

First Mormon Bible Study

We must love the truth!!

1 Thessalonians 2:5-12

I give two translations for emphasis. Both equally state the importance of loving the truth and the consequences if/when you don't. This is the whole point of this study.

KJV

*5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? 6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. 8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And **for this cause** God shall send them **strong delusion**, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*

NIV

*5 Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? 6 And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. 7 For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendour of his coming. 9 The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, 10 and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 11 **For this reason** God sends them a **powerful delusion** so that they will believe the lie 12 and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.*

How do we know whether our convictions are truth, or the result of a delusion from God?

The only way we can really know is to be willing to change when the evidence warrants it. **If you are unwilling to change even when the evidence supports the change, then you are believing a delusion. Please meditate on that last thought. The consequence of your decision is eternal.**

No one has stronger conviction than a Muslim suicide bomber, and no rational religious person concludes that their conviction is based on truth.

The conclusion of this study is to prepare for making future decisions based solely on the evidence, not emotions nor previous convictions.

Second Mormon Bible Study

If the book of Mormon = to the Bible, no need for it, if not = then it's wrong.

The Bible is complete, needing no additional information. This fact nullifies the need or even desire for the Book of Mormon.

Galatians 1:6-9 *KJV*

6 ¶ *I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.*

NIV

6 ¶ *I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7 which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! 9 As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!*

ASV -- Ac 20:27 For I shrank not from declaring unto you the whole counsel of God.

KJV -- Ac 20:27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

NIV -- Ac 20:27 For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.

KJV -- Revelation 22:18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man **shall add unto these things**, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19 And if any man **shall take away from the words** of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

NIV -- Revelation 22:18 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone **adds anything to them**, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. 19 And if anyone **takes words away from this book** of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

The above scripture plainly teach the completeness of the scriptures. The Book of Mormon is not from God because its very existence contradicts the above scriptures. Especially note the phrase in Galatians 1:8 mentions even if the source of information is an angel from heaven, it is still wrong and will lead to condemnation. This passage is very important since the Book of Mormon is claimed to be from an angel.

If the book of Mormon says the same thing as the Bible, then there is no need for it; if says something different, then it's wrong.

Handout for my Mormon friends

Qualifications of apostles and fruit of the vine for the Lord's supper

I want you to know that I sincerely love you and write this only because of my concern for your spiritual life.

My good friends please read these verses carefully. Because the consequences of not following the Holy Spirit's instructions here are catastrophic, Galatians 1:6-9

6 ¶ I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

Any Gospel that is different is condemned. The gospel you teach is not what was preached in the first century. I will just mention two parts of Mormonism that differs from what the Holy Spirit taught in the first century: 1) You have apostles that don't meet the qualifications stated in Acts 1:21-22 and 2 Corinthians 12:12, and 2) You use water for the Lord's Supper contrary to the teachings of Christ in Matthew 26:29, Mark 14:25 and Luke 22:18 which say that it should be fruit of the vine.

1) Qualifications of Apostles, Acts 1:21-22

21 Wherefore of these men which have accompanied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

Those who claim to have apostles today are wrong for two reasons:

A) The Holy Spirit says that the new apostle "must be" chosen from those who had been with Jesus from the Baptism of John until Jesus was taken up into heaven. Since no one can meet these qualifications today, there can be no apostles today. Apostles were needed then because the New Testament was not yet written, therefore prophets were needed until the New Testament was finished, about A.D. 100.

B) The Apostles could, and did, do many wonderful signs:

Acts 2:43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

Acts 5:12 ¶ And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.

2 Corinthians 12:12 Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

These abilities were only possible because of the baptism of the Holy Spirit described in Acts 2:1-4. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is only recorded twice, Acts 2:1-4 and Acts 10:44-47. There is no evidence that it ever happened again (except for Paul), no teaching that it would ever happen again or that it was for everyone. If there are apostles today they could lay their hands on people and give them the ability to heal the sick, speak in tongues, etc., implying no need for hospitals or language classes for missionaries. Without this baptism of the Holy Spirit, there are no signs of apostles. Without the signs of the apostles there are no apostles today, or ever.

No one can do these miracles today because the Bible clearly teaches that the "gifts" have ceased, 1 Corinthians 13:8-13.

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Qualifications of apostles and fruit of the vine for the Lord's supper

2) The Lord's Supper should have fruit of the vine, not water as practiced by the Mormon church; Matthew 26:29, Mark 14:25 and Luke 22:18. Since this is different than what the apostles taught, it is a perversion of the gospel and those who teach it will "be accursed," Galatians 1:6-9.

The word translated *pervert* in verse 7, is μεταστρεψαι which means "*to turn about; convert* into something else, change, Acts 2:20; by implication *to pervert, Gal. 1:7*" therefore any change to God's word is a perversion of it and those guilty of the perversion will be "accursed."

Notes for my Mormon friends.

1) 1 John 5:13 *These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.*

The things were written (past tense) for two reasons, 1) to give them confidence, i.e. *that ye may* "know" they are saved! and 2) that you may believe on the name of the son of God. Therefore *These things* are sufficient for their purposes. If sufficient, then no other writings were needed to allow us to know we are saved!!

2) 2 Timothy 3:16-17 *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

The scriptures written in the first century **enabled** them: they **may be** (present tense, i.e. in the first century) to be thoroughly (completely) furnished (equipped) unto ALL good works!!

3) Galatians 1:6-9 ¶ *I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.*

Any new information would be a change to the old information, else it would not be *new*! But some say "Book of Mormon is not new, it only explains the Bible." God did not get it right the first time? He must now explain it again, this time it will be sufficient?? If He is able to explain it correctly this time, why did He not do it the first time? Or is He smarter now that He was then?

4) 2 Peter 1:3 *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*

Everything we need for *life and godliness*, **has been given**, past tense, i.e. in the first century! If everything we need was given us in the first century, then the Book of Mormon is not needed.

5) Jude 3 (cf. v. 5) ¶ *Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.*

The Faith was delivered "Once" not several times. "Once" not "first," which would imply a second time later. Greek word for "once" means "once for all." Again: no need for another "word from God" at a later time.

6) John 16:13 *Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.*

The Holy Spirit will guide **you** (those who were there at the time, i.e. in the first century) unto **ALL** truth!! If they had all truth at that time, there is no need for another word from God today, or anyone else, to complete what was complete in the first century.

-- Why is a written *inspired* explanation needed? Did He do it *ineffectively* the first time?

-- Romans 1:16, 15:19, 16:25 -- All imply the Gospel completed in first Century!!