

# The SERVANT

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## IS THE MORMON ACCOUNT OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH BIBLICAL?

By Neil Martin and George Greene

**Isaiah 8:20** says, "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Let us put the LDS account of the virgin birth to the Word test of the Bible.

### I. Bible References To The Virgin Birth. (All verses KJV)

**A. The Bible predicted a deliverer called "the seed of the woman."**

**Genesis 3:15** says, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

**B. Isaiah tells us of a sign: the Messiah would be born of a virgin.**

**Isaiah 7:14:** "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

**C. The Bible says the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, conceived in a virgin by the Holy Ghost.**

**Micah 5:2:** "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

### **Matthew 1:20-23:**

"Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name

JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

(See also **Luke 1: 26-38**)

### II. Mormonism's Virgin Birth.

**A. The *Pearl of Great Price* quotes **Genesis 3:15.****

**Moses 4:21** says, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; and he shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

**B. The *Book of Mormon* quotes **Isaiah 7:14.****

**2 Nephi 17:14:** "Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign – Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

**C. The *Book of Mormon* says the Messiah would be born in Jerusalem, conceived in a virgin by the power of the Holy Ghost.**

**Alma 7:10** says, "And behold, he shall be born of Mary, at Jerusalem which is in the land of our forefathers, she being a virgin, a precious and chosen vessel, who shall be overshadowed and shall conceive by the power of the Holy Ghost, and bring forth a son, yea, even the Son of God."

**III. Mormon leaders contradict the LDS standard works' Book of Mormon and Pearl of Great Price about the virgin birth.**

**A. Brigham Young** said, "When the virgin Mary conceived the child Jesus, the Father had begotten him in his own likeness. He was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family. . . . Now remember from this time forth, and forever, that Jesus Christ was not begotten by the Holy Ghost." (*Journal of Discourses, 1966, Vol. 1, pp. 50-51, April 9, 1852*)

**B. Joseph Fielding Smith**, the 10th LDS president, said, "Christ was begotten of God. He was not born without the aid of man, and that man was God! . . . They tell us the *Book of Mormon* states that Jesus was begotten of the Holy Ghost. I challenge that statement. The *Book of Mormon* teaches no such thing! Neither does the Bible." (*Doctrines of Salvation, Vol. 1, pages 18-19*)

**C. The LDS Apostle Orson Pratt** said, "The fleshly body of Jesus required a Mother as well as a Father. Therefore, the Father and Mother of Jesus, according to the flesh, must have been associated together in the capacity of Husband and Wife,

hence the virgin birth of Mary must have been, for the time being, the lawful wife of God the Father."

(*The Seer, October, 1853, Vol. 1, No. 10, page 158*)

**D. The LDS Apostle Bruce R. McConkie** said: "Christ was begotten by an Immortal Father in the same way that mortal men are begotten of mortal fathers." (*Mormon Doctrine, page 547*)

**"Now remember from this time forth, and forever, that Jesus Christ was not begotten by the Holy Ghost."**

**-Brigham Young**

**Bruce R. McConkie** also said: "The Father begets; the Son is begotten; they are Parent and Child; Sire and Son look alike, so much so that they are the express image of each other's persons. The substance composing the body of one is identical in appearance to that composing the body of the other. What could be plainer? . . . Begotten means begotten; it means Christ's mortal body was procreated by an eternal Sire; it means God is the Father of

Christ, 'after the manner of the flesh.'" (*Encyclopedia of Mormonism, Appendix 4; 1992, LDS Collector's Library*)

**Both the Bible and the Book of Mormon contradict the words of LDS Presidents, Apostles, Prophets, Seers, and Revelators.**

**CONCLUSION**

While the Bible and the Book of Mormon both proclaim the virgin birth of Jesus, LDS authorities and teachings reject the Virgin Birth by the Holy Ghost. LDS teaching instead claims that Mary had physical and natural relations with the Mormon Father god, as a wife with a husband, and that this natural action produced the Baby Jesus.

It is not possible to reconcile what the Bible teaches with the LDS version of Jesus' conception. We make this statement not to offend our LDS friends, but to show the clear differences between the two positions. Our prayer is that all Mormons would come to saving faith in the Jesus of the Bible, and not trust in a false Jesus who was not born as the Bible clearly states.

**Matthew 1:20-23**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's the Christmas season once again. The signs are everywhere...the commercial signs, anyway. Many businesses earn up to 80% of their annual income at this time of the year. And we're bound to hear Christians bemoaning the exploitation of the holiday. It's true that the real meaning of the birth of Christ is lost among the commercialization. But we believers need to pause and ask ourselves whether the lost really ruin the holiday. After all, they do not worship God. He must be worshipped in spirit and in truth (John 4). Why do we expect those who are spiritually dead to honor the Christmas emphasis? The lost are in rebellion against God. Have we forgotten that Christians took a pagan holiday and converted it to honor the birth of the Savior? The early Church celebrated the resurrection of Christ, not His birth.

The truth is, Christmas is what you make it to be. While the world rushes madly into the holiday frenzy, Christians are free to choose how they will celebrate the season. Don't worry about what the world does, determine to honor God and worship Him this Christmas. And use the opportunity to share with others why you celebrate Christmas in worshipping and honoring God. Christmas is a great lead-in to a word about the Lord and His salvation. We've produced a Christmas insert we hope you'll find informative. We at C.A.F. wish you a very blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

In Christ,  
Duane L. Burgess

Happy  
Birthday  
Jesus

## It's On My Heart



Chaplain George Greene

**We have been blessed in 1997. Our library is shaping up. Our computer tech has built us a computer out of spare parts for our library. We have two more file cabinets, 300 files on new cults, and our web page will reach other countries ( with the Gospel of Christ to save the lost and to educate the church about cults and the occult.) God bless and keep you all in 1998.**

**Brother George**

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### Founder of Satan Church Dies

Anton Szandor LaVey, who founded the church of Satan in 1966, died October 29, 1997. Mr. LaVey died of pulmonary edema, after years of heart problems. He was 67. Karla LaVey, his daughter, said, "We will continue in his footsteps to do as he directed to keep the church of Satan going and keep it strong."

# LDS QUESTIONS WE WOULD LIKE ANSWERED

Why did James Talmage teach that hell is not eternal when the *Book of Mormon* teaches eternal hell? (*Articles of Faith, Twelfth Edition*, p. 61; 2 Nephi 28:22; Alma 34: 32-35; and Alma 42:14)

Gerald and Sandra Tanner counted 3,913 (non punctuation) changes in the *Book of Mormon*. Examples are: 1 Nephi 11:21; 19:20; 20:1 and Alma 29:4. Compare these with the original *Book of Mormon*. If the *Book of Mormon* is true, why did the LDS church make these changes?

If 1 **John 1:9** says the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin, why does the *Journal of Discourses Vol. 3 page 247* teach otherwise?

If the *Book of Mormon* is true, why do Indians fail to turn white when they become Mormons?

(2 Nephi 30:6, 1980 edition)

According to *History of the Church Vol. 6 p. 617-618* and *Vol. 7 102-103*, Joseph Smith was killed in a blazing gun fight. Why does the LDS church consider him a martyr?

Why was the LDS president Gordon B. Hinkley "victimized" by Mark Hofmann's forgeries for three years? Might the LDS leaders also be mistaken where their teachings contradict the Bible?

In 1835 Joseph Smith prophesied the coming of the Lord within 56 years. (*History of the Church Vol.2, page 182*) Why didn't prophesy come to pass?

In the *Doctrines and Covenants 84:1-5* is a prophesy of Joseph Smith declaring that a temple would be reared in Independence, Missouri "in this

generation." If Joseph Smith was a true prophet of God, why wasn't this prophesy fulfilled?

## WARNING

The Bible says; "But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? 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." (**Deuteronomy 18: 20-22**)

(Compiled with thanks to John L. Smith, Gerald and Sandra Tanner, and Matthew J. Slick's C.A.R.M. page.)

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