

MORMONISM REVEALED BY GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATION

POLYGAMY

"The first presidency and twelve apostles of the Mormon Church are a self-perpetuating body of fifteen men.

"The first presidency and twelve apostles govern the church by means of so-called revelations from God, which revelations are given to the membership of the church as emanating from divine authority.

"Those members of the Mormon Church who refuse to obey the revelations so communicated by the priesthood thereby become out of harmony with the church and are thus practically excluded from the blessings, benefits, and privileges of membership in the church.

"This authority of the first presidency and twelve apostles is so exercised over the members of the Mormon Church as to inculcate a belief in the divine origin of polygamy and its rightfulness as a practice, and also to encourage the membership of that church in the practice of polygamy and polygamous cohabitation.

"It is proved without denial that the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, one of the leading authorities of the Mormon Church and still circulated by that church as a book equal in authority to the Bible and the Book of Mormon, contains the revelation regarding polygamy, of which the following is a part:

"Section 132 Book of Doctrine and Covenants.

"'61. And again, as pertaining to the law of the priesthood: If any man espouse a virgin and desires to espouse another and the first give her consent, and if he espouse the second, and they are virgins and have vowed to no other man, then he is justified—he can not commit adultery, for they are given unto him; for he can not commit adultery with that that belongeth to him and to no one else.

"'62. And if he have ten virgins given unto him by this law he can not commit adultery, for they belong to him and they are given unto him; therefore he is justified.

"'64. And again, verily, verily, I say unto you if any man hath a wife who holds the keys of this power and he teaches unto her the law of my priesthood, as pertaining to these things, then shall she believe and administer unto him or she shall be destroyed, saith the Lord your God, for I will destroy her; for I will magnify my name upon all those who receive and abide in my law.'

"Other publications of the Mormon Church are still circulated among the members of that church with the knowledge and by the authority of the church officials, which contain arguments in favor of polygamy.

"The leaders in this church, the first presidency and the twelve apostles, connive at the practice of taking plural wives, and have done so ever since the manifesto was issued which purported to put an end to the practice.

"The list of those who are thus guilty of violating the laws of the State and the rules of public decency is headed by Joseph F. Smith, the first president, 'prophet, seer and revelator' of the Mormon Church who testified in regard to that subject as follows:

"Mr. Smith: 'I have had born to me eleven children since 1890, each of my wives being the mother of from one to two of those children.'

"The Chairman: 'Mr. Smith, I will not press it, but I will ask if you have any objection to stating how many children you have in all.'

"Mr. Smith: 'I have had born to me, sir, forty-two children — twenty-one boys and twenty-one girls—and I am proud of every one of them.'

"The Chairman: 'Do you obey the law in having five wives at this time and having them bear to you 11 children since the manifesto of 1890?'

"Mr. Smith: 'Mr. Chairman, I have not claimed that in that case I have obeyed the law of the land.'

"The Chairman. 'That is all.'

"Mr. Smith: 'I do not claim so, and as I said before, that I prefer to stand my chances against the law.'

"The first presidency and twelve apostles not only connive at violation of, but protect and honor the violators of the law against polygamy and polygamous cohabitation.

"It will be seen by the foregoing that not only do the first presidency and twelve apostles encourage polygamy by precept and teaching, but that a majority of the members of that body of rulers of the Mormon people give the practice of polygamy still further and greater encouragement by living the lives of polygamists, and this openly and in the sight of all their followers in the Mormon Church.

"And not only do the president and majority of the twelve apostles of the Mormon Church practice polygamy, but in the case of each and every one guilty of this crime who testified before the committee, the determination was expressed openly and defiantly to continue the commission of this crime without regard to the mandates of the law or the prohibition contained in the manifesto.

"It appears that the 'prophet, seer, and revelator' of the Mormon Church pronounces a decree of eternal condemnation throughout all eternity upon all members of the Mormon Church who, having taken plural wives, fail to continue the polygamous relation.

"The testimony upon that subject, taken as a whole, can leave no doubt upon any reasonable mind that those who are in authority in the Mormon Church are encouraging the practice of polygamy among the members of that church, and that polygamy is being practiced to such an extent as to call for the severest condemnation in all legitimate ways."

DOMINATION IN SECULAR AFFAIRS

"The first presidency and twelve apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints exercise a controlling influence over the action of the members of that church in secular affairs as well as in spiritual matters.

"The method by which the first presidency and twelve apostles of the Mormon Church direct all the temporal affairs of the members of that church under the claim that such direction is by divine authority, is by requiring the members of the church in all their affairs, both spiritual and temporal, and especially the latter to 'take counsel.'

"The phrase 'take counsel' does not mean that the members of the church shall inquire of those above them in all cases concerning their action, but that they shall receive counsel—that is, direction—from those above them and this counsel they are to implicitly obey. If they fail to do so they are excommunicated from the church and deprived, not only of the privilege of membership in the church, but, as they are assured and believe, they hereby forfeit all hope of happiness in a future life."

POLITICAL DOMINATION

"The hierarchy at the head of the Mormon Church has for years past formed a perfect union between the Mormon Church and the State of Utah, and the church through its head dominates the affairs of the State in things both great and small.

"In order to realize the potency of the influence which the ruling authorities of the

Mormon Church exercise in political affairs, it must be kept in mind that this influence proceeds from men who are believed by their followers to be oracles of God; that whatsoever they speak is the word of God; and that the first presidency of the Mormon Church and the council of the twelve apostles are 'the mouthpiece of God!'"

Union of Church and State

"The fact that the adherents of the Mormon Church hold the balance of power in politics in some of the States enables the first presidency and twelve apostles to control the political affairs of those States to any extent they may desire.

"The union of church and state in those States under the domination of the Mormon leaders is most abhorrent to our free institutions."

Oath of Vengeance

"'You and each of you do covenant and promise that you will pray and never cease to pray Almighty God to avenge the blood of the prophets upon this nation, and that you will teach the same to your children and to your children's children until the third and fourth generation.'

"The obligation hereinbefore set forth is an oath of disloyalty to the Government which the rulers of the Mormon Church require, or at least encourage, every member of that organization to take."

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