

AN EXPOSÉ OF MORMONISM'S BASIC TEACHING & HERESY

A major heresy of Mormonism is summed up in its central theological axiom, the doctrine of the law of eternal progression. To believe in and teach this doctrine is to be so separated from Christian orthodoxy that the unrepentant adherent is consigned to a Christless eternity. It is stated as follows:

As man is, God once was, and as God is, man may become.

Upon this axiom from Mormon “prophet” Lorenzo Snow is based the entire theology of Mormonism: from the temple rituals for the living to those for their dead; from the teaching that families are forever – to the pressure on parents to send their youth to the mission fields across the world.

The Mormon people are committed to a controlled program that maps out their entire lives as they seek their own exaltation¹ to godhood, along with their own planet to rule and reign over.

Mormonism teaches that trillions of planets scattered throughout the cosmos are ruled by countless exalted men-gods who once were human like us.² They say that long ago on one of these planets, to an unidentified god and one of his goddess wives, a spirit child named Elohim was conceived. This spirit child was later born to human parents who gave him a physical body. Through obedience to what later came to be known as “Mormon teaching”, death, and resurrection, he proved himself worthy and was elevated to godhood as had his father before him.

Mormons believe that Elohim is their heavenly Father, that he has a physical body and lives with his many wives on a planet near a mysterious star called Kolob. Here the god of Mormonism and his wives, through endless celestial sex, produce billions of spirit-children. He is but one of an infinite number of gods, each ruling over his own world located somewhere in the universe. Supposedly, each god has untold numbers of goddess wives who produce millions of spirit children. These spiritual offspring must then be birthed by humans in order for them to obtain the physical bodies necessary for them to become gods and goddesses. The justification for Polygamy is that it is the means for producing the physical bodies needed for all the spirit babies birthed by these mother goddesses.

To decide their destiny, the head of the Mormon gods called a great heavenly council meeting. Both of Elohim’s eldest sons were there, Lucifer and his brother Jesus – both wanted the honor of becoming the savior of mankind!? A plan was presented to *build* planet Earth,³ – a place where the spirit children would be sent to take on mortal bodies and learn good from evil.

Lucifer stood and made his bid for becoming savior of this new world. Wanting the glory for himself, he planned to force everyone to become gods. Opposing the idea, the Mormon “Jesus” suggested giving man his freedom of choice, as was done on other planets. The vote approved the proposal of the Mormon Jesus, who would become savior of the planet Earth (and only of planet earth).

Enraged, Lucifer cunningly convinced one-third of the spirits destined for Earth to join with him and revolt. Thus Lucifer became the devil and his followers the demons. Sent to this world in spirit form, they would forever be denied bodies of flesh and bone.

¹ A term used throughout Mormon theology and writings. The word “exalted” (or words derived from it as “exaltation”) is in the Bible, but the Mormons have placed their own special non-biblical meaning to it (e.g., see James 1:9).

² Adapted from the script of the movie *The God Makers*. Its documentation may be verified in the book by that same name (Ed Decker and Dave Hunt, Harvest House Pub., 1984): especially note pp. 22-33. The exact text of the script may be found in *Fast Facts on False Teachings* (Harvest House Pub., 1994, pp. 165-168) by Ed Decker and Dr. Ron Carlson. I (Dr. Floyd N. Jones) spent part of two different years living in Ogden & Salt Lake City, Utah and was given the Mormon gospel by two missionaries. I also wrote a college term paper entitled “*The Trek of the Mormon*”, have read every word in *The Book of Mormon*, studied their *Pearl of Great Price, Doctrine and Covenants* and spent years doing research on this cults teachings.

³ Christ was supposedly aided in “building” the earth by “many of the noble and great spirit children of the Father ... Michael or Adam was one of these. Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Peter, James and John, Joseph Smith, and many others played a part in the great creative enterprise.” (*Mormon Doctrine*, p. 169; *Doctrines of Salvation*, vol. 1 pp. 74-75)

Those who remained neutral in the battle were cursed to be born with black skin. As Brigham Young explained: “Cain slew his brother...and the Lord put a mark upon him, which is the flat nose and black skin.” (Journal of Discourses, vol. 7, pp. 290-91). The spirits that fought most valiantly against Lucifer would be born to Mormon families on the Earth. These would be the “white, and exceeding fair and delightsome” people, as the Book of Mormon described them (2 Nephi 5:21).

Early Mormon prophets taught that Elohim and one of his goddess wives came to Earth as Adam and Eve to start the human race. Thousands of years later, Elohim in human form once again journeyed to Earth from the star base Kolob, this time to have physical relations with the Virgin Mary in order to provide Jesus with a physical body.

Mormon apostle Orson Hyde taught that after Jesus Christ grew to manhood he took at least three wives: the sisters of Lazarus of Bethany, Mary and Martha (John 11:1), and Mary Magdalene. Through these wives, the Mormon Jesus supposedly fathered a number of children before he was crucified. Mormon founder Joseph Smith is supposedly one of his descendants.

According to the Book of Mormon, after his resurrection Jesus came to the Americas to preach to the Indians, whom the Mormons believe are really Israelites.¹ Thus, the Jesus of Mormonism established his church in the Americas as he had in Palestine. By the year 421 AD, the dark-skinned Israelites, known as the Lamanites, had destroyed all of the white-skinned Nephites in a number of great battles. The Nephites’ records were supposedly written on golden plates buried in the Hill Cumorah by Moroni, the last living Nephite.

About 1400 years later a young treasure-seeker named Joseph Smith, who was known for his tall tales, claimed to have uncovered the same gold plates near his home in upstate New York. He is now honored by Mormons as a prophet because he claimed to have had visions from the spirit world in which he was commanded to organize the Mormon Church because all Christian creeds were an abomination. It was Joseph Smith who originated most of these peculiar doctrines which millions today believe to be true.

Joseph Smith is honored by Mormons as a prophet greater than all men – even Jesus Christ. Smith set up a highly structured organization focused on helping its members become gods. By maintaining a rigid code of financial and moral requirements, and through performing secret temple rituals for themselves and the dead, the Latter-day Saints hope to prove their worthiness and thus become gods. The Mormons teach that everyone must stand at the final judgment before Joseph Smith, the Mormon Jesus, and Elohim.

Those Mormons who followed and actively participated in all Mormon teachings and were sealed in the eternal marriage ceremony (in the Temple) expect to become polygamous gods or their goddess wives in the Celestial Kingdom, rule over other planets, and spawn new families throughout eternity. Mormons who have no Temple recommendation but live nominally according to Mormon theology will go to the terrestrial kingdom. Others (including non-Mormons) who live by the laws they know (such as the 10 commandments) will go to the Celestial kingdom.

Joseph Smith claimed that he had done more for mankind than any other man, including Jesus Christ. The Mormons claim that he died as a martyr, shedding his blood for us so that we too may become gods.

This *is the core of Mormon theology*. It binds its believers away from the real Jesus, the real gospel, and the real Spirit of truth as surely as though they were locked away in chains of metal.

¹ What an amazing lie! The Scriptures are clear that upon Christ’s return after the 7 year Tribulation, He will be accompanied by all the angels, all the saints, and that every eye would see Him. The sun would be darkened, the moon turn red as blood, the heavens shaken, stars fall – at which time Jesus would slay all the wicked and establish a 1000 year rule of righteousness on the earth (Luk. 21:25-27; 1 Thes. 3:13; Isa. 13:9-11; Rev. 20 etc.). None of this has yet happened!

The Mormon Jesus

A second equally damning heresy of Mormonism concerns the *person* of the Lord, Jesus the Christ. To the Mormon, Jesus was our elder brother who pointed the way, but he isn't The Way as we Christians understand it. Their public position is most subtle. Mormons pray "in Jesus' name", call Him the Son of God, and talk about His death on the cross, His resurrection, and His second coming. What they do not openly talk about is their belief that Jesus is merely the son of Elohim and Mary, a brother to Lucifer, and was approved as Savior only after a vote of the Council of gods.

To the Mormon, Jesus was Jehovah, the god of the Old Testament, but once he took his physical form, he had to justify or earn his own spiritual salvation through his works while in the flesh, just as each of us must. Yet the Word of the only Living and true God unequivocally declares:

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9, King James Bible)

Mormonism teaches that Jesus suffered for our sins in the Garden of Gethsemane rather than through His shed blood on the cross (Col. 1:20) – that the blood of Christ atones for Adam's sin only, conditional upon our obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Latter Day Saints (LDS) gospel. His death on the cross provided a *general* salvation, whereby all of us will be resurrected (including animals) to be judged for our own works. Yet Paul says in Colossians 2:14 that Jesus removed those laws and ordinances that were against us, nailing them to the cross.

Mormons use bread & water for communion, not bread & wine. They call it "The Sacrament", but the only thing that water washes away is the reality of the blood shed for us at the cross of Christ.

Jesus is the LDS savior only in the sense that his death gives a Mormon the means of returning to the god of this world, using the secret keys, hand-grips, and passwords learned only in the Mormon Temple, secrets that will ensure safe passage through the doorway to personal godhood.

All that this paper has shared to this point is just the tip of a dark and dangerous iceberg: an iceberg filled with death for its unsuspecting victims.

The Mormon Church refers to itself as a Christian sect, a separate doctrinal group within a larger group. But Mormonism is *not* a separate group within the Christian body. It teaches a *different* God, a *different* Jesus, and a *different* heaven and hell. It places the validity of the Bible in serious doubt and proclaims new and different "Holy Scriptures." Its eternal doctrines or "gospel" and master plan of salvation are directed by the god of this earth through a living "Prophet, Seer, and Revelator" to whom the members must demonstrate total obedience.

Mormonism is a cult because it humanizes God, deifies man, minimizes sin, and ostracizes the Scriptures. Mormonism uses as its main theme Old Testament Law and priesthood. It also has a form of the New Testament Christ – but he is different in function, power, and purpose than the biblical Lord Jesus – who is the Creator come in the flesh (Isa. 9:6; John 1:1-3, 14) to save His people from the terrible consequences of their sins. Indeed, Joseph Smith taught that "matter and intelligence" always existed so there is neither creator nor creation. Mormon gods don't create worlds, they manufacture them out of available materials

Mormons use the same terms Christians use, but with different definitions. Therein lies the trap. The unwary person hears of the joys of the gospel, the love of Christ, and God's desires for him or her. Then the person steps into the realm of the subtle "doubletalk," falling prey to a missionary teaching plan created by some of the cleverest salespeople in the world. Unfortunately, Mormonism sounds so much like Christianity, and its outward appearances encompass the American ideal. This makes it hard for many to believe Mormon theology can be so wrong and jeopardize a person's eternity with the biblical Jesus.

The PLATES of the Mormon Church

Mormons base much of their church history and doctrine on 5 sets of Plates.¹ Here is a brief analysis of each.

1. The Small Plates of Nephi: – a historically non-existent “Nephi” supposedly recorded the sacred, doctrinal information and the religious experiences of the Nephites on these plates. They cover the period of time from the supposed departure of the family of Lehi out of Jerusalem to the beginning of the reign of a “King Benjamin” (Words of Mormon 1:3, about 130+ BC – Book of Mosiah 1).
2. The Large Plates of Nephi: – They are said to record the supposed history wars, governmental matters, and other secular information pertaining to the Nephite nation (1 Nephi 9:2-4).
3. The BRASS Plates of Laban: – supposedly contained genealogy, history, and prophecies from the beginning of the earth (the 5 books of Moses) down to the reign of the Biblical King Zedekiah and the prophetic mission of the Prophet Jeremiah (1 Nephi 5:10-14) – also much of the Book of Isaiah (e.g., 1 Nephi 20 & 21 are Isaiah 48 & 49; 2 Nephi 12-24 are Isaiah 2-14).
4. The GOLD Plates of Ether: – are said to contain a record by Moroni, the son of Mormon, who added 24 Gold Plates of the Book of Ether into the Gold Plates of Mormon. These are supposedly an abridgment of the history of the Jaredites who left the Tower of Babel about BC 2,200. It also contains extensive commentary by Moroni, especially in Ether 4, Ether 5, Ether 8, and Ether 12. It gives an imaginary account of their migration to the western hemisphere and their eventual destruction. The story may be found in the Book of Ether within the *Book of Mormon*.
5. GOLD PLATES OF MORMON: – Mormon supposedly made these plates on which he abridged the Large Plates of Nephi and added without abridgment the Small Plates of Nephi. Mormon (and his son Moroni) is also said to have written a synopsis of Jaredite history taken from the Gold plates of Ether, and Moroni supposedly placed the plates in the Hill Cumorah circa 421 AD.

With regard to the Gold Plates of Mormon, Joseph Smith said: “each plate was six inches wide and eight inches long and not quite so thick as common tin” – that they were “filled with engravings in Egyptian characters” – that they were bound together with three rings, forming a volume “something near six inches in thickness, a part of which was sealed.” (*History of the Church*, vol. 4, p. 537; Book of Mormon 9:32-34).

After translating one-third of the plates, Joseph Smith claims to have returned the GOLD PLATES to the custody of Moroni.² In the Lord’s own due time, the plates shall supposedly be returned and the sealed portion translated and published to the world.

All the above are claims made by the Mormon church in their *Mormon Doctrine* (pages 326, 327) and *Latter-Day Saints Reference Encyclopedia* (pp. 382, 383). No archeological survey has ever found any of these purported plates, even those Joseph Smith claimed to have translated.

¹ Salem Kirban, *Mormonism: Doctrines of Devils*, (Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1973), p. 13.

² The *Book of Mormon* (Mormon 6:10-15) tells that Moroni served under his father, the commander-in-chief of 23 groups of ten thousand Nephites each, who battled against the Lamanites. Following the Nephites’ defeat, Moroni was forced to go into hiding and to wander from place to place to avoid being killed by the victorious Lamanites. Moroni was supposedly the last survivor of the Nephite nation and had been commanded by his father to complete the Nephite record.

Moroni is the ascribed author of chapters 8 and 9 of the Book of Mormon (Mormon’s record within the larger *Book of Mormon*), the entire Book of Moroni, and the title page of the Book of Mormon. Moroni is supposedly the last to write in the Book of Mormon. Moroni writes that he saw and spoke to Jesus face to face and was shown extensive visions of the future.

In Latter Day Saint belief, Moroni was resurrected after his death and became an angel (?) who was tasked with guarding the golden plates as well as with eventually directing Joseph Smith to their location in the 1820s.

THE ALLEGED BACKGROUND HISTORY OF MORMONISM

PHASE I. – THE JAREDITES

The *Book of Mormon* claims to give the history of the religion of an ancient and now vanished people that once lived in North America. According to Mormon history, their religion began about BC 2,250 near the Tower of Babel.

The *Book of Mormon* tells of two great waves of immigration to the American continent. The first wave is that of the “Jaredites” and is described in the Book of Ether.¹ The Mormon’s originally pretended that the “Jared” whose name is to be found in the *Book of Mormon* is the same Jared recorded in Genesis 5:15-20.

15 And Mahalaleel lived sixty and five years, and begat Jared: 16 And Mahalaleel lived after he begat Jared eight hundred and thirty years, and begat sons and daughters: 17 And all the days of Mahalaleel were eight hundred ninety and five years: and he died. 18 And Jared lived an hundred sixty and two years, and he begat Enoch: 19 And Jared lived after he begat Enoch eight hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: 20 And all the days of Jared were nine hundred sixty and two years: and he died. (Genesis 5:15-20)

These verses are the only mention of the Biblical “Jared”, yet from this brief account, the Mormon Church has concocted a most fantastic legendary adventure which, as will be shown, clearly contradicts the Holy Writ.

According to the *Book of Mormon*, when the Lord confounded the languages at the Tower of Babel, Jared’s brother cried unto the Lord whereupon his and Jared’s as well as their friend’s language was not confounded (Ether 1:33-37). From this lie, the whole of Mormon theology spreads. However, this story is totally scripturally false.

First, Genesis 11:9 unmistakably states that “there” the language of *all* the earth was confounded. Therefore, the language of *all* at the Tower of Babel was confounded. If any exceptions had been made, God would not have said “all”. Why didn’t He tell us here of such an exception if one indeed existed? To be able to communicate is a mark of wisdom and intelligence. If God didn’t say what He meant, who can tell us what He said or meant? This clear declaration of Scripture alone should be enough, but as by the mouth of two or more witnesses truth is established (Deu.17:6, 19:15; Mat.18:16; John 8:17 etc.), there is another testimony – and as it is mathematical, it is undeniable.

It is obvious that the early Mormon writers knew nothing of Bible Chronology, for even a cursory graphing of the data recorded in Genesis chapter 5, 7, 9, 10, and 11 reveal – to the everlasting shame of the Mormon Church – that Jared could not possibly have been at the Tower of Babel! Jared, who lived 962 years, died 1422 years after the Creation – some 234 years *before* the Flood which transpired 1656 years after Creation. Now the Tower of Babel was built *after* the Flood during the lifetime of Peleg (Gen.10:25; cp. 10:5, 20, 31-32), and Peleg was born 101 years after the Deluge. Thus, Jared was dead at least 335 years (234 + 101 = 335) *before* the erection of the great Tower!²

Having been confronted with this, Mormon doctrine has recently changed whereupon they now deny that the Jared of Ether 1:33 is the same as the Jared of Genesis 5:15-12. However, this does not completely remove their dilemma. The Book of Ether carefully and meticulously lists 28 generations from its Jared, who was at the Tower of Babel, down to his descendant “Coriantor”. Now this is most strange indeed as no mention whatever is given as to their Jared’s ancestry. He just suddenly appears out of nowhere with no background and is then portrayed as one of the greatest figures in Mormon history. Such does not occur in Bible Scripture. Of course, in the past no ancestry was necessary as he was previously understood in Mormon teaching to be the same Jared as the one in Genesis 5.

The two-edged sword of the Word of the Lord has felled the tree at its source. The cult of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) is slain at its very foundation. Its doctrine has failed at the grass-roots, for if the “golden plates” and Joseph Smith have lied – what is left? The entire underbelly lies exposed, and the rest of her teachings are fallen as surely as the idol of Dagon (I Sam.5:4) before the Living and **only** God.

¹ Ether is a book within the *Book of Mormon*. It supposedly was first written down on 24 Golden plates by the “prophet” Ether (Ether 13:13-14) and then translated and copied by Moroni, the son of Mormon (Ether 1:1-2, 3:17, 5:1; cp. 15:11. Mormon was commander-in-chief of the Nephite army. He purportedly lived in the 4th century AD and is said to have abridged the large plates of Nephi and engraved this work on gold plates along with a verbatim account of all the words recorded on the small plates of Nephi. The *Book of Mormon* also contains 7 chapters supposedly written by Mormon.).

² The author of this paper is most qualified to render such a judgment. One of my doctoral dissertations was on Bible chronology, and a large definitive work on Bible Chronology with accompanying detailed charts (which, for the most part, verified Ussher’s classical study) has been published and reprinted several times by Master Books since 2005.

Oblivious to these hard facts – and facts are stubborn things – the Mormon myth continues with God supposedly instructing Jared’s brother to build eight barges to cross the ocean. They were very light in weight, pointed on both ends like submarines and had no windows (Ether 2). Jared’s brother melted 16 white stones out of a rock, one for the front and one for the rear for each of the 8 vessels. Taking the stones to the top of a mountain, he prayed that the Lord would touch them so that they would shine and give light inside the vessels (Ether 3:1-5):

And it came to pass that the brother of Jared, (now the number of the vessels which had been prepared was eight) went forth, unto the, mount, which they called the mount Shelem, because of its exceeding height, and did molten out of a rock sixteen small stones; and they were white and clear, even as transparent glass: and he did carry them in his hands upon the top of the mount, and cried again unto the Lord, saying:

O Lord, thou hast said that we must be encompassed about by the floods. Now, behold, O Lord, and do not be angry with thy servant because of his weakness before thee; for we know that thou art holy and dwellest in the heavens, and that we are unworthy before thee; because of the fall of our natures have become evil continually; nevertheless, O Lord thou hast given us a commandment that we must call upon thee, that from thee we may receive according to our desires.

Behold, O Lord, thou hast smitten us because of our iniquity, and hast driven us forth, and for these many years we have been in the wilderness; nevertheless, thou hast been merciful unto us. O Lord, look upon me in pity, and turn away thine anger from this thy people, and suffer not that they shall go forth across this raging deep in darkness; but behold these things which I have molten out of the rock.

And I know, O Lord, that thou hast all power, and can do whatsoever thou wilt for the benefit of man; therefore touch these stones, O Lord, with thy finger, and prepare them that they may shine forth in darkness; and they shall shine forth unto us in the vessels which we have prepared, that we may have light while we shall cross the sea.

Behold, O Lord, thou canst do this. We know that thou art able to show forth great power, which looks small unto the understanding of men. (Ether 3:1-5, *Book of Mormon*)

Regardless of whether above the ocean’s surface or just below it, Mormon lore teaches that around 2,000 BC the 8 vessels were driven by a furious tempestuous wind toward “the Promised Land” for 344 days (Ether 6:11). They all are said to have landed at exactly the same time and at exactly the same place – the west coast of Central America.

According to Mormon history, from here they built many cities and founded a widespread civilization. As time passed, the people drifted away from God. The kings and rulers became corrupt, as did the general populace. After a long period of refusing to heed the voices of the prophets, a civil war broke out between two rival factions.¹ One side was led by a warrior king named Coriantumr and the other eventually by Lib, the tallest of all the Jaredites (Ether 14:10). Coriantumr slew Lib in battle and Shiz, the brother of Lib, replaced him at the head of the rival kingdom (Ether 14:16-17).

In one fierce battle of but a few days duration, 2 million warriors along with their wives and children perished (Ether 15:2). Both sides spent the next 4 years gathering every man, woman, and child into their various camps for one final conflict to forever decide the issue (Ether 15:14-15). Finally, fully armed, every single man, woman, and child supposedly engaged in a savage 8 day battle which ended when Coriantumr slew Shiz, the last survivor of his army (Ether 15:15-31). Mortally wounded, Coriantumr soon died. Consequently, the entire civilization perished except a soul survivor – the prophet Ether – who then recorded this “history” on 24 gold plates (Ether 15:32-33, cp. Mosiah 8:9, 28:11 etc.). Subsequently, Ether either died or was translated (Ether 15:34). Thus, the Jaredites vanished from the face of North America.

It is noteworthy that no Jewish or “gentile” archeologist (i.e., one other than a Mormon) has ever found any evidence whatever of such a vast white civilization in the Americas as described in Mormon writings.² Indeed, in all the recorded history of national warfare – and especially that relating to civil wars – never has either side been totally eradicated, much less both. Even a loss of 10-30% of a total population – especially so vast a population as is proposed by the Mormon myth – is incredulous. The story completely lacks historical, archeological, and common sense credibility and thus is not worthy of consideration.

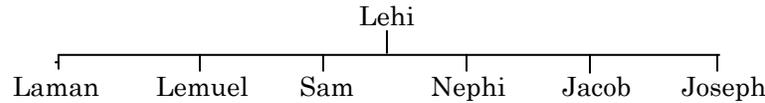
¹ *Latter-Day Saints Reference Encyclopedia*, p. 209.

² Had such ever existed, the Mormons would have erected a great museum across the street from the Temple in Salt Lake City and placed the artifacts on open public display! Mormons reply that God chose to hide the evidence in order to challenge faith. To that we reply, God certainly allowed the archeologist to find much evidence for the existence of ancient biblical Israel to be preserved – so why not yours?

PHASE II. – THE NEPHITES

According to the Book of Mormon, after the Jaredites vanished from North America a more important group arrived on the continent. They were Lehi and his descendants.

Supposedly, Lehi was a prophet who lived in Jerusalem around BC 600. He was told to take his family and leave the city, as it would soon fall under siege – yet he was not important enough to be mentioned in the Holy Bible text! His wife Sariah bore him six sons:



Mormon teachings say that Lehi was given two charges by the Lord: (1) to secure the plates of brass from Laban of Jerusalem (see #3, page 4) and (2) to ask the family of Ishmael to join his family in the wilderness by the Red Sea (*LDS Reference Encyclopedia*, p. 266)

Lehi's son, Nephi, is purported to have received a revelation to build a ship. Then the entire group entered the ship and sailed to the west coast of South America (The Jaredites having already exterminated themselves from the Americas through civil wars.)

THE ORIGIN OF THE BLACK RACE ACCORDING TO MORMON THEOLOGY

The two most prominent sons of Lehi were Nephi and Laman. According to the *Book of Mormon*, the families of Laman and his brother Lemuel continually rebelled against God; hence, He cursed them.

And he had caused the cursing to Come upon them, yea, even a sore cursing, because of their Iniquity. For behold, they had hardened their hearts against him...wherefore, as they were white, and exceeding fair and delightsome, that they might not be enticing unto my people the Lord God did cause a **skin of blackness** to come upon them (2 Nephi 5:21)

...Cain...because of his wickedness...became the father of **an inferior race**. A curse was placed upon him and that curse has been continued through his lineage and must do so while time endures. ... Millions of souls have come into this world cursed with a **black skin** and have been denied ... the fullness of the blessings of the Gospel. (Joseph Fielding Smith, *The Way to Perfection*, p. 102)

The Mormon Church (LDS) calls the descendants of Laman “Lamanites”.¹ The non-existent Nephi “predicted” the redemption of some of the black-skinned² Lamanites, who will again be white, and states that some will assist in building the New Jerusalem:³

...And their scales of darkness shall begin to fall from their eyes; and many generations shall not pass away among them, save they shall be a white and delightsome people. (2 Nephi 30:6)

And they shall assist my people...that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem. (3 Nephi 21:23)

Thus, Mormonism claims that these cursed dark-skinned Hebrews were the original ancestors of the Native American Indians. However, recent DNA research by Dr. David Glenn Smith, a molecular anthropologist at the University of California (Davis) whose lab is the leading test center for Native American genetics, shows that after testing thousands of individuals from over 150 tribes, Native genes do not coincide at all with those in Jewish populations but rather with the people of east Asia.

¹ Though virtually all anthropologists agree that the American Indians are from the Mongolian race, Mormon's believe they are Lamanites – that they are dark-skinned Israelites from the tribe of Manasseh (Talmadge, *Articles of Faith*, p. 260-284).

² Until the civil rights movement, black-skinned people were said not to possess souls and thus were not accepted into the Mormon Church. When the US Government threatened to remove their tax-exempt status, a Mormon “prophet” received a new revelation that very month in 1978, and suddenly blacks had souls. This hypocrisy was covered by all the news media.

³ But the King James Bible says that the builder and maker of the New Jerusalem is God (Heb.11:10; also Rev.21:2 and 10).

NEPHI'S LOST CIVILIZATION

Thus, after the Jaredites were obliterated through many civil wars, Lehi and his family migrated to Central and North America. Again, the two most prominent sons of Lehi were Nephi and Laman. As we have seen, God cursed Laman and his skin was turned black. Nephi became king of the Nephites. The Nephites are supposed to have lasted as a people for about 1,000 years.¹

In the various writings of the Mormon Cult, much discussion is found concerning "Plates" and the writing of Plates. One of Nephi's major roles was the responsibility for keeping two sets of plates.

The LARGE PLATES recorded the Nephite's wars, governmental affairs, and other secular matters.

The SMALL PLATES were devoted to the religious experiences of the Nephites.

Nephi is said to have had many visions, one of which was supposedly that he foresaw the coming of Columbus to the Americas (1 Nephi 13:12).

Another of Lehi's sons, Joseph, predicted the coming of Joseph Smith who was to be mighty in words, deeds, wonders and would bring to pass "much restoration" to the house of Israel (2 Nephi 3:1-24).²

Much of today's Mormon Doctrine revolves about Lehi and, in particular, on his son Nephi. Nephi and his followers supposedly founded a second great civilization and built large cities. For 200 years (until 201 AD) the Nephites and Lamanites lived in peace and harmony. Then a long war ensued.

THE HILL CUMORAH

Mormon history relates that in AD 385, the Nephites and the Lamanites assembled for a final battle near the hill Cumorah.³ About 230,000 Nephites along with at least 300,000 Lamanites are said to have lost their lives.⁴ Only a handful of Nephites and Lamanites survived until around AD 421.

However, before the battle had begun, a Nephite General named Mormon hid the GOLD PLATES in the hill Cumorah. After the battle, his son Moroni added some additional plates and also buried them in this hill. Here they remained for nearly 1,400 silent years until 1823 when 17 year old Joseph Smith had his "second vision". On the night of September 21, Moroni – the son of Mormon and the last of the Nephites – is said to have appeared as an angel "standing in the air, for his feet did not touch the floor" by Smith's bedside and told young Smith of the location of the golden plates within the hill called Cumorah.⁵ The words on these plates constitute the *Book of Mormon*.

¹ The Book of Mormon relates that upon arriving in America, they found many kinds of animals in the forest. These included the horse, cow, ox, ass, goat and wild goat. Mormon scholars admit that this is the most difficult problem they face – that such domesticated animals existed 2000 BC but had somehow disappeared from the Americas by Columbus' arrival.

² In Sidney B. Sperry's *Book Of Mormon Compendium* (pages 226, 277) he states: "If the Apostle Paul, when he quoted Isaiah 11:10 really believed that the 'root of Jesse' was Christ, he was in error." The Mormon Church maintains that the "root of Jesse" is the "Prophet" Joseph Smith. Thus, with such identifications of Mormon heroes with Old Testament Bible prophecies, the Lord is said to have twice set his hand to recover the remnant of his people, Israel. First, at the Exodus of Israel from Egypt under the direction of Moses. Second, when the glorified and resurrected Moses came into the Kirtland Temple April 3, 1836, and conferred upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery the "keys of the gathering of Israel..."

³ The Mormons are split on the location of Cumorah. Most place it near Palmyra, New York – not far from Rochester. However, Sidney B. Sperry places the hill "somewhere in Middle America." (*Book Of Mormon Compendium*, p. 447).

⁴ Kirban, *Mormonism: Doctrines of Devils*, op. cit., p. 15.

⁵ Moroni is said to have told Smith that a book written on gold plates contained the "fullness of the everlasting Gospel" as delivered by the Savior, Christ Jesus, to the ancient inhabitants of America. He also told him of 2 stones called the Urim and Thummim which God had provided for translating this book (*The Pearl of Great Price*, pp. 50-51). The Urim and Thummim are mentioned in Num. 27:21 and 1 Sam.28:6 as a means for ascertaining the will of God whereby the answer was usually that of a "yes" or "no". They are never said to function as objects for translating in the Bible.

These are the basics of the alleged background history of the Mormon religion. The story of Joseph Smith constitutes the 3rd phase of Mormon “history”.¹ Surely by now, and we have only scratched the surface as to the “history” and blasphemies of this religion, it should be obvious to all honest readers that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is in reality nothing more than a male dominated sex cult – one in which they foolishly trust will extend on into eternity.

The following is taken from Charles Coffin’s *Building The Nation*, pp. 441-443, and published 1882:

A great delusion, wide-spread and powerful – Mormonism – has had strange development. In 1875, Solomon Spaulding graduated from Dartmouth College. He became a minister, but left preaching and kept a store. He wrote a story, a poor romance about the origin of the Indians, that they were descendants of the ten tribes of Israel that revolted when Jeroboam was king. Mr. Spaulding styled his book “Manuscript Found; or, the Book of Mormon.” He sent it to Pittsburgh to be printed.

One of the men in the printing office was Sidney Rigdon, who left off setting types and took up preaching for a living, preaching in schoolhouses and barns. He had the manuscript in his possession, and had a great deal to say about the lost tribes of Israel.

Mr. Rigdon read to Joseph Smith the story written by Spaulding. Joseph Smith was shrewd enough to see that he could use the book of Mormon to advantage. He said that an angel stood by his bed one night and informed him that if he would go to the hill Cumorah, four miles south of Palmyra, and dig in the ground, he would find a set of golden plates, on which were hieroglyphics which he would be able to read by using two transparent stones, which he would also find the Urim and Thummim of the Old Testament. On the night of September 22, in the year 1827, according to Smith’s story an angel placed the plates in his hands. When [The Book of Mormon] made its appearance people said that it was Spaulding’s novel mixed with quotations from the Bible, and much more from Joseph Smith.

“Take up the Bible,
compare the religion of the Latter-Day-Saints with it,
and see if it will stand the test.”
Brigham Young, May 18, 1873,
Journal of Discourses,
Volume 16, page 46.

¹ The best exposé of Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, and Mormon Doctrine may be found in *The God Makers* by Ed Decker and Dave Hunt (Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1984).