

THE DOCTRINES OF THE “LATTER-DAY SAINTS,” OR MORMONITES.

IT is the duty of all lovers of *truth*, to expose *error* for the sake of souls; and for the glory of Him who is “God over all blessed for ever.”

The “*Mystery of Iniquity*,” is a mixture of truth and error, so put together as to deceive souls, and lead them to destruction. The most dreadful form of this *Mystery of Iniquity* has appeared within a recent period, in the form of the doctrines and practice of a people called “Mormons.” I lately met a leader of this sect, who stated that he had been twenty years a co-worker with JOSEPH SMITH, the founder of his party.

It was with difficulty I could get him to confess his real sentiments.

I asked him ;—

FIRSTLY.—If he believed “That the blood of the Lord Jesus cleansed from all sin,” if it were

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1835 sufficient so to do? *He replied that he did not believe any such thing.*

SECONDLY.—I inquired if the Scriptures were sufficient for our rule of faith and practice? *He said he did not believe they were.*

THIRDLY.—I inquired, whether he prayed to Joseph Smith, and sought help from him now that he was dead? *He acknowledged that he did do so.*

Such then are the doctrines of the Mormons, they deny the value of the blood of Christ as the *only ground* of a sinner's acceptance with God, and the *sole authority* of the word of God, as to faith and practice. To make this blasphemy more perfect, they put Joseph Smith in the place of Jesus Christ, as their Mediator, Intercessor, and Helper.

Joseph Smith in order to establish himself as the founder, and law-giver of this sect, and to place it entirely at his disposal, professed to have received a revelation in April, 1830, commanding the "Church" to give heed unto *all his words and commandments.* (Doctrines and Covenants, sec. 46.)

In a revelation of Feb. 1831, it was decreed, "It is meet that my servant Joseph Smith, Junr.,

should have a house built in which to live and translate.” (Doctrines and Covenants, sec. 13.) And again, “If ye desire the mysteries of my kingdom, provide for him food and raiment, and whatsoever thing he needeth.” (Doctrines and Covenants, sec. 14.) “In temporal things thou shalt not have strength, for that is not thy calling.” (Doctrines and Covenants, sec. 9.) A singular announcement to be made by a prophet who soon after became the Manager of a Bank, Partner in a Commercial House, Mayor of Nauvo, General of Militia, and a Candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

Sidney Rigdon joined the new sect in 1830, and became its theological founder. He contradicts the book of Mormon, which taught the orthodox Trinitarianism, and asserted that the Godhead consisted of *two*, and not three Persons. “Query—How many Personages are there in the Godhead? Answer—*Two.*” (Doctrines and Covenants, p. 47.)

The following is an extract from one of their popular Catechisms, viz: Latter-day Saints Catechism, quoted in Mormons illustrated, p. 43.

“Query 28,—What is God? Answer,—*He is a Material, Intelligent Personage, possessing both body and parts.*”

“Query 38,—Doth He also possess passions ?
Answer,—Yes, *He eats, He drinks, He loves,*
He hates.”

“Query 44,—Can this being occupy two distinct places at once. Answer,—No.”

A local residence is assigned to this Mormon Deity. He lives they say “in the planet *Kolob.*” (Seer 70, and xiv, 531.)

Their Prophet says “God, *of course* was once a man, and from manhood by continual progression became God, and he has continued to increase from his manhood to the present time, and may continue to increase without limit; and man also may continue to increase in knowledge, and power, as fast as he pleases.”

Joseph Smith blasphemously says, that “The weakest child of God which now exists upon the earth, will possess more dominion, more property, more subjects, and more power and glory, than is possessed by Jesus Christ, or by his Father; while at the same time they will have their dominion, kingdom, and subjects increased in proportion.” (Millenial Star vi, quoted in Mormons, illustrated.)

They also say, “When our father Adam came into the Garden of Eden, he brought Eve one of his

wives with him. He helped to make and organise the world. He is Michael the Archangel, *the Ancient of Days*, He is our Father and our God, and *the only God with whom we have to do.*" (From Discourses of the Presidency, in xv, 769.)

They further affirm "That the Epistles of the Ancient Apostles, Paul, Peter, and John, we must say are dead letters when compared to the Epistles that are written to the Saints in our day by the living Priesthood." (Millenial Star xiv, 328.)

The Mormon President possesses the Papal prerogative of annulling all marriages contracted under his sanction. And all other marriages they declare are absolutely void. (Lieut. Gunnison's survey of Utah.)

The Mormons laid the foundation of their temple in Nauvo, in 1841, for here alone (so it was revealed) could the rite of baptism for the dead be efficaciously performed. (Doctrines and Covenants, sec. 103.)

In July, 1843, Joseph Smith professed to have received a revelation, authorizing him and all those whom he should license, to take an unlimited number of wives. (Millenial Star xv, p. 5.)

Their Chancellor of the university of Deseret, deduces the following question and answer, viz:

Question,—“What reward have men who have faith to forsake their rebellious and unbelieving wives in order to obey the commandments of God.

Answer,—An HUNDRED-FOLD OF WIVES in this world and eternal life in the next. (Patriarchal Order 16, see also Seer 61.)

Lieutenant Gunnison informs us, that “the three Members of the Presidency had when he was in Utah, no less than Eighty-two Wives between them.”

Brigham Young, the present Mormon President, has or had 40 Wives, and 100 Children. The Latter Day Saints sing the praises of Joseph Smith, whom they thus worship.—

“He’s free! He’s free! The Prophet’s free!

He is where he will ever be.

His home’s in the sky; he dwells with *the Gods’*,

Far from the furious rage of mobs.

He died, he died for those he loved,

He reigns in the realms above.” Hymn 338.

“Hail to the Prophet ascended to heaven,

Traitors and tyrants now fight him in vain;

Mingling with Gods’, he can plan for his brethren,

Death cannot conquer the hero again.”

“Praise to his memory! he died as a martyr!

Honoured and blessed be his ever great name!

Long shall his blood which was shed by assassins,

Stain Illinois, while the earth lauds his fame.”

Hymn 325.

"The saints, the saints, his only pride,
 For them he lived, for them he died,
 Unchanged in death, with a Saviour's love
 He pleads their cause in courts above."

Hymn 281.

"Great is his glory, and endless his priesthood,
 Ever and ever the keys he will hold;
 Faithful and true he will enter his kingdom,
 Crown'd in the midst of the prophets of old."

Hymn 273.

It would fill a volume to expose the contradictory revelations of this new sect. Polygamy is at one time declared to be immoral, at another it is asserted to be a great blessing. The Trinity is acknowledged in the book of Mormon, and afterwards by Rigdon denied. The prophet is not to labour, and yet he abounded in commercial, civil, and military employments. Joseph declared that "Zion" was in Jackson County, Missouri, and commanded all the saints to purchase land at the sacred spot, and to hasten to take possession of their inheritance. (Doctrines and Covenants, sec. 66 to 73.)

Being driven from thence they re-established themselves again at Nauvo, on the banks of the Mississippi; their Zion and land of inheritance are next to be found liere. New revelations summon all the Mormon Converts to Nauvo, bringing with them their gold, their silver, and

their precious stones. (Doctrines and Covenants, sec. 103.) A Mansion House is built for Joseph, and a Temple for their God, under fresh revelations,—Being also driven from Nauvo, they again establish themselves in 1847, in the valley of the Great Salt Lake, under fresh revelations, where they are now wholly given up to their false revelations, false Gods, false hopes, and their many wives. There they may enjoy themselves, provided they pay their tithes to their leaders, who cause them to err that they might make merchandise of them, and thus pander to their debaucheries and wicked ways.

Such is the sorrowful state of Mormon Iniquity, and thus are all the truths upon which a sinner's hope are founded subverted, and the living God set aside, for them who are no Gods. Well may we say to all, receive not such teachers into your houses; nor bid them God speed. Well may we say to the poor sinner whom they seek to delude—"Turn from such fables." "Believe on the Lord Jesus and thou shalt be saved." "Without shedding of blood there is no remission." And further, "If they believe not Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead."