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America's Cuddliest “Christian?”

By William Schnoebelen

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works. - 2 Cor. 11:13-15

Many years ago, I had the privilege of ministering with my dear brother and co-author, Jim Spencer. This was back in the late eighties at the very beginning of my ministry. As we drove from place to place, Jim would share his wisdom through stories. I still appreciate that time. It would prove very valuable to me in years to come.

At one point, he shared with me an incident in the town where he used to pastor. The town was Idaho Falls, a heavily LDS (Mormon) community. As a pastor, Jim was approached by a pro-life group that was in the process of setting up a protest outside of an abortion clinic or Planned Parenthood. They asked him if he would be willing to throw his church's support behind the protest by mentioning it from the pulpit and promoting it in the bulletin.

Jim inquired about what other churches were involved, and of course both the Catholic Church and the local LDS churches were represented. He told me that he politely declined to become involved. The pro-life advocate asked why, and Jim replied that abortion scared him, but *Mormonism* scared him a lot more! He did not want to give legitimacy to the LDS church by “linking up” with them for an admittedly good cause. He was doing this in obedience to **2 Cor. 6:14-18**.

I bring this up, as we are about to move into similar controversial territory with this newsletter. Everyone knows that our nation is in dire straits, financially and morally. We are over-extended in all areas and are running essentially on the momentum of the Godly generations of the past few centuries. Today, all we have left of that is “fumes!” We have just spit in the eye of the Almighty too many times in our nation, especially in the last century.

There certainly is a set-apart remnant, but how long their prayers and intercession will be able to stave off judgment is known only to YHWH Himself. In the meantime, we are “cruising for a bruising.”

Interestingly enough, two figures on the right have emerged as dynamic spokespeople for conservative values. One is Sarah

Palin and the other is Glenn Beck. Even though the media has continually reviled both, they have dominated the right wing of the country in ways that are extraordinary. Both come off as anti-intellectual, populist, folksy and conservatively Christian.

Of the two, Palin has more political clout, being a former governor of Alaska and a VP nominee. But as of this writing, Beck is actually having more influence. I have been watching his show for some time and have observed that it has become a combination lectern and pulpit for promoting "conservative" values and also exposing the agenda of the Progressive movement in this country.

As one called to teach myself, I am amazed at how Mr. Beck can draw huge ratings while discussing arcane and academic subjects such as banking, economics, early 20th century history or conspiracies. Though a self-educated man, son of a working class baker, he has managed to amass an amazing amount of knowledge on a wide range of political and historical subjects. Though he occasionally has expert guests, it is mostly a "one man show," just him and his blackboards.

He also presents himself as very approachable and almost "cuddly." With his self-deprecating humor and jokes about his weight he comes across as a kind of teddy bear evangelist for "traditional values."

Many believe Beck was one of the major catalysts of the Tea Party movement! He is a staunch defender of the Constitution. All this is good, right? Well, hold on to your hats. This is going to be a bumpy ride!

First of all, as many of you know, Beck is a devout Mormon. He only brings this up occasionally, but notice he talks about praying a lot, and about studying "the Scriptures." The latter is a common term LDS use because they believe Scripture is more than the Bible; it includes the Book of Mormon, Pearl of Great Price and Doctrine and Covenants. With that sort of background, one must ask, **to whom is Beck praying?** And does it matter?

Several things are important for Bible believers to understand about this. First of all, in spite of appearances, Mormons have a LOW view of the Bible. Their 8th Article of Faith teaches, "We believe the Bible to be the Word of God, *insofar as it is translated correctly*. We also believe the Book of Mormon to be the Word of God."

In fact, LDS founding Prophet Joseph Smith taught that the Book of Mormon was better than the Bible, indeed "the most correct book" ever written. He taught that a person could get closer to the Creator by following its precepts than any other book. He further produced his own "inspired translation" of the Bible that corrected the King James text in hundreds of places!

Here is the deception. Beck continually calls himself a Christian (as do all Mormons), even though Mormons deny many fundamentals of the Biblical faith:

- They believe "God the Heavenly Father" is an extraterrestrial being with a body, bones, parts and

passions. They contradict Yah'shua and deny He is a Spirit (see **John 4:24** and **Luke 24:39**).

- Mormons deny that Yah'shua is Almighty God (**John 1:1-14**, **1 Tim. 3:16**) and further teach that the Virgin Birth took place by "God the Father" coming down and having sexual relations with His spirit daughter Mary!! They also teach that Yah'shua is the spirit brother of Lucifer.
- Mormons deny salvation by grace through faith (**Eph. 2:8-9**) and instead teach keeping the laws and ordinances and commandments of their church saves you.
- Temple-going Mormons are taught that they can become gods and goddesses if they are worthy and go off and start their own planets with billions of spirit babies.
- Until relatively recently (1978), Mormon leaders taught that all black people were cursed, loathsome, shiftless and lazy. Thus, men of African descent were not allowed into the LDS priesthood or the temple.
- Since the time of Joseph Smith in the 1830's, Mormons have taught *that all other Christian churches are apostate*. They teach that there has been no true church of Yah'shua on the earth from about the second century until 1830, which Smith restored the Church. This is contrary to **Matt. 28:20**, where Yah'shua promised us that He would be with us always, even unto the end of the world and also **Matt. 16:18**, where He promised us the gates of hell would NOT prevail against His church.

These are NOT inconsequential differences! In fact, any *one* of them would be considered a damnable heresy. Yet Beck just glides over all these things as he pals around on the air with folks like David Barton and Jerry Falwell, Jr. These gentlemen, especially Barton, have become very frequent guests on his show as Beck seeks to prove that Founders of America were mostly solid Christians.

If I were Barton or Falwell, I would not come within a mile of Beck's soundstage without making it *VERY* clear that Beck believes *an entirely different gospel* than historic, orthodox Christianity has taught. Of course, if they did that, they would **not** be allowed on the show a second time.

But because Beck has arguably become *THE* media phenomenon of the cable news channels, Christian teachers are eager to come on his show to get exposure. Indeed, Beck boasts about how virtually *any* book he recommends on his show rockets to the top of Amazon's bestseller list.

I am not denying the sincerity of Christians who are guests on his show. I am sure they believe they are doing their best to restore America to its Christian roots. However, do they realize how much **credibility** and legitimacy they are giving to Glenn Beck and his LDS faith by doing so??

One hour of David Barton and Glenn Beck chatting about US history as if there were no differences between their faiths is worth a thousand LDS TV commercials! Such is the power Beck wields right now. To be sure, he is also sincere. In

watching him, I think he really wants to do what he can to help and educate Americans about what is going on in their country. I do not honestly believe he thinks too much about pushing his Mormon faith. But he does not have to. It just happens.

See, unlike the other prominent LDS personality, Mitt Romney, Beck does not come off like a rich stuffed shirt (though Beck probably is very wealthy by now). He calls himself "Everyman" and in many ways he is – except that he is an Everyman who believes that someday he will become a **GOD!** I believe that Beck in some ways is paving the way for Romney. Beck is doing more to "mainstream" the LDS faith than anyone in years!

But you might say, isn't defending America and its Christian values more important than doctrinal purity or separation from heretics? Shouldn't we all band together against common enemies of the republic to defend the Constitution? Maybe so, but for two things:

First, as stated earlier, the differences between LDS doctrine and historical Biblical doctrine are not minor. This is not like the difference between Methodists and Baptists! A **huge gulf** separates orthodox Christianity from Mormonism! As nice and conservative as Mormons are, they are flat-out heretics! Interestingly enough, among their other strange teachings, they promote the idea that the US Constitution is a divinely inspired document, just like Scripture.

Second, you have to realize that the LDS church has a political agenda beyond just promoting conservative values. A few weeks ago, Beck had as his guest the head of the National Center for Constitutional Studies (NCCS). That sounds impressive, does it not?

But the problem is that the NCCG is an LDS organization that is dedicated to promoting Mormon political values. It used to be called the Freeman Institute and Sharon and I used to belong to it! Before it was the Freeman Institute, Joseph Smith called it the Council of Ytfif ("fifty" spelled backwards). That council crowned Smith **King of the world!** Friends in the LDS church at the time (early eighties) told us that each successive prophet, right up to the current one, is similarly crowned King of the world! So much for democracy!

Beck carefully avoiding explaining the uniquely LDS perspective of this group, and the gentleman was just presented as an authority on early American history. For those of you relatively new to this ministry, we need to explain what exactly the Mormon view of US history and destiny is.

LDS prophets taught very early on that it was the destiny of the "elders of Zion" (Mormon leadership) to rule America and the world as a benign dictatorship with the LDS "prophet, seer and revelator" as its head. They prophesied that the US Constitution would hang by a thread and that the elders of Zion would save it and America.

The other prophecy is even more controversial. It is known

as the "white horse prophecy" or the prophecy of the "One mighty and strong." Now, this is not formal LDS doctrine, but it was taught by many leaders of the Church and is still taught today. It is said by LDS leadership that when the Constitution is in dire peril, one will come who is mighty and strong. He will come riding (figuratively perhaps) on a white horse and will wield unprecedented political and spiritual power.

Hmm, that rather sounds like the anti-Christ in the Book of Revelation (**Rev. 6:1-2!**)

To this end, the LDS church has amassed a huge amount of wealth, real estate, farmland, TV stations and political clout, far beyond its membership. It is the wealthiest church, *per capita*, in the world. Its unstated goals are to gain control of both food production and information in this country and it is well on its way to achieving at least the former. They believe it is their political and prophetic destiny to "save" America by setting up a Mormon dictatorship with their prophet at its head.

During the 2008 election we ran an article on Mitt Romney. It will be shortly reposted on our website by the time this newsletter comes out. It will have much more information than we can fit here about the Mormon Plan for America. We also discuss this in our DVD, "*What's Wrong with Mormonism?*"

We believe Glenn Beck (whether he knows it or not) is being used as a kind of Trojan horse by the Church he obviously loves. Like it or not, right now he is probably the most powerful "Christian" commentator on cable news, and *he is not even a Christian!*

As good a job as Beck is doing in exposing truths about the "bad guys'" plans for our nation, I believe we need to be very careful about aligning ourselves as Bible Believers with him. As dangerous as the Progressive movement is, **Mormonism is just as dangerous.**

I believe what may well happen is that Romney (who right now is the front runner for the Republican nomination) will be able to ride into the nomination on Beck's cuddly coat tails. Americans need to *pray* like never before for discernment in these matters. Also, please pray for me that I can continue to dig and do research into these vital issues. We need to turn this nation around, but not by joining forces with Beck or the "One mighty and strong."

Just as in the Bible (**1 Kings 22**), YHWH will not bless our efforts if we align ourselves with false prophets!

"With One Accord Ministries"
William & Sharon Schnoebelen,
Co-Founders.

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