

## **Book Review - Mine Errand From The Lord (Quotations and Teachings from Boyd K. Packer, 2008).**

"Over the course of his more than five decades as a General Authority for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, President Packer has powerfully and thoughtfully addressed many major doctrinal, moral, and social issues. Now his teachings on 25 key topics have been compiled in this encyclopaedic guide to better understand the principles and practices of the Gospel".

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

### Chapter 1 - The Great Plan of Happiness

- 1 - spirits are eternal. We were made in the image of heavenly parents. Council of the Gods.
- 2 - each spirit in the premortal life was provided opportunities for learning and obedience [how was disobedience punished?]. Each was given agency. Eve was to be cast out of the Garden and Adam chose to obey the first commandment to multiply [did Adam and Eve consider themselves impotent before the Fall?]
- 3 - the spirit world (after death) is misery for the wicked.
- 5 - mortality is a test.
- 6 - if no Fall, then no need for an atonement [the Fall was really directed by the Mormon Heavenly Father].
- 7 - intelligence or spirit has existed from all eternity [Jesus, the Eternal God, has existed from all eternity. But the Mormon Jesus progressed into becoming a God].
- 8 - God saw it proper to institute laws whereby the rest could have the privilege to advance like himself [reference is made to Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p. 354. The Mormon Heavenly Father progressed into becoming a god by following the laws institute by his father].

The preparation of his [Christ's] mortal body was such that he was the Son of God in the flesh, as well as in the spirit [I wonder if Jesus would still be considered the Son of God in the flesh if Heavenly Father was not physically involved somehow in his birth to Mary].

- 9 - if we live beyond death, why should it be strange that we lived before birth? [not proof enough]. The doctrine of premortal life explains why two children born of the same earthly parents are frequently so different in personality, temperament, and disposition [so a murderer and a rapist was once a murderer and a rapist in the premortal life? On the flip side, how does the doctrine of premortal life explain how two children born to different earthly parents in different countries are so similar in personality, temperament, and disposition?].
- 10 - our status as offspring of immortal parents. We have an inborn sense of right and wrong.
- 11 - council in heaven - two spirits arose in that council.
- 12 - creation by the gods. The spiritual creation came before they were naturally upon the earth.
- 13 - man's mortal body was made in the image of God.
- 14 - temporal bodies were organized for Adam and Eve, and their spirits entered their bodies. They could not keep the command to multiply while in the garden [this is unscriptural. Also, this would be like God telling them they could eat from the trees but Adam and Eve not having the ability to eat].
- 15 - the law was broken, the penalty was decreed [a new born baby is also under this penalty]. The first spiritual penalty was spiritual death. The temporal death was delayed.
- 16 - the Fall was necessary to the plan of happiness [total obedience by Adam and Even would have frustrated the Mormon Father's plan]. Adam saw that it must be so to have a mortal body [this is unscriptural]. The Fall was essential for the plan of happiness to proceed [reference to the Atonement, Ensign, May 1899, p. 70].
- 17 - the bodies of flesh and bone became temporal bodies. Temporal means temporary [page 14 says Adam and Eve were created with temporal bodies. But were they temporary or immortal?]. Blood formed in their veins, replacing the finer substance which coursed though the bodies before [no scriptural support to say anything of a finer substance coursed through their veins]. The Fall came by transgression, not sin [the March 2008 Ensign magazine refers to the Fall as the sin of Adam].

The transfer from the first estate in heaven to the second estate in mortality is in effect the Fall of man [it appears the Fall happens every time a baby is born on earth]. The Fall came by transgression of a law, but there was no sin connected with it. The Fall of man was made from the presence of God to this mortal life [the Fall occurs every time a baby is born on earth].

- 18 - the devil entices people to sin [so he was either sleeping in the Garden of Eden or he enticed Adam and Eve to sin].
- 19 - the punishment of the devil was that he did not receive a body [in Mormon theology, receiving a mortal body is a blessing]. Lucifer deceives us about sin and consequences [Lucifer also deceives people into worshipping a man who is taught to have advanced to a God]. Had agency come to man without the Atonement, it would have been a fatal gift [reference is made to Atonement, Ensign, May 1988, p. 71. But the eternal spirits had agency long before they had any atonement if the Mormon story of the premortal life is true].
- 20 - the Lord has never abandoned the earth to the power of the adversary [but Mormon theology teaches that wicked men destroyed God's church on earth]. The devil is jealous of those who have the power to procreate. He desires to rule those who have it [it seems that impotent men and women are safer from demonic attacks].
- 21 - leave foolish games and activities that are on the dark side alone [I would also include avoiding watching of certain shows on tv that deal with vampires, werewolves, and witchcraft]. We inherited the tendency to be good, not evil. The nature of humankind is to be good [we inherited Adam's sinful nature. Read all of Romans chapter 5].
- 22 - the doctrine that men are by nature depraved, wicked, and evil is false. It is wrong. Men are basically good with the tendency to be righteous because they are the sons and daughters of the Almighty. The spark of divinity is hidden in us [this is contradicted by both the Bible and Book of Mormon. Mosiah 16:3 - For they are carnal and devilish, and the devil has power over them; yea, even that old serpent that did beguile our first parents, which was the cause of their fall; which was the cause of all mankind becoming carnal, sensual, devilish, knowing evil from good, subjecting themselves to the devil. Alma 42:10 - Therefore, as they had become carnal, sensual, and devilish, by nature, this probationary state became a state for them to prepare; it became a preparatory state. For a biblical explanation, see <http://www.gotquestions.org/total-depravity.html> and [human-nature.html](http://www.gotquestions.org/human-nature.html)].
- 23 - belief in evolution promotes moral irresponsibility. A conviction that man did evolve from animals fosters the mentality that man is not responsible for moral conduct [evolutionists would strongly disagree with this opinion].

- 24 - promiscuity is a result of evolutionary belief [reference to Alma 42, no law, no punishment]. Nephi said there is no condemnation (2 Nephi 9:25) [but we all stand condemned since the fall of Adam. We are the children of wrath before we are born with the new nature].
- 25 - theistic evolution is wrong. No agency can exist where there is no discovery.
- 26 - our bodies were provided with the power of creation [but not in the Garden of Eden according to LDS theology]. They could prepare physical bodies for the first spirits to be introduced into this life [who is 'They?']. Man, through ages and eons, can evolve into a God. No one will ever ascend above God the Father.
- 28 - we worship Elohim. The belief that we are the children of God does not sponsor any inclination to worship oneself or any man [but Latter-day Saints worship the man who evolved into a God and then created our planet Earth]. Humans have the potential to reach Godhood (exaltation). We are innately, inherently, and intuitively good by nature [see previous comment to the point on page 22].
- 29 - physical and spiritual health rules and consequences.
- 30 - good analogy to explain the spirit of man.
- 31 - if no atonement our bodies would be lost forever and our spirits would become subject to that angel who fell. Savior redeems the children of men from the fall.
- 34 - some may not be privileged to enroll in this important school of life(marriage). We came to earth to obtain a mortal body and to be tested (learning/testing/ receiving a spiritual education) [apparently they were also receiving a spiritual education in the pre-mortal life, where they had spirit bodies. They could not be tested with further experiences so they had to come to earth to learn more through mortality and mortal temptations].
- 35 - obtaining a telestial/terrestrial/celestial kingdom is the conferring of a degree at graduation. The celestial is a degree of glory [the other two are apparently not graduation degrees with glory].
- 37 - keep the fire of your testimony of the restored gospel [no mention of keeping the fire of your testimony in Jesus Christ].
- 38 - Jesus accepted the penalty for all mankind. How the Atonement was wrought, we do not know. Through the Atonement, all mankind may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel [reference to Conference Report, April 1888, pp. 80-84; Ensign, May 1988, pp. 69]. Without Atonement, we would

become like the devil (2 Nephi 9:7-9). Because of the Fall, the Atonement was absolutely essential for the resurrection to proceed and overcome mortal death. The Atonement was absolutely essential for men to cleanse themselves from sin.

Spiritual death is separation from our Father in Heaven [those in the telestial and terrestrial kingdoms suffer spiritual death].

39 - we do the best we can [God never told us to do the best we can]. The Atonement of Christ provides for those things we cannot ourselves make whole. Jesus is the head of the church that bears his name. What happened in Gethsemane and at Golgotha satisfied the law. Just how the Atonement was wrought, we do not know.

Jesus offered resurrection without condition, without cost. This restoration comes to all, the just and the unjust. Otherwise man would be punished for Adam's transgression, and in injustice would have prevailed

[Is Mr. Packer comparing apples to apples or apples to oranges in this statement? He insinuates that just as Adam was punished with physical death (and separation from God's presence) and needs resurrection (i.e. restoration), so too are all humans punished with physical death (and separated from God's presence) because of Adam's transgression. They also need the Atonement (restoration/resurrection), otherwise an injustice would prevail.

The Book of Mormon prophet Alma refers to this punishment in chapter 42.

"And now, my son, I perceive there is somewhat more which doth worry your mind, which ye cannot understand—which is concerning the justice of God in the punishment of the sinner; for ye do try to suppose that it is injustice that the sinner should be consigned to a state of misery" (v.1)

"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" (v.9).

According to the Book of Mormon, all mankind suffers this punishment because of Adam. But this is contradicted with the current Mormon Article of Faith which says "We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression". Do you see the context of Mr. Packer's statement and the context of Alma's statements? Is he comparing apples to apples or apples to oranges? And do you understand what the punishment and injustice are?].

Spiritual death is hell [those in the telestial and terrestrial kingdoms suffer spiritual death, or hell because they will not be in the presence of Heavenly Father because they failed to observe all the requirements of exaltation].

- 40 - we can become clean and return to the presence of God. Our redemption from spiritual death can be worked out only under the conditions which God has established, beginning with faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and repentance. Covenants and ordinances are required [this means that the unclean go to the telestial and terrestrial kingdoms. They are not redeemed from spiritual death because, as mentioned above, they failed to observe all the requirements of exaltation]. In the case of our spiritual bodies, the worst pain, the most constant pain, is guilt [Mormons will suffer the pain of this guilt when they realize they will forever live apart from Heavenly Father].
- 41 - justice requires that there be a punishment (Alma 42:16-22) [the justice and punishment Alma talks about is the separation of mankind due to Adam's Fall - this punishment came upon all mankind because we are indirectly punished for Adam's sin]. Physical pain and spiritual pain. There must be repentance and discipline, most of which is self-discipline. But to restore our innocence after serious transgressions, there must be confession to our bishop, who is the appointed judge [this is not a New Testament teaching. Lust of the mind is a serious transgression. How many Mormon bishops have you confessed to?].
- 42 - the Atonement helps fix things that we alone cannot cure. Keeping the commandments activates the influence of the Atonement. We must do certain things to merit the redeeming power of the Atonement [all our righteousness is as filthy rags before the Lord]. Our debt will have been paid in full by the only perfect, pure person who ever lived [the debt is still outstanding in LDS theology as you discover shortly]. Prophets said someday a Savior would come upon the earth. He would be a Son of God [Jesus is THE Son of God].
- 43 - Christ possessed the power of life. Volition, decision, and agency are central to the plan. Christ accepted the penalty for our transgressions to satisfy justice if we would but repent [but page 39 says Jesus offered resurrection without condition, without cost. But now repentance is a condition to satisfy justice - which is having no resurrection].
- 44-46 - the parable of The Mediator which talks about the debt [you (the sinner) are the debtor and the creditor is initially God (the Father). As the parable unfolds, Jesus Christ becomes the new creditor after he pays the debt to Heavenly Father ... but the sinner still owes the debt now to Jesus - "Then, said the benefactor, you will pay the debt to me and I will set the terms. It will not be easy, but it will be possible. I will provide a way. You need not go to prison" (Gospel Principles, 1997, chapter

12, p. 77; The Mediator, Ensign, May 1977, pp. 54-55; Conference Report, April 1977, pp. 77-81].

46 - spiritual death is separation from the presence of our Heavenly Father [those in the LDS kingdoms called telestial and terrestrial will suffer spiritual death for only the exalted gods and goddesses will live with God].

Only the clean can come into God's presence [the unclean are in the telestial and terrestrial kingdoms].

For as in Adam all men die (or were sent out from the presence of God), so in Christ would all men be made alive (or be able to return to the presence of God), knowing good from evil and having a resurrected body. This was the greatest of all gifts [this part is confusing because it seems to mix up times and/or contexts. At the moment that you die, are you sent out from the presence of God? We are already out of God's presence when we are born - we are not sent there from somewhere. But maybe this could be related to the LDS teaching of pre-mortal existence. They are taught to be in the presence of God, then they are sent out from the presence of God to inhabit a mortal body (i.e. they die) and then they are made alive to return to the presence of Heavenly Father - whereas those in the telestial and terrestrial kingdoms are not 'alive' in the real sense of the word. This LDS teaching seems to say that resurrection is the greatest gift, but then even the wicked will get this greatest gift].

47 - mortal death, the penalty justice imposed upon Adam and his posterity, is in fact a mechanism of rescue [Alma 42 calls this penalty a punishment upon Adam and his posterity. Mortal death is not spoken of as a rescue]. Without mortal death, the plan of happiness would be destroyed [in LDS theology, God wanted Adam and Eve to disobey Him and he used Satan to accomplish his desire. That is why Latter-day Saints honor Eve. Preach My Gospel says in chapter 2, "Latter-day revelation makes clear that the Fall is a blessing and that Adam and Eve should be honored as the first parents of all mankind". The training guide gives no honor to Satan however. Articles of Faith says, "Adam wisely chose to break the second commandment", chapter 3, page 65].

47-48 - former LDS President Kimball taught that a reported vision to him of his departed father meant that God approved of him (Kimball) [this is a comforting thought but it does not give solace to those who have never had visions of their departed loved ones. They could be led to believe that God did not approve of them].

48 - in Christ you have a fulness of joy. Death is a separation of the body and spirit. The spirit is eternal.

49 - Jesus was Heavenly Father's Only Begotten Son on earth. Because of him, we will be resurrected. Our spirit and body will be put back together. That is why he is called our Savior (reference to Conference Report, April 1973, pp. 78-82; 'Behold Your Little Ones', Ensign, July 1973, pp. 51-54) [I was expecting to see that Jesus is their Savior because he cleansed them from sin].

The faithful who die young will not be denied any eternal blessings - those who would have, but couldn't, would not be denied [it appears those who die single will also have a chance to be exalted].

50 - the congregation is in the best (no better) state of readiness to receive revelation and inspiration at a funeral [this lends Packer's support to the King Follett Discourse].

51 - at a funeral, the bishop is the presiding authority [not the mortician nor the family]. Because of him, we will be resurrected. That is why he is called our Savior. Resurrection gives us a perfected body [the Mormon Heavenly Father also has a resurrected body]. He (Christ) would teach us how to make ourselves clean and worthy to enter back into the presence of our Father in Heaven That is why he was a Savior [we cannot make ourselves clean. Only Jesus can cleanse us].

52 - our memory of premortal life will be restored in perfect clarity. Your spirit is young, vibrant, and beautiful [if spirits are eternal and non-created, what makes them young?].

53 - Eden was a place between the premortal world and mortality. After death, the righteous are taken to paradise, the wicked are consigned to a spirit prison.

Baptism, the ordination to priesthood, endowment, and sealing are ordinances performed for the dead [who is a single woman sealed to - a single man or a married man?] We will be called forth from paradise or from prison to inherit, after the final judgment, that degree of glory that we merit, that which we have earned [an LDS Church hymn already has Joseph Smith mingling with the Gods].

A second spiritual death is pronounced only upon the sons of perdition. After resurrection, the sons of perdition will be cast into outer darkness [a spiritual death - separation from Heavenly Father is also pronounced upon the telestial and terrestrial inhabitants].

54 - exalted beings will assemble with their families and there is the promise of eternal increase. The doctrine of the eternal nature of family ties is neither known or taught elsewhere in Christianity [its not in the Book of Mormon or Pearl of Great Price either. Mormon families will not be together if either



spouse does not endure to the end of if one of their children fails to achieve godhood]. We shall be gods [Heavenly Father is a god too]. There is no shortage of room in the celestial kingdom [is there a shortage of room in the other two kingdoms?].

## Chapter 2 - Obedience and Faith

57 - the LDS are obedient because they can see. Salvation or destruction (Alma 29:4-5) [how does Alma define salvation and destruction?].

60 - obey and you cannot go wrong [Adam disobeyed and he went wrong]. Obedience leads to happiness [in LDS theology, Adam's disobedience led to happiness]. Through obedience we gain freedom [in LDS theology, Adam became free through disobedience because he gained the freedom or ability to progress].

Obedience to God can be the very highest expression of independence [in LDS theology, Adam showed he wanted independence of God through disobedience].

61 - we need to keep the Word of Wisdom [is it a commandment?]. Study the scriptures - therein is a testimony of the Restoration [this is not found in the Book of Mormon]. Faith must go beyond evidence.

63 - the first exercising of your faith should be your acceptance of Christ and his Atonement.

64 - the Lord told his Twelve Apostles that it was their responsibility to perform miracles [where? why? And did he tell the twelve Mormon apostles that it was their responsibility to perform miracles?]. Mormons can perform miracles. Miracles are common among the Latter-day Saints [you would never know this by reading Doctrines and Covenants, but the Bible does reveal the miracles].

The gift of the Holy Ghost is conferred upon us at confirmation [like in Catholicism]. Angels have not ceased to appear and minister unto man. The spiritual gifts are with the church.

## Chapter 3 - Repentance and Forgiveness

65 - evil is not powerful enough to destroy the church [but the 1997 Gospel Principles manual says, "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", page 105. So apparently evil is able to destroy the church].

- 69 - the bishop of the ward is the guide in charge of this first aid (spiritual aid for those who have been bitten) [previous story was about hidden crocodiles biting people who were not aware of them].
- 70 - doctrine can change behaviour quicker than talking about behaviour will.
- 71 - gender confusion is an example of a challenge in an evil world.
- 72 - it is a transgression to tamper with the procreative capacity of another of either gender [does this include contraception or just invitro-fertilization]?
- 73 - the bishop is the common judge. You should seek out the bishop for serious transgressions. The bishop represents the Lord in extending forgiveness for the Church.
- 74 - King David was not exalted even though he repented. Repentance cannot come except there be a punishment. The Lord provides ways to pay our debts to Him. We can emulate his part in the Atonement [reference is made to article "The Brilliant Morning of Forgiveness", Ensign, Oct 1995, p.20].
- 77 - the bishops can guide you through the steps required to obtain forgiveness insofar as the Church is concerned. Serious transgressions must be confessed to the bishop.
- 77-78 - after people have confessed serious sins to their bishops, it is not too uncommon for these bishops to receive divine generosity in that they remember [the sins] no more.
- 79 - love does not approve all conduct. You can destroy the faith of young people from the vantage point of a teaching position [imagine how many people's faith is destroyed when a church prints things in training manuals which are false].
- 81 - servants of the Lord continue the work of redemption beyond the veil. Abortion is forgivable with full and complete repentance.
- 84 - a story of one man who lost his wife shortly after their child is born. The wife apparently got an infection, the same as the doctor was treating in another patient. His bitterness in losing his wife is referred to as his "Gethsemane" [nothing can compare to what Christ suffered in the Garden of Gethsemane].

#### Chapter 4 - Covenants, Baptism, and the Gift of the Holy Ghost

- 86 - procreation is a sacred power [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve gained this power after their disobedience]. Life is a journey back to the presence of God in His celestial kingdom.
- 87 - the fulness of the gospel is defined as the new and everlasting covenant.
- 88 - beware of covenant-breakers inside the church [also beware of false teachings in the LDS Church training manuals]. Seek to qualify for each ordinance in proper sequence.
- 89 - list of ordinances in the church.
- 90 - no one can be happy or exalted without the ordinances [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve were not happy before they disobeyed God. What was their first experience of joy?]. Baptism must be by immersion. It is symbolic of coming forth from the grave.
- 91 - the Lord set the age of accountability at eight years of age [this is mentioned in Doctrine and Covenants 68:27 where the 'Lord' apparently gives a revelation]. Baptism of fire.
- 93 - even an eight-year old has the Holy Ghost as a shield and comfort [when did he or she get it?]. On the day of Pentecost, the Twelve were assembled in a house. When the Twelve were filled with the Holy Ghost, they were fully empowered [there were at least 120 believers gathered in that house - see Acts 1:15. Acts 2:1 is a reference to them too. It was not only twelve].
- 94 - the gift of the Holy Ghost can be conferred only by the laying on of hands. Only the LDS Church can confer the gift of the Holy Ghost. The Spirit will never prompt you to do wrong. We do not hear the words so much as we feel the words.
- 95 - get your feelings sensitive enough so that you can be guided. If we break the Word of Wisdom, then the Spirit will back off [does this then enable the Destroying Angel to kill the offender as Doctrine and Covenants 89:21 says?].
- 96 - you will feel if it is right - burning in the bosom. The promptings of the Holy Ghost are personal and strictly private. The Holy Ghost speaks with a voice that you feel more than you hear. Revelation comes as words we feel more than hear.

97 - it is unique to only the LDS Church that her members use the Holy Ghost to guide them to the correct marriage partner [maybe divorces are caused when Satan leads them to find the wrong spouse].

97-98 - while the Holy Ghost may inspire all mankind, a gift carries the right to have the Holy Ghost as a constant companion.

98 - one can speak with the tongue of angels. It will be quiet and invisible. The Holy Ghost was conferred on them and they knew it not.

99 - the voice of the Spirit is felt rather than heard. All over the world ordinary men, women, and children, not completely aware that they have the gift, bless their families, teach, preach, and minister by the Spirit with them [those outside of the LDS Church also believe they have this gift of the Holy Ghost].

### Chapter 5 - Spiritual Development

102 - use reverential terms 'thee' and 'thine' in prayer. The word 'amen' is spiritual applause at the end of prayer. Alma was president of the church [who was the president in the Old Testament at the time of Alma?].

103 - answers to difficult questions come by inspiration (precept by precept), from reading the scriptures, and from hearing speakers.

104 - fold your arms and bow your head during prayer [where did folding your arms come from?].

106 - the spiritual gifts belong to the church; they testify of the truth of the gospel. Seek to be worthy to receive these spiritual gifts.

107 - gift of discernment.

108 - light of Christ.

110 - all mankind is equally endowed with the light of Christ.

111 - the devil persuades no man to do good [then who persuaded Eve to do good in disobeying God in the Garden of Eden?].

111-112 - conscience affirms the reality of the spirit of Christ in man. It also affirms the reality of good, evil, justice, mercy ... etc as well as their necessary opposites.

112 - the spirit of Christ can be likened unto a guardian angel. The spirit of Christ is always within you; it never leaves. The gift of the Holy Ghost is conferred by one holding authority (reference to Articles of Faith 1:5) [according to LDS theology, all ordinances done in non-Mormon churches are invalid because they do not hold the priesthood].

112-113 - the gift of the Holy Ghost plus the light of Christ work together to open your understanding of the gospel.

114 - analogy of how you explain how you know God lives to an atheist by asking him what salt tastes like.

115 - a spiritual witness (testimony) comes through sustaining servants of the Lord and following them.

117 - teach our young people to bear testimony that Joseph Smith is a prophet, that the Book of Mormon is true, and that we lived before we came to earth.

118 - bear testimony of the things that you hope are true. Do it as an act of faith even though you may not know for certain that they are true.

119 - counterfeit Christians.

120 - testimony that the gospel was restored to Joseph Smith, a prophet of God.

#### Chapter 6 - Revelation and Spiritual Experiences

121 - inspiration comes more like a feeling than a sound. Make yourself worthy of the gift [do you make yourself worthy to receive a gift on Christmas?].

121-122 - we are a spirit son or daughter of God confined to a body of flesh and bone [were you confined to a spirit body before coming to Earth?].

122 - the spirit is eternal. Angels spoke to Laman and Lemuel with feelings and not words (1 Nephi 17:45) [did an angel ever make a visible appearance in the Book of Mormon?].

122-123 - the voice of the Spirit is a voice that one feels, more than one hears.

123 - you don't hear the words of an angel; you feel the words of an angel.

125 - angels are not confined to corporeal sight or sound in order to communicate.

- 127 - we have the right to spiritual guidance by our worthiness. Obedience does not interfere with our right to return to Heavenly Father [right or privilege?].
- 129 - when we are confused about which way to go, we can first turn to the local branch president or bishop for counsel.
- 130 - it is hard to listen to the voice of the Spirit we are listening to wild music, if we are watching films that are not worthy, if we are partaking of alcohol, or if we are partaking of other things that would disturb our bodies [I would also include attending or watching sporting events on Saturdays and Sundays]. Young people can learn to feel the voice of the Spirit [hopefully the voice of the Spirit can warn them when they read or hear something taught in the church that is false].
- 131 - you cannot make a major mistake in life without being warned. The best time to ponder and study is in the early morning hours.
- 133 - revelation comes by the voice of God's servants [reference to D&C 1:38]. You cannot receive instruction (revelation) for those in authority higher than yourself.
- 134 - if you talk too lightly of sacred things, the Lord will not trust you. Dreams, visions, and visitations are common in the church. These experiences are personal and are to be kept private [the experiences of the early Christians could not be kept private because they involved miraculous signs and wonders]. These personal experiences only convey authority to direct the lives of others where the recipient is a father, mother, or one properly called and set apart [reference to Things of the Soul, pp. 56-57]. You should regard spiritual experiences as sacred.
- 136 - there are some questions too sacred to discuss. "Have you seen Him?" is one question that should only be asked if you are authorized [this seems to train Mormons into not asking the tough questions ... like was Joseph Smith lying when he said God was once a man who became a God?].
- 136-137 - the LDS Church could not move forward without a constancy of revelation to the President or to the Twelve [why did he not mention the 15 Apostles?]. Doctrines remain fixed. Some day past revelations will be published [there have been no published revelations in the canon since 1978 - and it is called a declaration]. The beginning of the LDS Church was initiated by the veil parting and visitations from beyond the veil [I wonder if these were visits of a corporeal nature of only in the mind?].

We now live in a more intense period of revelation than it was then (as in the days of Joseph Smith and the subsequent Presidents) [One can appreciate this form of cheer-leading but it is hard to see this supported by what you see printed in Ensign magazines and spoke of at General Conference].

138 - not all revelations are printed in the scriptures, nor in the handbooks. You find them in sentences and paragraphs here and there in books and sermons of the Brethren. Revelation is vertical. A bishop who is trying to solve a problem will not get revelation from a bishop in another ward or stake.

139 - approach the Lord through the veil and get revealed instruction.

140 - a patriarch's blessing must include a declaration of lineage.

141 - declare the lineage from which each one has come. A question is posed - "He hasn't been a student of ancient languages -- how is he going to know?"

There is no fixed age to receive patriarchal blessings. They should be kept personal. Neither the patriarch nor the bishop can or should interpret it (The Stake Patriarch, Ensign, November 2002, p. 43) [are they cryptic to the hearer too?].

142 - from the premortal existence to our existence beyond the veils of death, our life is an eternal life. A patriarch is only to give blessings.

143 - there are three kinds of patriarchs. Inspiration from angels of the devil are with you all the time [even in a Mormon temple ceremony?].

144 - a bishop will not receive any revelation concerning a neighbouring ward. You will not receive any revelation to counsel your bishop or to correct the leaders of the church (Ensign, August 1975, pp. 85-89) [so who corrects a high ranking officer when makes a false statement in any talk or sermon?].

The evil one can send conflicting signals which can mislead and confuse us. You can be given false spiritual messages. Be careful lest you be deceived, for the devil may come disguised as an angel of light [does this mean a false utterance from a Mormon bishop or apostle is really coming from the evil one?]

145 - we occasionally find people who receive what they assume to be spiritual promptings from God, when those promptings are either centered in the emotions or are from the adversary (Ensign, January 1983, pp. 55-56). There are potentially destructive effects of false revelation. One evidence of false revelation is that you receive instruction for someone higher in authority than you [another evidence of false revelation is teaching people

something which is wrong and thus leading them astray].

146 - an evil spirit does not teach men to pray.

147 - avoid chattering about evil spirits.

### Chapter 7 - The Scriptures

148 - the scriptures contain answers to the difficult questions [there is no Mormon scripture that answers the question if Heavenly Father was once a man who became a God].

150 - books written by the leaders of the church do not carry the same authority as do the scriptures [but Joseph Smith and Brigham Young taught that their words are more important than what was written in the past - 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).

151 - all of the scriptures teach the same message.

153 - scriptures provide the basis for correct doctrine. If something is essential to us, if its part of our plan of salvation, it will be repeated over and over again in the revelations.

154 - the Book of Mormon is another testament of Jesus Christ [so the Mormon Church felt it necessary to print those words on the cover of the Book of Mormons beginning in 1981].

Mormon included a generous amount of military science and tactics -- for he was a general [Mr. Packer did not give us examples of this military science. It should be noted that Joseph Smith was also a soldier, the rank of General].

155 - the Book of Mormon is an endless treasure of wisdom and inspiration [many peculiar LDS doctrines are not found in the Book of Mormon]. The Book of Mormon confirms the teachings of the Old and New Testaments [you should read [comparing-the-bible-and-book-of-mormon.pdf](#)]. It restores many plain and precious things lost or taken from them [many precious LDS doctrines are not



found in the Book of Mormon]. Lehi partook of the fruit of the tree of life (1 Nephi 8:12) [he didn't actually partake of it. He had a vision].

156 - the gift of the Holy Ghost is conferred at confirmation.

157 - after you have read the Book of Mormon, you become qualified to take Moroni's test to see if it is true [I find it odd that the Mormon missionaries will ask you to take this test long before you have completed reading the book].

159 - the Book of Mormon will verify the Old and New Testament [this is not entirely true. See The Bible vs. The Book of Mormon]. Joseph Smith translated and published the Book of Mormon: Another Testament of Jesus Christ [this is not entirely true. The title 'Another Testament of Jesus Christ' was added in 1981].

160 - the Book of Mormon is the stick of Ephraim.

161 - the plan of happiness is not apparent in the Bible [the plan of happiness is not apparent in the Book of Mormon so Latter-day Saints must rely on the Bible, Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price. Christians do not rely on any other book than the Bible].

The Bible is not a fulness. The Book of Mormon contains the fulness of the gospel [the Introduction page of the Book of Mormon states that the Bible contains the fulness of the Gospel].

#### Chapter 8 - Righteousness and Perfection

162 - Brigham Young said that if he were perfect, he would instantly be taken up to heaven so fast it would scare the congregation.

163 - a book written by one of the Brethren titled "On the Way to Perfection" [I wonder if this is a reference to "The Way to Perfection" by Joseph Fielding Smith].

164 - observance of the Word of Wisdom will remain as a requirement for ordination to priesthood, for a mission, and for a temple recommend [Conference Report, October 2003, pp. 24-29, "The Standard of Truth has been Erected", Ensign, November 2003, pp. 24-27. I wonder if keeping the Word of Wisdom will ever be a requirement for being being a member of a ward].

165 - if you don't stop drinking alcohol, you won't get the inspiration of the Holy Ghost and you won't get a temple recommend [why don't they warn you that you will be visited by the Destroying Angel?]

- 165-166 - we teach our children against profanity and common irreverence [I will quote what I read in Gospel Doctrine - page 294 - LDS children poke fun at the cripple and this is unfortunate - reference to Conference Report, October 1904, p. 87-88. I have never heard this said about any other religious group of children. Page 355 - too frequently we see LDS children make fun of the unfortunate, the poor, and the crippled. Reference is made to the Juvenile Instructor, vol. 39, p. 657, Semi-Annual S.S. Conference, Oct 9 1904].
- 167 - no service in the church or in the community transcends that given in a home. Leaders should be very sure that a call to serve in a church will not weaken the family [Conference Report, October 1997, pp. 4-8, "Called to Serve", Ensign, November 1997, pp.6-8. Does Jesus come before your wife or husband?]
- 168 - an unselfish spirit is essential to happiness [in LDS theology, a disobedient Adam and Eve was essential to happiness].
- 169 - we are responsible for what we think.
- 170 - thoughts are talks we hold with ourselves. Inappropriate thoughts can be spiritually fatal.
- 171 - we immunize our minds with truth [you pollute your mind with false doctrines]. Inspiration and sinspiration - regardless of the influence and regardless of the source - the most important consideration is that we may choose [reference is made to the Lord saying to Adam, "Nevertheless, thou mayest choose for thyself, for it is given unto thee". I wonder why a reference is made to Adam when some Latter-day Saints don't view the temptation in the Garden of Eden as sinspiration].
- Young people, the voice of the spirit is felt rather than heard.
- 172 - learn to control your thoughts and you will be safe.
- 174 - choose a hymn for your protection against evil thoughts.
- 175 - also practice little gestures to simulate a delete key for that evil thought, like touching your glasses or rubbing your hand [and what about prayer?]. Replace improper thoughts with good music [and what about prayer?].
- 178 - the greatest decision of life is between good and evil [did Adam and Eve choose good or evil in the Garden?]. In the premortal existence, we were given spirit bodies and agency.

179 - the term "free" agency is not found in the revelations. It is a moral agency. Freedom of choice. There is no agency without choice; no freedom without risk. Freedom has to be earned [did Adam have freedom in the Garden before he sinned?].

180 - life is meant to be a test to see if we will keep the commandments of God. [in the LDS theology of premortal existence, was spirit life a test also to see if they would keep God's commandments?]. The agency granted to man is moral agency. Moral law assume accountability; no accountability, no penalties [why was Adam and Eve's choice in the Garden considered immoral?].

181 - we may be exalted and return to the presence of our heavenly parents. There is a condition: no unclean thing can enter there [why is the term never capitalized when in LDS theology they are both gods? This also means that those in the Terrestrial and Telestial Kingdoms are unclean].

The plan of happiness provides a redeemer who has atoned for our mistakes [mistakes or sins? The atonement is found in the Bible but earlier it was said that "the plan of happiness is not apparent in the Bible"].

There is no true freedom without responsibility. Some view obedience as a restraint, then they resist the very thing that will give them true freedom [how did Adam have true freedom before he sinned?]. There is no true freedom without respect for the agency of others. We have never placed the collective rights of the majority in subjugation to the individual rights of any single citizen.

182 - regardless of how lofty and moral the "pro-choice" argument sounds, it is badly flawed. "Free agency" does not appear in scripture. Only moral agency is spoken of there.

183 - good must be earned. Rewards of righteousness.

184 - the choice is between good and evil.

185 - it was meant to be [designed] that life would be a challenge.

186 - deformed bodies will be made perfect in the resurrection.

187 - expecting God to grant us every whim can debilitate, even destroy them and the church.

188 - [purpose of life] the very purpose for which the world was created, and man introduced to live upon it, requires that the laws of nature operate in cold disregard for human feelings [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve did not have joy or misery before the Fall so apparently nature had no effect on

their feelings then].

Periods of unhappiness, trouble, and suffering are not always to be regarded as penalties imposed by a displeased Creator. They are part of the lessons of life, part of the test.

189 - purpose of life (mortality) is all about testing. Pride is the most deadly spiritual virus [disobedience is also a spiritual virus]. The idea that all suffering is the direct result of sin is a false doctrine [I would also view the teaching that all men are not punished for Adam's transgression as a false doctrine].

Spirits which are beautiful and innocent may be temporarily restrained by physical impediments [is there such a thing as ugly spirits or are they all beautiful?].

190 - never ridicule those with disabilities. It is my conviction that such brutality will not, in the eternal scheme of things, go unanswered, and there will come a day of recompense. Parents, take time in the next home evening to caution your family never to amuse themselves at the expense of the handicapped or of any whose face or form or personality does not fit the supposed ideal or whose skin is too light or too dark to suit their fancy [why do some Latter-day Saints view different shades of skin color as a disability? And doesn't the Holy Spirit teach people not to do these things?].

## Chapter 9 - Measurable Principles

191 - reverence (submission) is obedience; it is essential for revelation. Use reverential terms in prayer [where found in scripture?].

192 - when we step into the chapel, we must!--each of us must---watch ourselves lest we be guilty of intruding when someone is struggling to feel delicate spiritual communications [no examples are provided]. Irreverent conduct in our chapels is worthy of a reminder, if not reproof [is this common among Latter-day Saints? What conduct is worthy of punishment?]. Outbursts from toddlers being ushered out is acceptable.

Various of these things (clothing, grooming, and conduct becoming looser and sloppier, and raucous music) are gaining wide acceptance and influence over our youth [why among the Mormons?].

193 - caution concerning loud laughter.

- 194 - restrictions surrounding the Sabbath Day are most beneficial [you can find a partial list of these restrictions in the 1997 version of Gospel Principles. No hunting, fishing, shopping, entertainment are some].
- 195 - atonement for our sins. The authority to perform these ordinances belongs to the Aaronic Priesthood. The Savior's blood was shed at Gethsemane and at Golgotha. The Lord promised that the angel of death would pass over the homes so marked and not slay those inside.
- 196 - the weekly sacrament meetings help us to renew our baptismal covenants. You cannot do too much bad in a week if you are going each Sunday. Every Sunday you cleanse yourself so that, in due time, when you die your spirit will be clean.
- 197 - the change from assessment to offering is a course correction; it is an inspired move [would you explain what this change is about and when it took place?].
- 197 - teach tithing to even the tiniest of children [would they understand?]
- 198 - no paid clergy. We contribute our time, our talents, our means, our travel, all to help the work. And we're not paid for it in money [but they receive other benefits, like covered tuition fees for the stake president's son or daughter].
- 200 - people are attracted by the high standards of the Church, not repelled by them [they are also attracted to the doctrine of becoming a god or goddess one day].
- 200-201 - the Word of Wisdom. We should take nothing into our bodies that would harm the organs thereof, or that would tamper with the delicate process of thinking and feeling. More dangerous than tobacco or alcohol is the slavery through drug addiction [some are addicted to the caffeine in Coke and Pepsi].
- 202 - the Word of Wisdom is a principle with a promise. It places restrictions on us. No one is to be baptized into the LDS Church without first agreeing to live by Word of Wisdom regulations [compare this with Philip's baptism of the Ethiopian eunuch].
- You cannot go to the house of the Lord until you are fully worthy [reference to Conference Report, April 1996, pp. 21-25, "The Word of Wisdom", Ensign, May 1996, pp. 17-19. The bishop decides if the individual is fully worthy; they are responsible for giving the temple passes].

Succeeding Presidents declared the Word of Wisdom to be a commandment, and it was accepted by the Church as such [no reference is given]. That is, no tea or coffee or liquor or tobacco or whatever else is not covered by it [I wonder why the LDS Church has not mentioned Coke or Pepsi]. Marijuana is not listed in section 89 and neither is strychnine or arsenic. But, of course, they are habit-forming [Coca-Cola is habit forming].

203 - avoid habit-forming stimulants [avoid Coca-Cola?]. The Word of Wisdom teaches principle and the blessings. There are many habit-forming, addictive things that one can drink or chew or inhale or inject which will injure both body and spirit which are not mentioned in the revelation [Coca-Cola and other soft drinks].

204 - the Word of Wisdom is a law of health.

205 - coffee and tea interfere with the delicate feels of spiritual communication.

206 - when your body begins to deteriorate [old age] the patterns of revelation will be augmented and magnified. Destructive addictions shackle and interrupt our communication with our Heavenly Father. Don't abuse your body with habit-forming substances.

207 - destroying angel will slay those who disobey the Word of Wisdom. Eat meat sparingly.

#### Chapter 10 - Chastity and Dating

208 - the power of procreation is the key to the plan of happiness. Procreation is the source of human happiness [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve gained happiness through his disobedience]. Through the righteous exercise of this power, as through nothing else, we may come close to our Father in Heaven and experience a fulness of joy, even godhood!

209 - intelligence existed forever; it was not created. In due course, we were given a spirit body. We became sons and daughters then. We had gender then. [reference to Acts 17:29, D&C 93:33-35, Abraham 3:22-23, 5:7. I don't see any passage about intelligences given spirit bodies through a heavenly marriage].

210 - the power of creation is the very key of happiness [since Adam and Eve did not have happiness in the Garden before the Fall, according to LDS theology, it is unlikely they had the power of creation].

211 - there was provided in our bodies -- and this is sacred -- a power of creation. A mortal body is conceived and a spirit enters it. The gift, the power to create, is given to virtually every individual who is born into mortality [in LDS theology, when did Adam and Eve received the gift to create and how was it earned - through obedience or disobedience? Since the power to create is the key to the plan of happiness, why would the Mormon Heavenly Father not give this gift to all mortals?].

213 - the sacred power of procreation gave man an essential part in the plan of salvation [did Adam and Eve gain this power through obedience or disobedience?] The tempter [Satan] and his angels tempt man to degrade or misuse this and every other sacred gift they had received. Agency required that man be free to use the power of procreation as he will [did Satan tempt Adam and Eve to use or misuse their agency to obey God? When did Adam and Eve gain the power of procreation? In obedience or disobedience?].

The laws of nature provided that every time the natural conditions were met, a body would be conceived and a spirit assigned. Who would seriously contemplate abortion or adultery or perversion? Who would question the counsel of the prophets not to tamper with this process? Fornication, adultery, perversion, and abortion -- do you see the connection between moral problems and a knowledge of the gospel? [if a baby is aborted, does the spirit have a second chance to enter a mortal body or is he is she consigned to always live without a physical body?]

213-214 - the allegory of an inheritance - the man has two keys, the woman only one. The keys are for the vault and for the safe in the vault. The woman does not have a key for the vault, only the safe. Together they open the safe and partake of their inheritance. You need a total of three keys to get access to the inheritance. Inheritances are lost to single people because they don't have the other key [Conference Report, October 1993, pp. 27-32, "For Time And All Eternity", Ensign, November 1993, pp. 21-24].

215 - teaching sex education courses in public schools is a monumental danger.

216 - responsibility to teach about procreation rests with parents, not with public schools.

218 - avoid immodest clothing [does the Mormon bishop set the guidelines?]. President Hinckley has warned you not to decorate your body with pictures or symbols [i.e. tattoos] that will never wash off or to pierce your body with rings or jewelry after the manner of the world ["Your Greatest Challenge, Mother", Ensign, November 2000, p. 97. How many Mormon women heed the warning about not wearing earrings? Are these denied temple

passes?].

There is nothing wrong with a beard. So I worry, not about the beard but about what it means. It must mean something, you know [Things of the Soul, chapter 23, pp. 225-226. What was the meaning for Lorenzo Snow's beard? Does your bishop decide if your beard is being grown for the right meaning?].

219 - no dating before sixteen years of age. Steady dating (courtship) is for after teens. Dating should not be without supervision [like a parent also going on the date?].

222 - there was one who rebelled at the plan of our Heavenly Father [this is an understatement. In LDS theology, billions of Heavenly Father's children rebelled against his plan]. Lucifer was cast out -- limited forever from establishing a kingdom of his own. He knows that if he can entice you to use this power [of procreation] prematurely, to use it too soon, or to misuse it in any way, you may well lose your opportunities for eternal progression.

224 - the power to create a mortal body is essential to our happiness and exaltation [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve's disobedience was essential for them to have joy]. The Lord has decreed severe penalties against the immoral use of that power to beget life [in vitro fertilization has some penalties too?].

225 - do not let anyone at all touch or handle your body, not anyone!

226 - masturbation is guilt and degradation. Do not let anyone of either gender touch your body to awaken passion that can flame beyond control.

227-228 - homosexuality and lesbianism is a moral temptation and is unnatural behaviour.

228 - misery and sorrow follow the violation of the laws of chastity -- God declares this in unmistakable language - "wickedness never was happiness" (Alma 41:10).

229 - misuse of the power of procreation, the destroying of innocent life through abortion, and the abuse of little children are transgressions of enormous proportion. Go to the bishop because he holds the key to this cleansing power [for those who have fallen into chastity transgressions]. The bishop has the keys, and he can lock it up for good.

230 - a warning to unmarried couples.



231 - the church must speak out on moral issues. Gambling is a moral issue. We do not as a Church speak on political issues unless morality is involved [is debt reduction a moral issue? Is sending troops to Afghanistan, Iraq, or other parts of the world a moral issue?].

232 - the gift of mortal life [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve received this gift when they disobeyed God]. Incest and molestation are uglier than infidelity and abortion [how is incest uglier than killing an innocent life?].

233 - talk about the deliberate destruction of the innocent and helpless by abortion. If these sins remain unchecked, civilization will be led unfailingly to destruction.

234 - if you do not act on unworthy persuasions, you will neither be condemned nor be subject to church discipline [how is abortion disciplined by your church?].

235 - animals do not have agency [so why did God command them to be fruit and multiply?]. Teaching evolution causes people to respond to every urge and impulse. Homosexuality/lesbianism is a wicked deception which has unleashed a pestilence which now threatens the whole of humanity. Never can two of the same gender fulfill the commandment to multiply and replenish the earth [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve could not fulfill this commandment until they first disobeyed God in the Garden].

236 - don't cross dress. Women should not beat the man in his fields of activity [do males make better bankers than women?]. There is a great peril in this [LDS] church and kingdom of God if our men stray from the role of manhood and our sisters from their role of womanhood [we don't have this problem in our church. In some cases, women also work at the office or in factories].

The laws of God are ordained to make us happy [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve did not have joy before they disobeyed God in the Garden]. Abortion is a spiritually dangerous lifestyle. So is the gay/lesbian movement.

237 - happiness cannot coexist with immorality. Those with gender disorientation will find no enduring comfort [is gender disorientation, like gambling, a moral issue?]. The tragedy of abortion and contraception use. The spirits are thrust back whence they came after an abortion. Both abortion and contraception use are founded on selfishness [isn't contraception use founded on family planning?]. An abortion involves a minimum of three lives [I would say four if you include God].

238 - abortion is viewed as killing. We have no license to destroy life. Abortion, to destroy a life, is a major transgression. We do not know all about when a spirit enters the body [at conception right?].

239 - our mortal probation requires that we be left to choose. That test is the purpose of life.

### Chapter 11 - Marriage

240 - the union of man and woman begets babies that are conceived and cross that frail footpath into mortality [in LDS theology, the union of Heavenly Father and Mother begets spirits and are initially immortal]. If we follow the pattern, happiness and joy will follow.

241 - marriage is ordained of God. A holocaust will come upon a nation that puts low value on marriage [Conference Report, April 1981, pp. 14-17, "Marriage", Ensign, May 1981, pp. 13-15]. Marriage is for having children.

242 - help meet. 'Meet' means equal. Fathers and sons bear the burden of the priesthood [maybe he meant blessing instead of burden right?].

The plan of happiness requires the righteous union of male and female. Adam had the priesthood in the Garden while he was alone (Moses 6:67). Neither alone nor with other men could Adam progress. Nor could Eve with another woman. It was so then. It is so today [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve could not progress even when they were married in the Garden. They had to follow the advice of Satan and then they gained the ability to have children].

Adam was commanded to cleave unto his wife and to none else (D&C 42:22). [Joseph Smith taught that God told him to cleave to his wives and to none else].

No man receives a fullness of the priesthood without a woman at his side.

243 - gift of children. Planned parenthood involves a good deal more than just the begetting of children. Being a foster parent is a marvelous experience.

244-245 - what young men should consider in choosing a wife - do you want her as the mother of your children? How wise the youth who looks for ... a girl who wants to be a woman - a domesticated, feminine, motherly woman ["Eternal Love", address to Brigham Young University, November 1963].

245 - what young women should consider in choosing a husband - how wise is the girl who looks for a man ... who will insist on taking her to the temple. Missionary service prepares one morally for fatherhood.

246 - to be really happy, to find true joy, marriage is required [I wonder if the Mormon Jesus is really happy?]. The highest degree of the celestial kingdom is unattainable in the absence of romantic love ("Eternal Love", address to Brigham Young University, November 1963) [I wonder if the Mormon Jesus lives there?].

The introducing of spirits into this life is an expression of love. Marriage is meant to be eternal.

248 - this power (of procreation) within you is good. Its a gift from God our Father [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve did not have the ability to procreate until they followed the devil's temptation and disobeyed God].

249 - marriage releases these powers of creation [procreation] for your use. [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve did not have these powers of procreation right after they were married. And they did not have these powers even while they were single].

The Lord directed that temples be constructed for the purpose of performing marriage ceremonies. The highest degree of the celestial kingdom is unobtainable in the absence of marriage [I wonder if the Mormon Jesus and Holy Spirit are married?].

Those who have not been faithful to their marriage covenant will not be happy [single people won't be happy in paradise?].

250 - I do not condemn the innocent one who suffers in spite of all that was desired and done to save the marriage [but in LDS theology, single people will never return to live with God. They are damned/condemned].

252 - to wilfully destroy a marriage is to offend God. God himself decreed ... that union of male and female which has power to generate life, is authorized only in marriage [but in LDS theology, Adam and Eve were married and they were unable to have children. They gained this power when they obeyed the temptation of the devil].

253 - except Adam and Eve by nature be different from one another, they could not multiply and fill the earth [in LDS theology, it was not their 'different' nature which made them able to procreate. It was their 'same' disobedience to God that enabled them to procreate].

The priesthood is conferred only upon worthy men in order to conform to our Father's plan of happiness [the Bible teaches that members of Christ's body are in the royal priesthood of believers].

- 254 - help meet means equal. Eve was called the mother of all living. Family can continue throughout eternity. The husband is the head of the family and the breadwinner. The wife's happiness is conditioned on her recognition of these two [it seems God would punish a woman with misery if she wanted to get a part time job]. The woman must succumb to the final decision made by the husband because he holds the priesthood, and she does not.
- 256 - husbands should have a hobby but make sure it does not take up too much time. Being called an occasional church-widow is not so bad.
- 257 - man is put together in such a way that he depends upon a source of encouragement and power that is found in the woman [I rely on God for my source. How about you?]. The transformation of a man ... into an effective priesthood leader is the privilege of a lovely Latter-day Saint woman [I thought this was the privilege of the Holy Spirit]. We are under obligation to multiply and replenish the earth.
- 258 - love realizes his sweetest happiness and his most divine consummation in the home where the coming of children is not restricted [seems like birth control is disapproved of by the Lord]. Caution against avoiding and delaying having children.
- 259 - whenever possible, wives should avoid joining the breadwinning line. You and your husband will manage on the budget that the father is able to provide. To consider work as a woman when the husband is still employed is a temptation.
- 263 - this day, as you become husband and wife, those powers of creation are released for your use [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve did not have these powers of creation while single or at their marriage. Only when they disobeyed God did these powers get received by them]. Creation of bodies for little spirits [are they little spirits in heaven or are all the spirits in adult form?].
- 264 - bishop stands as the father of the ward to help widows or divorcees.
- 265 - sounds like there will be ample opportunities for marriage after mortality. Even having children will be possible if you are not able to bear them now because of infertility [provided they keep all the other LDS commandments].
- 266 - blessings of eternal marriage and family will not be denied the faithful.
- 266-267 - a promise of hope to the unmarried.
- 267 - the single should protect their sacred powers of creation [in LDS theology, what act caused Adam and Eve to get their powers of creation?].

## Chapter 12 - Family Relationships

- 269 - marriage is called the new and everlasting covenant [so its new since the days of Adam?].
- 270 - the family is the most important thing to the church and civilization. Only temple ordinances allow individuals to return to God's presence [many Latter-day Saints will suffer eternal misery because they will not return to God's presence - but instead go into their Telesial or Terrestrial glories].
- 271 - a worthy Latter-day Saint family is a standard to the world. The ultimate end of church activity is to ensure families are happy [the ultimate end of the church is to glorify Christ. We don't live for our happiness].
- 272 - commandments are given to build temples (D&C 124:34) [in Old Testament times, the Jews were never commanded to have more than the one temple in Jerusalem. In the New Testament, Christians are not commanded to build temples for they are the temple of the Holy Spirit].
- 272-273 - the bishop is sometimes referred to as the father of the ward.
- 274 - weigh carefully the needs of dysfunctional families.
- 275 - care must be taken to not let church programs overburden the family. A weekly family home evening was introduced by the First Presidency as a warning against the disintegration of the family [Conference Report, October 1961, p. 79].
- 277 - genealogy was renamed family history. The historic proclamation of the family was issued in response to the social and cultural standards being in a free fall [as mentioned on page 276]. Monday is set aside for family home evening.
- 278 - "The Family: A Proclamation To The World" is akin to scripture. It was written by inspiration.
- 278-279 - we are under covenant to provide physical bodies so that spirits may enter mortality [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve were told to be fruitful and multiply but they were not able to have children. They gained this ability when they followed the devil's temptation].
- 279 - God is our eternal parent [well, this is not entirely accurate. In LDS theology, we existed as eternal and uncreated intelligences. We are taught that we became children of God when he transferred our intelligence into

spirit baby bodies created through a union between him and his heavenly wife, or heavenly wives for those Mormons who believe he was a polygamist].

280 - the Lord said all children have claim upon their parents for their maintenance until they are of age (D&C 83:4). The devil is the master of sin, the enemy of all righteousness.

281 - it is contrary to the order of heaven for any soul to be locked into compulsive, immoral behavior with no way out. Transgressions affect little children. Repentance has a liberating effect on behavior [Conference Report, October 1986, pp. 18-22, "Little Children", Ensign, November 1986, pp. 16-18. Transgressions affect little children because they have a fallen nature].

282 - have a place at home where your children can play by themselves. If others venture into the playground ... they must meet the standards ... and limitations established by the ideals that are yours (Teachings of Salvation, p. 226).

283 - little children cannot be reared by a babysitter or by one another. It is vitally important to have a mother in the home. The father is the breadwinner and head of the family. The mother is the homemaker and heart of the family. It is foolish to pull the mother away from this role.

285 - it is against their nature for women to reduce themselves to equality with men. That would be to yield some heights that God intended that they should reach. Responsibility for teaching the doctrines rests upon parents.

286 - when children are baptized and confirmed, we place an eye within them, the unspeakable gift of the Holy Ghost. With the restoration of the gospel came authority to confer this gift [Latter-day Saints teach that all non-Mormon churches do not have this priesthood so all their baptism and confirmations are invalid].

287 - a wife is given to a man to multiply and replenish the earth [it was wives for some Latter-day Saints].

288 - parenthood is the greatest of educational experiences.

290 - Joseph Smith said that sealed parents will get back their wayward children in this life or the life to come. But these children will have to pay their debt to justice [all Latter-day Saints need to pay back their debt to Jesus according to the parable referred to earlier].

When parents keep the covenants they have made at the altar of the temple, their children will be forever bound to them [Conference Report, April 1992,

pp. 91-95, "Our Moral Environment", Ensign, May 1992, pp. 66-68. But if one of the parents does not endure to the end, I read it that their children are sealed to other worthy parents. I will try to find the passage].

292 - as a young woman, be a princess. As you grow, be a queen. The limitation of priesthood to men is a tribute to the incomparable place of women in the plan.

293 - man cannot have the fulness of the priesthood without a wife. For no man, the Prophet said, can get the fulness of the priesthood outside the temple of the Lord. And she is there beside him in that sacred place (D&C 131:1-3. "In the celestial glory there are three heavens or degrees; And in order to obtain the highest, a man must enter into this order of the priesthood, meaning the new and everlasting covenant of marriage; And if he does not, he cannot obtain it" [so either the Mormon Jesus and Holy Spirit don't have a fulness or they are married].

Woman is not equal to man. She is superior [but not superior enough to be in a quorum]. Only a woman can bestow upon man that supernal title of father. She in turn becomes a mother [but Mr. Packer did not mention who bestows upon woman her title]. At creation, another spirit clothed in a mortal body crosses that frail footpath of life to experience mortality and the testing required in the plan of salvation [the purpose of life is mortality and testing. Unfortunately this seems self-centered. Our lives should be about glorifying God].

294 - women, by virtue of their femininity, are more susceptible and responsible to pay attention to the whisperings of the spirit. This sensitivity is refined by motherhood [she is more in tune with God than a twelve year old boy who has just be ordained with the priesthood, but she still lacks authority whereas he does not].

Mothers should be enthroned as a queen in her home, teaching the principles of life and salvation to her little ones.

295 - a man cannot be exalted without his wife (D&C 131:1-4; 132:19-21) [so either the Mormon Jesus and Holy Spirit are married or somehow they were able to bend the rules and became exalted as single people. Let's examine a few verses not mentioned. 22-24 - "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, because ye receive me not in the world neither do ye know me. But if ye receive me in the world, then shall ye know me, and shall receive your exaltation; that where I am ye shall be also. This is eternal lives—to know the only wise and true God, and Jesus Christ, whom he hath sent. I am he. Receive ye, therefore, my law". In Mormon theology, eternal life is living life as a god or goddess.

Then let's look at verses 61-63 - "And again, as pertaining to the law of the priesthood—if any man espouse a virgin, and desire to espouse another, and the first give her consent, and if he espouse the second, and they are virgins, and have vowed to no other man, then is he justified; he cannot commit adultery for they are given unto him; for he cannot commit adultery with that that belongeth unto him and to no one else. And if he have ten virgins given unto him by this law, he cannot commit adultery, for they belong to him, and they are given unto him; therefore is he justified. But if one or either of the ten virgins, after she is espoused, shall be with another man, she has committed adultery, and shall be destroyed; for they are given unto him to multiply and replenish the earth, according to my commandment, and to fulfil the promise which was given by my Father before the foundation of the world, and for their exaltation in the eternal worlds, that they may bear the souls of men; for herein is the work of my Father continued, that he may be glorified".

Any male priesthood holder can be directed by God to have the virgins to multiply and replenish the earth.

296 - motherhood is near to divinity. It is the highest, holiest service to be assumed by mankind [Conference Report, October 1942, pp. 12-13].

299 - the generating power of a husband's priesthood comes through a lovely, virtuous woman [where does the generating power of the priesthood of the Mormon Jesus and Holy Spirit come through?]. The power of the priesthood functions through a women's obedience to modest speech and dress.

299 - the Father is the highest of all [the highest what?]. Through the power of creation you become really Christian [singles and married couples without children in the LDS Church are not really Christian].

300 - the highest calling for a man is that of husband and father. Husbands have equal obligation to care and nurture children.

302 - hobbies are essential and vital and necessary.

303 - the doctrine of exaltation and the eternal nature of family ties is neither known or taught elsewhere in Christianity [I don't go to a Mormon Church but I believe that I will be exalted in the resurrection. If my family members are saved, I will be with them eternally. If they are not saved, then we will be forever separated. But my focus is not on them but rather on Jesus].



An eternal family begins a kingdom. As little children are born to them, they create a kingdom (Sunday School General Conference, April 1964). [In some cases the Mormon husband and wife will need to wait until they becomes gods to have their first 'spirit' child because they could not have children when they were just mortals].

304 - unless you are happy at home, you are not fully happy [what if you are happy at home but not happy at work? Are you still fully happy?]. If you avoid coming to a knowledge of God and developing a relationship with him, you not only miss much, but possibly everything [how would not developing a relationship with God cause you to lose everything?].

All you have to do is go to church and pay your tithing and try to live the gospel and respond to calls and try to do a responsive and dedicated work in the callings that come to you [why not 'try' to pay your tithing and live the gospel and try to respond to calls?].

306 - the word temple to the Latter-day Saint suggests a reverence for life. It is wrong to establish centers for the care of the very old and the very young. We should not disconnect the generations in this way [The Holy Temple, pp. 260-261].

### Chapter 13 - Teaching and Church Doctrine

307 - true doctrine changes attitudes and behavior.

307-308 - when one knows doctrine, abortion would be unthinkable.

309 - the Pearl of Great Price, Doctrine and Covenants, and the Book of Mormon have equal validity with the Bible, and the four sustain one another [the Word of Wisdom, the Law of Consecration, Exaltation, and Temple Marriage are not found in the Book of Mormon. The Book of Mormon does not sustain the Bible on several issues. See The Bible vs. The Book of Mormon].

There is an adversary ... he confuses the careless and prompts those who serve him to devise deceptive, counterfeit doctrine, carefully contrived to appear genuine [Conference Report, October 1984, pp. 81-85, "The Pattern of our Parentage", Ensign, November 1984, pp. 66-69. Just imagine if Jesus was really not the spirit brother of Lucifer or that Heavenly Father was not once a man who became a God. If you believed this, then you would have been deceived by the devil].

310 - the principles, the doctrines, never change ["Principles", Ensign, March 1985, pp. 6-10. This would not explain why the LDS Church did major changes between the 1997 and 2008 version of Gospel Principles]. A principle is an

enduring truth, a law, a rule [this would not explain why key things were removed from the 2008 version of Gospel Principles].

311 - it does not serve any useful purpose to speculate or wrest the scriptures, seeking after mysteries [this is what Joseph Smith did when he taught God was once a man who became a God].

312 - a member of the LDS Church may ... even believe something is true that in fact is false. There is not much danger in that [if you worship a false god - a man who was taught by Joseph Smith to have become a god - then you will be lost. That is why Jesus said that eternal life is knowing the true God. The Jews in the Old Testament followed false teachings and they never entered the Promised Land].

It is not the belief in a false notion that is the problem; it is the teaching of it to others. We are not authorized to teach it to others as truth [Conference Report, April 1985, pp. 41-45, "From Such Turn Away", Ensign, May 1985, pp. 33-35. But believers in a false god will suffer the same fate as those who teach a false god].

316 - don't draw a convert to yourself but to the gospel and the church.

318 - there is a lay priesthood.

324 - one needs the Spirit to teach moral and spiritual values.

325 - this matter of obtaining one's errand from the Lord is basic preparation for anyone who teaches.

330 - there are many inspiring and inspired accounts of these gifts (revelations, gift of tongues, interpretation of tongues, healings and visions) among the Latter-day Saints [I recall, I think, seeing an Ensign article where the LDS Church says that the devil can also speak in tongues. But they did not say how to differentiate if the devil or a Christian is speaking in tongues].

331 - Moroni visited Joseph Smith three times during the night with the same message [but for some reason, Moroni's feet did not touch the ground].

332 - there just isn't much use in trying to answer a difficult question for someone who has not undergone the prerequisite study of faith, repentance, baptism by immersion for the remission of sins, and the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. Unless he knows something about revelation and about authority, whatever answer we give will not be satisfying to him (Teach Ye Diligently, pp. 81-82) [this is an odd statement to make. So if a Catholic is asking a Mormon a difficult question, you expect the Catholic to become a member of the Mormon Church in order to get an answer he will

understand? Would a Mormon need to be baptized into the Catholic Church if he wanted to understand the answer to a difficult question posed to his Catholic friend too?].

333 - leave the mysteries along (i.e. the deep things that may be true but are not essential to salvation) [but we should shun all deep things that are false and will lead to your destruction]. All men are basically good; the children of heavenly parentage [Latter-day Saints believe they inherit the good nature of their heavenly parents instead of the propensity to evil from the fall of man].

336 - disciple means pupil or scholar.

338 - the four gospels are a treatise. They are surpassed by none (Teach Ye Diligently, pp. 22-23).

#### Chapter 14 - Learning and Scholarship

340-341 - the misuse of the power of education has degraded men rather than exalted them [can you give an example of a teaching that has degraded a man and a teaching that has exalted a man?].

341 - it is important to know the gospel according to the leaders of the Church. We should read what we can find in the scriptures about the subject and then write down our feelings. Then we may compare those feelings against what leaders of the church have written or said. If we are sincere, we will find our conclusions being sustained by their conclusions. Then our obedience is not blind obedience [two things can be noted by this statement. 1 - there is no insinuation that anything church leaders have said or written is false. 2 - a Mormon is insincere if his conclusions do not line up with what the Mormon leaders have said or written. But this gets confusing when other LDS statements conclude that all that is written or said is not official doctrine and not to be accepted as the truth. A good explanation is found at this site: <http://www.staylds.com/docs/WhatIsOfficialMormonDoctrine.html>

342 - physical knowledge is cumulative, where moral knowledge is not.

344 - the Holy Ghost is conferred upon every member of the church as a gift. Without a balance between the intellectual and spiritual, we move through life without achieving real success.

345-346 - spiritually, we can draw on a memory that goes back beyond birth [this is the LDS teaching of the pre-mortal life].

- 346 - do not mortgage your testimony for an unproved theory on how man was created [do not mortgage your salvation on your testimony in a man who said Heavenly Father was once a man who became a God].
- 347 - when the test came to Abraham, he didn't really have to sacrifice Isaac. He just had to be willing to (Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled, chapter 12, p. 120) [well, actually, Abraham thought he really had to sacrifice Isaac. So much so that the angel had to stop him].
- 348 - if you 'buy into' the philosophies of men, you may have your testimony repossessed [may have?].
- 349 - where separation of church and state is proclaimed, we ought to demand more protection from the agnostic, atheist, communist, and humanist (Teach Ye Diligently, p. 226). Atheism is a religious expression..
- 350 - it is ridiculous to separate theism and atheism and claim they are separate matters. This is particularly so, when we condone ... the atheist's preaching of his doctrine and the standards of conduct and morality that accompany his beliefs, and then at once, with great vigor, eliminate any positive reference to theism and the standards that accompany that belief. Atheism is a negative religion.
- 352 - it's no wonder that the members and clergy of the churches of the world find that once the major problems that have confronted mankind are before them, they stand aside in puzzled bewilderment [is Mr. Packer criticizing all non-Mormon churches or is he referring to only ignorant members in all religious faiths including Mormonism?].
- 354 - more than 70% of tuition and fees of BYU come from church tithes.
- 355 - we will maintain to the best of our ability an environment [at BYU] that is totally free from the use of narcotics [and the selling of coffee and tea?]. The agency vouchsafed to us from God is a moral agency and that everyone is accountable. There can be no freedom without choice [so did Adam and Eve choose good or bad in disobeying God? How was moral agency involved if it was not a choice of right or wrong?].
- 357 - in the church we are not neutral. Church schools must not be neutral.
- 357-358 - seminaries and institutes are a bulwark for the church.
- 360 - the seminary and institute are important in helping youth learn doctrine. There is rote learning without which one will never speak or write the language fluently [the disciples spoke the language understood by the various visitors in Jerusalem on Pentecost without rote learning of their

language]. The curriculum for all of the them [the seminary/institute classes] centers in the scriptures and the history of the church [much of what is taught is not supported by scripture - example, Joseph Smith teaching that Heavenly Father was once a man who became a God and that Jesus is the first spirit child of a heavenly mother and father].

The scriptures contain the fulness of the gospel [the Book of Mormon does not contain many peculiar LDS doctrines. Neither does the Pearl of Great Price].

361 - if you are a specialist in the archaeology of the Old Testament, there is not the slightest excuse for you to be deficient as a teacher of the Book of Mormon or ... of the New Testament [well, actually there is a strong excuse for Mormons to be deficient because there are no specialists in the archaeology of the Book of Mormon that are considered authoritative by the church. There are no official Book of Mormon maps to show where even one of its cities or countries were located. It is all speculation. Some LDS leaders have even stated that it was revealed to them (and mentioned in General Conference) that the Hill Cumorah lies in the western part of the state of New York and this is the same hill where the Nephites and Lamanites fought their last great battle].

#### Chapter 15 - Economic and Welfare Principles

362 - work should be enthroned as a ruling principle in our lives.

364 - men and women should choose careers that fit their nature [but the LDS Church says it is a shame if the woman is a breadwinner if the man makes an adequate salary. I wonder what type of career the LDS Church sees as fitting the nature of a woman].

368 - evidence of the nature of man is reference by 2 Nephi 2:11 - "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" [but this would mean that Adam had this type of nature in the Garden of Eden before the Fall because he did not possess happiness or misery].

371 - in finding happiness, the real choice is between good and evil [in LDS theology, Eve found happiness in the Garden of Eden when she followed the devil's temptation]. Mortal life is a school.

372 - pride is the most deadly spiritual virus [Conference Report, April 1989, pp. 70-73; "To Young Women And Men", Ensign, May 1989, pp. 53-59].

### Chapter 16 - Government, Laws, War, and Freedom

374 - the enemies try to pry apart the safeguards of the past and loosen up the laws of morality, marriage, abortion, and gender. The United Nations defines family as most any collection of people who are living together. Government accepts the responsibility of protecting the child from the power of parents.

375 - the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah are now spread across the world.

378 - we do not encourage our members to avoid military service. We find the necessity of answering the call to military service [I know the LDS Church has set minimum age limits for missionary service and encourages its members to participate but I am not aware at what age they encourage members to join the military].

Often the innocent are victims of war. In armed conflicts there are casualties. Sometimes clean, worthy men, innocent of any desire to kill, devoid of any aggressive will to own that which belongs to someone else, fall victims of the confused, wicked ugliness of war [a reference to Alma 60:13 is given - "For the Lord suffereth the righteous to be slain that his justice and judgment may come upon the wicked; therefore ye need not suppose that the righteous are lost because they are slain; but behold, they do enter into the rest of the Lord their God".

When you read the context of Alma 60, the condemnation falls on the Nephites rather than their enemies, the Lamanites. The reason: many Nephites were killed because they did not provide adequate support to their armies. These nonsupporting Nephites were the wicked ones who survived while the unsupported ones apparently died.

380 - our greatest national threat comes from moral decay.

381 - it has been prophesied that the United States Constitution will hang by a thread [Brigham Young, Journal History, July 4 1854, Church News, December 15 1948].

381-382 - there occurs from time to time reference to the Constitution hanging by a thread. Joseph Smith said the Constitution will not be destroyed but the destiny of this nation will hang upon a single thread (Brigham Young, Journal History, July 4 1854). Others from the world outside the church will come.

See <http://www.lds.org/ensign/1976/06/i-have-a-question?lang=eng>  
<http://www.mormonnewsroom.org/blog/church-statement-on-white-horse-prophecy-and-political-neutrality>  
<http://ndbf.blogspot.ca/2011/05/ldsliving.html>  
<http://www.mrm.org/white-horse-prophecy>

382 - the Book of Mormon designates this land as "choice above all other lands" and a land of liberty (1 Nephi 1:5,7; 2:20) [but there is no evidence that 'this land' in the Book of Mormon is America]. If he [a politician] cheats on his marriage vows, surely he must stand unworthy of any great public trust [and if you drink a cup of coffee, you stand unworthy to enter a Mormon temple].

383 - the Lord established the Constitution of this land and redeemed the land by the shedding of blood (D&C 101:80). This is the chosen land of God [but the Book of Mormon does not identify the United States as the land].

#### Chapter 17 - Church History and the Restoration

384 - an accurate history of the church must consider the influence of spiritual powers.

385 - the power and inspiration of the Almighty rests upon this people today as surely as it did in those days of beginning [Conference Report, April 1980, pp. 82-86, "A Tribute To The Rank And File Of The Church", Ensign, May 1980, pp. 62-65. Read the Book of Acts and then decide for yourself].

386 - those not mature enough for "advanced history" and a testimony in seedling stage may be crushed (Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled, p. 114).

387 - the work of Joseph Smith is with us; it can be tested. With the exception of Jesus Christ, he [Joseph Smith] is the greatest being who ever walked the face of this earth [that would explain the song, Praise To The Man, where Joseph Smith is said to be mingling with the Gods].

388 - the Book of Mormon, Pearl of Great Price, and the Doctrine and Covenants witness that Joseph Smith is a prophet [Conference Report, April 2005, pp. 5-9; "The Book of Mormon: Another Testament of Jesus Christ: Plain and Precious Things", Ensign, May 2005, pp. 6-9].

The Twelve taught, testified, and established the church [Jesus said he would build his church]. An apostasy occurred. For the church to be his church, there must be a Quorum of the Twelve who hold the keys and confer them on others [Conference Report, April 2008, pp. 81-85; "The Twelve",

Ensign, May 2008, pp. 83-87. There was no quorum when Jesus was on earth and no quorums mentioned in scripture either. Even the Book of Mormon does not mention quorums].

389 - when all was prepared, the Father and the Son appeared to the boy Joseph in the grove - This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him (JSH 1:17).

389-390 - universal apostasy.

390 - the church was established by Jesus Christ when he was on the earth [but page 388 said the Twelve established the church]. The true church is authorized to preach the gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof [in LDS theology, all non-Mormon churches are not authorized to preach the gospel]. The Quorum of Twelve Apostles and First Presidency were organized as they had been anciently (D&C 18:9; 20:1-2; 107:22, 29) [this is not biblical. Also not found in the Book of Mormon].

391 - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is not a correction or an adjustment - it is a restoration.

392 - the authority of the priesthood was restored to earth by angelic messengers.

#### Chapter 18 - Preparing in the Last Days

393 - the fulness of the gospel is compared to a piano with the whole keyboard of keys [some keys of the LDS teachings are not in the Book of Mormon even though it is said to contain the fulness of the gospel. Example: the Word of Wisdom, the Law of Consecration, Proxy Baptisms, and Celestial Marriage].

394 - one taps on an obscure key relating to the observance of the Sabbath. The very key used, essential as it is, just doesn't sound complete when played alone to the neglect of others [I am not sure why he views the Sabbath key as obscure].

397 - false prophets. The claims of special authority or revelation are false.

398 - follow your leaders ... and you will not be led astray [Conference Report, October 1992, pp. 98-102; "To Be Learned Is Good If ...", Ensign, November 1992, pp. 71-73. This means that Latter-day Saints should believe what their church prints in their seminary and institute manuals, including Gospel Principles. If they reject anything, then they are on the road to apostasy. So Mormons must believe that Heavenly Father was a man who became a God or say that Joseph Smith was a false prophet for teaching this].



398-399 - Only ordained people can preach the gospel (D&C 42:11). This is how the church protects itself from any impostors.

400 - dispensation of the fulness of times. The earth will be prepared for the Lord's coming. The Lord is sending those spirits (better prepared and more powerful spiritually) into the world (into homes of the Latter-day Saints) to meet what is ahead for this church [how would a spirit be better prepared and more powerful spiritually than a Mormon who has performed all the temple ordinances? How are spirits prepared sufficiently enough when Gospel Principles says they needed to come to earth to get more testing than was possible before? Why would these spirits only come into the homes of Mormon parents?].

402 - all of the prophecies are coming to fruition. The Lord is fulfilling the things he prophesied and announced in the beginning of this dispensation [which specifically?] The principles of the gospel taught in the church and learned from the scriptures become a guide for each of us individually and for our families [the 1997 or 2008 version of Gospel Principles either guides the Mormon to the truth or to lies or to both].

There is no such thing as geographical security (That All May Be Edified, Bookcraft, 1982, p. 201) [well, not exactly. An LDS teaching says, "His first appearance (at the Second Coming) will be to the righteous Saints who have gathered to the New Jerusalem" (Religion 430-431 – Doctrines of the Gospel Student Manual, p. 101). Joseph Smith wrote, "Behold, I, the Lord, have brought you together that the promise might be fulfilled, that the faithful among you should be preserved and rejoice together in the land of Missouri. I, the Lord, promise the faithful and cannot lie" (D&C 62:6 – August 1831)].

404 - the Book of Mormon says the Lord is gathering his people to the land of their inheritance (3 Nephi 21:28) [Latter-day Saints believe the land of the United States is set aside for Ephraim. But according to the Bible, the Israelites had the land of Israel, and some areas east of Jordan, as their inheritance. The Bible says nothing about non-Israelites also possessing their own lands of inheritance. The introductory notes for 3 Nephi 21 says, "Israel shall be gathered when the Book of Mormon comes forth—The Gentiles shall be established as a free people in America—They shall be saved if they believe and obey; otherwise they shall be cut off and destroyed—Israel shall build the New Jerusalem, and the lost tribes shall return". But it does not define the term 'America'].

There is an inspired captain, a prophet of God, leading us.

405 - the Word of Wisdom is a key to both physical health and revelation. Avoid tea, coffee, liquor, tobacco, and narcotics [does drinking Coke or Pepsi promote physical health?]. Some will fall away into apostasy, break their covenants, and replace the plan of redemption with their own rules [and some will create a false god - they will teach that some man became a God and that you should worship this god. Some would also tempt you like the devil in the Garden of Eden did and lead you to believe that you also could become a god or goddess yourself some day].

406 - dress modestly and follow your leaders [this assumes the LDS leaders teach truthfully. But woe when they teach falsely].

407 - we do not quarrel with people of other religions [see the "Who are Latter-day Saints? webpage. It lists several examples of how Mormons attack other faith groups. It all started with Joseph Smith; who was told that all Christian creeds of his day were an abomination. Here is one example from that webpage.

"Historical Christianity is said to be the church of the devil:

The historical abominable church of the devil is that apostate church that replaced true Christianity in the first and second centuries, teaching the philosophies of men mingled with scriptures. It dethroned God in the church and replaced him with man by denying the principle of revelation and turning instead to human intellect. As the product of human agency, its creeds were an abomination to the Lord, for they were idolatry: men worshipping the creations, not of their own hands, but of their own minds" (Stephen E. Robinson, "Warring against the Saints of God," Ensign, Jan. 1988).

A Mormon can leave the church but he cannot leave it alone. He becomes consumed and obsessed with it. That says something about him (Teach Ye Diligently, p. 222) [I also get this same feeling with Jehovah's Witnesses who leave their church. I guess they are so hurt about being deceived by their church and they lose their focus on Christ].

409 - we do not attack or criticize or oppose others as they do us [same comment as above].

410 - we do not oppose them and we do not go out preaching against them to try to disturb them [same comment as above. Mormons do this every time they preach about the Restoration of the Gospel].

411 - there are those who present a distorted view of some of our teachings [a very weak example is cited - submission of wives to their husbands. The Institute for Religious Research has a good article about this <http://mit.irr.org/mormon-belief-doctrine-of-lds-church>].

412-413 - how should we react when the sacred ordinances of the priesthood, of the temple, are held up to public ridicule? [a weak and invalid example is given in Nehemiah's rebuilding of the temple. The enemies were not making a public ridicule of the ordinances. There is a link to a taped recording of the Endowment Ceremony on this web site. It does not contain anything worth ridicule].

#### Chapter 19 - Meetings and Auxiliaries

415 - wear your best clothing on Sunday. Informal, even slouchy clothing in our meetings, leads to informal and slouchy conduct. Follow the counsel given at general conference [this means that LDS must accept the sermons as the truth].

416 - some Mormons ignore the great witness that comes from these [general] conferences. We ought to, indeed we must, heed the counsel of these men [Conference Report, October 1968, pp. 73-76; "The Great Witness From These Conferences". This means the Latter-day Saints accept these counsels as the truth].

The Holy Ghost can confirm to all who come within that influence that the messages are true [Conference Report, March 2007, pp. 24-27; "The Spirit Of The Tabernacle", Ensign, May 2007, pp. 26-29. There is no mention of the Holy Ghost confirming to any Mormons that any of the messages are false, so that is why Mormons must follow their leaders].

418 - the Relief Society was organized and named by prophets and apostles who acted under divine inspiration [no reference to a scripture is provided, thus casting some doubt].

420 - the defenses of the home and the family are greatly enforced when wife and mother and daughters belong to Relief Society. Holders of the priesthood cannot have a fulness without the woman. Service in the Relief Society magnifies and sanctifies each individual sister [we should seek to only magnify Christ].

421 - attendance at Relief Society is not really optional. It is an obligation.

422 - it is your duty to attend Relief Society.

423 - the Young Women's Organization is preparatory to the young women joining the Relief Society.

## Chapter 20 - Priesthood and Its Exercise

424 - priesthood is authority and power to act for God on earth [Mormon do not have power to act for God on earth. They cannot baptize anyone, even if the recipient is near death]. You did not possess the priesthood when you came into mortality [so in the LDS teaching of pre-mortal life, it appears that only Heavenly Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit held the priesthood].

425 - you cannot modify the priesthood. Priesthood is only conferred upon males.

426 - we truly are a kingdom of priests.

427 - no holder of the priesthood could be guilty of immorality in a marriage relationship [not even lust of the eyes?].

428 - some ordinances are not recorded in the records. Priesthood authority has geographical limits. A bishop has no authority outside his ward [so if he lives in Boston, he cannot baptize someone in New York]. A missionary is given authority to teach and to baptize [but female missionaries do not have authority to baptize].

429 - unauthorized ordinations ... convey nothing, neither power nor authority of the priesthood (Conference Report, April 1993, pp. 21-25; "The Temple, The Priesthood", Ensign, May 1993, pp. 18-21) [the LDS Church attacks other Christian groups by saying they have invalid ordinations].

Except for transgression, one is never released from the priesthood.

430 - the priesthood can be a guiding and protecting power in your life [Conference Report, October 1981, pp. 43-48; "The Aaronic Priesthood", Ensign, November 1981, pp. 30-33. Women in Christian churches outside of the Mormon Church are members of the royal priesthood of believers]. Power in the priesthood comes from attending meetings and keeping the Word of Wisdom. Obedience to the Word of Wisdom leads to revelation.

431 - there is no paid ministry or professional clergy as is common in other churches. There is no laity, no lay membership as such; both men and women serve in many auxiliary capacities [they are not paid but the higher-ups get other forms of compensation]. There is no quorum for the offices of bishop and patriarch.

432 - the priesthood of Aaron is conferred upon Aaron and his seed, throughout all their generations.

- 433 - you need the Melchizedek Priesthood to prepare for missions and temple marriage. A few of you who now sit here as deacons, teachers, and priests will one day sit here as apostles and prophets and will preside over the church.
- 434 - the name was changed from "The Holy Priesthood after the Order of the Son of God" to the "Melchizedek Priesthood". Name was changed out of respect/reverence to the name of the Supreme Being, to avoid the too frequent repetition of his name. It would be irreverent to use informally the sacred title which includes the name of Deity ("What Every Leader Should Know", Ensign, February 1993, pp. 6-13; "Things of the Soul", Bookcraft, 1996, chapter 16, pp. 147-160) [I can see the title but I don't see the name of God in that title. Neither Jehovah, Jesus, or Elohim is used. I see more repetition of Jesus in the name tags worn my Mormon missionaries instead. Also, which Supreme Being are they referring to?].
- 436 - home teaching is very important.
- 438 - home teaching is basic to the spiritual nourishment of this people.
- 439 - the lost sheep are those spiritually undernourished or starved. The responsibility for redemption of the lost sheep rests with the priesthood [in the true church of Jesus Christ, this responsibility falls on all members, both male female. Mormon women do not have the priesthood so they cannot baptize anyone].
- 440 - no priesthood keys exist outside the LDS Church on earth ("What Every Leader Should Know", Ensign, February 1993, pp. 6-13; "Things of the Soul", Bookcraft, 1996, chapter 16, pp. 147-160) [this is a subtle attack on non-Mormon churches]. Only one man can exercise all the keys. Only the Quorum of the Twelve are given the keys. The Seventies do not hold the keys.
- 441 - in 1971, President Kimball invited some to a small church in Denmark to see the statues of Christ (called the "Christus") and the Twelve Apostles, by Bertel Thorvaldsen. Paul replaced Judas Iscariot [the 11 apostles choose Matthias instead of Judas. See Acts 1:12-26. Paul was not on the scene yet].
- President Kimball said to the Stake President - "I want you tell every prelate in Denmark that they do NOT hold the keys!" I HOLD THE KEYS!" All the priesthood keys essential to salvation and exaltation were conferred by heavenly authority upon the prophet Joseph Smith.
- 443 - the Lord holds the keys of the resurrection, but he has not delegated them neither anciently nor to modern prophets (The Holy Temple, Deseret Book, 1980, p. 151) [Peter and Paul raised the dead. See Acts 9:36-42; 20:9-12].

The keys of the sealing power are synonymous with the keys of everlasting priesthood (The Holy Temple, Deseret Book, 1980, p. 84) [read Matthew 16: 13-19] Peter was to hold the keys [Jesus gave them keys to the disciples. See Matthew 18:1-3,18].

Thirteen years after Moroni appeared (1933), the Lord and Elijah came and bestowed the keys of the sealing power.

444 - with the authority (of the keys) we can baptize and bless, we can endow and seal and the Lord will honor our commitments [I wonder if the Lord honors the cursing of the Mormon patriarch holders? - see D&C 124:93]. Priesthood is not given in secret.

445 - the LDS Church cannot be destroyed now. Man could not have invented the LDS Church [but the Mormon Church teaches that the early church was destroyed. "One by one, the Apostles were killed. Because of the persecution, surviving Apostles could not meet to choose and ordain men to replace those who were dead. Eventually, local priesthood leaders were the only ones who had authority to direct the scattered branches of the Church. The perfect organization of the Church no longer existed, and confusion resulted. 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, chapter 16, p. 105. Jesus said he would build his church and the gates of hell would not prevail. His church would not be destroyed].

#### Chapter 21 - Leadership and Following the Brethren

446 - "Follow the Brethren. Three words. There is nothing in your life that will destroy you if you follow the Brethren" (Things of the Soul, Bookcraft, 1996, chapter 8, pp. 71-80) [but you will be destroyed if you follow the Brethren into worshipping a false god].

Feelings is listed #1 out of 12 as a quality of being a successful priesthood leader. Number 7 is the use of manuals and proper church music [is there anything sung in church which is improper?].

447 - we do not, and should not, require the most important things to be put on reports. Do not forget discernment.

448 - the General Authorities are teachers.

449 - follow the Brethren and be safe Stray from them and you will surely be lost. There is safety in following the counsel of leaders. We need to understand ... the safety in following the counsel of priesthood leaders (The Shield

of Faith, Bookcraft, 1998, p. 104) [there is no safety when you follow people who worship a false god].

450 - we listen to them (the Brethren) because they have been 'called of God'. God grant that we who hold the priesthood will be obedient and sustain all those who are called to preside over us (New Era, June 1977, pp. 50-52).

451 - regardless of how much we know, our very existence depends upon paying attention to those who guide us (That All Be May Be Edified, Bookcraft, 1982, p. 203) [our very existence depends upon Jesus Christ only]. The Lord is with us when we sustain our leaders.

452 - as long as we sustain and uphold our leaders, we will prosper against all odds, against all the modern Amalekite robbers. Vote to sustain the General Authorities who preside over us. A promise to those who follow the Brethren- they shall not be moved out of their place. The Lord chose twelve Nephites to be servants (3 Nephi 12:1) [more than twelve are called to be servants].

If you don't hearken unto the voice of these men (the Brethren), you will not be blessed (D&C 124:46; Conference Report, October 1996, pp. 4-9; "The Twelve Apostles", Ensign, November 1996, pp. 6-8). The counsel, simple, yet I say the most important I can give: Follow the Brethren.

If we follow our leaders we will be saved.

453 - if we follow our leaders we will be saved. If we stray from them we will surely be lost. That is true of the file leaders down through the ranks of the church [you are actually saved if you do not worship the god that Joseph Smith taught about - a man who is said to have become a god. You are really saved if you worship Jesus - the God who has always been God; not the Jesus that some teach was a spirit child of Heavenly Mother and Father who then progressed into becoming a god when he attained some level of intelligence. Be careful which leaders you follow. The false leaders will lead you to your doom].

453 - follow the Brethren to avoid forfeiting blessings as otherwise you'll find yourself on a path ... down the sure road to apostasy. Follow the counsel of your bishop. The counsel from leaders is inspired. Turning aside from their counsel in favor of a choice of their own will surely lead them to destruction.

454 - we stress the importance of mothers staying at home with their children. No service equals the exalting refinement which comes through unselfish motherhood. If you are not loyal in small things, you will not be loyal in large things.

455 - a man who will not sustain the bishop of his ward and the President of his stake will not sustain the President of the Church (That All May Be Edified, Bookcraft, 1982, pp. 238-239, "Follow the Brethren", address at Brigham Young University, March 23 1965).

As a "spiritual doctor" I counsel you to follow the Brethren. If you don't understand a problem or position the church has taken, restrain your tongue. Check the mote in your own eye before you criticize. Follow the Brethren. Three words. There is nothing in your life that will destroy you if you follow the Brethren (Things of the Soul, Bookcraft, 1996, pp. 79-80) [but your life will be destroyed if you follow Joseph Smith's false god - a god who is taught to have been a man who progressed into becoming a God].

455-456 - a solemn warning to those who turn against the Lord's anointed ... cursed are all those that shall lift up the heel against mine anointed.

456 - it isn't a question of who said it or when, the question is whether it is true ("Follow the Rule", address at Brigham Young University-Hawaii devotional, January 14 1977, "Speeches of the Year 1977", pp. 17-24) [a false teaching can lead to destruction when you follow and worship a false god - so make sure you can discern between truth and error].

457 - when the Lord speaks to this earth, it will be through this prophet [i.e. the LDS President]. What a prophet need not be [see Hebrews 1:1-2 - "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds". When the true Lord speaks to this earth, it will be through Jesus].

458 - fifteen old men are called, sustained, and ordained as prophets, seers, and revelators. It is their right to see as seers see; it is their obligation to counsel and to warn (The Snow-White Birds, address at the 1995 annual Brigham Young University conference, 29 August 1995; published in Brigham Young Magazine, November 1995, pp. 47-52) [this fifteen old men are not the model in the Bible. Not in the Book of Mormon either].

The ultimate authority in religion rests with prophets, seers, and revelators [I believe the authority lies with the Bible]. The gift of discernment is an awesome burden to carry. To discern means "to see" [why aren't Mormons able to discern between a true God and the god Joseph Smith followed?].

The Lord warned of those in the church who blasphemed against him in the midst of his house (Conference Report, October 1996, pp. 4-9; "The Twelve Apostles", Ensign, November 1996, pp. 6-8) [no names of mentioned of who did this].



460 - we do not talk of those sacred interviews that qualify the servants of the Lord to bear a special witness of Him, for we have been commanded not to do so (Conference Report, April 1980, pp. 82-86; "A Tribute to the Rank and File", Ensign, May 1980, pp. 62-65) [I wonder if a sacred interview means LDS prophets mean they have received a personal visitation like Paul the Apostle].

Whether by [His] own voice or by the voice of [His] servants, it is the same. Revelation continues with us today - dreams, visions, visitations, and the ministering of angels are all with us now [the last recorded revelation was in 1978, and this was more of a declaration by the Mormon President than a revelation from God].

461 - the decisions of the presiding quorums must be by the unanimous voice of the same. Matters of consequence are seldom decided in the meeting where they are proposed [according to the Official Declaration 2, released in 1978, "President Kimball has asked that I advise the conference that after he had received this revelation [to allow males of African descent to hold the priesthood], which came to him after extended meditation and prayer in the sacred rooms of the holy temple, he presented it to his counselors, who accepted it and approved it. It was then presented to the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, who unanimously approved it, and was subsequently presented to all other General Authorities, who likewise approved it unanimously". It seems that only President Kimball was interested or pressured by the civil rights movement to change church policy. There is no mention of the other fourteen 'old men' praying or meditating too in the temple for direction on this racial matter. The 'revelation' was never released publicly, only a declaration].

This is a little similar to Declaration 1 regarding the discontinuance of plural marriage. President Wilford Woodruff declared his intention to submit to those laws, and I will use my influence with the members of the Church over which I preside to have them do likewise (by Talmage, February 1 1924, page 524) [why would he need to use his influence if this was 'supposedly' a declaration of God? Why would he declare his intention to submit to this secular law instead of what God was 'supposedly' telling him to do? When you read Official Declaration #1, it really does not appear to be God's revelation but rather a declaration made by the presiding officers. They even had a vote on it. There is no need to vote on it if its God's revelation].

462 - succession in the presidency; the senior apostle always becomes the president of the church. The leadership of the church will always be older men. This pattern of seniority values wisdom and experience over youth and physical vigor (Conference Report, April 2003, pp. 86-89; "The Golden Years", Ensign,

May 2003, pp. 82-84) [this is not the model garnered from the New Testament Church. The twelve disciples were fairly young. Peter, believed by some to have been the President of the early church, was not the most senior man. You also don't find this in the Book of Mormon].

463 - the authority in church administration is held in trust by fifteen men ordained as apostles [this is not the model garnered from the New Testament Church or the Book of Mormon].

464 - you should not refuse a call from the Lord through a stake president. Never say no to an opportunity to serve in the church. Any assignment that comes under the call from your bishop or your stake president is a call that comes from the Lord [that is what they would like non-Mormons to presume].

465 - the gospel of Jesus Christ, restored through the prophet Joseph Smith and contained in the Book of Mormon, is true (Conference Report, October 1997, pp. 4-8; "Called to Serve", Ensign, November 1997, pp. 6-8) [much of the Mormon 'gospel' is not contained in the Book of Mormon].

Both a call and a release are directed by inspiration of our leaders.

466 - no calling is more important than parenthood. One who has authority to issue a call must rely on inspiration to avoid overburdening someone.

466-467 - a man must be called, by the laying on of hands by those who are in authority, to preach the gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof. The calling of people, by proper authority, must be sustained or voted on (D&C 42:11).

468 - how to choose one to be ordained or set apart - the answer comes by revelation [the burning in the bosom analogy is given].

469 - one of the interview conditions for a calling is - are there family, work, or health problems which might interfere with their service? [the LDS Church does not really consider the health that the Apostle Paul lived in during his missionary work - beaten, robbed, shipwrecked, health problems, etc].

Authority is conferred in two ways - by ordination and by setting apart. The offices in the priesthood - deacon, teacher, priest, elder, high priest, patriarch, seventy and apostle - always comes by ordination. The keys of presidency and the authority to act in callings in the priesthood are received [Paul was called by Jesus to be an apostle. Jesus did not ordain him. There is no office of priest, high priest, patriarch, and seventy in the New Testament church].

Women receive authority but not the keys ("What Every Elder Should Know -- and Every Sister As Well", Ensign, February 1993, pp. 6-13; Teachings of the Soul, chapter 16, pp. 147-160).

470 - the bishop receives and accounts for tithes and offerings. The bishop judges people as to their worthiness. The bishop is to teach the restoration. Revelation is the one credential that all bishops have in common.

471 - a bishop with his two counsellors form a bishopric; a type of presidency.

473 - don't call it the Mormon Church; call it by its proper name. A building is officially presented as a gift to the Lord at its dedication - we relinquish our ownership of the building. For counsel you go to your bishop. The bishop may then sent you to his file leader - the stake president [I go to God for my counsel].

475 - when we speak plainly of gender identity and contraception, we are thought by some to be way out of touch or to be uncaring.

"Abstinence, of course, is also a form of contraception, and like any other method it has side effects, some of which are harmful to the marriage relationship" (I Have A Question, Ensign, August 1979. "Is it our understanding that we are to propagate children as long and as frequently as the human body will permit? Is there not any kind of "gospel family-planning," for lack of a better way to say it?"

<https://www.lds.org/handbook/handbook-2-administering-the-church/selected-church-policies/21.4#214>

This section has some sections which deal with birth control, homosexuality, and chastity.

"The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints strongly encourages married couples to have children. It is against birth control. In a letter from the First Presidency to bishops and stake presidents, dated April 14, 1969, the Church's philosophy is expressed: "We seriously regret that there should exist a sentiment or feeling among any members of the Church to curtail the birth of their children. We have been commanded to multiply and replenish the earth that we may have joy and rejoicing in our posterity" ("Realities of the Population Explosion", Ensign, May 1971).

## Chapter 22 - The Kingdom Rolls Forth

477 - the new and everlasting covenant is marriage - we are to worthily enter this covenant and provide temporal bodies for spirits to enter mortality. We must be ordained, endowed, and sealed for them vicariously [women were sealed to a dead Brigham Young so the women could rise as his polygamous wives in the resurrection].

478 - we become saviors of mankind. We must build temples [the New Testament disciples were not building temples because they knew that our bodies were the temple where the Holy Ghost could dwell].

479 - our days of probation are purchased for us at so great a price [actually, our salvation is purchased for us at so great a price].

481 - the LDS Church will prevail [but it teaches that the church of Jesus Christ was destroyed when the apostles died and error crept into the church].

Kirtland, Ohio was the first gathering place. That kind of gathering has now ended. Our members have been counseled to find their Zion in their homelands. The counsel for us to gather in our own lands was counsel from the profits [the New Testament disciples had no such counsel].

482 - the LDS Church follows a pattern made in the heavens, for no mortal mind could have designed it [they have an office of high priests in the Mormon Church, but Jesus is our only high priest].

## Chapter 23 - Temple Work

483 - temples are the single most tangible, impressive evidence of our knowledge and our faith in the resurrection and of our certain knowledge that there is life beyond death (Things of the Soul, chapter 19, p. 179). It has been my observation that the temple transforms the individual.

484 - over the door to the temple appears the tribute 'Holiness to the Lord'. One other word (other than temple) is equal in importance to a Latter-day Saint - home. The Lord has revealed ordinances that should be performed therein [the early disciples did not baptize or seal or marry anyone in the temple]. The temple prepares us in all things to qualify us to enter the presence of the Lord.

485 - temples are the single most tangible, impressive evidence of our knowledge and our faith in the resurrection and of our certain knowledge that there is life beyond death (Things of the Soul, chapter 19, p. 179) [the Bible is my single most tangible, impressive evidence of my knowledge and faith

in the resurrection and of my certain knowledge that there is life beyond death].

There is something cleansing and clarifying about the spiritual atmosphere of the temple.

486 - the Lord has decreed in his church that admission to the temple comes only after certain prerequisites have been filled. Entrance to the temple requires personal worthiness. You must possess a current recommend to be admitted to the temple. Only those who are worthy should go to the temple. Part of being worthy in the temple interview is to determine if you maintain any affiliation or sympathy with apostate groups [what does this mean exactly?].

488 - how could a (temple-) recommended member attend the temple in clothing that is immodest or worldly? [is the same standard applied in local wards?]. You should groom yourself and cloth yourself in such a way that you would feel comfortable should your Host appear (The Holy Temple, p. 74) [who said a beard or moustache is offensive to Jesus?].

There is another temple within the temple (where the Spirit of God dwells). The temple is a house of learning. If we are teachable we will be taught by the Spirit, in the temple (The Holy Temple, p. 42) [Jesus and the disciples did a lot of their teaching and learning outside the temple].

489 - the instruction given in the (temple) endowment provides ... a point of reference by which a person may gauge all his learning and wisdom, both spiritual and temporal. Truths demonstrated in the temple in symbolic fashion. The temple is symbolic ... bathed in light (at night), standing out in the darkness, becomes symbolic of the power ... of the gospel of Jesus Christ as a beacon in a world that sinks even further into spiritual darkness. You will come away from the temple with your vision extended, feeling a little more exalted [exaltation does not mean becoming a God].

490 - the temple ceremony will not be understood at first experience. Return again and again and again ... to learn. Things that have troubled you or are puzzling/mysterious things will become known to you.

490-491 - the need for temple ordinances ... work is crucial to the redemption of both the living and the dead. It is this doctrine more than any other we teach which sets The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints apart from all of Christianity and must justify the Restoration ("A Temple to Exalt", Ensign, August 1993, pp. 6-15; Shield of Faith, Bookcraft 1998, p. 179) [the early church did not perform temple ordinances. No restoration was necessary].

492 - all who are worthy and qualify in every way may enter the temple. Washings and anointings are the higher ordinances. The endowment is required for exaltation (The Holy Temple, p. 154) [the early disciples did not perform the endowment ceremony].

493 - it is in the temple we become the covenant people [Mormons who do not go to the temple are not a covenant people]. If we enter into our (temple) covenants ... the Lord will protect us. Our labors in the temple cover us with a shield and a protection [I wonder if non-temple going Mormons are in danger if they only have Jesus for their protection].

No work is more of a protection to this church than temple work and the genealogical research that supports it [the early church did not rely on temple work and genealogical work to support it. It grew as those Lord added daily].

494 - no work (as done in the temple) gives us more power [it seems like power and the temptation to become a God are powerful aphrodisiacs]. The temple garment fosters modesty and becomes a shield and protection to the wearer [the early disciples did not wear special garments for protection. Also, Mormons should study the evolution of their temple garment. It seems to be getting smaller and smaller as time goes by - thus allowing them to wear different outer pants and dresses as time goes by without revealing how long the previous garments used to be. For example, in the old days, a man wearing the garment could not wear short pants without also revealing the garment. Today, the smaller garment allows him to wear both short pants and short sleeve shirt].

Any member of the church ... would in proper spirit want to avoid extreme or revealing fashions (clothing) (The Holy Temple, p. 75) [I suspect that the early Mormons would view today's temple garment as extreme and too revealing. Also, I have been to several wards in the summer time. The fashion of the women are in some cases provocative].

496-497 - meaning of temples - marriage, family, children, happiness, joy, ... exaltation [this is not the meaning of temples in the Bible].

498 - we have the keys, the ordinances. We have everything. They have nothing. They cannot baptize nor ordain. They cannot wash nor anoint nor endow nor seal. We came away with everything, and they have nothing (The Holy Temple, pp. 174-175) [this is not surprising. The LDS Church has attacked all non-Mormon churches since it was founded. Actually, it started when Joseph Smith supposedly saw Jesus and Heavenly Father in the woods, and this Jesus told Joseph that the creeds of all the churches were an abomination]. Doctrine of baptism for the dead.

500 - baptisms for the dead are essential.

500-501 - if a church has no answer to this dilemma (as to how unbaptized people are saved), how can it lay claim to be the Lord's church? [but non-Mormon churches have an answer to this dilemma. They are saved according to God's sovereign grace based on the knowledge that they had].

501 - a living person is baptized on behalf of a deceased person. The individual would then accept or reject the baptism in the spirit world (The Holy Temple, pp. 14-17) [by proxy].

504 - hold family meetings and reunions.

506 - something sacred is consummated when we have safely recorded, in the list of ordinances completed, the names of those who lived in our past and who yet live in our future (The Holy Temple, pp. 249-250) [but more importantly, and unfortunately, Latter-day Saints are not able to record if these baptisms were accepted or rejected].

Temple and genealogical work constitutes a living testimony of the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ [this testimony is not found in the Bible nor the Book of Mormon nor the Pearl of Great Price].

507 - temple and genealogical work is our witness of the redemptive power of the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ (Conference Report, April 1987, pp. 24-28; "Covenants", Ensign, May 1987, pp. 22-25). [this witness is not found in the Bible nor the Book of Mormon nor the Pearl of Great Price].

512-513 - write out or record (verbally) your life history in three periods (child, youth, adult).

#### Chapter 24 - Spreading the Gospel

514 - we, as members of the (LDS) Church, have the fulness of the Gospel [but the Book of Mormon says that it and the Bible contains the fulness of the Gospel, so other churches also have the fulness of the Gospel. But many key aspects of the Mormon gospel are not found in the Book of Mormon].

515 - you should make yourself worthy to receive a call (Conference Report, April 1984, pp. 59-62; "Feed My Sheep", Ensign, May 1984, pp. 41-43). [Jesus already issued the call to all who would follow him]. Everyone of you should have a savings account specifically reserved for your mission. Young brethren, a mission is a duty -- it is your duty.

- 516 - each must arrive at the age of a mission call in worthiness. God bless the sisters who have such power (to flash her pretty eyelashes and says with some determination that she will one day marry one who has served an honorable mission) to recruit missionaries ("Come, All Ye Sons of God", Ensign, August 1983, pp. 68-71; Shield of Faith, Bookcraft 1998, chapter 8, p. 59) [I highly doubt that God would bless a male who would go on this mission after being enticed from a prospective lady in this manner].
- 517 - the safety of the (LDS) Church in generations ahead rests on our success in calling missionaries [the safety of Christ's church rests on Christ].
- 518 - I can hear the voice of the Lord saying to each of us just as he said to Peter "Feed my lambs ... feed my sheep". You are the warriors of the Restoration. The powerful missionary spirit and the vigorous missionary activity of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints becomes a very significant witness that the true gospel and the authority are possessed in this church [Christendom display a more powerful missionary spirit and vigorous missionary activity, with more missionaries, yet the Mormon Church says they have no authority. It is quite possible that even Seventh-day Adventists and Jehovah's Witnesses have more missionaries than the Mormon Church yet they are also said to not possess authority].
- 521 - you have the responsibility to bear witness of the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ [some Mormons also bear witness that their god was once a man who became a god]. You are to teach the establishment of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [I go to a specific denomination in the church of Christ but I do not teach its establishment].
- 522 - do your best, and the Spirit will make up the rest. Conversion takes place through the power of the Spirit. The Holy Ghost can work through the Light of Christ. You can learn them (the doctrines) by listening to the sermons that you hear.
- 524 - testimony is the converting power of the gospel [in my church, the Holy Spirit is the converting power of the gospel].
- 524-525 - it is our firm conviction that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is, as the revelations state, "the only true and living church upon the face of the whole earth" (D&C 1:30) [only one revelation is provided though]. This doctrine often generates resistance. We did not invent the doctrine of the only true church. It came from the Lord [the doctrine that Joseph Smith taught a false god - a god who was once a man who became a god - also generates resistance among some Latter-day Saints. The doctrine of the only true church seems to have its origin in the vision that Joseph Smith supposedly had of Heavenly Father and Jesus in the woods - this 'Jesus' told Joseph that all churches were



wrong and all their creeds were abominable].

525 - The Book of Mormon is the keystone of our message [the important parts of the Mormon message are not found in their keystone].

527 - we do not claim that others have no truth [but they claim Joseph Smith had a vision of Heavenly Father and Jesus in the woods and this 'Jesus' told Joseph all churches were wrong and all their creeds were abominable].

528 - by following the rules, you will never make a serious mistake [if you follow Joseph Smith's teaching of a man who became a god - Heavenly Father of planet Earth - you will make a serious mistake].

533 - mission rules forbid you from any intimate association with one of the opposite gender. After your mission -- reasonably soon after -- you will be expected to develop an intimate association with one of the opposite gender [the Mormon Church expects returned missionaries to marry as soon as possible]. Those relationships (marriage and intimacy within marriage) is a commandment to be obeyed [according to the Bible, marriage is not suitable for all].

535 - mission or charge was given in our pre-earthly existence.

537 - a mission for those with disabilities - you cannot serve a regular mission because of a wheelchair, or a brace, or a tongue or eyes or ears that will not respond properly. You can serve a different type of mission ("Come, All Ye Sons of God", Ensign, August 1983, pp. 68-71; Shield of Faith, Bookcraft, 1998, chapter 8, p. 59) [people seem to put greater emphasis on the abilities or appearance of their missionaries than on God's ability. In our church, we follow the examples of Moses and Paul. Where there's a will, God will provide the way and the means. Who can decide what a normal mission is anyways? If you are in a wheelchair or a brace, you can go on a mission anywhere. If you are blind or deaf, you can also go on a mission. If you are a leper, you too can go on a mission].

#### Chapter 25 - The Gospel in our Lives

539 - compare yourself with what you used to be and you will progress [I suppose this means to your life in the pre-mortal existence which you apparently have forgotten]. Your body may ultimately be perfected.

540 - thank the Lord for who you are and what you may become. "As man is, God once was; as God is, man may become" (Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled, Bookcraft, 1991, chapter 11, pp. 93-100). [this is the doctrine of Joseph Smith which Lorenzo Snow repeated].

A hero is one who walks the dark pathways of life setting torches along the way so that others may see; a saint is one who walks the dark pathways of life and is himself a light.

542 - strive towards two goals - excellence (the Lord said to be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect) and service.

543 - it is in his name that we heal the sick and perform other miracles of which we do not, cannot, speak.

544 - some who are not blessed with much ability, perhaps are even handicapped, are of great service to this kingdom because of what they are - trustworthy [but it was said earlier 'a mission for those with disabilities - you cannot serve a regular mission because of a wheelchair, or a brace, or a tongue or eyes or ears that will not respond properly. You can serve a different type of mission ("Come, All Ye Sons of God", Ensign, August 1983, pp. 68-71; Shield of Faith, Bookcraft, 1998, chapter 8, p. 59. It seems the Latter-day Saints put more emphasis on the physical abilities of the handicapped than their trustworthiness.

546 - avoid lawsuits with little or no merit. The world is spiraling downward at an ever-quickenning pace. I am sorry to tell that it will not get better [but the Latter-day Saints teach that their church is the stone cut out of the mountains that smashes the image on the feet in Daniel's vision of the statue. Then the stone fills the entire world].

547 - nothing happened in Sodom and Gomorrah which exceeds the wickedness and depravity which surrounds us now. We should not need to go beyond the members of the church to find superior legal counsel.

If you ever turn your hand against ... the Latter-day Saints, you will feel the weight of the hand of Almighty upon you [if you teach a false god, you will feel the wrath of Almighty God upon you]. The spirit of discernment was given you when you had conferred upon you the gift of the Holy Ghost [are you able to discern that a man becoming a god is false teaching?]

548 - the laws of God are ordained to make us happy. Joy is spiritual in nature. Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy. Joy is a very deep personal emotion, spiritual in nature, that is different from happiness [I don't see it that way. If you are happy in even the smallest way, then you have joy]. Happiness is connected with decent behaviour (Conference Report, April 1997, pp. 8-11; "Washed Clean", Ensign, May 1997, pp. 9-11). A good sense of humour is a characteristic of a well-balanced person.

550 - to know that our marriage will endure and that our children and their children are linked together by covenants and sacred ordinances is the source of supreme joy [it appears the Mormon Jesus and Holy Ghost do not have supreme joy because they are not married with children].

Having all your problems solved is contrary to the purpose of your coming into mortality [I wonder if this is also true in LDS teachings of eternal intelligences being organized into spirit children of heavenly parents].

552 - we are to warn the world.

553 - of all times of the year, at Christmastime Latter-day Saints ought to be the most joyful, ought to have greater cause for festivity than anyone, ought to enjoy the Christmas tree and the holly wreath and the stockings and the mistletoe and gifts and toys and children and even reindeer that can fly! [this is not a picture of the early Christian church]. I have no quarrel with that well-fed gentleman with the red suit and the white whiskers (aka Santa Claus) [personally, I feel that Santa Claus takes the minds of kids off the true meaning of why Jesus came. They look for gifts instead of the true message]. We still look forward with great anticipation to his visit to our home each year [Jesus can return any day and these Mormons are looking forward to the coming of Santa Claus].

554 - the date we celebrate Christmas is not right [but they follow the standard of the world. Joseph Smith taught that Jesus was born on the same day that he supposedly founded the Mormon Church - "The rise of the Church of Christ in these last days, being one thousand eight hundred and thirty years since the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the flesh, it being regularly organized and established agreeable to the laws of our country, by the will and commandments of God, in the fourth month, and on the sixth day of the month which is called April" - D&C 20:1].

We commemorate his birthday with more preparation and celebration than any other holiday [the early church did not celebrate Christ's birthday. They did not celebrate with a tree, mistletoe, or stockings].

#### Chapter 26 - Music and the Arts

555 - music is of enormous importance in our worship services. If we listen, they are teaching the gospel, for the hymns of the Restoration are, in fact, a course in doctrine! (Conference Report, October 1991, pp. 26-30; "Reverence Invites Revelation", Ensign, November 1991, pp. 21-23).

556 - if the musicians are left to do what they want to do, the result will not invite the Spirit of the Lord. Secular or sectarian ... such music has an important place -- but not in our worship services. Prelude music invites inspiration.

557 - sacred music will prepare one to be instructed by the spirit.

558 - we must not neglect the hymns nor the exalted anthems of the Restoration (Conference Report, October 1991, pp. 26-30; "Reverence Invites Revelation", Ensign, November 1991, pp. 21-23). Few events in all of human history surpass the spiritual majesty of the First Vision. Hymns teach the principles of the restored gospel.

559 - inspirational compositions and art will come by dedication. Dispensation of the fulness of times. "There are many who struggle and climb and finally reach the top of the ladder only to find that it is leaning against the wrong wall" ("The Arts and the Spirit of the Lord", Speeches of the Year 1976, p. 279; That All May Be Edified, Bookcraft, 1982, chapter 28, pp. 274-289) [if your ladder is leading you to worship an exalted man, then its time to get off before its too late].

563 - some music is spiritually destructive.

#### Chapter 27 - To the Youth of the Church

565 - Peter, the Apostle who stood next to the Lord, said of you, "Ye are a chosen nation, a royal priesthood" [the LDS Church excludes women because they do not hold the priesthood].

566 - you are a child of God. He is the Father of your spirit. Spiritually, you are of noble birth, the offspring of the King of Heaven [no mention of the Mormon Queen of Heaven here]. Take nothing into your body which may harm it [avoiding coffee is mentioned in keeping the Word of Wisdom, but no mention of Coke or Pepsi].

566-567 - I am confident that never in the history of the human family have we had the choice, powerful spirits that the Lord has sent today ... to hold in abeyance, in reserve, some of the choice and the elite against the time when the enemy had lifted all his resources and sent them against us [it seems to say that present day leader spirits are the choice and elite ones reserved to come in the greater battle rather than Joseph Smith and the early leader spirits].

567 - the youth are stronger than the generations that came before (Conference Report, October 2004, pp. 90-93; "The Least of These", Ensign, November 2004, pp. 86-88).

568 - mine errand from the Lord.

569 - the errand, the quest, is the search for a testimony - an individual conviction, a certain knowledge that Jesus is the Christ, that God lives [some Mormons have a testimony that their god was once a man who became God of our planet]. Youth are seeking the true meaning of life.

570 - it isn't in them all, you know, only a flavoring of it. The substance of it, the fulness of it can be found in only one place [the LDS Church teaches that it has the fulness of the gospel only in them]. Learn in your youth to follow the scriptures and our leaders.

571 - never be ashamed or embarrassed about the doctrines of the gospel [but the LDS Church does not distribute Gospel Doctrine, Doctrines of Salvation, Articles of Faith, and the Way to Perfection. These oldies contain many things which current Latter-day Saints have never known. The LDS Church has even omitted some teachings from an older "Teachings of Presidents of the Church - Joseph Smith" from the present 2008 version. The Way to Perfection, for example, explains the doctrine on why Blacks were denied the priesthood].

This is a life of testing [in LDS theology, spirits in the pre-mortal existence were not sufficiently tested so they had to come to earth to get a mortal body].

572 - keep the Word of Wisdom and listen to the leaders of the church.

573 - mormon missionaries ... you are a visible example, a testimony of the Restoration, even to those who will not listen to your message [one should not listen to Joseph Smith's message that God was once a man who became a God and that God is not everlasting].

575 - you lived before you came to this earth. You came to receive a mortal body and to be tested [LDS theology teaches that Heavenly Father has children on other earths too. But it does not specify if they had their own versions of Adam and Eve or if the fall of Adam and Eve on one earth caused the Fall on all the other planets].

There is another death you should think of. That is the separation from the presence of Heavenly Father. If we will be baptized and live His gospel, we may be redeemed from this second death [in LDS theology, those in the telestial and terrestrial kingdoms are forever separated from the presence

of Heavenly Father - they endure this so-called 'second death'].

### Chapter 28 - I Have That Witness

576 - the Restoration has taken place.

577 - Jesus was born in the meridian of time. There is no power that can thwart this work [but the 1997 Gospel Principles says the church of Jesus Christ was destroyed]. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is, as the Lord declared, the only true and living church upon the face of the earth; that with it, he is well pleased [Joseph Smith was told by some vision that all the other churches were corrupt and that all their creeds were an abomination].

577-578 - I fully expect to be held accountable for anything I say that misleads or invents or enlarges or fabricates [just imagine what happened to Joseph Smith when he misled so many people into worshipping an exalted man. This same judgment will fall upon all Mormon missionaries who preach a different god and gospel].

579 - a question is often asked. You are an Apostle. Have you seen the Lord? I have never asked that question of my Brethren. I know the answer. The President of the Church is a prophet. The Twelve are Apostles, and they are witnesses of the Lord Jesus Christ [there are 15 Apostles in the LDS Church; the President, his two counsellors, and the twelve]. The Church and Kingdom of God has been established, and the Lord does direct it [the Lord's church has existed on the earth since Jesus established it during his first coming].

the end.