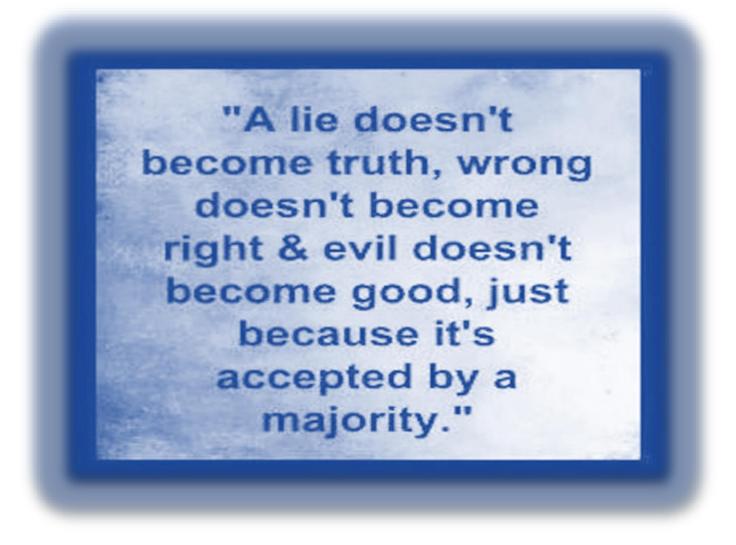
"The truth shall prevail where there are pains taken to bring it to light." GW



"Remember, everything is right until it is wrong. You'll know when it's wrong." Ernest Hemingway.

Critical thinking: A clear and HONEST mode of thinking about any given subject, content, or problem — in which the thinker improves the quality of his or her thinking by skillfully analyzing, assessing, and reconstructing the subject, content, or problem.

Something <u>CRITICAL</u> about "critical thinking" ... You may have noticed ... but it's worth repeating ...

Critical thinking requires you to be HONEST with yourself.

If you find out something is true, and you **don't like** it ... and so you dismiss it, or ignore it, or make an excuse for it ... you no longer are critically thinking ... That is the opposite of critical thinking.

That is called ... "LYING to yourself" ...

Though very difficult, painful, and scary ... this is my honest and sincere determination to face the truth.

"Worry, doubt and fear all fade away ... when we know our future is secure in the hands of Jesus Christ".

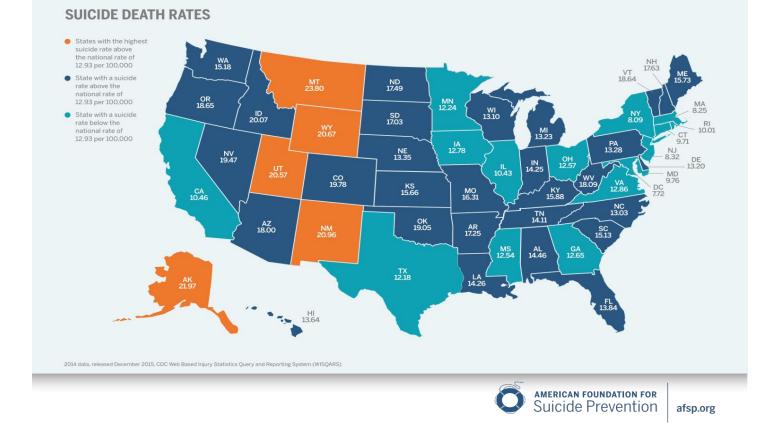
My whole life I have been learning to be a better critical thinker. However, it wasn't until I found my true calling in life that I began to see (for myself) the true value of this skill. I have been a Flight Paramedic for nearly 15 years and have been in the EMS field for over 21 years. My career as a Flight Paramedic demands a very high level of critical thinking due to the critical nature of injuries and illnesses that we see on a regular basis. Honestly, without the usage of critical thinking, it would be devastating and disastrous for the situations that we encounter on a regular basis.

In the later part of the year 2016, a series of tragic scenes caused the "critical thinking" synapses to spin into full throttle like a helicopter blade in my head! I was working as a Flight Paramedic and a part time Ground Paramedic. The areas that we covered were Southern Utah, Southern Nevada, and Northern AZ areas. In 2016 there was a two-week period that I had picked up several extra shifts both at my Flight Medic Job and Ground Medic Job. We work 24 hour shifts and in that two-week period I remember working every other day. Between my Flight Medic and Ground Medic jobs, I ended up working 7 – 24 hour shifts in two weeks. It was most definitely the worst two weeks of my career. Not because I worked so many hours ... but in that two-week period I went on over 24 emergency calls and nearly every call was a suicide! Most of the suicides were young people ages ranging from 13 to 24 years. By the end of those two weeks my heart was broken. I could not move forward without trying to figure out what in the heck was going on in this area of the world! I kept asked myself ... "Is this happening just here or is the happening everywhere?"

As I began to "critically think" about this. I realized that I didn't know a single person in this area of the world that has not seen suicide in their immediate family or relatives. I began to remember other incidences over the past few years ... and they started to add up quickly! My wife's step sister's son at the age of 19 killed himself several years ago. Also, a few years ago, A young 13-year-old girl, in our church, one Sunday stood up after sacrament meeting, walked home without telling her parents, got her Dad's gun, sat down on the couch and shot herself in the head. Another family that were our neighbors and, in our church, ... their son was sent home early from his Mormon mission. He ended up killing himself a couple months after being sent home from his mission. I remembered, Over the past few years, several others ... but you get the point. What I began to realize was ... I had compartmentalized each of these suicides as single events. As these suicides continued to happen one by one over the years ... each time ... I thought "wow that is so sad" and then moved on with my life, making no connection to an underlining problem. I was simply ignoring that there was something wrong even though reality was smacking me right in the face! It wasn't until this two-week period of mayhem that I no longer could ignore reality! Reality was no longer just smacking me in the face, it had crushing my whole existence. I saw firsthand and remembered dozens and dozens of people kill themselves indiscriminately all around us! All the while ... people of the community just going about their daily lives as if it was normal. God was saying, "Wake up!"

I began desperately doing research to try and find real answers. I was consumed with a burning desire to be absolutely honest with myself! Whatever the truth told me (good or bad) I would deal with that reality honestly! Through all my research, I found a wonderful Foundation called American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, web site: afsp.org ... Their research tracts suicides throughout the United States in the hopes of finding out causes and ways to prevent them from happening. I found a 2016 map that they provided that showed suicide rates per State. The first thing that jumped out to me like a sore thumb was the FACT that a clear path could be seen! The path of "highest suicides rates" in the USA went straight through Utah! See Map on next page:

### **SUICIDE: 2016 FACTS & FIGURES**



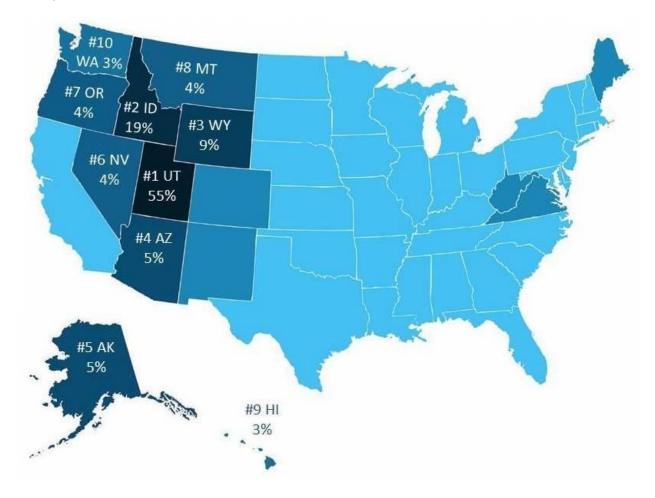
Then I noticed something even more odd.... It looked as though MOST of the suicides in the USA were taking place where MOST Mormons live in the United States. I thought, "I wonder if the Mormon Church has a map to compare to this suicide map" ... and sure enough, they did! See map on next page:

#### States in the United States that Have the Most LDS

by Larry Richman | Aug 18, 2015

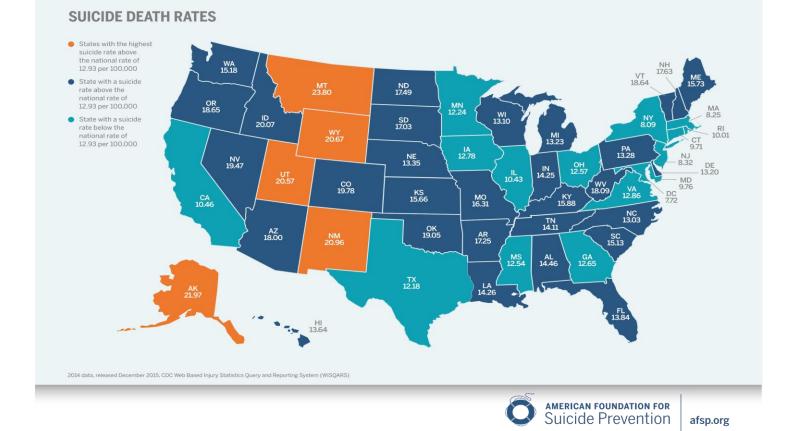
Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints live all over the world, but within the United States, where are the greatest populations?

Listed below are the top 10 states with the highest populations of Mormons (as a percentage of the overall population). The numbers come from the Pew Research Center and Mormon Newsroom, via the article "<u>Top 10 states with the most Mormons</u>" from UtahValley360.

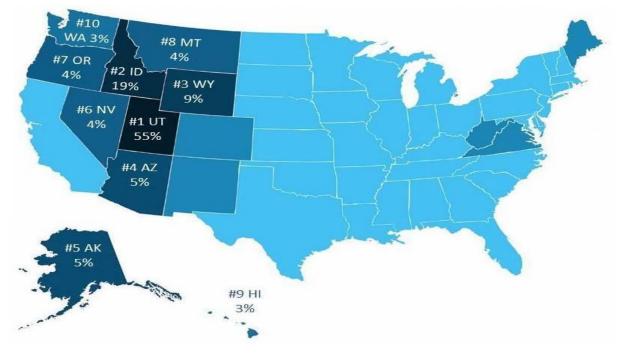


Literally ... the suicide map and the Mormon Population map were nearly identical!! I thought what in the world is going on here??!! I grabbed the maps and put them side by side: The images are stunningly undeniable!! Where most suicides occur ... ARE where most Mormons live ... period! I knew right then ... there is something wrong! There is something drastically wrong! I no longer could dismiss this undeniable fact. See both maps side by side on next page:

### SUICIDE: 2016 FACTS & FIGURES



### States in the United States that Have the Most LDS:



I did not know what the answer was, but the very first thing I thought of was to run to my family. The light bulb had gone off in my head and I ran home to my Wife and daughters. I just wanted them all to know that I loved them! Just like you instinctively know not to get too close to the edge of a cliff or you could actually fall and die ... I instinctively knew there was a flaw in the culture and belief system in this part of the world. Something was absolutely causing a higher percentage of people in this part of the world to lose hope, to give up, to think they are not good enough ... to believe that they will never be good enough! It was obvious! With the guidance and inspiration of God I was led to this research and information! No one (that I knew of) had made this kind of obvious connection between the Mormon Church and suicide ... nobody was talking about it anywhere ... but there it was in full color!

At the time, I did not share the details of this information with my family. I was still learning and didn't want to jump to conclusions openly until I knew, for sure, I had all the facts. The Spirit rested upon my mind as I spoke to my family. I was inspired to simply tell them ... "It's ok if you make a mistake! It's ok if you are not perfect! The only PERFECT person that ever lived on this earth (or ever will live on this earth) was Jesus Christ. Your parents are not perfect, your teachers are not perfect, your friends are not perfect, your church leaders are not perfect. Only Jesus was and is Perfect. I told my family that I wanted them to know they can talk to me about anything ANYTHING and I won't judge them ... that I would love them unconditionally and be there for them through anything they are struggling with. I told them to NEVER let ANYONE make you feel you are not good enough, or you are not doing enough. Only Jesus has that authority. Jesus was and is enough! I gave them each a huge hug and reassured each of them individually my unconditional love and support.

My quest for answers had begun! It started with my attempt to shore up my family against whatever this ominous flaw our surrounding community possessed! My girls were most certainly not going to end up a victim of this suicide epidemic in this area that continues to this day! FACT: Utah, as of today, (NOV. 2018) is ranked 5th in teen suicide attempts and 5<sup>th</sup> in overall suicide attempts compared to all 50 states! Alaska is 1<sup>st</sup>, Wyoming, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Montana 4<sup>th</sup>, all of which as you can see in the above "blue" map are states that are among the states with the highest percentages of Mormon residents.

For reference on current suicide statistics See: <u>https://www.statista.com/statistics/666791/states-with-highest-number-of-adolescent-suicidal-deaths-in-us/</u>

I had been a member of the Mormon faith my whole life. I grew up being taught that it was "The Only True Church" on the face of the earth. I served an honorable mission in the Auckland New Zealand mission between Aug 1986 to Aug 1988. I never had any doubt "The Church" was true. I was sure beyond any measure that I was living exactly the life I should be living. It was only after the tragedy of those two weeks and the research to find answers to this suicide epidemic ... that a sudden realization came upon me ... "there is a problem with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints teachings and culture". It was as clear as knowing a red burner on the stove is hot! It just is hot! There is nothing you can do to change the truth! It is simply a fact and facts matter, unless you want to lie to yourself. If you lie to yourself about facts ... you will get burned every time ... period.

Even though I didn't want to believe it ... After all, this was my whole life ... This was everything I have ever known ... This was my whole family ... This was supposed to be "Zion"! This was supposed to be the Church that had ALL the answers. This was supposed to be where all people from all walks of life could find truth, and happiness. But after extensive research on this and other related topics, I could not stop asking myself. "Why does this whole area of the USA have ...not only the highest suicide rates ... but the highest depression rates ... the highest antidepressant drug usage ... the most mental health issues, etc., etc.,?? Isn't the TRUE Church supposed to set you free, bring joy and happiness, etc. etc.??? ... and yet this area of the USA has the highest percentage of depression, mental health issues and addiction to antidepressant medications and suicide?? Something doesn't add up! Does this not throw up a huge red flag to anyone? See: https://www.heraldextra.com/news/local/utah-has-highest-rate-of-mental-illness-in-us/article\_053ef820-584d-5930-953e-c75548be7c5c.html

I tried to play the devils advocate (no pun intended). Telling myself, "Well ... the church has the truth, so therefore Satan is going to work much harder in areas where there are more people that have the truth... right?" I used that excuse for a while. For a long while actually! I literally said to myself "NO ... the Church is True ... I'm just being deceived by all this tragedy". Again, I started making excuses. ... For about a year I suppressed my research and my critical thinking. You might ask yourself, "Why? Why disregard what you have found and what you have experienced. How could you ignore all that evidence and information for so long?" That's a very good question. Let me explain.

So ... hear I was, knowing there was a problem, but also knowing that if I addressed the problem vocally I would be looked down upon, not only by the leaders of the Mormon Church, but by my family and friends that were faithful members. I would be ostracized. I would be shunned by everything and everyone I held dear to my heart. I had seen it throughout my life. I had seen it happen to many Mormon members that question the church. In fact, I am embarrassed to admit that I've played the role of the "shunner" in many people's lives. It's just in the Mormon culture.

When my older brother resigned from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints back in 2012. My wife and I both were shocked! In a desperate fit of arrogance and self-righteousness, I wrote a letter with my "testimony" to all my family. It was a very poor attempt of validating my faith and a feeble effort to prove to all my family that my older brother was "lost" and needed to be brought back into the fold of God. Before he left my older brother and his family were very active in the Mormon Church. They had their temple recommends and had held several leadership positions. My older brother was even a Branch President. I thought, "surely he knew what he was doing, right?" ... I thought "He must know he is now an apostate of the Church!" and, "I can't believe he is doing this to his family!" My extended family (brother, sisters, and Mother) and I cast stones at him, saying things like ... "He just wants to break the word of wisdom (drink beer, etc.)" Or... "He's just been through too much while he was serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. He must be crazy from post-traumatic syndrome." Other family members said things like, "I really don't give a crap what he does or thinks or believes, I have my own family to worry about." One family member even was as bold to say ... "oh, I've talked to him and he knows the Church is true, he'll be back.", even though they hadn't ever seriously talked to him about any of his reasons for leaving. All these, and more, were self-righteous attempts to justify that we were right and that there was just something wrong with our older brother. We had been taught our whole lives there's NOTHING wrong with the Mormon church. The problem is always with the person not the church! I have come to realize that when the Mormon leaders say "The church is perfect, it's the people that are not" ... they have set themselves up for failure. Actually, the opposite is true. The people in the church are wonderful and caring and beautiful, it's the Mormon culture and teachings that are corrupt. I was so arrogant, I felt no need to talk to my brother and find out what he was going through and why. Besides being arrogant ... honestly ... I was also scared to talk to him because of all the warnings the leaders of the Mormon church teach. From the very beginning of the church, this is what has been taught by the leaders of the church about people who leave the Mormon Church.

Brigham Young said: If there is a despicable character on the face of the earth, it is an apostate from this Church. He is a traitor who has deceived his best friends, betrayed his trust, and forfeited every principle of honor that God placed within him. They may think they are respected, but they are not. They are disgraced in their own eyes. There is not much honesty within them; they have forfeited their heaven, sold their birthright, and betrayed their friends. What will the devil do with such characters? Will he have them in his kingdom? Yes, he will be obliged to, because he is an apostate himself. He apostatized from the Celestial Kingdom and was thrust down to hell. Yet, when apostates get to his kingdom, he will say—"I do not like you, for you are just as mean as I am. I was a traitor and a liar, and I am yet. I despise myself and every character that betrays his trust." Journal of Discourses Vol. 12 pg. 94

Many Mormons literally live in fear (including myself at one time) when it comes to anything that might teach contrary to what they have been taught ... even if it is absolutely proven to be true ... the church leaders have perfectly applied the power of FEAR upon the hearts and minds of the Mormon people. Many Mormons have the fear of losing their family, fear that they will lose their salvation, fear that they will lose their friends and their whole way of life, fear they

will lose their souls. So, they are willing to ignore even the most obvious absolute truth about their faith because of the power of fear.

When I finally realized how fearful and self-righteous, I was with my older brother, (which was only three months ago), I humbled myself, faced my fears, and spoke to him with no agenda. It had been over 6 years since we had a real conversation. I wanted to know what he had gone through, what he knew, and honestly understand his point of view. The first thing I said to him was, "sorry" ... I was so sorry for not talking to him about what happened with the Church and why he left. I was so Sorry for being so self-righteous and shunning him as if he had the plague. I was so Sorry I acted so afraid and ignored him and what he was going through. After all my apologies, He said he was so happy that I finally was willing to speak with him honesty and sincerely. He was happy that finally someone in the family wanted to talk to him about the church. He explained that no one from the family, for all these years, was ever seriously interested in what happened. No one had ever sat down and had a deep discussion with him about why he left the Mormon church. I'm embarrassed to say he also remembered that letter I wrote to the family when he left the church. He said my letter that I wrote to the family was heart felt and sincere. He even admitted that he choked up a few times, especially the part about our Dad passing away. But then he said ... "The only part of the letter that actually made me chuckle out loud was the part when you wrote ... <u>I know that YOU know the Church is True"</u> ... he said he was very amused. He went on to say, "I thought in my mind, Rob If you only knew what I knew ... you would never say that again."

As I explained before, this type of treatment towards people who resign or are ex-communicated is typical in the Mormon Church. It stems from the fact that the Mormon Prophets and Apostles warn all the members against people who leave. They call them "apostates" ... and that members are in danger of losing their testimony if they talk to "those" people specifically about the Mormon Church. And so ... if a member decides to leave...they are accepting the fact that they will be avoided by their family and friends that remain in the church. Most will avoid talking to you about the church. Some will refuse to talk to you about the church. Some will just completely disown you all together. They won't let their children associate with your children anymore, on and on. I know this because I witnessed it and I did it myself first hand ... the majority of my family and friends in the Mormon Church did it with me and do it still to this day.

So ... knowing the self-righteous persecution, shunning, and ostracizing I faced from most my family and friends inside the Church, I attempted to put this suicide problem on the shelf. I tried to make excuses, saying things that I had been taught like, "The problem was the people not the church".

It wasn't until about a year later that it all came flooding back. My oldest Daughter was at my Helicopter Base taking Photos of our Helicopter and Crew for our 2017 annual base photos. After the photo shoot, my daughter asked if she could talk to me. I was taken back when she began to explain what she was going through. She said that she had been battling severe depression for several years. She even was having thoughts of killing herself. Now if you knew her, you would be taken back by this news too! She was always outwardly super positive, happy, and smiling all the time. She had an awesome husband that supported her every decision, and two gorgeous amazing little girls. They also were very active in the Mormon Church. She and her Husband had temple recommends and attended the temple regularly. They were ward mission leaders and involved with the re-activation of several individuals and families in their ward ... as well as assisting the missionaries with teaching lessons to inactive and non-member prospects. In other words, she and her husband were literally "Model Mormons". To hear she was battling depression was incomprehensible to me. She went on to explain that she had gone to both the Bishop of her church, and the Stake President multiple times asking for help. Each time with basically the same response. "She must fast and pray more, read the scriptures more, attend the temple more, be more faithful in her callings, serve the church members more." They just kept saying if she just did more she would be happy! She explained to me that she did just that, more and more. The crazy thing for her was as she did more and more ... nothing changed ... and her depression grew deeper and deeper over time. She said she was coming to me because she didn't know what to do anymore. She said, "even though I'm doing all that I can, it just keeps getting worse!"

It hit me with a ton of bricks, but I truly know God prepared me for that day. I knew what the answer was immediately! I explained and showed her the suicide information I had found one year before. I explained to her I know there is something seriously wrong with Mormon teaching, philosophy, and culture. The epidemic of depression, antidepression drug addiction, and suicide in the region of the world is astronomical! No one in the Mormon Church wants to make the connection for obvious reasons... but the fact remains .... We live where most Mormons live in the USA and we also live where most of the depression and suicide resides in the USA period! I told her that even though the Church was telling her "she wasn't doing enough and that she needed to do more to be happy." That is a LIE! She is enough, she is amazing, she doesn't need to do "more" for God or the Mormon Church to be happy. I explained that the only person that ever lived or ever will live on this earth that was perfect was Jesus. She will never be perfect in this life, I will never be perfect in this life, no one at all ... including every Mormon Prophet will EVER be perfect in this life! I told her that I was proud of her! I told her she is enough! I told her she does enough for God just being her! No man can tell you what God thinks of you. God wants you to be happy. God and I love you unconditionally. It is man that wants you to believe that you must do what "they" say to be happy. Man wants you to believe "in order to receive God's acceptance and forgiveness and exaltation you must do what they say". That is an absolute and obvious lie! I could tell she was very surprised at my response. She later told me she was expecting me to respond much in the same way her Bishop and Stake President continually had ... "you're not doing enough, you're not faithful enough, you're not praying and fasting enough, etc." She was fully expecting me to be upset with her. She thought I would be angry that she was confused about the Mormon church. She thought I'd be upset about her constant depression regardless of her continued faithfulness towards the Mormon church. She explained she was so relieved ... But she was very surprised at the same time with the answer I gave her because this understanding flew in the face of Mormon teaching and theology.

After that conversation with my oldest daughter. I pondered for several weeks on that conversation. I realized I was no longer afraid of the truth. I fasted two times with prayers to God asking for guidance. These prayers were more fervent and sincerer then I had ever prayed in my life. For those few weeks I could feel Gods spirit rest upon me so powerfully it felt as though the veil had been lifted. Very interesting and amazing experiences happened during that two weeks. One experience was so cool and surreal at the same time ... I had to text my family and tell them. Here is the text I sent:

Experience of the year: So, what's happening here? This morning I had a sparrow fly into our Base ... land on my travel bag and just sit there looking at me for 10 or 15 seconds ... then fly back out the door... I thought, "that was odd... but very cool" ... then after we checked off the helicopter and supplies (about an hour later) I was sitting out the back door on the bench, drinking a bottle of water ... watching the parachute jumpers ... and two lizards come running around the corner ... one stops right in front of me and the other runs right up my right shoe and they sat there for about 30 seconds ... both looking at me... then they suddenly ran off ... again, I thought "what the heck? That was very odd ... but super cool" ... THEN about a minute later ... another sparrow flys over and lands on the bench next to me, sits there looking at me for about of time, then flys away. ... I start to think "what the heck is going on?" ... I'm thinking in my head ... "This is got to be some kind of crazy coincidence right?" and right then ... like the universe is trying to tell me... "no this is not a coincidence" ... a road runner bird walks up from the golf course and walks right up to me (about 3 ft away) stands there looking at me like I have something to give to it ... then after about a minute, it scurries off ... Such a cool experience ... but very surreal at the same time ... just kinda freaked out ... can't stop thinking about it ... so I had to tell you ... LOL. Anyway. Love ya. Have an awesome day. I'm going for a walk now.

Through this experience and several others ... the inspiration I kept receiving from God was, "talk to your wife about what you have found". Though I was hesitant about talking to her, I knew it was time. What happened next simply astonished me! Before I could muster up the courage to say anything to her ... one day my wife suddenly ... out of the blue ... said, "I'm having issues about what the church has published on LDS.org." She went on to explain she had been studying the Book of Mormon (as she always did daily) and came across a passage in Jacob 2:24-28.

Behold, David and <u>Solomon</u> truly had many <u>wives</u> and concubines, which thing was <u>abominable</u> before me, saith the Lord. Wherefore, thus saith the Lord, I have led this people forth out of the land of Jerusalem, by the power of mine arm, that I might raise up unto me a <u>righteous</u> branch from the fruit of the loins of Joseph. Wherefore, I the Lord God will not suffer that this people shall do like unto them of old. Wherefore, my brethren, hear me, and hearken to the word of the Lord: For there shall not any <u>man</u> among you have save it be <u>one wife</u>; and concubines he shall have none; For I, the Lord God, delight in the <u>chastity</u> of women. And <u>whoredoms</u> are an abomination before me; thus saith the Lord of Hosts.

She explained that she had seen on LDS.org (see: <u>https://www.lds.org/topics/plural-marriage-in-kirtland-and-nauvoo?lang=eng</u>) that the Church was now admitting that Joseph Smith was married to many many wives, even to women already married to other living men, even to a little 14 year old girl when Joseph Smith was 36 years old, and even married women-daughter pairs! She explained that while she was studying the Book of Mormon that she came to a sudden realization Joseph Smiths teaching about polygamy were not true! I stood there in amazement! It was as though the hand of God was opening up the heavens of truth to each of us simultaneously. My wife was on the same path I was ... but from a completely different direction and angle! In my amazement and realization of what she was saying, somethings caught me off guard. I stopped my wife and said, "Wait! The story of Joseph Smith having multiple wives was an Anti-Mormon story I heard on my mission in New Zealand! I went on to say, "I was told on my mission all of that was a lie." She said, "Well the church is saying it is all true now and there is more ... a lot more ... even an essay about the Book of Abraham."

### See: https://www.lds.org/topics/translation-and-historicity-of-the-book-of-abraham?lang=eng

### From LDS.org, "Translation and Historicity of the Book of Abraham":

("None of the characters on the papyrus fragments mentioned Abraham's name or any of the events recorded in the book of Abraham. Mormon and non-Mormon Egyptologists agree that the characters on the fragments do not match the translation given in the book of Abraham, though there is not unanimity, even among non-Mormon scholars, about the proper interpretation of the vignettes on these fragments. Scholars have identified the papyrus fragments as parts of standard funerary texts that were deposited with mummified bodies. These fragments date to between the third century B.C.E. and the first century C.E., long after Abraham lived.")

Even though leaders of the church now admit the papyrus fragments from the Book of Abraham are merely Egyptian funerary texts (not the writings of Abraham) and date "long after Abraham lived", (in other words they have nothing to do with Abraham!), they still leave this heading at the beginning of their "Book of Abraham":

### A Translation of some ancient Records that have fallen into our hands from the catacombs of Egypt. The writings of Abraham while he was in Egypt, called the Book of Abraham, <u>written by his own hand, upon papyrus.</u>

Massive numbers of Mormons are fleeing the church. It is mostly due to finding out that the, so called, "Anti-Mormon Literature" is actually TRUE history of the LDS Church. They see that Mormon history has been covered up, white washed and is even called lies. In response to this, the Mormon leaders realized they had to conduct a "damage control" campaign against their own true history. That is why they wrote the Church Essays and are writing a new series of books called *Saints, The standard of truth*. However, that is not enough. Thousand of people are waking up to this disingenuous attempt to "come clean" about the truth. But still, even though the essays and the new book series *Saints, the standard of truth* admit uncomfortable truths that were once called lies, they still censor and cleaned up most of the facts. They are still white washed so much that anyone that actually goes to the real source will see the Mormon Church continues to be deceitful - concealing much of the truth.

As the weeks passed, in my conversations with my wife, she mentioned that our oldest daughter was inspired to do the same. Our oldest daughter had also been researching the truth about the foundation of the Church on her own during this same time. She had found a letter called the CES letter and explained that it was from a member of the Mormon Church that had legitimate questions about the history of the Church. <u>https://cesletter.org</u> The CES letter speaks of actual church history documents that are in stark contrast to what the Mormon Church has taught in its "main stream" doctrine. The Church has literally been hiding from its members (in plain sight) all these documents. The church leaders

continue to tell their congregation to read ONLY those things that have been approved by the brethren. This is how the Church has successfully hidden all this "stuff" for over 180 years! When I read the CES letter, the flood gates of memory were slammed wide open! The most dramatic memories were when I served a Mormon Mission in New Zealand. Reading the CES letter was like reading the same "Anti-Mormon Literature" that I had read 30 years ago on my mission.

Arriving in New Zealand in Aug. 1986, one of the things I noticed right away was the amount of "Anti-Mormon Literature" that was being circulated and talked about in all the communities. I had only been there a few weeks and a young man about the age of 16-17 came to our missionary apartment to proselyte to us! We of course let him in. As he sat down, He began to explain that he had true information about our church history that we should read immediately. His enthusiasm and sincerity caught me off guard. Being a 19-year-old young Mormon, I had never seen or heard of any of the things he was saying. Much of his information sounded so crazy and over the top. Though shocking, it all seemed to be so ridiculous and silly that it was easy to just disregard all of it. After the young man was done, we attempted to teach him what we believed. I clearly remember his response, "Elders, I believe in Christ! He is my Savior! Nothing you can say or do will ever change that. I have been born again and pray someday you will also understand the truth about Jesus and be born again in him!" He then said he would be praying for us and left us a box of pamphlets with all the "Anti-Mormon literature" we could possibly read. Below are just a few of the things that he had spoken about.

- 1. Joseph Smith translated the Book of Mormon mainly with a rock in a hat, and not with the gold plates beside him. The gold plates were always said to be in another room covered by a towel or cloth during the translation process.
- Joseph Smith had multiple "First Visions" ...the 1<sup>st</sup> "first vision" was the ONLY first vision account written with Joseph Smith's own hand and that version says he saw only Jesus. In the vision, Jesus only forgives Joseph Smith of his sins. No mention of God the Father. No mention of other churches or teachings. No mention of the restored gospel, etc.
- 3. The earliest mention of ANY first vision by Joseph Smith or Anyone that knew him including His Mother, Father, his multiple scribes and friends, wasn't until 12 years after the first vision took place. The First Vision is said to have taken place in 1820 first mention of a "first vision" account wasn't even until 1832 12 years later! The first time anyone heard of any kind of "first vision" was also two years after the publication of the Book of Mormon.
- 4. There are at least NINE, <u>documented</u>, completely different accounts of the first vision.
- It has been proven that Joseph Smith had at least 38 wives. At least 11 of them were already married to other living men. One was only 14 years old. He also was married to women and daughter "pairs" at the same time. This was while Joseph Smith was alive, and he denied this practice in public several times.
- 6. Even though joseph said that the papyrus he obtained from a travelling Egyptian museum contained "The Book of Abraham" and that it was written by Abraham's "own hand", it has been emphatically proven that the papyrus Joseph Smith used to "translate" the Book of Abraham was nothing but an Egyptian funeral document and had 100% nothing to do with Abraham.
- 7. The rock Joseph Smith used to translate the Book of Mormon was found by Joseph in a well hole that he helped dig for a neighbor.
- 8. Joseph smith was charged with "disorderly person" and "glass looking" because he was continually pretending to be able to find treasure with the rock he found in the well. Joseph Smith also never found any treasure for anyone. This treasure digging business Joseph Smith engaged in took place throughout his teens and early 20's. This was during the same time he was supposedly preparing to receive the gold plates from an angel.
- 9. Joseph Smith was arrest for illegal banking as well as banking fraud.
- 10. Joseph Smith was arrested for conspiracy to commit murder.
- 11. Joseph Smith arrested for treason against the United States of America.
- 12. Although Joseph and other later prophets and apostles reported that the "Urim and Thummim" (found with the gold plates) was used for "the sole purpose of translating the gold plates", it is proven impossible for

Joseph to have used the Urim and Thummim to translate the Book of Mormon. The reason it was impassible is, Joseph explained in his journal that the Urim and Thummim had been taken away from him by an angel after Martin Harris lost the first 116 pages. All witnesses to the translation process wrote that Joseph translated the entire Book of Mormon with a rock in a hat, or with nothing at all. The Mormon church to this day, teaches and implies Joseph Smith translated the Book of Mormon with the Urim and Thummim while the gold plates were in front of him.

As you can see, these allegations, especially back in 1986 seem(ed) very salacious! When I listened to the young man telling me these things (and many more things that had to do with doctrinal beliefs, such as the temple ceremony and rituals, History of Brigham Young and his teachings as a prophet, including blacks and the priesthood, Adam God Doctrine, Blood Atonement Doctrine, The Mountain Meadow Massacre, Mormons and Freemasonry, etc.), and when I read them again in the pamphlets he left with us ... I was left with untoward feelings about the Church. I thought these are so "over the top" and scandalous that they were very hard to believe. On the other hand, if even one of these were true, it would change my whole view of the Mormon Church. I thought, being a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, this is "not at all" what they teach. However, my mind was immediately calmed when I brought my concerns to my 1<sup>st</sup> mission President, President John R. Lasater. My mission President confidently explained to me, "these "Anti-Mormon" stories were absolute lies thought up by evil men in order to destroy the work of the Lord in these last days." I remember feeling so relieved that they were lies, and it was easy for me to dismiss them. After all, they certainly seemed ridiculous to me!

However, the Anti-Mormon literature continued to take it's tole as 100's of Mormons were leaving the Church in New Zealand ... including Stake Presidents and Bishops. On Feb 25<sup>th</sup>, 1988, Elder Dallin H. Oaks (an apostle of the Mormon church) came and spoke to our mission. At the end of his talk he bore his testimony to all of us. He explained that all the "Anti-Mormon Literature" that has been circulating throughout New Zealand were lies, thought up by evil men. He explained, "These lies were designed to destroy the work of the Lord." He then directed each of us missionaries to go forth boldly and testify that these "Anti-Mormon" stories were lies! He said, "Show the inactive members the truth through your testimonies and teach them the Gospel as laid out in the missionary discussions". For me it was so easy! I knew Dallin H. Oaks (an apostle) was testifying the truth. Not only that, the stories were so unbelievable! I remember many times telling investigators and inactive Mormons, "Of course Joseph Smith didn't have multiple first visions" ... "of course Joseph Smith didn't translate the Book of Mormon with a rock in a hat" ... "look here is a picture of Joseph Smith translating the Book of Mormon".

(this is a photo of the actual picture that I showed investigators and inactive Mormons on my mission) This was/is common among all missionaries worldwide to use this photo and others very similar to it when teaching about the church.



I would go on and on testifying, "Of course Joseph Smith didn't marry 38 wives – 11 of which were already married to other living men!" I would say, "think about it! Do you really believe these crazy ridiculous stories?" Then I would testify, "I know they are not true, and that these were all lies!" I would recount to them, "Even an apostle of God (Dallin H. Oaks) testified to us face to face that they were ALL lies thought up by evil men to destroy the True Church of God in these latter days!!" My mission companions and I were able to convince many people to return to the Mormon Church and were able to convert many others to the Mormon faith. It was a glorious time in my life. I knew the Mormon Church was the only True Church on the face of the earth! Amazingly, just a few months later another Mormon Apostle (Neil A. Maxwell) came to our mission and spoke as well! Again, after Apostle Maxwell's talk, he also testified that all the "Anti-Mormon Stories" were lies. He also challenged us to go forth with boldness testifying that these things were lies. So now, not only one, but TWO apostles had testified to us that all these "Anti-Mormon stories" were lies! It was amazing to witness the success of the missionaries in our mission as we did go forth and testified with boldness to the people of New Zealand that the Anti-Mormon Literature were lies, and we brought 100's back into the Mormon Faith.

These memories came back so strong and so emphatically as I read the CES letter. I was reading all the "Anti-Mormon literature" that I read on my mission! I thought, "What the heck is going on? I thought this stuff was all lies!" But the supporting documentation to the CES letter is literally approved by the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (The Prophet and 12 Apostles including Dallin H. Oaks that called them lies 30 years ago!). It is all found on LDS.org under "Gospel Topic Essays". Here is an excerpt from LDS.org on the "Book of Mormon Translation":

Nevertheless, the scribes and others who observed the translation left numerous accounts that give insight into the process. Some accounts indicate that Joseph studied the characters on the plates. Most of the accounts speak of Joseph's use of the Urim and Thummim (either the interpreters or the seer stone), and many accounts refer to his use of a single stone. According to these accounts, Joseph placed either the interpreters or the seer stone in a hat, pressed his face into the hat to block out extraneous light, and read aloud the English words that appeared on the instrument. https://www.lds.org/topics/book-of-mormon-translation?lang=eng

This "anti-Mormon literature" has now been confirmed (by the Mormon Prophet and Apostles themselves) NOT to be "anti-Mormon literature" at all ... but to be TRUE Mormon history!! In the CES letter <u>almost all</u> the "Anti-Mormon" Stories that I was led to believe were lies on my mission ... now 30 years later ... have been confirmed by the Mormon Church to actually be true this whole time! Again, listen carefully, the so-called "Anti-Mormon literature" on my mission is actually true documented Mormon history of the church! I was told to testify they were lies by TWO Mormon apostles! I was told to lie, and I did lie to 100's if not 1000's of people on my mission and after my mission! Right then I realized, I was taught <u>A</u> lie growing up... I was taught <u>TO</u> lie growing up... I taught <u>THE</u> lie my whole adult life... the Mormon Church has covered up, misrepresented, and lied about the real truth for over 180 years!

I think it is so incredible that, in most people's everyday life, critical thinking is so important ... But when it comes to the Mormon Church, critical thinking is extremely frowned upon. Would you buy a used car from someone without finding out what's under the hood first? Of course not! Then why do Mormons believe and teach it is wrong or evil to "look under the hood" (look at actual, real, true, tangible, touchable, readable, provable evidence) about the foundation of the church? If the church is absolutely TRUE ... then the evidence would most certainly weigh far in its favor ... right??? If a person that is selling you their car says, "My car is perfect ... Just go pray about it ... and when you feel good about it you'll know it's perfect ... and then you can buy it." If that happened to you ... You would look at the guy and say, "You're crazy!" So, if that example is crazy, why is it crazy or wrong to look "under the hood" of the Mormon Church? It makes no sense!

As you know, I'm a Flight Paramedic. When I'm at work we fly with a Pilot, Nurse, and Paramedic team. If I was not allowed to critically think on my own ... if I was told don't criticize your leaders, don't correct them, and most certainly don't ever tell them they are wrong ... if this was the policy ... if this was the culture ... I can guarantee you I would be dead today!

Let me explain ... This was an actual flight I was on: The pilot informed us that we had a flight request. The nurse and I got all our equipment together and went out to the aircraft. When we fly, the pilot is in command. Every decision that has to do with the aircraft and aviation goes through him. He makes the decisions on the route we take, how high we fly, when and where we land, etc. That particular night, everything was going smoothly. We had picked up the patient from the sending hospital and was flying into town to a receiving hospital we normally take critical patients. The Pilot always takes the safest, fastest, most true route to the hospital. However, while flying that route ... (the safest, fastest, most true route) I noticed out our starboard side, at 2 o clock, another aircraft headed straight into our path. Now, If I was not allowed tell the pilot to change his course, if I was not allowed to tell him the path he was on was bad... if I was afraid to tell the pilot to change the course of the ship for fear of getting chastised or even lose my job ... what would have happened? Of course, we would have likely crashed and probably died. By not saying anything, it would be like committing suicide, right? That would be crazy! I of course said firmly, "Turn left! Turn left! Plane - 2 o clock! Turn Left!", and ... even though the pilot was in charge ... he knew I was right ... and he changed his course. Thank goodness, at my work, critical thinking is praised. Even outside the aviation portion of my job ... I am blessed to say that I work at a

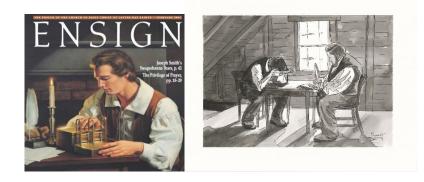
company that will listen to the truth ... Even if it is completely against what the CEO and owners want to hear. If it is true ... they want to hear it! They want to fix the issue, not hide it, or spin the truth to meet their opinion, or gain power, or make more money. They won't do this because they know, in our profession, it's a matter of life and death!

However, in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints ... (even though it is a matter of spiritual life and death) critical thinking is important ONLY if it leads you to following what the Church leaders say is true. Ironically, you must, at all cost, stay on the "safest, fastest, most true route" no matter if you absolutely, beyond a shadow of a doubt, see danger and death coming right at you on that path! If you see an issue, they will say, "you need to pray and read your scriptures and attend the temple more". Even if you can show them 100% that they are wrong and are lying.... It is extremely frowned upon. It will even come to the point of excommunication out of the Mormon Church, if you come to a conclusion other than the "approved" conclusion. Even if you show them with absolute proof that the path they are telling you to take is headed for disaster. They will watch you crash and burn rather than admit they are wrong.

I am certain, that this is much of the cause of hopelessness, depression, and suicide in this area of the USA. It's because there is literally a culture of "my way or the highway" ... a culture of "you're not trying hard enough" ... a culture of "you're not doing enough" ... a culture of "it's you that is the problem not the Church or it's teachings" .... which breeds a culture of "there is something wrong with me" which breeds a culture of "I'm not good enough" ... which breeds depression ... which breeds suicide! An apostle of the Mormon church (Dallin H Oaks) said "It is wrong to criticize leaders of the Church even if the criticism is true". See: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JxyiHLg59ks">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JxyiHLg59ks</a> Where does that steer members of the Mormon church? It steers them far away from critical thinking. It's wrong to criticize" even if they are wrong?? That is the foundation of critical thinking!! You can't critically think without the ability to criticize!

Sorry Mormon Church Leaders ... you can't tell me your car (church) is perfect ... then make me pay for it (tithing) ... then later show me what is under the hood (Mormon history) ... proving you lied ... proving there are HUGE issues with your car (church) ... and then expect me to still believe the car (church) is perfect! I'm not stupid ... I have way too much integrity ... I cannot lie to myself ... I am no longer afraid of you and your lies! ... you can have your "perfect" car (church) back! Go sell it to someone else that does NOT have eyes to see nor ears to hear. Matt 13:16. *But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.* I pray God and his Angels bring the wrath of truth upon the Mormon Church Leaders that all those that have been deceived by their lies will be blessed with eyes that see and ears that hear!

That was the last straw! At that very moment of realization that the church leaders have been purposely hiding the truth ... that they were willing to make up a completely different story of what actually happened ... and could teach us all a lie ... and caused me and everyone that is a member of the church to <u>unknowingly</u> lie for God? ... I thought ... "How sick is that?" Now they are admitting Joseph Smith did, in fact, translate the Book of Mormon with a rock he found in a well? They admit he'd place the rock in a hat and then buried his face in that hat to translate? The gold plates were seldom even in the same room as him while he did this? What? I was never taught that my whole life! When I saw that information on my mission, I was told it was all a lie by two Mormon Apostles! This is so disgusting! Now they want all of us to just pretend its no big deal? Are you kidding me? Look at these contrasting pictures and you tell me if the Mormon Church was not purposefully deceiving (and still is by the way) their members and investigators. This is just ONE example of literally endless examples of deception and lies! The picture on the left is the propaganda the Church teaches of how the Book of Mormon was translated. The picture on the right is the ACTUAL documented way the Book of Mormon came into existence. I lied ... they are liars ... I told myself ... "You can make excuses all you want ... but the truth is the truth ... period!" I no longer could deny the ACTUAL truth about the Mormon church!



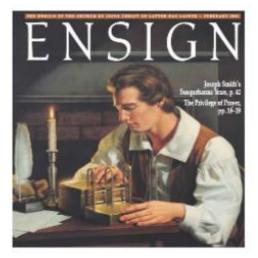
At this point it was just a matter of deciding how I wanted to proceed with this information. I knew I had been lied to. I knew I lied on my mission and throughout my life about the Mormon Church. I knew I had been so self-righteous and arrogant to my older brother, and many other people! I had been lied to all along! In my studies ... I found these quotes by Ernest Hemingway and Mark Twain. I realized how profound they really were when I created this meme on the next page:

Remember, everything is right until it is wrong. You'll know when it is wrong. Ernest Hemingway

### It is easier to fool people then it is to convince them that they have been fooled. Mark Twain

You've been wronged

You've been fooled



Mormon "Temple Recommend" question #9: "Are you honest in your dealings with your fellowmen?" So, please tell me ... Is it really no big deal that Prophets and Apostles of the Mormon church can print and teach propaganda, then deceive and lie, to not only millions of Mormons, but the entire world for over 180 years ... but then expect members of their church to be completely honest with their fellow men in order to enter the temple??

What the ...?? ....This is as twisted as it gets!! This fraud is also as clear as it gets!

Ironically it is again, Apostle Dallin H Oaks, that is now trying to change the definition of TRUTH! Just recently at General conference Oct. 7, 2018 ... Dallin H. Oaks teaches the Mormon church members:

"Modern revelation defines truth as a knowledge of things as they are, and as they were, and as they are to come. That is a perfect definition for the Plan of Salvation and The Family Proclamation to the World."

Let me make sure I understand you Mr. Oaks. You're trying to say:

1. Truth is knowledge of things in the past, present, and future.

- 2. The *Plan of Salvation* and *Family Proclamation* tell us how things were, are, and will be.
- 3. The Mormon church has the Truth.

It is a very convenient conclusion Mr. Oaks, considering you just define "truth" in generic terms and then cite your own doctrines as examples. Many fall for your flowery words and deceptions, but not all of us.

Defining truth in this circular, self-referencing – self-benefiting, way allows church leaders to treat truth as ... "whatever we decide truth is" ... and ... "if anyone disagrees with us, they are wrong". There is an implicit appeal to authority in the way these documents and others such as the Book of Mormon, Book of Abraham, D&C, etc. are assumed to be true because of their source ("modern revelation"—aka church leaders) instead of the merit of their content.

All of this is to say, the Mormon Church is working with an unnecessarily narrow ... "error-prone" ... view of truth right from the beginning. There is a fundamental conflict between definitive truth and whatever the Mormon church leaders say "truth" is at the time (aka modern revelation).

Dallin H Oaks and the Mormon Church are trying to change the definition of truth to give them the ability to say Truth is "relative" ... "truth is a knowledge of things as they are to come." What the...??? So now it doesn't matter what the truth of the past and present is ... Apparently the Mormon church can change the truth for the future ... or say the past truth doesn't matter ... because the Mormon truth of the future (even thou it hasn't even happened) can now be more important than the truth of the past and the present ... *if they so choose*! The "truth" **they like** is true in the future ... and the "truth" **they don't like** is not true in the future ... WOW! If that is not malicious thinking nothing is! If that is not "manipulating the masses" nothing is! I hear a song breaking out in my head ... "follow the prophet, follow the prophet, follow the prophet you won't go astray!" There are pictures of the prophet and temples everywhere. Mormon children and adults are taught to sings songs about the prophet and temple. They also have continuous teachings of allegiance to the prophet and "the brethren", commands to focus on the book of Mormon not the Bible ("read the book of Mormon church such as ...

"Another way to seek a testimony seems astonishing when compared with the methods of obtaining other knowledge. We gain or strengthen a testimony by bearing it. Someone even suggested that some testimonies are better gained on the feet bearing them than on the knees praying for them." Dallin H. Oaks (April 2008 General Conference; talk on testimony).

Wait ... was that Dallin H Oak again? ... Seriously throughout my studies Mr. Oaks has continued to pop up at every turn when it came to the topic of "critical thinking" ... being honest with yourself ... having integrity ... etc. Call it a coincidence if you must ... but his teachings are the opposite of being honest with yourself. "We gain our testimony by bearing it?" Now I understand why the Mormons have their little 4 and 5-year-old kids go up to the pulpit on Sacrament Sunday or give talks in primary and say cute little things to the congregation like.... "I know Joseph Smith was a prophet, I know the book of Mormon is true, I know the Church is true", etc. Doesn't anyone see what is going on here? Dallin H. Oaks just said it's OK to lie. He literally is saying... "keep saying you know its true and eventually you will know it's true!"

Matthew 14:19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, **false witness**, blasphemies.

Notice Matthew lists some very bad things that proceed out of the heart and false witness is among them. Dallin H. Oaks (Mormon Apostle) is teaching you to lie to yourself until you believe. Now if you are lying to yourself ... what spirit is teaching you? Hmm ... Interesting. I say, "No! That is obviously false teaching! Instead ... I'm going to do the

opposite. I'm going to do what the Bible tells us to do!" ... "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.". 1 Thessalonians 5:21

How do you "prove all things"? Certainly not by looking at "church approved" material ONLY! Certainly not by lying to yourself till you believe! You investigate, find all the facts, and after finding as much "proof" as you possibly can, from both sides of the issue, you then can make an informed "REAL" <u>honest</u> decision between you and God.

Why would anyone ever say, "truth is a knowledge of things as they <u>ARE</u> to come."? It sounds like you are threatening people ... "We already know the truth of the future, so beware!" The Mormon Church desperately wants to be able to change the TRUTH about it's past, present and future. So, by attempting to change the definition of future truth, maybe the past and present will not be important? ... um ... no ... nice try "brethren" ... fortunately for us ... it simply shows you are still trying to manipulate and indoctrinate people. You literally are teaching "Loyalty over Honesty". Mormons must lie to themselves or to others in order to stay loyal to the Mormon church, and that is not only "perfectly fine", it is encouraged! John 8:44 *"Ye are of* your *father the devil ... When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."* 

Here is the **<u>actual</u>** definition of Truth: *That which actually/really happened in accordance with fact and reality.* 

The "true" definition of truth deals with <u>REALITY</u>. Not some "future" possibility. You must ask yourself, with the ACTUAL truth of the Mormon church finally coming into the light, why would the Mormon leaders attempt to change the definition of truth? If you are honest with yourself ... it becomes obvious! They want you to close your eyes and cover your ears ... and let them just say, "move along" ... "nothing to see here" ... "We got it" ... "we have the Truth" ... "just do what we say" ... "All is well in Zion."

All is NOT well in "Mormon Zion" people! You live among the highest suicide rates, highest depression rates, highest mental health issues, highest anti-depressant usage! Your Leaders have admitted lies about its history, and they continually white wash, dismiss, and obscure the truth today! ... They teach you to lie to yourself until you believe the lie. ... on and on ... Wake up! Please! I beg you! Wake up!

John 8:32 – "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free".

You are good enough! You are strong enough! You are smart enough! You are enough! I implore you to be honest with yourself and with God. Don't let fear rule your life! Take charge of your life and use the "critical thinking" God gave you. That means actually be brave enough to face the truth head on! Be brave enough to be honest and face reality! Even though truth can be painful, truth can be brutal, truth can be extremely difficult ... I promise you will find John 8:32 to be 1 billion percent true! The Truth Shall Make You Free! And when you have faced the truth ... peace will envelope your whole being ... your whole soul ... like you have never felt peace before! I honestly love you unconditionally, therefore I am blunt and forward with the truth that you might see. I pray every day and hour that your eyes will be opened, and your heart will be softened and give yourself to Jesus Christ. May God bless you to that end!

I want to share with you a couple of things that I have found. Now that ... "praise God" ... I've been <u>Born Again</u> through the blood of the true Jesus Christ of the Bible. I now "prove all things", as God asks us to do. With critical thinking and honest investigation, I am going to "hold fast to that which is good". I can honestly say with knowledge and understanding AND the spirit of God beaming through my soul ... The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saint is <u>NOT</u> "The only True Church" on the face of the earth. That is a lie. Joseph Smith was a FALSE prophet! The leaders of the Mormon Church are deceivers. There is no doubt whatsoever! Nothing could ever change that fact ... just as 2+2=4 ... the Mormon Church was and is led by False Prophets!

Galatians 1:8-9 King James Version (KJV) But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

Right on the front of the Book of Mormon that missionaries hand out to all the public is says, "Another Testament of Jesus Christ" ... right in plain sight ... they claim to have another gospel ... a "better - fuller" gospel then the gospel of the Bible! Just that one act alone convicts them of being "accursed".

You still don't believe the Mormon church teaches "another gospel"? Read the following chart:

# Christian

Follower of Jesus Christ

God- One absolute triune being.

Jesus- One part of the triune being of God who became human. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died sacrificially on a cross and was physically raised from the dead on the third day. He conquered sin and death. As the singular solution from a singular God, Jesus is the only Way to be reconciled to God.

Salvation- Free gift of grace from God to those who receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

<u>Primary Reference</u>- The Bible. A collection of sixty six writings from over forty authors believed to have been inspired by God. Originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek.



## Mormon

Follower of Joseph Smith

Gods- Former humans from other galaxies.

Jesus- Born the result of procreation by a god and a woman. Brother of Lucifer. As part of his path to becoming a god Jesus came to earth to become our savior from death and to show us the path to become a god. This is a path of individual effort as each person focuses on themselves and their own advancement.

<u>Salvation</u>- there is no hell so salvation isn't necessary. By following Mormon teachings you advance to one day be a god.

Primary Reference- The Book of Mormon. Interpreted by Joseph Smith by using a "seer rock" in his hat from "reformed Egyptian" writing on golden plates he borrowed from an angel.

https://carm.org/comparison-between-christian-doctrine-and-mormon-doctrine

Now you can see why Joseph Smith had to teach ... "we believe in the Bible <u>as far as it is translated correctly</u>". It's because Mormons do not believe in the same God or Jesus that is described in the Bible period! They "preach" a different "gospel" and they are "accursed".

Would you honestly follow someone that said these things of themselves?

1. Joseph Smith made this statement at the conclusion of a speech in the public square at Far West, Missouri on October 14, 1838:

"I will be to this generation a second Mohammed, whose motto in treating for peace was 'the Alcoran [Koran] or the Sword.' So shall it eventually be with us -- 'Joseph Smith or the Sword!'"

2. Joseph Smith's statement of boasting that he has done a greater work than anyone else, even greater than Jesus:

"I have more to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam...Neither Paul, John, nor Jesus ever did it. I boast that no man ever did such a work as I. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him; but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet." (Church History vol 6, pp. 408-409).

Another awareness came to me while pondering and studying upon the realization that the Mormon Church is not what it pretends to be ...

My wife and I was watching a documentary about the Mormon temple ceremony and its true origins. While watching the documentary, I suddenly realized that I had totally forgot about this ... Most everyone that entered the temple after 1990 has no idea about this ... but when we were watching the video it all came rushing back ... prior to 1990 Mormon temple goers used to have death penalties in the temple that coincided with each covenant they made. Prior to 1990, In the temple, we would act as if we slit our throats open, or slit our chest open, or our bowls open while saying:

### "I would suffer my life to be taken."

For days after this ... I began pondering upon the temple endowment ceremony. I remembered a distinct part that always caused me pause. It is the portion of the movie where Satan turns to the audience, looks at you directly in the eyes and says, "

"I have a word to say concerning these people. If they do not walk up to every covenant they make at these altars in this temple this day, they will be in my power!"

I became aware of an unsettling fact that I never realized until now. The very last "covenant" that you make in the endowment is to keep the "Law of Consecration". Who in the church keeps the "Law of Consecration"? Answer ... No body! No one gives all their surplus property to the church storehouse for it to be divided up evenly among all the members ... Not even the Church itself keeps the law of consecration!

There are extremely poor Mormons in countries all over the world. Some Mormon families are living on less than \$5.00 a day, no running water, electricity, or toilets, etc.! I suppose the Mormons in more "well off" countries are just blessed more ... too bad for those other poor Mormons. The Mormon Church has been estimated to have received 33 billion dollars (yes billion) in the year 2010!

https://www.sltrib.com/religion/local/2017/10/14/historian-digs-into-the-hidden-world-of-mormon-finances-showshow-church-went-from-losing-money-to-making-money-lots-of-it/

Even though the Leaders of the church teach, "We no longer practice the Law of Consecration, we practice the lesser Law of Tithing." The question kept coming to my mind over and over ... Then why would you make your Temple going members covenant to keep the "law of consecration" ... Knowing they are not required to keep that covenant? Then in the temple endowment ceremony have Satan look them directly into their eyes and say:

"I have a word to say concerning these people. If they do not walk up to every covenant, they make at these altars in this temple **this day**, they will be in my power!"

Why would the Mormon church even give Satan the opportunity to say such a thing to all its temple going members? Knowing the members can't, they won't, and are not even required to keep the law of consecration according to their Prophets. Yet the Mormon church has Satan say, "they will be in my power" if they don't keep every covenant?

I'm going to say it again because it is so important that you understand! The Prophet and Apostles have made it so Mormons are not required to keep all the covenants in the temple (the law of consecration) ... then in the temple ... make Mormons promise to keep all of the covenants (including the law of consecration) ... all these covenants and promises are made after Satan tells them to their face that they will be in his power if they don't keep every one of them!! Wow! That is messed up!! I never realized until now how twisted the Mormon church really is. I truly believe the Leaders of the Mormon church are fighting against the true Saints, and they do not want anyone to find the true Jesus Christ found in the Bible. They are false prophets, teaching a false gospel about a false Jesus. Please run from this church as fast as you can!

Did you know that prior to 1990 the church also used to have a Christian priest/pastor in the temple endowment ceremony movie? Satan would hire the Christian Preacher to teach the people "the philosophies of men mingled with scripture" ... this was to show to the members of the Mormon church that all Christian preachers are employed by Satan. The church also took that part out in 1990 because many Christians that became Mormons were extremely disturbed with the temple ceremony. Many that converted from Christianity to Mormon knew their old Christian Preachers were not influenced by the devil! Many of them would immediately leave the Mormon church as soon as they went to the temple for the first time, knowing this was not true in the least.

It would take another 30 pages for me to write the details about the temple and the true origins of its ceremony. I will say this. Joseph Smith was a Free Mason. He immediately rose to a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Master Mason. Ironically, several months later, Joseph introduced the Mormon temple ceremony. Needless to say, the Mormon temple ceremony Joseph introduced was copied from the same mold as the masonic ceremony, including identical signs and tokens, handshakes, penalties, etc. etc. Please take the time to study this issue. Temple going Mormons don't realize what they are actually doing in the temple. See: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WJubJfcooXA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WJubJfcooXA</a>

The Christians have been dishonored by Mormon church leaders from the beginning! In the Mormon church "official version" of the First Vision, (which is actually, the fourth version – and was not even recorded until 1838 – Eight years after the Book of Mormon was published). There are at least 9 different versions of the first vision, all of which were never spoke of, heard of or recorded till years after the Book of Mormon was published. Please See: <a href="http://mit.irr.org/joseph-smiths-changing-first-vision-accounts">http://mit.irr.org/joseph-smiths-changing-first-vision-and</a>

Anyway, the Mormons official account of the first vision clearly states:

"I was answered that I must join none of them (Christian churches), for they were all wrong...their creeds were an **abomination** in [God's] sight; that those (preachers, pastors) professors were all **corrupt**" (Joseph Smith—History 1:19).

Joseph Smith supposedly was told that all the Christian Churches were an "abomination and the professors (preachers, pastors and priests) were all corrupt"?! Seriously? I used to actually believe this stuff! Now that I know it's a total lie, I realize how horrible the Mormon leaders have deceived me. All other churches are an abomination and their teachers are corrupt?? After all my studies, I am clearly seeing who actually is corrupt! ... it's NOT the Christians that have been around over 2000 years!

Here are just a few quotes the leaders of the Mormon church have said about Christians:

1. "Orthodox Christian views of God are pagan rather than Christian" (Mormon Doctrine of Deity, B. H. Roberts [General Authority], 116).

- 2. "Are Christians ignorant? Yes, as ignorant of the things of God as the brute beast" (Journal of Discourses, John Taylor [3rd Mormon President], 13:225).
- "All the priests who adhere to the sectarian [Christian] religions of the day with all their followers, without one exception, receive their portion with the devil and his angels" (The Elders Journal, Joseph Smith, ed. Vol. 1, n. 4, 60).
- 4. "Believers in the doctrines of modern Christendom will reap damnation to their souls" (Mormon 8; Moroni 8)" (Mormon Doctrine, Bruce R. McConkie, p.177).

Now finally, the Book of Mormon ... I used to think and say, "But the Book of Mormon is true ... Not one person can ever prove that it is not true! If anyone attempts to prove that it is false, they will always find out it's actually true". Oh, my goodness ... talk about lying to myself! The Book of Mormon has 100's and 100's of problems and complications. It is so untrue ... that once you know the mountains of evidence showing it is false and the clear absence of evidence showing it is true ... you would absolutely have to lie to yourself to say, "I know it is true".

Joseph Smith said, "The Book of Mormon is the most correct of any book on this Earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, then any other book." Most Mormons just take that quote at face value. Let me ask you a question. If someone had a great deal of evidence that the book of Mormon was plagiarized by Joseph Smith and not translated, what would you do? Please watch this video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMs0OM4Xu0U">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMs0OM4Xu0U</a>

The evidence is overwhelming that the Book of Mormon is a fraud! This is the one of many major problems that I found. It is the fact that there have been thousands of word changes and 100's of doctrinal changes made by the Mormon leaders over the past 180 years! Please read the article in the link below:

### http://www.mormonhandbook.com/home/5000-changes-to-the-book-of-mormon.html

"The most correct book" has needed 100's of doctrinal changes to be made? What the ...? The Mormon leaders have been quietly doing this ... and then NOT discussing the changes. One of the latest changes is in response to the DNA proof about the native American Indians. I didn't even know about this until I actually started studying for myself! The church doesn't openly announce these things. It's all done quietly. However, the introduction to the Book of Mormon prior to 2007 said: .... "after thousands of years, all were destroyed except the Lamanites, and they are the **principle ancestors** of the American Indians."

After the DNA evidence proved that the American Indian came from Northern China and NOT from Jerusalem as the Book of Mormon attest to ... in 2007 The Mormon Leaders changed the title page to say:

"after thousands of years, all were destroyed except the Lamanites, and they are **among** the ancestors of the American Indians."

They dropped "principle ancestors" and now just say they are "among". This of course, was an attempt to keep in line with the <u>real</u> truth, but only highlights their continual manipulation of the truth!

### https://www.deseretnews.com/article/695226008/Debate-renewed-with-change-in-Book-of-Mormonintroduction.html

This, doctrinal change from "principal ancestors" to only "among the ancestors", brought back memories of my mission again. We taught every native New Zealand Islander on my mission that they were the "principle ancestors" of the Book of Mormon. I was taught this by the Church Leaders of the time. They called it "The Fathers Presentation". It basically taught that Lehi migrated from Jerusalem to America, then later one of Lehi's ancestors named Hagoth migrated out to Hawaii, and then from Hawaii to all the pacific islands down to New Zealand. This is the map I personally made on my mission to show this fake migration. It's hard to make out ... but you can see the dotted red line going from Jerusalem to America to Hawaii to New Zealand. See photo:



It is now definitively proven that the Pacific Islanders migrated from Taiwan and the Philippians. Not only proof from DNA, but through linguistics, and anthropology. <u>https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/10/game-changing-study-suggests-first-polynesians-voyaged-all-way-east-asia</u> .... They did not migrate from Jerusalem! The truth is not even close to what the Mormon Church leaders have claimed for over 180 years!

This is what "prophet" Spencer W. Kimble taught about the subject.

"Our Paths Have Met Again," By President Spencer W. Kimball, First Presidency Message, Ensign, December 1975.

"Today we have many **Lamanite** leaders in the Church. For example, in Tonga, where 20 percent of all the people in the islands belong to the Church, we have three large stakes. Two of them are presided over wholly by **Lamanites** and the other almost wholly by them. There are three stakes in Samoa and another is to be organized in those small Samoan islands. Four more stakes with **Lamanite** leaders!

There are three stakes of Zion in Mexico City with Mexican leaders—**Lamanite** leaders. The stake presidencies, the bishops, the high council, the auxiliary leaders—everybody, with one or two exceptions—are **Lamanites**. In Monterrey, Mexico, in Guatemala, in Lima, in New Zealand, and elsewhere we have stakes of Zion with all their appropriate leaders".

This was/is common doctrine about the Native Americans and Pacific Islanders. How does someone honestly say to themselves "The Prophets and Apostles of the Mormon church are true prophets" if those same "prophets" openly teach the Pacific Islanders and Native American people are "Lamanites" (the principle ancestors of the Book of Mormon)? If the leaders of the Mormon church are "true prophets", they would know (and they would have known)

that this is not true! Yet the leaders of the Mormon church continue to perpetrate this lie and propaganda. Mormons must contend with these endless "mental gymnastics" when it comes to the Book of Mormon and its validity!



Above is another picture from my mission ... Notice the Inca temples in the back ground? This is AGAIN pathetic propaganda from the Mormon Church. It is proven that both the Aztec and Inca civilizations DNA trace back to China. Their migrations are traced up through north America across Alaska into Russia and down to China. None of them, in the least, are related to the people of the Book of Mormon.

So even if you use your amazing mental gymnastics and say, "well the Lamanites and Nephites could have been just a very small group of people and so we just have not found where they were actually located in America yet. That's why there is no DNA trace." Then how do you account for this scripture in the Book of Mormon? 2 Nephi 1:8-9

And behold, it is wisdom that this land should be <u>kept as yet from the knowledge of other nations</u>; for behold, many nations would overrun the land, that there would be no place for an inheritance.

Wherefore, I, Lehi, have obtained a promise, that inasmuch as those whom the Lord God shall bring out of the land of Jerusalem shall keep his commandments, they shall prosper upon the face of this land; and they shall be kept from all other nations, <u>that they may possess this land unto themselves</u>. And if it so be that they shall keep his commandments they shall be blessed upon the face of this land, and there shall be none to molest them, nor to take away the land of their inheritance; and they shall dwell safely forever.

The scripture says, "this land should be kept as yet from the knowledge of other nations" AND "that they may possess this land unto themselves". The Aztec's, Incas, Indians and their DNA are dated and traced 1000's of years before and after the Book of Mormon time line. In other words, they were here long before the Book of Mormon People and long After the Book of Mormon people. And they are proven to NOT be related to the people in the Book of Mormon in any way shape or form. But wait ... I thought this land was kept from the knowledge of other nations and the book of Mormon people would possess this land unto themselves??? Oh ... I know ... it meant ... BESIDES all the 100's of nations

and tribes that have existed long before and after the book of Mormon people ... wait ... what??? More "mental gymnastics" ...

There are so many more issues with the Book of Mormon. Such as, a book named "View of the Hebrews" published in 1823, seven years BEFORE the Book of Mormon came into existence. Compare it to the Book of Mormon and it becomes statistically impossible for the similarities to be a mere coincidence.

Book of Mormon 1830 1 <sup>s</sup> edition	View of the Hebrews 1823 1 <sup>st</sup> edition 1825 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition Place: Poultney, Rutland, Co., VT (adjoining county on the west from Windsor Co, VT, where Smith family lived).		
Place: Sharon, Windsor Co., VT & Palmyra, Ontario (now Wayne) Co., NY.			
Title: <u>BoM</u> , by the Hand of Mormon Translated by Joseph Smith.	Title: "View of the Hebrews" or "The Tribes of Israel in America", by Ethan Smith		
Israelite origin of American Indians	Israelite origin of American Indians – 111 pgs devoted to theory Am. Indians are Hebrew		
Golden plates written in unknown language & buried	Long lost book buried by Indian forefathers written in unknown language.		
Inspired prophets & seers	Inspired prophets & spirit gifts		
Priestly clothing; urim & thummim, breast plate	High priests clothing during ceremonial rites contain urim attached to robes		
Hieroglyphs found on plates	Hieroglyphs found on American continents		
Two classes of citizens; barbarous & civilized; one is overthrown	Two classes of citizens; barbarous & civilized; one is overthrown		
Extensive use of Isaiah	Extensive use of Isaiah		
Destruction of Jerusalem	Destruction of Jerusalem		
Gathering of Israel	Gathering/Restoration of Israel & Judah		
Great Gentile nation raised up in 'Land of Promise' to save Israel	Great Gentile nation to become 'savior of Israel' from American continent		
Messiah visits the Americas	Messiah (Quetzalcoatl) visits inhabitants		
Polygamy denounced	Polygamy denounced		
Long wars break out repeatedly	Long wars break out repeatedly		
New World inhabitants migrated from Old World	New World inhabitants migrated from Old World		
Book of Mormon peoples occupy all of the American continents	Hebrew peoples occupy all of the American continents		
Nephites original language was Hebrew	Original language of the Indian people was Hebrew		
Principle theme is struggle between good over evil	Principle theme is struggle between good over evil		

It is clear that Joseph Smith knew about the Book "View of the Hebrews". See: (Bushman, *Joseph Smith, Rough Stone Rolling,* 2005, p. 96; Joseph Smith, "From Priest's American Antiquities," *Times and Seasons* (June 1, 1842) **3**:813–15.)

Another Book that will give Mormons more "mental gymnastics" to contend with is "The Late War". <u>http://wordtree.org/thelatewar/</u> Published in 1816. (14 years prior to the BOM) This was a school book widely used throughout New York. It undoubtedly is a book Joseph Smith would have had as part of his studies in his youth, and when I discovered the parallels with the "the Late War" and the "BOM" it left a chilling "final nail in the coffin" for my certainty to how the BOM came into existence.

In October 2013, a data analysis was conducted comparing The Book of Mormon to over 100,000 books from the pre-1830's era. Out of the top matches, we discovered a book called <u>The Late War Between the United States and Great</u> <u>Britain</u>, a scriptural style account of the War of 1812 published in New York in 1816. Between 1817 and 1819 it was marketed "for the use of schools throughout the United States" under the title <u>The Historical Reader</u>. (Rick Gunder, Ryan Thomas, 3-9-2014)

### **Overwhelming Parallels**

	The Late War		Book of Mormon	
	Location	Quotation	Quotation	Location
4th of July	26:1	the fourth day of the seventh month, which is the birth day of Columbian Liberty and Independence,	the fourth day of this seventh month, which is in the tenth year of the reign of the judges.	Alma 10:6
Teancum 	27-28	near Moravian Town And it came to pass the army were under a chief warrior, whom they called Tecumseh [] smote their chief warrior [Tecumseh], and slew him he fell to the earth.	people of Morianton And it came to pass the army was led by a man whose name was Teancum [] they did pursue Teancum, and <u>slew him</u> he was dead, and had gone the way of all the earth.	Alma 50:33,35, Alma 62:36-37
Striplings 	35:5-6	two thousand hardy <u>men</u> , who fought freely for their country Now the men of war were <u>men</u> of dauntless courage.	two thousand of those young <u>men</u> to defend their country they took their weapons of war, were all young <u>men</u> , and they were exceeding valiant for courage,	Alma 53:18-20

Americas 	20:11-16	the land most plentiful yielding gold and silver, and all manner of creatures which are used for food, And the huge mammoth that once moved on the borders It is more wonderful than <u>the elephant</u> ;	the land, exceeding rich, of gold, and of silver, and all manner of animals which were useful for the food of man. And cureloms and cumoms; and more especially <u>the</u> <u>elephants</u>	Ether 9:17-19
Forts	29:20-23	[men] were prepared and they let loose their weapons of war and smote with great slaughter. And the deep ditch that surrounded the fort was strewed with <u>their</u> <u>slain and their</u> wounded.	[men] were prepared, with their swords and their slings, to smite with an immense slaughter ditchesfilled up in a measure with <u>their</u> dead and wounded.	Alma 49:20-25
More Forts	51	it came to pass on the tenth day of theeighth month the people began to fortify and entrench the <u>high</u> places round about the city. And build their strong holds	it came to pass on the tenth day of the month the Nephites had dug a ridge of earth so <u>high</u> [] round about the city And built a strong hold	Alma 49,52
Casualties	23:24	fought and there were many slain and wounded on both sides	fought and there were many slain on both sides	Alma 52:35
Standard 	6-7	sent forth a Proclamation, abroad And it came to pass, that a great multitude <u>flocked to</u> <u>the standard</u> of Columbiathey came in battle array against the	sent a proclamation throughout the land; And it came to pass thatthousands did <u>flock unto his</u> <u>standard</u> [of liberty] they went down with their armies against the	Alma 61- 62

Cataclysms	19:37-44	thunders: as the mighty earthquake, which overturneth cities. And the whole face of the earth overshadowed with <u>black smoke</u> ; so that, for a time, one man saw not another: sharp rocks had fallen upon them:	thunder, did shake the whole earth cities were sunk, and the face of the whole earth could feel the vapor of darkness so that for the space of three days, that there was no light seen; great destruction had come upon them.	3 Nephi 8
Liahona	50:24	made partly of <b>brass</b> with <b>curious works</b> , like unto a <b>clock</b> ; and as it were a large <b>ball</b> .	a round ball of curious workmanship; and it was of fine brass. And within the ball were two spindles	1 Nephi 16:10
Weapons 	19:13	And weapons of war were of curious workmanship	And weapons of war of exceedingly curious workmanship	Ether 10:27
	51:3-10	it came to pass that the husbandmen gathered together, and pitched their tents, [and] assembled together <u>And the</u> <u>people shouted with a</u> <u>loud voice</u> ,	it came to pass that the people gathered themselves together And pitched their tents ye should assemble yourselves together <u>And they all</u> cried with one voice,	Mosiah 2-4
	53:4	it came to pass, that they gathered together their army their navy on the borders of the land of Columbia	it came to pass that they gathered together all their people their flocks near the borders of the land ofZarahemla	Alma 27:13-15
	13:20	Now when Carden heard these words, his heart leaped with joy;	Now when he had said these words, his heart was swollen with joy;	Alma 17:29
	35:34	And the chief warriors gave up their instruments of destruction, and laid them at the feet of Jackson	And their chief captains, threw down their weapons of war at the feet of Moroni	Alma 52:38

3:29	people to rise up one against another, and their own children.	people to rise up in rebellion against their brethren.	Helaman 1:7
44:21	go with all our might against their chief city	go forth with all our might againstthe Lamanites, who were in the city	Alma 58:13
34:10	it came to pass, in the same year, that the people of <i>Columbia</i> were revenged of the evil:	it came to pass that in the same yearthat the people of Nephi had peace restored unto them,	Alma 50:37

I found yet <u>another</u> book that certainly feels like it was used by Joseph Smith. It's called the "The First Book of Napoleon". Published 1809 (21 years before the BOM). When reading it I actually thought I was reading a book out of the Book of Mormon. Joseph absolutely could have written the Book of Mormon on his own. After all, the "The First Book of Napoleon" was written by a teenage school boy in England around the age of 14-16 years old! I challenge you to read all three of these books (all of which were published in Joseph Smith's youth ... years before the book of Mormon) ... for me it became abundantly clear what Joseph Smith had done! While reading each of them, at times, I literally felt like I was reading another book out of the Book of Mormon.

The First Book of Napoleon has hundreds of Book of Mormon parallels that do not show up in the Bible, here are just a few examples from the first few pages, notice the sequence:

condemn not the (writing) ... an account ... the First Book of Napoleon ... upon the face of the earth ... it came to pass ... the land ... their inheritances their gold and silver and ... the commandments of the Lord ... the foolish imaginations of their hearts ... small in stature ... Jerusalem ... because of the perverse wickedness of the people

-Parallels in sequence, The First Book of Napoleon (from the first pages)

condemn not the (writing) ... an account ... the First Book of Nephi ... upon the face of the earth ... it came to pass ... the land ... his inheritance and his gold and his silver and ... the commandments of the Lord ... the foolish imaginations of his heart ... large in stature ... Jerusalem ... because of the wickedness of the people

-Parallels in sequence, Book of Mormon / The First Book of Nephi (from the first pages)

... again opened his mouth and spake, and said unto them -TFBoN 6:15

... again opened his mouth and began to speak unto them -Mosiah 4:4

...**battle was fought in the land of** Calabria -TFBoN 8:17

...**battle** which **was fought in the land of** Zarahemla -Alma 3:20 Finally. It should be no surprise that the most influential book that Joseph Smith plagiarized in order to write the Book of Mormon is The KJV Bible. It is confirmed that 30% of the Book of Isaiah from The KJV Bible is written nearly "word for word" in the Book of Mormon (mostly in 2 Nephi). No need for comparisons here. Joseph simply just found a way to make his "Book of Mormon" a bit longer and also make it seem more "biblical" by copying the Bible outright!

It has been proven that he did this. Bible scholars have found small translation errors in Isaiah made by the priests that translated the original Greek and Hebrew Bible (centuries ago) into the English KJV Bible. The Book of Mormon contains the same exact translation errors "word for word" found in the English KJV Bible ... the only explanation for this is Joseph Smith copied Isaiah directly from the English KJV Bible! If Joseph was translating the Book of Mormon through "the gift and power of God" ... then why did the translation produce the exact errors of the English KJV Bible? The odds of Joseph Smith accidently or randomly making the exact same translation errors as found in the English KJV Bible are astronomically impossible! Here are some more Mormon mental gymnastics for you ... see: http://www.mormonthink.com/book-of-mormon-problems.htm#Bible ... and even more proof that Joseph plagiarized

<u>http://www.mormonthink.com/book-of-mormon-problems.htm#Bible</u> ... and even more proof that Joseph plagiarized the KJV bible is clearly documented in this article ... see: <u>http://www.mormonhandbook.com/home/isaiah-in-the-book-of-mormon.html</u>

One more obvious plagiarism I'd like to bring to your attention. Joseph Smiths father had a dream many years before Joseph even thought of the gold plates or the Book of Mormon. This dream nearly mirrors the famous "Tree of Life" dream of "Lehi" found in the Book of Mormon ... more "mental gymnastics".

(The following is the text of Joseph Smith Sr.'s dream (this was his second dream or vision) taken from Lucy Mack Smith's account. Over thirty correlations can be found between Lehi's and Joseph Smith Sr.'s visions):

"I thought, said he, "I was traveling in an open, desolate field which appeared to be very barren. As I was thus traveling, the thought suddenly came into my mind that I had better stop and reflect upon what I was doing before I went any farther. So, I asked myself, 'What motive can I have in traveling here, and what place can this be?'

"My guide, who was by my side as before, said, 'This is the desolate world, but travel on.' The road was so broad and barren that I wondered why I should travel in it, for said I to myself, 'Broad is the road, and wide is the gate that leads to death, and many there be that walk therein; but narrow is the way, and strait is the gate that leads to everlasting life, and few there be that go in there at.'

"Traveling a short distance further, I came to a narrow path. This path I entered, and, when I had traveled a little way in it, I beheld a beautiful stream of water which ran from the east to the west. Of this stream I could see neither the source nor yet the mouth, but as far as my eyes could extend, I could see a rope, running along the bank of it about as high as a man could reach, and beyond me was a low but very pleasant valley in which stood a tree such as I had never seen before. It was exceedingly handsome, insomuch that I looked upon it with wonder and admiration. Its beautiful branches spread themselves somewhat like an umbrella, and it bore a kind of fruit, in shape much like a chestnut bur, and as white as snow, or, if possible, whiter. I gazed upon the same with considerable interest, and as I was doing so, the burs or shells commenced opening and shedding their particles, or the fruit which they contained, which was of dazzling whiteness. I drew near and began to eat of it, and I found it delicious beyond description.

"As I was eating, I said in my heart, 'I cannot eat this alone, I must bring my wife and children, that they may partake with me.' Accordingly, I went and brought my family, which consisted of a wife and seven children, and we all commenced eating and praising God for this blessing. We were exceedingly happy, insomuch that our joy could not easily be expressed.

"While thus engaged, I beheld a spacious building standing opposite the valley which we were in, and it appeared to reach to the very heavens. It was full of doors and windows, and they were all filled with people, who were very finely dressed. When these people observed us in the low valley, under the tree, they pointed the finger of scorn at us, and treated us with all manner of disrespect and contempt. But their contumely we utterly disregarded. "I presently turned to my guide and inquired of him the meaning of the fruit that was so delicious. He told me it was the pure love of God, shed abroad in the hearts of all those who love him and keep his commandments. He then commanded me to go and bring the rest of my children. I told him that we were all there. 'No,' he replied, 'look yonder, you have two more, and you must bring them also.' Upon raising my eyes, I saw two small children standing some distance off. I immediately went to them and brought them to the tree, upon which they commenced eating with the rest, and we all rejoiced together.<sup>(5)</sup> The more we ate, the more we seemed to desire, until we even got down upon our knees and scooped it up, eating it by double handfuls.

"After feasting in this manner a short time, I asked my guide what was the meaning of the spacious building which I saw. He replied, 'It is Babylon, it is Babylon, and it must fall. The people in the doors and windows are the inhabitants thereof, who scorn and despise the Saints of God because of their humility.' I soon awoke, clapping my hands together for joy."

Anyone that is familiar with Lehi's "Tree of Life" dream found in the Book of Mormon can see the undeniable parallels between Lehi's dream and Joseph Smith's Fathers dream. Adding this to the unending pile of plagiarism evidence, I have no doubt where Lehi's dream in the Book of Mormon clearly came come from.

All this literally is the "TIP of the Ice burgh" when it comes to the endless lies and deceit the Mormon church has slipped upon the world! All anyone needs to do is <u>honestly</u> search and they will find a massive mountain of unending evidence proving these limitless lies! Proverbs 12:17-23; He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit. There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise *is* health. The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue *is* but for a moment. Deceit *is* in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellers of peace *is* joy. There shall no evil happen to the just: but the wicked shall be filled with mischief. Lying lips *are* abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly *are* his delight. A prudent man concealeth knowledge: but the heart of fools proclaimeth foolishness. Elder Russell M Ballard. Oct 2014 LDS General Conference: "*Keep the eyes of the mission on the leaders of the Church. ... We will not and ... cannot lead [you] astray.*" ... Talk called; "Stay in the boat and hold on!" ...

Stay in the boat? Are you kidding me?



Jesus Christ had peter leave the boat in Matthew 14:28-31;

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

Don't stay in the Mormon boat of lies! I proudly jumped out and I'm now with Jesus, happier then I have ever been in my life! I am learning to walk on water with Christ. I pray I will have the faith that I might not sink... But this I do know ... I cannot grow and learn and be truly born again in Jesus if I'm sitting in the Mormon boat hoping "all is well" ... I want to be with the one True Prophet, Lord, and Savior of the world ... I want to be with Jesus Christ ... not men who are proven liars and deceivers and false prophets.

It is the Mormon church that preaches against Christ's people (true Christians) and corrupts the true gospel found in the bible. They send missionaries to teach that all other religions are wrong and are an "abomination" to God! Yet it is the Mormon church that is hiding the truth, lying, and deceiving the world about themselves! If Mormons preach against Christians and the Christian Jesus ... then doesn't that make them ANTI-CHRISTIAN? Of course, it does. Mormons are Anti-Christians and most don't even realize this fact, because they don't want to (or are afraid to) know the truth about their own religion! I am not afraid of the Mormon false prophets just as it says in Deuteronomy 18:22;

When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

I could list prophesy after prophecy that Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, and dozens of other prophets Prophesied ... that never came true ... or was absolutely proven false. See: <u>https://amos37.com/lds-list-of-false-prophecies/</u> Just that one fact alone proves they are "false prophets" ... yet people still want to hold on to them like they are life savers ... and they are not. They are False Prophets and they should not be feared! Only Jesus Christ can save you. *"I am the way the TRUTH and the life, no man cometh unto the father but by me."* (John 14:6) I pray someday you truly understand ... Jesus is speaking directly to you in the New Testament ... He does not need anyone to help him save you! He is God! Jesus Christ is enough! To believe or teach anything less is to deny Jesus Christ and what he did. His atoning sacrifice was the defining moment in history and when he said to the Father on the cross, "It is finished" ... It truly was finished! He did not suffer in vein. If you confess your sins to Jesus and profess him as your savior, then (it is finished) you will have salvation PERIOD! No man or institution can take that away from you ... no matter what they say, preach, or teach! To stay and follow Mormonism is to stay and follow a false gospel, false Prophets, and follow a false Jesus ... Just as Christ warned us about:

1 John 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Another truth I found through the true Word of God (The Bible) is that I should not to trust the feelings of my heart as a true testimony of God.

Jerimiah 17:7-9 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit. The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Critical Thinking is <u>critical</u> in Knowing God. He will not deceive you like your heart can. God will give you physical, tangible, seeable, readable evidences of his truth. He won't just give you a feeling or some spiritual experience. Don't blind yourself by not searching out truth. You must test these "spiritual" feelings and experiences that you have. Test and try them with facts and truth. If your spiritual feelings align with facts and truth, then you can be rest assured it is true. "*Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.*". 1 Thessalonians 5:21

Did you know that one out of three people that leave the Mormon church become atheist? It is mainly because The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints doctrine teaches that you cannot rely on the Bible. They teach it has been "corrupted". So when they leave they have nowhere to turn ... they have been taught that the Bible is corrupt. It appears that Satan is most definitely working from both ends! On one hand, Satan is perfectly happy to see Mormons stay in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints because they are believing and teaching in a false Jesus and a false gospel under false prophets. On the other hand, Satan is perfectly happy to see Mormons leave the church because many of them end up not believing in God at all! It is truly my prayer that Jesus will soften your heart and open your mind this day! I pray that you will accept the free-gift of the true Atonement of Jesus Christ! I pray that you will not turn away from God but receive him into your life fully. True joy, happiness and peace will abound as you come to realize <u>you are enough just as you are</u> through Christ your Savior.

Romans 24:21-26 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified **freely** by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

I am so thankful that God has led me out of darkness and into the light! I am truly free in Christ! I am full of joy, happiness, and especially peace! I know (for the first time) I know that I am saved! Through Christ's saving grace, I am a new person. I am no longer <u>coerced</u> to do works ... but instead ... I have an unending burning desire to do good works for Christ and be his disciple to the world. As we have recently come out of "Mormonism" and have learned the truthfulness about Jesus Christ and the Bible, we have a great desire to share these facts with all our family and friends. I have never felt this matchless love, this unconditional love. My arrogance and self-righteous judgments towards people have melted away. I feel love towards all people. I pray that you can come to know this newness in Christ and be truly born again! I pray you come to know the TRUE Jesus Christ of the Bible!

I know I wrote this earlier ... but I'm inspired to repeat it. You are good enough! You are strong enough! You are smart enough! You are enough! I implore you to be honest with yourself and with God. Don't let fear rule your life! Take charge of your life and use the "critical thinking" God gave you. That means actually be brave enough to face the truth head on! Be brave enough to be honest and face reality! Even though truth can be painful, truth can be brutal, truth can be extremely difficult ... I promise you will find John 8:32 to be 1 billion percent true! "The Truth Shall Make You Free!" And when you have faced the truth ... peace will envelope your whole being ... your whole soul ... like you have never felt peace before! I honestly love you unconditionally, therefore I am blunt and forward with the truth that you might see. I pray every day and hour that your eyes will be opened, and your ears will hear and your heart will be softened and that you will give yourself to the true Jesus Christ. May God bless you to that end!

This is my prayer for you in Jesus Christs name Amen!

Truth Shall Prevail Ministries / Rob and Tonya Rodgers / 11-09-2018

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