



\*H.I.S [He Is Savior, Acts 4:12.]

February 1, 2022

## HIS Ministries February 2022 Newsletter, covering January 2022

I had written a cover letter to our **January 2022** Newsletter, giving there some information about **The Chosen**, an 8-episode video series (and more are in making) that is about the life of Jesus. We just briefly explained why we are against this film that was made, financed and produced by **Mormon- owned VIDANGEL STUDIOS**. This film has already been shown worldwide and loved by multi-denominational Christian churches. ***In order to gain viewers trust that presentations are based on the Bible, film makers are encouraging everyone to read the Bible and thus see for themselves that the film is true and correct.*** The makers of this film series may be fully aware of, and even counting on that very few viewers actually know the Bible well enough to make that judgement or even notice that the **film's content is filled with additions both in persons, events and conversations that are not found in the New Testament record.** This film was obviously made to appeal to the viewers' emotions and feelings, as movies in general are made to do. It has already accomplished that goal along with many the other goals they had planned for. When a viewer emotionally begins to connect to this movie, even "placing themselves as if there", they would not have any desire to verify if the events really took place and are true. ***They just love this movie!*** Feelings are not a proof of what is true.

We have received angry letters, asking how we can be "***against this beautiful film that is based on the Gospels and presenting Jesus as 100% man that He was with feelings as all humans also have***". We are also reminded that ***The Chosen is not a Mormon-movie*** and that it "***never suggests that you are watching a Mormon production!***" One writer asked, "***What is a problem in using Mormon owned physical sets for this film if the film is about "the same Jesus" Christians also believe in?***

Since we personally were once active, believing Mormons, and worked for the Mormon plans and goals we now regret, we know that the Church has always wanted to be accepted by all Bible-believing churches around the world as "***the restored New Testament Church***", though without the true God, true Jesus and biblical Gospel. We see this film as ***deceptive*** for it claims **to present only what the New Testament teaches about Jesus.** **But most Christians who do not know enough about Mormonism to know if Jesus of the Mormon Church is the same Jesus, though they both read the New Testament.** Even those who are aware that Mormonism has many "***weird and strange***" doctrinal teachings, say that they are not bothered about that since this movie is just about the life of Jesus, and not about Mormonism.

The LDS Church doctrinal books and its leaders openly and publically teach that the Jesus they believe in **is not the same Jesus that Christianity believes in and the Bible teaches.** **Is anybody listening?** We'd like to remind you that this is not a secret among the Mormons. Their General Conference talks have been televised, they have been heard on radio stations, printed in local and even national newspapers in addition to their own magazines and publications. For example, in the LDS Church's April 1977 **General Conference, General Authority of the Church, Bernard P. Brockbank, said, "It is true that many of the Christian Churches worship a different Jesus Christ than is worshipped by the Mormons or the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-**

day Saints..." (Ensign, May 1977, p. 26.) The President and Prophet of the Mormon Church, Ezra Taft Benson, spoke of the father of Jesus often. In his book, "Come unto Jesus", p. 4, he wrote, "The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints proclaims that Jesus Christ is the Son of God in the most literal sense. The body in which He performed His mission in flesh was sired by the same Holy Being we worship as God, our Eternal Father. Jesus was not the son of Joseph, nor was He begotten by the Holy Ghost. He is the Son of the Eternal Father." And Mormon Doctrine (encyclopedic volume of doctrines taught and believed by the Mormons), on p. 547, under "Only Begotten Son", says, "...Only means only; Begotten means begotten; and Son means son. Christ was begotten by an Immortal Father in the same way that mortal men are begotten by their mortal fathers." (Saying that Jesus was not begotten by the Holy Ghost!) An LDS Apostle, Richard G. Scott, in the April 1997 General Conference, when he spoke about *Jesus of the Mormon Church*, he also referred to the other children of God born to Him in the preexistence, when he said, "... though Jesus possessed merits that no other child of God could possibly have, He was a god, Jehovah even before His birth in Bethlehem, for His beloved Father not only gave Him His spirit body, Jesus was His Only Begotten son in the flesh." (May 1997 Ensign.) LDS Prophet, Gordon B. Hinckley, during his teaching tour in Europe, in 1998, answered the question if he believes in the same Jesus as traditional Christians. He said, "No, I do not. The traditional Christ of whom they speak, is not the Christ of whom I speak..." (LDS Church News, June 20, 1998, p.7.) Thus President Hinckley went on record saying that traditional or mainstream Christianity and the Mormon Church do not believe in the same Jesus!

["Traditional Christianity" consists of Methodists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Baptists, and many non-denominational churches as Calvary Chapels, Brethren Assembly, etc. They all accept the Bible alone as their Scripture and believe in the Holy Trinity (John 4:24) and salvation by grace alone, as *three classic creeds, Nicene, Athanasian and Apostles' creed, state.* (Word "Creed" means, "We believe.")

Dallas Jenkins, an "evangelical Christian" and a Baptist, who is said to be the screenwriter for this film-series, said, "I am happy to say, 'Yeah, we disagree on some things (in Mormonism), but I am going to die on the hill of love of the same Jesus, and we want the same Jesus known to the world'.

He may "love that same Jesus" (Mormon-Jesus), but this Jesus is not the same Jesus believed by traditional, and biblical evangelical Christians. (When he said that, did he not know that LDS Prophets and Mormon leaders proclaim that it is not the same Jesus?)

We seriously doubt that Dallas Jenkins knows *who the Mormon-Jesus is*, and also who the father of the LDS "Jesus" is. He cannot be Eternal God for the Mormon Church teaches that he was once a mortal man who had "progressed" into a god.

For the sake of both Christians and some Mormons who may not know the truth either, we are asking that Dallas Jenkins' statement is investigated, verified and publically answered. Who Jesus is, is a salvation issue for all, for "another Jesus", a Jesus who is not God, cannot offer salvation to anyone!

According to the Mormon Church, their Jesus is not God who became a man, but "a man who became a god." Note what Jesus said: "If you do not believe that I AM (He) you will die in your sins." (John 8:24b.)

We must know and believe that Jesus is God, (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1-3, 14; Col. 2:9) for only God can forgive sins. (Mark 2:7b.) Without faith in Jesus of the Bible who is God, there can be no salvation. He said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one come to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6.) "God is not a man." (Numb. 23:19; Hos. 11:9) Jesus said, "God is Spirit." (John 4:24.)

God is a divine tri-unity: one in three, and three in one. The Eternal God is the Father, the Eternal Word is the Son. (John 1:1-3, 14.) At Jesus's baptism (Matt. 3:16-17), the Triune God was clearly demonstrated. The Father's voice speaks from heaven, "This is my beloved Son." The Holy Spirit descends in visual and symbolic form as a dove. Incarnate Son stood bodily there in sinless manhood. Jesus is God Incarnate, "God with us", as Matt. 1:23 says. He is God (John 1:1-3, 14) who became a man for our salvation.

**This Jesus is the Son of the Eternal God, who is Spirit, as the Bible declares: “Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When His mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.”** (Matt. 1:18-23.; see also Luke 1:26-35.)

**“From everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.”** (Ps. 90:2.) **There was a time when Jesus became a man for our salvation, but there never was time when Jesus was not God, even God Almighty.** (Rev. 1:8.)

The God of Mormonism is not God who became man for our salvation, but a man who progressed from a mere man to a god, the same as all Mormons may also become. *Thus the God of Mormonism cannot be the Everlasting God, for he was once just a mere mortal man.*

**“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.”** (Deut. 6:4.) **He is the One and Only God there is! “... the LORD is the true God, He is the Living God, and an everlasting King: at His wrath the earth shall tremble, and nations shall not be able to abide His indignation. Thus shall ye say unto them, the gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, they shall perish from the earth and under these heavens... and the LORD of host is His name.”** (Jeremiah 10:10-16.) [God of the Bible is the God who has made it all.] (John 1:1-3; col. 1:15-17.)

From *The Gospel Through Ages*, that was written for the *Melchizedek Priesthood quorums of the LDS Church* and endorsed by the 1<sup>st</sup> Presidency and 12 apostles of the Mormon Church, (i.e. they assured that it teaches correct LDS doctrine). We read, pp. 104-105 : *“As man is, God once was; as God is man may become”*. *It is a doctrine in Mormonism pronounced by the Prophet Joseph Smith in 1840.*

However it was not until April of 1844 that Joseph Smith began to openly declare that God was once a man, and that **“men must learn how to be Gods themselves, the same as all Gods have done before you.”**

(Teachings, pp. 345-346.) Joseph Smith reasoned, *“...was there ever a son without a father?”* He taught, *“Hence if Jesus had a Father, can we not believe that He had a Father also? ... both the Father and the Son, as also all exalted beings, are now or in due course will become Gods of Gods.”* (Teachings of Joseph Smith, pp. 342-373.) Thus the God of Mormonism is not God at all, and **“Jesus”** that Mormonism teaches of, and what the video, *The Chosen*, pictures, **is not about Jesus, the Son of God of the Bible**, but about *a counterfeit Jesus, a son of a counterfeit father-god*. They have taken Jesus’ words from the New Testament, and presented them as if this *counterfeit son of a counterfeit father-god* had spoken them. Interestingly, the Book of Mormon (and early Mormonism) does not teach that God was once a man or that men can become gods. The BoM was written and the LDS Church was organized in 1830, before Joseph Smith had further *“invented his Mormonism”*. It was not until the early 1840’s that he added the *doctrine of many gods, men becoming gods, temple work for the living and the dead, eternal marriage (polygamy)*, etc.

The LDS Church teaches about the preexistence of mankind, and that Jesus is just one, though the eldest, of the billions of spirit sons (and daughters) of their heavenly father and his many wives. They teach that before these spirit children were sent to be born on earth as mortals, their *heavenly father proposed the plan of salvation and that one of his sons be appointed to be the savior of the worlds*. They teach that when Jesus was chosen and appointed to be the one, another son of God contested that. *He was called Lucifer, son of the morning.* (*Gospel Through Ages*, p. 15.) He was covetous of power and glory for he wanted to be *“like the most High God”*. (Isa. 14:12-14.) When Lucifer saw that he was not to be *“The Chosen”*, he became angry and convinced 1/3 of the *spirit children of God* to follow him. *They, with Lucifer, have been and are the enemies of the true God and Jesus, and all of those who believe in Jesus Christ of the Bible.*

Jesus, just days before He was crucified, warned His disciples, saying **“take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many...there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect...”** (Matt. 24: 3-4, 23-24.) **BE AWARE!** (We are not to add, change or take away from the Word of God, not for any reason. (Deut. 4:2; 12:32; Prov. 30:4-5; Rev. 22:18-19.)

Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, wrote, *"I declare to you the gospel, which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved... for I delivered to you first of all which I also received, that Christ died for your sins according to the Scriptures and that He also was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures."* (1 Cor. 15:1-4.)

**This is the Gospel to be shared!** We all, as believers in Jesus, are to share this gospel message with all who do not yet know or belong to Jesus, and let them know that Jesus had commanded that *we must be born again* in order to *become God's children* and *see the Kingdom of God*. (John 3:3,7; 1:12-13.)

Because some of the newly converted Jews in Galatia wanted include law as a part of the gospel, Paul wrote to them, *"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: which is not another; but there are some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."* (Gal. 1:6-9) The Mormon Church declares that their "restored gospel" was brought to Joseph Smith by an angel. *The golden statue of the Angel Moroni is seen on top of all Mormon temples declaring how and by whom the Mormon gospel was delivered.* The Explanatory Introduction to the Mormon scripture, the D&C, informs that it indeed was an angel, even "an angel of Light" (Moroni) who brought the message of salvation in a form of the Book of Mormon to Joseph Smith, giving in it instructions on what people must do to be saved. That gospel is indeed an "another angel-delivered gospel" just like Paul had warned the Galatians of.

Paul again warned, as he often did even with tears, *"For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit, which you have not received, or a different gospel, which you have not accepted, you may well put up with it."* Paul continues exposing who the deceivers are, *"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."* (2 Cor. 11: 3-4, 13-15.)

How we can be saved, Paul taught, *"For by grace are you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast."* (Eph. 2:8-9.)

In summary, we'd like to say that this film, **"The Chosen"** may have given to the Mormon Church what it has been working for to gain at least the past 2-3 decades, i.e. to be *acknowledged and even accepted as another Christian church, although at the same time also saying that they will always be doctrinally different "because they have a living prophet" who instructs them.*

To get further in their desire to blend into Christianity, their current "*prophet*" has announced *that they should not be any more be called Mormons or LDS, but Christians.* Their "prophet also said that they are going to remove a word "Mormon" or "LDS" from their publications, and eventually from their buildings, replacing a word "Mormon" or "LDS" with "Christian" instead. Even their famous *Mormon Tabernacle Choir* has already removed a word "Mormon" from that name, etc. They plan to do all that without changing their doctrine of God, Jesus or salvation, and continue requiring works for salvation.

Their **3<sup>rd</sup> Article of Faith** clearly demands works for salvation, saying *"...all mankind may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the (LDS) gospel."* The Book of Mormon says, *"...for we know that it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do."* (2 Nephi 25:23b.)

We ask that you, our readers, will let us know if we explained this matter (The Chosen) clearly enough and also if you have further questions. Thank you.

I am sorry that during the last few last months I have not had space to share LDS-letters and their comments or questions sent to us that I have promised to share with you. Yesterday I was going through some past letters as I was looking for Mormon leaders' statements about Christ.

I had collected into my files, and there I found one odd but short letter that made me smile.

I hope you do not mind if I share it with you here – maybe you would smile too. It had come some time ago from a former Finnish Mormon missionary who had started to question the truthfulness of the Mormon Church. He had contacted us and other people like us, asking questions about the church.

Active and practicing Mormons call us “*anti-Mormons*” and he had been told to avoid all *anti's*. He wrote: “*The real problem with ANTI-Mormons is that they seem to know too much about the Church. They are always thinking. They are always reading books, memorizing and quoting scriptures. A person can be happy in the church if they do not think so much. The church is about FAITH! The leaders have said that they have already done all thinking for us, all we have to do is obey and believe! Ignorance about all these things can be bliss, I think. He said that he once knew a man who dropped out of 8<sup>th</sup> grade and that he is happier than those who went to college and have PhDs.*

*People are saying to me that I, and others like me, should stay in the Mo-Church even if I am unhappy, bored out of my mind during the long sacrament meetings, stay poor and cannot afford to pay tithing and other things like that. They tell me that people should stay in the church even if they know they could have better things to do with their time than to go visiting teaching and read the same VT message taught to you by someone a night before. People should stay, they say, in the church even is the doctrine does not make sense. Don't you get it! IT IS NOT SUPPOSED TO MAKE SENSE! It is all about faith. The first vision of Joseph Smith does not make sense. NOTHING THERE MAKES SENSE.*

*They also tell me and others who ask questions, STOP IT and stick it out no matter what your mind tells you. Mormonism is either true or it is fraud. But whichever it is YOU SHOULD STILL PICK THE CHURCH – JUST IN CASE!*

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In the fall we were again asked to explain why Halloween is even celebrated, and then about Thanksgiving... And of course in November-December we always love to talk about Christmas, and now we **had to write about The Chosen**, for we fear that *this film-series* is leading Christians to *emotionally connect with another Jesus*, and many more may even become Mormons when listening to Dallas Jenkins and others who are “*sold*” to this *on-going and expanding movie-series “about Jesus” that actually is “another Jesus”*.

[We just learned that there are now *new “Bible-study-groups” based on the Chosen!* Deception deepens!]

I would recommend that you'd go now to [editors@lighthouse-trails.com](mailto:editors@lighthouse-trails.com) and click on [Letter to the Editor: Former Mormon Distressed About Promotion of The Chosen by Prominent Figures Jack Hibbs and Kirk Cameron](#). There are many interviews of Jenkins and others that you may not see elsewhere.

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**Dear supporting and praying friends:** Your help has been “*just right*” during 2021. Our Ministry- account is “*in the black*”, i.e. all bills are paid. We have the Lord and you to thank for that. Our donations are still way *under the IRS limit*, and we have not yet, after our 38 years of ministry, had to file for *Ministry taxes*, for “*we do not receive enough to have to do that*”, we only need to make a “*postcard report*” which says that our gifts and donations are under the requirement to file. We never ask for money, and those who have known us for a long time, have often said that if we have a need, they can help us. We are thanking the Lord that we have not needed to ask! Dennis has been working for our living expenses from the beginning, and that has been enough. We trust in the Lord to take care of us and He has done so.

My back problem is the one that He has not healed yet, but we trust that it will get better, eventually – but there is hope for the Rapture... ☺ that makes waiting for healing bearable. Dennis ordered me *the Mito Red Light*, and I have now taken 2 weeks “*a red light treatments*”, -3 times a day. I began with 2-3 minutes every

6 hours, and now I am taking 8 minutes at a time 2 times a day. I have noticed that if I take breaks from my computer work every 3 hrs. I can manage better with less pain, but as of now, I am-3 days behind in getting our newsletter written, and I hope that it is OK with you all. I will be able to email it yet today, 2/1/22.

We are glad to know that you pray for both of us and we thank you very much. God is good.

There are many others who need your prayers beside us. I will just list the names here as I know that Lord knows what ails or troubles them and He will take care of them according to His will and plan (1 John 5:14-15.) They are Judy, Jamie, Marlene, Sandy, Al, Emily, Suzy, Shaije, Aira, Heber, Richard, Mark, Virve, Mary, Bruce, and Pastor Mika and his sister in Finland, who is critically ill with cancer.

We are also daily paying for our former-Mormon friends in Australia (who since Dennis' visit there, have become believers in Jesus of the Bible), and who likewise cannot take these "jabs" and are in trouble for that.

We also ask prayer for our unsaved family and friends, and a new opportunity to share Christ with them again, since they have rejected our witness for Jesus before.

We thank you for supporting us, helping us, praying for our ministry work and for us personally. There are no words that would fully express how thankful we are to you. Many write to us telling that they love our Newsletters and that they are sharing them with others what we have studied and learned from God's Word. Our monthly Newsletter has become a major part of our ministry during the last 3-4 years, since we have not had our Mormonism classes as we used to have all year long. We receive phone calls and questions and we answer them and letters daily, and that is a part of our ministry work. God is leading and we are taking instructions from Him, and they come in many forms.

We have sent tax receipts to you for gifts you have given to our Ministry during 2021. If you have not received them, please let us know, and we can re-send them. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for without your help we could not do what is required of us, though Dennis has been working for our personal needs all the time, but he is getting older like we all do, and he may not be able to work as much as he has for very long. God knows what is ahead and we are not worried. 😊

**Continue having a Happy New Year 2022. May our dear Lord Jesus Christ bless you abundantly this year and always.**

In God's love,

Rauni & Dennis Higley

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