

# A Study of Mormonism

## **'The Authority of Mormonism''**

**GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST**

SUNDAY EVENING MESSAGE (December 4, 2011)

Sermon by Ray Reynolds

Introduction: When we have our doors knocked by the L.D.S. (Mormons), we are often caught off guard. Have you every studied about Mormonism? If we are to give an adequate defense of our own faith (**I Peter 3:15**), wouldn't it help to discuss what others believe? Last week we began with a lesson on the history of Mormonism. Let's study together . . . . .

### Discussion:

#### ***I. What Are The Sources of Authority?***

- A. The LDS church considers the *King James Version* a source of authority.
- B. The LDS church considers the *Book of Mormon* a source of authority.
- C. The LDS church considers the *Doctrine and Covenants* a source of authority.
- D. The LDS church considers *The Pearl of Great Price* a source of authority.
- E. The LDS church considers the teachings of the prophets a source of authority.
- F. The LDS church allows the president and apostles to make changes.

#### ***II. What Are The Fundamental Doctrines?***

- A. The Stick of Judah and Ephriam
- B. The Practice of Celestial Marriage
- C. The Practice of Polygamy (Past & Present)
- D. The Practice of Baptism for the Dead
- E. The Practice of Good Deeds and Benevolence
- F. The Need for Missionary Service (Rite of Passage)

#### ***III. What Can We Learn From The Mormons?***

- A. The need to be patriotic.
- B. The blessing of dedicated and faithful members.
- C. The danger of adding to or taking away from the Bible.
- D. The consideration of the character of our teachers, preachers, and leaders.
- E. The consistency of our teaching and preaching.
- F. The desire to seek the image and example of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Conclusion: In our next lesson, we will compare their own doctrine/teachings with their own Scriptures and contrast those to the Holy Bible. We will see what they teach concerning the Godhead, the progressive nature of God, the spirit of man, the temple, celestial marriage, polygamy, baptism for the dead, genealogical research, achieving godhood, the influence of Joseph Smith, the priesthood of the church, proportionate grace, the president of the LDS and its quorum of twelve apostles, how to be saved, the spreading of the gospel, and much more. We need to seek the Bible for answers. Do you have faith in God or men? Are you a New Testament Christian? Will you stand up for what you believe?

**WORD OF THE DAY = "Bible"**