

#### **S47, 'Total Apostasy' Problems**

1. Prophecies of Jesus—Matt. 16:18; 24:35; 28:20; Heb. 13:5; Acts 1:8
2. The 'Three Nephites' & Apostle John—3 Nephi 28:4-9, 17-23, 27-31  
**LDS Quote:** *"Three of the Nephite disciples, desiring to continue their apostolic ministry of bringing souls unto Christ, received this promise from the Lord, (see: 3 Nephi 28:7). They were to be free from pain and sorrow... and were to minister, 'as the angels of God', unto the Jews, Gentiles, scattered tribes of Israel, 'and unto all nations, kindred, tongues, and people...' Unbeknowns to the world, they are continuing their assigned ministry at this time, and there have been occasions when they have appeared to members of the Church in this final dispensation."* (MD, McConkie, p. 793)—This would mean that 4 Apostles of the Lord have been present on earth since the time of Jesus. How could there have been a total apostasy of the Church?  
**Question:** When LDS missionaries go out to proclaim their message around the world, do they ever find established Mormon churches in areas untouched by modern-day Mormonism? The answer is NEVER!

#### **S48, Priesthood Authority**

1. Jesus never discussed the topic of 'priesthood' with His disciples.
  2. The Lord's Apostles did not write about 'priesthood authority' in their letters to the New Testament churches.
- The Holy Ghost/Spirit is our Authority—Acts 1:8; 2 Peter 1:21; Luke 1:15; 1 Thessalonians 1:5; (BoM, 1 Nephi 10:22; Mosiah 18:12-14).
  - All Christians have this authority—Eph. 1:13; 1 Cor. 6:19; Rom. 15:13
  - New Testament 'priesthood'? 1 Peter 2:5-10 "a royal priesthood" & Rev. 1:6 & 5:10 "kings and priests"—In these passages the emphasis is on the fact that Gentile believers can now serve God—a privilege reserved for Old Testament 'priests'. In Jesus Christ, all believers, Jews & Gentiles, men and women are all equal—Galatians 3:28-29.
  - NEVER is any N.T. believer said hold the Aaronic or Melchizedek priesthoods! The Aaronic priesthood was for direct descendants of Aaron (see: Numbers 3:10; 16:1-35; & 17:1-10)—Heb. 8:13 says the Aaronic priesthood 'vanished away'.
  - Hebrews chapters 4-9 tell us Jesus Christ could not be an Aaronic priest (Heb. 7:13-14) and there is only ONE High Priest after the order of Melchizedek—Jesus Christ himself.

#### **CH 9—THE DOCTRINE OF SALVATION**

**S33, LDS Plan of Salvation**—2 Nephi 9:23-24; Moroni 10:32; 2 Nephi 25:23; Mosiah 2:41—**THE FALL** in the Garden of Eden was good? The Devil a liar, John 8:44; He never persuades to do good (Moroni 7:17).

#### **S35 Eternal Life—Altered EE questions:**

1. If you were to die today, do you know for certain that you have eternal life and would live forever with Heavenly Father in His celestial kingdom?
2. If Heavenly Father were to ask you, "Why should I let you into My celestial kingdom?" What would you say?

• **Jesus Christ's Testimony of Eternal Life—John 3:14-18, 36**

• **Heavenly Father's Testimony of Eternal Life—1 John 5:9-13**

• The ONLY requirement for Eternal Life—John 6:27-29

• Eternal Life is a FREE gift—Romans 6:23; 10:1-4, 9-13, Ephesians 2:8-9

**Quote:** *"Immortality is to live forever in the resurrected state, and by the grace of God all men will gain this unending continuance of life. Only those who obey the fulness of the gospel law will inherit eternal life. Those who gain eternal life receive exaltation. They are gods."* (MD; McConkie, p. 237) (TriGrace.org 'Eternal Life Diagram' visual)

#### **S36 Have You Been Born Again? John 3:1-7 & 14-18**

- (Mosiah 27:24-26—Alma the younger, born again but not baptized)
- Gift of Holy Ghost w/out baptism, examples—Acts 2:1-4; 10:44-48

#### **CH 10—THINKING ABOUT SALVATION**

##### **S37 Knowing the Biblical Jesus**

LDS Jesus/Jehovah	Biblical Jesus/Jehovah
One god among many	The only God-Isaiah 44:6, 8; John 8:58
Not Most High/Almighty	The Most High/Almighty-Ps. 91:1-2
Not eternally God	Eternally God-John 1:1-2; Ps. 90:1-2
Our oldest brother	Our Creator & God-John 1:3; Rev. 4:8-11
Spirit brother of Lucifer	Lucifer's Creator-Col.1:16-17; Ez. 28:12-16
Created w/ assistance	Created everything Alone-Isaiah 44:24
Organized existing matter	Spoke all into existence-Ps. 33:6-9
Cannot be omnipresent	Omnipresent-Matt. 28:20; Jer. 23:23-24
Not virgin born	Virgin born-Isaiah 7:14; Matt. 1:18-23

- How Important is it? John 8:24 & John 8:28, 58; Isaiah 43:10; 44:6, 8
- Does Jesus know you? Matthew 7:21-23

### S38, Are we ALL Children of God?

- Children figuratively—Malachi 2:10; (BoM, 1 Nephi 17:36)
- Sons of the Devil/bastards? John 8:44; Hebrews 12:7-8
- Becoming Children—John 1:12; 1 John 3:1 (BoM, Moroni 7:26, 48)
- Believers are Adopted. Why? Romans 8:9, 14-16; Ephesians 1:3-5

### S39, We will be like Him, but will we be Gods?

- Like Him in purity—1 John 3:1-3 (BoM, Moroni 7:48)
- Remember, No new Gods—Isaiah 43:10

### S40 Is God Fair?

- Rom. 1:18-23, “that which may be known of God is manifest **in them.**”
- John 16:8-11, The Holy Ghost/Spirit, “will reprove **the world** of sin.”
- Rom. 12:3, “God hath dealt to **every man** the measure of faith.”
- 2 Peter 3:9, “the Lord is **not willing that any** should perish.”
- John 12:32, Jesus, “Will draw **all men.**”
- Rev. 3:20, Jesus said, “ I stand at the door and knock, if **any man...**”
- Matthew 7:7-8, “**Ask, it shall be given, Seek, you will find, knock, the door shall be opened.**” Prov. 8:17; Jer. 29:12-14; Deut. 4:29

### The Biblical Gospel in a Nutshell

- Man’s universal problem—Romans 3:10-12, 23
- God’s grace—Romans 5:8, Romans 6:23
- God’s way—Romans 10:1-4, 9-10; John 6:28-29
- God’s free gift—John 3:14-18; 1 John 5:9-13
- Only one way—John 14:6; Acts 4:12
- Nothing can be added—Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 3:27-28; Gal. 2:16, 21
- CANNOT earn salvation—Titus 3:8; John 15:1-5, 8; James 2:17-20

### CH 11—GOSPEL TOPICS

#### S41 The LDS ‘Impossible Gospel’

1. **Sinless perfection is required**—Moroni 10:32; 2 Nephi 25:23; Alma 11:37
2. **You can do it! You can stop sinning**—1 Nephi 3:7
3. **True Repentance means you have stopped sinning**—D&C 58:42-43; D&C 1:31-33; D&C 82:7
4. **You must stop sinning in this life**—Alma 34:30-35

#### S42 ‘The Miracle of Forgiveness’ Quotes

(TriGrace.org ‘Miracle of Forgiveness Reference Guide’; also True to the Faith; & Gospel Principles Reference Guides)

### S43, Attaining Biblical Perfection – 2 Timothy 3:16-17

**Righteous = Right** with God; **Not Righteous = Not Right** with God

- None Righteous—Romans 3:10, 23
  - Keeping the law will not make a person righteous—Romans 10:1-4
  - Believe unto righteousness—Romans 10:9-10, 13; Romans 4:3, 5
  - Forgiveness of Sins, believe!—Acts 10:42-43; 13:38-39; 1 John 1:9
  - Forgiveness is forever—Psalm 103:10-12; Micah 7:19; Isaiah 38:17; 43:25; Hebrews 8:12
  - Not Perfected by the Law—Galatians 3:2-6; Hebrews 10:14
  - The Gift of Eternal Life—Jesus’ Testimony, John 3:14-18, 36; Heavenly Father’s Testimony, 1 John 5:9-13
  - What does Jesus ask? John 6:28-29
  - Salvation is by Grace NOT Works! Eph. 2:8-9; Galatians 2:16, 21
- ### S44, Faith Without Works Is Dead – James the Apostle: James 2:17-20
- The Apostle Paul: Romans 3:20-22; Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:8-9
  - Did James and Paul disagree? 1<sup>st</sup> Jerusalem Council—Acts 15:1-29
  - Key to the teachings of James = James 2:18
  - Proof of real faith = Godly living, Rom. 6:1-2; Eph. 2:8-10; Gal. 6:7-9

### CH 12—OTHER IMPORTANT LDS TOPICS

#### S45, The ‘Restored Gospel’ of Mormonism?

- Paul’s Warning—Galatians 1:6-9
- (BoM, Jesus Christ’s Warning—2 Nephi 11:39-40)
- See: INTRODUCTION to BoM, paragraphs 1 & 6
- NOTHING can be added to the gospel given by Jesus & His Apostles!

**Quote:** “President Howard W. Hunter described celestial marriage as ‘the crowning gospel ordinance.’” (Ensign, May, 2003, Eternal Marriage)

**Question:** Where is eternal/temple marriage taught by Jesus Christ or anywhere in the Bible or BoM by any ancient Prophet or Apostle?

#### S46, The Pre-mortal Life or The Preexistence

- Jeremiah 1:5—Yes God knew us (Is. 46:9-10) But did we know Him?
- Hebrews 12:9—God the Father of Spirits? Malachi 2:10; Zech. 12:1
- Acts 17:28-29—We are God’s offspring? Biblical word “offspring” = “that which comes out from”—symbolic, Isaiah 42:5

Jesus did NOT teach the Pre-mortal existence of humans, John 5:37-38; 6:46; 7:28-29; 8:54-55; 17:24-25; KEY VERSE—John 8:23