there was no God before Him** (even though LDS Church says so), *nor will men become Gods after God* (Isa.43:10; 44:6). Jesus said that **there is no marriage in heaven.** (Matt. 22:30.) Studying the Bible revealed to me that I was fooled by Joseph Smith. - ☺ - **Our God is an awesome God.** He created the heaven and earth, the universe that is absolutely amazing. (John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16.) This world, even in its fallen condition, is still wonderful and beautiful. Sin corrupted this world and took away much of its beauty (see Gen. 3:17-18), but the **LORD promised to those whose names are written in Lamb's Book of Life, and who are thus saved, that He will create a new heaven and new earth for them.** (Rev. 20:15; 21:1.) Isaiah wrote that it is beyond our understanding *what God has prepared to those who love Him and honor and believe in Him.* (Isa. 64:4; 65:9.) Paul wrote, “*Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.*” (1 Cor. 2:9.) After being born again and receiving the Holy Spirit, it is natural to trust in God's plan and His love for us for He has become our Father. (John 1:12; Rom. 8:15.) Thus Paul continued, “*...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 of 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 (who has not been born again) receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness to him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*” (1 Cor. 2:9-14.)

**She continued:**

2) *I have contradicting info on some things, is God and Jesus the same person in your belief (the ancient scripture)? Many scriptures in the Bible lead me to believe they are separate. I feel like I am missing something here??? ex. Matt. 24:36 says His father is the only one that knows when he will come. John 3:16-17 God has Son die on cross.*

**My reply:** 2)As I have already written to you about Triune God - **The God of the Bible is not one Person, but three Persons – but one God.** 1 John 5:7 explains: “*For there are three that bear the record in heaven, the Father, the Word (Son), and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.*” Jesus said that *God is Spirit, and Spirit does not have flesh and bones.* (John 4:24; Luke 24:39.) The reason you think that you *are missing something* is because **Joseph Smith changed what the Bible (and even the Book of Mormon) teach about God, and that causes confusion in the minds of LDS. He did not change his doctrine of God until 14 years after he had organized his religion.** Confusion among LDS about who God is comes from this change in doctrine. **Both the BoM and the Bible teach against today's Mormon doctrine of God and Jesus!** (To verify that the Book of Mormon teaches that there is but **one God who is Spirit**, see Alma 11:26-35; 18:26-28.) When **Jesus, the Word of God**, the Second Person in Godhead, became a man, He was fully both a man and God. In John 1:1, 14 we read, “*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word (God) was made flesh, and dwelled among us...*” Philippians 2:6-8 explains that Jesus is God, “*Who, being in the form of God... made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*” God the Father and the Holy Ghost are Spirit Persons as was the Lord Jesus also before he became a man. Only the Son, the



**Word, is in a form of a man. “For in Him dwelleth all the fullness of Godhead bodily.”** (Col. 2:9.)  
John 4:24 says “*God is Spirit.*” **If it was not so, Godhead** (all three Persons in Godhead) **could not dwell bodily in Jesus.**

**She continued:**

3) *Why didn't Joseph Smith name the church after himself if it was all for him and power?*

**My reply:** 3) When Joseph Smith started his religion, he named it after Alexander Campbell's church where Sidney Rigdon (his First Counselor) came from. He named it “***The Church of Christ***”. That was the name of his church **from 1830 till 1835** when Joseph Smith changed the name to “**The Church of Latter-day Saints**”. Three years later (in 1838) he changed the name again, this time to what it is today. **(I will continue next month answering her many questions.)**

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We will be leaving soon to go to ***The Berean Call's Conference*** in Bend, Oregon (Dave Hunt's Ministry) (second week of August). We are excited to visit with the staff there and meet also Mark Cahill who is one of the speakers in this conference.

[We have handed out many of Mark's books and booklets that are excellent witnessing tools that cause people to start thinking about eternity...]

We have made plans several times to attend the **Berean Call's Annual August Conference**, but we have not been able to make it. Dennis has been working long days and hours to make sure we can do it this time. It is a long drive (over 1,200 miles round trip). We will be pulling our little trailer and staying in a campground that is about 20 miles from Bend. This way we can prepare our own meals and have a bed to sleep in - and for a lot less money than what the cost of airfares, hotels and restaurants would be - and besides, we like it that way too. It is almost like going on a camping vacation. ☺ Please pray for our safe travel and good health.

We again want to thank you for your prayers and gifts, no matter how small. They mean a lot to us and represent your love, thoughts and partnership in this work for the souls that will be added to God's Kingdom. Times are hard financially for just about everyone, but the Lord sees our struggles, yours and ours, and He makes sure that we'll get through, even if just barely. We pray that we'll always honor the Lord through faithful work in this ministry He has called us to do. There are many searching for truth - **and many brave ones are stepping out as they come to know Him who died for them.** In most cases it is very hard to separate oneself from family and friends who do not want to accept the Lord Jesus of the Bible, but who want instead belong to the Mormon Church and confess Joseph rather than Jesus. We are comforted, for we know that **the Lord Jesus will be with His own through these trials.**

Our reward is not necessarily received here, but in heaven. Following Him has a high price to some, **but His reward will be “out of this world” great.** He said (Matt. 10:32-39), “***Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny Me before men, him will I also deny before My Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And taketh not his cross, and followeth after Me, is not worthy of Me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for My sake shall find it.***”

The peace that He gives is **not as the world gives** (John 14:27), for when we have chosen Him over our own loved ones, it seems that **peace has gone away and sword has been taken against us.** **Jesus' point in this is that when we realize who He is and choose to follow Him, our unbelieving families may**

**turn against us.** That is true more often than not among Mormon families that follow “*the Church and Joseph*” and do not know the true God at all. Those born again and converted to Christ would be opposed by their unbelieving sons and daughters, but no family ties must be permitted to divert the believer’s determination to follow the Lord Jesus of the Bible. He has to be the One we love more than even our own children or parents, or our own lives that may be in danger because of Him - as was the case for many of His followers who were killed soon after the time of Christ. And today many of His followers face this danger in many parts of the world where Christians are killed by the thousands every year for refusing to deny their faith in Jesus. We receive a magazine, “*Voice of the Martyrs*” that reports tortures and killings of these faithful followers and asks prayer for them especially in Muslim countries, Vietnam and in India.

“*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem*”. (Ps. 122:6.) **Keep your eyes on Israel, and on signs of the times that Jesus told us about in Matt. 24:3-44.** Jesus said (Luke 21:28), “*And when these things* (see Matt. 24) *begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads: for your redemption draweth nigh.*” **Praise Him.**

Please pray for Debbie (she is doing better, but is still having chemo treatments), and for Sandy Herter for her healing from serious surgery, and for her family that is having a lot of various problems. We are praying for Merridy’s and Max’s healing, also for Dick and Patti, Dale and Sharon - all of these are our dear friends and we hurt when they hurt. Heber is still struggling with ringing in his ears, which is very troubling.

Our friend, Harriet, from North Carolina, just called asking prayer for her LDS son and his family. She has mailed some information to him with hopes and prayer that her son’s eyes will be opened to see that Mormonism is not Christianity.

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Obviously more and more LDS people are questioning their religion for we are getting from many active members deep doctrinal questions - more than before – even though they are still arguing *for Mormonism* and against the Bible. I have written pages and pages of answers to them. We are asking your prayers that their minds and hearts will open to understand what the Lord is saying **in His Word** about Himself, about salvation and about heaven and hell.

**We are going to start 9/9/12 another Understanding Mormonism class at Calvary Chapel, in SLC.**

It will be Sunday nights from 6:00 till 8:00 – we teach it till Thanksgiving week. Sign-up sheet is at Information Desk at Calvary Chapel – or you can call and register – 801.264-9999. We will have it in the “**family chapel**” which is not a big room – so the space is limited.

**Wishing you a blessed rest of the Summer.**

In Christ’s service,

Rauni & Dennis Higley

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**Though for the month:**

**“Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?” – Cori Tenn Boom**

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