



H.I.S. Ministries International

He Is Savior



March 1, 2009

H.I.S. Ministries March Newsletter, covering February 2009

Sun is shining, birds are singing and Spring is in the air! Regardless of how gloomy the news media paints the future of this country and the world, we have a reason to be happy and hopeful: Our God reigns – and He is in control of all things.

The worst things seem to be, the more reason we have to rejoice, for our problems and our inability to solve them are giving our Lord an opportunity to step in. We are not alone! He watches over us. These may be the worst times – but with the Lord they can be the best times!

We have much to be thankful for –and we thank our Lord for allowing us to speak for Him, and help those who are seeking truth to come to the Lord for salvation! We are seeing this happening over and over again. What a joy it is to see scales falling off from people's eyes, and smiles of relief and happiness replace what was, just a short time ago, confusion, sadness and even hopelessness that is in the hearts of those who try and try to “*earn their own salvation*”, and who have been taught they can even *become gods*, knowing deep down in their hearts that it is impossible.

Where did this idea of becoming gods originate? The scriptures reveal that it started in the heart and mind of Lucifer, about whom Isaiah wrote, “*How art thou fallen from heaven O Lucifer... thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of congregation...I will ascend above the height of the clouds; I will be like the most High.*” (14:12-14.)

Ezekiel also wrote about Lucifer's fall saying, “*Thou hast been in Eden the Garden of God...Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; ...thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee...therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God...Thine heart was lifted up because of thine beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness...*” (Ez. 28:13-17.) Lucifer became prideful because of his beauty and brightness. He wanted to be like the Most High God. He was cast out of heaven. What did he do after that? Who were *in Eden, Garden of God*? Adam and Eve... and Lucifer! Lucifer came to the garden tempting Eve with the same ambition he himself had –i.e. becoming like the Most High God. But before he could get Eve to listen and obey him, he planted doubts in Eve's heart about what God had said to Adam and why.

The very root of all sin is doubting God's Word! “*...hath God said?*”, the serpent slyly asked Eve. This implanted a doubt in Eve's heart concerning God's goodness towards

them. She started to develop resentment against God, imagining that God was keeping something good from them.

Causing doubt in what God has said in His Word, has become the pattern of how the devil has approached men ever since. He saw that it worked!

Eve answered the serpent saying that they could eat from every tree, except the one in the midst of the garden, and she added that they should not even touch it.

These are the very sins God warned about after His written Word was completed. (Rev. 22:18-19.) This is the way apostasy, even in our day, develops – first a doubt is cast on the Bible by those who are already on their way from God’s truth, then they add to it (other scriptures or revelations) and by so doing they are changing and/or diluting the Word of God.

In the case of Mormonism, Joseph Smith started to question correctness and completeness of the Bible. In the *Introduction to the Doctrine and Covenants* (prior to 1981 editions) it reveals that Joseph Smith received his instructions from Moroni, an angel of light.

Joseph Smith created the Book of Mormon and stated his own religion. He changed much of the Bible by adding to and deleting from it. It is called “*Joseph Smith’s New Translation of the Bible*”.

He used the lie of Satan, saying that men can become Gods, and teaching that God was once like men are now, and that we have only “*imagined that God was God from all eternity*”. He led his followers after other gods. He changed the eternal God into a created being, who has a God before Him, and he made Jesus to be a brother of Lucifer and of all mankind. He taught lies to his followers, just as Paul had warned about what the serpent did with Eve. Paul wrote, “*But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted...*” Paul added saying that those who bring another Jesus are “*false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as ministers of righteousness...*” (2 Cor. 11: 3-4, 13-15.)

Satan was cast out of heaven for wanting to become like the most High God. Adam and Eve were cast out of Garden of Eden – the reason for them was the same – believing the lie of Satan. There is only one God, anywhere, and men will not become gods! (Isa. 43:10; 44:6, 8; James 2:19.)

The Mormon Church is almost feverishly building more and more temples where godhood is promised to the faithful. It is interesting to note that on top of all Mormon temples is a statue of Moroni, an angel of light. 2 Cor. 11:14 says that it is *Satan who is transformed into an angel of light*, the same one who taught the lie that men can become like god.

There is no heavenly future for anyone following the lie of Satan.

Some LDS people argue that *becoming like God is not the same as becoming God*. Current LDS teaching manual, *Gospel Principles*, p. 302, clears up that confusion for all Mormons. It says, “*Those who receive exaltation in the celestial kingdom...they will become gods...[They] will be able to have spirit children also. These spirit children will have the same relationship to them as we do to our Heavenly Father.*” In other words, they will be worshipped as Gods.

Thus within the confines of Mormonism it is impossible to come to know and worship the true God of the Bible, and know Jesus, who is God Almighty (Rev. 1:8.) One must come away from it. “Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?... And what communion hath light with darkness. And what concord hath Christ with Belial... WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE, SAITH THE LORD...”(2Cor.6:14-17)

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From our mailbox:

An LDS man wrote:

“...baptism is definitely a work that has to be performed in order to be saved!...it appears to me that you do not believe what James said in James 2:26, “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” Faith alone cannot save anyone, can’t you see that?”

Answer:

James is calling on those who say they believe, but who have not shown any evidence of faith or change in their lives. It is easy to say that you have faith, but if it is not evidenced by a changed life that produces works, then it is indeed a **dead faith – useless. True faith always produces good works. We do not work so that we’d be saved through works, but we do good deeds BECAUSE we are saved.** – Ephesians 2:8-10 says, **“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to good works, which God had before ordained that we should walk in them.”** When we are saved, we **become God’s sons and daughters** (John 1:12) and **He creates us unto good works. Salvation is not of works, but true salvation produces works in those who believe. True faith is saving faith. God has given us the great gift of salvation, and we show our love to Him by doing good to others in His name and place.** (2 Cor. 5:15.) Read also Romans 3:21-28. Paul concludes there by saying that works would cause us to boast that we participated in our own salvation, but **we are saved WITHOUT works.** He wrote: **“Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.”** (Read also Romans 11:5-6.) **Grace and works do not mix!** If a person says that he has faith, but lives as if he does not have faith, then we can conclude with James that he **is just saying words but not really believing in his heart. Works are evidence of faith, not cause for salvation. It is only the blood of Jesus that saves us.** (1 John 1:7-9.) James is not contrasting Peter or John, nor Paul, who also wrote that salvation is from Jesus alone, not from our own works. Galatians, 2:16-21 says, **“...man is NOT justified by the works of the law, but by FAITH of Jesus Christ...for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified...I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.”**

I would recommend that you read all of Paul’s letter to Galatians, which is stressing the same points as Paul’s letter to Romans. **There are no laws in the gospel of Christ – adding to the gospel that was declared in 1 Cor. 15:1-4 (which is the message of death, burial and resurrection of Jesus for us) would make it another gospel – and preaching another gospel will bring God’s curse to those who preach it or follow it.** (See Galatians 1:8-9 and 2 Cor. 11:4, 13-15.) When we become **truly born again believers in Jesus**, He writes His laws into our hearts, and that “law” produces love towards God and encourages us to love our fellowman as ourselves. **We love and obey Him, because He first loved us** (1 John 4:19.) Our heart’s desire is to serve Him who saved us!

When we are baptized, we are **identifying** with the death of Jesus, as Romans 6:3-4 says, **“Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”** The new birth changes our lives – **we have been made new in Christ.** Baptism is painting a picture of what has happened in our hearts – that is, we have faith in Jesus, and God gives us the gift of salvation through our faith (Eph.

2:8-9.) **Baptism does not save, but identifies us with Jesus. Only "...the blood of Jesus Christ...cleanseth us from all sins."** (1 John 1:7.)
Rauni

Another LDS person wrote :

"Religion is belief in and worship of God.....Now at the end of the days you will be responsible for what YOU and only YOU have done in this life time. Now in every church you will find fault because sin lives amongst this earth, but why must one harp on history and facts to try and find there relationship with God.....but Don't Blame The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints for your weakness in spirit, Cause at the end of the Day Joseph Smith wont be responsible for your sins nor your choices, only YOU."

Answer:

You are correct in that religion ought to be belief and worship of God. But we need to be sure that we are worshipping the Only True GOD, the same One who sent His Son to die for those who receive Him. (John 1:1, 12, 14; 3:16.)

Salvation is only through Jesus Christ of the Bible, who is God. It (salvation) is *the gift of God, not of works, so that no one can boast.* (Eph. 2:8-9.)

We have presented our story and information why we left the LDS Church on our website so that those who are seeking to find the True God, who alone can save, have a direction to go.

We left the LDS Church because it does not teach the truth about God, and because of that, followers of Mormonism cannot have faith in the true God nor worship Him. God of the Bible is Eternal God, "*from everlasting to everlasting*" (Ps. 90:2

*"At the end of the day", as you say, Joseph Smith is responsible for leading his followers after other gods, as is warned of in Deut. 13:1-5, but that does not relieve his followers of responsibility. They follow these false gods of Joseph Smith because they have ignored the clear teaching of the Bible that says that *God is not a man. He is unchangeable God, from everlasting to everlasting* (Malachi 3:6; Hebr. 13:8; Ps. 90:2.)*

To be forgiven we must know God and believe that **Jesus is God, or we will die in our sins.** (John 8:24) **God alone can forgive sins.** (Mark 2:7.) **Jesus is the only one who came from heaven, we did not.** (John 8:23-24.) **My sins, all of them, were nailed on His cross** (Col. 2:11-15; Rom.5:8.) – **and I know that I have eternal life.** (1John 5:11-13.) **I have chosen to worship the True God of the Bible. Jesus is God Almighty who became a man and died for me.** (Rev. 1:8; 1 John 5:7.) **No church saves - only Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life can save us.** (John 14:6; Acts 4:12.)

If you have further questions or comments, please feel free to write again. Sincerely, Rauni Higley

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An LDS man gave following 12 reasons why he will stay a Mormon, for as he says, no other church teaches what he considers to be signs of the "true church".

I will number his points, and also my answers to them, below his statements:

- 1. The LDS Church is the only church that teaches gathering of Israel and return of Jews to Palestine and building of the temple. The true church has to have temples.*
- 2. The LDS Church is the only church that teaches the method salvation of the people who died at the time of Noah's flood and gives reasons why temples are necessary.*
- 3. The LDS Church alone knows the origin of the American Indians.*

4. *The LDS Church alone teaches that Jesus of Nazareth had to have a mortal mother and immortal father (a resurrected, exalted man).*
5. *The LDS Church alone can explain the three degrees of glory (three heavens) mentioned by Paul.*
6. *The LDS Church is the only church that has the restored gospel by modern revelation as promised by Peter and Paul and Jesus himself.*
7. *The LDS Church alone can explain why Elias and Moses did not die but had to be translated, since both lived before resurrection was introduced by Christ.*
8. *The LDS Church is the only church that teaches eternal marriage and family and has a place (temple) to seal marriages and family for eternity.*
9. *The LDS Church is the only church that sells the best fire insurance policy on earth, for only 10% of my income.*
10. *The LDS Church is the only church that can motivate 50,000 plus youth and adults to leave their homes for two years at their own expense and go far-away places to teach without salary.*
11. *The LDS Church is the only church that teaches salvation of all mankind, gives hope and peace, and above all, answers to the key questions that all great philosophers have asked – meaning of life, purpose of death, need of Redeemer...this marvelous plan is provided through the LDS Church alone.*
12. *As soon as I can find another church that teaches all that, or even half as much, I will say good-bye to this Mormon Church.*

Answers:

1. **The Bible teaches** the gathering of Israel in the end times. Some examples of Israel's gathering back to her own land are in Ezekiel, chapters 36 through 39. Bible-believing churches teach all the books of the Bible, and encourage their people to keep on studying the Bible also on their own. **The Bible predicts the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem.** The Jews will build it for the same purpose as the Solomon's temple was built – to offer animal sacrifices for the covering of sins. There is only one God and He has only one Temple. It was in Jerusalem, and will again be in Jerusalem. (No rituals, ceremonies or marriages, as in Mormon temples, were ever performed in the Temple of Jerusalem.) All other temples are pagan temples, symbolic of their many gods. Hindus have temples, Buddhists' have temples, Hare Krisna's have temples, Mormons have temples, etc.
2. The method of salvation has always been the same – faith in God and His plan of salvation. The Old Testament taught forgiveness by shedding of innocent (animal) blood for covering the sins of the guilty. The final and ultimate sacrifice that brings salvation was Jesus' death, burial and resurrection, as is told in Hebr. 10:1-10 and 1 Cor. 15:1-4.

“...wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” – (Rom. 6:23.) Those who perished in Noah’s time (flood) were unbelievers who had rejected God’s salvation. They will not be saved! People in the Old Testament times, who believed in God’s promises, were looking forward to the coming of God’s perfect sacrifice – Jesus Christ. We look back to the fact that He came and we know that all who confess Him, will become children of God and are saved by God’s grace and gift. (John 1:1, 12; 8:24; Romans 10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-10.) After death comes judgment, not a second chance. “...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” (Hebr. 9:27.) No work performed in the LDS temples for the dead can redeem them. “None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give God ransom for him.” (Ps. 49:7.) (This speaks to Mormons who claim that they are redeeming their dead, as well as to Catholics, who pay ransom to RC church to “help” their dead out of Purgatory.)

3. Research has evidenced that American Indians are Mongoloids, Asian from Siberia – not Hebrews from Jerusalem as the LDS Church has claimed.

4. Jesus birth was a miraculous Virgin Birth – by the Holy Spirit – not by any man. God is not a man. (Hosea 11:9; Numbers 23:19.) Matt. 1:18 says that “*she (Mary) was found with the child of the Holy Ghost*”. The Holy Ghost is Spirit, for God is Spirit. Spirit does not have a body of flesh and bones. (John 4:24; Luke 24:39.) (Mormonism teaches that their God, who has a body of flesh and bones, came to Mary and conceived Jesus.)

5. Paul does not mention *three heavens* at all. In 1 Cor. 12:2-4 Paul refers to his vision while he was left for dead. (Acts 14:19.) In 1 Cor. 15:40 he uses words like “*celestial*” and “*terrestrial*”, when comparing our bodily resurrection. (*Telestial* is what the LDS Church calls the lowest of their *three heavens*. It is not a known word at all. It was invented, coined, by Joseph Smith.) When we look up, we look to the “*heavens*”, and we can imagine three “*sections*”, so to speak. The first one is *atmosphere were the birds fly*, where we have breathable air – the second is “*space*” where sun, moon and stars can be seen, the third one is way up beyond that - *where God’s abode is*. There is only one heaven for God’s people. That is God’s dwelling place, also called Paradise. Then there is hell, the “*lake of fire*” (Rev. 20:15) for all who choose not to believe in the true Jesus, *who is God with us*, and His finished work of redemption for us.

6. The gospel was delivered “*once and for all*” (Jude 3), no restoration is needed. Knowledge of God, Jesus and His unchanging Gospel has been available to all in His Holy Word, the Bible. The Gospel cannot be lost, for His Word endures forever. (Ps. 100:5). Jesus promised that even the gates of hell shall not prevail against His gospel/church. (Matt. 16:18.) Jesus also promised that His Word will stand true to the end. (Matt. 5:18; John 17:17.) When Jesus comes to “*restore all things*”, He is not restoring the gospel, for it has been here all along, but He will come to restore everlasting peace and eventually create “*a New Heaven and New Earth*” (Rev. 21.)

7. To find the truth we need to look into the Word that God Himself has given to us, that is our Bible. Elijah was translated, caught up to heaven. It is told in 2 Kings 2:11.

That Moses died and was buried by the Lord – is told in Deut. 34:5-6 and Moses' death is also mentioned in Joshua 1:1.

8. There will be no marriages in heaven. (Matt. 22:30.) God established marriage for procreation, having children on earth. There will be no procreation in heaven. However, all true believers (Bible-believing, born-again Christians) will be together in heaven. There never were “temple-marriages” in Israel. Most of the marriages were performed and celebrated in people’s homes. (John 2:1-11.)

9. The Kingdom of God is not for sale – salvation is to be received as the Gift of God, so that no man can boast of his own deeds or works of any kind. We do not need a “fire insurance policy”. I am sorry that you do and that you think that any amount of money (10% or more) can gain you entrance into heaven, which is God’s dwelling place.

10. There are many times more (than your 50,000) Christians preaching the Gospel around the world, preaching among nations that have never heard of Jesus. They commit their entire lives, not just 2 years, to the service of God. Thousands upon thousands of Christian missionaries have been killed by natives in the jungles of South America and other areas of *non-civilization*, so to speak. They take the Gospel of Christ to these remote villages; they go to live among natives, often permanently, without running water, electricity or any conveniences offered in the areas where the Mormon Church sends its missionaries. It is a shameful thing that Mormon missionaries go only to the countries where Jesus Christ and Christianity is already known, only to try to convert Christians to Mormonism! And as to monetary compensation, Mormon missionaries are well taken care of by their parents, just as they took care of them before they left on their missions, right out of high school.

11. All these questions and much more are answered in the Bible. Meaning of life, etc., all that you listed are answered by the Word of God, Jesus, who is the Word Personified (John 1:1, 14; 14:6.) It is sad that you do not know that! I would say that your lack of knowledge is based on faulty instructions received from your LDS Church and its leaders. Psalm 118:8, the middle verse in the entire Bible, instructs us: *“It is better to trust in the LORD than to put your confidence in man.”*

13. Your questions are answered by the Word of God. The LDS Church is not teaching you the Truth. Are you now ready to say good-bye to it, as you said you would, if your questions can be answered outside of the LDS Church? With best wishes, Rauni

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Our Mormonism class at West Valley Baptist Church has two more weeks to go. It has been a very good class. These people attending have faithfully sacrificed their Sunday evenings in order to learn how to help their LDS relatives, friends and neighbors to see what the truth about God, Jesus and salvation is.

Many are confused by “good deeds” that are promoted and done by the Mormon Church and its people. It is so common to think that people who do good deeds go to heaven. We need to remember that there is only one way, and that is Jesus, who is God Almighty. (John 14:6.) There are “blessings” that come through “goodness”, but they bring “earthly”, “here and now”, rewards. We are to contemplate what will be the end for those who do not know

the Gospel of Christ as taught in the Bible (1 Cor. 15:1-4.) We, who have been warned, must warn our friends and neighbors just as Ezekiel 33:7-9 commands. (1 Peter 4:17.)

We are thankful to you, the friends of this ministry, for your prayers and support that you have given, even in these hard times. We are somewhat uncertain about the future of our ministry in what we can give out, for our finances are exhausted – but we are not planning on quitting. As you all know, we are not an “underwritten” ministry, i.e. we have no promised or set amounts coming to share in ministry-expenses. We depend solely on the Lord through those who He talks to. ☺

We have not, in our 25 years of ministry, received enough donations to become *paid workers* in this ministry, but through your help, during the last 3-4 years, we have not had to subsidize ministry expenses from our own pockets. It may become necessary again, but our pockets are pretty empty since Dennis has been the sole bread-winner, for the ministry work has taken all my time and much of his too. We are saying this so that you know how to pray for us. It is all in the Lord’s hands – and as long as Dennis is able to work and earn our living, we keep on doing what we have been called to do. We are committed to continue.

We received an email from Dave Albiston, Heidi’s husband, thanking all of you for your prayers for her. Heidi has started again, on 23rd of February, chemo-therapy (I V) and radiation for her brain cancer. She is, so far, doing well with both therapies. Dave also reported that they were able to get the new *Avastin* medication they did not know a month ago if it was possible to get. According to the doctors, this medication has much hope for her. Please continue praying for Heidi, as well as Dave and their three daughters.

Bruce is back in Salt Lake City and receiving his cancer treatments here. He sounded very hopeful for his healing and we thank you all for keeping him also in your prayers.

There are several people that need the Lord’s sustaining in their brave efforts to brake away from the Mormon Church. We are not able to give their names, for they have not broken the news to their LDS families and friends - as of yet. We are doing all we can to help them, and we are very sure that they will soon be *born again* and included in God’s family.

We also have a some LDS people traveling from another state to talk to us this coming week. Please pray for us that we will be in tune with the Lord and sensitive for their needs. Thank you and may the Lord bless you all.

In His service,
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