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## The Deceptive and Demonic History of the LDS Church

by: Daniel Weierbach, Assoc. Pastor

**[Over] 15 million people are being deceived and placed into bondage by the LDS church, and heading to hell since they do not believe in the Jesus of the Bible.**



Top: type of divining rod used by Joseph Smith.  
Middle: Joseph Smith's actual seer-stone held in the Wilford Woodruff Museum.  
Bottom: identical Jupiter talisman used by Joseph Smith<sup>(5, 6, 7)</sup>

In the last newsletter, the Jehovah's Witnesses organization was exposed for their false teaching and their manipulative practices. I pray that information was helpful, so as to understand who they represent and the false gospel they are promoting. In the next two newsletters, I wish to write a 2-part series on another false religion that has been around the United States for almost 200 years; I am speaking of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS), AKA Mormons. It is my hope and prayer that you understand how not all religions point to God; as a matter of fact, only one *relationship* points to God, and that is the relationship between an individual and Jesus Christ, the second-Person of the Godhead, the incarnate Deity of the Bible.

In this first part of the LDS series, I want to explore the history of the LDS church, as well its prophet, Joseph Smith. In the second part, we will look at the teachings and prophecies found within their religious texts (The Book of Mormon, The Pearl of Great Price, and Doctrines & Covenants), all the while discrediting the doctrines and revealing contradictions not only with the Bible, but also

within its own pages.

Before we look into the history, I want you to see the width of this religion through statistics regarding the LDS church. It is reported that LDS membership has surpassed 15 million, with over 85 thousand full-time missionaries, around the world.<sup>1</sup> However, of the 15 million members, it is reported that 56% live outside the United States and Canada.<sup>2</sup> This leaves over 6.6 million LDS members in the US and Canada, roughly accounting for 2% of the religious population. Furthermore, this makes up less than 1% of the world's population. Even though this is a minute number, still this means that 15 million people are being deceived, led astray, placed into bondage by the LDS church, and heading to hell since they do not believe in the Jesus of the Bible. I may even go out on a limb and say that you most likely have either seen one of these LDS members, or even have a family member or friend, who is caught up in this false religion. If this is you, I pray you are able to be the one God uses to snatch them out of the fire (Jude 23) and lead them to salvation found only in the Jesus Christ of the Bible.

If you were to trace this religion back to the founder of the LDS church, you would come to a man by the name of Joseph Smith. Joseph Smith (Joe for short) was a well-documented treasure seeker by Mormon and non-Mormon historians alike. Dr. D. Michael Quinn, who is a former Mormon historian, wrote in his 1987 book *Early Mormonism and the Magic Worldview*, "Joseph Smith, the founding prophet and president of the new church...had unquestionably participated in treasure seeking and seer stone divination and had apparently also used divining rods, talismans, and implements of ritual magic."<sup>3</sup> So, the founding father of the LDS church was a treasure hunter who used occult objects as a means to find treasure. As a matter of fact, Joe had been found guilty of breaking the civil law by use of seer stone divination in the 1820s.

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**Joseph Smith used occult objects and methods to search for treasure**

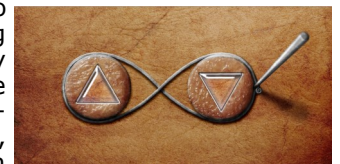
## The Deceptive and Demonic History of the LDS Church (cont.)

by: Daniel Weierbach, Assoc. Pastor

Furthermore, utilizing occult methods and objects was a practice that God even calls an abomination in Deuteronomy 18:9-12. So the founding father of the LDS church had a passion for treasure hunting by utilizing demonic practices, which was against the law of the land as well as an abomination to God. Now, I don't believe treasure hunting is bad, but when methods and means are used which are in direct violation with the ways of God, then it is clearly sin and disobedience to God, which will not bring God's blessing in one's life.

Even though Joe had a background in occult practices, he claims he was "called" by God in the spring of 1820. It began in the woods of Manchester, New York when he claims to have seen God the Father and God the Son both take form in his presence; this account is found in *The Pearl of Great Price: Joseph Smith-History*. In this vision, Joe claims God had told him about His displeasure with the fact that the church had gone apostate and that it was going to be restored by Joseph Smith. What is interesting is that after this vision, Joe still continued to search for treasure by the means of seer-stones and divining rods, practices still abominable by God.

Fast-forward to 22 September 1823, at Manchester, New York; Joe states that an angel called Moroni, guided him, in which he found a buried box with two golden plates inside. Unfortunately for Joe however, he was prevented by the angel from taking it until four years later, in 1827. When Joe was finally able to take the buried box with the golden plates inside, he began translating them. However, Joe was forbidden to allow anyone to see the golden plates until they were finally translated. So it was from 1827-1829 in which Joe had worked on translating the golden plates, which were written in "reformed Egyptian." Throughout these years of translating, Joe would have the help of several scribes. The well-documented translation process consisted of Joe and the scribe being separated by a curtain while Joe would use the "Urim and Thummim," a type of spectacles, to tell the scribe what to write down. None of the scribes ever saw the golden plates during this process and they recorded Joe's words faithfully, without any reservation. On May 15th 1829, while taking a break on translating the plates, Joe and Oliver were in the woods inquiring to God about the rite of baptism he had recently translated, when suddenly a messenger from heaven came and conferred the Aaronic Priesthood on himself, and Oliver. Joe goes on to identify this messenger from heaven as being none other than John the Baptist; and that John the Baptist was sent by the apostles Peter, James, and John. The LDS history marks this as the beginning of their first and second Elder of the LDS church, with Joseph Smith being the first and Oliver Cowdery being the second.<sup>4</sup> From here, Joe eventually began appointing prophets and sending missionaries to the Native Americans, and the church eventually grew into what it is known as today.



Urim & Thummim as it would've been used by Joseph Smith. The triangles etched inside are known in the occult world as the "All-Seeing Eye."

courtesy of <http://oneclimbs.com/2011/02/06/the-all-seeing-eye-symbol-and-the-urim-and-thummim-connection/>

Joseph Smith as Translator/Revelator

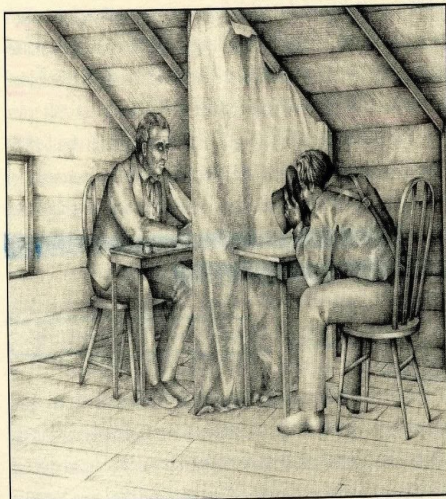


Fig. 2. Joseph Smith dictating to Martin Harris. Joseph used the same stone for translating the Book of Mormon and for treasure hunting. Illustration by Kurt Gray.

courtesy of <http://www.lifeongoldplates.com/2009/10/stone-in-hat-translation-method-in-art.html>

I hope you were able to notice four things in formation of the LDS religion.

#1: According to Joseph Smith, once the apostle John died (traditionally the last of Jesus' twelve apostles to die), the New Testament church quickly abandoned the teachings of Christ and became apostate. This means that giants in the Christian faith such as Timothy, Titus, Barnabas, Silas, Apollos, and all others are stated as beginning to teach false doctrine, and leading the church into a state of apostasy sometime in the late-first century, early-second century A.D. (the Mormons call this the Great Apostasy).

#2: According to Joseph Smith, it was not until 1820, in which God the Father and God the Son, had called a Caucasian, living in New York, U.S.A., to restore the church that Jesus Christ had built, almost 2,000 years ago, by Jewish people in Jerusalem.

#3: According to Joseph Smith, God used his treasure seeking methods to find and translate the golden plates from the angel Moroni.

#4: According to Joseph Smith, the apostles Peter, James, and John sent John the Baptist to give him, and Oliver Cowdery, the Aaronic Priesthood.

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## The Deceptive and Demonic History of the LDS Church

by: *Daniel Weierbach, Assoc. Pastor*

***“If we have the truth, it cannot be harmed by investigation. If we have not the truth, it ought to be harmed.”***

***~ J Rueben Clark, D. Michael Quinn, 1983. The Church Years, p 68. (Provo, UT: Brigham Young Press) ~***

In researching the formation of the LDS church, we are able to see deception and demonic influences, for the Bible clearly states that Satan is transformed into an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14) and that believers are to try the spirits, whether they are from God (1 John 4:1). These two verses appear to be absent from the LDS church members. For when you ask them how they know that their religion is true, they say that they had prayed about it and felt “God” confirm the LDS religion. There was no comparing Scripture or testing the “prophet;” it was simply experiential, something that is easily manipulated by demonic realm. I pray that in all things, we would be the Berean, and compare what is being taught with what the Bible says. In the next issue, we will be looking at some of Joseph Smith’s recorded statements and prophecies, main doctrines of the LDS church, and contradictions and inconsistencies with the Bible and inside its own pages.

<sup>1</sup> LDS Church Temples, accessed 6 July 2015, <http://www.ldschurchtemples.com/statistics/>

<sup>2</sup> Deseret News, “The majority of Mormons live outside the US,” accessed 6 July 2015, <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865585540/The-majority-of-Mormons-live-outside-the-US.html?pg=all>

<sup>3</sup> Martin, Walter & Zacharias, Ravi. *The Kingdom of the Cults*. (Bethany House, 2003), p197

<sup>4</sup> *The Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith - History 1:68-73*

<sup>5</sup> Image courtesy of <http://mormonthink.com/rodofaaron.htm>

<sup>6</sup> Image courtesy of <http://mormonstories.org/top10toughissues/peepstones.html>

<sup>7</sup> Image courtesy of Uncommon Sense Media Inc, <http://usmnc.org/mormonism7.html>

## Five Concise Arguments for Creation

*Edited by: Daniel Weierbach, Assoc. Pastor*

Creationists have had problems communicating the creation science position at times. Often they will have their whole program based upon an attack on evolution. And since evolution is the only competing explanation for origins, dethroning evolution is thought to leave creation as the only contender. One problem with this approach is that, all too often, the audience does not know enough about evolution to appreciate the argument. One solution is to present an organized outline of the arguments “for creation” in a concise way which allows one to conceptualize the “big picture.” There are five arguments that point to creation or reveal faulty assumptions found in evolutionary theories; they are: design, mutations and natural selection, vestigial organs, the fossil record, and the age of the universe.

Creationists contend that the universe and living systems contained on this world have the appearance of being “manufactured items.” Our world seems to have been planned. It’s just the right distance from the sun and it’s the only one with the correct combination of elements for life. Could chance account for life here? Or does the complexity and purpose exhibited by living systems demand an intelligent first cause? Indeed, as scientists work to unlock the mysteries of life, they often find that even greater complexity underlies and support what was just uncovered; with every new discovery comes more questions. Creationists point out that scientists don’t see this complexity, or anything close to it, occurring naturally through random processes. Creationists further point out that the marvelous adaptations possessed by living systems reflect purpose and design on a level much higher than anything we ourselves have been able to make. Conclusion: a creator God must exist!

Evolutionists, not accepting the design argument, attempt to eliminate the problem for evolution in several ways. First, they attempt to show that the “design” is only apparent and not real. Second, they will attempt to prove other

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## Five Concise Arguments for Creation (cont.)

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mechanisms, other than an Intelligent Creator, could have caused the design seen. The "Blind Watchmaker" of natural selection is the usual mechanism proposed for evolutionary design.

Evolutionists point to mutations, natural selection, and vestigial organs as evidence that different living systems share similar structures. However, briefly looking at the evidence reveals a problem for the evolutionary theory. Even though mutations exist and are scientifically proven, they are usually harmful. They render well-functioning molecules less able to perform their originally designed tasks. That is no help for evolution for it does not provide purposeful change in behavior, instincts, structures, etc. And natural selection does not create. Natural selection can only act upon the available gene pool. It is this process that accounts for variations within kinds, a process that creationists willingly accept.

Vestigial organs is another claim by evolutionists that their theory holds true. Evolutionists claims these organs, structures, that living creatures possess are useless holdovers from their evolutionary past. The presence of such structures is cited as evidence that evolution has occurred. Examples of such structures were the human appendix, human "tailbone" (coccyx), and the pelvic bond of the whale. However, more information has led many evolutionists to drop vestigial organs as an argument for their cause since it turns out the so-called vestigial organs do have a purpose. For example, the appendix plays a role in the digestive process as well as the immune system. The human "tailbone" (i.e. coccyx) provides the anchor for different muscles in the pelvic diaphragm, keeping inwards, inward. Lastly, the whale's pelvic bone has been proven to be a vital organ used in whale mating. S.R. Scadding writes in the journal *Evolutionary Theory*, May 1981, that "An analysis of the difficulties in unambiguously identifying functionless structures...leads to the conclusion that 'vestigial organs' provide no evidence of evolutionary theory." The "Blind Watchmaker" of natural selection is the usual mechanism proposed for evolutionary design.

***Nowhere in the fossil record does a continual evolution of new life forms emerge.***

The fossil record abounds with evidence of mass death and extinction of living forms. Life forms appear abruptly and fully formed in the fossil record; this is consistent with Flood in the days of Noah. No where in the fossil record does a continual evolution of new life forms emerge. Charles Darwin had predicted that transitions between the first simple forms and today's life forms would be plentiful in the fossil record however, they are no where to be found. Mark Ridley, an ardent evolutionist, wrote in 1981, "In any case, no real evolutionist...uses the fossil record as evidence in favor of the theory of evolution as opposed to special creation..." In spite of this, many still teach that the main evidence for evolution is found in the rocks!

***"If we arbitrarily dismiss the possibility of supernatural action by God in Genesis, then to be logically consistent, we would have to reject the other miracles in Scripture as well, including the resurrection of Christ—and the resurrection is indeed a "salvation issue."***

***~ Jason Lisle, ICR  
Director of Research, Why Genesis Matters ~***

Finally, the age of the universe continues to be at odds with the evolutionists theory. A young, 6,000-8,000 year old universe makes evolution an impossibility. Contrary to the law of probability, evolutionist insist that given enough time, anything can happen, even the impossible! Some insist that an infinitely old universe makes the impossibility a certainty. Therefore, evolutionists must have an old universe and an ancient earth. They attempt to bolster this belief by searching out dating methods which render great ages. In doing so, they ignore numerous dating methods that show a much younger earth. Much of evolutionary science is based upon assumptions that are biased. What is interesting in the age of the universe is that while a young age disproves evolution, an old age does not disprove creation, even though it would conflict with the Biblical record.

There is much evidence for the creation of this majestic universe by Elohiym! Just as Paul penned in Romans 1:20 "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." Unfortunately, many people of the day are described in verses 21-22 "...when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, either were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools."

## Be Sure Heaven is YOUR Home!



1. Recognize YOUR Condition: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23)

No one is good enough to go to heaven on his/her own merit. No matter how much good we do, we still fall short.

2. Realize the PENALTY for Sin: "For the wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23)

Just as there are wages (payment) for good, there is punishment for wrong. The penalty for our sin is eternal death in a literal, real place called Hell.

3. Believe Jesus Christ Died for YOU: "But God commendeth His love for us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

Jesus Christ's great love for us was shown when He died on the cross to pay our debt.

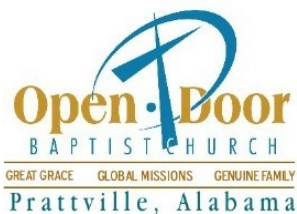
4. Trust Christ ALONE as Your Savior: "...But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

Everlasting life is a gift purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ and offered freely to ALL those who call upon Him by faith.

Let us help you word a prayer. (Realize it's not the words that save, but your genuine faith in Jesus Christ):

Pray: Dear Jesus, I know I'm a sinner. Please forgive me for my sins. I ask you Jesus to cleanse me from my sin and save my soul from hell. I'm trusting you alone for eternal life and to take me to heaven when I die. Thank you for your sacrifice on the cross for my salvation, Amen!

If you prayed that prayer, and sincerely meant it, please contact us here at Open Door.



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### Service Times

OD Café begins @ 9:15 am  
Sunday Worship Service @ 10:00 am  
Sunday Night Growth Groups @ 6:00 pm  
AWANA Wednesday Night @ 6:30 pm  
Wednesday Night Bible Study & Prayer @ 7:00 pm

### Ministries

ABC (Alex & Braxton against Cancer)  
C4C (Apologetics Ministry)  
GO Program (Outreach Ministry)  
Od Jobs (Resume Writing / Interview Ministry)  
Od Men (Outdoor Ministry)  
Od Women (Ladies Fellowship)