



# The LifeLine



Spring 2021

"Contending for the faith"

lifeline2rlds.org

Carol's Corner...

## Receiving JESUS – Rejecting Joseph

I was deceived by Joseph Smith's false doctrines for many years, so I was grateful to discover that we CAN trust the Word of God as found in the Bible. When we give our lives to Jesus, His Word is opened to us, and as we obey it, we become more and more like Him. The book of 2 Corinthians (NIV) explains it like this:

*"But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read...Even to this day when Moses [the Old Testament] is read, a veil covers their [the Israelites'] hearts. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away."*  
(Ch. 3, vs. 14-16)

*"...we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord...."* (Ch. 3, vs. 18)

*"Therefor, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart... we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God."*  
(Ch. 4, vs. 1-2)

*"And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."* (Ch.4, vs. 3-4)

*"For we do not preach ourselves, but*

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## Christian Leaders Assess Joseph Smith's RLDS, CoC & LDS Doctrines

In gathering information for the writing of the book, *Reorganized Latter Day Saint Church: Is It Christian?* we wrote letters to well-known Christian ministries around the country. We asked them if they viewed the RLDS church as a Christian denomination and if not, why not.

Here are their responses:

- ◆ "Mormonism in all its forms departs radically from the faith of the New Testament.... Joseph Smith, as well as those who followed him, were actively making up their religion as they went along, and were obligated to change doctrines, change history, and change documents to cover their tracks. Mormonism's history announces clearly that it is false and should be rejected." (Chuck Swindoll, "Insight for Living" ministry)
- ◆ "The evidence of both history and theology in New Testament revelation rules out the Reorganized Church as Christian and rightly classifies them as a non-Christian cultic system." (Walter Martin, the original "Bible Answer Man")
- ◆ "An examination of Mormon theology reveals it is a 'different gospel' (Gal 1:6-7). Terms often sound right, but most have been redefined." (Charles Stanley, "In Touch" ministry)
- ◆ "Like many of the cults, Mormonism admits the inspiration of the Bible but also recognizes additional inspired literature, which plays a more central role in the life of the movement." (Adrian Rogers, "Love Worth Finding" ministries)
- ◆ "Contrary to Scripture, the Reorganized Church believes that Christianity was completely overrun by apostasy (Matt. 16:18, 1 Tim. 4:1). They also maintain that Joseph Smith was a prophet—that he was sent by God to restore the church; that he had to re-institute the apostolic and prophetic offices, along with the Old Testament priesthoods, and that he also had to convey additional revelation from God (which is what the Book of Mormon is supposed to be).... Both biblical and historical evidence directly controvert these positions which, of course, makes Christian fellowship with members of the Reorganized Church virtually impossible. Because the division caused by such mistaken beliefs is so severe, we can only classify the Reorganized Church as heretical."

(Hank Hanegraaff, "The Bible Answer Man," and president of Christian Research Institute)

- ◆ "Joseph Smith was a charlatan and a false teacher." (John McArthur, "Grace to You" ministry)
- ◆ "We believe that the characteristics of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints are cultic in nature. A cult is any group which teaches doctrines or beliefs that deviate from the biblical message of the Christian faith. Cults often teach some Christian truth, mixed with error which may be difficult to detect. They do not adhere solely to the sixty-six books of the Bible as the inspired Word of God. They add their 'special revelations' to the Bible as equally authoritative. They do not accept that our relationship to Jesus

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Hank Hanegraaff,  
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Christ is a reality 'by grace through faith alone,' but practice instead a salvation by works."  
(Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)  
As you can see, these well-known Christian leaders agree that it is the un-Biblical, aberrant doctrines of Joseph Smith that place all fac-

tions of Mormonism outside genuine Christianity. Joseph Smith's "restored gospel" obscures the truth of the Biblical gospel – the good news that Jesus died on the cross to pay for the sins of mankind, and that He rose from the grave defeating sin and death. He offers the free gift of salvation to all those who will repent of their sins and receive Him. This is the only gospel that can save people from their sins and give them entry into heaven. Each of us can choose to accept or reject His offer.

It is because we love our RLDS/COG family and friends that Lifeline Ministries exists - to let them know about the true gospel of salvation as found in the Bible. God loves us and wants us to spend eternity with Him. To make that possible, Jesus willingly endured a painful death in our place, paying for our sins. When we give our life to Him, we are born again - spiritually this time - and we are adopted into the family of God. As a result, we receive the promise of eternal life with Him. Our responsibility in return, is to share with the world the gospel, this good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. That is the mission of Lifeline Ministries to RLDS. We humbly accept and with God's help earnestly seek to accomplish this mission.

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CORNER continued from front...

*Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. "For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." (Ch. 4, vs. 5-6)*

I came to realize that we don't need modern day prophets, continuing revelation and additional scriptures. We just need to give our lives to Jesus and live out His will for us as found in His Word – the one He has already given us – the Holy Bible. Once we have found the Lord, we are to spend the rest of our lives helping others to find Him too. We hope that you will join us in that endeavor.

Gratefully Sharing Jesus,  
Carol

DOCTRINES continued from front...

*"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth and be turned aside to fables."*  
2 Tim 4:3-4

*"...Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD; so what wisdom do they have?"*  
Jer 8:9

*"Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you."*  
1 Tim 4:16

*"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'"*  
John 14:6

## Witnessing Resources from our Website Store & Others

### Books

- Reorganized Latter Day Saint Church: Is It Christian?*  
by Carol Hansen \$25.00  
Download from lifeline2rlds.org: \$10.00
- RLDS Church: Christian or Cult?* by Carol Hansen \$3.00
- Reasons for Disbelief* by Peter Elliot \$10.00  
Download from lifeline2rlds.org: \$3.50
- Portraits of Victory* (Testimonies of former members of the RLDS/Community of Christ church) \$3.00

### World Conference Tracts

- "Truth Matters" (set of 6) \$5.00
- "Seeking..." (set of 3) \$5.00

- DNA vs. The Book of Mormon
- The Bible vs. The Book of Mormon
- The Bible vs. Joseph Smith

### Available at help4rlds.com

- Part Way to Utah* by Paul Trask
- The Long Way Home* by Paul Trask
- Faith Gone Astray* by Ron Luff

### DVD Available at christianvideowarehouse.com

Jesus Christ/Joseph Smith

### DVD's Available at sourceflix.com

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