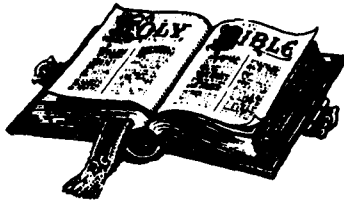


THE INSTRUCTOR



"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." 2 Timothy 3:16

Volume 28

SEPTEMBER, 1991

Number 9

"CONTRADICTIONS OF MORMONISM" (No. 1)

Mormonism is a religion that was founded in the first half of the 19th century by Joseph Smith, Jr. The assumptions, allegations, imaginations and deceits of Smith are a basic part of the very foundation of Mormonism. Of course, Smith included a number of teachings which are related in some ways to some Biblical teachings. However, as a person makes a candid investigation of the history, teachings and claims of Mormonism he should be able to clearly see that it is a **false** religion. There are a number of **contradictions** between the **Book of Mormon** (which Mormons claim is an **inspired** book) and the **Bible**. These contradictions are evidence that the **Book of Mormon** is **NOT inspired** of God. There are also contradictions in other so-called "inspired books" and the Bible.

Let us now consider some of the **contradictions** that we find in the **Book of Mormon** to what we find taught in the **Scriptures**.

THE BIBLE TEACHES:

1. "...The Lord did there confound the language of all the earth:..." (Gen. 11:9).
2. "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea..." (Mt. 2:1)
3. "...And God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth,..." (Gen. 1:28).
4. "...For he that is now called a Prophet was beforetime called a Seer." (1 Sam. 9:9).
5. "And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour." (Luke 23:44).
6. "And his sweat was as it were great drops of blood..." (Luke 22:44)
7. That the Holy Spirit was **not** given until Pentecost. (cf. John 7:39; Acts 2)
8. That Jesus said: "**Upon this rock I will build my church...**" (Mt. 16:18).

THE BOOK OF MORMON TEACHES:

1. "**He did not confound the language of Jared.**" (Ether 1:35).
2. "**And behold, he shall be born of Mary at Jerusalem.**" (Alma 7:10).
3. Adam and Eve could have born no children if they had not sinned. (2 Nephi 2:22-23).
4. That "**a seer is greater than a prophet.**" (Mosiah 8:15)
5. There was darkness "**for the space of three days**" following the crucifixion of Christ. (Helaman 14:30)
6. "...**For behold, blood cometh from every pore...**" (Mosiah 3:7)
7. That the Nephites received the Holy Spirit before Christ was born. (cf. Helaman 5:45).
8. That the church of Christ was built in 147 B.C. (Mosiah 18:17).

(Continued on page 4)

THE INSTRUCTOR

(USPS # 581680)

Published monthly in the interest of truth and righteousness by the congregation of Christ, meeting at 4777 U.S. Highway 431, Albertville, Alabama.

CARROL R. SUTTON

Editor

Send all questions, comments and criticisms to the editor, 4777 U.S. Highway 431, Albertville, Alabama 35950.

Second-class postage paid in
Albertville, AL 35950

Editorial . . .

SOME SINS OF DISPOSITION OR ATTITUDE (No. 1)

"Disposition implies customary moods and attitude toward the life around one," according to WEBSTER'S SEVENTH NEW COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY. **"Attitude"** is defined as **"a mental position with regard to a fact or state; a feeling or emotion toward a fact or state."**

In these studies we will be discussing **sins of attitude or disposition**. Of course, from one viewpoint, all sins may involve one's attitude or disposition. But the sins that we will be considering will **primarily** involve one's **disposition or attitude** rather than overt physical acts although sometimes physical acts are also involved in some of these sins.

Our attitude, disposition, the way we think and feel are important. Solomon said: **"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: . . ."** (Prov. 23:7), and **"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."** (Prov. 4:23).

One may look beautiful outwardly, but be **filthy** on the inside with sins of disposition or attitude. In Matthew 23:27-28 Jesus said: **"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within**

full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity."

Out of 23 sins listed in **Romans 1:29-32**, 12 or 13 are sins of disposition or attitude and at least seven of the 17 sins listed in Gal. 5:19-21 are sins of disposition.

Let us now study some sins of disposition or attitude.

HATRED

I. HATRED. What is **hatred**? WEBSTER'S SEVENTH NEW COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY defines **"hatred"** as **"Intense hostility and aversion usually deriving from fear, anger, or sense of injury; an habitual emotional attitude of distaste coupled with sustained ill will; a very strong dislike or antipathy."** Obviously there are different degrees or intensities of hatred. VINE'S EXPOSITORY DICTIONARY OF NEW TESTAMENT WORDS speaks of **"hatred"** as **"Of malicious and unjustifiable feelings toward others, whether toward the innocent or by mutual animosity."** NOTE: Obviously **hatred** is **hatred** when directed toward the **guilty** as well as the **innocent**.

Paul, referring to his life (and the lives of others) before they became Christians, wrote to Titus the following: **"For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another."** (3:3) After being forgiven (saved according to God's mercy) they were **not** to live and act as they had been doing.

We learn from Gal. 5:19-21 that **"hatred"** is a **"work of the flesh"** and those who **hate** **"shall not inherit the kingdom of God."**

The following verses show that we should **not** hate our brethren and the condition we are in if we do.

(Continued on page 3)

SOME SINS OF DISPOSITION OR ATTITUDE (No. 1)

(Continued from page 2)

1. 1 John 2:11 — **“But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.”**

2. 1 John 4:20 — **“If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?”**

3. 1 John 3:15 — **“Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.”**

We not only must **not hate** our brethren, we must **love** them. The following verses so indicate.

1. John 13:34-35 — **“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. . .”**

2. Heb. 13:1 — **“Let brotherly love continue.”**

3. 1 John 3:11 — **“For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.”**

4. 1 John 4:7-8 — **“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”**

Hatred toward our enemies is also forbidden. In fact, Jesus commanded his disciples to **“Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you”** in Mt. 5:44.

Hatred often leads to other sins such as retaliation, envy, various sins of the tongue such as talebearing, backbiting, slander, gossip, whisperings, lying,

etc. and sometimes it leads to murder.

Hatred will rob you of happiness, health, friends and even heaven. It will enslave you and bring you untold misery.

Here are some practical suggestions that might help you overcome **hatred**.

1. Try sincerely to understand the person you hate. Consider things from his viewpoint. I am not suggesting that you agree (necessarily with his viewpoint or actions but at least view them from his perspective. You may then be in a better position to instruct, encourage, admonish or rebuke him in a profitable way.

2. Don't misconstrue either the words or actions of others. Don't judge their motives by appearance. Allow for the best possible construction to be placed on what others say or do.

3. Endeavor to see others as God views them. Although they may be in sin, God is concerned about their welfare and we should be. Their souls are valuable. (cf. Mt. 16:26).

4. Treat others like you would like to be treated. Remember Jesus said: **“And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.”** (Luke 6:31).

5. Pray for the person hated and for the one who hates. Jesus prayed for those who nailed him to the cross when he said: **“Father, for give them: for they know not what they do.”** (Luke 23:34).

6. Do something good for the person who is hated and help him when the occasion arises. Under the law of Moses God required the Israelites to return an enemy's straying ox or ass and to assist the enemy if his ass was lying under his burden. (See Exo. 23:4-5). In Mt. 5:44 Jesus said to his disciples: **“Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you.”**

Hatred should never find a place to dwell in the heart of a Christian. Let us examine our hearts and search our souls. If hatred is found let us repent of that sin and let us remove it from our hearts lest we be lost in the last day.

(CRS)

(To be continued)

CONTRADICTIONS OF MORMONISM

(Continued from page 1)

9. That **"Without the shedding of blood is no remission."** (Heb. 9:22).

10. That Christ will remain in heaven at God's right hand until God makes his enemies the footstool of Christ's feet. (cf. Acts 2:34-35).

11. That **"... Disciples were called Christians first in Antioch."** (Acts 11:26).

12. **"Behold I am Jesus Christ. I am the Father and the Son."** (Ether 3:14).

9. Salvation was in and through the blood of Christ in 124 B.C. (Mosiah 3:18).

10. That Christ was on this continent after his ascension, showing his body, and ministering. (cf. 2 Nephi 10:18-19).

11. That believers were called Christians in 73 B.C. (Alma 46:14-15).

12. **"I came forth from the Father, . . . I leave the world, and go to the Father."** (John 16:28). **"... For my Father is greater than I."** (John 14:28).

It is obvious from the above contradictions that **both the Bible and the Book of Mormon cannot be inspired of God. The Scriptures** (as revealed in the **Bible**) **ARE inspired of God. The Book of Mormon is NOT inspired!** (CRS)

(To be continued)

— SENTENCE SERMONS —

We should alter our lives to conform to the unaltered Word of Jesus Christ.

* * * * *

When a child gets off the track, he can be put back on by pulling a switch.

* * * * *

There is never a right way to do a wrong thing.

* * * * *

We look at things which are not seen because they are eternally important.

* * * * *

Outward expressions reveal the inward man.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

4777 U.S. Highway 431

Albertville, Alabama 35950

Second Class Postage