

“Why I Didn’t Become Mormon”



YT: *MapleBoarer78*

Table of Contents

The Journal of Discourses	3
The First Vision	4
Salvation through Joseph Smith	5
The Character of Joseph Smith	7
The Polygamy	8
(More) Polygamy	10
God Was Once a Man	13
But the Bible Says:	14
Jesus is Lucifer's Brother (according to LDS)	17
The Book of Abraham	19
Racism	21
Works Based Salvation	26
How are People Saved?	28
Conclusion	29

The Journal of Discourses



“The Journal of Discourses deservedly ranks as one of the standard works of the Church, and every right-minded Saint will certainly welcome with joy every number (issue) as it comes forth”.

-President George Q. Cannon, *Journal of Discourses*, Preface, Vol.8.

We take great pleasure in presenting to the Saints and the world...the Journal of Discourses, which they will find contains rich treasures of information concerning the glorious principles of Eternal Life, as revealed through God’s anointed servants in these last days. All who read the discourses contained in this Volume are earnestly recommended to adapt them to their lives by practice, and we can confidently assure them that, in doing so, they re laying up a store of knowledge that will save and exalt them in the Celestial kingdom.

- Elder Albert Carrington, *Journal of Discourses*, Preface, Volume 15



The First Vision

Spring 1820, Joseph is 14 y/o



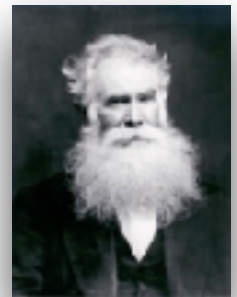
Two personages of light appear in front of him in the grove. Context it seems Father and Jesus.

“I asked the Personages in the light, which of all these sects was right (for at this time it had never entered into my heart that all were wrong) - and which I should join... I was answered that I must join none of them, for **they were all wrong**; and the Personage who addressed me said that all their creeds were an abomination in his sight”

-Joseph Smith, *Pearl of Great Price*, pg 49, 1942

“Who in this generation have the authority to baptize? None but those who have received authority in the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; all other churches are entirely destitute of all authority from God; and any person that receives Baptism or the LORD’s supper from their hands will highly offend God, for he looks upon them as the most corrupt of all people. **Both Catholics and Protestants are nothing less than the “whore of Babylon”...**”

Orson Pratt, the Seer, Pg 255 (1854)

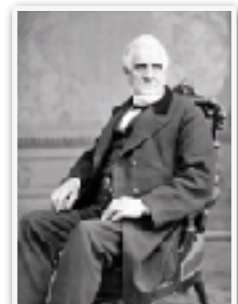


“Behold there are save two churches only; the one is the church of the Lamb of God, and **the other is the church of the devil**; wherefore, whoso belonged not to the church of the Lamb of God belonged to that great church, which is the mother of abominations; and she is the whore of all the earth”

-1 Nephi 14:10 (Book of Mormon)

“We talk about Christianity, but it is a perfect pack of nonsense...Myself and hundreds of the Elders around me have seen its pomp, parade, and glory; and what is it? It is a sounding brass and tinkling symbol; **it is corrupt as hell**; and the Devil could not invent a better engine to spread his work than the Christianity of the 19th century.”

- John Taylor (3rd LDS President) Journal of Discourses, Vol 6, pg 16



Salvation through Joseph Smith



“Every man and woman **must have the certificate of Joseph Smith, junior**, as a passport to their entrance into the mansion where God and Christ are.”

- Orsen Pratt, Journal of Discourses Vol 7, p 289

“Every intelligent person under the heavens that does NOT, when informed, acknowledge that Joseph Smith, jun, is a prophet of God, **is in darkness, and is opposed to us and to Jesus and the Kingdom on earth...**”

- Brigham Young, History of the Church, Vol 7: Pg 287

“Every spirit that confesses that Joseph Smith is a Prophet, that he lived and died as a Prophet and that the Book of Mormon is true, is of God, and **every spirit that does not is of anti-Christ**”

- Brigham Young (2nd President of the LDS Church) , History of the Church, Vol 7, pg 287



“Believe in God, believe in Jesus, and believe in Joseph his Prophet, and in Brigham his successor. And I add, “If you will believe in your heart and confess with your mouth **that Jesus is the Christ, that Joseph was a Prophet, and that Brigham was his successor, you shall be saved** in the kingdom of God,” which I pray, in the name of Jesus may be the case. Amen.”

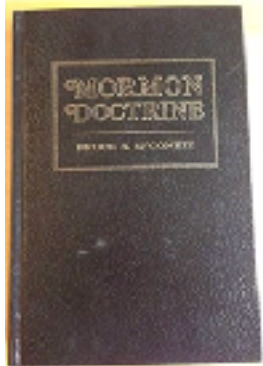
- Joseph Young (elder brother of Brigham Young-Council of 50), Journal of Discourse, Vol 6, pg 229

Praise to the Man Song

- Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah!
- Kings shall extol him, and nations revere
- Honored and blest be his ever great name!
- Hail to the Prophet, ascended to heaven!
- Great is his glory and endless his priesthood

“Will everybody be damned but Mormons?” Yes, and a great portion of them, unless they repent, and work righteousness.”

- Brigham Young, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith* compiled by Joseph F Smith, p 119



“There is no salvation outside of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints”

-Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, 2nd Edition

RE-CAP

All other churches beside the LDS church...

- Are wrong and an abomination in God’s sight (First Vision)
- Are entirely destitute of all authority from God. (Orson Pratt)
- Are the church of the Devil (1 Nephi)
- Are corrupt as hell (John Taylor)
- Are the whore of Babylon (1 Nephi)

Anyone who does not believe Mormonism is true...

- Highly offends God (Orson Pratt)
- Are looked at by God as the most corrupt of all people (Orson Pratt)
- Are in darkness and opposed to Jesus (Brigham Young)
- Are an Anti-Christ (Brigham Young)
- Will not be saved in the kingdom of God (Joseph Young)
- Will receive no salvation (Mormon Doctrine 2nd Edition).

The Character of Joseph Smith



“I am learned, and know more than all the world put together”

-Joseph Smith (*History of the Church*, Vol 6, p 408-409)

“I have more to boast of than any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam. A large majority of the whole have stood by me. **Neither Paul, Joh, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it.** I boast that no man ever did such work as I. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him; but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet.”

- Joseph Smith (*History of the Church*, vol 6, pp 408-09)

“We (Mormons) can pray the best, preach the best, and sing the best. We are the best looking and finest set of people on the face of the earth.”

(*Journal of Discourses* Vol 4, pg 77).



“Our organization is a very glorious one. **It is a perfect organization** - perfect-because it is divine. It was not made by man”

-Charles Penrose / Quorom of 12, member of First Presidency (*Journal of Discourses* Vo. 24, pg 304)

The Polygamy



“Joseph told associates that an angel appeared to him three times between 1834 and 1842 and **commanded him to proceed with plural marriage** when he hesitated to move forward. During the third and final appearance, the angel came with a drawn sword, threatening Joseph with destruction unless he went forward and obeyed the commandment fully.⁹

“Following his marriage to Louisa Beaman and before he married other single women, **Joseph Smith was sealed [married] to a number of women who were already married.**”

“Plural marriage was difficult for all involved. For Joseph Smith’s wife Emma, it was an excruciating ordeal...Emma approved, at least for a time, of four of Joseph Smith’s plural marriages in Nauvoo, and she accepted all four of those wives into her household. She may have approved of other marriages as well.³⁹ But **Emma likely did not know about all of Joseph’s sealings.**⁴⁰”

Joseph was about 36 years old when he married a 14 year old girl named Helen Mar Kinball two years before his death.

“The revelation on marriage required that a wife give her consent before her husband could enter into plural marriage.⁴² Nevertheless, toward the end of the revelation, the Lord said that if the first wife “receive not this law”—the command to practice plural marriage—the husband would be “exempt from the law of Sarah,” presumably the requirement that the husband gain the consent of the first wife before marrying additional women.⁴³ After Emma opposed plural marriage, Joseph was placed in an agonizing dilemma, forced to choose between the will of God and the will of his beloved Emma. He may have thought Emma’s rejection of plural marriage exempted him from the law of Sarah. Her decision to “receive not this law.”

“Careful estimates put the number [of wives] at 30-40.”

[\(here for reference\)](#)

The D&C 132:34 commands plural marriages but not the Bible.

At 57 years old, the 5th President of the LDS Church Lorenzo Snow married a 15 year old girl named Sarah Jensen on June 12, 1871.

Lorenzo Snow, 5th president



Re-Cap

- Joseph claimed he knows more than the whole world put together (History of the church)
 - Joseph boasts that not even Jesus himself was able to keep a whole church together like he had done (History of the church)
 - Joseph boasts that Jesus followers all ran away from him, but that Joseph's followers haven't run from him (History of the Church)
 - That Mormons can pray, preach and sing the best, and are the most good looking and finest people on the entire planet (Journal of Discourses)
 - An angel tells Joseph he will be destroyed unless he marries multiple women (churchofjesuschrist.org)
 - Joseph ends up marrying an estimated 30-40 women, some of which are already married to other men (churchofjesuschrist.org)
 - At age 36, Joseph marries a 14 year old girl (churchofjesuschrist.org)
 - For Joseph's wife Emma, him marrying multiple women as an excruciating ordeal (churchofjesuschrist.org)
 - In the beginning of Joseph's revelation on polygamy, he said he could only marry other women if his first wife Emma approved. But later on, when Emma began disapproving of his marriages to other women, Joseph claimed he received a new revelation from God that he no longer needed her approval and went ahead marrying more women without Emma's consent (churchofjesuschrist.org).
-

(More) Polygamy



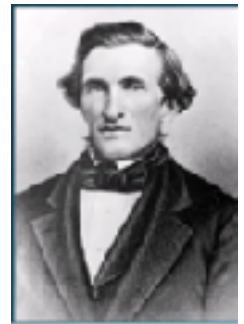
“We have now clearly shown that God the Father had a plurality of wives”

“From the passage in the forty-fifth Psalm, it will be seen that the Great Messiah who was the founder of the Christian religion, **was a polygamist...**”

-Apostle Orson Pratt (*The Seer*, p. 172).

“The grand reason of the burst of public sentiment in anathemas upon Christ and his disciples, causing his crucifixion, was **evidently based on polygamy**...a belief in the doctrine of a plurality of wives caused the persecution of Jesus and his followers. We might almost think they were “Mormons”.”

- Apostle Jedediah M Grant (*Journal of Discourses* Vol 1, p 346).



These notions are absurd. This is not anywhere in the Bible. Nonsense. Why they were killing Jesus:

“One again the people picked up stones to kill him. Jesus said, “At my Father’s direction I have done many good works. For which one are you going to stone me?” They replied, “We’re stoning not for any good work, but for blasphemy! You, a mere man, claim to be God.”

- Jn 10:31-33

“Then the high priest stood up before the others and asked Jesus, “Well, are you going to answer these charges? What do you have to say for yourself?” But Jesus was silent and made no reply. Then the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?” Jesus said, “I Am. And you will see the Son of Man seated in the place of power at God’s right hand and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his clothing to show his horror and said, “Why do we need other witnesses? You have all heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict? “Guilty! They all cried. “He deserves to die!” Then some of them began to spit at him, and they blind folded him and beat them with their fists. “Prophecy to us,” they jeered. And the guarded slapped him as they took him away” (Mk 14:60-65).

Damnation for **NOT** Practicing Polygamy



Now if any of you will deny the plurality of wives, and continue to do so, I promise that you will be damned;

“Now if any of you will deny the plurality of wives, and continue to do so, **I promise you that you will be damned**”

- Brigham Young (2nd LDS Church President), Journal of Discourses, vol 3, p 266 ([here](#))

☞ **Also, the only men who become gods, even the sons of god, are those who enter into polygamy**” - Brigham Young (2nd LDS Church President), Journal of Discourses, vol 11, p 269

“**Some people have supposed that the doctrine of plural marriage was a sort of superfluidity, or non-essential to the salvation or exaltation of mankind...**”

I understand the law of celestial marriage to mean that every man in this church, who has the ability to obey and practice it in righteousness and will not, **shall be damned.**”

- Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol 20, pg 31 (1878) ([here](#))

I understand the law of celestial marriage to mean that every man in this Church, who has the ability to obey and practice it in righteousness and will not, shall be damned, I say I understand it to mean this and nothing less, and I testify in the name of Jesus that it does mean that. But

Under pressure from the US government, Wilford Woodruff the



4th LDS President stated that it would be better to end polygamy than to cause trouble with the government.

“The question is this: Which is the wisest course for the Latter-Day Saints to pursue—to continue to attempt to practice plural marriage, with the laws of the nation against it and the opposition of sixty millions of people, and at the cost of the confiscation and loss of all the Temples, and the stopping of all the ordinances therein, both for the living and the dead, and the imprisonment of the First Presidency and Twelve and the

the imprisonment of the First Presidency and Twelve and the heads of families in the Church, and the confiscation of personal property of the people (all of which of themselves would stop the practice); or, after doing and suffering what we have through our adherence to this principle to cease the practice and submit to the law....”

Wildord Woodruff, Doctrine and Covenants, Official Declaration 1. ([Click to Read](#))

God Was Once a Man



“God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens! That is the great secret. 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... He was once a man like us, yea, that God himself, the Father of us all, dwelt on an Earth”

Joseph Smith, Journal of Discourses, Vol 6, pg 3. (Taught here in King Follett Discourse—[here](#)); Jf Smith - [Here](#))

“Here then is eternal life—to know the only wise and true God; and you have got to learn to be gods yourselves...the same as all gods have done before you.”

- Joseph Smith (Journal of Discourses, Vol 6, pg 4 ([here](#)))

true God. You have got to learn how to be Gods yourselves; to be kings and priests to God, the same as all Gods have done; by going from a small degree to another, from grace to grace, from exaltation to exaltation, until you are able to sit in glory as doth those who sit enthroned in everlasting power; and I want you



“He [God] is our Father—the Father of our spirits, and was once a man in mortal flesh as we are, and is now an exalted being... It appears ridiculous to the world, under their darkened and erroneous traditions, that God has once been a finite being”

Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol 7, Pg 333 ([here](#))

to learn who he is. He is our Father—the Father of our spirits, and was once a man in mortal flesh as we are, and is now an exalted Being.

It appears ridiculous to the world, under their darkened and erroneous traditions, that God has once been a finite being; and yet we are not in

“The Gods who dwell in the Heaven...have been redeemed from the grave in a world which existed before the foundations of this were laid. They and the Heavenly body which they now inhabit were once in a fallen state...they were exalted also, from fallen men to Celestial Gods to inhabit their heaven forever and ever”

(Apostle Orson Pratt, the Seer, Pg 23)



But the Bible Says:

Isaiah 43:10 - **Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.**

Job 36:26 - **...the number of His years is unsearchable.**

Psalms 90:2 - **From everlasting to everlasting, you are God**

Deuteronomy 32:39 - **There is no God besides me**

Isaiah 45:5 - **I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God.**

Isaiah 44:6-8 - **I am the first, and I am the last; beside me there is no God...Is there a God beside me? Yea, there is no God; I know not any.**

If LDS doctrine is correct, it would read: "I am not the first, and I am not the last; besides me there are many. Gods. Is there a God beside me? Yeah, there are; I know of many."

BUT, it does not say this. At all.

“I will preach on the plurality of Gods. I have selected this text for that express purpose. I wish to declare I have always and in all congregations when I have preached on the subject of Deity, it has been the plurality of Gods. It has been preached by the elders for 15 years”



- History of the Church - Vol 6 pg 474 ([here](#))

“The head God brought forth the Gods in the grand council...in the beginning, the head of the Gods called a council of the Gods; and they came together and concocted a plan to create the world and people in it”

(Journal of Discourses, Vol 6, pg 5)

“You will see the time when you will have millions of children around you. If you are faithful to your covenants, you will be mothers of nations. You will become Eves to earths like this, and when you have assisted in peopling one earth, there are millions of earths still in the course of creation.”

(Journal of Discourses, Vol 8, Pg 208)



“As man now is, God once was; as God now is, man may be”

(LDS 5th President Lorenzo Snow)

----->
([Here](#) for this on the LDS website)

This is a doctrine which denigrated President Snow, as it does all of us. Early in his ministry he received by direct, personal revelation the knowledge that (in the Prophet Joseph Smith's language), 'God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens,' and that men 'have got to learn how to be Gods ... the same as all Gods have done before.'

“After this doctrine had been taught by the Prophet, President Snow felt free to teach it also, and he summarized it in one of the best known couplets in the Church. ...

“This same doctrine has of course been known to the prophets of all the ages, and President Snow wrote an excellent poetic summary of it.” (Address on Snow Day, given at Snow College, 14 May 1971, pp. 1, 3-4; italics added.)

It is clear that the teaching of President Lorenzo Snow is both acceptable and accepted doctrine in the Church today.

Doesn't this sound like the sin in the garden?

Genesis 3:1-4 - Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

² The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

⁴ “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

That a man can be like God, like one deciding good and evil has been the lure of mankind from the beginning.

He alone is God, there is no other.

He is our Creator and we are Created beings.

Jesus is Lucifer's Brother (according to LDS)



“Mankind are here because they are the offspring of parents who were first brought here from another planet, and power was given to them to propagate their species.”

- Brigham Young (Journal of Discourses, Vol 7 pg 285 - [here](#)).

where the Gods dwell. Mankind are here because they are the offspring of parents who were first brought here from another planet, and power was given them to propagate their species, and they were commanded to multiply and replenish the earth. The off-

stance!” What a learned idea! Jesus, our elder brother, was begotten in the flesh by the same character that was in the garden of Eden, and who is our Father in Heaven. Now, let

“Jesus, our elder brother, was begotten in the flesh by the same character that was in the garden of Eden, and who is our Father in Heaven”

- Brigham Young (Journal of Discourses, Vol 1, pg 51 - [here](#))

“Lucifer, son of the morning, through diligent search for truth and the use of it, had become of the foremost in the assembly of those invited to undertake the experiences of earth. But, in that Great Council, his personal ambition and love of power overcame him. He pitted his own plan and will against the purposes of God.

He strove to gain the birthright of his Elder Brother, Jesus the Christ. When his proposition was rejected, he forsook all that he had gained, would not repent of his sin, defied truth, and of necessity lost his place among the followers of God.”

Apostle John A Widtstoe (Evidence and Reconciliations, Pg 209)



Bible:

“Great is the mystery of Godliness: God was manifest in the flesh” (1 Tim 3:16)

“In the beginning was the Word (Jesus), and the Word was with God and the Word was God” (Jn 1:1).

“Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped.” (Php 2:5-6)

“In Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body” (Col 2:9).

“The Father and I are one.” Once again the people picked up stones to kill him. Jesus said, “At my Father’s direction I have done many good works. For which one are you going to stone me?”

They replied, “We’re stoning you not for any good work, but for blasphemy! You, a mere man, claim to be God” - Jn 10:30-33

“For in him things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together” (Col 1:16-17).

“Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made” (John 1:3).

The Book of Abraham

Joseph Smith claimed to translate the Book of Abraham.

In 1835 an Irishman named Michael Chandler arrived in Kirkland, OH with a mummy exhibit of four Egyptian mummies and papyri. They papyri contained Egyptian hieroglyphics which were unreadable in America at the time.



Members of the mormon church raised money and bought the entire collection. It was a huge sum of money.

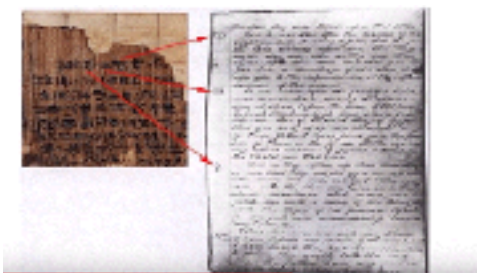
Joseph Smith believed the Book of Abraham was written by Abraham's own hand and described Abraham's travels and life.

The book contains Mormon doctrines like the plurality of gods, the idea God can't create things out of nothing, but must use pre-existing materials and exaltation of humans to gods.

Seven years later Joseph finished translating the scroll and called it the book of Abraham.

The papyri were lost soon after and thought to have been destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. So at this point there was no way to validate Joseph Smith's translation, even though Egyptian hieroglyphics were soon deciphered by archaeological linguists.

Amazingly one of the papyri were rediscovered in one of the vault rooms of the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1966. The Deseret News of Salt Lake City acknowledged this rediscovery on November 27 of 1967.



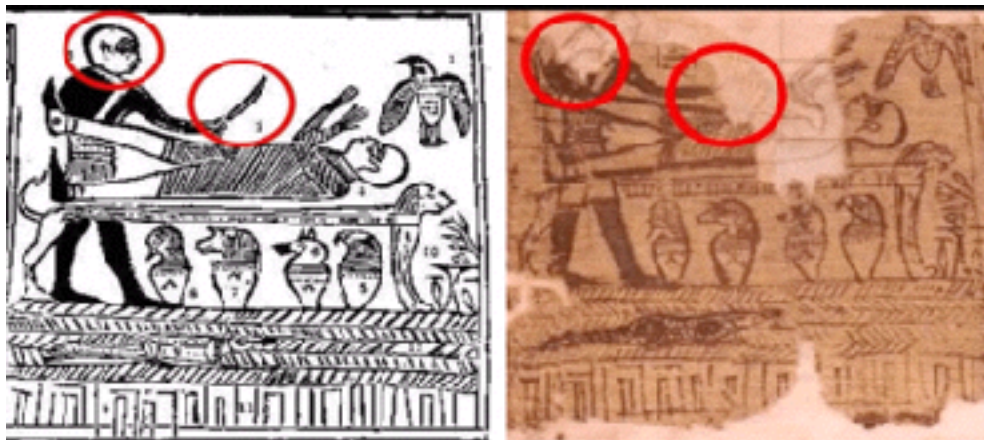
Scholars ended up pouring over the papyri examining their contents and illustrations and comparing these to Smith's translation. Now even before the original papyri were rediscovered, the Mormon church had been in possession of a series of original Book of Abraham translation manuscripts....

Joseph Smith's Translation

As experts would soon find, none of the true translation of the papyri matched the translation that Joseph Smith came up with. In reality, the papyri had nothing to do with Abraham or any of the events recorded in the Book of Abraham.

“Book of Abraham” of Joseph Smith	Actual Translation
<p>“In the Land of the Chaldeans, at the residence of my father, I, Abraham, saw that it was needful for me to obtain another place of residence.</p>	<p>“Osiris shall be conveyed into the Great Pool of Khons—and likewise Osiris Her, justified, born to Tikhebyt, justified—after his arms have been placed on his heart and the Breathing permit has been wrapped in royal linen and placed under his left arm near his heart; the rest of the mummy-bandages should be wrapped over it. The man for whom this book was copies will breath forever and ever as the bas of the gods do.”</p>

He filled in the missing parts of the Papyrus but these were not correct to what they should be. Also he falsely described the images below the man.



LDS Gospel Topics Essays: “None of the characters on the papyrus fragments mentioned Abraham’s name or any of the events recorded in the book of Abraham. Latter-day Saint and non-Latter-day Saint Egyptologists agree that the characters on the fragments do not match the translation given in the book of Abraham...Scholars have identified the papyrus fragments as parts of standard funerary texts that were deposited with mummified bodies. These fragments date to between the third century B.C.E. and the first century C.E., long after Abraham lived” ([here](#)).

Racism



“Cain slew his brother...and the Lord put a mark upon him, which is the flat nose and black skin.”

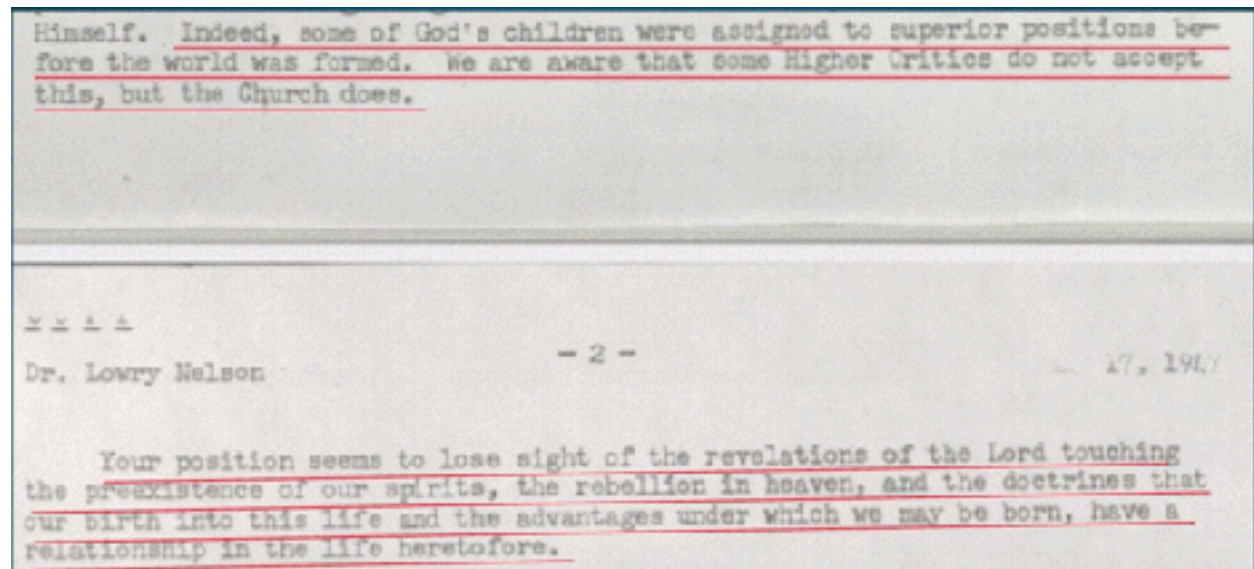
-Prophet Brigham Young, Bright Young Addresses, Feb 5, 1852, LDS historical department

“It is very clear that the mark which was set upon the descendants of Cain was a skin of blackness...”

- Joseph Fielding Smith (10th President from 1970-1972), the Improvement Era, v. 27, n. 6, pg 565



Bruce McConkie (a member of the quorum of the 12) and Joseph Fielding Smith (10th president of the LDS church), in a letter to Dr. Lowry Nelson who wanted to evangelize the church.



“There is a reason why one man is born black and with other disadvantages, while another is born white with great advantages. The reason is that we once had an estate before we came here, and were obedient, more or less, to the laws that were us there. Those who were faithful in all things there received greater blessings here, and those who were not faithful received less”

- Joseph Field Smith, (Doctrines of Salvation) 1954

“There were no neutrals in the war in heaven. All took sides either with Christ or with Satan. Every man had his agency there, and men receive rewards here based upon their actions there, just as they will receive rewards hereafter for deeds done in the body. The Negro, evidently, is receiving the reward he merits.”

- Joseph Fielding Smith (Doctrines of Salvation), 1954

“Those who were less valiant in the pre-existence and who thereby had certain spiritual restrictions imposed upon them during mortality are known to us as the negroes. Such spirits are sent to earth through the lineage of Cain, the mark put upon him for his rebellion against God and his murder of Abel being a black skin...”

- Bruce R. McConkie (Mormon Doctrine), 1966

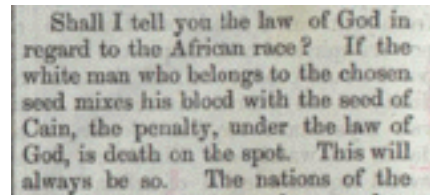
(An interesting side note, the 1972 edition of Mormon Doctrine has this quote, while the 1979 printing does not. This passage in the book has mysteriously been removed following the Civil Rights Movement of the 1970's).



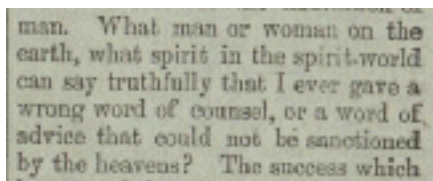
“We will first inquire into the results of the approbation or displeasure of God upon a people, starting with the belief that a black skin is a mark of the curse of Heaven placed upon some portions of mankind...We understand that when God made man in his own image and pronounced him very good, that he made him white...We have no record of any of God's favored servants being of a black race. All his prophets and apostles belonged to the most handsome race on the face of the earth...”

-Juvenile Instructor, (An Official Periodical of the LDS Church), Oct 15th, 1868 ([Here](#))

“Shall I tell you the law of God in regard to the African race? If the white man who belongs to the chosen seed mixes his blood with the seed of Cain, the penalty, under the Law of God, is death on the spot. This will always be so.”

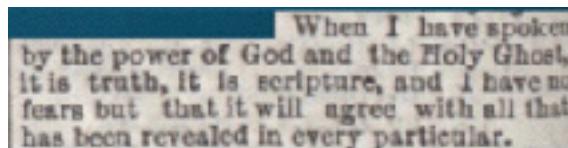


- Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol 10, Pg 110
([here](#))



“What man or woman on the earth, what spirit in the spirit-world can say truthfully that I ever gave a wrong word of counsel, or a word of advice that could not be sanctioned by the heavens?”

-(Brigham Young, Journal of Discourse, Vol 12, pg 127
([here](#)))



Deseret News Weekly, June 6th, 1877

“And if any man mingle his seed with the seed of Cain the only way he could get rid of it or have Salvation would be to come forward and have his head cut off and spill his blood upon the ground—it would also take the life of his children.”

- Wilfred Woodruff Journal (available on Amazon), 4th President of LDS

First presidency to Dr. Lowry Nelson

Dr. Lowry Nelson - 2 - 17, 1947

Your position seems to lose sight of the revelations of the Lord touching the preexistence of our spirits, the rebellion in heaven, and the doctrines that our birth into this life and the advantages under which we may be born, have a relationship in the life heretofore.

From the days of the Prophet Joseph even until now, it has been the doctrine of the Church, never questioned by any of the Church leaders, that the Negroes are not entitled to the full blessings of the Gospel.

Furthermore, your ideas, as we understand them, appear to contemplate the intermarriage of the Negro and White races, a concept which has heretofore been most repugnant to most normal-minded people from the ancient patriarchs till now. God's rule for Israel, His Chosen People, has been endogamous. Modern Israel has been similarly directed.

We are not unmindful of the fact that there is a growing tendency, particularly among some educators, as it manifests itself in this area, toward the breaking down of race barriers in the matter of intermarriage between whites and blacks, but it does not have the sanction of the Church and is contrary to Church doctrine.

Faithfully yours,
(signed) Geo. Albert Smith
J. Reuben Clark, Jr.

Faithfully yours,
(signed) Geo. Albert Smith
J. Reuben Clark, Jr.
David O. McKay

The First Presidency

“Had I anything to do with the negro, I would confine them by strict law to their own species...”

- Joseph Smith, Jan 2, 1845, History of the Church, v. 5 pp. 217 ([here](#))

Under Pressure, in the 1970's, the Momron Church finally backed off...

“Forget everything I have said, or what...Brigham Young...or whomsoever has said... that is contrary to the present revelation. We spoke with a limited understanding and without the light and knowledge that now has come into the world”

“Elder Bruce McConkie (1978)

“Today, the Church disavows the theories advanced in the past that black skin is a sign of divine disfavor or curse, or that it reflects actions in a premarital life; that mixed-race marriages are a sin, or that blacks or people of any other race or ethnicity are inferior in any way to anyone else. Church leaders today unequivocally condemn all racism, past and present, in any form”

LDS Gospel Topic Essays ([Here](#))

Works Based Salvation

Mormonism:

“For we know that it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do” (2 Nephi 25:23).

“We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel” (Mormon Articles of Faith 1:3).

The Bible:

“Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.” - Gal 2:16).

⁴ Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. Gal 5:4

²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. - Rom 3:20

In Galatians Paul was addressing a church that taught Jesus + the work of circumcision. He taught you can't mix works or grace.

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast. - Eph 2:8-9

Objection by Mormons:

If we can't work for our salvation, why does James 2:14-16 say “faith without works is dead”

- The context isn't about salvation, but rather about how you know someone has a true and living faith.
- Comparing false faith vs. living faith - You can tell by looking at the fruit of their lives
- If they don't have works, they won't have true faith
- **Not doing works to be saved, but because “I am saved”**
- Works are evidence of salvation and not the cause

When you are born again, you come alive in Christ and your desires change.

You do these things out of your relationship with Christ.

We can't work for our salvation. Otherwise

- 1) It causes pride. Only God alone deserves the glory. You can't boast when someone gives you a gift.
- 2) When we know it isn't dependent on works, we can have full assurance of salvation through faith in Christ.

1Jn 5:¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

'So you're saying I can be as bad as I want and still go to heaven.'

No. Anyone who has a faith in Jesus is filled with the Holy Spirit and they change through that.

We love God and want to obey him.

How are People Saved?

- By practicing polygamy?
- By making sure not to sleep with a person who has colored skin?
- Is it by believing that Joseph Smith is a prophet and Brigham Young is his successor?
- Or making sure you aren't part of the Protestant church which is the church of the devil and whore of Babylon?
- By becoming a god like the gods before us?
- By obeying a list of rules enough that we can make up the distance that Christ's sacrifice couldn't quite completely make for us.

NO.

Acts Chapter 2

³¹ He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

³² This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

³³ Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

³⁶ Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made the same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

³⁸ Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

³⁹ For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Conclusion

Just because we feel deeply that something is true doesn't make it true if it contrary to Scripture. Our feelings can deceive us.

A couple may feel deeply about sleeping together prior to marriage, but we know differently as we look to Scripture.

—

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, ye might well bear with him. 2 Cor 11:4

—

⁸But 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.

⁹As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. Gal 1:8-9

—

President Hinkley:

“In bearing testimony of Jesus Christ, President Hinckley spoke of those outside the Church who say Latter-day Saints ‘do not believe in the traditional Christ.’

‘No, I don’t. The traditional Christ of whom they speak is not the Christ of whom I speak. For the Christ of whom I speak has been revealed in this the Dispensation of the Fullness of Times. He together with His Father, appeared to the boy Joseph Smith in the year 1820, and when Joseph left the grove that day, he knew more of the nature of God than all the learned ministers of the gospel of the ages.’” (LDS Church News Week ending June 20, 1998, p. 7).

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.” (Mt 24:35)

¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, (2 Tim 3:16)

As followers of Jesus, the Bible becomes the focal point. We have great ability to rely on Scripture and it's proved valid through sciences like textual criticism.

If your church rejects the overarching theology of the Bible, would you reject its teachings? Or is thought of leaving the comfort and the routine of your current lifestyle would just be too scary to face?

Following the truth wherever it leads is more important than anything else on earth.

²³ Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. (Lk 9:23-24)

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. (Mt 19:29)