



omnipotent **OR** the Book of Mormon is not from the One True God. Either way, the Book of Mormon cannot be considered a trustworthy book, and, since Smith himself said that it was the “keystone” of the Mormon religion, the whole religion must be recognized as untrustworthy.

As Christians, we are commissioned and commanded to “go out

into all the world” preaching the word, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to every creature of every nation (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; 2 Timothy 4:2). And, we must always “contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 3). Since a growing part of the world is of the Mormon persuasion, we must learn about and speak with Mormons every chance we get, persuading them to turn from their idolatry because of the coming of the great and awesome Day of the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:9-11). Let us always strive to help lost souls grow closer to the God that loves them more than words can tell. May God always help us in this endeavor to serve Him and our fellow man. Amen.

**The Book of Mormon*, the *Doctrines and Covenants*, and the *Pearl of Great Price* are all books Mormons believe to be inspired of God holding the same weight and authority as the Bible.

** Newer editions of the *Book of Mormon* have changed this phrase to “pure and delightful” from the original “white and delightsome.”



Faithful Sayings Issue 12.22 May 30, 2010

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

● Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

12.22

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

May 30
2010



Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Kyle Pope

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Curtis Carwile

Three Questions to Ask Every Mormon (Part Two) By Curtis Carwile

This year, the elders here at Olsen Park have encouraged the members to focus more on personal evangelism maybe more than we have been in the past. To aid us in this endeavor, last week, we examined two out of three questions that will aid us in speaking with the young Mormon evangelists that knock on our doors from time to time. This week, we will consider the final of these three questions.

3. Why do you believe that the Book of Mormon is the word of God?

In *The History of the Church* November 28, 1841, Joseph Smith makes the claim that “The Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and that a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book.” So, how is one to determine the accuracy or “correctness” of the Book of Mormon? Well, in the 2004 handbook utilized by Mormon missionaries, *Preach the Gospel*,

4700 Andrews Ave.
Amarillo TX 79106
806-352-2809
www.olsenpark.com

pg. 39, it teaches that “in our prayers, the Holy Ghost will teach us through our feelings and our thoughts. Heavenly Father will answer their prayers, typically through feelings of their hearts and thoughts of their minds.” This is often called the “burning in the bosom” and it is used as their confirmation that what they believe about the Book of Mormon is true (Moroni 10:3-5). In support of this practice, Mormons appeal to James



Olsen Park church of Christ

1:5 where James says, “**if anyone lacks wisdom, let him ask of it of God.**” However, in the Bible, we find a very different approach from the Mormon idea of the “burning in the bosom.” In passages like First Thessalonians 5:21 (“**test all things; hold fast what is good**”), the test the Bible puts forward for us to use in order to determine the truth is by testing things, seeing if they really are from God. If God is omniscient, wouldn’t His word be perfect, without inaccuracies and without mistakes? If He was omnipotent, wouldn’t He have the power to make sure that His word is conveyed effectively to mankind? Because of that, this is what the Bible tells us to do when determining the truth of something. So, how well does the Book of Mormon hold up to this test?

I will say this as plainly and as kindly as I possibly can: the Book of Mormon is a book of contradictions. We saw in the previous article a few of the many ways the Book of Mormon contradicts the Bible. However, the Book of Mormon contradicts other Mormon so-called “inspired” writings, archaeology, and science. An example of where the Book of Mormon contradicts some other Mormon Scripture can be found in the book of Alma. In Alma 11:27-39 & 44, the Book of Mormon (rightfully) states that there is only one God. However, in *Doctrines and Covenants* 121:32, there was a “Council of the Eternal God and all other gods”; the idea of a plurality of gods is also put forth in the Book of Abraham 4-5 which is found within the Pearl of Great Price. This is only one of hundreds of examples where the Mormon Scriptures (that claim to come from the same God) contradict each other. Also, the Book of Mormon contradicts archaeology. One of the most glaring contradictions is the fact that, even though the Book of Mormon talks about how

the Jaredite civilization would become the greatest nation in the world (Ether 1:43) and how the Nephite, and Lamanite civilizations “did multiply and spread, and did go forth from the land southward to the land northward, and did spread insomuch that they began to cover the face of the whole earth, from the sea south to the sea north, from the sea west to the sea east” (Helaman 3:8). And, even though these civilizations spread throughout the whole land, there is no archeological record of their existence. They left behind no cities (Mormon 1:7), no writings (Alma 37), no coins (Alma 11), and so on. It is impossible for there to be absolutely no traces of a civilization which God would call “great,” much less three of them. Many Mormon apologists argue (as does the introduction to the Book of Mormon) that the Native Americans of both the North and South American continents are the descendants of those people talked about in the Book of Mormon. Not only is this archaeologically incorrect, it contradicts known and accepted science, as well. In the last twenty years, researchers have been studying the DNA of the Native Americans of the two continents and what they have found is that they are of the mongoloid race, meaning that their ancestors came from eastern Asia and not from the Palestine area (*DNA vs The Book of Mormon*, Living Hope Video Ministries, Brigham City, Utah, DVD). The Book of Mormon contradicts the DNA evidence, but also there is the issue of skin coloring. In passages like Second Nephi 5:21-24, it claims that God punished the idle, mischievous, and subtle Lamanites (who Mormons claim are the principle ancestors of

today’s Native Americans) with a “skin of blackness” and that anyone who mixed with their seed would be cursed, as well. However, if they would repent and follow the Mormon precepts, their “scales of darkness” would fall from their eyes and they could once again become a “white and delightsome” people (2 Nephi 30:5-7**). It is clear to even those of us who have never had any in-depth training in the field of genetics that a person’s standing before God has nothing to do with their skin color. There is just no other way to say it: the Book of Mormon contradicts science even on the genetic level. It just cannot be overstated that the Book of Mormon is a book of contradictions. Since it is, and since God is the proclaimed author of the Book, one of two things must be true: either the God of the Book of Mormon is not omniscient and