

## Book Review - The Progress of Man (LDS President Joseph Fielding Smith)

"These words are as true today as they were three decades ago when the author of The Progress of Man wrote them in the introduction of this book. That means that the message to the Church of The Progress of Man is as vital today as it was then. These truths are presented in the forthright, authoritative manner that has brought the author renown through the Church both in America and many other lands." (inside cover).

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

### Preface

#### Chapter 1 - The Principle of Moral Agency

- 9 - the Bible teaches (through a mist or a fog) that man existed in the spirit creation before he appeared on this earth with his physical body. Nephi says many plain and precious things were taken out of the Bible [see Comparing the Bible and the Book of Mormon pdf file].
- 10 - the Book of Moses (Pearl of Great Price) says all things were created spiritually before they were naturally upon the face of the earth [it seems the spiritual plants and animals were also transported from the spirit world to the earth]. The intelligent part of man existed eternally [the Book of Mormon says Jesus is the Eternal God but the LDS Church teaches Jesus was the first spirit child of Heavenly Parents who progressed into becoming a god. The same is true of the Mormon Heavenly Father. He is taught to have been a man who became a god - the God who planned the creation of Earth].
- 11 - this intelligence combined with the spirit constitutes a spiritual identity or individual. The spirit of man is a combination of the intelligence and the spirit which is an entity begotten of God.
- 12 - Jesus is our elder Brother. He is the Firstborn in the spirit and the Only Begotten of the Father in the flesh. The Father is our literal parent. Eternal Father, exalted name-title Elohim (epistle delivered by the First Presidency and the Twelve Apostles, June 30 1916, Era 19:934).
- 14 - man is in very deed the offspring of God.

- 15 - there could be no progression, no real existence, without this great gift (free agency) [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve could not progress until they choose to disobey God in the Garden of Eden].
- 16 - when the kingdom of God is fully set up, it will protect the people in the enjoyment of all their rights ... no matter what they believe, no matter what they worship (Millennial Star 20:43) [Latter-day Saints are under the impression that God will allow the worship of pagan gods after the Second Coming of Christ. Personally, I believe he will execute swift judgment on these people because they are the enemies of his kingdom]. Free agency is inherent through our birthright as children of God.
- 17 - man may become like God. The divine spark was planted in his being in the creation.
- 18 - man is by nature a creator [man is by nature a sinner].
- 21 - the "Lectures on Faith" were delivered before the "School of the Elders" [according to LOF #5, the Holy Ghost was not third personage in the Godhead]. The spirit of worship is inherent in man because of his antecedents as the child of God in the spirit world. Within their soul is the feeling of worship. Man's eternal spirit once lived in the presence of God [this is not entirely correct. The LDS Church teaches intelligence is eternal, whereas the spiritual part was begotten of Heavenly Parents. See the earlier comment of page 10].
- 23 - every man born into the world is enlightened by the Spirit of Truth. His conscience is the monitor or guide.

## Chapter 2 - Authority and Eternal Principle

- 25 - all kingdoms are subject to law and regulation.
- 26 - the entire universe is governed by law. The laws of nature are simply the laws of God.
- 28 - the great work of the Lord is to populate many earths with his children. It is necessary that various earths be provided as the permanent and immortal dwelling places of the offspring of God [it would be interesting to see how these non-Earth people are taught about an Extra-Terrestrial Jesus who atoned for the sins of the world on the cross of another planet, not their own. I wonder how they will handle the truth that Jesus is coming to our Earth and not theirs at the Second Coming].

29 - they cannot enter into the celestial kingdom of God; where God and Christ are they cannot come [many Mormons will be separated from God forever]. The purpose of life is that many may have joy [LDS theology seems to be man-centered instead of God-centered. I believe the purpose of life is to bring glory to God. Its all about him, not us].

30 - men will be assigned to their immortal and permanent stations. We lived in social relationships in the spirit world.

31 - the family organization with its power of increase is a blessing reserved for those who enter the celestial kingdom. The crowning glory of exaltation is the blessing of family organization and the continuation of seeds forever. This is confined by decree of the Almighty to the highest degree [division] of the celestial order.

[for many Mormons, they will suffer the 'un-forever family' syndrome. Here is a simple example. A Mormon wife and husband are sealed in the temple. Before their sealing, they had five children. Suppose the man and wife get divorced. Somehow the woman ends up as a servant in the second highest division of the celestial kingdom. The man becomes an apostate and goes to outer darkness. One of their daughters goes to the third division of the celestial kingdom and each of the two brothers goes to the telestial and terrestrial kingdoms. Five members of this family in five separate kingdoms. One can also come up with other examples of this 'un-forever family'. The greatest example of the un-forever family will be the Mormons who will forever live apart from their Heavenly Father].

There will be organization, government, obedience to law, and enforcement of law in all other kingdoms. The Bible only mentions three children born to this first couple, and all three of these were sons [this statement needs clarification. The Bible only mentions Cain, Abel, and Seth by name but it mentions the fact that Adam and Eve had other children. See Genesis 5:4. "And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters". Seth also lived a long time and begat sons and daughters (verse 7)].

32 - variations in color and race have come because of transgression and because the Almighty has placed marks upon certain tribes and people [from a picture in the 1997 version of Gospel Principles, it appears the pre-mortal people were white in skin color - see page 7].

32 - the first government was instituted when he commissioned Adam and Eve and gave them dominion over all the earth. They were instructed by revelation and the appearance of heavenly messengers [what role did Eve play before the fall in this government, and how did it change after the fall?].

32-33 - through rebellion, the divine theocracy (the government of God) was replaced by governments of men [had Adam and Eve lost the government of God in their rebellion?].

34 - Lucifer has been working on that principle (to destroy free agency) since the fall [in LDS theology, we know that Lucifer sought to destroy the agency of man in the first estate. But what was he trying to do in the Garden of Eden when he tempted Eve? Was he actually helping her to use her free agency? Can you give me one major example of how Lucifer has been trying to destroy free agency since the fall when he is always tempting us to choose evil over good?].

All men are entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. These rights are for all men unless they are forfeited by transgression [but in LDS theology, Adam and Eve gained the pursuit of happiness with their transgression of God's command]. In the kingdom of God, when it is fully set up, there will be a government similar to the government in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. People will express themselves by a vote to sustain or reject all nominees.

35 - Satan for six thousand years has ruled and reigned upon the greater part of the earth [in LDS theology, the temporal earth is about this age]. When nations exceed their limit the Lord has caused their destruction to make place for other nations [apparently the land choice above all lands was so small that the Lord had to destroy the Jaredites to make room for Lehi and those who came with him. Or maybe a very small piece of land in 'America' is this land choice above all lands].

### Chapter 3 - Progression and Retrogression

38 - evolution and such theories should have no place in our schools in the manner in which they now appear.

39 - the first man placed upon this earth was an intelligent being ... possessed of wisdom and knowledge, with power to communicate his thoughts in a language, both oral and written. They spoke the language of the Most High [but in LDS theology, Adam and Eve did not have the power to procreate when initially put on earth].

40 - Moses 6:4-6 said the people had a language pure and undefiled [in the history of Adam and Eve, when did the language become unpure and defiled?]. In the middle of the nineteenth century, some explored the wilds of Africa and found the descendants of Cain living in savagery in the depths of the stone age [how does the LDS Church know these savage Africans were the descendants of Cain?].

- 41 - shall we argue that the poor benighted savage of Africa and the equally uncultured Indian of America were slower in development than the people of Europe or Asia?
- 42 - here in America, thousands of years ago, there flourished a civilization equal, if not superior, to that which could be found in Egypt or Asia at that time [but that does not mean they were the people the Book of Mormon talks about]. The Jaredites were entirely destroyed despite their advanced civilization (Ether 10:22-28) [the LDS Church does not indicate how much of all of America the Jaredites had in their possession - probably because these Jaredites all gathered in one place for the final battle].
- 43 - ancient ruins of copper mines in Michigan is evidence of their [Jaredite] former glory (J.P. MacLean, The Mound Builders) [this does not mean these people were the Jaredites]. The Nephites and Lamanites multiplied and spread over the face of the entire continent. They were highly cultured [LDS archeology cannot differentiate between Book of Mormon people and non-Book of Mormon people artifacts].
- 44 - they [the Nephites] did work all kinds of ore [Helaman 6:11]. The Lamanites became decadent and lost their knowledge of agriculture. They became ferocious and bloodthirsty. Their descendants, the American Indians, were wandering in all their savagery when the Pilgrim Fathers made permanent settlement in this land [the Indians were actually living in peace and tranquility on the land before the white man invaded their land. For the most part, the American Indians were not ferocious and bloodthirsty as the LDS believe. But this is what it says of the Lamanites in their scripture].
- 44-45 - there is mention of ruins of the people in the Yucatan and Peru.
- 45 - this race of Peruvians had no written language -- strange when we know that their ancestors were the Nephites [Latter-day Saints take this on faith for they cannot prove it].
- 45 - they used cement and built roads in the Andes.
- 47 - the Peruvians were the blighted remnant of the greater civilization which flourished on this continent from 600 B.C. to 400 A.D. [for some reason he does not talk about the North American Indian]. Mention is also made of the Mexican civilization. The Mexicans and Peruvians worshiped Jesus Christ [but this does not mean they were descendants of the Lamanites].
- 48 - the everlasting gospel had been declared to them centuries before.

#### Chapter 4 - The Government of God

- 50 - God's government promotes happiness. The government of man has been productive of confusion, disorder, weakness, and misery [but in LDS theology, there was no joy for Adam and Eve when they lived in God's government in Eden].
- 51 - the earth shall become as the garden of the Lord. Republican governments have been raised in dignity and prostrated in the dust.
- 54 - the learning of the Egyptians and their knowledge of astronomy was no doubt taught them by Abraham and Joseph.
- 55 - Israel, if they had obeyed, would have been the rulers of the universe [I wonder why Mr. Smith ignores all the people who live on the other planets]. God translated Enoch and his church [in LDS theology, God translated the city too].
- 56 - Israel's first government was a theocracy. In the future, the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem [LDS do not understand that Isaiah's passage is speaking of one place, not two].
- 57 - the world has had a fair trial (of rule) for six thousand years. He that fears the Lord will alone be exalted in that day [not all who fear the Lord will be exalted as gods. Single people will not be exalted alone. They need to be married in the temple].
- 58 - we are saved upon the same principle; keep the commandments.
- 59 - the Lord told us to build the Temple and the Nauvoo House. We have laid the foundation for the gathering of God's people to this place. Build up Zion so that the nations will flock to her standard [they do not gather to this place anymore because apparently there was a revelation to the First Presidency].

#### Chapter 5 - The First Government a Divine Theocracy

- 62 - man was placed upon the earth and given dominion over all things [were both Adam and Eve given dominion over all things?]. Man is the offspring of God. He was made in the image of the Father and Jesus Christ [for some reason Heavenly Mother is not mentioned].
- 62-63 - creation was very good. Things did not remain very good [the Mormon Adam and Eve did not have joy and could not procreate before the Fall. But Latter-day Saints still view this as a very good creation].

63 - man fell from his station where there was no death, pain, sin, or sorrow. He was unable to distinguish between good and evil [Joseph Fielding Smith forgot to mention joy and procreation from this station. Adam and Eve could not distinguish between good and evil but they were able to distinguish between eating and not eating from the forbidden tree].

In the wake of his fall, a great change came upon the earth. Mortality replaced immortality, temptation, misery, sin and death were ushered in [but in LDS theology, joy and procreation were also ushered in with the Fall].

Man was predestined to pass through a mortal probation [the Mormon heaven was most likely celebrating with Adam and Eve ate from the forbidden tree. After all, they could not progress without disobedience]. Adam and Eve could not obey the command to be fruitful and multiply [this is not what the Bible teaches. Even the animals and plants could procreate before the Fall since God gave them the same command].

64 - the whole philosophy of Latter-day Saints is represented by 2 Nephi 2:25 - "Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy". The fall of Adam was essential to the ultimate destiny of man [in LDS theology, great blessings resulted in the Fall]. The transgression of our first parents brought spiritual and mortal death into the world. It was through transgression that the attendant joys and sorrows, pleasures and pains which accompany mortality were ushered in [this is not true. God created the trees in the Garden to be pleasant in the sight of man (Genesis 2:9). Also, Eve experienced pleasure when she looked upon the forbidden tree (Genesis 3:6). She even realized the tree was good for food. Unless Adam and Eve were both emotionless robots as Latter-day Saints seem to portray, the couple actually felt joy as they worshiped God in the Garden and had fellowship with him. I suspect that even the birds of the air were singing unto God with joy].

65 - the purpose of life is for man to prove if he is worthy of advancing to the fulness of exaltation. Exaltation or condemnation is a reward based upon individual merit [in LDS theology, you are actually condemned if you don't become a God or Goddess. According to the Bible, eternal life is a gift, not a reward. For an example closer to home, examine yourself. You receive a gift on Christmas for free. It is not received on your merit. It is all up to the giver].

Man had agency in the spirit world to accept or reject covenants and commandments given there [seems like there evil in the Mormon version of the first estate]. One-third of the spirits rebelled the plan of salvation due to Lucifer's persuasion. We longed to be like the Father in the spirit world. Exaltation could only come through a mortal probation, death, and resurrection [this did not apply to the Mormon version of Jesus and the Holy Spirit].

66 - many would yield to temptation and sin [many Latter-day Saints do not believe that Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden]. Adam and Eve were placed at the head and given the responsibility of introducing the mortal life [in LDS theology, God wanted Adam and Eve to disobey him. When Eve was placed at the head, did she lose this position after the Fall?].

67 - Jesus would come in the Meridian of Time. The Father conferred upon Adam the Priesthood. This government was a theocracy. Men holding the Priesthood ruled during direct revelation and commandment [since Adam and Eve were placed at the head as taught earlier, what role did Eve have in this government? And what did she lose in the Fall?].

68 - after the Fall, the government was Patriarchal and the Priesthood ruled [so there was no Patriarchal government in a theocracy. What role did Eve lose in the Fall?].

It would be unjust in God to punish him [man] for acts that were not his, and for circumstances over which he had no control [what do Mormons believe were all the punishments to Adam and Eve in the Fall?].

69 - man's body was given him by God, and also his spirit [Heavenly Mother's role is not mentioned].

70 - God never gave man unlimited control of the affairs of this world.

71 - man is a moral agent, possessing the power to do good or to do evil. If he does well, he fulfills the measure of his creation ... if he does not well, and is involved in difficulties and misery, it is his own fault, and he may blame himself [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve did well in their disobedience for it started them on their road of progression. After the Fall, Adam put an indirect blame on God and a direct blame on Eve. Eve in turn put the blame on the serpent].

Kings and Queens have legal authority if a) they are called by God and b) they are anointed by someone who is authorized to anoint them [I am not aware of any King or Queen anointed by a Mormon after 1830].

72 - we have also seen that the Lord did establish his law with man in the beginning, that he gave him commandments and caused him to enter into covenants, which, if he had continued to keep until this day, the earth at this time would be full of righteousness, peace and happiness [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve's obedience to God's commandment would have kept them without children and without joy in the Garden of Eden forever. If things had continued in that state, they would have been the only two people on the planet and God's plan of salvation would have been thwarted. But fortunately,



the Mormon devil enters the scene and saves the day].

Man's rebellion is the cause of the present distress, misery, and wickedness being so prevalent in all parts of the world.

## Chapter 6 - Satan's Usurpation of Authority

73 - intelligences are spirits which were organized before the world was [it is said that intelligences are eternal, not formed].

74 - Christ is the firstborn in Spirit of the children of God. He was elevated to Godhood [the Mormon Jesus has not always been God. Joseph Fielding Smith does not mention exactly when Jesus was elevated to Godhood. There is also no mention when the Holy Ghost was elevated to Godhood]. He was chosen to be the Only Begotten Son of God on the earth. This was his divine right by birth and appointment of the Father [since this was his divine right, there was no way Lucifer would ever come to earth as God's Only Begotten Son].

Lucifer aspired to become like God [Mormons aspire to become Gods and Goddesses].

76 - with his influence Lucifer prevailed upon one-third of the spirits to support his contention [amazingly, the combined influences of the Father and the Son could only prevail on twice as many spirits].

76-77 - there [in the first estate] men followed their inclinations, and at times these inclinations did not lead to the establishment of peace and happiness [in simple terms, disobedience in the first estate lead to war and misery. It seems there was much evil in this celestial home].

77 - the rebellious spirits had full understanding of the consequences and they became the sons of Perdition [I could find no LDS scripture that says these rebellious spirits knew that they would not inherit bodies of flesh and bones and that they could not progress further. If they really knew they were destined for eternal hell fire, they would not have chosen to follow the devil. Even in the so-called War in Heaven, they were not warned that the losers would spend eternity in hell].

78 - the warfare which was waged in the spirit world against authorized and rightful government was continued almost as soon as man was placed upon this earth [almost as soon? Did the devil take a vacation? There is no LDS scripture that you cannot have an authorized and rightful government with forced obedience. There is no LDS scripture where God says "Jesus' plan is good and Lucifer's plan is evil, so now use your agency and choose"].

Jesus said we will prove them to see if they will do all things that God commands [this is from the Book of Abraham]. The purpose of life is to be tested.

79 - the forbidden fruit is in opposition to the tree of life [for some reason Joseph Fielding Smith ignores all the other trees. He forgets that they could either eat from these other trees or from the Tree of Life. Only one tree was forbidden. The Tree of Life was permissible].

Pain and suffering is in opposition to peace and happiness [the Book of Mormons mentions something strange in 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".

Since the Mormon Adam and Eve did not have happiness or misery before the Fall, they were considered 'dead'. They could not have children so they were considered 'dead' in a procreative sense].

80 - Christ came to atone for our fallen nature [even babies have this fallen nature so they need the atonement too]. Many who profess to believe in the Bible seem to think that Adam and Eve had three children only, Cain, Abel and Seth, because no other children are mentioned [this is not true. Genesis 5:4,7 says, "And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters. And Seth lived after he begat Enos eight hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters". The names are not provided, but Adam and Eve did have other children. Joseph Fielding Smith, the former LDS President, does not understand this section of the Bible].

81 - it appears that the great majority, even from the beginning, turned away from the rightful government established by the Almighty through Adam, and which was based upon divine authority and revelation [Joseph Fielding Smith forgot to mention that this turning away started with Adam and Eve]. In the various forms of man-made governments, they carried with them many of the traditions and teachings (but in a corrupted form). Political kingdoms came into existence nourished and built upon rebellion against the established government of God first given unto man [Adam and Eve choose to rebel against God and follow the devil].

## Chapter 7 - The Antediluvian Patriarchs

- 82 - after Adam was driven from the Garden of Eden he "began to till the earth, and to have dominion over all the beasts of the field" [God gave Adam this dominion before driving him out of the Garden of Eden, not after]. Sons and daughters began to divide two by two in the land ... and to till the land and to tend flocks (Moses 5:3) [maybe two by two means only a husband and wife, with no polygamy or it might mean they each had two or four children].
- 83 - D&C 107 confirms that men did live to such extreme years. In the school of the Elders in Kirtland in 1834, a series of seven lectures on faith were given under the direction of the Prophet Joseph Smith [these seven lectures formed the basis for the 'doctrine' in Doctrine and Covenants. The LDS Church later rejected their inclusion in Doctrine and Covenants on the basis that they were not inspired. It seems the current LDS Church does not want to operate under the direction of their original prophet. The original Book of Commandments has been modified significantly in its new form with a new name].
- 84 - Adam is Michael the Archangel (D&C 107:41-52) [it seems Heavenly Mother and Father can procreate angels too].
- 85 - believers became members of the City of Enoch. Enoch went forth among the people to preach, except for the people of Canaan who were descendants of Cain. The descendants of Cain were black.
- 86 - the City of Zion [Enoch] was a theocracy. In it, the celestial law prevailed. Only by obedience to divine law can a people were truly happy [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve could only gain joy with disobedience for there was no joy before the Fall].
- 87 - our rebellion keeps us from having the companionship of heavenly messengers in this latter-day [it would seem almost all of the Mormons are in the same rebellion since they do not have the companionship of these heavenly messengers]. It was possible for the Lord to visit the people in the City of Enoch. At that time, the veil between the mortal and the heavenly world was very thin [I am not aware of any scripture where the Lord visited this city].

The City of Enoch and its people were translated in a more nearly perfect condition where righteousness could prevail [it would be worth comparing the people of this city with the pre-mortal spirits who used their agency to reject the covenants and commandments of God when face to face with God. It seems these mortals lived in righteousness whereas the pre-mortal spirits did not. There was no war in the City of Enoch but in LDS theology, there was a war in heaven where Heavenly Father lost one-third of his children in the

battle. But it seems odd that none were killed in this great battle. Also see the note for #65 - man had agency in the spirit world to accept or reject covenants and commandments given there. There was evil in the Mormon version of the first estate whereas there was no evil in the City of Enoch].

87-88 - we have the record of one other time when a similar condition prevailed, that was among the Nephites for nearly two hundred years after the appearing of Jesus Christ to that people [but there are major differences. These Nephites did not build a city and there was not translated to some other sphere. They apostatized, some died of old age, others were killed in wars. And there is no record of Jesus visiting the people of Enoch. That's quite a difference].

88 - if Satan can find one soul to follow him ... peace and happiness gave way to rebellion and wickedness [in LDS theology, Adam and Eve could only experience happiness after they followed Satan's temptation in the Garden of Eden]. The Lord endeavored to establish his government among the primitive Christians, but the odds against them were too great and the experiment in that day could not be carried out [Joseph Fielding Smith does not understand that the growth of God's Church does not depend on odds. He also fails to understand that the gates of hell would not prevail against the Church].

The law of Enoch was offered to the Church, but the Latter-day Saints failed to live it so it was taken away. A lesser law (of tithing) was given until such time as Christ shall come to cleanse the Church. The law of tithing is a schoolmaster for the higher law [this bizarre teaching is not found in the Mormon scriptures. The Bible teaches, "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster" (Galatians 3:24-25). The Mormons are still under their schoolmaster. People who believe in Jesus are not].

89 - in some future time will come the command to introduce the same law given to Enoch and his people. Those who fail to obey the law of tithing will not be counted worthy to enter the practice of the higher law of consecration. In the Antidiluvian Times, people copied the order which had been established by the Lord in his Church [but earlier it was said the order of God's Church is theocratical, not patriarchal. It seems the patriarchal order was like tithing ... a substitute for the the ideal one].

89-90 - the Lord made a promise to Enoch that his seed should remain so Methuselah (son of Enoch) was not taken with the City of Zion [I could not find any scripture to support this. Joseph Fielding Smith also failed to see that the timing of his death would usher in the flood].

90 - Enoch and his city were not to remain amid the wickedness of the inhabitants of the earth. The Lord had prepared for them another sphere [but apparently the Nephites were supposed to remain. Unless of course they were all alone in their land and not near any wicked people].

91 - others were privileged to join the translated city being caught up unto that city from the veil of Satan's darkness [I wonder if this is reference to another city besides Enoch's city].

92 - the Lord is from all eternity to all eternity [from the book of Ether. But Joseph Smith taught Heavenly Father was once a man who became a god. This false god is not the Eternal God]. They [Adam and Eve] were given agency in the Garden of Eden [didn't Adam and Eve already have their agency when they were supposedly in their first estate? If yes, why did they need to have it given to them in the Garden of Eden?].

I am God. Man of Holiness is my name. Among all the workmanship of mine hands there has not been so great wickedness as among thy [Enoch's] brethren [so Enoch's brethren were more wicked with the Jews? The Book of Mormon says they were the most wicked because they were the only nation who would crucify their God (2 Nephi 10:3). And even more wicked than all the peoples of all the other planets that Heavenly Father created? And even more wicked than the Lamanites? Moroni 9:20 records the Nephites exceeded the wickedness of the Lamanites. The Nephites were said to have raped the Lamanite women, tortured them to death, and then ate their flesh (Moroni 9:9-10). But there is no mention of the brethren of Enoch being wicked like these Nephites].

93 - with the exception of Noah and his family, no righteous people remained on the earth during the flood. The cleansing of the earth was by a baptism of water [in LDS theology, one of the sons of Noah was saved to preserve the curse of Cain on the earth - "thus, from Ham, sprang that race which preserved the curse in the land" (Abraham 1:23-24). Also see

<http://emp.byui.edu/OpenshawR/Pearl%20of%20Great%20Price/Cain,%20Ham%20and%20the%20Priesthood.htm>

## Chapter 8 - Ancient Political Despotisms

94 - revelations in the Pearl of Great Price confirm the story given in Genesis, in the Bible [this is not entirely correct. Please read the chapter called "The Pearl of Great Price" in the PDF book "Who Are Latter-day Saints?" There are some major differences]. Certain nations lay claim to great antiquity, but their beginnings are lost in a maze of tradition, which is not to be received as being authentic [but the LDS Church expects people to accept the Book of Mormon as being an authentic and historical account of

people who supposedly lived somewhere in the western World between the time of the Jaredites to about 420 A.D. They used to believe that the Lamanites were the principle ancestors of the Native American Indians until this was changed recently, and without a revelation. They assume that the temples in the Yucatan Peninsula were part of their legacy].

- 95 - it is reasonable to believe that Moses had before him the records of earlier prophets when he did his writing. Abraham declared the records of the fathers were preserved in his hands and it was his purpose to pass them on to his children after him. Revelation shows that the antediluvian civilization was planted in the Western World. It was from this place that the first civilizations began to spread out over the face of the earth [a speculation on geography].
- 96 - history and tradition say Noah landed at Mount Ararat. Mention of the translated City of Enoch. The mingling of the People of Enoch and the descendants of Noah had to be postponed until the days of Christ's second coming.
- 97 - the building of the Tower of Babel was an act of rebellion (disbelief). They were determined not to have God destroy them with a flood again even though he said he would not do it this way again.
- 98 - the language of the Jaredites was not confounded [this is unbiblical]. The Jaredites were selected to make the journey across the land and ocean back to the western hemisphere [so in LDS theology, Noah's Ark rest on Mount Ararat in the eastern hemisphere. See #96. The peoples dispersed and ended up populating this eastern hemisphere. Then the Lord confounded the people's language and the Jaredites supposedly traveled back to the western world because it was their promised land. This seems to agree with the Book of Mormon because there is no mention of the Jaredites and the Nephites meeting other people].

The Jaredites' government was originally a theocracy. The brother of Jared and Jared were not kings, but they were the leaders. They arrived in the promised land. They followed the custom of the peoples from whence they came, and felt that they would have to be government by a king [but there were no kings in the time the Lord confounded the language. Do a search for 'king' in the Book of Ether. There is no mention of the Bible's Nimrod being a king either. But it does mention he was a great hunter].

- 99 - the first government of Egypt was established by Pharaoh, the eldest son of Egyptus. It was after the manner of Ham's government, which was patriarchal. [I wonder where the former LDS President gets the idea that Ham had any type of government. According to the Pearl of Great Price, "Ham's wife was named Egyptus, which in the Chaldean signifies Egypt, which signifies that which

is forbidden ... and thus from Ham sprang the race which preserved the curse in the land". The seed of Ham was cursed as pertaining to the Priesthood. This teaching is not accepted by some Latter-day Saints. See the web page article on the curse of dark skin. It has a more detailed explanation].

100 - Pharaoh was of the lineage that could not have the right of Priesthood, not withstanding the Pharaohs would fain claim it from Noah, through Ham. The Patriarchal Order of Priesthood was revealed from heaven [in LDS theology, this order was instituted because of the rebellion of the people. The type preferred by God is Theocratic. This is a little similar to the current system of tithing in the LDS Church. They were originally given the Law of Consecration and God is said to have removed it because of their rebellion and then substituted the lesser law instead. If Latter-day Saints were to become faithful again, the Lord will supposedly remove tithing and put back in place the Law of Consecration].

The Patriarchal Order was handed down from father to son and rightly belongs to the literal descendants of the chosen seed [who exactly is the chosen seed? Is it the seed of Lehi or did all the sons of Jacob possess the Patriarchal Order of the Priesthood? It seems that if a Mormon father has two sons, the patriarchal order is only passed to one of those sons. If the other son has his own family, he is not technically the Patriarch of his family because he did not inherit this right from his father].

102 - a person could be arbitrarily offered as a sacrifice unto the gods. It was under such conditions that Abraham found it necessary to move [this does not agree with the biblical account]. Some people were denied this right of priesthood by lineage [in LDS theology, the right of priesthood is made available to all the descendants of all the sons of Jacob. But the predominant tribes in the LDS Church are taught to be Ephraim and Manasseh. They used to deny the priesthood only to the sons of Cain until this was reversed in 1978].

103 - the right of blessings of the priesthood, by obedience, should continue in his seed after him [this part is a little confusing. Was the priesthood to continue in Abraham's seed? If yes, which lineage specifically? Did all the 12 tribes have the priesthood? Or does it mean the blessings of the Priesthood to those of Abraham's seed? But if yes, didn't the blessings of priesthood also extend to those who were not of Abraham's seed?].

## Chapter 9 - The Rise and the Fall of the Jaredites

104 - the earth was made purposely for the habitation of man. Many spirits were destined to come to this earth to receive their tabernacles and enter into all the vicissitudes of mortal life. It was the desire [of God] that they possess all parts of the earth. This is implied in the great commandment given to Adam and Eve [in LDS theology, Heavenly Father procreated many many spirit children. Some came to planet Earth while others went to the many other worlds that he supposedly created. The implication made by the former LDS President is incorrect because the commandment to be fruitful and multiply was given before they were in their mortal state. And the animals received the same commandment too].

It was also decreed that in the scattering of the peoples over the earth, the western continent should again be inhabited. The Lord has revealed to us that America is the land where Adam dwelt. Civilization was transplanted on the eastern hemisphere after the flood [we need to piece in what was said earlier on #96 and 98. In LDS theology, the earth was made up of one land mass before the flood. During the flood, the earth was divided into the western and eastern hemisphere. It seems like Adam dwelt in America and this is where Noah built the ark. The ark seemed to have settled in the eastern hemisphere and the Mormon god sought again to populate the western part].

The American continent was reserved by the Lord for a choice people, for it is a very choice land above other parts of the earth [LDS theology seems to be vague on what land encompasses this 'American continent'. Does it just make up the United States or is it from the north pole to the south pole in the western hemisphere? Or is it somewhere just in Mexico?].

105 - scriptures indicate the Father and the Son exhibited a very righteous jealousy in relation to this hemisphere [I see no scriptural support to reveal this jealousy. Once again, the geography of this hemisphere is vague]. It was a land choice above all other lands. The Prophet Joseph Smith said Jared's brother was called Mahonri Moriancumer.

106 - the people of Jared were commanded to gather beasts in the Valley of Nimrod. The 'deseret' is a honey bee.

107 - the brother of Jared did not have a very clear idea as to the form of God before he saw his finger.

108 - interpreters given to Jared's brother.



109 - from this record we see that the Lord led a people back to this land almost immediately after the flood. The land assigned to the Jaredites as an inheritance was choice above all other lands. The God of this land is Jesus Christ. The Lord made himself known by personal revelation to their first prophet.

110 - the Jaredites chose a government based on the traditions and customs of the people in the land from whence they came

111 - the brother of Jared hearkened unto his brother [instead of God] and made a provision for a king [tie this in with what #110 said. But the people that the Jaredites associated with did not have kings according to the Book of Mormon].

112 - it is human nature to forget the Lord when they prosper [unfortunately, Joseph Smith forgot the Lord and started to teach and lead people to worship a false god].

113 - the Jaredites continued in their practice of evil about six hundred years before the birth of Christ.

114 - the power of the Priesthood was given to the Jaredites [the Book of Mormon does not mention any priesthood existing amongst them]. Coriantumr lived to see another people. He lived with the people of Mulek for nine months and then he died.

#### Chapter 10 - The Story of Ancient Israel

116 - finding opposition even in his own household, Abraham found it necessary to leave his place of residence. In response to prayer, the Lord told him to leave [this is unbiblical].

118 - no person can receive the Gospel and the Priesthood without becoming of the seed of Abraham. The Lord blessed other nations by infusing in them the [physical] blood of Abraham [in LDS theology, the physical blood of Abraham is very significant]. The chosen lineage is the house of Israel.

119 - Jethro gave Moses the priesthood [Jethro did not have a priesthood to give]. The chosen seed are descendants of the sons of Jacob.

121 - the inheritance given to Abraham was not to be bestowed upon him and his posterity, so far as the land of Canaan was concerned, until they were strong enough to possess it as a nation [the LDS President does not understand it was God's strength and not the peoples' strength that allowed them to possess the land].

125 - the Jews were determined to have a king, and thus they rejected the Lord and his prophet (1 Samuel 8-9).

126 - even today David is paying the price of a dreadful sin [in LDS theology, David will never live with Heavenly Father]. From their captivity, the ten tribes never returned to their own land. They are known as the Lost Tribes to this day.

127 - Lehi left Jerusalem about 600 B.C. A portion of Jewish history is recorded in the Apocrypha [Latter-day Saints did not view it as inspired enough to include it in their canon].

#### Chapter 11 - The Nephites and the Lamanites

130 - Jacob 5 is an allegory of the history of Israel throughout the ages. Tame and wild olive trees [see <http://ldslearning.org/lds-jacob-5-section.htm>]. The whole world has been leavened through the blessings of the dispersion according to the covenant the Lord made with Abraham [the promised blessings came through Jesus Christ, not the Jewish dispersal. The LDS Church seems to focus on the physical blood of the Israelites being mixed with the Gentile blood].

From time to time the Lord has colonized various parts of the earth with remnants of the chosen people [the Book of Mormon makes reference to only two of them; Lehi and Mulek]. The scattering of Israel commenced before the captivity of the Ten Tribes [this is unbiblical]. The wild olive tree represents the Gentiles. Branches of the parent tree were planted in all corners and parts of the vineyard.

131 - those of Lehi's colony were comprised of members of the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh. Joseph was given a double portion.

132 - Joseph was to inherit the land of Zion. Joseph was given the land of Joseph, or Zion, as well as an inheritance with his brothers in Palestine [the LDS Church believes Joseph received all the land of America. It would seem that Joseph received not a double portion, but rather a thousand people. I guess the land of America is at least a thousand times larger than the land of Israel. Maybe more].

Laban kept the brass plates. He was a member of the family of Joseph. These plates contained the Five Books of Moses and the sacred writings of prophets down to Jeremiah, a contemporary of Lehi [the scriptures were written on scrolls, kept in the temple and synagogues. They were not stored on brass plates]. Ishmael and his family were persuaded to join Lehi on the trek

[apparently there were no females where Lehi was going so he needed to make sure he was wives for his sons].

135 - Ishmael was of the tribe of Ephraim [this would not make much difference because he did not have sons to carry on his name on the 'American' continent. Nephi, who married one of Ishmael's daughters, could only produce a descendant of Manasseh].

Lehi did not collect animals and seeds as did the Jaredites, for the land of promise had been stocked with such things by the Jaredites [apparently the western hemisphere was barren of animals and crops for the Nephites or the Nephites were to solely subsist on the animals and crops that were left by the Jaredites]. After Lehi's death, Nephi saw the need to separate himself and his followers away from the unbelievers.

136 - the Lord placed upon Laman and Lemuel and their seed a dark skin so that they could be distinguished from the followers of Nephi. The white and righteous people were called Nephites.

137 - Mulek (a surviving son of King Zedekiah) and his colony also left Jerusalem. [this is unbiblical. All the sons of King Zedekiah were slain]. King Mosiah, son of Benjamin [the 1830 version of the Book of Mormon mentioned King Benjamin. This was changed in a later version].

138 - it was agreed upon that the entire nation should be ruled by judges [it seems this was a human vote instead of God's choice in the Book of Mormon]. The promise had been made from the beginning of the Nephite nation that Christ would pay a visit to the people on this hemisphere after the resurrection [I don't recall seeing this promise in the Book of Mormon. I will have to check it again]. When Christ was crucified, there were three days of darkness upon the American continent [I wish the LDS Church would be more descriptive of what the 'American continent' is all about].

139 - for two hundred years all the people became united in one kingdom and one church. Their kingdom was a theocracy. People lived the law of consecration [I found no mention in the Book of Mormon that the temple played any role in this theocracy. I also found no mention that they lived the law of consecration].

141 - the special Nephite disciples were in a translated state. There was a promise that they should live on earth until the second coming of Jesus Christ. The wicked Lamanites had destroyed the Church [people do not know that evil cannot destroy the Church of Jesus Christ]. The great Lamanite civilizations were in Mexico and Peru. In North America, they dwindled into roaming bands or tribes of savages. In this awful state of degradation they were found when the white people from Europe came to make their homes

upon this promised land [some Latter-day Saints do not accept this meaning of the white and dark skin as a physical appearance but rather was something spiritual].

142 - the day will come when they shall again rise up and be a blessed people, white and favored of the Lord [the skin color of the Lamanites could be whiter than those of the Nephites when they appear before God's throne - Jacob 3:8. Mormon 9:6 also says, "O then ye unbelieving, turn ye unto the Lord; cry mightily unto the Father in the name of Jesus, that perhaps ye may be found spotless, pure, fair, and white, having been cleansed by the blood of the Lamb, at that great and last day". The topic of the dark skin is more fully covered in the web page [book-of-mormon-curse-of-dark-skin.htm](http://book-of-mormon-curse-of-dark-skin.htm)].

## Chapter 12 - Medieval Kingdoms

145 - Noah and his three sons walked with God [some LDS teachings indicate that God preserved the curse of Cain through Ham].

146 - Egyptus, the daughter of Ham, settled with her sons in Egypt.

147 - the rise of the kingdoms of Europe. The 'toes' of Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

149 - much of the blood of scattered Israel was mixed among these tribes, especially those who occupied northern Europe [once again, importance is placed on physical blood].

150-151 - history of lords, vassals, and freemen in ancient Europe. Feudalism.

152 - the common people were divided into two classes, freemen and serfs.

152-153 - it seems to be a failing of most men that when they receive some little power they seek for more [the same could be said for Joseph Smith in his role of as a military leader and his desire to become President of the United States].

156 - this land [the United States] was in the beginning dedicated to freedom and the worship of the true and living God; a land choice above all other lands reserved for a righteous and God-fearing people.

## Chapter 13 - The Church in the Wilderness

157 - the Melchizedek Priesthood was taken away from Israel with Moses [Moses was taken away because he had rebelled against God].

158 - Simeon had full understanding that the baby Jesus was in very deed the Only Begotten Son of God. The prophetess Anna also recognized him as the Son of God [see Luke 2:26-38. There is no impression given that Simeon or Anna knew the Lord's Christ was in very deed God in human flesh].

159 - had the scribes and Pharisees been true disciples of Moses, they would have accepted Jesus as their Messiah - the Son of God.

160 - the ministry of Jesus was confined to the Jews.

161 - Peter was the chief apostle.

163 - spiritual darkness would be enthroned over all the earth.

164 - the church was driven into the wilderness, or in other words, taken from among men [the true church is a membership of men and women].

165 - [from Revelation 12] the dragon is Satan. He drew one-third of the spirits in heaven away in his rebellion, when he was cast out into the earth [this part needs some correction. In LDS theology, Lucifer drew away one-third of the spirits before the war in heaven even started. Only after they were defeated in the war were they cast out to earth. One third of the spirits voted for Lucifer's plan and two-thirds voted for Christ's plan. Heavenly Father is said to have chosen Christ's plan and then the war started. Revelation 12:7 says, "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels". These are angels, not spirit children of the Mormon Heavenly Father].

The woman is the Church of Jesus Christ ["And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars". This is a picture of Israel].

The child is the Priesthood. It was appointed to rule all nations with a rod of iron. The Book of Mormon says the rod of iron is the gospel [in LDS theology, the priesthood is eternal so the church could not give birth to the priesthood]. The woman was given two wings of an eagle and was nourished for a time, and times, and half a time [there is no explanation of what this time means].

166 - Satan in his wrath drove the woman into the wilderness, or from the earth [there is no impression that it was Satan who drove the woman there. The wilderness is a place of nourishing by God].

The power of the priesthood was taken ... the Church with its authority and gifts disappeared ... then in his anger the serpent continued his war. Free agency, the inherent gift of God to every soul, was taken from men, and they were shackled to the plan which Lucifer proposed in the heavens at the rebellion This is the plan of compulsion and the destruction of that personal liberty which God has given to every creature [this is not true. Man has always had the freedom to choose. Lucifer has never taken free agency away from man].

#### Chapter 14 - The Time of Apostasy

167 - people fall into forbidden ways and errors of a serious error when they are not keeping in constant contact with the Spirit of God, and when they do not have the constant contact with the presiding authorities of the church. Errors would creep in if each branch was privileged to go its own way independently of any supervision and direction [unfortunately, Mormons are in constant contact with their presiding authorities and they still continue to worship the false god that Joseph Smith preached - the man who became a God and Heavenly Father of planet Earth. They also preach a Jesus who has not always been God]

168 - personal contacts with apostles was as vital to the early church and is as vital today. This led to false doctrines and teachers creeping into the Primitive Church [this former LDS president seems to blame the apostasy on the fact that Peter, Paul, and the other apostles were not able to always make personal and timely visits to their flock. He ignores the fact that Jesus said the gates of hell would not prevail against his church. When you do not believe the words of Jesus, then you are open to the deception of false teachers. The apostle Paul warned of the coming apostasy, but the LDS Church teaches that the early Christian church was totally destroyed and there was a universal apostasy. I believe a major apostasy will occur in the future; when the man of sin will be revealed. See 2 Thess. 2:8].

168 - the principles of the Gospel would be contaminated by the influence of the surrounding peoples and beliefs. This is the very time spoken of by Paul when the Lord would permit strong delusion to come among the people, "that they should believe a lie," even all "who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" [this is not correct. Paul is speaking of a future time, when the man of sin will be revealed. Jesus will destroy this person at the Second Coming. See 2 Thessalonians 2].

168-169 - we have the great advantage of the personal contacts ... and aids to keep membership of the Church in close touch with inspiration of heaven as it is revealed through the authorities of the Church.

169 - some will not abide in the doctrines of the Church and will try to lead others into forbidden paths [the original LDS Church split into various sects because certain Mormons rejected some of the false teachings of Joseph Smith. Even the largest group of Mormons today follow Joseph Smith in the worship of a false god - the man who is taught to have become the God and Heavenly Father of Earth].

We have the assurance that the Gospel of the Kingdom ... will never be taken away again [but people reject what Jesus told them the first time - "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it". See Matthew 16:18]. Our advantage ... should keep us from the errors which crept into the Primitive Church of Jesus Christ and proved its overthrow [the LDS Church will be overthrown one day by her worship of Joseph Smith's false god. The advantage of having a Bible has not keep the Mormons from their errors].

171 - Peter spoke to Jews who were guilty of crying out against the Son of God. He told them there was no forgiveness or remission of sins for them at that time; hence they could not be baptized [this is false. See Acts 2:36-38. "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost"].

172 - there were only seven churches (i.e. branches of the Church) worthy of mention by the Lord. Is it not reasonable to believe that if there had been other branches of the Church worthy of recognition, the Lord would also have recognized them, either with commendation or rebuke? [just because the Bible does not mention it does not mean there were other churches in other areas. Revelation 1:11 is about the notable churches in Asia].

173 - persecutions of the early Christians. Satan in his anger against the woman and her child [in all the LDS literature that I have read so far, the image of Satan warring against the woman and her child is only associated with the persecution of Christians after the resurrection of Christ. I wonder why it is never associated with other times in history given that Mormons believe the war in heaven happened before Adam and Eve were created on the earth?].

174 - the dragon was seeking to destroy the woman [no reference is made of the this action of the dragon in the days of Adam, Noah, etc].

175 - in becoming popular, the Church lost its vitality and became clothed in the vestments of the Pagan world. The simplicity of the Gospel was lost in the maze and fog of mystic rites and ceremonies [these Masonic rites also found their way in LDS temple ceremonies. This is why Mormons are not permitted to speak about them - to prevent people from noticing the similarities. But fortunately, some former Mormons have posted videos of these ceremonies on Youtube]. Rise of the Roman Pontiff.

176 - the Church established by our Lord and his apostles was a simple organization free from all pomp, mystery, and ostentation [I wonder if Mormonism would have arisen had there been no Roman Catholic Church?. It seems it was the fuel for its growth]. The Church of Jesus Christ ceased to exist on the earth [in LDS theology, the devil had succeeded in his plan to destroy the church, despite the true teaching of Jesus in Matthew 16:19 that the gates of hell could not prevail against Christ's church].

177 - the Priesthood had been taken back to God [in LDS theology, this represents the child of Revelation 12]. The Church had fled into the wilderness [it is very odd that this imagery is never used to represent other periods of apostasy. I wonder why]. The true Government of God had been driven from the earth.

#### Chapter 15 - Decline of Knowledge through Transgression

178 - Adam was chosen because he was one of the greatest of the intelligences in the spirit world. He merited the right to become the first man. He was the Ancient of Days because he was the first man [Jesus is the Ancient of Days because he is the Eternal God]. Adam became a prince over his posterity. He was Michael, the Prince, the Archangel. He helped to form this earth for himself and his posterity.

179 - angels are under the direction of Adam (History of the Church 4:207). Adam obtained the First Presidency. Adam is the Ancient of Days. Adam is Michael the Archangel. Noah is Gabriel. He stands next in authority to Adam in the priesthood (History of the Church 3:386-388). Adam called the High Priests together for a meeting (Doctrine and Covenants 107). These high priests rose up and called him [Adam] Michael, the Prince, the Archangel [the author does not understand that in the Old Testament, there was only one high priest at a time].



181 - Adam was taught a perfect language under the tutelage of God while in the Garden of Eden. It was the powerful language of God, perfect in both the spoken and written word [I'm assuming Eve was also taught by God. But I wonder how long Mormons believe Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden before they disobeyed God and were expelled].

183 - this earth is subject to the governing influence of Kolob. Kolob is the greatest of all the Kokaubeam and is nearest to the throne of God. Abraham taught astronomy to the Egyptians.

184 - it is the earth that moveth and not the sun [this is a reference to some part in the Book of Mormon. But the sun moves too in the grand scheme of things]. The canals in the Andes and the Mayan Calendar Stone is evidence of their knowledge of astronomy.

185-186 - the author of sin and wickedness drove the Church into the wilderness [it seems from LDS theology that Satan did this only once].

187 - reference to Parley P. Pratt's book "The Key to Theology".

188 - the Almighty taught man the art of agriculture; he made coats and introduced the tailor's art [God did not make coats of skin for Adam and Eve to teach them the art of tailoring].

The Lord introduced the surveyor's art in the building of cities, temples, and other buildings [God only sanctioned the building of the one temple in Jerusalem. When you read the Book of Mormon, you find other temples].

189 - Paganism was mixed with the Gospel when Christianity was made the state religion of Rome.

190 - the creed of Athanasius replaced the simple and understandable doctrine of God taught by his Only Begotten Son [this creed states, "So the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God; And yet they are not three Gods, but one God". Joseph Smith taught that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is three Gods. While not part of the Godhead, the Mormon Heavenly Mother is a Goddess].

Sprinkling and pouring were substituted for the burial in the water. The declaration was made that the bread and wine actually became the body and blood of Christ [it seems that the LDS faith arose out of a rebellion to the Catholic faith. In regards to the Lord's Supper, the Mormon Jesus declared "For, behold, I say unto you, that it mattereth not what ye shall eat or what ye shall drink when ye partake of the sacrament, if it so be that ye do it with an eye single to my glory—remembering unto the Father my body which was laid down for you, and my blood which was shed for the remission

of your sins"; D&C 27:1-2. For some reason, the Latter-day Saints replaced the wine with water but kept the bread. Why not eggs with orange juice?].

191 - the clergy forbade people to read the scriptures.

192 - the gospels were all written before the destruction of Jerusalem, 70 A.D.

194 - Satan laughed and his angels rejoiced because of the power which they had obtained over the people [LDS scriptures give you the impression that Satan is miserable and wants you to be miserable like he is. Apparently Satan and his angels are not always miserable].

#### Chapter 16 - The Beginning of the Renaissance

196 - translations of the Bible were only accessible to priests.

197 - learning was discouraged for the ordinary person. It was looked upon as a special prerogative of the clergy.

200 - all discoveries and inventions were to make preparations for the restoration of the Gospel.

201 - effects of the Crusades on learning.

#### Chapter 17 - The Revival of Learning

206 - Dark Ages came through the rejection of the Holy Spirit and the revealed word of the Lord.

207 - spiritual and educational darkness fell upon the world following the death of the apostles and early elders of the Primitive Church of Jesus Christ [a similar thing happened to the Mormon Church when Joseph Smith and the early elders died. Many sects arose claiming that the original church founded by Smith had entered apostasy]. Every man that comes into the world has the Spirit of Jesus Christ, which is also known as the "Light of Truth".

207-208 - the keeping of records has been sacredly commanded by the Lord and required of his people.

208 - in the beginning of the history of this world the Lord taught his children to read and write [there is no proof that God taught Adam and Eve how to read, write, take care of the Garden, or how to procreate. I'm not sure why Joseph Fielding Smith does not mention the other worlds that the Mormon

God supposedly created]. Records were written in a pure language. We, today, are still waiting for the restoration of the words of the Lord to Enoch, to the Brother of Jared, and others [I am waiting for the second coming of Christ. The LDS prophet Joseph Smith suffered some humiliation from the Kinderhook Plates scandal. I would think the LDS Church would not want to discover and try to decipher other supposedly ancient records].

209 - man, in the beginning of the world, was taught a perfect language in the presence of God. All that desired it were instructed to read and write in a language which was spoken in the heavens [the children of Adam and Eve were never in the presence of God and he did not teach them any language. Also, there is no proof that Adam and Eve went to school either].

210 - God revived the minds of men in preparation for the restoration of his divine truth in the Dispensation of the Fulness of Times.

211 - that there are instances of records having been kept on plates of brass as well as of gold confirms the account in the Book of Mormon [but the fact that the Hindu Vedas or Muslim Koran were written on parchment or stone does not mean it really happened historically or that their message is true].

In the Dark Ages knowledge was denied to the common people. They were instructed to depend upon their priests for knowledge [in the LDS Church, females are instructed to depend on their male priests for revelation and blessings from God].

213 - all matters were supposed to be settled by an appeal to clergy in those days. They in turn were to interpret the scriptures. The clergy prevented the common people from learning to read and write for fear they would interpret the Bible for themselves [in the LDS Church, one cannot receive a revelation to correct someone higher than them. For example, when Joseph Smith came preaching that a man on some other world became a God and then formed and peopled Earth, someone lower in authority could not receive a revelation to correct this false teaching. A father could only receive a revelation for himself or his children, possibly even his wife ... but not for his ward's bishop. But fortunately some Mormons are leaving their church because they accept the Bible as the final authority].

214 - Archbishop Arundel issued an enactment that no part of the Scriptures in English should be read in private or public. This flood-tide [of printing] spelled the doom of the Latin language as the language of literature [but Latin is still, I think, the official language of the Church of Rome].

## Chapter 18 - The Religious Reformation

- 216 - spiritual darkness comes through transgression of divine law [Adam and Eve transgressed the law of God and were banished from the Garden of Eden but Mormons honour Eve for her act of disobedience].
- 217 - the ecclesiastical power restricted the rights of religious worship. It decreed when and how a man should pray. No king was safe upon his throne without its sanction and approval.
- 218 - selling indulgences with the promise of absolving men from sin.
- 219 - there was a time of about forty years when there were three Popes.
- 227 - the Augsburg Confession contained twenty-eight articles stating the doctrines of Protestants and their reasons for withdrawing from the Church of Rome.

## Chapter 19 - The Protestant Revolution

- 230 - the marital relations of Henry VIII furnish one of the greatest blots on the fair name of Great Britain [the many marriages of the LDS Prophet Joseph Smith is a stumblingblock for would-be converts into the Mormon Church. Some Christians make it point of advertising this at yearly presentations of the Manti Pageant in Utah. Even new Mormon converts in other countries are not aware of this].
- 234 - contention between the [Protestant] sects at times became very pronounced and bitter [this same contention exists in the many Mormon sects].
- 236-237 - Satan endeavored to destroy agency among the spirits of men, or intelligences.
- 237 - Dispensation of the Fulness of Times.

## Chapter 20 - The World's Struggle for Independence

- 238 - government is exemplified in a republic [the United States used to be a republican type government. It is now a democratic type]. The doctrine of Lucifer is the government of force.
- 239 - Satan introduced the law of force. When life commenced upon this earth, Lucifer immediately set about to destroy the agency of man [in LDS theology, what was Lucifer's first such act on earth?].

239-240 - ambitious men are seeking power through the oppression of the people and their own exaltation through the law of force [but these people, unlike Mormons, do not believe they will become actual deities].

240 - this form of government caused most of the suffering of mankind [I suppose Satan formed this government through his temptation of Eve. He wanted them to follow him instead of God].

The fight between right and wrong, truth and error, force and persuasion, will go on until the end of time, or the end of the present world [in LDS theology, did Satan force or persuade Adam and Eve to disobey God?].

Today he [Satan] rages in the hearts of the people leading the vast majority of them astray [in the Garden of Eden, Satan lead Adam and Eve astray. But Latter-day Saints honour Eve for her actions].

241 - loyal citizens of the United States are very proud and jealous of their form of government. Especially is this true of the Latter-day Saints. The Lord established the Constitution of this land [I'm confused. Page 238 said that "government is exemplified in a republic". So, are Latter-day Saints very proud and jealous of a republic or democratic form of government?].

This land [the United States] was redeemed by the shedding of blood. A republic may become just as despotic as any other form of government [but a republic is preferred over a democracy].

242 - we have no record at any time or place of a more heroic and desperate struggle than the Dutch in the Netherlands [this supposedly exceeds any examples of the struggles of peoples in the Bible].

245 - is is very probable that the youthful martyr did see the heavens opened and angels smiling over them, for they were dying for the truth [this did not happen to Joseph Smith, but we do have a record that it happened to Stephen].

246 - the people of Scandinavia, Germany, and England were all sprinkled with the [physical] blood of Israel.

247 - our nation, the United States, was founded, it is true, on the principle that all men are created equal in their right to worship God.

## Chapter 21 - The Discovery of America

249 - the western hemisphere is where civilization began. The Lord revealed that Adam-ondi-Ahman, a place in Daviess County, Missouri, is where Adam dwelt after he was driven out of the Garden of Eden. The scriptures say that Adam journeyed to the east of Eden ... so the Garden of Eden must have been on the western hemisphere [there is also an urban legend that Noah built the ark in North Carolina]. The antediluvians also dwelt on this western hemisphere before the division of the earth. If we accept the scripture, all the land surface of the earth was in one place. The dividing of the continents did not take place until after the flood; in the days of Peleg.

250 - at the second advent of Jesus Christ, all continents will rejoin (D&C 133: 21-24). Noah landed at Ararat. The western world was swept clean (Ether 13:2). Having been cleansed from all its iniquity, this choice land [the United States] was again designated as a place for a chosen people.

251 - the people of Lehi, and perhaps the people of Mulek, were brought here in fulfillment of the promise made to Joseph. This western world was given to the Children of Joseph. The same warnings and promises given to the Children of Joseph were, no doubt, given to the antediluvians as well as to the Jaredites [but the antediluvians were all destroyed in the flood, so there were none living there with the Jaredites].

So we find the Nephites and Lamanites possessing this land of promise unmolested and free from interference by any other nation. The Lord withheld the knowledge of this land and its inhabitants from all other nations. The Lord had said that the land of Zion -- America -- is a choice land above all other lands upon the earth [the word 'America' is not found in the LDS scriptures].

253 - the Lord promised to keep this western hemisphere from the knowledge of other nations. The coming of Columbus was seen in vision by Nephi nearly six hundred years before the Christian Era.

254 - at the first, the seed of the Lamanites were scattered. In the end, the Gentiles became nursing fathers to these benighted Lamanites. Without any question Christopher Columbus was the man seen by Nephi. The testimony of Columbus confirms that he was inspired to cross the "many waters".

255 - Columbus' belief that he landed in India caused him to give to the native Lamanites the name of 'Indians'.

256 - Columbus presented evidence of the Lamanites at the Spanish court.

## Chapter 22 - The Gentiles in America

259-260 - the Gentiles [of the Western Hemisphere] received many blessings from the Lord, until a great nation and many lesser nations were established on all the face of the land.

260 - Nephi saw the struggle for independence on the part of American colonists against the mother Gentiles.

261 - a choice land above all other lands. We are under commandment to make our government conform to the righteous principles of the government of God [but most people follow the 'separation of church and state' motto].

The Lord kept peoples of the eastern hemisphere away and ignorant of this land [this would conform to what is taught in the Book of Mormon. The Nephites and Lamanites did not meet any other peoples. I forget the particular reference]. America was to be a land of liberty to the Gentiles (2 Nephi 10:10-16) [there is some commentary at the site below, but I have not had a chance to analyze it yet:

[http://www.fairmormon.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/ash-Were\\_the\\_Lehites\\_Alone.pdf](http://www.fairmormon.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/ash-Were_the_Lehites_Alone.pdf)

But the article does contradict some teachings of LDS President Joseph Fielding Smith, in the 3-volume set, *Doctrines of Salvation*].

263 - the Europeans looked upon the Lamanites who possessed the American Continent as being savages [the Lamanites are equated with the Indians].

264 - the Indians would have had as good a right had they sailed to the shores of Europe and planted their standards there by force or supposed superior civilization [the Indians are equated with the Lamanites]. Human nature has not changed in the past six thousand years of earth's temporal existence [this teaching of the earth being only six thousand years old is repeated in several books written by Joseph Fielding Smith and others. It is also found in the Doctrine and Covenants].

The treatment the Indians have received from the Gentiles upon the land has been one great blot of injustice and crime. The Lamanites were nomadic in their nature and moved from place to place; because they had no knowledge of Christianity--as it was taught at that time; because they had a dark skin [this seems to say that people who are Christians are not nomadic in nature. The topic of dark skin has been covered extensive on this web page. LDS President Smith keeps using the term Indians and Lamanites to refer to the same people].

265 - the natives were honest and made treaties with the whites [In the Book of Mormon, 4 Nephi 1:45-46 records the Nephites had become wicked as the Lamanites. Moroni 9:20 records the Nephites even exceeded the wickedness of the Lamanites. The Nephites were said to have raped the Lamanite women, tortured them to death, and then ate their flesh (Moroni 9:9-10)—and in none of these circumstances did their skin color become dark. Of the Lamanites, Alma 17:14 says they were "a wild, ferocious, plundering, robbing, and murdering people". It does not seem that the Indians are descendants of the Nephites or Lamanites].

Truly there is much in these days of gangsters ... like the Gadianton robbers of old ... excessive taxation of the people. Gregory Mason, in his excellent work "Columbus Came Late" says "The Strangers (Europeans) were armed with swords of a hard sharp material never before seen in America. The Europeans were more skillful than Americans in the Art of killing men".

267 - these poor natives were of his [Christ's] chosen people. The Spaniards brought priests intent on converting the Lamanites to the Catholic faith [the Lamanites are equated with the Indians].

272 - little by little, many of the Gentiles, as seen by Nephi, crossed the "many waters" and found a place of refuge and residence in this land choice above all other lands [the LDS Church teaches that 1 Nephi 13:12-15 is a reference to Christopher Columbus and the white people coming to America.

"And I looked and beheld a man among the Gentiles, who was separated from the seed of my brethren by the many waters; and I beheld the Spirit of God, that it came down and wrought upon the man; and he went forth upon the many waters, even unto the seed of my brethren, who were in the promised land. And it came to pass that I beheld the Spirit of God, that it wrought upon other Gentiles; and they went forth out of captivity, upon the many waters. And it came to pass that I beheld many multitudes of the Gentiles upon the land of promise; and I beheld the wrath of God, that it was upon the seed of my brethren; and they were scattered before the Gentiles and were smitten. And I beheld the Spirit of the Lord, that it was upon the Gentiles, and they did prosper and obtain the land for their inheritance; and I beheld that they were white, and exceedingly fair and beautiful, like unto my people before they were slain."

This theme is found in various publications of the LDS Church throughout her history. In recent years, the LDS Church seems to have shied away from the meaning of "white, fair, and beautiful" when comparing the Nephites which were slain and the Europeans that came. Some Mormons are trying hard to obscure the teaching of the dark skin curse of God upon the Lamanites.



## Chapter 23 - Growth of the American Colonies

274 - the Lord proclaimed two thousand years before the Gentiles came to America that it would be unto them a land of liberty. The land (America) has been fortified against aggression of all European powers since the War of Independence. The attempt on the part of Gentiles to set up kings has proved to be very disastrous. There are no kings upon the land which has been raised unto the Gentiles [but there are presidents; with similar powers].

275 - the American continents are filled with republics, for America has been the cradle of liberty for the whole world [the United States form of government is now a democratic, not a republic]. The English monarch of Great Britain endeavored to force his kind of worship upon all the people.

277 - Roger Williams believed that the American continent belonged to the Indians.

## Chapter 24 - The American Revolution

285 - when we look back to 1775, it is plain to see that the Lord was keeping his promise and fighting the battles of the colonists. It was the decree of the Almighty that the American land should be free.

286 - the freedom of the United States is based on a republic [the United States today does not have a republic form of government. It is a democratic form].

288 - the Lord expects great things of this American nation in preparation for the ushering in of the kingdom of God [in New Testament times, the Lord is dealing with his people, the Church, not a nation].

## Chapter 25 - Adopting the Constitution of the United States

290 - the Lord required the establishment of a strong government dedicated to liberty upon this American land [the Lord is building his church even in Communist countries where the persecution is great].

298 - the Constitution is our assurance against anarchy and despotism [unfortunately it is not an assurance against corruption in the current US government].

299 - above all peoples on the face of the earth, the Latter-day Saints should uphold, defend, and cherish this sacred document [it seems President Smith views the Latter-day Saints as saviours above all peoples. But there are non-Mormons who cherish liberty just as much or more].

It has been predicted that the time will come when it [the Constitution] will be threatened with destruction, and when that time comes the true Latter-day Saints will rally to its support [see [lds-constitution-hanging-by-a-thread-statements.pdf](#) and [lds-constitution-hanging-by-a-thread-statements-other.pdf](#). Some have said this refers to the "White Horse Prophecy". But the LDS Church teaches the rider of the white horse is Enoch and this event has already happened. See the 2003 version of "New Testament: Student Study guide, Revelation 6–7 — Symbolism in the Six Seals, ages 167–168].

#### Chapter 26 - The Constitution - Legislative Powers

303 - the chapter speaks of the structure of government.

#### Chapter 27 - The Constitution - Executive and Judicial Powers

315 - only a natural born Citizen or a citizen of the United States can hold the office of President.

#### Chapter 28 - The Amendments to the Constitution

324 - the chapter speaks of the structure of government.

#### Chapter 29 - Church Authorities and the Constitution

335 - the Constitution was given by inspiration of the Almighty.

336 - Joseph Smith said he was the greatest advocate of the Constitution of the United States there is on earth [doesn't sound as if he was humble though].

337 - the Constitution was not good enough because it does not punish people if they encroach upon other peoples' religious freedom.

338 - the Almighty moved upon Columbus to launch forth upon the trackless deep to discover the American Continent.

339 - in the future the destiny of the nation will hang upon a single thread.

340 - Joseph Smith declared that the Elders of the Church should step forth at a particular time when the Constitution would be in danger, and rescue it, and save it (Journal of Discourses 6:152).

342 - Joseph Smith predicted a time when the Constitution of our country would hang as it were by a thread.

343 - the Mutual Improvement Association has endeavored to introduce among the members a manual relating to the government of our country [I wish Canada would do this to all its citizens, especially the new-comers].

344 - he was told repeatedly that the time would come when the Constitution would be in danger.

### Chapter 30 - The British Constitution

346 - respect authority. Peter impressed this duty upon the primitive Saints, and it forms the substance of the Twelfth Article of Faith given to the Church by the Prophet Joseph Smith [I wonder why Joseph Smith did not have more than twelve articles of faith. After all, he could borrow more ideas from the Bible to create more].

348 - the blood of Israel is profusely scattered throughout the island of Great Britain; not so profusely in the "Emerald Isle." [the LDS Church is keen on the physical blood of Israel].

349 - another sign that the blood of Israel was widely diffused in Great Britain is manifest in the fact that out of this land have come to the land of Zion the thousands who have received the Gospel [in this sense, the land of Zion is the United States]. Great Britain, the Scandinavian countries, and Germany are closely related by blood [that is, Israelite blood].

350 - Satan's plan is compelling people to bow to the yoke of despotism.

351 - the Nephites had representative government for hundreds of years.

354 - enforcement of law in Great Britain is far superior to that in the United States.

356 - Great Britain is a nation of destiny.

## Chapter 31 - The Monroe Doctrine

357 - it is generally understood throughout the Church that the United States is the great nation among the Gentiles which was to be raised up. The United States has a mission on this continent as the protector of all other nations on this hemisphere in exercise and defense of liberty [but she has expanded this role of nation-building to the Middle East and other nations which supposedly pose a threat to her. This is slowly decreasing as the U.S. dollar loses reserve currency status and the Americans lose their appetite for war].

361 - John Quincy Adams declared the whole of North America belonged to the United States by the "law of nature" [fortunately Canada was able to get a huge land mass].

## Chapter 32 - Church Doctrine on Governments and Law

365 - observe law of the land. This forms the basis for the Twelfth Article of Faith.

366 - the land of Zion (Missouri). The land of their inheritance. The Lord renders unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's. The land of Zion should be obtained by purchase or by blood, otherwise there is none inheritance for you. Few shall receive an inheritance (D&C 63:25-31) [these are some peculiar LDS teachings. The New Testament disciples were not given nor promised any land of Zion for their inheritance. Abraham was waiting for a city not of this earth].

367 - the Doctrine and Covenants was presented for acceptance or rejection at a conference on August 17 1835 in Kirtland, Ohio.

372 - the Lord corrected Paul's quote in the Bible about being subject to higher powers [let's examine this claim.

Romans 13:1-3 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same.

For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all

their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom;  
fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour (verses 6-7).

JST version

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power in the church but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves punishment. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same (verses 1-3).

For, for this cause pay ye your consecrations also unto them; for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. But first, render to all their dues, according to custom, tribute to whom tribute, custom to whom custom, that your consecrations may be done in fear of him to whom fear belongs, and in honor of him to whom honor belongs (verses 6-7).

It doesn't look like a correction; rather Joseph Smith inserted the phrase "in the church" to the first part and replaced the word "damnation" with punishment. But Joseph Smith viewed damnation as punishment - those Mormons who do not inherit eternal life are punished (damned) because they cannot become gods and goddesses and they cannot have spirit children. The proper way to understand the phrase "there is no power" is to include both things in and out of the church. For some reason Joseph Smith decided to omit the fact that the power of God extends to even secular governments. The JST used by the LDS Church is found at <https://www.lds.org/scriptures/jst?lang=eng> [The Community of Christ (another sect of Mormonism) believes Joseph Smith completed the entire translation process of the Bible but the main LDS Church rejects this claim].

### Chapter 33 - Modern Religious and Moral Trends

373 - nations of the earth are rapidly drifting towards the abyss of destruction.

376 - the Lord has a controversy with the nations.

379 - modernism and liberalism declare that sin was not introduced through the transgression of a law but that sin has always been in the world. This doctrine, of course, does away with the "fall" of man. Therefore the story of Adam and the Garden of Eden is a myth [modernism and liberalism has also crept into the LDS Church. Former LDS President Kimball denied that Eve was literally formed from Adam's rib. He said, "The story of the rib, of course,

is figurative" (Religion 327 – Pearl of Great Price Student Manual, p. 11; "The Blessings and Responsibilities of Womanhood," Ensign, March 1976, p. 71). He has a hard time explaining why God had to put Adam into a deep sleep just before forming Eve. They consider it as a "fall upward" or "positive fall".

Also, there are some Mormons who claim Adam and Eve did not sin in the Garden of Eden when they disobeyed God. You find many conflicting teachings about this in LDS history. See Original Sin at [www.ldslearning.org](http://www.ldslearning.org)].

385 - Brigham Young proclaimed the Christian world is coming to the point where they will dismiss the Bible from the schools [as we read through various of her training manuals, the LDS Church has dismissed several teachings of the Bible from her theology].

388 - no man who is of marriageable age is living his religion who remains single (Gospel Doctrine, chapter 16; The Way to Perfection, chapters 34-36).

389 - without marriage the purpose of God would be frustrated [in LDS theology, the purpose of God was frustrated in the Garden of Eden. They teach that only with the eating of the forbidden fruit did Adam and Eve gain the power to have children]. Thereupon [on matrimony] depends eternal happiness or eternal misery [it is taught that Mormons who are not sealed in a temple will suffer eternal misery because they will not become gods or goddesses capable of having their own spirit children]. Adulterers shall be put to death.

391 - the greatest glory that can be given to man is found in the eternal covenant of marriage -- the power to become gods, even the sons of God and to possess the power to create and hold the everlasting right of increase [Mormons use Moses 1:39 to try to insinuate this]. Unchastity is a sin second only to murder.

391-392 - tobacco impairs and destroys [so do acidic drinks but the LDS Church has not come out officially against them].

392 - the Sabbath day is sacred. Governments encourage the violation of this sacred day. Sunday is the great holiday, the day of pleasure in many parts of our fair land.

393 - even in the land of Zion the Sabbath day is not observed as it should be as a day of rest and worship.

## Chapter 34 - Modern Trends in Government

395 - in the Dispensation of the Meridian of Time, the gospel was first presented to the Jews. Jerusalem was trodden down of the Gentiles ... from 70 A.D. until the close of 1917. At that time, the British armies took possession of Palestine during the World War.

397 - the Lord said that the beginning of the end was to be at the rebellion of South Carolina, at the commencement of the Civil War in the United States (D&C 87:6).

398-399 - the day of D&C 1:34-35 has now arrived. The angels have been sent on their mission to reap down the earth and to bind the tares that they may be burned [Joseph Smith said that the tares are the ones who don't inherit eternal life - "Therefore, I must gather together my people, according to the parable of the wheat and the tares, that the wheat may be secured in the garners to possess eternal life, and be crowned with celestial glory, when I shall come in the kingdom of my Father to reward every man according as his work shall be; While the tares shall be bound in bundles, and their bands made strong, that they may be burned with unquenchable fire" (D&C 101:65-66)].

404 - the rise of Gog and Magog (Ezekiel chapters 36-39).

405 - it is a fact well known that Judah and the ten tribes have never been one nation upon the mountains of Israel since the day they were first divided into two nations [but Latter-day Saints use Ezekiel 37:16-22 to refer to the Book of Mormon and the Bible instead of these two nations becoming one nation again].

406-409 - the book gives a description of this event but no mention of Magog. This great event occurs just before the Second Coming.

## Chapter 35 - Preparing the Way for a Greater

414 - mankind has existed for ages in a divided state -- in a broken condition, because of the rebellion against the laws and government of heaven [this rebellion started in the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve. But in LDS theology, Mormons honour Eve for her courageous act in disobeying God. "Some Christians condemn Eve for her act, concluding that she and her daughters are somehow flawed by it. Not the Latter-day Saints! Informed by revelation, we celebrate Eve's act and honor her wisdom and courage in the great episode called the Fall (see Bruce R. McConkie, "Eve and the Fall," Woman, Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1979, pp. 67-68). Brigham Young declared, "We should never blame Mother Eve, not the least" (in Journal of

Discourses, 13:145). (General Conference, October 1993, "The Great Plan of Happiness", Elder Dallin H. Oaks)].

415 - the government of the United States, or constitution came from God. The people were not prepared for it [a theocracy] -- they were too corrupt [this would seem to include the Latter-day Saints in Missouri for they did not have a theocracy].

416 - the Latter-day Saints venerate and defend the United States [I did not see them defend the United States when the form of government change from a republic to a democratic form. There's a big difference]. The organization of the United States government produced liberty for the Mormons.

418 - the constitution of the United States allowed the Mormons to form their ecclesiastical government. Its laws emanated from the throne of God. The government of the United States gave safety to the Latter-day Saints. If this republican government had not been organized upon this continent, the kingdom of God could not have been protected [the Lord did a pretty good job of protecting his church in the days of Rome and subsequent persecution in other dictatorial nations. Besides, the United States is no longer a republican form of government].

419 - Columbus was inspired to find this land [Columbus did not discover the United States].

420 - the republic [of the United States] was organized upon this continent to prepare the way for a kingdom which shall have dominion over all the earth to the ends thereof [this republic government became a democrat].

420-421 - the kingdom of God (Daniel's vision of a stone cut out of the mountains) is said to be the LDS Church.

### Chapter 36 - The Church

422 - some people think that the Church of Jesus Christ was not set up until Christ came in the Meridian of Time to establish it. Since God is everlasting and changes not, then in all consistency we should expect to find his plan for the salvation of mankind to be the same in all ages of the world [but the LDS Church refused to extend the priesthood to Blacks of African descent until 1978].

423 - faulty translation of the scriptures [Mormons really mean the Bible] and the elimination of many plain parts caused the people to conclude that Jesus revealed something new and different from that which was given to the ancients.



- 424 - the Christian world is hopelessly shattered into separate and independent parts [the Mormon Church fractured into various sects after the death of their prophet].
- 426 - God's divine law cannot be changed. The Church is used to bring to pass the eternal life of man. The Church's laws and regulations cannot be changed because God is the Author and he is unchangeable. His name is "Endless and Eternal;" it is, the "Everlasting God." These names are his because he possesses these qualities, and therefore he cannot change [Joseph Smith taught the Mormon Heavenly Father was once a man who became a God. The LDS Church has changed the ceremonies in their temples. They have even changed the design and length of the temple garments. The LDS Church also changed the ordinances when they stopped polygamy and started granting the priesthood to those of African descent].
- 427 - he that repents and does the commandments of the Lord will be forgiven. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the only legal government on the earth.
- 428 - the antediluvians were overthrown by a flood because they rejected the government of the Almighty. Noah and his family were the only loyal and obedient subjects to the legal power: they alone were saved [the LDS Church used to teach that God preserved the curse of Cain through the lineage of Ham. See [book-of-mormon-curse-of-dark-skin.htm](#)].
- 429 - the Kingdom of God is a theocracy. The Kingdom of God is the Church (Elder Orson Pratt, 1848, treatise on "The Kingdom of God") [he really means The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints].
- 430 - God is the King. The governments have killed off, and utterly destroyed, every true subject of His kingdom [Jesus said his church would prevail against the gates of hell]. The persons of the Father and the Son cannot be everywhere present. No person was ever authorized to act in the name of the Lord, unless called by new revelation [but the current LDS Church rejects the early Mormons using the Pearl of Great Price and Book of Mormon to bar Blacks of African descent from holding the priesthood. Today it views the practice as racist. See [book-of-mormon-curse-of-dark-skin.htm](#). The LDS Church was never able to produce a 'revelation' allowing Blacks to hold the priesthood. It is only referred to as a 'declaration'. The same with polygamy.

Adoption means that aliens are admitted into the kingdom as citizens. There are four rules of adoption: 1) faith 2) repentance 3) baptism 4) laying on of hands. Both the rules and blessings of adoption are the same in all ages and dispensations of the Gospel [the LDS Church has changed significantly

since its foundation. Many modern day Mormons reject the teachings of their former LDS Presidents and they have also changed things pertaining to their temples].

432 - persons ignorant of the laws of the kingdom are liable to be deceived [some Mormons have been deceived by Joseph Smith when he taught Heavenly Father was once a man who became a God]. Citizens of the kingdom should, without any hesitation, adhere strictly to advice or counsel [this presupposes that Mormon elders tell the truth in books and General Conference talks]. God requires the most perfect obedience on the part of His subjects. We may not always discern the end or result of doing as we are commanded; but this is no excuse for disobedience [the end result of worshiping Joseph Smith's false god is damnation. Have you also believe the lie of Satan ... that you can become a god?].

433 - it is the duty upon all inhabitants of the kingdom to plainly make known all their wants and represent all their grievances or wrongs which they may have endured from the citizens of other governments [this is not accordance with New Testament writings. Also, it basically encourages people to view God as the Great Santa Claus]. The promised blessings for the citizens are tongues, interpretations ... the power to cast out devils ... power against deadly poisons. Eternal life is the greatest gift [but Mormons view this as a reward for their good works, not as something not earned. See a-gift-or-debt.htm].

434 - Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed for rejecting their prophets. The Kingdom of God exists when there is an authorized prophet, priest, or righteous man unto whom God gives his oracles [the LDS President omits women here]. The Latter-day Saints never speak against the laws of the land [how about Proposition 8 in California? I hear the Mormons were criticized for their stance].

All ordinances are useless unless they are ordained and authorized of God through a legal administrator [in plain english, the LDS Church believes all ordinances performed in the Catholic Church are useless].

435 - baptism is a sign to God that we will do the will of God.

436 - Joseph Smith said Adam was made to open the ways of the world and for dressing the Garden. Noah was born to save seed of everything, when the earth was washed of its wickedness by the flood. The Son of God came into the world to redeem it from the fall [was Noah only born to save seed?].

The city of the living God is the heavenly Jerusalem [the Mormons also include the past city of Enoch and their future city of New Jerusalem in Jackson County].

## Chapter 37 - Church Organization

- 437 - the Christian world is a house of confusion with its conflicting creeds and organizations [Joseph Fielding Smith ignores the house of confusion in his own Mormon world with all its various sects].
- 439-440 - the gifts which are spoken of in the first part of this discourse to the Corinthians are not among their churches [Mormons misunderstand the speaking of tongues. They believe you have the gift of tongues if you can learn to speak in a language like French for example].
- 440 - the World War was fought between conflicting so-called Christian nations, thus proving that they were not in any sense parts of the Church of Jesus Christ [I would hardly classify Nazi Germany and Facist Italy as so-called Christian nations].
- 441 - all offices in the church have been determined by revelation and cannot be changed without commandment from the Head [the LDS Church has changed temple ordinances and ceremonies without commandment].
- 443 - God and Christ dwells in the third and highest kingdom.
- 444 - the great work and glory of the Lord is to "bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man" [Mormons use this reference in Moses 1:39 to mean exaltation to godhood].
- 445 - immortality is the gift of God through the Atonement of Jesus Christ for all (Alma 11:44). To obtain eternal life, a person must abide in the law of the gospel. It comes only through obedience and the willingness to live in humble and constant harmony with the laws of God [in LDS theology, eternal life is not a gift but rather a reward for good works. This is against the teaching of Jesus Christ in the Bible. Immortality, a gift, is different from eternal life].
- 447 - the fulness of exaltation is based upon obedience to laws [in LDS theology, exaltation is synonymous with eternal life. Eternal life is not a gift]. All blessings are predicated upon obedience (D&C 130:20-21) [but LDS theology teaches that great blessings were bestowed upon Adam and Eve for their disobedience in the Garden of Eden. See chapter 6 of Gospel Principles; both the 1978 and current versions].
- 448 - the purpose of life is to prepare man for joy in the eternal existence. Happiness is the object and design of our existence (History of the Church, 5:134) [in Mormonism, the purpose of life is not to glorify or worship God but rather to gain your own godhood].

450 - the unfaithful will be cut off from their fathers, mothers, their husbands, wives, their children, and have no portion or lot or inheritance in the Kingdom of God, both in time and eternity (Gospel Doctrine, pp. 133-134) [this is what some have coined 'unforever families'. Unfortunately, these single husbands and wives will also be banished from God's kingdom. Unless of course that the now-single wife enters into a polygamous marriage with an already-married man or if she marries another now-single husband of a previous marriage. Parentless children may need to be given to other foster parents so that they can live with Heavenly Father in his kingdom. In LDS theology, many Mormon families will actually cease to be families in the afterlife because of their peculiar beliefs].

It is not meet that things which belong to the children of the Kingdom should be given to them that are not worthy, or to dogs, or the pearls to be cast before swine (D&C 41:5-6) [in a subtle way, Joseph Fielding Smith also includes Mormons who do not accept the deeper things of the gospel as unworthy, dogs, and swine].

#### Chapter 38 - Nations of Destiny

451 - when Moses led Israel out of Egypt, they were organized in a divine theocracy. Pagan nations frequently served the purpose of the Lord in punishing Israel.

452 - the Babylonians fulfilled the prophetic warnings given to Israel by the prophet Jeremiah [odd how he did not say Lehi].

454 - we know that Joseph Smith was named, as was his father, thousands of years before he and his father were born [Latter-day Saints believe this is a reference to 2 Nephi 3:4-16. The notes section of this chapter says, "Joseph in Egypt saw the Nephites in vision—He prophesied of Joseph Smith, the latter-day seer; of Moses, who would deliver Israel; and of the coming forth of the Book of Mormon". See also Lesson 25: 2 Nephi 3, Book of Mormon Seminary Teacher Manual, 2012, <https://www.lds.org/manual/book-of-mormon-seminary-teacher-manual-2013/2-nephi/lesson-25?lang=eng>

The Israelites were the most favored people, in their time, upon the face of the earth. The Lord bestowed upon the tribes the power of the priesthood [some clarification here. Only the Levites had the priesthood]. The Romans came and fulfilled this prophecy ("The Lord shall bring a nation against thee from afar, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand; A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young").

456 - the early fathers of this American continent felt they were superior in power and knowledge to the native Lamanites [i.e. the Native American Indians]. Drive the wild men from their lands and possess them [Mosiah 10:12].

It was revealed to Nephi that the Jews, at that particular time, were the most wicked of all people upon the earth [this is mentioned in 2 Nephi 10:3, but he does not mention a time frame. "Wherefore, as I said unto you, it must needs be expedient that Christ—for in the last night the angel spake unto me that this should be his name—should come among the Jews, among those who are the more wicked part of the world; and they shall crucify him—for thus it behooveth our God, and there is none other nation on earth that would crucify their God". When you really think about it, Jesus would have been killed if he came to any nation, for he came to provide an atonement. The Lamanites mentioned in the Book of Mormon resorted to offering up Nephite women and children prisoners as human sacrifices to their idols (Mormon 4:15). Mormon 4:12 even records that these people were the most wicked of any of the tribes of Israel. The time frame given is 363 and 375 A.D., well after the crucifixion of Christ. But as I stated before, Nephi did not give us a time frame].

456-457 - the Roman yoke upon their necks restricted the Jews and granted freedom to Christ and his disciples, which freedom would not have been exercised had the Jews possessed their ancient independence [after Jesus ascended into heaven, the disciples were persecuted by Jews and Romans alike. The same Roman yoke was upon the disciples].

One of the blessings conferred upon Abraham resulted in the mingling of the blood of Israel among the Gentiles. While they were being punished at the same time they were leavening the Gentile lump with the blood of Abraham, according to the promise. The result is that the Gentiles are also of the house of Israel by descent. Particularly is this true of the nations of Protestant Europe and America [LDS theology places a great importance on the physical blood of Abraham]. Ephraim is the first to be honored in this last dispensation [such teaching is foreign to the LDS scriptures].

458 - four carpenters (nations) will be instrumental in the gathering of Israel. It is plain to see that Great Britain is one of these nations [I could not find a reference in the specifically LDS scriptures to these four carpenters. I do find it mentioned in Zechariah 1:20 however. "And the Lord shewed me four carpenters. Then said I, What come these to do? And he spake, saying, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, so that no man did lift up his head: but these are come to fray them, to cast out the horns of the Gentiles, which lifted up their horn over the land of Judah to scatter it". Do you see how Joseph Fielding Smith is twisting the scripture? It does

not mean what he is saying].

Great Britain is carrying their sons and daughters back to their ancient home of Israel. This is their right, for the blood of Israel is abundantly distributed among the British people [some have coined this "British Israelism"].

458-459 - no nation has loved liberty and exercised more tolerance than Great Britain.

459 - for one hundred years Ephraim has been gathering to the land of his inheritance [the LDS leadership has stated that this gathering to the land of Zion has ceased to be a commandment of the Lord. The place for gathering now is to individual wards in their own country. I found it rather strange that Joseph Fielding Smith does not mention Manasseh]. Britain is a nursing father to the Jews and is protecting them in their return [I wonder if Mormons know that Russia is helping send Jews to Israel?]. The great and powerful nation of Great Britain has been favored of the Lord for more than a thousand years [did Great Britain even exist as a nation since a thousand years ago?].

#### Chapter 39 - The Mission of the United States

461 - the United States has been, from the beginning, divinely favored of the Lord.

461-462 - the United States is spoken of in the Book of Mormon as a mighty nation among the Gentiles [the word America is not found in the Book of Mormon].

462 - this land is choice above all other lands.

462-463 - six hundred years before the birth of Christ the Lord declared that in the last days the land of America -- called then the promised land -- should be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles [the Bible mentions some countries that we are aware of, but the Book of Mormon does not mention America]. Joseph Smith said there shall be no kings upon the land.

463 - the Lord will be their king. This land of America has been named by the Almighty the Land of Zion [this is not in the Mormon canon].

464 - Jesus Christ is the king of this land. The land of Zion is dedicated and consecrated as the home of the pure in heart.

466 - the United States is to be the protector of the weaker nations upon this land.

467 - there shall be no kings upon this land.

468 - Zion refers to the whole American hemisphere. Zion also refers to members of the [LDS] Church collectively. The world will suffer God's wrath in justice.

#### Chapter 40 - The Kingdom of God

470 - if Jesus ruled upon the earth today ... there would be only happiness and people [God ruled upon the earth when Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden but LDS theology teaches they had no joy before the Fall].

471-472 - the Constitution of the United States is in grave danger as it was predicted by the Prophet Joseph Smith [this alludes to the hanging thread prophecy].

472 - the Spirit of the Lord was the dominating factor in the framing of the Constitution of the United States. It is the duty of all members of the [LDS] Church to uphold and sustain this government and to stand by the Constitution and preserve it from all attacks [the mission of the early church was not politics]. Men and women in our nation are like the righteous in times of old, confidently looking for the coming of a country, and "a city whose builder and maker is God" [Abraham was not looking for the coming of a country]

475 - the Kingdom of the God is the Church. It will be set up in power to govern all the earth as a political kingdom [that would explain why Joseph Smith sought the Presidency of the United States].

477 - since the fall of Adam and his ejection from the Garden of Eden, Satan has usurped authority and dominion upon the earth [Latter-day Saints honor Eve for her role in the rebellion]. The Almighty allowed this domination by the forces of evil [I am not sure why Mormons don't also honor Satan for his role in helping to initiate Adam's and Eve's progression. If it wasn't for him, the Mormon Adam and Eve would still be stuck in the Garden of Eden without joy and without procreation].

## Chapter 41 - The Coming of the Lord

- 479 - Daniel saw ten kingdoms that should rise out of the Roman Empire, and later, another kingdom described as a little horn ... speaking great things in blasphemy against the Most High [Revelation says, "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast". I don't believe Daniel saw ten kingdoms coming out of the Roman Empire].
- 480 - the Ancient of Days shall sit in Missouri. Adam dwelt in Adam-ondi-Ahman, in Missouri, after he was driven from the Garden of Eden. Adam was called Michael, the prince, the archangel.
- 481 - Adam is the Ancient of Days. He is Michael the archangel or Adam the oldest of all. The gathering of the children of Adam [in Missouri] will be one of the greatest events ever seen [it is very strange that Joseph Fielding Smith does not mention the city of New Jerusalem that Mormons must build in preparation for the return of Christ. See "The Coming of the Lord", Gerald N. Lund, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/62792449/Coming-of-the-Lord>].
- 482 - then Christ will be received as King of kings. We don't know how long a time this gathering will be in session, or how many sessions may be held at this Grand Council. After everyone's report has been revealed, then Christ will be installed as rightful Ruler of this earth [odd how he does not mention all the other inhabited planets he believes Jesus created]. This inauguration will precede the great day of destruction.
- 484 - Jesus will come when the vast majority of mankind are the least prepared for it [even Mormons waiting for the building of their New Jerusalem before the Second Coming will be caught off guard by a false teaching of their church - see the book by Gerald N. Lund mentioned above. The LDS Church teaches that Jesus will make a special appearance to the leaders in the New Jerusalem before he makes a public appearance to the world. See Religion 430-431 - Doctrines of the Gospel Student Manual]. Those days will be like the days of Noah when the great flood swept over the earth.
- 485 - Satan has been contending with men for six thousand years [there are many teachings that in LDS theology the earth is about six thousand years old]. The earth's Sabbath is the seventh thousand years.
- 489 - the new and everlasting covenant is the fulness of the gospel as it has been revealed [much of the LDS gospel is not found in the Book of Mormon]. Many of us [Mormons] have broken the new and everlasting covenant. Elijah came in April 1836.



490 - there will be great wailing as there was at the destruction among the Nephites at the crucifixion of our Savior [odd how he does not include the Lamanites. These events are described in 1 Nephi 19:10, 3 Nephi 8:3,8-16, and 3 Nephi 9:19-23. Darkness lasted for three days and about sixteen cities were destroyed. In the Book of Mormon, the temple veil was not rent in two. In fact, this very important event is not even mentioned. Study Hebrews chapters 9 and 10 for its spiritual significance. There was one momentary earthquake in the Bible. Darkness lasted only 3 hours (Luke 23: 44) and no cities were destroyed and people were not slain. The only people who died were Jesus and the two thieves].

#### Chapter 42 - The Destiny of the Earth

493 - the Lord gave Abraham the Urim and Thummim.

494 - Abraham saw Kolob, a great star near God's throne. Kolob was near the throne and was the greatest of all the Kokaubeam. Kolob is the first creation.

495 - Oliblish is a star next to Kolob in governing influence. One day in Kolob is equal to a thousand years according to the measurement of this earth [I wonder if the other inhabited earths in LDS theology have a similar measurement].

497 - worlds are filling the measure of their creation, dying, receiving their resurrection and place in the great universe, and others are coming to take their place and go through the same course of development. In this way the work of the Lord is one eternal round [it seems LDS theology has many Adams, Eves, Lucifers, and atonements. Or if Jesus is the only redeemer, then he must be making many Second Comings. I wonder how the inhabitants of these other planets can put their belief in an extraterrestrial Jesus who did not live on their planet].

499 - scriptures teach that God and celestialized beings live in everlasting burnings. Mortals, or flesh and blood, cannot endure these conditions [everlasting burnings are mentioned in Isaiah 33. "Ye shall conceive chaff, ye shall bring forth stubble: your breath, as fire, shall devour you. And the people shall be as the burnings of lime: as thorns cut up shall they be burned in the fire. Hear, ye that are far off, what I have done; and, ye that are near, acknowledge my might. The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?". This is speaking of judgment].

500 - this earth of ours was destined by the Father to become a celestial orb [I wonder if all the other LDS earths were also destined to become celestial orbs].

501 - those not worth of a place on this earth will have to make their abode on some other sphere [forever-families will be a myth for many Mormons]. Earth was to become the abode for celestial beings. After the Fall of Adam a curse was placed upon the earth. It is passing through its telestial order [but Genesis 8:20-21 said, "And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done"].

502 - the earth will enter a terrestrial order in the Millennium.

503 - new heavens and new earth will be the earth and its heavens in its purified, or restored state, during the Millennium. It will not be the final new heaven and earth [the scripture only describes the new heavens and new earth after the Millennial period].

505 - [after the Millennium] Michael shall lead his forces against Lucifer who shall be banished with his followers into the second death [this is a reference to page 285 of Gospel Principles - "At the end of the thousand years, Satan will be set free. Some people will turn away from Heavenly Father. Satan will gather his armies and Michael (Adam) will gather the hosts of heaven. In this great struggle, Satan and his followers will be cast out forever". The Bible teaches a great fire comes down from heaven to devour Satan and his armies. There is no great struggle and no heavenly armies are involved. It is only God and his judgment by fire: "And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city; and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them" (Rev. 20:9). Does this sound like a great struggle to you?].

#### Chapter 43 - The Destiny of Man

506 - there were innumerable worlds that have been created, and as one passes away to its exaltation another comes [this is the idea of one eternal round mentioned before]. There is only one purpose in the creation of earths like unto this where we dwell, and all other worlds throughout the universe, and that purpose is to provide habitations for mankind.

507 - there are three stages of existence: a) first, we existed as a spirit in the presence of God b) second, we are privileged to come to earth, here or somewhere else and pass through mortality c) third and final state is resurrection. This is immortality. This is a gift. Unconditional redemption. [President Smith forgot to mention another state; that of being eternal intelligences before being formed into spirit children of Heavenly Parents. The Mormon Heavenly Father and Mother are already God and Goddess before Jesus becomes the first spirit child born to them and before he himself becomes a God].

Transgression of the first parent ... from its penalty. Unconditional redemption is a gift forced upon mankind. Redemption from the original sin is without faith [in the Book of Mormon, Alma 42 speaks of this penalty].

508 - redemption from our own sins is given through faith and works. This is a gift merely offered to us conditionally. The earth, like the posterity of Adam, was cursed because of the original sin, and like them, it will be redeemed unconditionally and restored again unto the presence of God [the Bible says that only the ground was cursed when Adam and Eve disobeyed God. I could not find any Mormon scripture which says the posterity of Adam was cursed because of their original sin, unless mortal death is the curse. The Book of Mormon mentions another curse which fell on certain peoples. See [book-of-mormon-curse-of-dark-skin.htm](#)].

Conditional salvation is based upon obedience to the laws of God. Look at the infliction of the first [penalty] during the past six thousand years [this teaching of the earth's temporal existence being six thousand years is prevalent in LDS teachings of the past]. The first death extended its ravages among all nations and generations since the first law was broken [the 1978 version of Gospel Principles says great blessings resulted in the Fall].

This was the first provocation. The second death is a penalty of the second provocation [the Book of Mormon mentions three provocations: Alma 12:36 is about the first and the last. The word 'first' in that verse is linked to other BOM passages, mostly dealing with the fall of Adam. Jacob 1:7 mentions the provocation of the Israelites in the wilderness after being led out of Egypt].

In regard to any future penalty with which the sinner is threatened. If the sin of one man brought the first death upon unnumbered millions, why not the sin of each man bring the second death upon himself? [this is much contradiction in LDS teachings about whether or not Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. See <http://ldslearning.org/original-sin.htm>]. All mankind are to be fully redeemed from the effects of the original sin.

509 - redeemed from the curse of the original sin [I am not aware of any Mormon scripture which says Cain and Abel were cursed because of original sin]. Exaltation will be given to the few. There never was a time when worlds did not exist [Mormons do not know who the first God in their pantheon is]. The purpose of all these earths is to provide habitations, or residences, for his offspring.

510 - Jesus declared himself to be ... the Great I AM, Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. In the great work of God worlds like our earth are constantly coming into existence, and like our earth they are ordained to pass through a certain course marked out for them, then die, and finally to rise again to eternal duration, according to the plan of the Designer [this is referred to in LDS theology as one eternal round]. We are led to believe some worlds are built to become telestial or terrestrial in their final state. The destiny of this earth is be prepared for a celestial glory.

511 - our earth is destined to rise to the greatest height -- a celestial globe for exalted beings. Jesus built worlds long before this world was formed.

511-512 - Jesus was appointed to Godhood. In the Meridian of Time Christ came into the world, in fulfillment of the promise and appointment [this says that Jesus was appointed to Godhood in his incarnation].

512 - Firstborn in the spirit [odd how President Smith does not say first born in the spirit]. By virtue of his power he became the Redeemer [but from what I have read in LDS theology, Jesus did not become the Redeemer through his power, but rather because he wanted to save mankind but give the glory to his Father]. Innumerable worlds were created by Jesus under the direction of the Father [LDS theology teaches that Adam and others also helped to form our earth].

The honor was reserved for this little speck of an earth to receive him ... with a body of flesh and bones. This earth was honored far beyond many other worlds [this would leave all the other inhabited worlds following an extraterrestrial Jesus. It seems they also had their own Adams, Eves, and Gardens of Eden. But I wonder if they shared Lucifer].

512-513 - the Lord said to Enoch that of all his creations his children here on this earth have been the most wicked (Moses 7:36) [this verse says the following - "Wherefore, I can stretch forth mine hands and hold all the creations which I have made; and mine eye can pierce them also, and among all the workmanship of mine hands there has not been so great wickedness as among thy brethren". This is not a generalization of all the inhabitants of the earth. 'Thy brethren' is a reference to the brethren of Enoch.

Also, there is no indication that peoples of the other created worlds are being referenced here. The Book of Mormon says the Jews were the most wicked because they were the only nation who would crucify their God (2 Nephi 10:3). Moroni 9:20 says the Nephites exceeded the wickedness of the Lamanites. The Nephites were said to have raped their women, tortured them to death, and then ate their flesh (Moroni 9:9-10). But there is no mention of the brethren of Enoch ever doing such evil like what the Nephites did].

514 - the inhabitants of the Earth will be assigned to different worlds.

515 - Christ and his Father will come to our celestialized earth.

516 - the purpose of life is joy [this is a reference to 2 Nephi 2:25].

517 - what we seem to have will be taken from us and given to those who are worthy (Journal of Discourses 17:117-118) [Mormons will lose their wives, husbands, and children when they are unfaithful. These will be given to other faithful Mormons. This can be referred to as the un-forever family. Single husbands will be united to other people's wives and likewise, single wives will be united to other people's husbands. And children will be given to parents not of their own. What a tangled web is weaved in LDS theology].

518 - the sons of perdition will be cast into hell. Others will suffer the wrath of God until they are brought out of prison. Ordinances of the house of God are expressly for the Church of the Firstborn [ordinances are not performed for those who will inherit a telestial or terrestrial kingdom. These acts are only performed for those who become Gods or Goddesses in the Church of the Firstborn. See D&C 76:54].

519 - the earth will be celestialized (Journal of Discourses 1:293). When the celestialization of the earth will come, the theocratic kingdom of Jesus Christ will continue among the exalted beings who are counted worthy to possess an inheritance on the earth and in that kingdom [in LDS theology, there are three divisions in the celestial glory. Those in the two lower divisions are not exalted beings. They are servants instead. See D&C 131:1-4 and 132:16].

Then will be fulfilled that which is written: "And (he) hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen" [this is the passage in Revelation 1:6. Joseph Smith taught that the Gods mentioned here are not Jesus and Heavenly Father, but rather Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ's Grandfather].

The End.