

Book Review - Answers to Gospel Questions - Volume 5

"No one is better qualified to answer gospel questions than President Smith ... Answers to Gospel Questions ... deserves wide reading by all members of the Church who wish to receive final answers to their questions" (cover, volume 1).

"The purpose of these volumes of Answers is to help members of the Church to know and walk in the light of truth" (forward, volume 5).

Here are some highlights. Comments and questions will be posed occasionally.

Introduction

2 - Zacharias could not ordain John because John received certain keys of authority which his father did not possess.

6 - the atonement gives a person resurrection, eternal power over death, and remission of sins.

8 - Adam and Eve's transgression brought mortality to the entire earth. Exaltation in the kingdom of God to become gods with blessings of eternal increase [this idea of becoming gods is less emphasized in modern LDS teachings]. Some will be assigned to the terrestrial kingdom to remain separately and singly forever, and some will be cast out into "outer darkness", where there is weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth (D&C 101:91) [but LDS theology teaches that even those in the telestial kingdom and the two lower levels of the celestial kingdom will also remain separate and single forever because they refused to get married in a temple].

9 - Jesus went through his torment in our behalf in the Garden of Gethsemane.

10 - the ordinance of baptism is not clearly defined in the Old Testament. Adam was driven from the Garden of Eden.

- 12 - those who are ignorant of the gospel truths and unacquainted with the teachings the Lord gave to the Fathers cannot have guidance of the Spirit of the Lord. Such people leave themselves open to temptation and deception [but Latter-day Saints are taught that they should not believe all the words spoken by their leaders are gospel truths. They seem to pick and choose what to believe and what to reject, depending on their personal feelings, even if they occur at General Conference talks or are published in their magazines or training manuals].
- 12-13 - the molten sea [of brass] in Solomon's temple was not used to baptize for the dead.
- 13 - there were no baptisms for the dead before the resurrection. It is a logical venture to say that it [the molten sea] was used for baptizing the living for the remission of sins [this is false. It was used as a ceremonial washing basin for the priests and not for baptism. See 1 Kings 7:23-26; 2 Chronicles 4:2, 6). Only male priests were allowed in the vicinity; women were excluded].
- 15 - Jesus bled from every pore in the Garden of Gethsemane. Adam's transgression of a law was essential to mortal life. Mortal life is preparatory to eternal life. The fall of Adam and Eve was not a sin but an essential act because mortality is essential to exaltation [there are many contradictory Mormon teachings about whether or not Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden. See the web page <http://ldslearning.org/original-sin.htm>].
- 16 - exaltation in the kingdom of God or banishment from his presence [LDS theology has many people, even Mormons, living forever in a state of banishment from God's presence. You can imagine how miserable they will be for eternity]. Mortality is a testing ground.
- 18 - temples are for important blessings and covenants in preparation for exaltation. Mountaintops took the place of edifices as hallowed spots when temples could not be built.
- 19 - the Lord gave revelation for sacred ordinances to be performed in temples. The temple in Jerusalem will be restored again [the Latter-day Saints also plan to build a temple in Independence, Missouri before the Second Coming]. The Lord required the temple to be made of the most expensive materials that Israel could afford [I wonder if the same requirement is made of Mormons. It should also be noted that the temple was made of specific materials, not specifically because they were the most expensive when compared to others].
- 20 - the Lord commanded them to build the temple in Kirtland. Temple ordinances are essential to the eternal salvation and exaltation in the celestial kingdom of God.

- 21 - the law of tithing was introduced after the flood.
- 22 - the law of tithing was introduced after the flood.
- 23 - ten percent of wages is the tithe. Don't cut corners when paying your tithe.
- 24 - withheld taxes are part of your income [this means gross income]. Some Mormons try to justify themselves only to pay the tithe on the net, but this is viewed as robbing from God.
- 25 - the payment of tithes is not a complicated system [the LDS Church's website <https://www.lds.org/topics/tithing?lang=eng> does not clearly say this is gross income for an employee. "To fulfill this commandment, Church members give one-tenth of their income to the Lord through His Church". Section 119 of the Doctrine and Covenants Student Manual (2002) pictures the aspect of 'gross income' for a normal employee when compared to a business owner: "Tithing means one-tenth. Those who give less do not really pay tithing; they are lesser contributors to the Latter-day cause of the Lord. Tithing means one-tenth of a person's income, interest, or increase. The merchant should pay tithing upon the net income of his business, the farmer upon the net income of his farming operations; the wage earner or salaried man upon the wage or salary earned by him.

For the entire article, see
<https://www.lds.org/manual/doctrine-and-covenants-student-manual/section-110-121/section-119-the-law-of-tithing?lang=eng>

- 27 - baptized by proxy for your relatives and for those you have much friendship for.
- 31 - the heavens wept over the rebellion of Lucifer and those who followed him. Satan's plan was to advocate a doctrine of compulsion. Confusion and slavery on earth would have been the result. The heavens wept over the rebellion [he did not provide any scriptural references about this supposed weeping].
- 32 - heaven would have ceased to exist if Satan took away free agency. Naturally, there was weeping in heaven when the rebellion was introduced, and our Eternal Father wept [again, he did not provide any scriptural references about this supposed weeping].
- 33 - Jesus is the Only Begotten Son of God in the flesh [Modern day Mormons don't clearly say what begotten means in this sense].
- 34 - redemption comes through death by martyrdom. Atone for Adam's fall. Book "The Key to the Science of Theology" by Elder Parley P. Pratt. The fall was part of the great plan. Mortality was decreed.

35 - eternal death is banishment from the presence of the Father [many Mormons will be banished from God's presence when they fail to become gods].

36 - all but one apostle died.

37 - the Holy Priesthood was replaced by false creeds.

38 - other prophets (Moses, Alma, Elijah, John) were granted the privilege of remaining on earth. These four were translated [for some reason the author does not mention the three special Nephite disciples].

39 - every creature that has life shall be restored to eternal life [another LDS definition of eternal life is living life as a god].

41 - the earth, which partook of the fall, is to be restored and receive its exaltation [but the earth will not become a god. Mr. Smith does not give a definition of what exaltation means here].

42 - Ezekiel 37:1-13 is used as a reference to the resurrection (universal).

43 - the universal resurrection is seen in the great vision given to Ezekiel [this is not correct. Ezekiel is talking about a restoration of the Jews in their own land of Israel. Verses 11-12 explain the proper context. "Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel". This is not a universal resurrection].

Jesus appeared with wounds showing in his hands and feet [it is interesting that Joseph Smith reported to have seen Jesus, but he never made mention of these wounds].

45 - special teachers, called home teachers, are assigned as a regular practice in the Church under the direction of ward bishops. It is a divine decree.

47 - how many LDS parents in Israel are worthy of rebuke for failing to teach their children?

48 - don't neglect regular night and morning family prayers. Pray regularly, secretly, as well as in a family circle.

49 - man was redeemed from the fall, men became again ... innocent before God [in LDS theology, the spirits are redeemed before they inhabit mortal bodies].

- 50 - spiritually begotten sons and daughters of God [he did not define begotten].
- 54 - he who has no understanding of right and wrong should not be punished as one who has full understanding.
- 57 - the purpose of life is two-fold. One, to obtain tabernacles of flesh and bones; second, to obtain experiences which could only be had in mortality [for some reason, giving glory to God or worshipping him is not mentioned as being a purpose in life. In LDS theology it seems that life is man-centered, not God-centered. I would qualify the first statement with bodies of flesh, and bones, and blood. The exception was Adam and Eve for it is taught they had no blood in their veins when they were created].
- 58 - advance to eternal perfection. We prepare for life to come. Mortality is a school. The purpose of life is given again in 2 Nephi 11-12 ["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". This would seem to teach that Adam and Eve were dead in the Garden of Eden because they had neither happiness or misery before the Fall].
- 59 - divine Savior Jesus Christ.
- 60 - Jesus suffered so we might obtain the resurrection. The world is subject to pain, sickness, and sorrow when we commit sin [this was caused when Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden]. His body shook with pain and blood burst forth from every pore in his body [I wonder if he used the word 'burst' like water 'bursting' through a broken dam?]. Experiences are essential to our progress.
- 61 - experiences help to make us strong [apparently Adam and Eve were made strong when they experienced the misery, shame, and fear when they disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. I wonder what evil experiences (plural) made the spirits strong before they supposedly came to earth].
- 63 - what happens with a sealed couple when one spouse does not merit exaltation? [the state of the worthy spouse is not mentioned. Supposedly he or she would need to be given to another worthy single spouse. In the case of a women, she would have been sealed to more than one man at a time. This would mean that her marriage to her first sealed husband was not eternal because he did not become a god]. He who endures to the end will be saved [this means becoming a god in LDS theology].

63-64 - we do temple work for those who died without the knowledge of the gospel.

64 - time when the fulness of the gospel was not on the earth. The people walked in spiritual darkness. For hundreds of years the world was in spiritual darkness.

65 - man was designed to become as perfect and holy as are the angels in heaven [Latter-day Saints do not explain whether angels are also procreated beings of Heavenly Mother and Father]. There was no death when Adam and Eve were sealed by the Lord [but in a sense they were dead because LDS theology said they could not have children before the Fall]. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Mother Eve for partaking of the "forbidden fruit". It was not a sin ... but an eternal blessing which caused Eve to rejoice and thank the Lord (Moses 5:11) [but later LDS teachings call this act a sin. See <http://www.scribd.com/doc/232151420/lds-sin-of-adam>].

67 - a child in kindergarten class is surely capable of realizing that the sacrament is a special privilege, having relationship to the sacrifice of our Redeemer on the cross.

70 - descendants of Ephraim. By blood or by adoption? [it seems the answer is by blood]. At the present time most of those who are receiving the gospel are of the tribe of Ephraim. Lamanites, as we learn from the Book of Mormon, are descendants of both Ephraim and Manasseh. The prophet Joseph Smith revealed that the daughters of Ishmael were descendants of Ephraim [but lineage is not based on the bloodline of the woman; it is based on the man. I am not aware of any Israelite under Isaac's line who ever named his son Ishmael. It seems Joseph Smith went to great lengths to try to include the line of Ishmael in the Book of Mormon even though it never mentions 'Ephraim' in the context of a Book of Mormon event].

71 - during this period of restoration, the burden of the preaching of the gospel would rest on the descendants of Ephraim, or in other words, the Latter-day Saints.

72 - the Jews are to gather to Jerusalem. On this, the American continent, the converted Israelites and Gentiles are to gather with the Latter-day Saints [apparently this gathering was said to have come to an end. Now, the Latter-day Saints are to gather to their own wards in their own countries. Also, it is unclear whether all of America (north+central+south) is the context or just the land area of the United States].

73 - in the beginning, all of the land surface was in one place. The earth was divided by the breaking asunder of continents.

74 - in the future, the land will be rejoined again in one place.

75 - playing cards or other games of chance is contrary to the spirit and teachings of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Cola drinks are just as harmful as tea or coffee [surprisingly, the LDS Church has done nothing to expand the Word of Wisdom].

78 - the passage of Mark 9:43-45 (the reference to body parts - if they hand offend thee cut it off) is evidence that Jesus had in mind close friends or relatives who endeavored to lead us away from God's path. If you have friends or associates who endeavor to entice you to commit sin, cut them off [it is very odd that Joseph Fielding Smith totally excludes the individual who is enticed by the devil himself to commit sin without the use of friends or relatives. Personally, I believe that the body parts are literally the body parts of the person who is tempted].

81 - our Eternal Father has gained perfection [probably a reference to Heavenly Father becoming a god].

82 - experiences are essential to our eternal progress and perfection. Mortal life is only a step on the road of eternal progression [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve's first step was an act of wisdom when they chose to disobey God]. Our mortal bodies grow to the full stature of the spirits which possess them. If we have lived in faithful obedience to the divine law, we will become gods, even sons and daughters of God with power eventually to gain perfection, ruling over our own posterity [this is a subtle reference that the children of these Mormon gods will worship them as Heavenly Fathers. This is also pictured in the 1997 version of Gospel Principles].

Jesus is our Eldest Brother. He redeemed us from eternal death by shedding his blood on the cross [in LDS theology, all Mormons who don't become gods will not have eternal increase, so they will be in a state of eternal death. Teachings have also changed in regards to the Atonement. Jesus is said to have redeemed us by also shedding his blood in the Garden of Gethsemane. LDS theology has him bleeding from every pore while praying there]. Moral life is for schooling us to become sons and daughters of God [those who don't become gods or goddesses will not be considered sons or daughters].

83 - salvation is based on merit and obedience to divine law [there are various LDS definitions for salvation]. Mortality is a training school. We are shut out of the presence of our Heavenly Father [this is a consequence of the Fall of Adam]. Part of our schooling is that we may become acquainted with pain, sickness, disappointments as well as receive the pleasures which mortality affords [does immortality afford any pleasures in the pre-mortal life?].

Through this mortal school we gain by experience many lessons which could not be obtained in any other way. Schooling is essential to our eternal progression and exaltation in the kingdom of our Eternal Father [that is why the Mormon spirits shouted for joy in heaven when they learned that it was Adam and Eve's responsibility to disobey God in the Garden of Eden so they could take the first and necessary step].

85 - there is no law or commandment which declares that the Father could not appear to a man in person when the Holy Priesthood was not among men on earth.

88 - the term "Jew" had become the national name to all Israelites then living in the borders of Palestine. "Gentile" has reference very generally to most non-Israelite peoples, except the descendants of Cain [why is that?]. It is used frequently in the scriptures and is applied to all of the white inhabitants of Europe and the Western Hemisphere [unfortunately he did not even provide one of these scriptures].

89 - in this dispensation the Gentiles have their day for the gospel first, and when they refuse it, it will be taken to the Jews.

91 - mortality is part of our eternal schooling. We came here to gain experience that could not be obtained in any other way [it is never explained why a mortal body of flesh/bones/blood can experience more than an immortal body of spirit]. We prepare to become sons and daughters of our Eternal Father [in LDS theology only the gods and goddesses will be considered legitimate children]. Become a son of God and to rule and reign over an eternal kingdom [this is alluded to also in the 1997 version of Gospel Principles. The children of this ruler will have the same relationship to him as we do to Heavenly Father. This includes worship].

Most people never learn the purpose of life.

92 - mortality is one grade in our eternal progression. Mortality is definitely essential to become exalted as a son of God [except the Mormon version of the Holy Ghost]. Jesus suffered so that we might not suffer.

93 - Christ's extreme sufferings brings to us the resurrection of the dead [no mention of the forgiveness of sins].

94 - there was no vicarious work for the dead done in the Temple of Solomon.

- 95 - ordinances were evidently confined to the living in the Temple of Solomon. [women were not permitted in the inner court]. Sealing for the dead. All ordinances performed in Temple of Solomon were evidently confined to those who were living in mortal flesh [as was stated earlier, women were not permitted in the inner court. The Book of Mormon does not mention these ordinances].
- 96-97 - we must reach the conclusion that the font in the Temple of Solomon--at least until after the resurrection of our Redeemer--was used solely for baptizing the living [this is incorrect. The font was used for the ceremonial washing of the priests when they offered the animal sacrifices. Women were not allowed near the font].
- 100 - proxy work in the temples. We are not performing baptisms for these (those who heard the gospel and rejected it), but for those who died never having had an opportunity to receive the truth.
- 103 - in the resurrection we will have a bright recollection of all our past.
- 105 - first death (banishment) was pronounced upon Adam before natural death came upon him.
- 108 - great multitudes will receive banishment from the presence of the Father and Son, but not entirely do they get beyond the divine influence [this will be a time of great misery for many Mormons]. A large number will become sons of perdition [in LDS theology, one-third of all the various earths' populations are already the sons of perdition--this is because they rebelled with Satan at some great council in heaven].
- 109 - a great destruction came at the crucifixion because of their abominations. All the wicked had been destroyed.
- 110 - the rebellious people in the western world had sinned knowingly and had tried to destroy Christ [when Jesus supposedly visited the Nephites, no one tried to destroy him].
- 114 - Christ came in the meridian of time, or about four thousand years after the fall of Adam, when modern time began. The earth will be celestialized. If Jesus came in the meridian of time, then the end of time must be somewhere near four thousand years since his time.
- 115 - the earth was on celestial time until the time of Adam. Adam did not receive his time of reckoning until the fall of Adam. Before that, this earth was governed by celestial time.

- 116 - there was no death of any living creature before the fall of Adam. Adam's mission was to bring to pass the fall. This is a doctrine [in LDS theology Adam is ordained to disobey God]. If there was any creature increasing by propagation before the fall, then throw away the Book of Mormon and deny your faith [it appears that even the animals were impotent when they were created according to this LDS president]. We read in the Pearl of Great Price, in the Book of Moses and the Book of Abraham, that there was a great council held in heaven [the word 'council' is never found in the Pearl of Great Price. But we do see the mention of Gods; plural].
- 117 - God rested on the seventh day and saw that all was good (Moses 3:1-2) [but the Mormon version of Adam and Eve were impotent].
- 120 - the present turmoil is due to the fact that leaders of the nations are getting their inspiration from Satan.
- 123 - God is our Father. Men are of the same race--the race is called humans [I wonder if angels are the same race as God]. It is a doctrine that God, the Great Elohim is the first, or Creator, of the human family. God the Father walked and talked with Adam. He taught Adam his language.
- 124 - sin came through transgression. Satan steps in and overcomes them through the weakness there was in the children of the Father when they were sent to the earth [what weakness did Adam and Eve had when they were created on earth?]. Sin was brought it and thus we are subject to sin [original sin].
- 125 - Jesus is the only begotten of the Father pertaining to the flesh. Jesus is our Elder Brother. He paid the debt contracted by our first parents. Paid the debt of man's original sin [Latter-day Saints are taught that they must pay the debt to Jesus, who has become the new creditor]. The Father was in the Garden of Eden until Adam was driven out for his transgression.
- 126 - when Jesus took a tabernacle, it was begotten by his Father in heaven after the same manner as tabernacles of ... the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve. [an LDS training manual refers to this as Celestial Sireship]. The translation in Matthew does not convey the correct interpretation of the fact.
- 126-127 - the Holy Ghost could not create a body of flesh and bones for Jesus because he did not have a tangible body. The Father, having such a body, could, and did, create such a body and Jesus is in very deed the Only Begotten Son of God the Father in the flesh [the 'deed' seemed to be some interaction between Heavenly Father and Mary. An LDS manual calls this a Celestial Sireship].

- 127 - if the Holy Ghost begat Jesus Christ then the Holy Ghost is greater than Christ [in LDS theology, Heavenly Mother and Father begat Jesus Christ. In this case, President Smith seems to be only focusing on the physical body].
- 128 - mortal beings could not endure the presence of the Father without the Spirit overshadowing them, and that was the mission of the Holy Ghost, but not to beget the Son of God, that was the business of the Father [in LDS theology, it appears Heavenly Father personally visited Mary to sire the Christ child. It is odd that the Holy Spirit is not mentioned when the Father and the Son supposedly appeared to Joseph Smith. If ever there was a need for overshadowing, that would be it]. Jesus Christ is the Only Begotten Son of God the Father in the flesh. The passage in Matthew is a faulty translation.
- 129 - the Jehovah's Witnesses changed their names several times.
- 131 - the Jehovah's Witnesses are falsely so-called.
- 132 - the hearts of the children have turned towards their dead fathers [the scriptures do not give you the impression that the fathers are dead while the children are living. This is an LDS interpretation]. Temple work is done for those who died without a knowledge of the gospel and for those who never had the opportunity to believe.
- 134 - there is a difference in the Holy Ghost and the Holy Spirit (the Light of Christ). The Holy Ghost is a Personage of Spirit. The Holy Ghost is not sent to the world.
- 135 - Joel's reference of the spirit being poured upon all flesh is to the Holy Spirit, not to the Holy Ghost. The Light of Christ is given to every man.
- 137 - the Holy Ghost is a personage of Spirit and the third member in the Godhead. [but the Articles of Faith, #5, says until 1921, that there were only two personages in the Godhead].
- 138 - all spirits were not created equal. Some were created with a disposition to accept counsel, while others were created to follow their own judgment independent of counsel. Their progress was thus retarded in the spirit world.
- 139 - one's strength or weaknesses can be traced to the spirit existence. Some were chosen to perform works on earth based on their talents and dispositions in that spirit world.
- 140 - the power to do one's own thinking led to the rebellion in heaven. No one was forced to take an evil course. All the laws there were perfect and every man was instructed to do good.

- 143 - during the millennium, many will initially remain in the Catholic and Protestant churches.
- 144 - churches on earth during the millennium (Answers to Gospel Questions, vol 1, question 25, pp. 108-111).
- 146 - at the millennium, the earth is going to be changed from a telestial to a terrestrial earth. All inhabitants on earth will be changed to terrestrial bodies. Therefore there will be no sickness or death.
- 147 - baptism is only for the celestial kingdom. Baptism is not required for a place in the telestial or terrestrial kingdom.
- 148 - those in the telestial and terrestrial kingdom are considered damned.
- 149 - all who are not baptized are damned.
- 150 - damnation is a stopping and denial to progress to exaltation [even though in the two lower levels of the celestial kingdom are also damned because they do not have eternal increase]. Proxy baptism is only for those who died without a knowledge of the gospel or the privilege of having the knowledge of the gospel. Since we do have a Urim and Thummim, we are under necessity to do the work in temples for all the names we find in our genealogical records and leave it to the Lord to do the judging as to which are worthy.
- 152 - Paul was a married man. The expression "in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 11:11) would certainly infer celestial marriage [but 1 Corinthians 7:8 infers that either Paul was now divorced or his wife had died - "For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that. I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn". Note that from the above verses, singleness is a gift from God. But in LDS theology, choosing to remain single and unmarried results in your damnation. In LDS theology, singleness is a curse because you have not followed God's plan for you to be exalted].
- 153 - we don't observe the feast of Passover. The Passover was to remind the children of Israel of the coming Christ who would become the sacrificial Lamb [I think the Israelites were looking for a conquering Messiah, not in a 'sacrificial lamb' Messiah]. We now observe the law of sacrament instead of the Passover.

154 - the word 'forever' used in the Old Testament does not necessarily mean to the end of time but to the end of a period.

155 - we do not observe Good Friday. Easter is taken from a pagan spring holiday, that was governed by the moon. The Roman Catholic Church connected the birth of the Savior with this pagan ceremony [odd. You figure they would then assign a date in spring for the Lord's birthday instead of December 25. Latter-day Saints teach April 6 and not December 25 is this day].

It is silly to observe various dates for the resurrection and Good Friday or Easter Sunday [I have never seen any revelation from the LDS Church on the month and day when Jesus rose from the dead. Maybe they are also silly and observe various dates for Easter Sunday?].

160 - living in Germany you ought to be quite wary with all the fairy stories the Catholic Church tells about the mother of Jesus and holy messengers appearing to children and old women [while criticizing the Catholic Church, the LDS Church expects the world to believe in her fairy stories about holy messengers appearing to her male members. The grandest of these stories is the one where Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ supposedly appeared to a 15-year old child. I'm surprised to see that the LDS Church does not criticize the Seventh-day Adventists whose female prophet was also said to have been visited by a heavenly messenger].

The Catholic doctrine is that the heavens are sealed and there is to be no more vision or revelation and that Jesus finished his work [I wonder if this was a contributing factor to the creation of the LDS Church].

161 - Joseph Smith said that reincarnation is a doctrine of the devil [no source is provided for this revelation]. Forget about supernatural visions that never took place [while criticizing the Catholic Church, the LDS Church expects the world to believe in her supernatural visions].

163 - rebellion in the world of spirits (the war in heaven). One third of the hosts of heaven rebelled because of their agency and had to be cast out [I wonder if this also includes one third of all the angels God created or is it only pertaining to the spirit children of Heavenly Father?].

There were many who did not join the rebellious forces but they were not valiant. Because of their lack of obedience, they came here under restriction. One of these restrictions is that they were denied the priesthood. They may come into the Church, but they are not privileged to obtain the priesthood in this life. If they are faithful to the end, then in the next existence and in due time of the Lord the restrictions placed upon them in the first existence will be removed. If they do not repent then these restrictions will not be removed [this question/answer only

mentions one restriction. What are the others on the Negro?].

Children come into the world innocent. It is not subject to any penalty that has to be cleansed as taught in the Catholic and most Protestant churches [the child is born with a sinful nature, with a mortal body, and in a state of separation from God. Without cleansing, this child will forever be separated from God. The Book of Mormon even teaches that if there was no atonement, then the child would never have body and spirit reunited in his resurrection. The penalty inherited by even new born babes is mentioned in Alma chapter 42. They inherit the consequences of Adam's sin. "Therefore, as the soul could never die, and the fall had brought upon all mankind a spiritual death as well as a temporal, that is, they were cut off from the presence of the Lord, it was expedient that mankind should be reclaimed from this spiritual death"].

As far as mortality is concerned, it has committed no sin. Negro babies are innocent in their infant state.

167 - in a patriarchal blessing, the blood that predominates is the one that counts.

168 - those who have the blood of Cain do not go to the temple for the endowment. A Negro may have a patriarchal blessing, but it would declare him to be of the lineage of Cain or Canaan [what revelation said a Negro female could not participate in the Endowment Ceremony?].

169 - no matter how a person is sealed, he will be assigned to his proper place. Those who don't enter a temple marriage may enter the celestial kingdom but as a servant of those who are worthy of far more glory [they will become servants of those who become gods and goddesses].

170-171 - Adam was not a translated being from another planet.

171 - he came from the spirit world. A resurrected person cannot die. If Adam had been a resurrected person when he came here he could not have died, or become mortal again (Doctrines of Salvation, volume 1, chapter 6, Michael our Prince, pp. 90-91) [the second Mormon President taught that Adam was made from the dust of another earth].

172 - chastity and dress.

174 - the Lord gave commandments to ancient Israel that both men and women should cover their bodies and observe the law of chastity at all times [did the Mormon God ever revoke these commandments the Latter-day Saints about not showing the knees?].

- 175 - Simon the Canaanite, a disciple, was not a colored person. Each of the apostles was an Israelite, likely representing one of the tribes.
- 176 - it was the plan of the Lord that this chosen body of witnesses should be perpetuated through all time, holding the keys of divine authority. By the end of the first century the Lord could find only seven churches (branches) worthy of his attention, and each of these was severely rebuked (Revelation chapters 2 and 3) [the Bible does not say that the Lord could only find seven churches worthy of his attention].
- 176-177 - the apostles raised their warning voice calling them to repentance and pointing out the time when spiritual darkness would set in and the priesthood would have to be taken back to God and the Church driven into the wilderness (Revelation 12) [the apostles did not teach this. The apostle John, in Revelation 12, is the only one mentioning a wilderness, but nothing about a priesthood being taken back to God. The woman in the vision, whom the Mormons believe is the church, only went into the wilderness for a period of three and a half times].
- 177 - the gifts of the spirit came to an end. The blessings and presence of the Twelve Apostles ceased, and the cry went forth that they were no longer needed [we didn't need them personally for we had their teachings and the Holy Spirit to guide us]. The Lord promised there would be a restoration of all things (Acts 3:19-21; Joel 2:28-32). The First Presidency holds the keys of power and exercise the authority which had been bestowed on Peter, James, and John in former times. The Twelve Apostles were also called to act under direction of the First Presidency [Peter, James and John were not members of a First Presidency with Nine Apostles forming another group].
- 177-178 - the Twelve officiate under the direction of the First Presidency of the Church (D&C 107:21-26,33-35).
- 179 - the First Presidency is dissolved on the death of the President of the Church. Then the Council of the Twelve Apostles exercises all the authority that was vested in the Presidency [the LDS Church as 15 Apostles]. To reject the councils and testimonies of those men chosen to carry the message of salvation to the world -- or others sent under their direction -- would bring down upon the heads of all who do so the judgments of the Son of God [but I find that Latter-day Saints do not believe all of what these leaders teach at General Conference as the truth]. The Twelve are sent to open the doors of all nations.
- 181 - Joseph Smith said every man who has a calling to minister was ordained to that purpose in the Grand Council in heaven. Many important things, "plain and precious," have been eliminated by uninspired men [another subtle attack on the Bible].

182-184 - Lehi has given us their record concerning the missions assigned to Moses and Joseph Smith (2 Nephi 3:5-15) [Latter-day Saints are taught that Joseph Smith was prophesied in their Book of Mormon].

185 - sacrifice and martyrdom of Joseph Smith [Joseph Smith was not killed for his faith in Christ].

186 - we came here purposely to obtain tabernacles of flesh and bones. There is no answer given for how a God of flesh and bones could have procreated spirit children.

189 - the Lord turned Lucifer's evil into good to accomplish his purposes.

THE END