



Nov. 1, 2012

H.I.S. Ministries November Newsletter, covering October 2012

I am writing this on a day before Halloween. Here in Utah Halloween is the most observed holiday.

October is a “*dark month*” in more ways than one—it is dark because the days are shorter, flowers are gone, and no snow yet in the valleys to brighten and lighten the days, but it is also gloomy because, at least here in Utah, dark powers seem to take over the lives and activities of people in preparation for **Halloween, which is the devil’s holiday, and evil in all imaginable forms is boldly displayed.** Houses are decorated with skulls and bones, witches and warlocks, demons and ghosts—some even add tombstones to their front lawns with screaming recordings as if coming from the tombs to frighten those passing by. **Utah, of all the 50 states, is again the leading state with its focus on scary images of death!** This must be because Utah is “*the Mormon State*” and **the Mormon Church and its most “sacred” (secret) temple rituals are the work for the dead. Their most holy places are their temples that are specifically built “so that the living may communicate with the dead”**, as LDS apostle Parley P. Pratt preached. The temple-going Mormons are said to be “*acting as mediums through which the living can hear from the dead.*” (Journal of Discourses, vol. 2:44-46.) The Bible calls that “*necromancy*”, and **God sternly forbids that, and calls it an *abomination in His sight.*** [Deut. 18:10-12 lists *necromancy* and *other occult practices that must not have any part in His people’s lives.*] Every year even Christians, especially children, are put under “*social pressure*” to participate in the celebration of Halloween. Children are exposed to Halloween at schools and they are urged to participate and dress up in various costumes, most of them depicting witches or something evil and frightening. Many people see this as “*harmless fun*” and do not oppose it. However, participating in activities of the **devil’s holiday** is not harmless for it can be an entry into the occult. **Halloween puts a focus on the enemy of our souls and he loves it.** Let’s not forget that this is a pagan holiday, having its beginnings with **the Druids’ day of the dead** when Celtic priests made their appearances as **wizards or magicians.** To some adult participants this holiday has become a masquerade, a party similar to Marti Gras. **Believers in the Lord Jesus, who is the God of the living, should have nothing to do with the celebration of Halloween, the Druids’ day of the dead—for it is thoroughly pagan and its emphasis is glorification of Satan, demons and death. It is deception all the way through.** Many Christian churches try to arrange something that will, in some sense, “compete” with this day by having “*harvest festivals*” or something similar so that Christian children do not feel “*left out of all the fun*” other children may seem to be having. **Calvary Chapel is again inviting children from the community and neighborhoods to participate in a Harvest Party, where children can have wholesome fun away from images of evil and scary things. They will hear stories from the Bible and the true biblical Gospel of Christ and His salvation is presented to all participating.**

Conclusion: The actual celebration of Halloween is a celebration of fear, darkness, death, demons, violence, hatred and evil. It is #1 celebration in Utah, but it is huge in the entire nation as well. Many Christians join in without thinking what they really are celebrating. Believers in Christ Jesus of the Bible ought not to have anything to do with Halloween - it is pagan and its emphasis is glorification of Satan, demons and death, and is a far cry from what true believers should be celebrating!

On Sunday, October 28th, Pastor Terry Long shared some statistics that we want to pass on to you. **Utah has the least number of evangelical Christians” in the entire nation. The major religion in Utah is LDS. Utah is the #1 state in the nation of “paid internet porn” use. Utah also leads in prevalence and seriousness of depression, and is the #1 state in the union in anti-depressant use of all 50 states, New Jersey being the lowest. US News reports that Salt Lake City ranked #1 as “2012 gayest city” per capita in the USA. Orlando, Fla. was #2, and Cambridge, Mass. was #3...surprisingly San Francisco was only 18th!!! All is not well in “Zion”, as Utah is called among LDS. Utah is an ignored mission field, largely because many do not understand Mormonism, and assume that Mormonism is at least close to Christianity because they use Christian terms when talking about their “gospel”.**

The Gospel of Grace and freedom found in Jesus alone must be presented to these lost souls.

That we live in the last days, is very obvious when reading what the Bible says about “*signs of the times*”. When Jesus was asked what shall the sign of His coming be, He said, “**Take heed that no man deceive you.**” (Matt. 24:4.) Increased deception is “**the sign**”, and do we ever see it now! Many are blinded by deception that is more often than not clothed in “niceness”, in “good works”, “helping the poor” etc. but **without preaching the gospel that saves. Not even the most generous service project by itself can save a soul.** While true Christians should be involved in good deeds, but without preaching of the gospel, the people they help would still be lost in sin and after death, be apart from God forever. The “**New Religious Right**” (NRR) embraces many unbiblical projects and activities, working together with cultists because they agree in “morality” or “values”. Both Mormons and Catholics et al boast of “*Christian values*” or “*biblical values*” and call themselves “*Christian*”, but when it comes to defining what it means to be a Christian, they do not reflect what biblical Christianity is - **faith in the cross of Jesus alone**. NRR will boycott a company whose unsaved executives promote the homosexual agenda, but then join with false teachers who preach *another Jesus* and *another gospel*, and by so doing lead millions to hell. Without knowing, believing and receiving **Jesus Christ who is God with us**, these “*do-gooders*” will spend eternity apart from God, unless they repent and believe the True Gospel of God. (1 Cor. 15:1-4; Acts 4:12.) They join with Mormons and Catholics in projects to “*improve society*” and they are careful “*not to offend these religious people*” who do and *say good things* even if they do not believe on the biblical God, Jesus and salvation, and instead promote “*another gospel*” in a name of “*another Jesus*”. When Christians urge unbelievers to conform to “*biblical values*”, but without repentance and faith in the true Jesus Christ, we may be implying to them that *a Christian* is anyone who is living a good life by trying to preserve their temporal life in this temporal world. Even if an unsaved person promotes morality and is against abortion and homosexuality, he and his followers will still spend eternity in hell, unless they repent and come to Jesus. Our election time now has brought this under a bright light. See Evidence Ministries’ Keith Walker’s blog: <http://blog.evidenceministries.org/an-open-letter-to-billy-graham-regarding-mitt-romney-and-mormonism> We see well-known Christian Ministries (as Billy and Franklin Graham) joining with Mormons in hopes of getting a Mormon president to improve the economy, regardless how many millions will join the Mormon Church because they will be impressed with the image of success and wholesomeness Mormons seem to represent. In Matthew 23, Jesus calls these kinds of religious leaders “*whitewashed tombs*” – looking good from the outside, but being spiritually dead inside even while promoting “*morality*” and “*good family values*”. It was shocking to read that Billy and Franklin Graham, not only agreeing to give their votes to Mitt Romney, they even **removed warnings about Mormonism and its false gods, another Jesus and another gospel, from their website**. Some Christian bookstores have followed Grahams’ example and removed books and materials that would expose what Mormonism is from their shelves in order to not offend Mormons now that a Mormon candidate may be elected to “rescue America from her financial ruins”. The Mormon Church is hoping to bring true Joseph Smith’s prediction that *it will be “the Mormon elders” who will save the Constitution and eventually make America a Theocracy, run by the Mormon Church*. How this might take place has already been put in motion: It was just this month, in October General Conference, that the LDS “prophet” Monson announced that next year [when there may be a *Mormon Elder* in the White House] every qualified 18-year old Mormon boy and 19-year old girl can be called on missions, knocking at more doors than ever before. Immediately after this announcement was made there were thousands more young men and women making their applications to serve their LDS missions, and bring more people into Mormonism. [The LDS Church has currently about

55,000 missionaries worldwide – this number may double in the near future.] This should be a huge concern to all believers in the true God of the Bible. God cares about souls that could be lost by this choice. We are amazed at the blindness of Christian pastors who are urging their congregations to vote “*according to conservative **Christian values and principals***”, implying that the one who holds these *Christian values* is Mitt Romney. One pastor added that “***your vote will be recorded in eternity***”. We agree that our votes *will be recorded in eternity*, but how do we explain to our Lord that we were voting for a man whose values are not actually Christian, even if he is a morally upright person, for he believes in many gods, and in a counterfeit Jesus, who is a brother of Lucifer, and that he himself is planning on becoming a god. Many are also referring to this candidate’s current pro-life stand, even though just a few years ago he promoted pro-choice and gay unions. Talking about *marriage between one man and one woman*, does it matter that this candidate’s own grandfather was a *polygamist* and that *his church’s scriptures* (D&C 132) *currently command polygamy* that is expected to be practiced as soon as law would allow it.

Surely we all understand that in light of America’s current economy, a man with business experience could very well improve our financial situation, but the cost of it could be souls of thousands, perhaps millions. **This is a matter of conscience – issues are spiritual and we each have to weigh this and look at it from our Lord’s point of view. He died for souls.** Are we willing risk souls of those for whom Jesus gave His life to save - so that we could have a better financial future? Are we gambling with eternal vs. temporal? I am just asking that the Lord’s own will consider this prayerfully. I have no right to suggest for whom you should vote – but I am asking that we all prayerfully seek the Lord in this as in all important matters – for they indeed “*will be recorded in eternity.*”

The Scriptures were written for our learning, and as examples for us. (Rom. 15:4; 1 Cor. 10:11.) As the Lord pleaded with His own (2 Chron. 7:14), He has been pleading with us that we’d repent so that He can heal our land, but we, as a nation, have not. We see that when Israel followed falsehoods, and not God, He allowed the enemy to conquer and make their lives miserable. (See Hosea 8:3-4.) They even hoarded silver and gold to secure their future – just as we see happening today. *There indeed is nothing new under the sun.* “**They have set up kings, but not by Me...of their silver and their gold have they made them idols, that they may be cut off**”. We hear often sort of fatalistic statements that it is God who sets the presidents, but it is people’s choices that have put America in this dilemma, and God allows it to bring us to repentance. Israel had to be taken to slavery before they were ready to repent...

Please join us in prayer that believers in Jesus will stand for Him and His Gospel, regardless of the cost. We have already seen that many are separating themselves from ministries like ours that are not bending under the pressure to conform with the world and its demands. We cannot agree with what we see is detrimental to the souls, regardless of temporal benefits that may come from it, but at the cost of souls. **This is a spiritual matter, not political.** If we love Jesus, we do not want anyone to join a cult as Mormonism is, and be eternally lost.

From our mailbox: An LDS man wrote: “*I am a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I have recently stumbled upon a major conflict within the church. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints does not allow homeless people to become members of the church, and if you are a member, and become homeless your rights and callings (or assignments) in the church will be suspended. This is hypocrisy because as I see it, Jesus Christ was homeless. Jesus Christ, the very man on the title and name of the church would not be allowed to become a member of the church that bears his name unless he got a job and had a permanent address! He would have to conform to a society of money. He would not be allowed to practice what he preached. He would have to become a similar hypocrite as the leadership of the LDS church and put himself before others. On each LDS temple it says that it is “The House of the Lord”. This is untrue statement because Jesus Christ could not have a temple recommend or function as a full member because he was homeless. In Salt Lake City, the home of the Prophet and headquarters of the church, there are many homeless shelters. One of the shelters is called the Road Home. If a person lived in a Road Home they would be assigned*

to attend the 4th ward of Salt Lake Liberty Stake in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, but as a homeless person without any membership rights... Even if that person dedicated his life to service and was following Christ's example of selflessness, he could never enter "The House of the Lord". So, my question is: Is it really the House of the Lord? I believe this is hypocrisy foretold in Mormon 8:36-38 that says that they who make this kind of rules are proud, and 'love money, and your sustenance, and your fine apparel, and adorning in your churches more than ye love the poor and needy, the sick and afflicted. O ye pollutions, ye hypocrites, ye teachers, who sell yourselves for that which will cancer...' - I am a member of the Mormon Church and I believe in the church with all my heart, even so much that I must expose this truth."

[I assume that this man who wrote is this letter is a hurt and homeless person himself. I am sharing his letter with you for perhaps if you meet a homeless LDS person, you may understand their hurt and loneliness even more and can let him know that **the Real Church of Jesus Christ of the Bible** is open to all and that He will not cast anyone out who will come to Him. Jesus calls all who are heavy laden to come to Him and He will give them rest. (Matt. 11:28-29.)]

A Christian woman has been witnessing to Mormons, but she has questions what to do now. She wrote:

*"I first wanted to thank you for your willingness to speak the truth and minister to those in the Mormon religion, and to say that I admire your courage it must have taken to leave the church. - I have many dear friends who are Mormon and one in particular who has actually initiated having a Bible study about **Mormonism vs. Christianity** with me and with some other Christian friends of hers. We just got together to study and she was emphatic about **not using any resources that quote Mormon prophets or apostles unless the books are actually published by the Mormons Church.** This excluded any quotes taken from **Journal of Discourses, Mormon Doctrine, The Seer, etc.** I was a little confused and surprised by that because I have learned that the LDS holds the testimonies and statements of their prophets even higher regard than their own written scriptures as was told by their late prophet, Ezra Taft Benson in his **"14 Fundamentals in following the prophets"**. She said that because those books were not things that her church would teach in Sunday School, and they were not spoken at Conference to the Church or anything like that, that we couldn't use them as resources for Mormon doctrine. She said that those are not things that she believes or that most Mormons believe. She wanted to establish a rule in our studies that **we can only use literature that's been published by HER CHURCH** when determining what her church believes or teaches. Do you have any insight or suggestions regarding this and do you think this is typical stance for LDS?... I Really appreciate your time and any suggestions you could make in helping to reach her and others trapped in Mormonism. Thank you very much. "*

My reply: First I'd like to say that this seems to be a missionary effort (they say: *every member is a missionary*) to try to get you and your friends converted and trying to prove that Mormonism is Christian. At the front I want to assure you that Mormonism is not Christian. They believe in a different god(s), "another Jesus" and salvation only through the Mormon Church by obedience to its "laws and ordinances". They consider you and every non-Mormon as a potential convert and they would not want you to know any of the "meat doctrines" that she obviously knows are taught in those above mentioned books, and many other books by their prophets and apostles, otherwise she would not have excluded them from your discussions. One must be converted to Mormonism before he/she can be trusted to read those books. When I was being converted to Mormonism they would not let me have the Doctrine and Covenants until way after I was baptized! However, I see that this Mormon friend is not being honest with you, for manuals published by the church for use in teaching their

doctrines in Priesthood classes, in Sunday School and in Relief Society, quote from those books you listed and from many more. Besides, saying that the books she allows to be used must be published by the church cannot be true, for the Mormon Church is not in general publishing or printing business. Most of their current prophets and apostles teachings etc. are not printed by the church, but by Mormon owned publishing/printing companies as Signature Books, Bookcraft and Deseret Book Company. The Mormon Church declares that the LDS Church is the only true church on the face of the earth, and that is because they have prophets and apostles leading it. If you are not allowed to read and test their teachings, how can you know that they are teaching correctly? She may not know that the early Mormon scriptures were not printed or published by the Church – starting from the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants and the Pearl of Great Price. Even later, when they began to assign printing of their books to Mormon-owned publishing companies, the KJV of the Bible for the LDS Church was still printed and published (until 1981) by Oxford Press in England.

As to Journal of Discourses (26 volumes), it is a collection of Conference sermons by Mormon prophets and apostles. One cannot find more truer doctrinal teachings of Mormonism than these are – representing nearly 40 years of teachings of their prophets and apostles. Mormon Doctrine is an encyclopedic volume of doctrines of the LD Church. The local and stake Mormon leaders worldwide, from the time of its publication (1958) to this date, have been using Mormon Doctrine to verify what the Church’s doctrine is on various topics. It is now “out of print” but all these years (from 1958 till 2011) you could find it in LDS bookstores under the Section marked “LDS DOCTRINAL BOOKS”. The Seer was written by an LDS apostle Orson Pratt, and it was written under the direction of Brigham Young and the First Presidency of the Church.

I cannot say how much this friend of yours knows about her church’s doctrines, but it seems to me that she knows lot more than she is willing to reveal, just by not wanting to use these books she had listed. Maybe she is *on a mission* to convert you and thus she does not want you to see those deeper doctrines yet. Any person reading those books and also having some knowledge of the Bible could never agree with Mormon doctrine of God, Jesus and salvation, and would very fast see that Mormonism is NOT Christianity. What is taught to potential converts is not clear Mormon doctrine – they call it “milk doctrine – given before meat”. However, the Mormon Church prophets and apostles have taught from the beginning and are teaching now that true Mormon doctrine comes only from them and that it must be believed and obeyed. During all my years as a Mormon, and many years after it, we have seen that most Mormons create their own version of Mormonism. It is like a smorgasbord to them – they pick and choose what they like and ignore the rest and then live happily in this doctrinal “la-la-land” of their own creation. Maybe you can find a way to witness and declare what Paul said about the true Gospel in God in 1 Cor. 15:1-4, and how to be saved. The Gospel is so simple that even a small child can understand it – *believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved.* (Rom. 10:9-11; Eph. 2:8-9; John 14:6.) **Remember that Satan would rather have people believe a lie about God than do wrong things. Mormons believe a lie about God, but they are very good people, doing a lot of good things.** Let me know if you need more questions answered. God bless you and your efforts. – Rauni

This link is phenomenal and explains why people stay in Mormonism while KNOWING that it is false:
http://www.postmormon.org/exp_e/index.php/pomopedia/An_Open_Letter_to_the_Leadership_of_the_Mormon_Church/%22%20%20title=%22An_Open_Letter_to_the_Leadership_of_the_Mormon_Church

We again want to thank the Lord for His call to us to minister to Mormons and help our Christian brothers and sisters through our *Understanding Mormonism* classes to become effective witnesses for the Truth found only in the Word of God. We have been teaching *Understanding Mormonism* “Fall-classes” (from September till

Thanksgiving) - for 9 years at Calvary Chapel, and during the winter months we have taught in many other evangelical Christian churches in Salt Lake Valley. We have three more Sundays left to teach this exceptionally attentive group of God's people, and we will miss seeing them every Sunday evening, and hope that they will stay in touch and continue learning and practicing what they have learned and bringing many to a saving knowledge of Jesus of the Bible. We have gained many *forever friends* through teaching these classes. We truly have been blessed with so many Christian friends who pray for us, who support our efforts in this work.

Calvary Chapel is planning to hold a 2-day **Capstone Conference** next March and we are very excited about that. We will keep you posted on details and who all will be the speakers in this event intended to inspire Christians in this valley to get serious about witnessing and introducing Jesus Christ of the Bible to those who have not met Him yet – and invite them to God's Kingdom that is coming perhaps very soon.

Please pay for many LDS persons we are currently in communication with (we cannot give names yet). We have sent packages of DVDs and CD's to many out-of-state questioning LDS and we are hoping that our information will encourage them to keep on studying and soon come to the saving knowledge of Jesus and to the freedom that only He can give.

We are still praying for Dick and Patti, Sandy and Al, Max and Pat and Merridy for their health and well-being. Jamie needs prayer for her hip and knee. Dave and Ruth Hunt have been in our prayers for a long time – and we ask that you'd pray for them as well. Please ask that the Lord will direct Bruce in his business plans. Heber also needs the Lord's direction in his important petition. We are praising the Lord for Debbie's healing from cancer and we pray that she will stay healthy from now on. Her illness was long and trying, but she is doing well now, and she is thanking all who have prayed for her.

We thank the Lord for you all and your prayers for our health and ability to continue in this work. Dennis is thankful that regardless of the bad economy, the Lord has provided work for him, and we have been able to keep our personal and ministry bills paid – no reserves though, but in God we trust and we do not worry either. He has said that if we come to Him with thanksgiving and request that our needs be met, He will do it. (Phil. 4:6-7.) **He has done so.** We have served Him in this ministry since 1984 and our past blessings are a guarantee of our future – till He calls us home. Praise Him.

God bless you all. In His service,

Rauni & Dennis Higley –

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Thought for the month from God's Word:

“If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed. For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.” (2 John 10-11.)

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