



What The Mormon Missionaries Won't Tell You At The Door

By Rafael Martinez and Eric Kettunen (Ex-LDS)

Perhaps you've seen those inspirational and heart-warming ads brought to you courtesy of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Perhaps you attended an LDS Church service or social function and found some of the warmest and caring people you've ever met. Maybe, you've been thinking, this is a dream come true. Perhaps the truth in the "restored Gospel" is truly embodied in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Sadly, there are few more tragic things in life than to see a beautiful fantasy slain by an ugly fact. Before you make any decision to proceed with further involvement with Mormonism, we would like to ask you to consider the *other side* of the Mormon story that you are unaware of. The missionaries at your door will be teaching what they call "milk before meat." Let's see what this "meat" actually is so as to make a more objective and informed judgment on Mormonism's untold story.

About "Heavenly Father's Plan"

There are quite a few things about the Church that the missionaries who appear at your door or the Mormon neighbor won't tell you. You won't be told that Mormons view their church as the only true church on earth. You won't hear that Christian clergy are viewed as the blind leaders of the blind or that all other churches are spiritually ignorant of a "restored gospel" that Joseph Smith supposedly recovered. What you'll never hear from your missionary friends is that this new gospel teaches that one's ultimate salvation centers around actually becoming a god ruling over an inhabited planet like Earth, something achievable only by faithful adherence to LDS "temple ordinances" actually drawn from the initiations of Freemasonry.

You see, they won't tell you that "Heavenly Father," according to Mormonism, was once a man like yourself who achieved godhood through a process

called "eternal progression." You'll hear great reverence expressed for Jesus Christ, yet the missionaries won't say that they believe that Jesus Christ is a created being, a literal son of a Heavenly Father that had sexual intercourse with the Virgin Mary to provide him a physical body to dwell in. You certainly won't be told that the Church teaches that the Savior's sacrificial shedding of blood for the sins of the world actually took place before He died on the Cross, and that in some instances, it has no power whatsoever to forgive certain kinds of sin.

About "Another Testament Of Jesus Christ"

A central feature of your introduction to the Church will be your free gift of a copy of the Book of Mormon, considered by Latter Day Saints to be "another testament" of Jesus Christ and a companion to the Bible itself. But the missionaries won't say much about real LDS attitudes toward the Bible and the Book of Mormon. To the Church, the Book of Mormon is actually superior to the Bible in its revelation of divine truth, since the Bible is considered to be riddled with hundreds of translation errors. This is hardly a position that treats the Book of Mormon as a "companion" to the Bible! Mormons won't tell you that over one hundred years of American archaeological discovery and research have failed to turn up any evidence that the cultures described by the Book of Mormon ever existed. They won't point out that much of the Book of Mormon is a word for word plagiarisation of portions of the King James Version of the Bible. Nor will they say a word about the thousands of changes to LDS scripture that the LDS Church has made over the years. Why pray about the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon since so much of it is pure fantasy, plagiarized and subject to change?

About The Truth Behind "The True Church"

The LDS Church has rewritten or covered up many original accounts of its own history in a deliberate effort to keep both Mormons and the public in the dark about the truth behind its "divine origins. Embarrassing doctrinal beliefs - such as plural marriages, false prophecies, and the teaching that Adam was God - supposedly received by early Church leaders by "divine revelation" and published in early editions of these works have also been quietly omitted. *Does this sound like something a "true Church" would do if really it was committed to truth?*

You also won't be informed that less than 40 percent of Joseph Smith's "History Of The Church" was actually written before his death. There will be no discussion about the combative and intimidating presence of early LDS Church culture among early American settlements, which ultimately helped precipitate the terrible persecution they would endure. You won't be told about the gun battle Smith fought

that ended his life (a far cry from the passive martyrdom Smith never really suffered but the Church piously claims actually occurred). These are only a few of the many things about the hardly unblemished past of the "true Church" that your Mormon missionary friends won't be bringing up as they seek to convert you to Mormonism.

About "Forever Family" In The LDS Church

Surely, if nothing else, the missionaries might say, the sanctuary of Mormon family values and upright morality are the best hope for our country, our society, our world. And with the strong emphasis of the Church upon the family as the building block of one's spiritual life and eternal destiny, coupled to the naturally deeply felt family ties any LDS family member would have with their loved ones, this is undeniably the most powerful compulsion one can find in the invitation of the Mormon missionaries calling at one's door. But if you become a Mormon you won't be informed that Church activities, rather than family ones, will take first priority in your life, thanks to the Mormon concept of "calling."

Callings are religious vocational services assigned by "divine revelations" given to church leaders and leave little room for negotiation: how do you disagree with God about what you are meant to do in a calling? You won't be told how much time and energy will be taken away from both you and your family to pursue them, at their expense and yours. Missionaries for the Church won't tell you that good Mormon men are called upon to be "priesthood men," actively involved in a literal priesthood capacity within the Church and are granted a patriarchal lordship of absolute authority over their families. The busy social life of your local LDS Church won't easily reveal that ideal Mormon women are destined to be little more than subservient homemakers and mothers, striving to provide perfect examples of domestic life as a faithful "helpmeet" to her husband. Enormous pressure is exerted upon Mormon women to maintain a perfect public family image in conformity to the Mormon ideal at all costs. And you'll never be told, despite all the inspirational talk about personal fulfillment and potential you'll hear from the missionaries, that the two goals of serving in a Mormon mission and marriage in the Temple are considered by the Church to be the only worthy objectives for children to pursue. The overwhelming perfectionism of Church teachings will also bring to bear incredible pressure on your children to live model lives, at pain of appearing unspiritual, sinful, or troublesome. This hothouse of perfectionism has brought untold amounts of misery, fear and harm to thousands of Mormons for years.

Challenging or defying these Church-sanctioned roles and any other LDS teaching and practice is considered to be a certain sign of sinful, outright rebellion against "Heavenly Father's Plan" - but this attitude is never

brought up by your missionary acquaintances or Mormon friends. This is one of the facts of life in the LDS Church that you'll never be told about. Simply questioning the authority of Mormon leaders brings on inevitable and dire consequences ranging from social ostracism to excommunication. They won't tell you that many Mormons have discovered that seeking honest dialogue, discussion and answers from their leaders often has led to actions of religiously abusive censure from them. The missionaries, being the young men and women they are, probably have never experienced this firsthand. But many of their older Church members certainly have, but they won't be talking about it, so the missionaries will be silent also.

About The "Everlasting Gospel"

The "everlasting gospel" of Mormonism is a far cry from the Biblical Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The gospel of Mormonism is a religious system of rigid perfectionism and good works which supposedly will culminate in godhood for a Mormon. But the Good News of the Bible is one of deliverance from sin - the one thing that separates fallen man from a holy God - through nothing more and nothing less than faith in Jesus Christ Himself (Acts 16:30-31; Ephesians 2:8-9). The gospel of Mormonism installs the Mormon in a process of self-redemption through becoming a god, but the Good News declares in Isaiah 43:10-11 that no God pre-existed before Him, that none shall arise after Him, and that no other savior besides Himself can ever be found. And as the gospel according to Mormonism demands that one submit to the authority of the "true church" at pain of exclusion from grace, the Good News proclaims that direct access to the Heavenly Father comes only through Jesus, the Good Shepherd who warmly welcomes all to His own fold (Matthew 11:28-30, John 10:9-11, 14:6). Indeed, in many respects, the teaching of the LDS Church so sharply contradicts orthodox Christian teaching that it **cannot** be considered "Christian."

Please carefully consider these things we have shared with you as you consider your involvement with the Mormon Church. Don't view Mormons as unsavory villains - they are instead unwitting victims sincerely seeking to please God and help you. The missionaries at your door and the Church members you know - for the most part - have been kept in the dark by church leadership about many of the issues we have raised here and speak what they've been told is the truth. But don't allow their vision of a perfect Mormon world order color your judgment either. The cost to you and yours may be more than you wish to pay.

**Need More Info? TVBSA, P.O. Box 5595,
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