

This series discusses key portions of an authoritative work called Doctrines of Salvation (3 volume set), by former President and Prophet Joseph Fielding Smith.

Doctrines of Salvation - Volume 1

Chapter 1 - Character, Attributes, and Perfections of God

HOW GOD IS FROM ALL ETERNITY TO ALL ETERNITY

According to him, God (Heavenly Father) is God from all eternity to all eternity in the sense that "eternity to eternity" begins from your spirit existence (i.e. you being born as a spirit child of His) through the mortal probation and then continuing to the eternal existence which follows the resurrection (page 12).

He says that those who become Gods will also be from all eternity to eternity.

He does not consider that when he [Fielding] becomes a God (as he goes on to say on page 69), while he may have existed from all eternity to all eternity, he has not been a God from all eternity to all eternity.

This would be consistent with Joseph Smith's teaching that Heavenly Father became a God through eternal progression if you consider that eternity goes even further back than the context of Mr. Fielding Smith.

Chapter 4 - Our First and Second Estates

WE LIVED AS SPIRIT BEINGS

"There is not a soul who has not seen both the Father and the Son, and in the spirit world we were in their presence" (page 56).

What is not mentioned is whether they ever saw the third member of the Godhead.

WE HAVE SEEN GOD / COUNCILS WERE HELD IN PRE-EXISTENCE

"He was a glorious personage ... shining ... beyond the brightness of the sun. We saw him in his majesty ... We were made to realize, in the presence of our glorious Father, who had a tangible body ... which shone like the sun, that we were, as spirits far inferior to him" (page 57).

Apparently, these were the less developed or dumb spirits who were not able to figure it out for themselves even when they beheld his glorious majesty -so they were made to realize this.

SPIRITS WERE TAUGHT ABOUT MORTALITY

"We were duly informed that in this mortal life we would have to walk by faith. Previously we had walked by sight, but now was to come a period of trial to see if by faith we would be true to every covenant and commandment our Father required at our hands" (pages 57-58). "In this mortal life, or second estate, the Lord willed that we should walk by faith and not by sight" (page 60).

Earlier, Doctrines of Salvation mentioned that Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, Sidney Rigdon, and others are said to have seen and heard Jesus Christ. In fact, one of the last testimonies they gave was that he lives (page 36 -footnote to Doctrines and Covenants 76:22-24).

My first testimony (not last) is that he lives. This is based on faith, not sight. How about you?

AGENCY AND PROGRESSION IN PRE-EXISTENCE / SOME SPIRITS GREATER THAN OTHERS

"God gave his children their free agency even in the spirit world, by which the individual spirits had the privilege, just as men have here, of choosing the good and rejecting the evil, or partaking of the evil to suffer the consequences of their sins" (page 58). "... but the right of free agency which was given to them enabled some to outstrip others, and thus through the eons of immortal existence, to become more intelligent, more faithful, for they were free to act for themselves" (page 59).

I wanted to focus on the word "eons". This pre-mortal life progression apparently lasted not for thousands and thousands of years, but rather for eons. This is also repeated in Religion 234-235 Eternal Marriage Student Manual (page 167) and Religion 430-431 -Doctrines of the Gospel Student Manual (chapter 7).

So for all these eons of time, there was presumably massive amounts of evil in the celestial home of the spirits when they supposedly lived with Heavenly Father. Can you speculate on what all these different types of evil are (considering you still have spirits waiting to come to earth) and what consequences they suffer in the celestial home for breaking the commandments of the Lord while there? And is Lucifer the same personage tempting them there to disobey God or if there is another evil entity or entities?

CHILDREN OF ISRAEL FOREKNOWN

The nation of Israel existed as spirit people in the first estate. They were apparently sent to the Israel on planet Earth (page 59). On page 62 we learn that many other earth type planets are inhabited by our brothers and sisters. I wonder if they also have a country called Israel? And do they find it difficult to put their faith in an extraterrestrial Jesus who did not atone for their sins in a crucifixion in their own world?

A few questions come to mind.

Do these other planets also have their own country called Israel? And do they find it difficult to put their faith in an extraterrestrial Jesus who did not atone for their sins in a crucifixion in their own world?

WHY MEN ARE BORN TO DIFFERENT RACES

"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 given us there. Those who were faithful in all things there received greater blessings here, and those who were not faithful received less." (page 61).

The book did not mention these other advantages.

THE WAR IN HEAVEN / NO NEUTRALS IN HEAVEN

"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" (page 66).

Doctrines of Salvation, in volume 1, does not elaborate further on the status of the Negro race. You have to read Joseph Fielding Smith's other book (The Way to Perfection).

FREE AGENCY IN PRE-EXISTENCE

"If there had been no free agency, there could have been no rebellion in heaven ... He would be no better than a mechanical contrivance ... He would have been an automaton; could have no happiness nor misery, neither sense nor insensibility, and under such could hardly be called existence" (pages 64 and 65).

This is a rather odd statement to make because this is partially the way Nephi talks about the existence of Adam and Eve before the Fall:

"For it must needs be, that there is an opposition in all things. If not so, my first-born in the wilderness, righteousness could not be brought to pass, neither wickedness, neither holiness nor misery, neither good nor bad. Wherefore, all things must needs be a compound in one; wherefore, if it should be one body it must needs remain as dead, having no life neither death, nor corruption nor incorruption, happiness nor misery, neither sense nor insensibility" (2 Nephi 2:11). "And they would have had no children; wherefore they would have remained in a state of innocence, having no joy, for they knew no misery" (v. 23).

Do you see the similarities? No misery/no happiness; neither sense/nor insensibility.

Adam and Eve seemed to be what Fielding would consider as automatons, without existence.

THE STRAITNESS OF THE WAY

"Mortality is the testing or proving ground for exaltation to find out who among the children of God are worthy to become Gods themselves, and the Lord has informed us that few there be that find it" (page 69).

It seems that the LDS Church of today places less emphasis on exaltation or changes "Gods" to "gods" in her teaching manuals. Paragraph 1 of page 58 refers to those who are not exalted as "those who rebelled."

FREE AGENCY IN BOTH ESTATES

"The Lord has given to man his agency. We have it because the Lord gave it to us in the spirit world" (page 70).

I found this a little odd because intelligences (who are believed by Mormons to have been organized into spirit children of their Heavenly Parents) were able to act for themselves (they had agency) always and eternally even before Lucifer was formed as their spirit brother. Intelligences would have no existence if this was not the case according to Joseph Smith (Doctrines and Covenants 93:30).

Chapter 5 -The Earth: Its Creation and Destiny

HOW EARTHS PASS AWAY

"This earth is a living body. It was created to become a celestial body and the abode for celestial beings. Other earths, no doubt, are being prepared as habitations for terrestrial and telestial beings, for there must be places for those who fail to obtain celestial glory, who receive immortality but not eternal life" (page 72).

It seems like Earth has preference over other earths because Jesus was crucified on our planet.

I found the latter part of this statement odd because page 85 says that those who lived a telestial law will be eliminated from their earth. I'll include the quote later.

LIFE, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION OF THE EARTH

"This earth is living and must die ... through the resurrection by which it shall be become celestialized and the abode of celestial beings" (page 73).

THE LORD'S BLUEPRINT OF CREATION

"Christ created many worlds. No doubt others helped him ..."

ADAM AND OTHERS HELPED IN CREATION

"It is true that Adam helped to form this earth ... I have a strong view or conviction that there were others who assisted them. Perhaps Noah and Enoch; and why not Joseph Smith" (pages 74 and 75).

SPIRITUAL OR PHYSICAL, AND SPIRIT CREATIONS

"Adam's body was created from the dust of the earth, but at that time it was a spiritual earth. Adam had spiritual body until mortality came upon him through the violation of the law under which he was living, but he also had a physical body of flesh and bones." (page 76).

NATURE OF A SPIRITUAL BODY

"Now what is a spiritual body. It is one that is quickened by spirit and not by blood. Our Father in heaven and our Saviour and all those who have passed through the resurrection have physical bodies of flesh and bones, but their bodies are quickened by spirit and not by blood, hence they are spiritual bodies and not blood bodies. The immortal body is quickened by spirit, but the mortal body is quickened by blood." (pages 76 and 77).

So Adam had a physical body and a spiritual body but not a blood body before the Fall.

"Now when Adam was in the Garden of Eden, he was not subject to death. There was no blood in his body and he could have remained there forever. This is true of all the other creations" (page 77).

ADAM: FIRST MAN AND FIRST FLESH

"After the fall ... the forbidden fruit had the power to create blood and change his nature and mortality took the place of immortality, and all things, partaking of the change, became mortal." (page 77).

AGE OF THE EARTH

"This earth was created on the Lord's time, which is celestial time ... Kolob ... that one revolution was a day unto the Lord ... it being one thousand years ... and thus shall be the reckoning of the time of one planet above another, until thou come nigh unto Kolob ..." (page 78).

It appears the earth existed for about 7,000 years in a spiritual state. When Adam fell, the spiritual earth and everything on it became temporal, or mortal (page 77).

Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden for one thousand years at least in their unfallen state.

AGE OF THE EARTH SINCE ADAM

"We have evidence beyond dispute that Adam was driven out of the Garden of Eden about 6,000 years ago ... In the Book of Revelation, chapters 5 to 10, we have the story of the opening of the seven seals by the Lamb, each seal representing 1,000 years of the temporal existence of this earth. In the Doctrines and Covenants, section 88:92-116, we have the confirmation of this ... in section 77:6-15, we have more information in relation to the opening of these seals" (page 79).

Joseph Fielding Smith unfortunately cannot identify the great earthquake which supposedly occurred one thousand years ago.

TEMPORAL EXISTENCE OF EARTH

"Here is a definite statement by revelation to us that this earth will go through 7,000 years of temporal existence" (page 80).

MEANING OF THE MERIDIAN OF TIME

"Moreover, our Saviour came in the meridian of time. That dispensation is called the dispensation of the meridian of time. This means that it was about half way from the beginning of time to the end of time. Anyone who desires can figure it for himself that the Lord came about 4,000 years from the time of the fall. The millennium is to come some time following the 2,000 years after his coming. Then there is to be the millennium for 1,000 years, and following that a little season, the length of time of which is not revealed, but which may bring time to its end about 8,000 years from the beginning" (page 81).

FOUR STAGES OF EARTH'S EXISTENCE

"1. the creation, 2. the telestial condition, 3. the terrestrial condition, 4. the celestial" (page 82).

WICKED WILL BURN AS STUBBLE

"When Christ comes, the earth will be changed and so will all upon its face. It will become a terrestrial world then and will so remain for 1,000 years; and all those who have lived a telestial law will be eliminated" (page 85).

Latter-day Saints are running out of time to build their temple in New Jerusalem in Independence, Missouri. It is here that they are taught that Jesus will make his first appearance at the Second Coming (Religion 430-431 – Doctrines of the Gospel Student Manual, page 101).

CELESTIAL DESTINY OF THE EARTH

"At the end of the world the earth will die ... it will be renewed, or raised with a resurrection. When this time comes the terrestrial inhabitants will also be taken away and be consigned to another sphere suited to their condition" (pages 87 and 88).

Presumably those of other earths who lived a celestial law will be taken away from their earths and brought to our planet Earth.

EARTH TO BE A CELESTIAL SUN

"Who, but the most abandoned, does not desire to be counted worthy to associate with those higher orders of beings who have been redeemed, exalted, and glorified together with the worlds they inhabit, ages before the foundations of our earth were laid?" (page 89).

This seems to mean that some brothers and sisters (of Mormons living on planet Earth) became Gods and Goddesses on some other earths even before their brothers and sisters came down to our planet Earth in mortal bodies. I wonder who atoned for these people when Jesus provided the atonement about 2,000 years ago.

Chapter 6 -Michael our Prince

ADAM QUICKENED BY SPIRIT, NOT BY BLOOD

" ... for there was no blood in Adam's body before the fall. He was not then "flesh" as we know it, that is in the sense of mortality" (page 92).

ADAM BROUGHT MORTALITY TO ALL THINGS

"After Adam's fall, the Lord declared that he placed a curse upon the earth, and this mortal condition then passed upon the earth and all upon its face. President Brigham Young in speaking of this said: It is very true, had not sin entered the world, and opposition been introduced, death would not have entered" (page 92).

"Then came the curse upon the fruit, upon the vegetables ... the fish in the sea, and upon all things pertaining to this earth, through man's transgression" (page 93).

A few things are taught here:

a) mortality is a curse. Even new born babies or animals have this curse.

b) Adam brought sin into the world by his sin in the Garden of Eden.

THE ADAM-GOD THEORY

"When our father Adam came into the Garden of Eden, he came into it with a celestial body, and brought Eve, one of his wives with him" (page 96).

Joseph Fielding Smith does an excellent job at explaining the misconceptions about the Adam-God theory, but he never corrected the teaching that Adam was a polygamist in the pre-mortal life.

"Joseph Smith taught a plurality of gods, and that man by obeying the commandments of God and keeping the whole law will eventually reach the power and exaltation by which he also will become a god" (page 98).

Latter-day Saints seem to use the word "god" and "God" interchangeably to refer to Deity.

"Mortality is the testing or proving ground for exaltation to find out who among the children of God are worthy to become Gods themselves, and the Lord has informed us that few there be that find it" (page 69).

"... so that undeveloped offspring of celestial parentage is capable, by experience through ages and aeons, of evolving into a God" (in Clark, Messages of the First Presidency, 5:244 -Religion 234-235 -Eternal Marriage Student Manual, page 167). This is also repeated in Messages of the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 4:205-206, referenced in Religion 430-431 -Doctrines of the Gospel Student Manual (chapter 7).

"All good things come from God. Everything that he does is to help his children become like him—a god. He has said, Behold, this is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man" (Gospel Principles, 1997, chapter 1, page 9).

BRIGHAM YOUNG'S TEACHING ABOUT ADAM

"How did Adam and Eve sin? Did they come out in direct opposition to God and his government? No. But they transgressed a command of the Lord, and through that transgression sin came into the world" (page 104).

"Then Satan steps in and overcomes them through the weakness there was in the children of the Father when they were sent to the earth, and sin was brought in, and thus we are subject to sin" (page 104).

A few things are taught here:

a) It seems Adam and Eve were not perfect in the Garden of Eden. They could not have children and then had some weakness in them that Satan could exploit..

b) Even before babies commit their first sin, they are subject to sin.

"He has tasted death for every man, and has paid the debt contracted by our first parents [that is Adam and Eve] ... Jesus Christ ... suffered the penalty and paid the debt of man's original sin by offering up himself" (pages 104-105).

Even new born babies contract this debt.

I will keep adding to the section of Original Sin in the Basic Beliefs section. It seems Latter-day Saints refer to original sin but they are not united on what the first sin was.

ADAM NOT FATHER OF CHRIST

"Adam died ... Adam's spirit and body were separated, and he did not get the resurrection until after the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Adam, when a spirit without the body, could not beget a body of flesh and bones, therefore he could not be the Father of Jesus Christ in the flesh" (page 105).

In LDS theology, Heavenly Father was able to beget Jesus Christ in the flesh because he has a body of flesh and bones. But interestingly, Heavenly Father was able to beget spirits in spirit bodies, which are not considered flesh. Adam is taught to have become the first flesh upon the earth when he fell (page 92).

Chapter 7 -The Fall of Adam

DEATH FOR ALL LIFE CAME BY FALL

"President Brigham Young has said: Some may regret that our first parents sinned. This is nonsense. If we had been there, and they had not sinned, we would have sinned. I will not blame Adam or Eve. Why? Because it was necessary for sin should enter into the world; no man could ever understand the principle of exaltation without its opposite; no one could ever receive an exaltation without being acquainted with its opposite" (page 112).

Another clear statement that Adam and Eve sinned.

It seems the Mormon Heavenly Father also sinned because Joseph Smith taught he was a man who became a god.

ADAM AND EVE REJOICED IN FALL

"This was a transgression of the law, but not a sin in the strict sense, for it was something Adam and Eve had to do! ... We can hardly look upon anything resulting in such benefits as being a sin, in the sense in which we consider sin" (page 115).

That's why Latter-day Saints cannot agree on original sin. They have different senses in which they consider sin. Even within the same chapter Joseph Fielding Smith is disagreeing with Brigham Young.

EVOLUTIONISTS DENY FALL

"Theology has much to say about original sin" (page 117).

Latter-day Saints are not united on what the original sin was.

Chapter 8 -The Atonement of Christ

ATONEMENT BRINGS RESURRECTION TO ALL

"The resurrection of the dead must of necessity be just as broad as was the curse that brought death into the world" (page 123).

New born children are cursed with mortality.

CHRIST PAID THE RANSOM

"He rescued us from captivity and bondage" (page 124).

Infants are born in a condition of captivity and bondage.

ATONEMENT A VICARIOUS SACRIFICE

"Neither could his children, for they also were under the curse, and it required one who was not subject to the curse to atone for that original sin" (page 126).

Did not suffer this curse even as an infant. Here we have another reference to Adam's sin.

HOW CHRIST GAINED KEYS OF RESURRECTION

"On the third day after the crucifixion he took up his body and gained the keys of the resurrection, and thus has power to open the graves for all men, but this he could not do until he had first passed through death himself and conquered" (page 128).

Jesus had these keys before he died. He said, "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25).

GREATEST SUFFERING WAS IN GETHSEMANE

"Greatest suffering was in Gethsemane ... that was not when he was on the cross; that was in the garden. That is where he bled from every pore in his body" (page 130).

Jesus was not bleeding in the garden; he was sweating -but his sweat appeared as if it were blood, but it was sweat.

"And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground" (Luke 22:44).

The Bible says "his sweat", not "his blood."

"But he [Christ] never paid any debt on the cross, or before he went to the cross, for the sins of any

of us, if we will be rebellious. If we are rebellious, we will have to pay the price ourselves" (page 131).

This is an interesting teaching for page 58 says all those people who don't become gods and goddesses are the rebellious ones -unfortunately all these people in the celestial/terrestrial/telectual kingdoms will somehow have to pay their debts for themselves ... somehow.

"We will never be able to pay the debt" (page 132).

This either contradicts the teaching on page 131 or it means that those in the celestial kingdom who don't become gods and goddess never had their debt paid.

Chapter 9 -Evolution

DECAY OF NEPHITE CIVILIZATION

"Their descendants, the American Indians, were wandering in all their wild savagery when the Pilgrim Fathers made permanent settlement in this land" (page 151).

But in their initial meeting, the American Indians were very friendly with the Pilgrims. When the white man tried to conquer them, the Indians rightly defended themselves.

Another important thing about this teaching is a dramatic thing that happened to the Introduction page of the Book of Mormon.

Before 2011, the Book of Mormon had said, " ... all were destroyed except the Lamanites, and they are the principal ancestors of the American Indians." In future editions the words "principal ancestors" will be changed to "among the ancestors."

Seems like a huge theological shift in light of archaeological and DNA evidence.

Chapter 10 -Everlasting Covenants

"The law of tithing is a form of an everlasting covenant, the covenant of revenue for the Church, although some day we shall be given a higher form of this law known as consecration" (page 153).

This is not entirely accurate.

The early Latter-day Saints were already given the law of consecration. Due to the failure of many to abide this law, the Lord is said to have withdrawn it and substituted the law of tithing instead (D&C 119 – July 1838). Apostasy eventually caused them to be moved out of their place (Doctrines and Covenants 124:45-46, January 1841).

NO UNNECESSARY COVENANTS OR COMMANDMENTS

"We should fully and sincerely comprehend the fact that no requirement, request, or commandment made of man by the Father or the Son is given except for the purpose of advancing man on the path of eternal perfection" (page 155).

This is an interesting teaching considering that Adam and Eve could not advance on the path to perfection in LDS theology until they disobeyed the commandment of Heavenly Father.

DOCTRINES OF CHRIST ALWAYS THE SAME

"We must accept, and do accept the great truth that because of his birthright, and of the conditions surrounding his coming into the earth, he became the Redeemer of men, and that through the shedding of his blood we are privileged again to return into the presence of our Father, on conditions of our repentance and acceptance of the great plan of redemption" (page 159).

It is not explained what the birthright means for Christ.

GOSPEL IN MERIDIAN OF TIME

"We are now living near the close of the sixth thousandth year, or the period known as the last days, or the time immediately preceding the second advent of Jesus Christ" (page 163).

This is similar to the teachings found in chapter 5.

Latter-day Saints are running out of time to build their temple in New Jerusalem in Independence, Missouri. It is here that they are taught that Jesus will make his first appearance at the Second Coming. Also, Joseph Fielding Smith did not identify the great earthquake which supposedly opened the sixth thousandth year.

Chapter 11 -The Restoration of all Things

"It was not until the close of the first quarter of the nineteenth century that the time fully came for the restoration of light and truth in its primitive fulness. At that time the world had been prepared sufficiently, both by the establishment of political and religious liberty, for the Church of Jesus Christ and the holy priesthood to be again returned safely to the earth [28]" (page 175).

For some reason, footnote 28 points to Revelation 12:1-7; 1 Nephi 13:1-34; 14:1-26.

Let's examine Revelation 12:1-7, but pay closer attention to the verses that come right after that.

It's a stretch to see how Revelation 12:1-7 has anything to do with a priesthood being returned safely to earth. Joseph Fielding Smith is practicing eisegesis.

Rev 12:12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he

knoweth that he hath but a short time.

Rev 12:13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.

Rev 12:14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

Rev 12:15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

Rev 12:16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Jesus did not come to Israel when it had been prepared sufficiently. The early Apostles held the priesthood in dangerous times.

INVENTORS COME BY SPIRIT OF LORD

"America has to be discovered, because it was upon this land that the gospel was to be restored. There had to be a breaking down of despotic power; feudalism had to come to an end; men had to be freed. It

was necessary that parliaments be organized, that the magna charta be given to the people, and that they have a voice in what should and what should not be, in regard to government" (pages 178-179).

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE RESTORATION

"All of this had to be before the establishment of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints upon the earth. These things took place in Europe before the discovery of America. After America was discovered liberty upon this land received an impetus which the old world could not give to it; and through the shedding of blood, the land was redeemed (the Lord has said it) and freedom proclaimed in the constitution of the country, so that all peoples of the earth could find a place of refuge in America, the Land of Promise. When that was accomplished, the time had come for the bringing forth and establishing of the gospel of Jesus Christ upon the earth" (page 179).

Maybe Joseph Fielding Smith should have taken a lesson in history. Israel, under the control of the Roman Empire, was not like America when Jesus established his church. The church of Jesus Christ can thrive even in countries where people are persecuted, killed, or jailed for their faith. Religious liberty is man's way to think he can increase membership in a church. This is not necessarily God's way. History proves this ... just look at the explosive growth of the church in China.

In regards to the land being redeemed through the shedding of blood, it would be worthwhile

to mention some things stated in Doctrines and Covenants.

Joseph Smith was said to be the Moses-like figure who would recapture the lands of consecration by armed combat:

“Verily, verily I say unto you, that my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., is the man to whom I likened the servant to whom the Lord of the vineyard spake in the parable which I have given unto you” (D&C 103:21).

The web site <http://scriptures.lds.org> makes a reference for this passage to Doctrine and Covenants 101:44-55.

“A certain nobleman had a spot of land, very choice; and he said unto his servants: Go ye unto my vineyard, even upon this very choice piece of land, and plant twelve olive-trees; And the lord of the vineyard said unto one of his servants: Go and gather together the residue of my servants, and take all the strength of mine house, which are my warriors, my young men, and they that are of middle age also among all my servants, who are the strength of mine house, save those only whom I have appointed to tarry.”

It should be worth noting a few verses that were left out.

“And go ye straightway unto the land of my vineyard, and redeem my vineyard; for it is mine; I have bought it with money” (D&C 101:56).

Jesus did not buy his vineyard with money. Jesus, not Joseph Smith, is the redeemer.

“Therefore, get ye straightway unto my land; break down the walls of mine enemies; throw down their tower, and scatter their watchmen. And inasmuch as they gather together against you, avenge me of mine enemies, that by and by I may come with the residue of mine house and possess the land” (D&C 101:57-58; 103:11-36).

The biblical Jesus did not command us to avenge him of his enemies. The Mormon Jesus did.

The early disciples did not redeem their land with their blood.

People don't have to travel to the United States only to find refuge. Have you ever heard of Canada, Australia, England, Germany, and many other countries?

Chapter 12 -Joseph Smith: Prophet of the Restoration

JOSEPH SMITH FOREORDAINED

"In this grand council, Michael was chosen to come as the progenitor of the human family and to bring mortality into the world" (page 184).

Michael is Adam and LDS theology. He was foreordained to disobey God in the Garden of Eden.

WHAT IS A PROPHET?

"Every person should live in harmony with the revealed truth ... and receiving the testimony through the Holy Spirit that Jesus lives and is the Son of God, he or she becomes a prophet or prophetess, and is entitled to the guidance of and inspiration from the Holy Ghost, which is the spirit of prophecy" (page 185).

This echo's what Joseph Smith taught: "No man is a minister of Jesus Christ without being a Prophet. No man can be a minister of Jesus Christ except he has the testimony of Jesus; and this is the spirit of prophecy [see Revelation 19:10]. John the Revelator says that the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy [see Revelation 19:10]. Now if any man has the testimony of Jesus, has he not the spirit of prophecy? And if he has the spirit of prophecy, I ask, is he not a prophet? And if a prophet, will he not receive revelation?" (Teachings of Presidents of the Church -Joseph Smith, chapter 33, p. 384.

In summary, while LDS women are prophetesses, they do not hold the priesthood.

CHURCH STANDS OR FALLS WITH JOSEPH SMITH

"Mormonism, as it is called, must stand or fall on the story of Joseph Smith. He was either a prophet of God, divinely called, properly appointed and commissioned, or he was one of the biggest frauds this world has ever seen. There is no middle ground" (page 188).

That is too generous. All the original leaders of the Mormon Church are the biggest frauds if their story is not true. But even if they lied for a very good reason or Joseph Smith had a very convincing dream, we'll still have to examine their other teachings in the light of the Bible.

NO SALVATION WITHOUT ACCEPTING JOSEPH SMITH

"If Joseph Smith was verily a prophet ... no man can reject that testimony without incurring the most dreadful consequences for he cannot enter the kingdom of God" (pages 189-190).

Those who do not enter the kingdom of God (the highest of the 3 divisions in the celestial kingdom) are considered damned.

"He sealed his testimony with his blood, knowing he was going to his death for proclaiming the eternal truths of heaven" (page 191).

This is too melodramatic. If people examine history, they will see that Mr. Smith was killed by an angry mob -who were against his doctrine of plural marriage (polygamy). Mr. Smith went to jail on a charge of treason, not proclaiming the gospel.

THE MESSENGER OF THE RESTORATION

"It is a remarkable fact that Martin Luther, John Knox, John Calvin, the Wesleys, and the other reformers who attempted to correct the evils of the Catholic church ..." (page 191).

The pre-1967 version of Mormon Doctrine (by Elder Bruce R. McConkie) has more vitriol about the Catholic Church. Latter-day Saints have toned down in the years following in the spirit of ecumenism.

But we must never forget what is written in History of the Church, Volume 1, chapter 1 -when Joseph Smith was 15 years old, he claimed two heavenly personages (thought to be Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ) appeared to him out of his desire to know which of the Christian sects in his region of the country was correct. He was answered that he must join none of them for they were all wrong and that all their creeds were an abomination.

"This ancient gospel was to be declared, so John the Revelator has written in the fourteenth chapter and sixth verse of Revelation, by an angel, who was to fly through the midst of heaven having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them ... Nobody else, except Joseph Smith, ever claimed that an angel did fly and did appear to him with this message, and that he was commissioned to send it forth to all the world" (page 192).

Revelation 14:6-7 says, "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

The angel (in the Bible) is preaching the gospel, not Mr. Smith. The angel Moroni (in LDS theology) was not flying in the midst of heaven preaching the gospel to every nation. The angel Moroni did not say, "Fear God and give glory to him" and the rest of what is stated.

Chapter 13 -The Divine Law of Witnesses

NATURE OF OFFICE OF ASSISTANT PRESIDENT OF CHURCH

"Oliver Cowdery ... He had the same authority, had received the same keys with the Prophet Joseph Smith every time the heavens were opened, and he was an Assistant President of the Church and the second witness of the dispensation of the fulness of times ... for it was necessary that there be two Presidents, two witnesses standing at the head of this dispensation" (page 212).

The early church did not have two Presidents, even though some have taught that Peter was the leader.

"... Oliver Cowdery, Martin Harris, and David Whitmer all deserted Joseph Smith while he was living.

For a time they manifested a spirit of opposition, if not of bitterness, towards him" (page 214). "All the days of their lives they were true to their testimony, though they became bitter toward the Prophet Joseph Smith personally. All three got over that bitterness before they died, but there was a time when

they were very, very bitter in their feelings toward him" (page 223).

Unfortunately Joseph Fielding Smith did not elaborate on the reason (s) why these three men were very, very bitter towards the other Joseph.

This bitterness and hatred would also grew outside of the church towards Joseph Smith in lieu of his polygamy and he was eventually killed by an angry mob.

"Thus, we see, Hyrum Smith became a president of the Church with Joseph Smith, which place Oliver Cowdery might have held had he not wavered and fallen from his exalted station" (page 219).

In this case, exaltation does not mean becoming a god.

"The sealing of the testimony through the shedding of blood would not have been complete in the death of the Prophet Joseph Smith alone; it required the death of Hyrum Smith who jointly held the keys of this dispensation" (page 219).

DEATH OF TWO TESTATORS REQUIRED

"It was just as necessary that Hyrum Smith lay down his life a martyr for this cause as a witness for God as it was for Joseph Smith, so the Lord permitted them both to be taken in that way and both sealed their testimony with their blood" (page 221).

It should be noted that they were not killed for their faith in Christ. If so, many other Christians living in their area would have been killed too. The mob that killed them did so because they were angry with the polygamy practiced by Joseph (which the God of the Bible never commanded, but permitted). The reason why Mr. Smith was in jail in the first place was treason, not for believing in Jesus.

If you are looking for a good example of a martyr, look at Stephen.

Chapter 14 -The Church and the Kingdom

THE KINGDOM SET UP ON EARTH

"These six members, who had been baptized previous to the organization of the Church, were all again baptized on the day of the organization" (page 230).

This would be similar to Nephi being baptized again in the Book of Mormon, but it would not explain why no one baptized him (3 Nephi 19:11).

"A member of this Church ... who will violate the Word of Wisdom ...is not loyal to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints" (page 237).

Personally, I don't make a point about being loyal to some earthly organization. We should be loyal

to God.

THE KINGDOM: ITS ORGANIZATION AND GIFTS

"He spoke frequently of the kingdom of heaven, and that is the Church" (page 238).

Those who don't belong to the LDS Church are not considered as being in the kingdom of God.

"The apostles, however, taught that the Church as it was established in the first century was to continue with the same officers indefinitely, or through all time" (page 239).

There were no Aaronic Priests, High Priests, Seventies, Quorums, nor First Presidency and Counsellors in the New Testament church.

CHURCH NEVER TO BE OVERCOME

"He has given to us the kingdom. He has made us the promise that the enemy of the kingdom shall not overcome" (page 241).

Jesus made this promise to the church he established - "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18).

But Latter-day Saints teach that the devil was able to completely destroy the church.

"More and more error crept into Church doctrine, and soon the destruction of the Church was complete.

The period of time when the true Church no longer existed on earth is called the Great Apostasy" (Gospel Principles, 1997, page 105)

Do you believe the promise of Jesus?

"The Lord has called attention to the fact that he is going to destroy systems and organizations and combinations that are false. And how is he going to do it? By giving their members the truth, if they will receive it; by giving them the privilege of coming out of those organizations to receive the truth and have every opportunity to come into his kingdom, for his hand is outstretched ready to greet them" (page 241).

This is the reason why Latter-day Saints try to convert other Christians.

"I heard President Wilford Woodruff made the statement ... that these angels had been sent forth on their mission to reap down the earth, to tie in bundles the tares for the burning and to gather the saints of God" (page 242).

The tares are burned while the wheat inherits eternal life (exaltation).

"The time will never cease when we will not be able to put confidence and exercise faith in the teachings and in the instruction of those who lead us" (page 243).

You need to wonder why the teachings of the Presidents of the LDS Church, from the Journal of Discourses, are not more readily made available to Mormons. Maybe the Mormons have lost confidence in them.

"No man who ever followed the teachings or took advice or counsel from the one who stands as the representative of the Lord ever went astray" (page 243).

But many Mormons reject the teaching of Joseph F. Smith (a former president of the LDS Church) that Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. They also reject some teachings taught in Doctrines of Salvation.

ZION TO PROSPER

"I do not mean to say that we ought not to associate at any time with those not of our faith ... for our mission in the world is with them, to convert them to the truth if we can" (page 245).

Evangelicals also try to convert Mormons to the truth when we can.

UNITY IN THE KINGDOM

"There is no variance among the teachers in Israel concerning the principles of the gospel. We are united concerning these things. There is no division among the authorities, and there need be no division among the people, but unity, peace, brotherly love, kindness and fellowship one to another" (pages 245-246).

Nothing could be further from the truth. I wonder how many Mormons would agree with the teachings covered so far in volume 1 of Doctrines of Salvation ... and we still have two other volumes. And then we have the 1919 version of Gospel Doctrines.

Chapter 15 -Origin and Destiny of the Reorganized Church

APOSTATE ATTEMPTS TO DIVIDE THE CHURCH

"There was a movement on foot to divide the Church, following the assassination of the Prophet and Patriarch" (page 248).

I wonder if the word "assassination" is used to get a larger emotional response from Mormons as they read this. I do not consider Joseph Smith as a martyr because he was not killed for his faith in Christ.

"The Prophet declared that he knew not why, but the Lord commanded him to endow the Twelve with

these keys and priesthood" (page 259).

Jesus endows all believers (male and females) with the keys to bind and loose.

FULNESS OF PRIESTHOOD HAD ONLY IN TEMPLES

"The Lord declared in 1842, that he was about to restore to earth many things pertaining to the priesthood, and that only in temples could the fulness of the priesthood be restored" (page 271).

No one was married or baptized in the Jewish Temple.

Chapter 16 -The Law of Revelation

ETERNAL NATURE OF REVELATION

"We believe that the Bible does not contain all the revelations given by divine manifestations; but that it contains only fragmentary accounts of the dealings of the Lord with his servants the ancient prophets" (page 274).

Before Mormons try to disparage the Bible, they should look toward their own Book of Mormon. It does not contain any of the peculiar LDS doctrines. Regardless, Evangelical Christians do not believe the Book of Mormon contains any of God's revelations to mankind. We believe it was purely the work of a man.

REVELATION NEEDED TO FULFIL COVENANTS OF LORD

"These prophets had no such understanding. They spoke of covenants to be made in the last days ... And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers dwell ... even they, and their children ... and their children's children ... my tabernacle also shall be with them; yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (page 276).

The footnote is a link to Ezekiel 37:25-27.

LDS Prophets have no understanding. Ezekiel is not talking about Latter-day Saints living in the United States. This covenant is for the Israelites in the promised land of Israel. Read the entire chapter 37 if you still don't understand the context.

TWO NATIONS STAND AS WITNESSES FOR CHRIST

"If the word of the Lord is to be established by two chosen witnesses, they we may look well for two chosen nations to stand as witnesses for Jesus Christ. One such nation was Israel in Palestine, the other was Israel in America, Judah speaking from the Old World and Joseph from the New. Today these two testimonies for God and his truth have run together" (page 278).

What do Latter-day Saints mean by America? Only the United States or United States + Canada + Mexico + Argentina + Brazil + etc?

"Do you want to know about the resurrection of the dead? Who is going to be saved in the celestial kingdom of God? Then read your Book of Mormon. Read your Doctrines and Covenants" (page 279).

If I am not mistaken, the word "celestial" is not found in the Book of Mormon.

"We do not stumble over baptism and how it should be performed and by whom. We have a clear and perfect understanding of the nature of God. Now, I can find that in the Bible; so can you" (page 279).

We don't find Joseph Smith's teaching that the Trinity is 3 Gods in one Godhead in the Bible nor Book of Mormon.

"Not all revelations given to Joseph the Seer were placed in the Doctrines and Covenants in his day ... it has been my privilege to read and handle a number of them that are still in the manuscript and have not as yet been given to the world for a wise purpose in the Lord. But they are on file and will be preserved" (page 280).

Odd. They said a similar thing about the Bible earlier.

"All the revelations given do not have to be written. It does not have to be printed in a book" (page 282).

But this doesn't stop the Mormon Church from teaching that the Bible is missing many things.

TEST OF TRUTH OF REVELATIONS

"If the Lord has a revelation or a commandment to give to his people, it is going to come from the head, and when someone else comes among the people professing to have revelations and to give commandments we can test that matter very readily. We do not have to go into any details or make an extended examination of the claims. There is no need of any investigation whatever, because the Lord has given us a key as a law to the Church by which we are to be governed (Conference Report, October 1948, p. 98)" (page 284).

"If he receives a revelation it will be declared without question, if it is intended for the Church, in a manner by which we may all know the source from whence it comes ... We do not need to question them for a moment, because the Lord is not going to give a revelation to any high priest, any elder, or seventy, for this Church. It will come through the one who is so appointed" (page 285).

This is supported by pages 185 and 186, where it says that only one person receives revelation for the church.

Things seemed to have changed in 1978 when Declaration 2 was added to Doctrines and Covenants.

FAITHFUL NOT DECEIVED BY FALSE REVELATIONS

"If we hearken to the counsels that are given by those who stand in the councils of the Church, empowered to give the instructions, we will not go astray" (page 286).

So whatever is taught or revealed must be accepted as the truth.

Chapter 17 -Gaining the Knowledge that Saves

EXALTED BEINGS EVENTUALLY WILL KNOW ALL THINGS

"I realize that it must eventually come to pass in the case of those who gain the exaltation and become sons of God, that they must, in the eternities, reach the time when they will know all things" (page 291).

But the LDS Church teaches you are a son of God before exaltation.

IMPOSSIBLE TO BE SAVED IN IGNORANCE

"All these are heirs of salvation, and they shall be crowned with glory, immortality, and eternal life, as sons and daughters of God, with an exaltation in his celestial kingdom" (page 303).

Some clarification is needed. There are 3 divisions in the celestial kingdom in LDS theology. The gods and goddesses are only those in the highest division that have eternal life.

"Whether we are right or wrong in the field of the mysteries, will make no difference so far as our individual acts are concerned, and will neither exalt nor damn us, providing we do not make a fetish of our notions or get off on a tangent and destroy ourselves" (page 306).

Following Satan's lie that you can become a God will destroy your life before you die physically.

Chapter 18 -Teaching the Gospel

OUR MESSAGE TO WORLD

"It is the mission of every man holding the priesthood in this Church to preach Christ and him crucified" (page 308)

It is the mission of both men and women to preach Christ and him crucified.

WARNING THE WICKED

"The missionaries of the Church have been sent out to warn the people and to gather out of the nations and out of our own land all who are willing to repent and receive the gospel" (page 309).

DUTIES OF WATCHMEN ON TOWERS

"No men anywhere in all the earth, no matter what their calling, hold responsibility equal to that which we have received, for we have had conferred upon us the priesthood of God. We are possessed of divine authority and have been set apart as his servants and watchmen upon the towers of Zion ... It is our duty to warn all men and endeavor to teach them the truth, so that those who will not hearken may be left without excuse" (page 310).

This is a subtle teaching that Catholics and Protestants have no authority.

PREPARE TO DEFEND TRUTH

"We must be prepared to defend the truth ... The matter of teaching is one of the greatest importance. We cannot estimate its value when it is properly done; neither do we know the extent of the evil that may result if it is improperly done" (page 311).

Imagine the evil that is being done when you teach a person he can become a God.

"Unless a man does have a knowledge of the truth, has faith in the word of the Lord and his power, and is guided by the Spirit of the Lord, he should not teach" (page 312).

"How fearful we should be lest we teach that which is false and thereby lead souls astray, in paths that lead to death and away from exaltation in the kingdom of God ... There is no greater crime in all the world than to teach false doctrines and lead the unsuspecting astray, away from the eternal truths of the gospel ... He who blinds one soul, he who spreads error, he who destroys, through his teachings, divine truth, truth that would lead a man to the kingdom of God and to its fulness, how great shall be his condemnation and his punishment in eternity" (page 314).

APOSTASY COMES WHEN TRUTH NOT TAUGHT

"Modern education declares that there never was such a thing as the fall of man ... Such a doctrine of necessity discards the story of Adam and the Garden of Eden, which it looks upon as a myth coming down to us from an early age of foolish ignorance and superstition" (page 315).

But former LDS President Kimball taught the rib of Adam was figurative, not literal. According to him, Eve being formed from Adam's rib would be mythology.

DOCTRINES SHOULD BE TAUGHT IN HOME

"... every gift and every blessing that pertains to the celestial kingdom, and thus they shall become the sons and the daughters of God ... and have you impressed upon them that great truth that if they are not married for time and eternity that they will come forth in the resurrection of the dead separately and singly, to be servants for those who belong to the family of God. Have you done that? Are you doing that?" (page 318).

A few things to note here. It is unclear why they need to become sons and daughters of God when Mormons teach they were already sons and daughters before coming to earth. Also, other teachings by Latter-day Saints have single people being given the opportunity to be sealed after they die. From the above passage, it seems to say that only exalted beings belong to the family of God.

WE SHOULD TEACH OURSELVES

"Let every man set his house in order, and see that his family is taught the principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ; that they abstain from the use of strong drink, from the use of tea, from the use of coffee, tobacco and other stimulants and narcotics which tend to destroy and to break down rather than to build up the system" (pages 319-320).

Its odd that you don't hear the Mormon Church voice any concerns about such drinks as Coke, Pepsi, 7up, or Ginger Ale. The citric acid and high sugar content therein has quite the ability to break down the system.

"I want to say to the Latter-day Saints that it is our duty to put our faith in the revealed word of God, to accept that which has come through inspiration, through revelation unto his servants the prophets, both ancient and modern" (page 321).

But the 2008 version of Teachings of Presidents of the Church -Joseph Smith reveals some startling things when it comes to the acceptance of the words of former prophets: "We are differently situated from any other people that ever existed upon the earth; consequently those former revelations cannot be suited to our conditions. At a meeting in Kirtland, Ohio, Joseph Smith said, Brother Brigham, I want you to take the stand and tell us your views with regard to the [living] oracles and the written word of God. Brigham Young said, When compared with the living oracles those books [the previous revelations] are nothing to me; those books do not convey the word of God

direct to us now, as do the words of a Prophet or a man bearing the Holy Priesthood in our day and generation.

I would rather have the living oracles than all the writings in the books. Joseph Smith said to the congregation, Brother Brigham has told you the word of the Lord, and he has told you the truth" (Teachings of Presidents of the Church -Joseph Smith, chapter 16, 2008, pp. 198-199).

If the Lord tarries, I suppose even the Book of Mormon will become irrelevant in a few hundred years since it cannot be suited to the conditions of the people in that time.

ALL TEACHINGS MUST CONFORM TO REVELATIONS

"The Bible, Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price, including the Articles of Faith, have been received by the vote of the Church in general conference assembled as the standard works of the Church. On this platform we stand. The Church is not responsible for the remarks made by any elder or for the numerous books that have been written ... the Church as an organization is not to be held accountable for them, but for that which is received from time to time by vote of the Church, as it comes through the President of the High Priesthood ... Everything that I say and everything that any other person says must square itself with that which the Lord has revealed, or it should be rejected" (pages 322-323).

In simple terms, don't believe everything you are taught in the Mormon Church, otherwise you will be lead astray. For example, Joseph Smith's teaching that God was once a man who became a God. The scriptures do not teach this but many Latter-day Saints follow this teaching anyways so as not to brand their prophet a false teacher.

This concludes the analysis of volume 1 of Doctrines of Salvation.

LDS -Doctrines of Salvation -Volume 2

Chapter 1 -Salvation

page 1 -coming to earth was necessary.

page 2 -through obedience you can know good from evil. Become sons and daughters. Pleasures of the flesh. Yield to temptation, subject unto sin. Choose evil or good. Evil leads to the resurrection of damnation.

page 4 -suffer for their own sins. Eternal life is defined.

page 5 -eternal life is only on merit.

page 7 -there is no eternal life outside of the celestial kingdom.

page 8 -"You know the idea of eternal punishment, endless punishment, had troubled

the world ... if you don't repent ... you shall be damned eternally; you shall go into a lake of fire and brimstone ... and thus they tortured the minds of the people by teaching unto them such doctrine as that. The Lord has revealed unto us what is meant by eternal punishment ... For, behold, I am endless, and the punishment which is given from my hand is endless punishment, for Endless is my name ... Wherefore Eternal punishment is God's punishment. Endless punishment is God's punishment. That is why it is called endless."

So endless punishment is redefined. It is not a duration of time but it rather refers to God's name.

page 8 -eternal life is the greatest gift.

page 9 -"Eternal life is life in the presence of the Father and the Son. Those who receive it become members of the Church of the Firstborn and are heirs as sons and daughters of God".

"What is eternal life? It is to have a continuation of the seeds forever and ever. No one receives eternal life except those who receive the exaltation."

page 9 -"But universal redemption from the effects of original sin has nothing to do with redemption from our personal sins; for the original sin of Adam and the personal sins of his children, are two different things."

page 10 -" ... the former [original sin] was committed in a state of ignorance of good and evil; the latter [personal sin] was committed by man, having a knowledge of both good and evil."

page 10 -"Redemption from the original sin is without faith or works; redemption from our own sins is given through faith and works."

page 11 -"All of them [fowls of the air, beasts of the field, and also fish] had spiritual existence before they were placed upon the earth; therefore they are to be redeemed."

page 12 -"They will go out as sons of perdition to dwell with the devil and his angels, as set forth in section 76 and other scriptures. They are not redeemed from the spiritual death, which is banishment from the presence of God." "... redeemed state, freed from the realms where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched ... spiritual death which shall be pronounced upon the wicked when the Lord says unto them, Depart, and they go into the realms of Satan."

But page 8 seems to want to do away with such a doctrine of a place of eternal punishment where the realm of Satan is the lake of fire.

page 13 -"Salvation is the gift of God ... to all men who do not sin against the light and become sons of perdition."

page 13 -"Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, which leads to destruction, and many there be who go in thereat."

If you look at volume 1, this passage is a reference to eternal life. Those who don't inherit eternal life and considered as being destroyed.

page 14 -"... Lamb's Book of Life ... Every soul who will not keep the commandments shall have his name blotted out of that book."

page 15 -NOT HALF THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS TO BE SAVED. "I believe, that if we save one-half of the Latter-day Saints, that is, with an exaltation in the celestial kingdom of God, we will be doing well."

page 15 -"Many come into the Church, like fish that are gathered into the net, that have to be sorted and thrown out again or put into piles where they belong. And so it will be with us."

page 16 -SALVATION AND A CUP OF TEA. "... are you letting a cup of tea or a little tobacco stand in the road and bar you from the celestial kingdom of God, where you might otherwise have received a fulness of glory?"

page 17 -"Unless it is a grievous sin we do not excommunicate people from the Church."

page 17 -"Wo unto him that has the law given, yea, that has all the commandments of God, like unto us, and that transgresseth them, and wasteth the days of his probation, for awful is his state." (this is a reference to 2 Ne. 9:27).

page 18 -PROGRESS TOWARD SALVATION BEYOND THE GRAVE. "It will take us ages to accomplish this end, for there will be greater progress beyond the grave, and it will be there that the faithful will overcome all things, and receive all things, even the fulness of the Father's glory ... But here we lay the foundation."

Chapter 2 -The Degrees of Glory

page 20 -"Quite generally the idea has been taught that man is either saved in the kingdom of God or cast into hell. He is either in the presence of God, or else in the presence of the devil. No other place is provided where a man could go who is unworthy of the presence of the Lord and yet not worthy of the condemnation with Lucifer. Is such a thought consistent?"

page 21 -"All who have died without a knowledge of the gospel, or the opportunity to receive it, who would have accepted it had the opportunity been presented to them while living, are also heirs of this kingdom."

page 22 -TELESTIAL SALVATION. "Those who enter into the telestial kingdom ... suffer the wrath of God on the earth, who are thrust down to hell ... they are not redeemed from the devil and his angels until the last resurrection ... [these] must suffer the torments of the damned until they are purged from their iniquity, for the blood of Jesus Christ will not cleanse them from their sins without their own individual suffering."

This is the equivalent of the Catholic purgatory.

page 23 -THE CELESTIAL KINGDOM. "The celestial kingdom of God is the kingdom spoken of in the scriptures as the kingdom of God, which men are commanded to seek first in preference to all else." Also on page 25 " But in order to enter into the celestial kingdom, which is the kingdom of exaltation, and the kingdom spoken of in the scriptures as the kingdom of God, one must accept and abide in the fulness of the gospel of Jesus Christ."

page 24 -"It is of the celestial kingdom the Lord was speaking when he said Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat."

Those going into the terrestrial and telestial kingdoms are regarded as going into destruction.

page 24 -"Comparatively few of the children of men will find the salvation which is found in the celestial kingdom, or in other words the exaltation which will make them heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ."

page 26 -THIS EARTH TO BECOME CELESTIAL. "This earth is going to become a celestial body and is going to be a fit abode for celestial beings only; the others will have to go somewhere else, where they belong."

Mormon parents will never see their children who were not exalted and vice versa.

page 29 -SALVATION OF THOSE WITHOUT THE GOSPEL LAW. "And they who are without the law, Christ redeems through his blood."

page 30 -EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW; EVERY TONGUE CONFESS. "The time will come when every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess, and yet the vast majority of mankind will go into the telestial kingdom eternally ... And then shall the wicked be cast out, and they shall have cause to howl, and weep, and wail, and gnash their teeth; and this because they would not hearken unto the voice of the Lord; therefore the Lord redeemeth them not. And yet they confess."

Considering this Mormon teaching, it will be a fearful thing for those in the terrestrial and telestial kingdoms when you also factor in this teaching from Jesus -"There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out" (Luke 13:28).

page 31 -There is no progression from kingdom to kingdom.

page 32 -LIMITATION OF CELESTIAL PROGRESSION. " ... These angels, spoken of here [D&C 132:17], include those who enter the celestial kingdom but do not gain the highest glory in that kingdom."

Single angels will exist with single humans in the two lower divisions of the celestial kingdom and married angels will exist with married humans in the highest division?

page 32 -"For strait is the gate, and narrow the way that leadeth unto the exaltation and continuation of the lives, and few there be that find it."

You should note how Joseph Fielding Smith has modified the original text of the biblical passage (Matthew 7:14).

We should listen again to a warning by Jesus.

"Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able ... I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out."

This is the fate of those who don't enter the kingdom of God ... which unfortunately in LDS theology is the celestial kingdom.

page 33 -"Broad is the gate and wide the way that leadeth to the deaths; and many there are that go in thereat, because they receive me not, neither do they abide in my law." This is a reference to Doctrines and Covenants 132:21-25. "... not to have these blessings is referred to as leading to the deaths, or the lack of the continuation of the lives ... [i.e. eternal increase]."

You should note how Joseph Fielding Smith has modified the original text of the biblical passage (Matthew 7:13).

"... wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction."

Destruction in the biblical sense does not mean not having the ability to procreate spirit children.

By using the LDS interpretation, either Jesus is considered as suffering destruction or he suffers a death because he does not have eternal increase ... unless the Mormon Jesus is married and procreating spirit children.

page 34 -"Men may preach and practice everything except those things which God commands us to do, and will be damned at last."

In LDS theology, everyone who is not an exalted being is considered damned.

Chapter 3 -Exaltation

page 35 -exaltation only for joint heirs. Church of the Firstborn.

page 36 -they shall be creators. Guard the way.

page 37 -all will be well? This is the same thought as the Garden of Eden.

Priesthood is essential to sonship. John was speaking to men only.

page 38 -sons of God become joint-heirs.

page 39 -if children, then heirs. Sonship also has women.

page 40 -some ordinances (endowment and sealing) can only happen in the temple.

The sons and daughters are not outside in some other kingdom. You must have certain key words.

page 41 -all men are either servants or sons. Many shall never become members of the Church of the Firstborn.

page 42 -all authority is centered in one man.

page 43 -gospel of merit. Celestial marriage is essential to exaltation.

page 44 -deaths means no eternal increase. Man cannot be alone as a God and woman cannot be alone as a Goddess.

page 45 -without temple ordinances there can be no entrance into the celestial kingdom.

page 47 -Jesus created other earths. Each Father had a father.

page 48 -we will have all the powers of Godhood. Have spirit children too.

page 49 -original sin. Children are not subject to sin. God appointed the age of accountability at 8.

page 49 -in the spirit world we were innocent.

page 50 -the idea that children are damned without baptism is a doctrine of the devil. Original sin.

But LDS theology has many people being damned even if they are baptized.

page 50-51 -every soul is cleansed (redeemed) from the consequences of Adam's transgression.

page 51 -to lay sin on a child is a damnable doctrine. Every child comes into the world innocent.

page 53 -a child is not responsible for original sin. The Lord has said the age of accountability is 8.

page 54 -the ordinance of marriage can be performed on behalf of a child who has died. Those who died in a war before getting marriage can also have it done for them too.

page 56 -the mortal condition brings defects and restrictions. Spirits are in adult form. The child (after the resurrection) will grow to conform to the size of the spirit.

"Little children who die, whose parents are not worthy of an exaltation, will be adopted in the families of those who are worthy".

Chapter 4 -Celestial Marriage

page 58 -marriage is the greatest ordinance.

page 59 -the Lord does not enter a wedding in a ward.

page 60 -people who don't want eternal marriage are in rebellion. It is sadness to see couple marry outside the temple. Sorrow in resurrection if no eternal marriage -weeping, wailing, gnashing of teeth.

page 62 -celestial marriage makes gods.

page 62 -this is eternal lives (changes the words of the Bible).

page 63 -strait is the gate.

page 64 -leads to the deaths (changes the words of the Bible).

page 65 -bitterness for servants in the resurrection.

page 65 -no man can be exalted singly and alone.

page 65 -wife and husband swapping if one unfaithful partner causes the sealing to break.

page 65 -great sorrow in the world without father, mother, or children.

page 66 -horror. Not a place of happiness. Sex continues in heaven.

page 67 -no family organized outside of the celestial kingdom. My wives? (polygamy?).

page 71 -God the Father married Adam and Eve.

page 72 -sealing is done by proxy too.

page 75 -ward marriages need to be redone in the temple. Like the prodigal son?

page 76 -don't marry outside the church or outside the temple.

page 76-77 -single women will be exalted. It is wrong for women to propose.

page 77 -regrets will endure forever if you pick the wrong spouse.

Chapter 5 -Sins Against the Marriage Covenant

page 82 -temple remarriage is not permitted.

page 84 -divorce brings eternal misery. Bind and loose.

subject: Is Birth Control still evil in your church?

This is something to discuss with your LDS friends...

I was doing some research in LDS History about the teaching of birth control and found a quote in Ensign:

<http://www.lds.org/ensign/1979/08/i-have-a-question?lang=eng>

"So, as to the number and spacing of children, and other related questions on this subject, such decisions are to be made by husband and wife righteously and empathetically communicating together and seeking the inspiration of the Lord. I believe that the prophets have given wise counsel when they advise couples to be considerate and plan carefully so that the mother's health will not be impaired. When this recommendation of the First Presidency is ignored or unknown or misinterpreted, heartache can result."

She was the mother of eight children and was in her early forties. She asked, "Father, may I quit now?" His response was, "Don't ask me. That decision is between you, your husband, and your Father in Heaven. If you two can face him with a good conscience and can say you have done the best you could, that you have really tried, then you may quit. But, that is between you and him. I have enough problems of my own to talk over with him when we meet!" So it is clear to me that the decisions regarding our children, when to have them, their number, and all related matters and questions can only be made after real discussion between the marriage partners and after prayer.

I also found the following:

<http://www.lds.org/study/topics/birth-control?lang=eng&query=%22birth+control%22>
-"Elective abortion as a method of birth control, however, is contrary to the commandments of God."

and

http://eom.byu.edu/index.php/Birth_Control

But when I look at earlier teachings of the LDS Church (from Doctrines of Salvation), I see a stronger stance against birth control, even calling it evil and wicked, even leading to the loss of one's salvation).

Based on the quotes that follow, I had a few questions:

- a) is birth control (excluding abortion) still regarded as evil in your church?
- b) do some classes in your ward still promote this evil doctrine?
- c) do you believe as Brigham Young that God will punish a spirit child by sending him or her into the family of wicked people just because you don't have your next child?
- d) in the quote on page 85, what does it mean that every child has the right to be well born? And what causes a child not to be well born?

page 85 -ABUSE OF MARRIAGE COVENANT DESTROYS NATIONS ... "No nation can survive the abuse of this principle. Rome, Greece, Babylon, Egypt and many other nations owe their downfall to the breaking of the sacred covenant of marriage. The anger of a just God was kindled against them for their immortality. The bones of dead civilizations on this American continent [Nephites/Lamanites/Jaredites, Native American Indians?] bear silent but convincing evidence that it was unchastity and the disregard of this sacred covenant which brought them to their final judgment."

page 85 -BIRTH CONTROL ... THE BLESSINGS OF BIRTH INTO MORTALITY ... "Nothing should be held in greater sacredness and honor than the covenant by which the spirits of men ... are privileged to come into this world in mortal tabernacles ... And then to think that we are not only privileged, but also commanded to assist our Father in the great work of redemption by giving to his children, as we have obtained these blessings ourselves ... Every child has the right to be well born! Every individual who denies them that right is guilty of a mortal sin".

"The greatest punishment ever given was proclaimed against Lucifer and his angels. To be denied the privilege of mortal bodies forever is the greatest curse of all. These spirits can have no progress, no hope of resurrection and eternal life! Doomed are they to eternal misery for their rebellion".

"Spirits cannot be made perfect without the body of flesh and bones".

page 86 -"In no other way, other than birth into this life and the resurrection, can spirits become like our Eternal Father."

page 87 -BIRTH CONTROL IS WICKEDNESS ... "The abuse of this holy covenant has been the primary cause for the downfall of nations ... When a man and a woman are married and they agree, or covenant, to limit their offspring to two or three, and practice devices to accomplish this purpose, they are guilty of iniquity which eventually must be punished. Unfortunately this evil doctrine is being taught as a virtue by many people ... It has even crept in among members of the Church and has been advocated in some of the classes within the Church ... It should be understood definitely that this kind of doctrine is not only not advocated by the authorities of the Church, but also is condemned by them as wickedness in the sight of the Lord."

page 87-88 "

President Joseph F. Smith has said in relation to this question: Those who have taken upon themselves the responsibility of wedded life should see to it that they do not abuse the course of nature; that they do not destroy the principle of life within them, nor violate any of the commandments of God. The command which he gave in the beginning to multiply and replenish the earth is still in force upon the children of men. Possibly no greater sin could be committed by the people who have embraced this gospel than to prevent or to destroy life in the manner indicated."

page 88 -SPIRITS DESIRE BIRTH IN RIGHTEOUS FAMILIES ... "President Brigham Young has this to say about birth control, an abomination practiced by so-called civilized nations, but nations who have forsaken the ways of life -There are multitudes of pure and holy spirits waiting to take tabernacles, now what is our duty? To prepare tabernacles for them; to take a course that will not tend to drive those spirits into the families of the wicked, where they will be trained in wickedness, debauchery, and every species of crime. It is the duty of every righteous man and woman to prepare tabernacles for all the spirits they can ... Moreover, may we not lose our own salvation if we violate this divine law?"

page 88 -BIRTH CONTROL LEADS TO DAMNATION ..."Instructing the mothers of the Church, President Joseph F. Smith said in June 1917: I regret, I think it is a crying evil, that there should exist a sentiment or a feeling among any members of the Church to curtail the birth of their children. I think that is a crime wherever it occurs, where husband and wife are in possession of health and vigour and are free from impurities that would be entailed upon their posterity. I believe that where people undertake to curtail or prevent the birth of their children that they are going to reap disappointment by and by. I have no hesitancy in saying that I believe that is one of the greatest crimes of the world today, this evil practice."

"If the love of the world and the wicked practices of the world mean more to a man and woman than to keep the commandment of the Lord in this respect, then they shut themselves off from the eternal blessing of increase. Those who wilfully and maliciously design to break this important commandment shall be damned. They cannot have the Spirit of the Lord."

"Small families is the rule today. Husbands and wives refuse to take upon themselves the responsibilities of family life. Many of them do not care to be bothered with children. Yet this commandment given to Adam has never been abrogated or set aside. If we refuse to live by the covenants we make, especially in the house of the Lord, then we cannot receive the blessings of those covenants in eternity. If the responsibilities of parenthood are wilfully avoided here, then how can the Lord bestow upon the guilty the blessings of eternal increase? It cannot be, and they shall be denied such blessings."

page 91 -rebels lose the blessings of exaltation. The wicked cannot inherit eternal life. Virtue of birthright can be transferred.

page 92-93 -the unchaste are not in the holy city -dogs and sorcerers are cast out. Committing adultery the second time leaves on unforgiven.

page 92 -unchastity in marriage is second to murder.

page 93 -a man may be forgiven if he pays the penalty for such a sin as adultery.

page 94 -adultery is second to murder. One should be placed on probation for years.

page 97 -David is suffering to this day.

page 98 -blessings cannot be reinstated if you die in an unrepentant state.

Chapter 6 -Elijah: The Man and the Prophet

page 101 -Elijah came on April 3 1836.

page 106 -7000 prophets had remained true?

page 107 -Moses did not taste death?

page 110 -Peter, James and John were given keys on the mount of transfiguration. Elijah and Moses were preserved from death.

page 111 -Moses disappeared, did not die, the Lord preserved him. Elijah is also reserved. Moses and Elijah did not suffer death in the flesh. They passed through death and resurrection after Christ's resurrection.

page 112 -keys of sealing includes the dead.

page 114 -Christ bridged the gulf (rich man/Lazarus) between paradise and the wicked.

Chapter 7 -Elijah: His Mission and Sealing Power

page 116 -there was no baptism of the dead before Jesus.

page 117 -Elijah's mission was sealing, not baptism of the dead.

page 119 -eternal family will save the world from destruction.

page 123 -children to dead fathers.

page 124 -Mormons led millions to do the family tree?

page 124 -genealogical research proves Elijah came.

page 127 -fathers are dead, children are living?

page 128 -Lord said to seek your genealogy. Genealogy is the greatest evidence.

page 127-128 -analysis is only children towards their fathers (i.e. the living doing genealogical work but not fathers towards their children).

Chapter 8 -Salvation Universal

page 130 -man is created for joy.

page 131 -the utmost farthing is to be paid in spirit prison. Second death is banishment from the Lord's presence. The rebellious dead are saved in lower kingdoms.

page 132 -you can pay a penalty for your transgression.

page 133 -lineage.

page 133 -people must suffer in hell until they pay the price of their sinning. The blood of Christ will not cleanse them.

page 135 -how do you know when someone in the spirit world is willing to repent?

page 136 -apostate churches offer no salvation for the dead.

page 137 -who would think quote.

page 138 -vital signs of the true church.

page 140 -sons of perdition wilfully reject the atonement of Christ.

page 142 -proxy work.

page 145 -The Twelve and the Seventies are missionaries. Priesthood responsibility for temple work.

page 147 -the greatest work rests on the priesthood holders.

page 149 -there is severe condemnation for neglecting temple work. This is the greatest commandment.

Chapter 9 -Salvation for the Dead

page 155 -see if the Bible reference is changed.

page 156 -Jesus declared this? Salvation for the dead taught from earliest times.

Contradicts earlier passage.

page 157 -prison is for those who rejected the antediluvian prophets. It is a place of torment. Obadiah spoke about salvation for the dead?

page 158 -gulf is bridged, gives people passport to cross.

page 160 -one can obey the gospel after death and come out of prison after paying the penalty. The spirit world is the world to come?

page 161 -born of water means being water baptized.

page 161 -you cannot be baptized, confirmed, ordained, or endowed in the spirit world.

page 162 -those youth holding the Aaronic Priesthood or members of the Primary Association are called to participate more in the temple.

page 164 -no work for the dead was performed before Christ.

page 165 -Peter, James, and John received the keys from Moses and Elias on the mount of transfiguration.

page 165 -in some circumstances, endowments were given outside the apostate temple. The first endowments in Utah took place on Ensign Peak.

page 166 -7,000 of earth's temporal existence. The dead will bring us information. Immortal beings cannot perform mortal ordinances. Who baptized Nephi? Adam?

page 167 -there will be mortality in the millennium.

page 169 -the saints of the Primitive Church did not have access to the temple because it was in the hands of apostates.

page 170 -Peter, James, and John were endowed on the mount of transfiguration.

That was the only place they could go?

page 170 -Baptism in the basement font.

page 173 -Adam is Michael.

page 175 -regrets in eternity.

page 176 -temple work is only for those who inherit the celestial glory.

page 178 -only mortals can perform temple ordinances. Examples of ordinances in mortality.

page 179 -a description of those who are not entitled to temple ordinances example someone who knew in this mortal life but procrastinated.

page 180 -delays in performing a proxy sealing causes extreme disappointment to those who are waiting in the spirit world.

Chapter 10 -Salvation for the Living

page 181 -church of the Firstborn. Mortal life is the time to prepare.

page 182 -there is no second chance if you reject the gospel while living.

page 183 -these shall not have a place in the kingdom of God. There is no proxy work done for those people who rejected it in mortal life.

The wicked go to the telestial kingdom.

page 184 -temple work is not for everyone.

page 186 -salvation is based on merit.

page 190 -proxy work is not for terrestrials either.

page 191 -the house of Israel is more receptive to the gospel than those who are considered pure gentiles.

page 193 -Jesus did not die to draw all men unto him.

page 193-194 -those who don't endure to the end are hewn down and cast into fire.

Chapter 11 -The Divine Law of Record Keeping

page 199 -the most important history in the world is church history.

page 201 -through transgression and turning from the truth, men lost the power to express thoughts properly.

page 204 -a daily journal with non-important details is not necessary.

Chapter 12 -Spiritual Life and Death

page 217 -spiritual death is defined.

page 218 -spiritual life is the opposite of eternal life.

page 219 -there are two classes for the sons of perdition.

page 224 -torment of the mind.

page 226 -Adam sinned. All inherited conditions of death. 8 year olds are banished from God's presence.

page 227 -one returns from spiritual death through baptism. Damnation is defined.

page 228 -destruction = no exaltation. Endless punishment.

page 229 -people will have a chance to reject the gospel the second time. Tie this in with Noah's spirit prison. People will be in torment for rejecting the words of a prophet.

page 230 -those holding the priesthood can bridge the gulf.

Chapter 13 -The Law of Temple Building

page 232 -limitations of history prevent the knowledge of former temple locations. I thought it was archaeology.

page 233 -the earth was transfigured for Peter, James and John on the mount of transfiguration. Jesus made this mountain top holy.

page 234 -Saviour came to Kirtland Temple on April 3 1836. Leading the 10 tribes from the north.

page 235 -there was no temple between 70 AD and 1836 (but this contradicts the part on page 237 which says that heathen temples grew out of apostatized true temples). The early saints had no temples.

page 236 -factions of the LDS church. Temple building is a sign of the true church. The Nauvoo Temple was perfected in all details. Nephites built temples until about 200 AD (contradicted by 235 which says there were no temples between 70 AD and 1836).

page 237 -heathen temples are the result of true temples which apostatized. There will be a future temple in Jackson County.

page 240 -in the Kirtland Temple, manifestations were seen by some people. The description is different from Pentecost.

page 242 -the Kirtland Temple became polluted. He did not mention that it was burned down.

page 243 -the Kirtland Temple fell into wicked hands (d&c 124:25-42).

page 245 -timber for the temple. The first temple in Salt Lake was called "Endowment House".

page 246 -future temple in Jackson County.

page 247 -woe to them who hold the portion of the temple site. New Jerusalem in Missouri. Lamanites will not take the lead -this is an improper interpretation (verify).

page 248 -Ephraim is the head.

page 250 -Ephraim presides over all Israel.

page 251 -the richer blessings on Ephraim. The presidency is for Ephraim. Building the New Jerusalem will fall to the lot of Joseph's descendants, but Joseph (Ephraim) is the head.

page 253 -interpretation of some Egyptian characters.

Chapter 14 -Law of the Resurrection

page 259 -redeem us from the grasp of Satan.

page 260 -without Christ, they would have been angels to the devil.

page 261 -Adam was sent to perform a mission. Certain types of education are only possible in mortality. Mortality came through the will of God (LDS)

page 266 -second death is banishment from God's presence. Ezekiel's vision is a sign of the resurrection.

page 268 -mortality is for experiences. A spirit does not have a body of flesh and bones.

page 269 -Jesus ate in their presence. He received all power through the resurrection.

page 270 -without living witnesses of the resurrected Christ. The LDS are said to have seen the risen Christ and thus they claim to know, based on sight.

page 271 -5 men in the LDS Church saw Christ.

page 273 -receive exaltation in the kingdom of God.

page 274 -demands of justice. Death is not a charge laid to any person except Adam. Righteous unto eternal life, the wicked on his left hand.

page 276 -Ezekiel's vision is resurrection.

page 279 -Cain to rule over Satan. A man with a body has greater power than a spirit without a body.

page 280 -funeral services can be held for the stillborn but it should not be recorded as a birth or a death (LDS).

page 281 -earth has the curse of death.

Chapter 15 -Salvation and Resurrection

page 283 -resurrection saves man from the devil. The spirit is subject to the devil. Fulness of joy comes through the resurrection + 284.

page 284 -mortal life without re-unification is a curse (LDS). Spiritual bodies in the resurrection have no blood + 285.

page 286 -spiritual bodies are tangible bodies of flesh and bones.

page 287 -procreation is limited to celestial bodies.

page 289 -no deformity in the resurrection.

page 294 -lost leg to be restored naturally.

Chapter 15

page 295 -they did not have the mark of the beast. They had the testimony of Jesus.

page 296 -they shall be priests unto God. Two classes of people in the first resurrection.

page 297 -sorcerers and adulterers are the telestials.

page 299 -no eternal life, they are shut out of God's presence. Peter/James/Moroni are resurrected.

page 301 -fall put a bondage on all.

Chapter 16 -Faith Unto Salvation

page 302 -faith in Christ and Joseph Smith go together.

page 303 -you must have faith in the mission of Joseph Smith. Book -Seven

Lectures on Faith.

page 307 -Paul and James are in harmony. The approach things from different angles.

page 308 -we work for salvation.

page 310 -fulness of joy.

page 316 -curse came upon the earth.

page 318 -islands to be reunited into the main land. Fall brought curse.

page 320 -the flood was the earth's baptism.

page 321 -flood redeemed earth and all from the original sin. The flood was a justifying ordinance.

Chapter 17 -Baptism and Salvation

page 323 -baptism in Old Testament times. Reference to font on 12 oxen.

page 325-326 -Adam and only accountable ones are in spiritual death, children are not. Death is banishment. They are in spiritual death.

page 327 -Roman Catholics and Protestants who are unbaptized are in spiritual death.

page 330 -strait is the gate.

page 334 -false shepherds such as James J. Strang and Jason W. Briggs.

page 336 -Alma immersed himself.

Chapter 18 -Sacrament and Salvation

page 338 -wrong context for Paul -meeting together often is a requirement to retain the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

page 340 -Lord changed the Passover ordinance?

page 341 -fall brought debt upon the world. You must renew the covenant every week in the Sacrament Meeting. Lord requires it each week.

page 342 -no laughter in sacrament meeting. Solemn nature of sacrament meetings.

page 343 -cease from all laughter. Missionary farewells are not good.

page 344 -missing sacrament meetings leads one to begin criticizing LDS doctrines.

The Spirit of the Lord will depart from that person.

page 345 -amusement on Sunday after sacrament meeting is a great sin. But he used the wrong context when talking about Paul's references to the consequences.

page 348 -children are not excused from sacrament meetings. Lord set the age of accountability at 8 years of age.

page 349 -children must attend sacrament meeting.

page 350 -deny the sacrament to the unworthy.

This concludes volume 2.

Doctrines of Salvation -Volume 3

Chapter 1 -Signs Preceding the Second Coming

page 1 -the Lord is coming tomorrow. He is coming in the morning of the Sabbath. In the seventh day of earth's temporal existence.

page 3 -even some Latter-day Saints will be stubble.

page 4 -Moroni is a resurrected being.

page 5 -apostate Christianity carries no warning about the second coming.

page 7 -disaster follows the rejection of lds missionaries.

page 8 -land of Palestine and land of Zion. Gathering to.

page 10 -gathering until Jesus comes.

page 11 -the Earth will change.

page 12 -John the Baptist gave his priesthood to Oliver Cowdery. The Lord is said to have come to his temple on April 3 1836.

page 13 -Elias and Elijah. Christ will come to Adam-Ondi-Ahman.

page 17 -LDS President Woodruff declared by revelation that the reaping had begun. Where is this revelation recorded?

Chapter 2 -Sign of the Times

page 21 -fig tree.

page 22 -fig tree is not Israel.

page 23 -United States is choice above all lands.

page 23-24 -the Latter-day Saints are partly to blame for the depression. But then he changes his tune in the last paragraph.

page 25 -but then he says that the lds are guilty of breaking the Sabbath. Evil crept into the borders of the lds church. Many lds are guilty. This is apostasy.

page 26 -The God of the United States is Jesus. Trouble in Spain? Disobedience brings earthquakes, dust storms, plagues, violence and depression.

page 28 -in the beginning (Adam and Eve) the Lord blessed the earth.

page 31 -cry repentance to lds also.

page 32 -lds to suffer too. Are the lds keeping the Sabbath?

Were the Latter-day Saints in Missouri expelled as judgment for disobedience?

page 33 -they sing the song "We Thank Thee for a Prophet" then they criticize him and condemn him. In August 1833 the people were driven out for disobedience.

page 34 -saints would prosper through obedience, otherwise they would experience destruction. Eternal life is the greatest gift.

page 35 -signs of apostasy.

page 36-37 -world conditions prove apostasy of Christianity.

Chapter 3 -War and the Second Coming

page 38 -rebellion of South Carolina.

page 39 -Noah's story about the ark is not believed. But then President Kimball did not believe in the literal rib from Adam to form Eve.

page 41 -from everlasting to everlasting. Cities in the BOM suffer destruction.

page 42 -destruction awaits the wicked -but Christians do warn about this

(contrary to what page 5 says).

page 44 -apostasy in lds church.

page 45 -reason for destroying Sodom and Gomorrah. The lds had hoped World War II was the final war -but Israel was not a nation yet.

page 46-47 -South Carolina. The last great conflict is the siege of Jerusalem.

page 47-48 -these events are confirmed in D&C 29, 45, 133?

page 48 -we cannot cry "All is Well". The world was in peace in 1831?

page 50-51 -peace was lost because the gospel was rejected?

page 53 -fig tree.

Chapter 4 -The Millennium and New Jerusalem

page 57 -the Fall is a stain of evil and destruction. Child's age will be like a tree. Not die but be changed. Caught up?

page 58 -they will live to be 100 years old in the millennium.

page 62 -telestials to be removed.

page 63 -terrestrials will remain on earth.

page 64 -the child 100 years old is okay but the 100 year old sinner is accursed.

page 65 -endowment can be proxied.

page 67 -revelation says American continent is Zion. On this land, the New Jerusalem will be built. Judah gathers to Jerusalem, Ephraim to Zion.

page 68 -America is the land of Zion. All to be gathered to America. Inheritance of America is taught? Two places of gathering.

page 70 -two places of gathering.

page 71 -the Lord will command the building of New Jerusalem.

page 72 -north and south America comprise the land of Zion. Jackson County, Missouri is the center place.

page 73 -Jaredites landed in Central America. Lehi landed in South America. Not in the region comprising the United States.

page 74 -all of America is Zion. Garden of Eden is the same place as Jackson County. Adam-ondi-Ahman is Daviess County.

page 77 -Jackson County is the site of the New Jerusalem and the temple.

page 78-79 -New Jerusalem will be built. There is no change in this revelation.

Chapter 5 -Priesthood -God's Eternal Power

page 80 -priesthood is divine authority. There is no authority for women.

page 81 -unauthorized acts is a grievous sin. Those in the spirit world held the priesthood.

page 82 -Adam was baptized for the remission of sins. Abraham received the priesthood from Melchizedek.

page 84-85 -the higher priesthood was taken away with Moses but a few still held the Melchizedek priesthood (Samuel, Daniel).

page 86 -Lord would not continue ordaining the firstborn of each of the families of Israel? Between 30 and 50 years old is the age of ordination.

page 87 -only the Melchizedek priesthood existed among the Nephites. High priests? Former-day saints.

page 88 -priesthood was taken back to God and the church was driven into the wilderness (#26 refers back to Rev 12:1-17). ? Non-mormons do not have authority to speak for God or officiate. The commission of the Lord is invalid now. ?

page 89 -authority came by lineage. John was ordained at 8 days old. He was to overthrow the kingdom of the Jews. The people failed to recognize the Lord's authority. Was Christ's authority by lineage too? By right of lineage.

page 90 -resurrected messengers cannot do certain ordinances. The effects of Adam's fall. All men were under the curse.

page 91 -Urim and Thummim used for translating.

page 92 -apostasy drove the church into the wilderness (Rev 12)? Right by lineage by the firstborn.

page 93 -you become the sons of Aaron and Levi by ordination. The great temple in City Zion will not be one edifice but 12? (refer to History of the Church, volume 1, pages 357-359). Multiple temples in Zion City.

page 94 -temple ordinances by Melchizedek priesthood holders only? Animals sacrifices will be restored.

page 95 -in the History of the Church, there is no account given of the date when the Melchizedek priesthood was restored?

page 100 -restored by an angel in the bush.

page 101 -the account of the ordination is either lost or misplaced? John the Baptist was ordained by an angel at 8 days of age.

page 102 -Joseph and Oliver received keys from Jesus.

Chapter 6 -Priesthood Organization

page 103 -one part of the Melchizedek Priesthood was speaking with God face to face.

page 107 -the right hand is used for performing the ordinance.

page 110 -Noah was ten years old when he received the priesthood?

page 110-111 -the conditions of Paul's day are different than today.

page 112 -a teacher is supposed to visit people's homes and make sure they fast. They report back to the bishop if any are in rebellion.

page 118 -save priesthood holders from spiritual death.

page 124 -at a General Conference, you can vote to sustain or reject someone in office.

Chapter 7 -Keys and Covenant of Priesthood

page 125 -each of the prophets came in their turn. All did not have all authority.

page 126 -the LDS Church does not have dates for visitations. They don't know how many were sent on April 3 1836. Moses had keys to restore the ten tribes?

page 127 -Elias lived in the days of Abraham (reference to D&C 110:12)? According to Conference Report April 1936 (page 74) the binding on earth is the same as the sealing power? But Peter did not do this.

page 129 -where there is no authority there is no righteousness.

page 131 -ordinances for the salvation of the dead is not for those who rejected the truth or fought it. There is no fulness of the priesthood without the temple. Christ gained the fulness of the priesthood.

page 132 -fulness of the priesthood is required for exaltation (vs 131) so Christ attained exaltation? Fulness of the priesthood is equated to being equal in power, might and dominion. Only one man on earth holds the keys of the priesthood.

page 133 -shut out of the kingdom of God.

page 134 -no authority means you are filthy.

page 135 -the Apostles hold keys of authority to preach the gospel. Only one man on earth holds the keys. So why did Moses, Elijah and other prophets have to come in their turn to bestow the keys?

page 135-136 -the priesthood is concentrated in one man.

page 136 -the President of the LDS Church gives authority. You cannot disobey the LDS President. Only one man on earth holds the sealing power of the priesthood.

page 136 -no authority means every ordinance is invalid.

page 137 -you cannot baptize your son without the approval of the bishop. Who's approval did Philip have? You cannot disobey the LDS President.

page 138 -only one man on earth holds the sealing power.

page 140 -Christ received the blessing of becoming a god.

page 141 -the penalty for breaking the covenant of priesthood is no forgiveness in the after life (reference is D&C 84:39-41). But this does not make him a son of perdition.

page 143 -without authority we cannot know God.

Chapter 8 -The Holy Apostleship

page 145 -many apostles in the LDS Church but this story is changed in the next paragraph.

page 146 -there are only twelve apostles. In 1820 Joseph Smith was the only witness to the fact that God lives and Jesus is His son (because he saw them). vs 153.

page 148 -there is no church of Jesus Christ without priesthood. All baptism and preaching the gospel is invalid outside the LDS Church.

page 149-150 -three witnesses chose twelve apostles. This was done on Feb 14 1835. This was organized by age. Filling vacancies for a new apostle.

page 151 -apostles of old hold the greater authority.

page 151 -the apostle John remained on earth in a translated body.

page 152 -the church and the priesthood went back to God in heaven? A reference to Rev. 12:1-17 is given. Peter, James and John held the keys of First Presidency in the early church? The LDS Church says it has added information and an added order of the priesthood (three plus twelve).

page 153 -the Lord said no more than three + twelve? When did the Lord even say three + twelve in the first place? There is evidence that the Council of Apostles was maintained for some time after some of the original Twelve died or were killed.

page 153 -the testimony of the Holy Ghost is the strongest testimony. It is better than a personal visit? Compare with page 146 where Joseph gained a testimony after reportedly seeing the Father and the Son.

page 155 -Joseph Smith conferred upon the twelve all the keys and authorities that he held.

page 156 -the senior apostle becomes President -the Lord settled this long ago. When? The President is not elected but sustained.

page 157 -all apostles are high priests. The counsellors in the Presidency need not be apostles.

page 158 -twelve Nephite disciples healed the sick, performing many miracles. But they were subject to authority and jurisdiction of Peter and the Twelve.

page 159 -Jesus visited other sheep and appointed disciples.

Chapter 9 -Patriarchs, Blessings and Administrations

page 161 -Manasseh was not chosen.

page 161-162 -two sets of Ten Commandments were not the same?

page 162 -Joseph Smith Sr. was conferred with authority due to his age -the oldest man of the blood of Joseph. Joseph (of Jacob) occupied an exalted position among the sons of Israel (since he was the firstborn of Rachel)? But isn't firstborn due to the father instead of the mother? Birthright.

page 165 -Patriarch can bless and curse. We are living in the greatest of all dispensations.

page 170 -the right to hold the office of patriarch is also based on one's worthiness. A Patriarch can make your lineage known.

page 171 -morning of the first resurrection. A Patriarch can discern and designate your lineage.

page 172 -Negroes are the blood of Cain. A father can declare the lineage of his child.

page 173 -Jesus commanded his disciples to heal by the laying on of hands. The healing gifts and priesthood was taken from the earth after the apostles died.

page 175 -faith to heal the sick is one of the most desirable gifts.

page 176 -many sicknesses will not be improved when the anointing oil is in your stomach (after drinking it).

page 178 -women will become priestesses if faithful.

page 180 -House of Israel is symbolized by the olive tree.

page 181 -olive leaf from the Tree of Paradise (reference to History of the Church, volume 1, page 316).

Chapter 10 -Books the Lord Approves

page 188 -Book of Mormon comes pure, translated by divine power.

page 192 -some revelations were forbidden to be published to the world.

page 194 -seven "Lectures on Faith" were added to the Doctrines and Covenants pre 1869.

page 197 -you are not forbidden to marry outside the church, but you will be advised against it.

page 197 -the first revelation of plural marriage (polygamy) in D&C 132.

page 198 -the Lord gave the title for the Doctrine and Covenants? The D&C stands above all other books of scripture.

page 199 -some reasons why the D&C is above other scriptural books. "It is our book."

page 200 -the Document History of the Church (HC) volume 1 contains the greater part of the revelations in the D&C. "It is our book."

page 201 -revelations withheld because of unbelief (apostasy).

page 202 -true church of Jesus Christ. The Lord withholds great and mighty truths because of the hardness of hearts (apostasy).

page 203 -not everything said or written is to be believed as doctrine.

Chapter 11 -The Coming Forth of the Book of Mormon

page 209 -the Book of Mormon is sacred history. It has been attacked more than another other book?

page 209-210 -the Bible is the stick of Judah.

page 210 -Ephraim would be the head of the tribes of Israel in the latter-days according to his birthright. Joseph Smith is of the tribe of Ephraim. The Lord revealed this so. So are most of those who have received the gospel in this dispensation? Missionaries are of the tribe of Ephraim. The Book of Mormon was in the hands of Ephraim when it was given to Joseph Smith.

page 211 -the title page says Jesus Christ is the Son of God? (verify this). In the current BOM, it says Christ is the Eternal God.

page 211 -if the BOM was a fraud it would not have spread beyond the borders of New York. Did Joseph Fielding Smith ever hear about the Koran?

page 212 -there is evidence from the Bible that Joseph would inherit a land far from Jerusalem. Joseph would receive a greater inheritance (there is a reference to the Joseph Smith Inspired Version).

page 213 -America is the land of Joseph. Isaiah prophesies of the BOM.

page 217 -it took two months to do the translation.

page 222 -there was more than one Urim and Thummim.

page 223 -King Mosiah had the Urim and Thummim.

page 224 -Joseph Smith had the Jaredite version of the Urim and Thummim.

page 225-226 -the seer stone was not used to translated the BOM.

Chapter 12 -A Voice from Cumorah

page 228 -no one could read the engraved characters. (What about Professor Anton?) The Lord does not convince men by tangible evidence.

page 230 -three witnesses heard the voice of God. There is a description of the twelve witnesses seeing and handling the plates. Goes against what is said on page 228 and the BOM Jesus showing the nail prints to the Nephites. Don't you need only 2 or 3 witnesses? But JFS now says that the Lord deemed it necessary to establish the truth of the BOM in this way by showing them all.

page 231 -God spoke to the twelve witnesses of the BOM truthfulness.

page 232-243 -a description of the Hill Cumorah. It was revealed to Joseph Smith that New York is the location. There is also a reference to the 1948 version of History of the Church, volume 2, pages 79-80 ***

Chapter 13 -Israel: God's Covenant People

page 244 -Abraham's seed would bear the priesthood unto all nations.

page 245 -seed is priesthood. Moses got the priesthood outside of Jacob's lineage. Midianites held the priesthood too.

page 246 -those who accept the gospel become of the house of Israel. The great majority of the church are of Ephraim.

page 246 -people become literal descendants of Abraham through baptism and confirmation. The priesthood was conferred upon Abraham and his descendants.

page 247 -grafting in is equated to adoption. Ephraim has been called to stand at the head. The majority of the people who have been first to receive the gospel are descendants of Ephraim.

page 248 -Joseph came through Ephraim, a pure lineage, of pure blood. Patriarchal blessings almost always reveal you are a descendant of Ephraim.

page 249 -lineage is a matter of blood relationship. Old blood would be purged out and the person would be grafted into the tribe of Ephraim.

page 250 -Joseph was rewarded with the birthright because of faithfulness and integrity. Reuben lost the birthright and it was bestowed upon Joseph since he was the most worthy son of Jacob. Special privileges and blessings were given to him.

page 251 -a double portion to Joseph means that Ephraim/Manasseh had two land inheritances. The Lord by inspiration conferred the birthright in Israel to Ephraim. Ephraim was the most guilty in the offences committed.

page 252 -Ephraim was the most guilty in the offences committed so it is Ephraim who is now being gathered. The great majority of those in the church are from Ephraim. It is Ephraim who holds the priesthood.

page 253 -come home; come to the land of Joseph, to the valleys of Ephraim. The Book of Mormon came to Ephraim for Joseph Smith was a pure Ephraimite.

page 254-255 -Joseph Smith Sr. received birthright in Israel all the way back to the Joseph of Egypt.

page 256 -gathering to America. Those in the church are mainly of the tribe of Ephraim.

page 257 -gathering to America occurred because the keys had been restored.

page 258 -other gatherings will come.

page 259 -D&C 133 warns all tribes to flee to the mountains of Ephraim (verify). Times of the Gentiles ended in 1917.

page 261 -England got tired of the mandate and gave up control to the Jews on May 14 1948.

page 262 -Ishmael was of Ephraim according to a statement made by Joseph Smith.

Chapter 14 -The Apostate World

page 265 -earth was cursed with thorns as there were no thorns before. Worship of imaginary gods.

page 266 -the ten tribes never returned from Assyria.

page 267 -in the period of apostasy the apostles and prophets ceased to exist. The Protestant rebellion had the same corrupted doctrines.

page 267 -Constantine's incomprehensible doctrine of the Godhead (?)

page 268 -little doctrine in the days of Jesus remained in 1800's.

page 269 -mention of apostasy and its connection to 2 Thess 2:3.

page 270 -John's vision in Rev 12 -the woman is the church. The man-child is the priesthood. The return of the church and priesthood depends on religious liberty.

page 271 -even though some churches teach truth, they are not the Church of God, for there is only one church.

page 273 -Constitution of this land.

page 276 -dangers of tobacco and liquor.

page 277 -land is choice above all lands.

page 278 -eternal life is exaltation (reference to Abraham 3:22-28 and D&C 98: 11-15). The unclean are cast out. Non-gods are viewed as unclean.

page 279 -only the clean are considered sons.

page 280 -Antichrist is gaining power.

page 282 -the abode of the righteous will be a celestial earth.

page 283 -2 Thess 2:3 and Amos 8:11 is used to prove the apostasy.

page 284 -mention of key apostate doctrines that existed in 1820.

Chapter 15 -Apostasy from Latter-day Kingdom

page 294-295 -apostasy existed in the form of temple-goers.

page 297 -those in leadership teach and lead in truth.

page 298 -Satan is very broad-minded. He joins truth with error.

page 299 -God bathes in fire (a reference to D&C 29:12).

page 301 -evil is growing in lds communities with the formation of dance halls.

page 302 -church doctrine reveals harm in Sunday activities.

page 303 -laughter is not permitted in solemn assemblies. Card playing is evil.

page 304 -LDS members should put their trust in the leaders.

page 307 -"Mutual Improvement Associations" are groups organized to provide clean fun.

page 311 -genealogy of apostates are not to be kept. An excommunicated person loses all blessings. They must be repeated or reinstated.

Chapter 16 -Kingdoms of this World

page 313 -the first government on earth was a theocracy. 6,000 years of earth's existence -chronology. Did Adam live in this theocracy and how did the Garden of Eden compare?

page 314 -Adam and Eve were obedient. The government of God was lost to men. Did this happen at the Fall or in some event after the Fall? Influence of Satan for 6,000 years (but when did man-child-aka priesthood get taken back to heaven?)

page 315 -Satan will have power in the future.

page 319 -the Lord has from time to time withdrawn his priesthood from the earth. BOM people lived in peace for 200 years.

page 320 -two nations were swept off this land.

page 322 -America is the land of promise. Jaredites came seeking a land of freedom and the Nephites came out because of the warning of pending captivity (?).

page 324 -America is greatly blessed.

page 325 -the United States was founded as a Christian nation.

page 326 -Whitehorse prophecy -Journal of Discourses, volume 6, page 152. Also refers to Conference Report, April 1950, page 159.

Chapter 17 -Exodus of Modern Israel

page 328 -New Jerusalem would be in Jackson Country.

page 330 -JS prophesied about a move to the Rocky Mountains.

page 331 -they were already discussing a possible exodus to the west (Oregon and California).

page 335 -Lord warned Joseph Smith to flee to Rocky Mountains.

page 336 -Joseph Smith was planning to leave Missouri but he then returned on the accusation that he was like a shepherd deserting his flock.

page 342 -Lord said Joseph Smith would seal his testimony with his blood (compare with 335 and other part in D&C where it is said JS would triumph over his enemies).

Chapter 18 -Mormon Pioneers and Colonization

page 348 -it was the Lord who allowed persecution to drive the saints to Utah. The Lord had other designs. [but D&C shows the people were driven out due to their own apostasy]. As far back as 1830/1831, the Lord said they would be established in the mountains. This is a reference to D&C 35:24; 39:13.

page 349 -this previous revelation is tied to Isaiah 2:1-5.

page 352 -Salt Lake City became the New Zion.

page 360 -the Mormons are the most patriotic. Ensign Peak -did they really unfurl the flag of the Stars and Stripes?

page 361 -the LDS should be subject to the U.S. law.

This concludes volume 3.