

There are some topics from Mormon beginnings rarely discussed, but still worth considering since this is what Joseph Smith claimed was the true church that was restored through him.

L.D.S claims that it was Jesus who got married, when he turned the water into wine.

Journal of Discourses Vol.2, pg.82, Orson Hyde, 10/6 1854 (PDF pg.90)

“Gentlemen, that is as plain as the translators, or different councils over this Scripture, dare allow it to go to the world, but the thing is there; it is told; Jesus was the bridegroom at the marriage of Cana of Galilee, and he told them what to do. Now there was actually a marriage; and if Jesus was not the bridegroom on that occasion, please tell who was. If any man can show this, and prove that it was not the Savior of the world, then I will acknowledge I am in error. We say it was Jesus Christ who was married, to be brought into the relation whereby he could see his seed, before he was crucified.”

B.H. Roberts, *Defense of the Faith and the Saints* Vol.2, pg.309 (PDF pg.309)

"Jesus himself was married, and was probably a polygamist."

According to the Bible, Jesus was invited to the wedding.

John 2:1-2

“And on the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; and Jesus also was invited, and His disciples, to the wedding.”

Why would someone be invited to his own wedding? There is nothing in the text that even slightly indicates Jesus was married.

JESUS CRUCIFIED BECAUSE OF POLYGAMY?

Journal of Discourses, Vol.1, pg.346 (Jedediah M. Grant, August 7, 1853) (PDF pg.354)

“The grand reason of the burst of public sentiment in anathemas upon Christ and his disciples, causing his crucifixion, was evidently based upon polygamy, according to the testimony of the philosophers who rose in that age. A belief in the doctrine of a plurality of wives caused the persecution of Jesus and his followers. We might almost think they were ‘Mormons.’”

Grant is quoting a philosopher, not Mormon doctrine. However, his response to the quote is amazing. The first time I read this claim of philosophers, it made me angry; on the other hand, Grant is not bothered at all. Also interesting is that Grant admits that Jesus and His disciples were not Mormons.

RACISM REARS ITS UGLY HEAD...

Journal of Discourses, Vol.10, pg.109 (Brigham Young, March 8, 1863) (PDF pg.118)

“Shall I tell you the law of God in regard to the African race? If the white man who belongs to the chosen seed mixes his blood with the seed of Cain, the penalty, under the law of God, is death on the spot. This will always be so. The nations of the earth have transgressed every law that God has given, they have changed the ordinances and broken every covenant made with the fathers, and they are like a hungry man that dreameth that he eateth, and he awaketh and behold he is empty.”

Who determined that “white man” is a “chosen seed”? What nationality is that? The New Testament does not agree with this racial attitude. This Mormon prophet said this was a law of God and that would always be so. Brigham Young also said any sermon he ever preached was as good as scripture.

BRIGHAM YOUNG'S WORDS ARE AS GOOD AS SCRIPTURE:

Journal of Discourses, Vol.13, pg.95 (Brigham Young, January 2, 1870) (PDF pg. 103)

“The Lord is in our midst. He teaches the people continually. I have never yet preached a sermon and sent it out to the children of men, that they may not call Scripture. Let me have the privilege of correcting a sermon, and it is as good Scripture as they deserve.”

Couple these two statements by Brigham Young and tell me: Does this sound like a prophet of God to you? As I said the New Testament does not agree with this racial attitude.

Romans 1:16

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

Romans 10:12

“For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call upon Him...”

Galatians 3:28

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Colossians 3:10-11

“...and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.”

A COUNCIL OF GODS MADE UP THE PLAN OF CREATION.

Scriptural Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Section Six 1843–44, pg.349
(PDF pg. 349-350)

“In the beginning, the head of the Gods called a council of the Gods; and they came together and concocted a plan to create the world and people it. When we begin to learn this way, we begin to learn the only true God, and what kind of a being we have got to worship. Having a knowledge of God, we begin to know how to approach him, and how to ask so as to receive an answer. When we understand the character of God, and how to come to him, he begins to unfold the heavens to us, and to tell us all about it. When we are ready to come to him, he is ready to come to us.”

God says he created all by Himself, with no help.

Isaiah 44:24

“Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, and the one who formed you from the womb, ‘I, the LORD, am the maker of all things, stretching out the heavens by myself, and spreading out the earth all alone...’”

MORMONS ARE TOLD NOT TO EAT MEAT EXCEPT IN COLD OR FAMINE (NOT SUMMER).

D&C 89:12-13 (PDF LDS Scripture pg. 342)

“Yea, flesh also of beasts and of the fowls of the air, I, the Lord, have ordained for the use of man with thanksgiving; nevertheless they are to be used sparingly; And it is pleasing unto me that they should not be used, only in times of winter, or of cold, or famine.”

THE BIBLE SAYS ADAM SINNED; A MORMON PROPHET DISAGREES WITH THE BIBLE.

Doctrines of Salvation, Vol.1, pg.114 (Joseph Fielding Smith, Jr.) (PDF pg. 71)

“It is true, the Lord warned Adam and Eve that to partake of the fruit they would transgress a law, and this happened. But it is not always a sin to transgress a law. I will try to illustrate this. The chemist in his laboratory takes different elements and combines them, and the result is that something very different results. He has changed the law. As an example in point: hydrogen, two parts, and oxygen, one part, passing through an electric spark will combine and form water. Hydrogen will burn, so will oxygen, but water will put out a fire. This may be subject to some disagreement by the critics who will say it is not transgressing a law. Well, Adam's transgression was of a similar nature, that is, his transgression was in accordance with law.

“The transgression of Adam did not involve sex sin as some falsely believe and teach. Adam and Eve were married by the Lord while they were yet immortal beings in the Garden of Eden and before death entered the world.

“ADAM AND EVE REJOICED IN FALL. Before partaking of the fruit Adam could have lived forever; therefore, his status was one of immortality. When he ate, he became subject to death, and therefore he became mortal. This was a transgression of the law, but not a sin in the strict sense, for it was something that Adam and Eve had to do!

“I am sure that neither Adam nor Eve looked upon it as a sin, when they learned the consequences, and this is discovered in their words after they learned the consequences.

“Adam said: ‘Blessed be the name of God, for because of my transgression my eyes are opened, and in this life I shall have joy, and again in the flesh I shall see God.’

“Eve said: ‘Were it riot for our transgression we never should have had seed, and never should have known good and evil, and the joy of our redemption, and the eternal life which God giveth unto all the obedient.’

“We can hardly look upon anything resulting in such benefits as being a sin, in the sense in which we consider sin.” (End Quote)

The Bible never tells us that Adam and Eve rejoiced in the fall. Adam and Eve never said what this former Mormon prophet quotes them as saying. The Bible says eating the forbidden fruit was a sin. Furthermore, God punished them for it. (Genesis Chapter 3).

Romans 5:12-15

“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned — for until the Law sin was in the world; but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.”

BLOOD ATONEMENT

The Mormon Church used to teach for some sins your own blood must be spilled

Journal of Discourses Vol.3, pg.247, (Brigham Young, March 16, 1856) (PDF pg. 255)

“You say, ‘That man ought to die for transgressing the law of God. ‘Let me suppose a case. Suppose you found your brother in bed with your wife, and put a javelin through both of them, you would be justified, and they would atone for their sins, and be received into the kingdom of God. I would at once do so in such a case; and under such circumstances, I have no wife whom I love so well that I would not put a javelin through her heart, and I would do it with clean hands. But you who trifle with your covenants, be careful lest in judging you will be judged. “Every man and women has got to have clean hands and pure heart, to execute judgment, else they had better let the matter alone.

“Again, suppose the parties are not caught in their iniquity, and it passes along unnoticed, shall I have compassion on them? Yes, I will have compassion on them, for transgressions of the nature already named, or for those of any other description. If the Lord so order it that they are not caught in the act of their iniquity, it is pretty good proof that He is willing for them to live; and I say let them live and suffer in the flesh for their sins, for they will have it to do.

“There is not a man or woman, who violates the covenants made with their God, that will not be required to pay the debt. **The blood of Christ will never wipe that out, your own blood must atone for it;** and the judgments of the Almighty will come, sooner or later, and every man and woman will have to atone for breaking their covenants. To what degree? Will they have to go to hell? They are in hell enough now. I do not wish them in a greater hell, when their consciences condemn them all the time. Let compassion reign in our bosoms. Try to comprehend how weak we are, how we are organized, how the spirit and the flesh are continually at war.” (end quote)

Journal of Discourses Vol.4, pg.53 (Brigham Young, September 21, 1856) (PDF pg. 61)
“There are sins that men commit for which they cannot receive forgiveness in this world, or in that which is to come, and if they had their eyes open to see their true condition, they would be perfectly willing to **have their blood spilt upon the ground**, that the smoke thereof might ascend to heaven as an offering for their sins; and the smoking incense would atone for their sins, whereas, if such is not the case, they will stick to them and remain upon them in the spirit world. I know, when you hear my brethren telling about cutting people off from the earth, that you consider it is strong doctrine; but it is to save them, not to destroy them.”

Journal of Discourses Vol.4, pg.219 (Brigham Young, February 8, 1857) (PDF pg.227)
“Now take a person in this congregation who has knowledge with regard to being saved in the kingdom of our God and our Father, and being exalted, one who knows and understands the principles of eternal life, and sees the beauty and excellency of the eternities before him compared with the vain and foolish things of the world, and suppose that he is overtaken in a gross fault, that he has committed a sin that he knows will deprive him of that exaltation which he desires, and that he cannot attain to it without the shedding of his blood, and also knows that by having his blood shed he will atone for that sin, and be saved and exalted with the Gods, is there a man or woman in this house but what would say, ‘shed my blood that I may be saved and exalted with the Gods?’”

Blood atonement was indeed practiced by the early Mormon Church. Other forms of punishment, such as whipping and castration, were also practiced.

(Documentation for this can be found in *Mormonism Shadow or Reality?* by Sandra and Jerald Tanner, in Chapters 25 and 36.)

But according to **1 John 1:7**, we do not need to spill our own blood to atone for sins. “...but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from ALL sin.”