

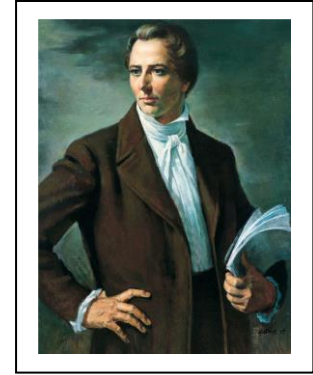
# Lion and Lamb Apologetics'

## Did Joseph Smith *Really* Say That?

DENNIS A. WRIGHT, DMIN

### ☞ Joseph Smith said that God was not always God.

"We have imagined and supposed that God was God from all eternity. I will refute that idea, and take away the veil, so that you may see. These are incomprehensible ideas to some, but they are simple. *It is the first principle of the Gospel to know for a certainty the Character of God, and to know that we may converse with him as one man converses with another, and that he was once a man like us; yea, that God the Father of us all, dwelt on an earth, the same as Jesus Christ himself did, and I will show it from the Bible*"<sup>1</sup>



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### ☞ Joseph Smith said that there are many gods.

"Hence, the doctrine of a plurality of Gods is as prominent in the Bible as any other doctrine. It is all over the face of the Bible . . . Paul says there are Gods many and Lords many . . . but to us there is but one God—that is pertaining to us; and he is in all and through all."<sup>2</sup>

"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."<sup>3</sup>

### ☞ Joseph Smith said that the Trinity is actually three gods.

"I have always declared God to be a distinct personage, Jesus Christ a separate and distinct personage from God the Father, and the Holy Ghost was a distinct personage and a Spirit: and these three constitute three distinct personages and three Gods."<sup>4</sup>

### ☞ Joseph Smith said that God was once a man.

"God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted Man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens . . . I say, if you were to see him to-day, you would see him like a man

<sup>1</sup> *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 345-346. Italics in original.

<sup>2</sup> *History of the Church*, 6:474.

<sup>3</sup> *Journal of Discourses*, 6:5.

<sup>4</sup> *Teachings of Prophet Joseph Smith*, 370.

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in form—like yourselves, in all the person, image, and very form as a man . . . it is necessary that we should understand the character and being of God, and how he came to be so; for I am going to tell you how God came to be God. We have imagined and supposed that God was God from all eternity, I will refute that idea, and will take away and do away the veil, so that you may see . . . and that he was once a man like us; yea, that God himself the Father of us all, dwelt on an earth the same as Jesus Christ himself did.”<sup>5</sup>

## ✧ **Joseph Smith said that God the Father is an Exalted Man**

*“God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens! That is the great secret.”<sup>6</sup>*

## ✧ **Joseph Smith said that God the Father has a Physical Body**

*“The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's; the Son also; but the Holy Ghost has not a body of flesh and bones, but is a personage of Spirit. Were it not so, the Holy Ghost could not dwell in us.”<sup>7</sup>*

## ✧ **Joseph Smith said that our greatest responsibility is to seek after our dead in order to do temple work on their behalf.**

*“The greatest responsibility in this world that God has laid upon us is to seek after our dead.”<sup>8</sup>*

## ✧ **Joseph Smith said that there are men living on the moon who dress like Quakers and live to be nearly 1000 years old.**

Since he was wrong about the moon, is it safe to trust him regarding the way to Heaven?<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> *Journal of Discourses*, 6:3.

<sup>6</sup> Smith, Joseph Fielding, *Scriptural Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, Salt Lake City, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1938, page 345.

<sup>7</sup> *Doctrine & Covenants* 130:22

<sup>8</sup> *Journal of Discourses*, 6:7.

<sup>9</sup> *The Young Woman's Journal*, 3:263-264. A reprint is presented by Jerald and Sandra Tanner in *Mormonism—Shadow or Reality?*, 4.

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☞ **Joseph Smith boasted that he did more than Jesus to keep a church together.**

“God is in the still small voice. In all these affidavits, indictments, it is all of the devil— all corruption. Come on! ye prosecutors! ye false swearers! All hell, boil over! Ye burning mountains, roll down your lava! for I will come out on the top at last. I have more to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together since the days of Adam. A large majority of the whole have stood by me. Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it. I boast that no man ever did such a work as I. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him; but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet . . . ”<sup>10</sup>

☞ **Joseph Smith said that the Book of Mormon was more correct than the Bible.**

“I told the brethren that the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book.”<sup>11</sup>

☞ **Joseph Smith made a false prophecy (one of several).**

“. . . I prophesy in the name of the Lord God of Israel, unless the United States redress the wrongs committed upon the Saints in the state of Missouri and punish the crimes committed by her officers that in a few years the government will be utterly overthrown and wasted, and there will not be so much as a potsherd left . . . ”<sup>12</sup>

☞ **Joseph Smith said that mothers have babies in eternity, and some are on thrones.**

“A question may be asked, ‘Will mothers have their children in eternity?’ Yes! Yes! Mothers, you shall have your children.”<sup>13</sup>

“Eternity is full of thrones, upon which dwell thousands of children reigning on thrones of glory, with not one cubit added to their stature.”<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> *History of the Church*, 6:408-409.

<sup>11</sup> *History of the Church*, 4:461.

<sup>12</sup> *History of the Church*, 5:394.

<sup>13</sup> *Journal of Discourses*, 6:10.

<sup>14</sup> *Journal of Discourses*, 6:10.

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- ✎ **Joseph Smith said that here will be an eventual restoration of sacrifices as part of the restitution of all things.**

Those who say that sacrifice was entirely done away with by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ “are certainly not acquainted with the duties, privileges and authority of the priesthood, or with the Prophets.”<sup>15</sup>

- ✎ **Joseph Smith said that God will make him to be a god for the Mormon people.**

“God made Aaron to be the mouthpiece for the children of Israel, and He will make me to be god to you in His stead, and the Elders to be mouth for me; and if you don't like it, you must lump it.”<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> *History of the Church*, 4:211-212.

<sup>16</sup> *History of the Church*, 6:319-320.