
BIBLE TALK

This week the question is: **The Mormons and continuous revelation – what does the Bible say?**

Continuous revelation means that God continues to reveal things to mankind because, supposedly, the Bible is either not complete or not reliable.

The Mormon Church, in particular, is famous for teaching that God continues to reveal new things to men.

- Mormons do not believe the Bible is the complete and final revelation of God to man.
- They believe in many, many other books besides just the Bible. For example, they believe in the Book of Mormon, another book called The Doctrines and Covenants, and another book called The Pearl of Great Price.
- In addition to these books, they believe in even more writings and spoken revelations given to their leaders whom they call prophets and apostles.
- One Mormon Bishop pointed out also they believe in personal revelations. In other words, God supposedly reveals to each individual person things he needs to know.

To argue that the Bible is not complete unreliable makes the Bible a worthless book and it makes preaching a worthless occupation.

Let me explain.

If the Bible is incomplete or corrupted, that means none of it can be trusted.

Let me illustrate: A watermelon farmer was irritated because some teenage hooligans were stealing melons from his watermelon patch. To put a stop to this, the farmer set out a sign in the middle of the patch which read: ***Warning, one of these melons has been poisoned.*** The farmer was confident that this would stop the stealing, because if one melon was poisoned, and the boys didn't know which one it was, the entire field was worthless to them. To the farmer's

chagrin, he went to his patch the next morning and his sign had been changed to read: ***Warning, two of these melons have been poisoned.*** Now the entire field was worthless to everyone – for no one knew if any melons were really poisoned or not, nor did anyone know which melons may have been poisoned.

Likewise, if the Bible is incomplete or corrupted, then it becomes worthless for everyone – for who knows which part is missing or corrupted.

The Mormons say, "Pray to God and He will reveal to you which part is true." This again makes the Bible worthless – for why have a Bible at all if God is going to reveal directly what you need to know.

Furthermore, if God is giving individual revelations to each person on earth, as the Mormon Church teaches, then why preach to anyone? Why send missionaries out to preach in different nations? Why not simply allow God to reveal to each sinner what he needs to know and forget about the Bible and preaching – for, after all, this is supposedly how Joseph Smith – the founder of the Mormon Church – became saved.

But it gets even worse than this. According to the Mormon Church, if someone has not been saved in this life, they will be given another chance to become saved in the next life. Either the sinner himself can obey the gospel and be saved in the next life, or someone on earth can be baptized for the dead and save the lost who have gone on. If any of this is true, why preach the gospel at all? Why not let the Lord Himself save all the lost in the next life?

Simply put, the Mormon view of continuous revelation, makes the Bible and gospel preaching completely worthless. Unfortunately, many, many other churches today believe the same thing as the Mormons, though they have not stopped to think about it.

- When people argue that miracles are still possible, they unknowingly argue that the Bible is not God's complete and final revelation, because the gift of prophecy is one of the miraculous gifts of the first century (1 Cor. 12:8-10). If miracles are still around, then prophecy is still around. And if prophecy is still around, then the Bible does not contain all of God's revealed will.
- When people argue that God gives them personal revelations, they are actually saying the Bible is not God's complete and final revelation to man. For example, if God reveals to an individual that he should "enter the ministry" or not or whether to marry this person or that person, or whether to homeschool their children or not, all of this type of thinking is saying the Bible is not God's complete and final revelation to mankind.

In closing, let me just read one passage which clearly indicates that God gave His complete and final revelation in the form of written scripture:

Jude 3

3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for **the faith** which was **once for all delivered to the saints**.

God's will has been fully and completely revealed. It was done "once for all time." There is no further revelation given to mankind.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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