

"Contend Earnestly For the Faith" Part 9: Mormonism

by Erik Olsen

"...contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." – Jude 3

--MORMONS "PREACH ANOTHER JESUS..." (2 Corinthians 11:3)

--2 Corinthians 11:1-4: "For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ [...implies deity of Christ]. 3 **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.** 4 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...**

--the Jesus of Mormonism:

--rather than God who became a man, the Jesus of Mormonism is a man who became God! (became God before His incarnation)

--core doctrine of Mormonism is a lie traced back to garden of Eden: "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil." (Genesis 3:5)

--"corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ..."

--Mormons corrupt the simplicity that is in Christ and make it complicated, trying to explain things God has chosen not to explain...

--Colossians 2:17-19: "Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, **intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind...**"

--Proverbs 3:5: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding..."

--Romans 11:33: "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!"

--MORMONS HAVE "A FORM OF GODLINESS..." (2 Timothy 3:5)

--2 Timothy 3:1-7: "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves... ... 5 having **a form of godliness but denying its power.** ... 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

--rather than good works being the **result of salvation**, for the Mormon good works are an **attempt to earn salvation...** works-righteousness to the core, the exact opposite of the gospel! ("another gospel..." Galatians 1:8)

--mormon salvation:

--three levels of heaven... *Those who attain the highest level of the Celestial Kingdom – by means of complete faithfulness, which includes temple marriage, will become gods: creators of their own planets, and procreators of their own spirit children. [those in the lower parts of heaven] will be eternally single...[not able to create their own planet systems and bear spirit children to populate them] (from apologetics page on christiananswers.net)*

--"a form of godliness but denying it's power..."

--**the "power" of godliness** is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the renewal of our mind by God's Word... **the result of salvation**, not the means by which we achieve salvation!

--**the Holy Spirit is the "guarantee" of our salvation.** (2 Corinthians 1:22, 2 Corinthians 5:5, Ephesians 1:14).

--Ephesians 1:13-14: "In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, **you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise**, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance..."

--we obey God's Word through the power of the Spirit because we are saved...

--1 Peter 1:22-23: "Since you have purified your souls in **obeying the truth through the Spirit** in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever

--Romans 8:13-15: "For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but **if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.** 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For **you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."**"

--the Mormon "form of godliness" (morality, family values, worldly success) can have a fleshly appeal to many, but it is just another alluring lie from Satan – from the same source who feeds sexual lies to Muslim suicide bombers!

--excerpt from amazon.com review on book "Out of Mormonism": *She grew up in the orthodox Christian church but because of a lack of biblical grounding she found herself drawn into Mormonism with her family, thanks to the LDS's emphasis on family and morals. At first it was a blissful life, but things began to turn sour when some of the deeper truths about Mormon doctrine were learned...*

--Mormon good works take on a whole different appearance in the light of the motivation behind them – to be counted worthy of the highest level of godhood! Mormons doing good works, if they properly understand what their church teaches, think of themselves as infant gods in training to become grown up gods. Joseph Smith wrote: "And you have got to learn how to be Gods yourselves..." (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 346, 348)

--2 Corinthians 11:13-15 "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! For **Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.** 15 Therefore it is no great thing if **his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness,** whose end will be according to their works.

--MORMON SALVATION MAKES PEOPLE "ESTRANGED FROM [THE TRUE] CHRIST..." (Galatians 5:5) AND ENSLAVED IN WORKS-BASED RIGHTEOUSNESS

--Romans 3:19-24: "Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21 But now **the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed,** being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, **through faith in Jesus Christ,** to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

--Galatians 5:4-5: "**You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law;** you have fallen from grace. 5 For **we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.**

--Isaiah 64:6: "And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags."

--When Mormons say they have "faith in Jesus Christ" what do they mean?? ... that that Jesus was a human who achieved godhood, and he came to help us work our way to godhood by following all the rules and regulations of the Mormon Church... that is not the faith of the Bible that results in salvation – **that is a faith that results in satanic bondage, faith in a different Jesus, a different gospel, a different salvation!!**

--Hebrews 4:9-10: "There remains therefore **a rest for the people of God.** 10 For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His."

--CONCLUSION:

--Mormons may try to take you down all kinds of theological rabbit trails (using biblical terminology with different meaning) but they are all traced back to the same source – Joseph Smith – who was a false prophet that promoted lies from Satan, the "father of lies" (John 10:10)

--true prophets of God must be 100% accurate:

--God told Moses, "But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.' 21 And if you say in your heart, 'How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?' — 22 when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him. (Deuteronomy 18:19-22)

--one example of Joseph Smith's failure to meet the biblical standard of 100% accuracy for genuine prophets:

-- In Doctrine And Covenants, section 84, Joseph prophesied that the city of the New Jerusalem would be built within his generation "in the Western boundaries of the State of Missouri"

--1 Corinthians 3:10-13: "For **no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.** 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is."

--Ephesians 2:20: "[the church is] built on **the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone...**"