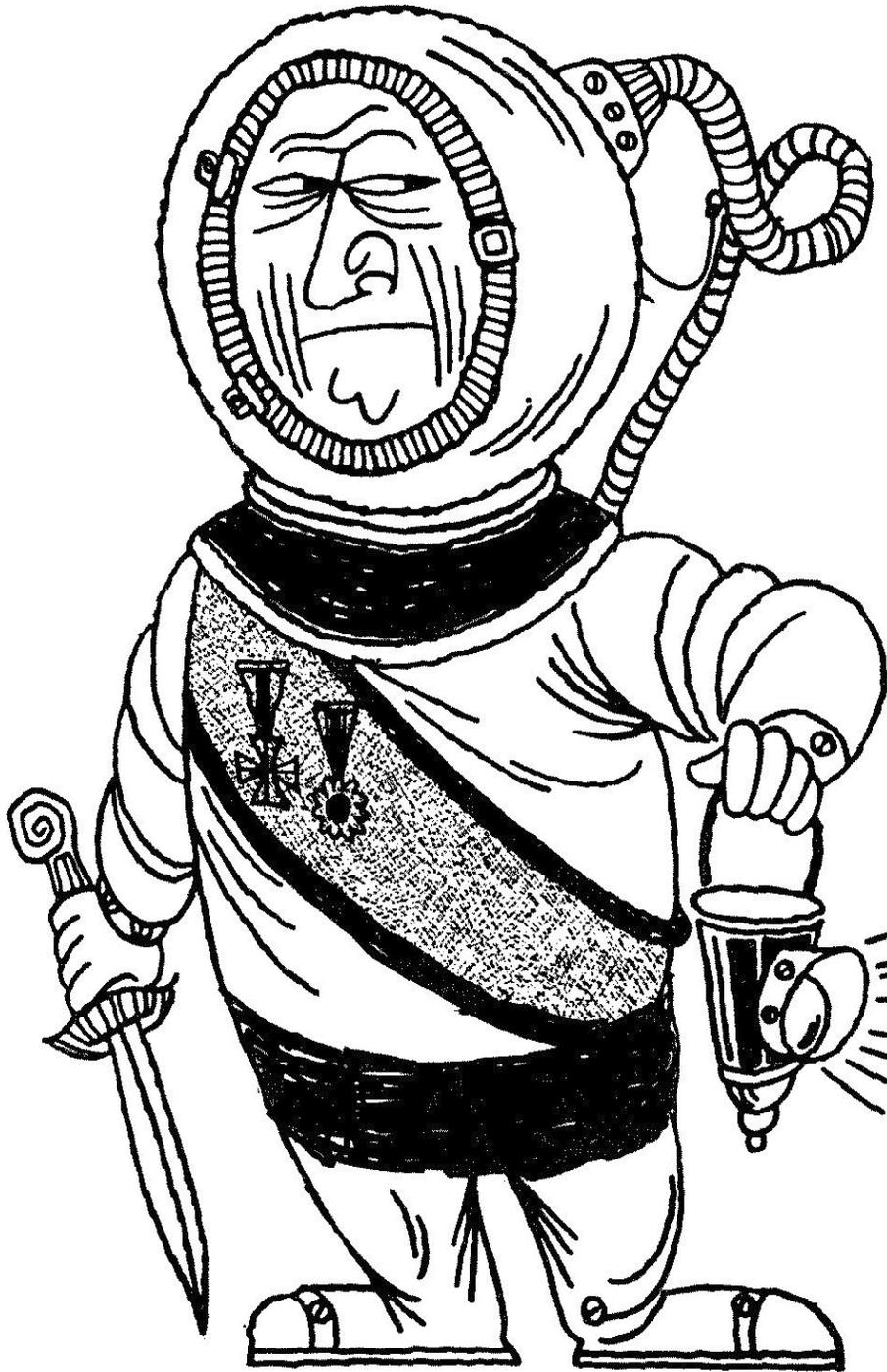


G.E.R.M. Warfare



A Simpler Approach To Witnessing

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A More Simple Witnessing Approach

The following information has been prepared to help Christians to witness more effectively to their Mormon friends and relatives by identifying the ultimate heresy of Mormonism. There are any number of issues that can be addressed in initial encounters with Mormons. However, few are more important than the nature of God. Even if Mormonism was right on any number of religious issues, by being wrong on who and what God is, they are wrong enough to lose their souls for all eternity!!

A clear understanding of the Mormon view of the nature of the Universe itself is essential. You cannot even begin to try to get a mental grasp on who their "God" is without it. In the normal Judeo/Christian view of the Universe, God is the self-existent creator of all that exists or ever will exist. His power is the very "glue" which holds the entire Universe together. Man, on the other hand, is an extremely finite being, created by God for His own purposes.

An Analogy

Let me share an analogy which I hope will make this difference totally clear to you. The Bible talks of God being the "King of the Universe." But we capitalistic Americans, who have been reared in a Republic, have a hard time emotionally relating to any kind of "Kingdom." Mormonism being a completely home grown, American religion can best be understood in light of our own well known American experiences.

Therefore, just for a moment (and strictly for the purpose of comparing the Mormon perspective to follow) please imagine that the Christian view of the Universe is a business called, "Father, Son & Holy Ghost, Inc." Think of it as a "public relations firm" organized to promote the wonderful perfection, beauty, holiness, sovereignty and justice of the one, single and unique, God Almighty. From an internal standpoint, the Godhead itself is the "Management." The rest of those directly involved in the company, (the born again believers) are just the "sales force." However, in this "company" there will be NO promotions from sales to management! In other words, the believers do not themselves, become Gods someday.

Staying with the business analogy, picture in your mind that Mormon doctrine thinks of the Universe as an infinite "multi-level direct sales" company. In their Universe, God and this planet are anything but unique. Our planet and solar system were "created" for only one of billions of Gods. These Mormon "Gods," who have themselves "risen through the ranks" by their own hard work, striving and obedience to the

Mormon "Priesthood" are given the right to populate their own planet. Each new God is at the bottom tier of some other God's organization. This constantly growing multi-level structure of Gods consequently raises the previous Gods to new heights of power and glory. In Mormonism, The very purpose for Man's existence is NOT just to become "godly," but in very fact to become

a God, exactly like God the Father is now. Thus, the Mormon concept of God is best summed up with their own oft quoted statement, "*As man is, God once was, and as God is, man may become.*"

I trust that these analogies will help the Christian to clearly see the difference between the "Mormon God" and the genuine God of the Bible. Let us now move on to a way that you can share this information with a Mormon, so that he can see it also.

Fruit Harvesting

The Lord Jesus said, "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits." (Matt. 7:15-16) The key to properly applying this passage is the testing of the fruit. The "fruit of a prophet" is NOT the outwardly moral lifestyle, devotion, zeal or sincerity of the followers of such a prophet! On the contrary, it is the prophet himself that must be tested. There are a number of Biblical fruits that can be checked, but we are trying to keep things simple. So let us stick with just two major fruits of a prophet. The first is: who is the God that this prophet represents when he says, "Thus saith the Lord. . ." If it is not the true God of the Bible then we should "....not harken unto the words of that prophet." (Deuteronomy 13:3) If his doctrine of God seems orthodox enough, then seek out the second testable fruit — prophecy! As instructed in Deuteronomy 18:20-22, test the prophet for any false prophecies he may have made.

Again, there are other tests, but armed with these double criteria; Christian believers can be well assured of separating the true prophets from the false prophets. The techniques described below encompass both of the above tests. When used in conjunction with the false prophecy information contained in our "And It Came To Pass" tract, it will help plant a strong and growing "seed" in the hearts of Mormons with whom you share the real Jesus Christ.

G.E.R.M. Warfare

When witnessing to Mormons, Christians must never forget that they are engaged in real warfare against the demonic powers of spiritual darkness. We need not apologize for it, since none of us started this fight. Remember that the Apostle Paul tells us that we "*.... wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*" (Ephesians 6:12) When sharing Christ with Mormons I suggest that Christians think of this warfare as "G. E. R. M." warfare where the acronym G.E.R.M. equals:

(G)lorified
(E)xalted
(R)esurrected
(M)an

This "G.E.R.M." acronym is a rather good description of the Mormon concept of the nature of God. If you remember it in that order, using those descriptive words, you will have an excellent memory "hook" to hang it on for recall later. A suggested dialogue for one kind of application of this information follows.

A Dialogue

Christian Question: Is your God a Glorified, Exalted, Resurrected Man?

Mormon Response: Yes.

(Comment: It can really be no other answer!!)

Christian Question: Where did you get this idea that God was a Glorified, Exalted, Resurrected Man?

Mormon Response: From Joseph Smith, Jr.

(Comment: They may not know this, so you might have to help it along by saying something obvious like. "I understand that this idea came from Joseph Smith. ")

Christian Question: Why do you think I should believe what Joseph Smith said about God?

Mormon Response: Because Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God.

(Comment: Or similar words to this effect.)

Christian Summarizes: As a Christian myself, I do NOT believe that God the Father is a Glorified, Exalted, Resurrected Man! Therefore, if Joseph Smith was a true prophet, then I must be worshipping a false God. However, if in some way it could be demonstrated that Joseph Smith was a false prophet, then it seems to me that YOU would be the one worshipping the wrong God! Can you agree to that?

Mormon Response: Yes.

(Comment: Although Mormons might be a bit reluctant to admit it, logic cannot and will not allow the Christian concept of God and the Mormon G.E.R.M. concept to co-exist! One will automatically exclude the other.)

Christian Question: How do you know that this doctrine of God as taught by Joseph Smith is the true doctrine?

Mormon Response: I have prayed about it and have received a witness of the Holy Ghost that Mormonism is true and that Joseph Smith was a true prophet.

(Commentary: Regardless of anything added to the above type answer, such as using terms like "study, investigate, ponder, etc.", the most compelling reason will be their spiritual witness obtained via such "praying.")

Christian Response: It is true that in the Bible, God's people are instructed to pray for and about many things. But you have done a seemingly "right" thing for the *wrong* reasons! Praying about a man being a prophet or a new book being Scripture should not be included as things we need pray about! The Bible teaches us to *test* those who claim to be prophets, not to pray and seek for a heavenly manifestation or a spiritual feeling as a "yes" answer.

Christian Question: Okay, if I grant you that Mormonism believes that God the Father is a glorified, exalted, resurrected man, can you show me in your *Book Of Mormon* where God the Father is described as such??

Mormon Response: Not off the top of my head. I'll have to check it out and get back to you. (or something quite similar!)

*(Commentary: The point here is that the Book Of Mormon does **not** teach anything about God the Father being an exalted resurrected man!! Encourage them to do that investigation and to get back with you for further discussions. However prepare for a very long wait and much silence on the subject, for there is not a single verse in their Book Of Mormon that teaches their doctrine of God the Father. In addition, there is no mention of the complex Mormon church structure with a Prophet with two Councilors, 12 Apostles, Quorums of Seventies, Temples with "sacred ceremonies" including Celestial marriage, baptism for the dead nor any other aspects unique to Mormonism.*

The Great Commission

You can now begin to share the Biblical tests of a prophet and the false prophecies of Joseph Smith as outlined in our "And It Came To Pass" document (or from lots of other sources documenting the dozens of false prophecies of Joseph Smith.) When doing so, you should brace yourself for a great amount of resistance! Please don't be surprised if your conversation is peppered with comments like, "...it must be a misquote... that is YOUR interpretation... I have a testimony... that must be out of context... the Prophet really didn't mean that... but I've prayed about it..." and many variations on those themes. Be prepared to make sure that you stay with the subject, and do not let the Mormon divert you to other, and more minor issues.

Prior to witnessing, be sure to be "prayed up!" Specifically ask God to bind Satan, his demons and all the spiritual forces attending Mormonism. (See Matthew 12:29 and Ephesians 6:10-13) From this point on, you can begin to move back and forth between the problems of Mormonism and the solutions available only in the true Jesus Christ of the New Testament. Even though most Mormons really don't trust the Bible, be sure to use the "Sword of the Word" freely and whenever possible because the Word of God will not return to Him void! (Isaiah 55:11)

Bob Witte



Online@EMFJ. Net